





## Analytical modelling of nitrogen content prediction in pig iron and molten steel during steelmaking process

Ing. Jaroslav Demeter, PhD.  
Funded by the EU NextGenerationEU through the  
Recovery and Resilience plan for Slovakia under the  
project No. 0803/23-V04-00047

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The project aims to predict nitrogen content in molten metal at various steelmaking stages (pig iron, BOF-EM, crude steel) and secondary steelmaking. To achieve this, we will analyse real operational data, process parameters, and process data. Statistical procedures will be used to develop predictive models, which will be tested and compared using machine learning techniques. The accuracy of these models will be quantified and compared to actual measurements. Additionally, analytical modeling techniques will be used to understand the relationship between factors like chemical composition, temperature, and nitrogen content. The effectiveness of the methodology will be assessed by comparing predicted and actual nitrogen values, using statistical indicators like MAE, RMSE, and MAPE. The goal is to achieve high prediction accuracy within a 5-10 ppm range.

### RELEVANCE, QUALITY AND NOVELTY

The current methods for predicting nitrogen content in molten metal are insufficient and rely heavily on empirical experience and traditional procedures. This often leads to suboptimal quality, especially when input materials or production processes change.

Nitrogen content is currently determined through laboratory analysis, which is time-consuming and only performed for high-quality steel grades. This delayed information hinders timely decision-making and can lead to increased nitrogen levels, negatively impacting steel properties. This project aims to address these issues by developing predictive models for nitrogen content in molten pig iron and steel. By analyzing real-time data and employing advanced statistical and analytical techniques, the models will enable accurate and timely predictions. This will significantly improve production efficiency, reduce costs, and enhance the quality of the final product. Furthermore, by aligning with the European Research Area's focus on scientific advancement and collaboration, the project contributes to the overall goal of fostering innovation and competitiveness within the steelmaking industry.

### IMPACT

Predictive models are valuable tools for optimizing steel-making processes. This project aims to develop and apply an analytical model to predict nitrogen content in molten pig iron and metal. While ambitious, the project's goals are achievable within the given timeframe.

### PROJECT PLAN:

The overall structure of the submitted project plan is scheduled for 24 months, implementation starting on 1.9.2024 and ending on 31.8.2026. Time frame for the implementation of given work packages are listed in Gantt diagram below.



For more information about this project and actual state of the solution, please log on to site:

[www.nitrogen-prediction.eu](http://www.nitrogen-prediction.eu)

Funded by the  
European Union  
NextGenerationEU

RECOVERY  
AND RESILIENCE  
PLAN



GOVERNMENT OFFICE  
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC



CONNECTIVITY  
SHARE YOUR IDEAS

UVP Technicom, Boženy Němcovej 5,  
040 01 Košice, Slovensko  
08. NOVEMBER 2024

## Hydrogen-Enhanced Combustion

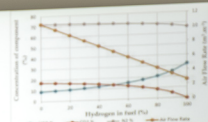
Author: Róbert Dzurňák

### Abstract:

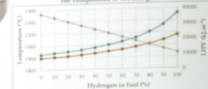
Hydrogen-enhanced combustion is a promising approach to improve the efficiency and environmental sustainability of combustion systems. By incorporating hydrogen into traditional fuel sources, combustion characteristics change significantly, leading to a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions and increased production of water vapor as a byproduct. The enriched hydrogen content lowers air flow requirements due to reduced oxygen demand and raises the theoretical combustion temperature, which can improve thermal efficiency. Overall, hydrogen-enhanced combustion presents an effective pathway toward cleaner and more efficient energy production, but it requires careful system adjustments to safely leverage the unique properties of hydrogen.

TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF KOŠICE,  
FACULTY OF MATERIALS, METALLURGY AND RECYCLING

Fakulta materiálov,  
metallurgia a recyklácie




Effect of different hydrogen concentrations in the fuel on the composition of the flue gas.



Effect of different hydrogen concentrations in the fuel on temperature and adiabatic flame temperature.


**Acknowledgment:** This research was supported by the Slovak Research and Development Agency under project number APVV-23-0034 and the VEGA grant agency VEGA 1/0151/2 for their financial support of this research work.






TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF KOŠICE  
Faculty of Materials, Metallurgy  
and Recycling


Laboratórium testovania redukovateľnosti materiálov  
Ing. Zuzana Míková, PhD.



CONNECTIVITY  
2019-2020



- Laboratórium na testovanie kurzov (LTKM), spoločné pracovisko Technickej univerzity v Košiciach a Vyšetrovateľského ústavu, umožňuje výskum ruzných kurzov v riadení atmosféry a teplotách.
- Zariadenia sa na testovanie redukovateľnosti, odpadových zmesí a prírastku materiálu, čo pomáha predísť ich spracovaniu v metalurgických procesoch, odpadovému ošetrovaniu a šetriť zdroje, ako redukcia (redukcia). Výsledky pripravujú k zlepšeniu výroby a efektívnej metalurgických podnikov.
- LTKM umožňuje testovanie materiálu redukovateľnosti, ale si napríklad odpadových zmesí podľa obsahu (i) redukcia pomernou analýzou, alebo a ďalších nevyhnutných metód (redukcia pomernou CO<sub>2</sub>, redukcia 100% R<sub>2</sub>).




zariadenie RF-3/TV/RD

normovaná skúška ISO 6096:2007  
Testovanie redukovateľnosti odpadom redukovateľnosti

normovaná skúška ISO 7125:2007  
Testovanie redukovateľnosti odpadom redukovateľnosti

normovaná skúška ISO 6096:1 2007  
Testovanie redukovateľnosti odpadom redukovateľnosti



zariadenie LAC – odporúčací pec s retortou

normované skúšky na univerzitách pomocou zariadení, na ktorých je možná redukcia (i) redukcia pomernou analýzou, alebo a ďalších nevyhnutných metód (redukcia pomernou CO<sub>2</sub>, redukcia 100% R<sub>2</sub>).



APVV  
AGENCY FOR  
RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT

Acknowledgments This work was supported by Slovak Research and Development Agency (APVV), Slovak Republic, No. APVV-21-0142







# CONNECTIVITY

## An alternative methodology for evaluating the reduction potential of BF pellets with hydrogen

**Róbert FINDORÁK**  
Technical University of Košice, Letná 9, 042 00 Košice, Slovak Republic  
e-mail: robert.findorak@tuke.sk

**ABSTRACT**

The issue of gas production is a hot topic and tends to show that it will remain so for the next few years. The primary method of reducing iron ore is by using hydrogen, which is an environmentally friendly reducing agent, in which hydrogen and especially green hydrogen appear to be the most promising. However, the reduction potential of hydrogen under conditions of hydrogen availability and reduction rate can be evaluated differently. Another, through a modern hydrogen flow furnace or alternative method with this reducing agent. The paper reports on the pilot results of a pilot reduction under specific conditions of stable reduction, which are part of a modern hydrogen flow furnace. The results of the pilot reduction, which brought knowledge about the reduction potential of the pellets and the differences in the achieved reduction stages. This new methodology enables a precise comparison between different reduction methods in terms of reduction rate and reduction stage (reducibility) and with proper calibration with hydrogen flow and reduction stage (reducibility) can effectively compare individual pellets from the point of view of reducibility.

**METHODOLOGY**

Reduce pellets information  
→ Predict and simulate by  
→ Reduction tests by H<sub>2</sub>  
→ Outputs pellets after reduction

**RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS**

- Different degrees of reduction and thermal degradation at temperatures of 800 °C and 900 °C
- Higher temperatures significantly increase the rate of reduction, which is evident from the results for H<sub>2</sub> pellets, where at 900 °C the degree of reduction is 90-95%
- After reduction, the pellets are reduced to a high and variable state. This process is associated with the formation of gas bubbles and increased porosity of the structure.
- High temperature reduction causes the formation of bright areas with significant porosity, which dominates the structure of the pellets.
- The results of the achieved reduction stages brought knowledge about the reduction potential of the pellets and the differences in the achieved reduction stages. This new methodology allows to select the necessary differences in reducibility and can compare individual pellets from the point of view of reducibility.

**CONCLUSIONS**

The work was supported by the Research and Development Support Agency No. APVV-21-0242