

Dissemination and future research road map on heating and burner technology in industrial heating

INFUB-14, 03 April 2024

Oliver Hatzfeld

VDEh-Betriebsforschungsinstitut GmbH (BFI), Germany

oliver.hatzfeld@bfi.de

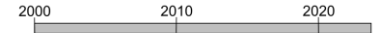
1. Motivation and objective

2. Methodology

3. Research analysis of past 25 years

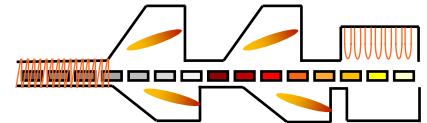
4. State of the Art

5. Resulting roadmap on future research



Research focus of last 25 years: what /when

- Furnace automation (level 1) and control (level 2) from 1998 to now
- Furnace productivity, efficiency and regenerative heating from 1989 to 2018
- Process gases instead of NG for furnace heating from 2009 to 2015
- Preheating process gases from 2008 to 2018
- NO_x emissions in connection with high preheated air from 2000 to 2005 due to regulations from 2008 on and 2019 on



Motivation and objectives

Source: <https://tenova.com/technologies/walking-beam-furnace-slabs>



Motivation:

- Steel production in EU 150 – 160 Mt/a
- 221 Mt GHG emissions: 5.7% of EU CO₂ emissions
- Latest research: Focus on steel production from iron ore: 2.0 t CO₂/t steel
- Now focus on process step after steel making: downstream with large furnaces
- Downstream heating processes responsible for 5.5% of CO₂ emission of EU steel industry

Objective:

- Enforce the decarbonization and modernization of heating processes
- Elevate past performed research

Analysis of RFCS-, Horizon Europe projects and international literature over the last 25 years based on the main topic ”reheating furnace”.

Classification into five main topics:

- Heating and burner technology
- Modeling of entire furnaces, Level-2 control
- Sensors and Level-1 control, standards, regulations
- Materials in the furnace and product quality
- Heat transfer, heat recovery, CAPEX, OPEX



Analysis of RFCS-, Horizon Europe projects and international literature over the last 25 years based on the main topic ”reheating furnace”.

Classification into five main topics:

- **Heating and burner technology**
- Modeling of entire furnaces, Level-2 control
- Sensors and Level-1 control, standards, regulations
- Materials in the furnace and product quality
- Heat transfer, heat recovery, CAPEX, OPEX



Analysis of RFCS-, Horizon Europe projects and international literature over the last 25 years based on the main topic "reheating furnace".

Classification into five main topics:

- **Heating and burner technology**



Review and analysis with focus on CO₂ decreasing technologies:
Impact on state of the art, application of technology in industry, CO₂ or fuel saving potential.

Identification of market needs and
definition of roadmap for future research.



Main research topics and achievements

- Efficiency, energy consumption and CO₂ reduction

- 30 to 40% by regenerative heat recovery
- 9 to 14% Oxy-fuel combustion
- 5 to 10% by furnace automation and control

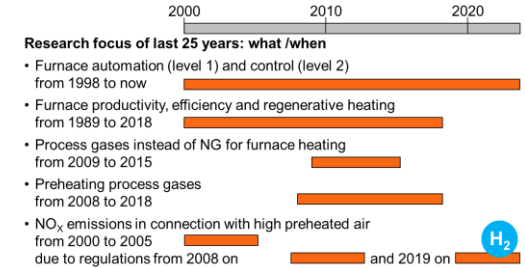
- Process gases and fuel preheating

- Substitution of NG, overall energy consumption in steel mill reduced

- Productivity increase => specific energy consumption and CO₂ decrease

- NO_x-Emissions

- Decrease from > 500 mg/Nm³ to below 100 mg/Nm³ (5% O₂ in exhaust) due to regulations

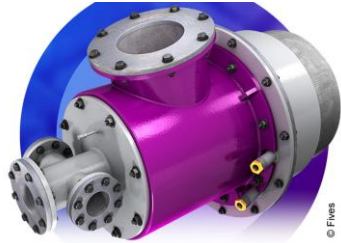


Research analysis of past 25 years

Latest research on:

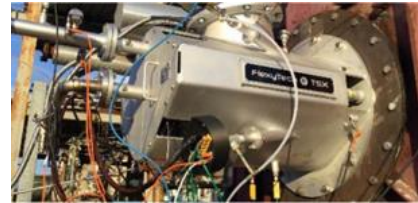
Burners for hydrogen enhanced combustion (HEC) and 100 % H₂ combustion.

<= Burner suppliers offer hydrogen ready burners, but H₂ is not available related to energy demand.



Source: <https://www.fivesgroup.com/steel/reheating/combustion-systems>

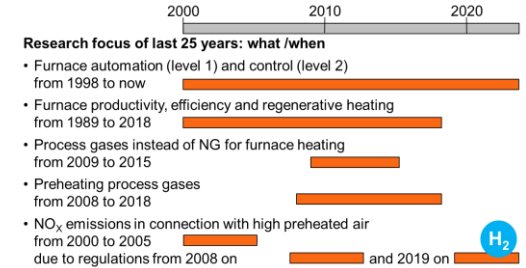
Source: https://www.danieli.com/en/news-media/news/danieli-hydro-mab-take-step-ahead-green-steel_37_596.htm



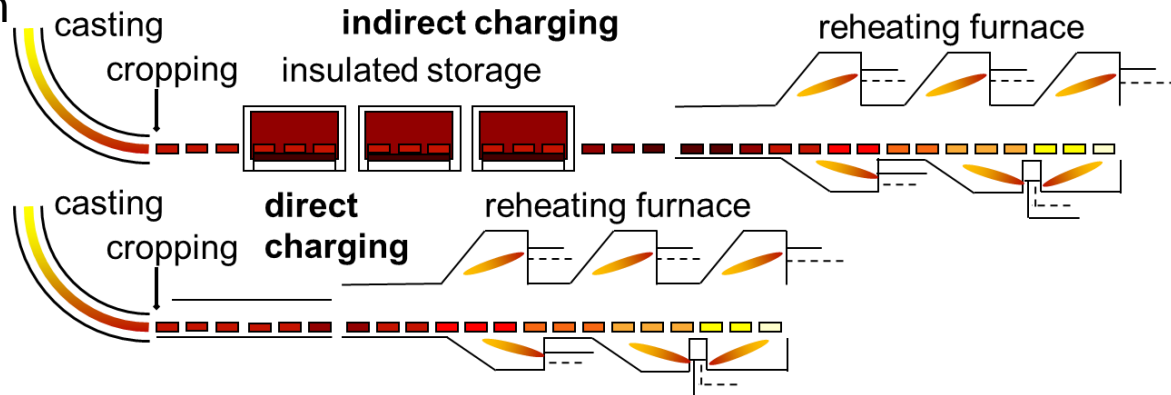
Source: <https://doi.org/10.1051/mattech/2022012>



Source: <https://www.sms-group.com/en-us/insights/all-insights/a-burner-for-all-mix-ratios-of-natural-gas-and-hydrogen>



- Substitute NG by process gases for reheating - steel mills with blast furnace => CO₂ decrease when gases were flared
- Furnace automation (Level 1 and 2)
- Heat recovery recuperative and regenerative
- Oxy-fuel combustion (100% oxygen)
- Flameless combustion for NO_x decrease
- Warm or hot charging high saving potential



Resulting roadmap on future research

Basis for roadmap: current and ongoing research

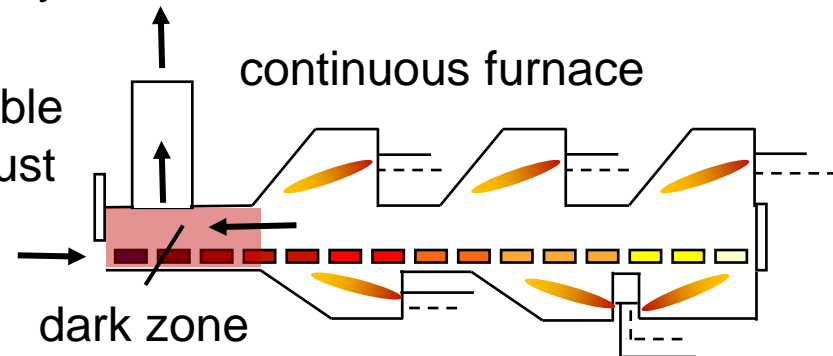
- HEC or 100 % H₂ combustion with air, O₂ enhanced combustion OEC or 100 % O₂ to substitute current fuels
 - Burners development for fuels in transition from current to 100 % fossil- free fuels: H₂ and NH₃
- Hybrid heating i.e.: Radiant tube burners with electric and natural gas heating for heat treatment.



Resulting roadmap on future research

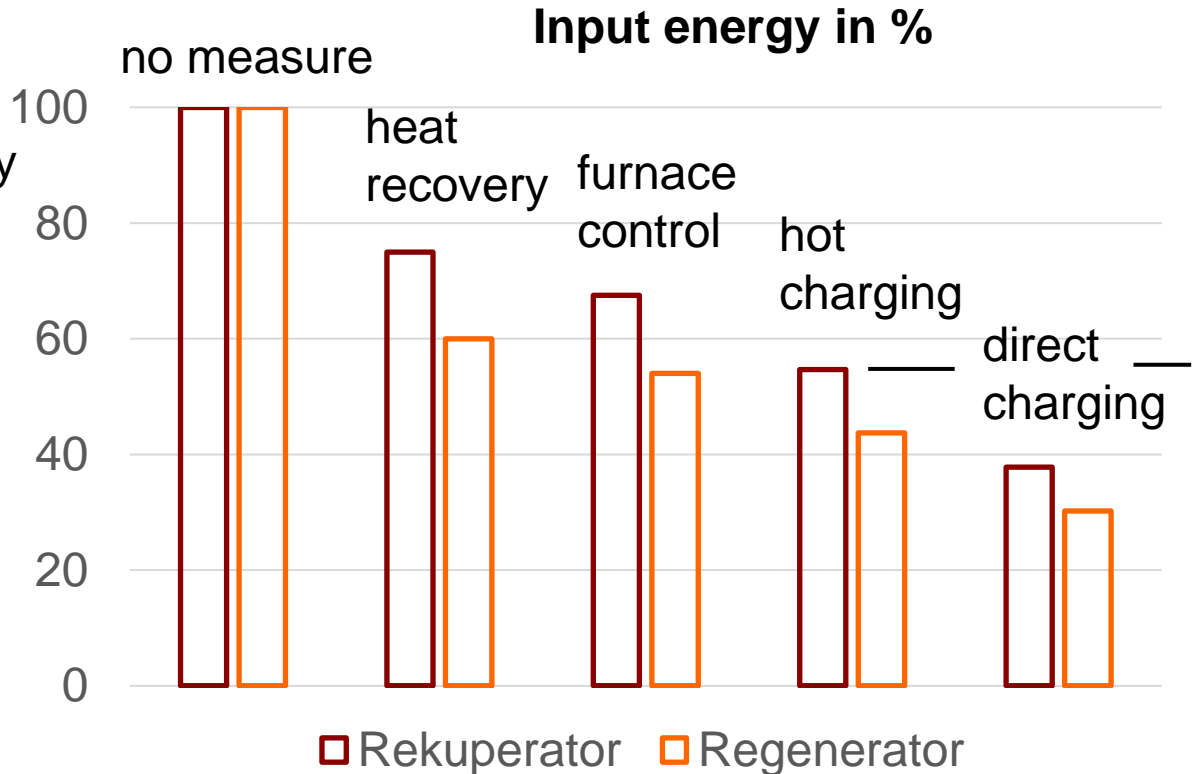
- Combustion heating with **fuel-flexible burners** for future fuels: H₂, biofuels, NH₃ and future oxidizers
- **NOx-emissions**: development ultra LowNOx burners for future fuels
- **Efficiency in heating with future technologies and fuels**
 - Customizes solutions - heat recovery preheating of oxidizers or fuels
 - Applying dark zone if space available for direct heat recovery from exhaust

Oxidizer	Preheating oxidizer	Dark zone
Air	Green	Green
OEC	Yellow	Green
100 % O ₂	Red	Green

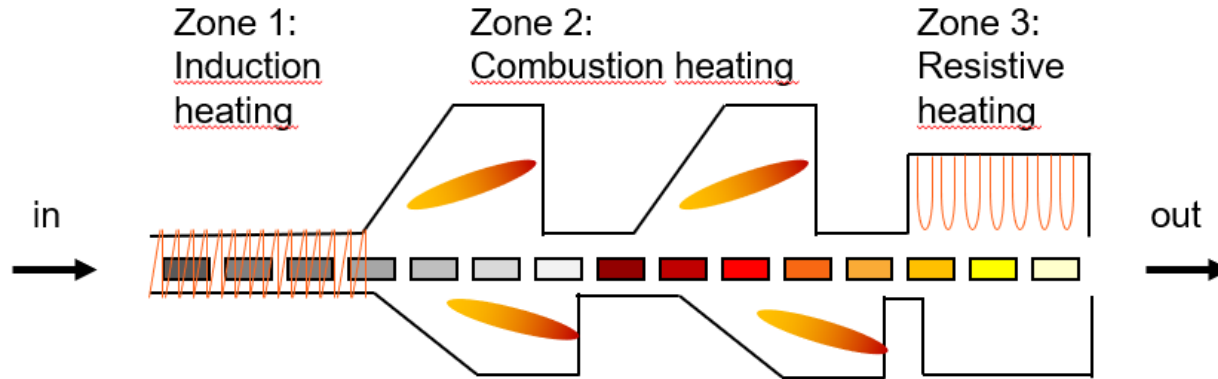


Resulting roadmap on future research

Combination
of measures
-> increased efficiency
-> future-fuel savings
in furnace heating.



- **Hybrid heating:** combinations of electric heating with future fuels
≤ Design dependent on i.e., product grades, size, availability of electric power and fuels, heating temperatures, scaling as well as the process steps.



- **Impact** of future fuels and technologies **on product and plant**

- Past research with focus on CO₂-decrease reviewed and analysed
- SoA/Best available technology analysed
- Current research and marked needs analysed
- Setup of roadmap for future research => research needs:
 - Flexibility for available energy sources for heating
 - Decreasing GHG & harmful (NO_x) emissions
 - New combustion and heating technology for fuel flexibility
 - Efficiency
 - Hybrid heating with fossil free fuels and electricity





Thank you for the attention!

Stay informed
www.dissheat.eu