

ESTEP SPRING DISSEMINATION EVENT

17-18 FEBRUARY 2026 - BRUSSELS (BELGIUM)

Closing the Loop:
Hydrogen-Based Recovery of
DRI and Zinc from EAF Dust
via the Dust2Value Process

Andrea Kotze, Gille Wittevrongel, Sander Arnout, Els Nagels
InsPyro



Simulate. Quantify. Optimize.

InsPyro

MISSION: INSPIRING METALLURGY



InsPyro improves existing metallurgical processes and develops new **sustainable processes** together with its customers

Dust2Value process

- InsPyro active in the Dust2Value consortium to assist in process modelling + digital twin development
- D2V is a novel process for the recovery of ZnO and DRI from EAFD using H₂ as a reducing agent



Dust₂Value

Pioneering Residue Recycling



InsPyro



BEFESA

Disclosure Statement:

This document has been produced by consortium partners of the Dust2Value Horizon Europe project, funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement Grant agreement ID: 101138742.

The content of this document, the information contained herein and the views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the European Union or European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA). Neither the European Union institutions and bodies nor any person acting on their behalf may be held responsible for the use which may be made of the information contained.

From Grant Agreement: S.34-35

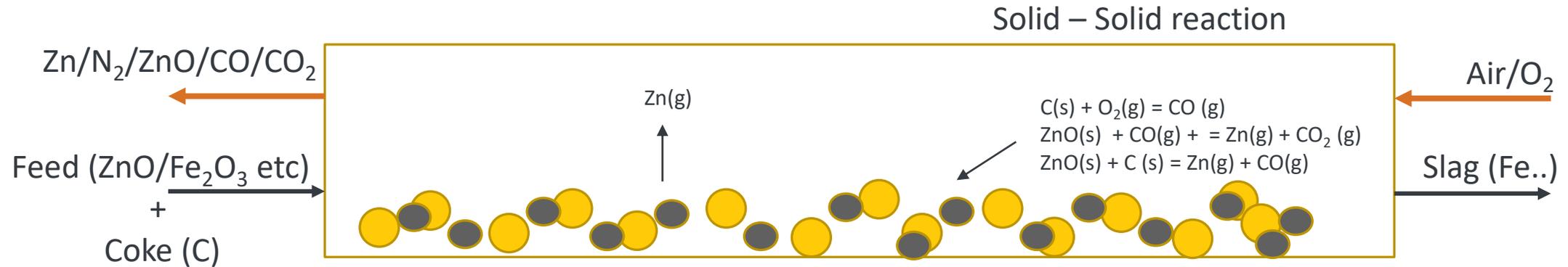
Disclaimer:

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them



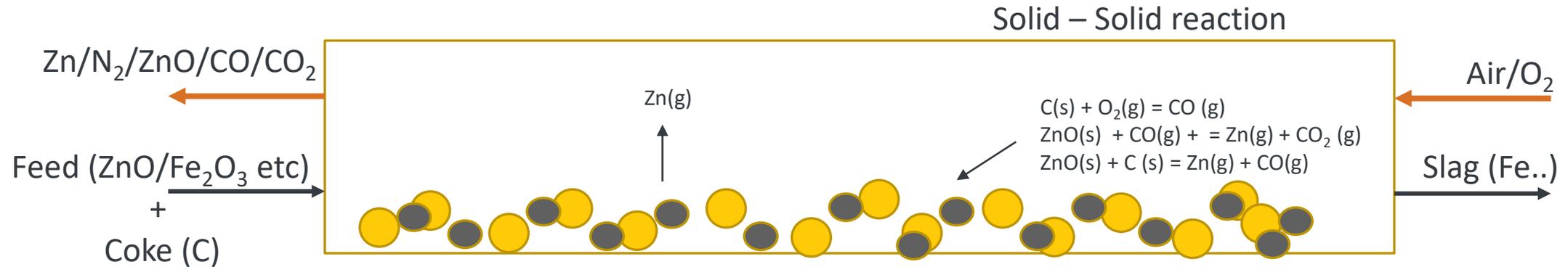
Zinc reduction: Waelz Kiln

- Typically occurs in waelz kiln using carbon



Zinc reduction: Waelz Kiln

- Typically occurs in waelz kiln using carbon

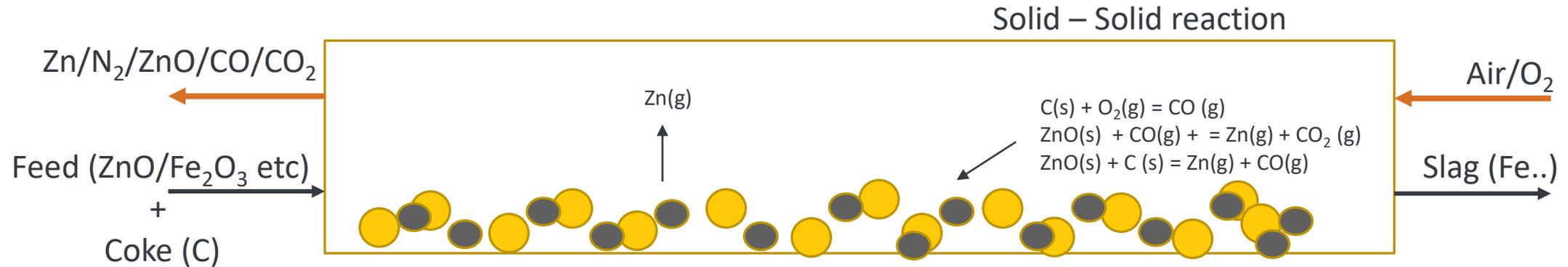


Efficiency

Counter current principle

Zinc reduction: Waelz Kiln

- Typically occurs in waelz kiln using carbon



Efficiency

Counter current principle

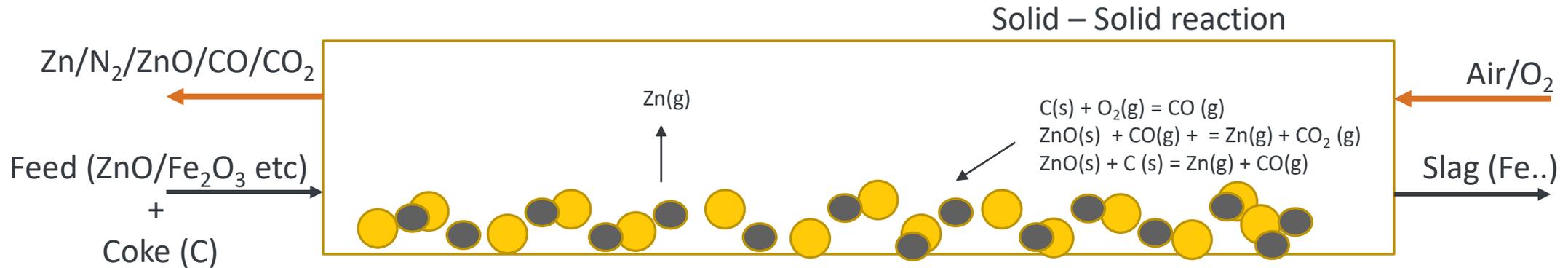


Heat Recovery

ZnO reoxidation

Zinc reduction: Waelz Kiln

- Typically occurs in waelz kiln using carbon



Efficiency

Counter current principle



Fossil Carbon

GHG – 550 kg/t EAFD

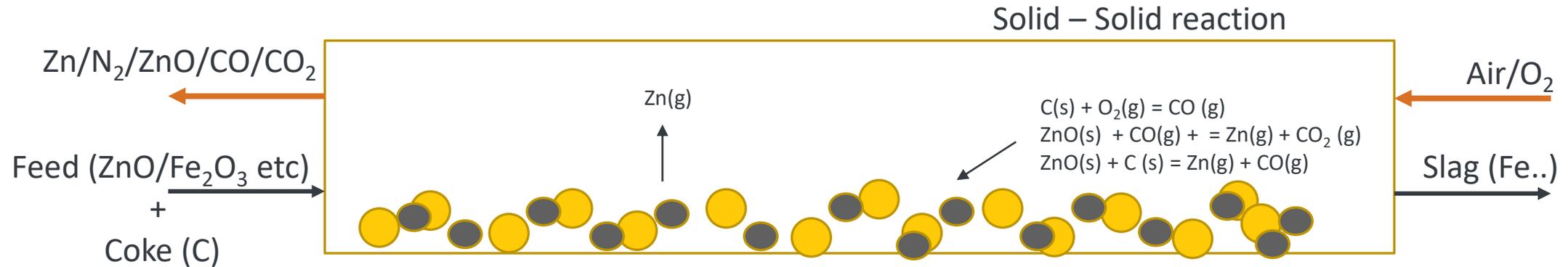


Heat Recovery

ZnO reoxidation

Zinc reduction: Waelz Kiln

- Typically occurs in waelz kiln using carbon



Efficiency

Counter current principle



Fossil Carbon

GHG – 550 kg/t EAFD



Heat Recovery

ZnO reoxidation

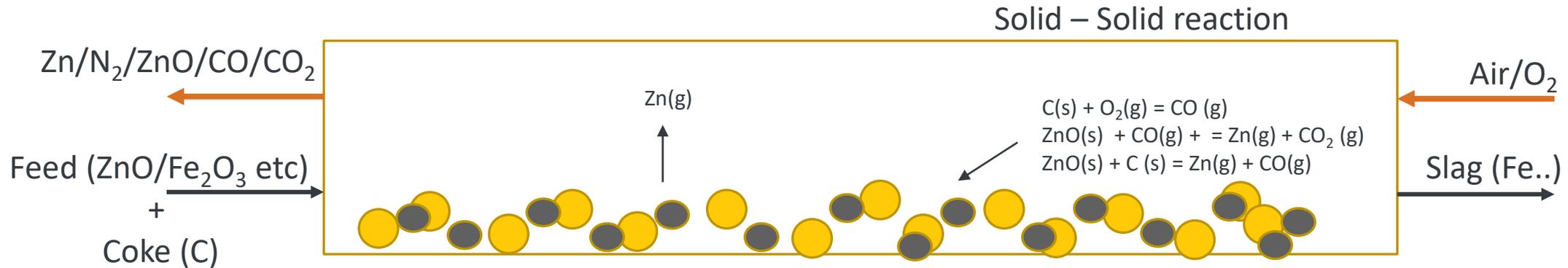


Waelz Slag

600-700 kg/t EAFD
No Fe recovery

Zinc reduction: Waelz Kiln

- Typically occurs in waelz kiln using carbon



Efficiency

Counter current principle



Fossil Carbon

GHG – 550 kg/t EAFD



Zn Recovery

Some sintering and Zn and Fe dissolves in Ca Silicates



Heat Recovery

ZnO reoxidation

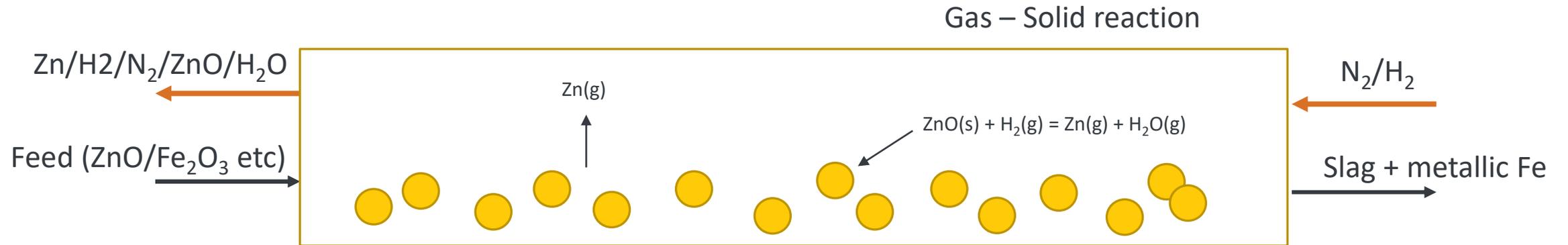


Waelz Slag

600-700 kg/t EAFD
No Fe recovery

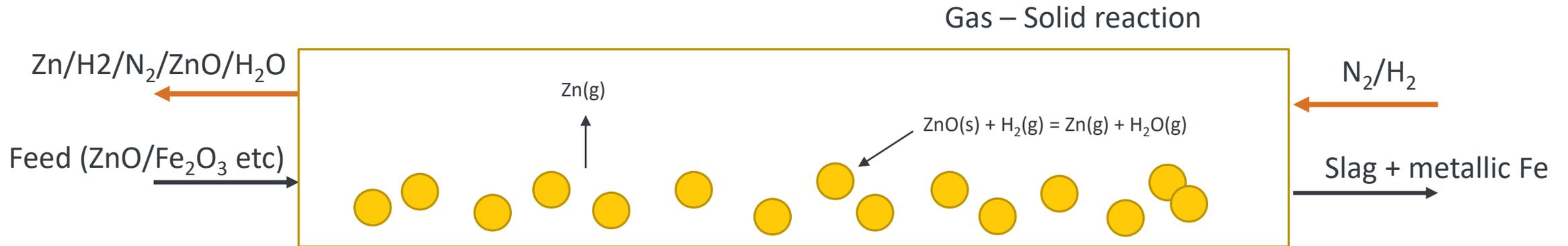
Zinc reduction: Dust2Value Process

- How ZnO reduction with carbon and hydrogen differ



Zinc reduction: Dust2Value Process

- How ZnO reduction with carbon and hydrogen differ

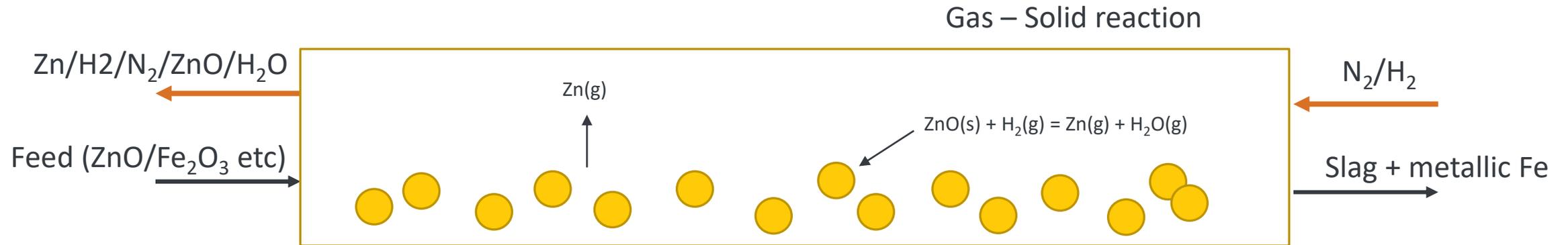


Efficiency

Counter current principle
Hydrogen recovery

Zinc reduction: Dust2Value Process

- How ZnO reduction with carbon and hydrogen differ



Efficiency

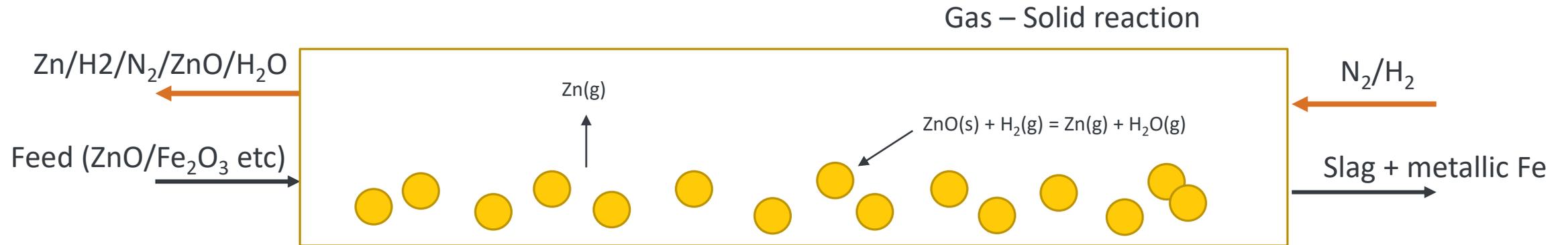
Counter current principle
Hydrogen recovery

Heat Recovery

ZnO reoxidation

Zinc reduction: Dust2Value Process

- How ZnO reduction with carbon and hydrogen differ



Efficiency

Counter current principle
Hydrogen recovery

Fossil Carbon

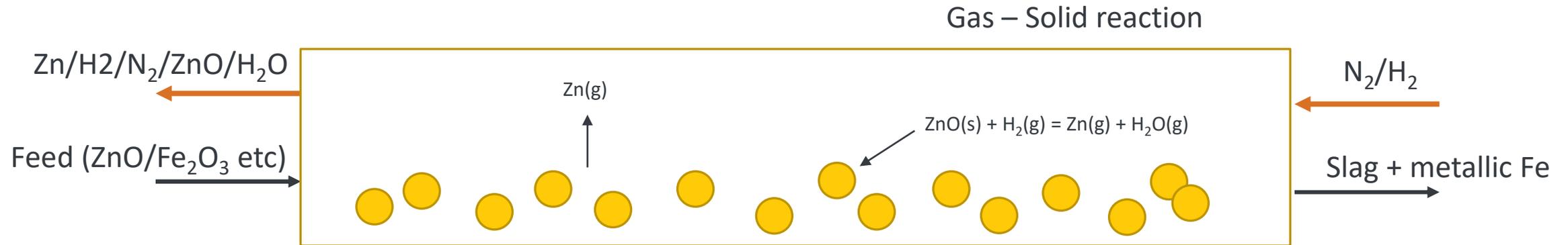
No direct emissions

Heat Recovery

ZnO reoxidation

Zinc reduction: Dust2Value Process

- How ZnO reduction with carbon and hydrogen differ



Efficiency

Counter current principle
Hydrogen recovery



Fossil Carbon

No direct emissions



Heat Recovery

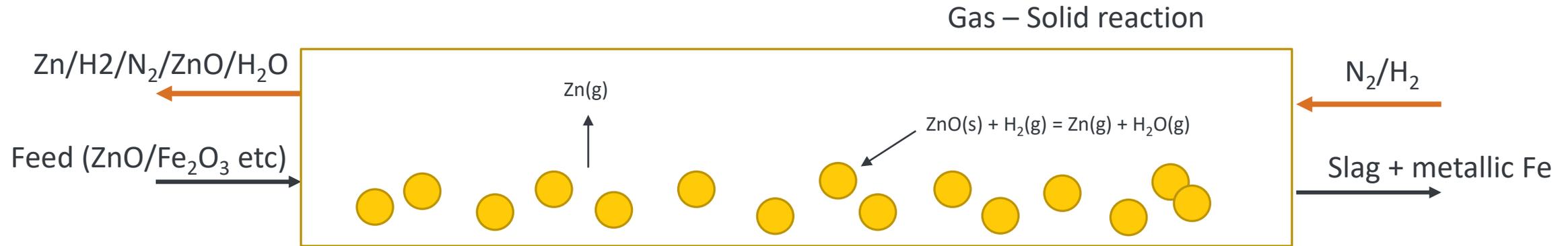
ZnO reoxidation



SDRI

Zinc reduction: Dust2Value Process

- How ZnO reduction with carbon and hydrogen differ



Efficiency

Counter current principle
Hydrogen recovery



Fossil Carbon

No direct emissions



Zn Recovery

High Zn recovery, limited
sintering (<1200 °C)



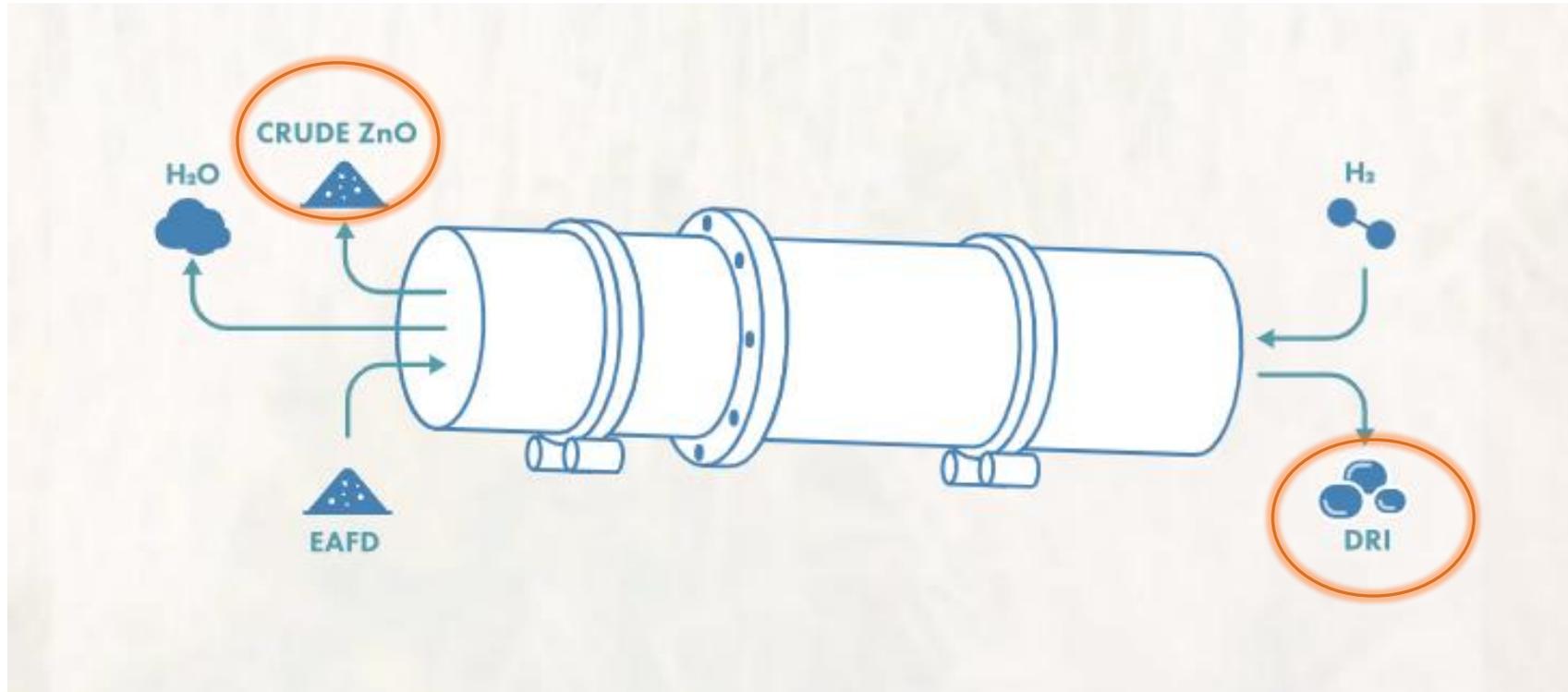
Heat Recovery

ZnO reoxidation



SDRI

Overall process + Goals



Sustainability
Low carbon footprint

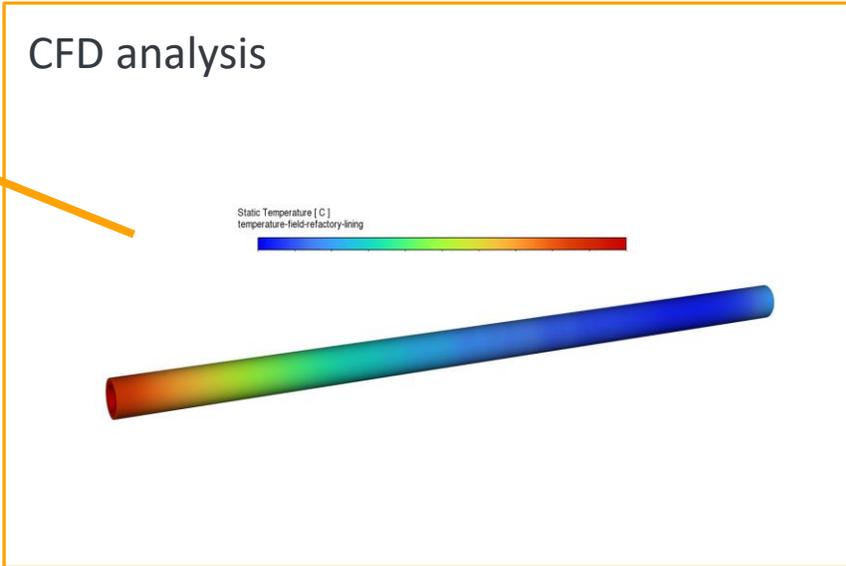
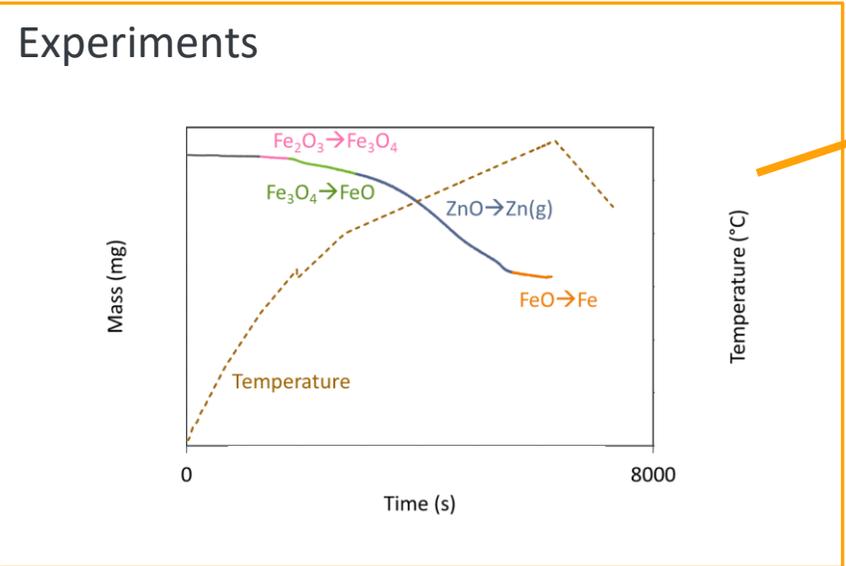
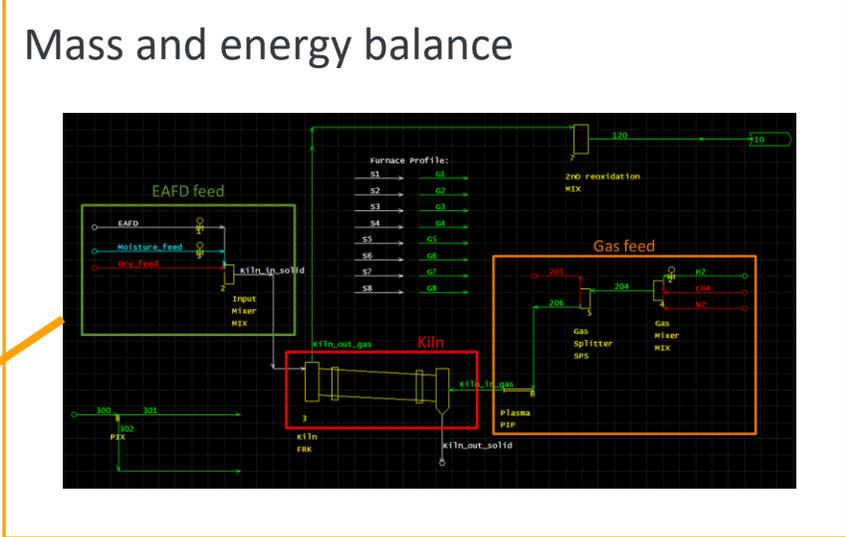
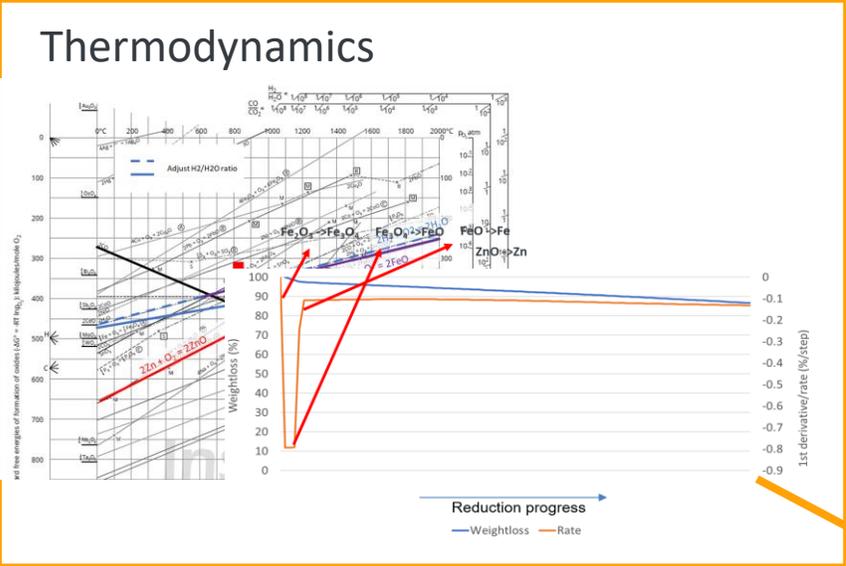


Key Products:
Crude ZnO
DRI



Efficiency
Maximize H₂ efficiency

Digital Twin



Process Integration

Data input of production data

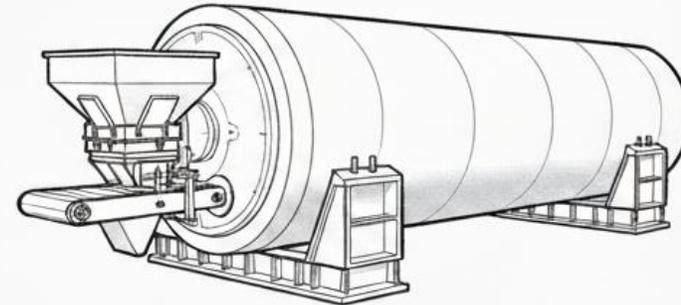
Digital twin



Real time data analysis:

- Expected yields based on input data
- Expected H2 efficiency
- Temperature profile of kiln

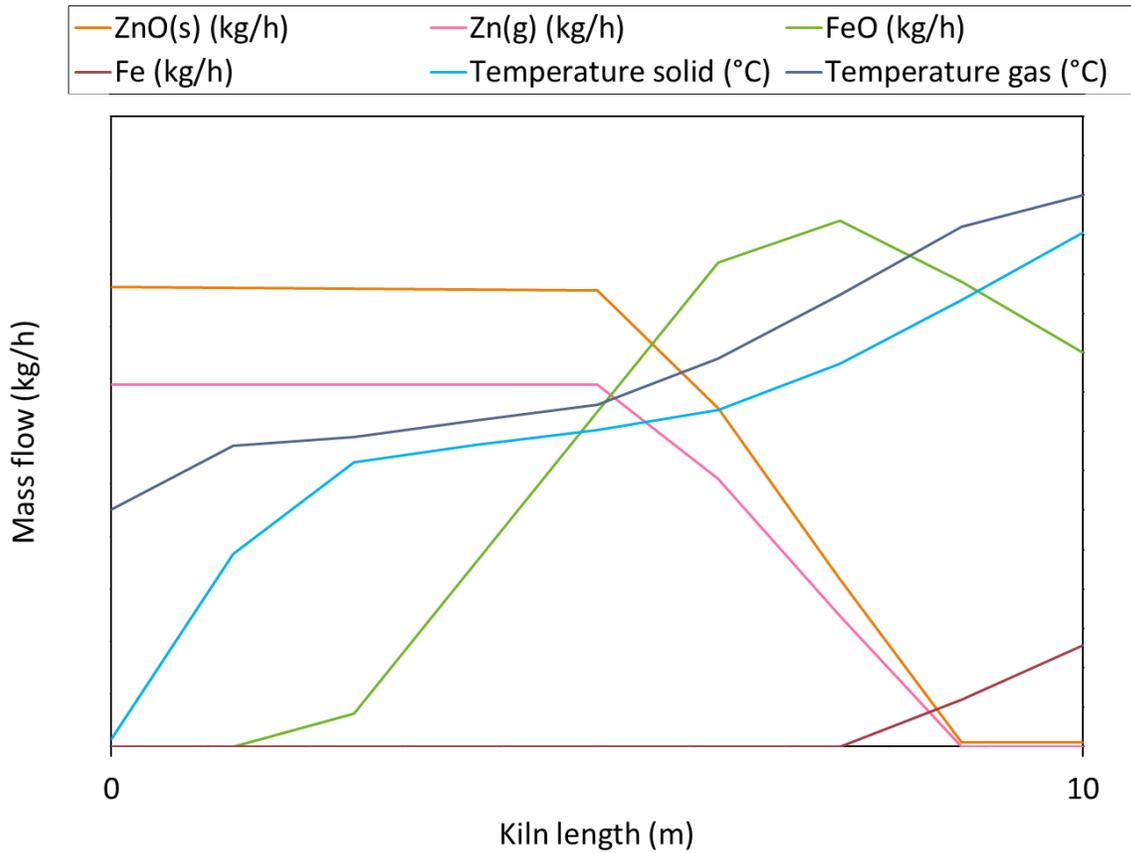
Pilot plant



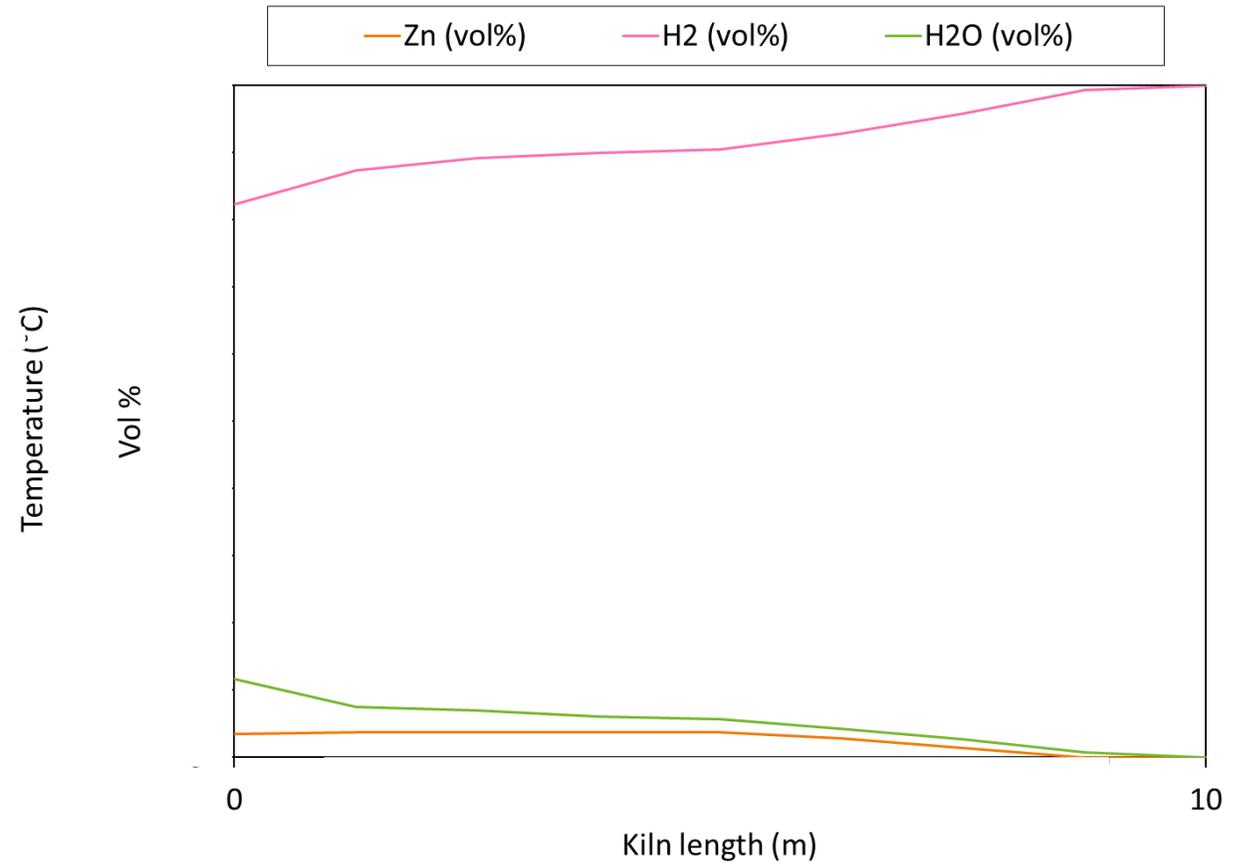
Feedback used to improve production

Preliminary Results

Mass and temperature profile

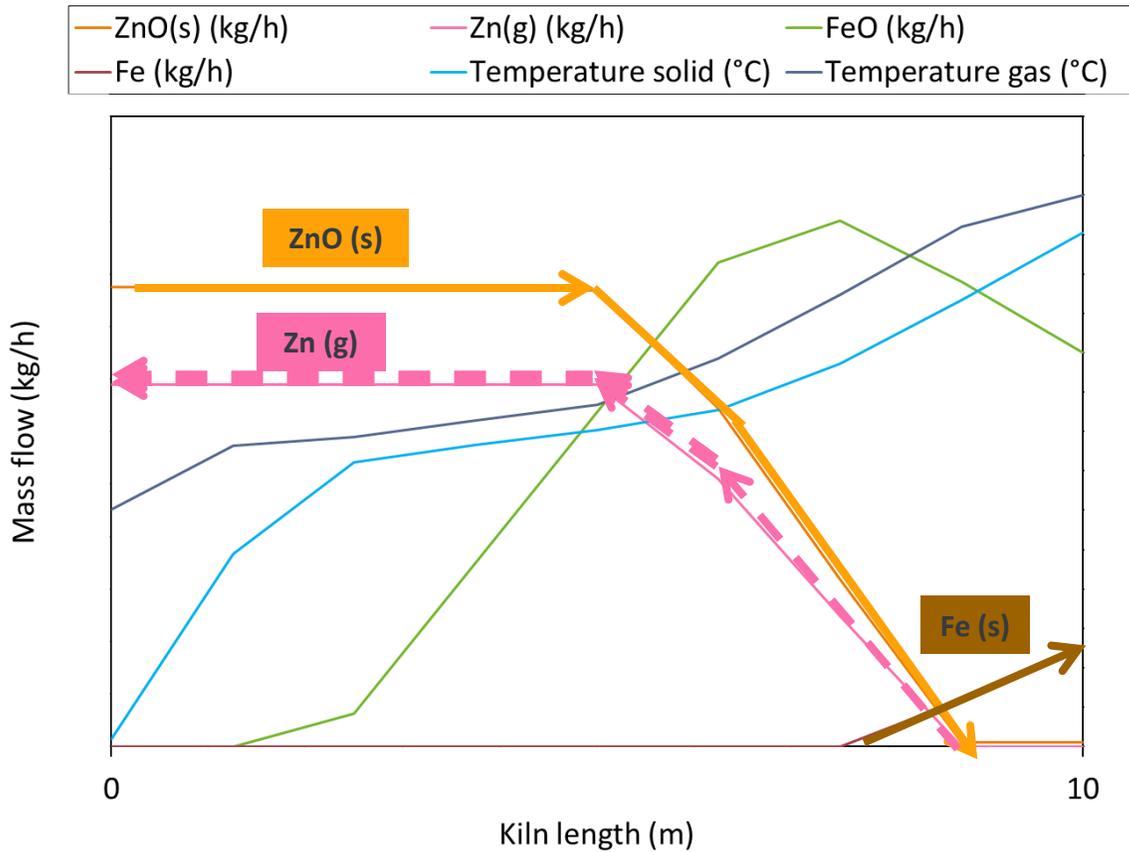


Gas profile

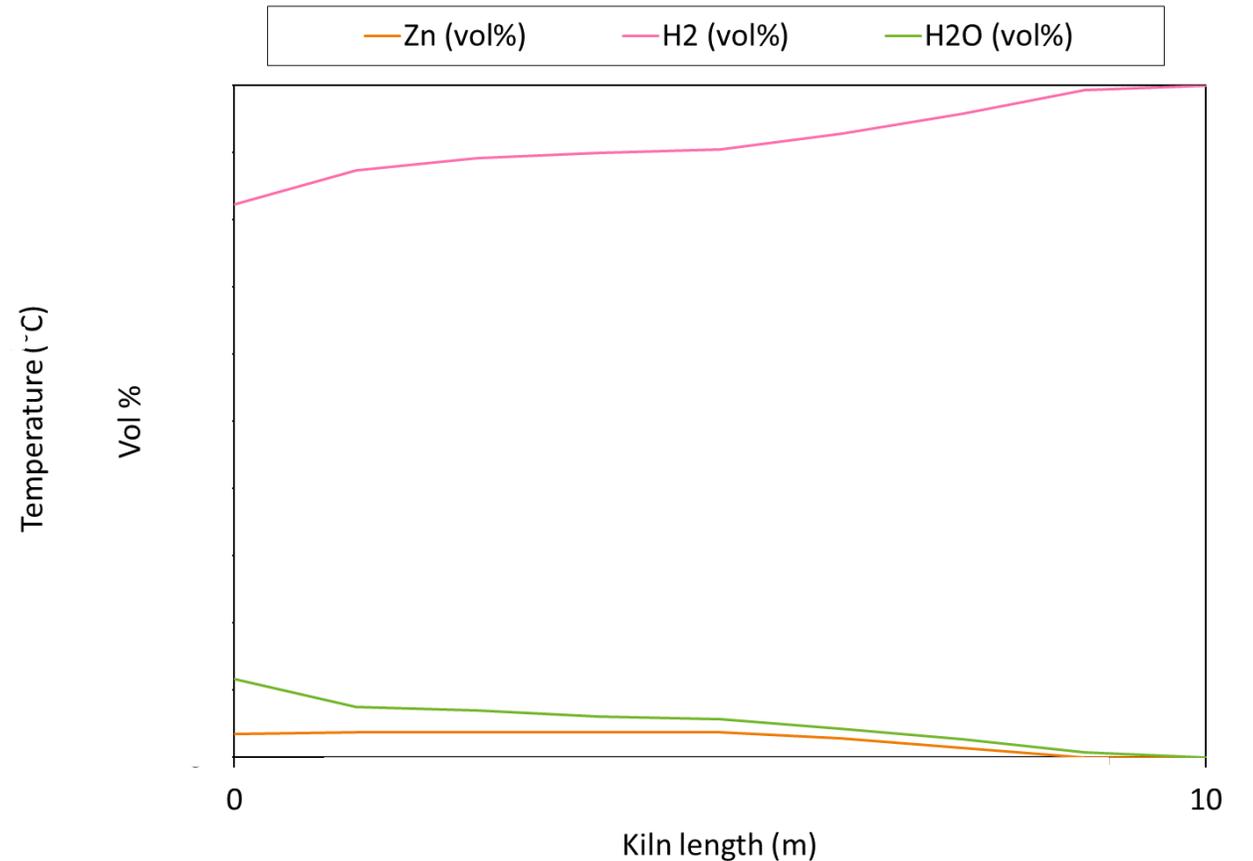


Preliminary Results

Mass and temperature profile

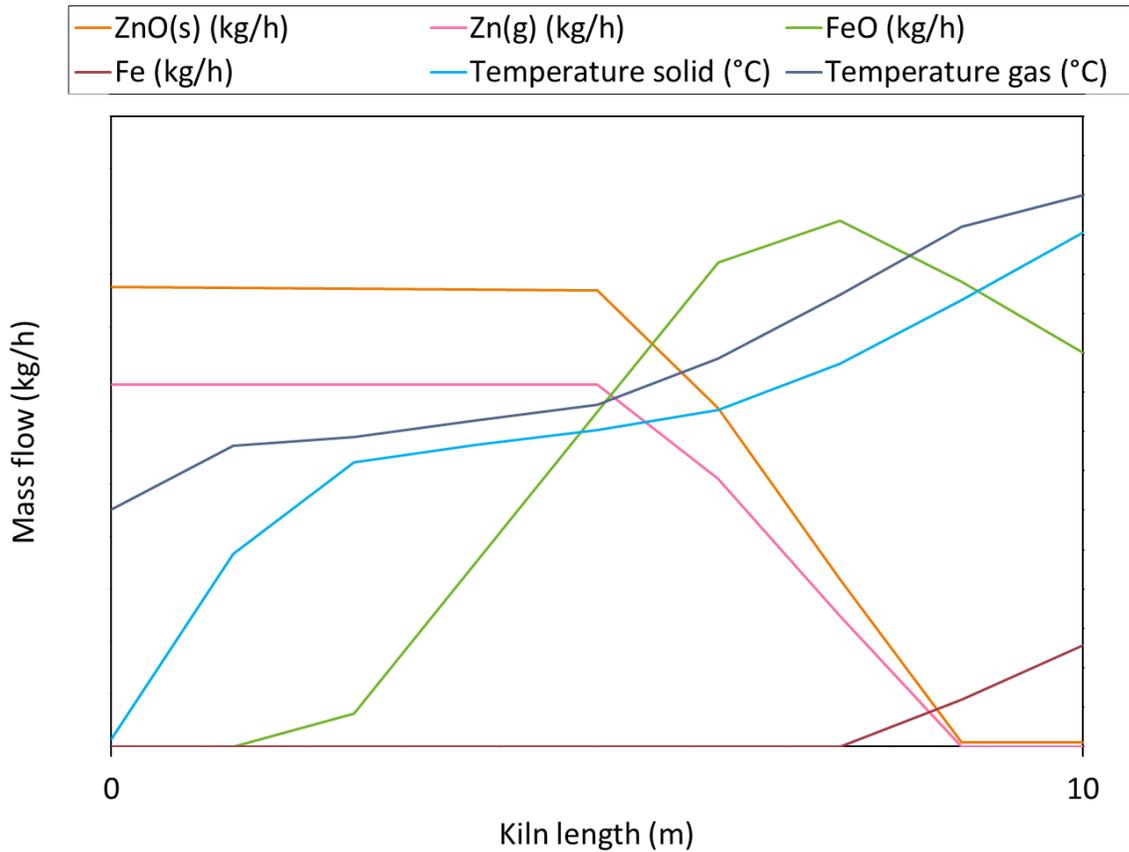


Gas profile

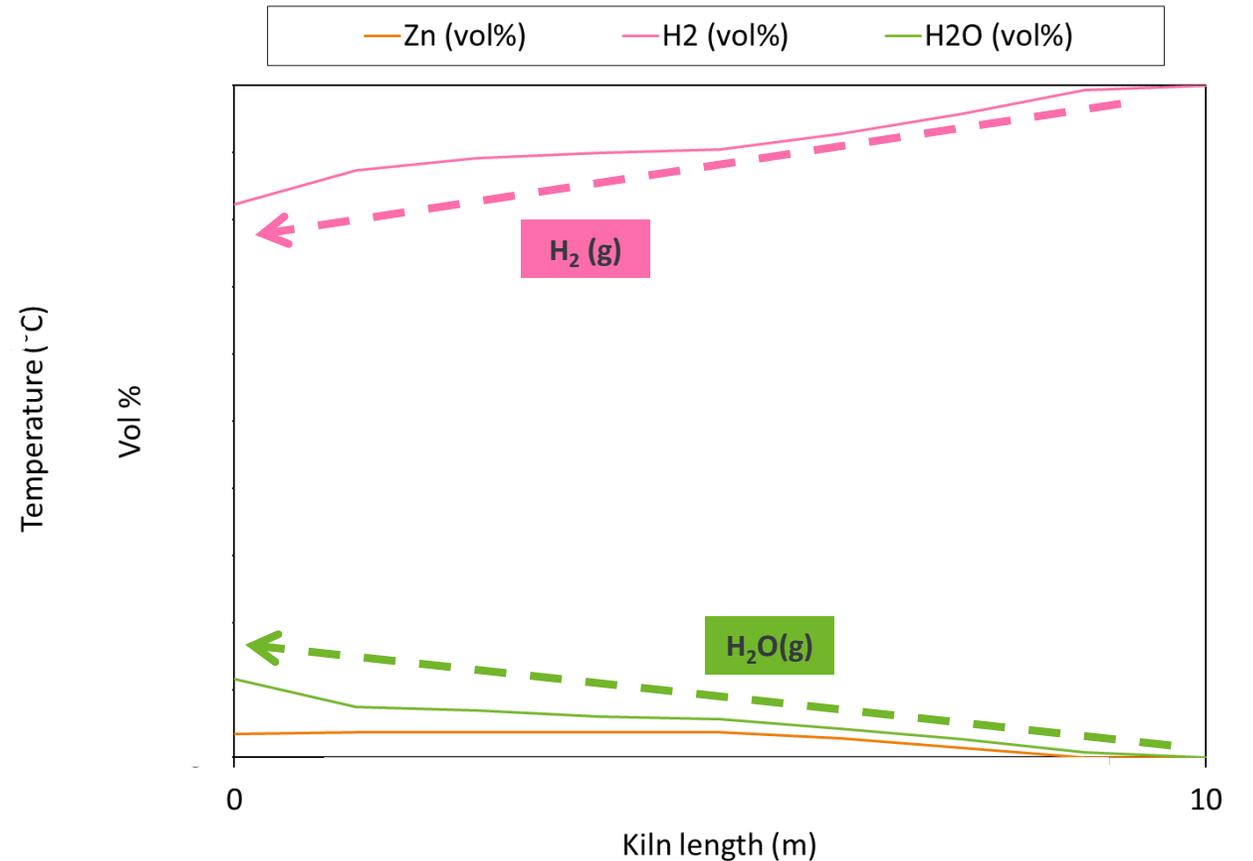


Preliminary Results

Mass and temperature profile

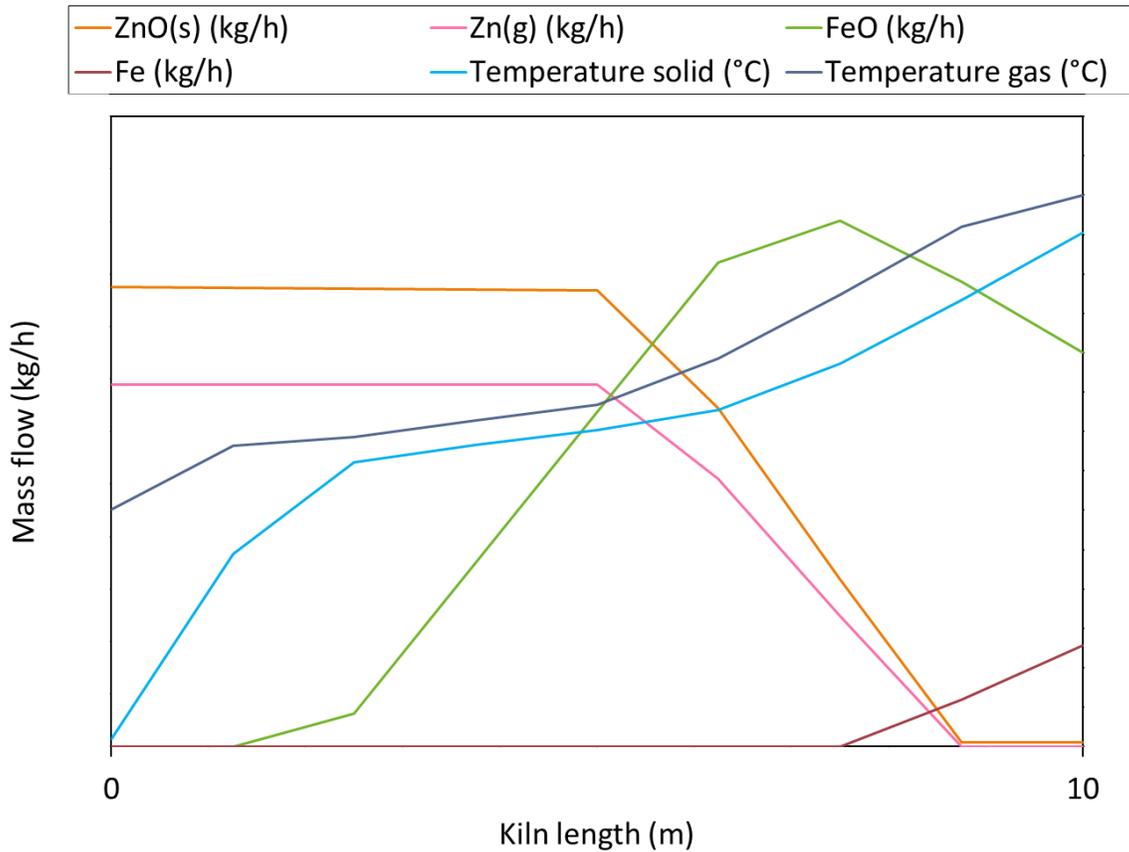


Gas profile

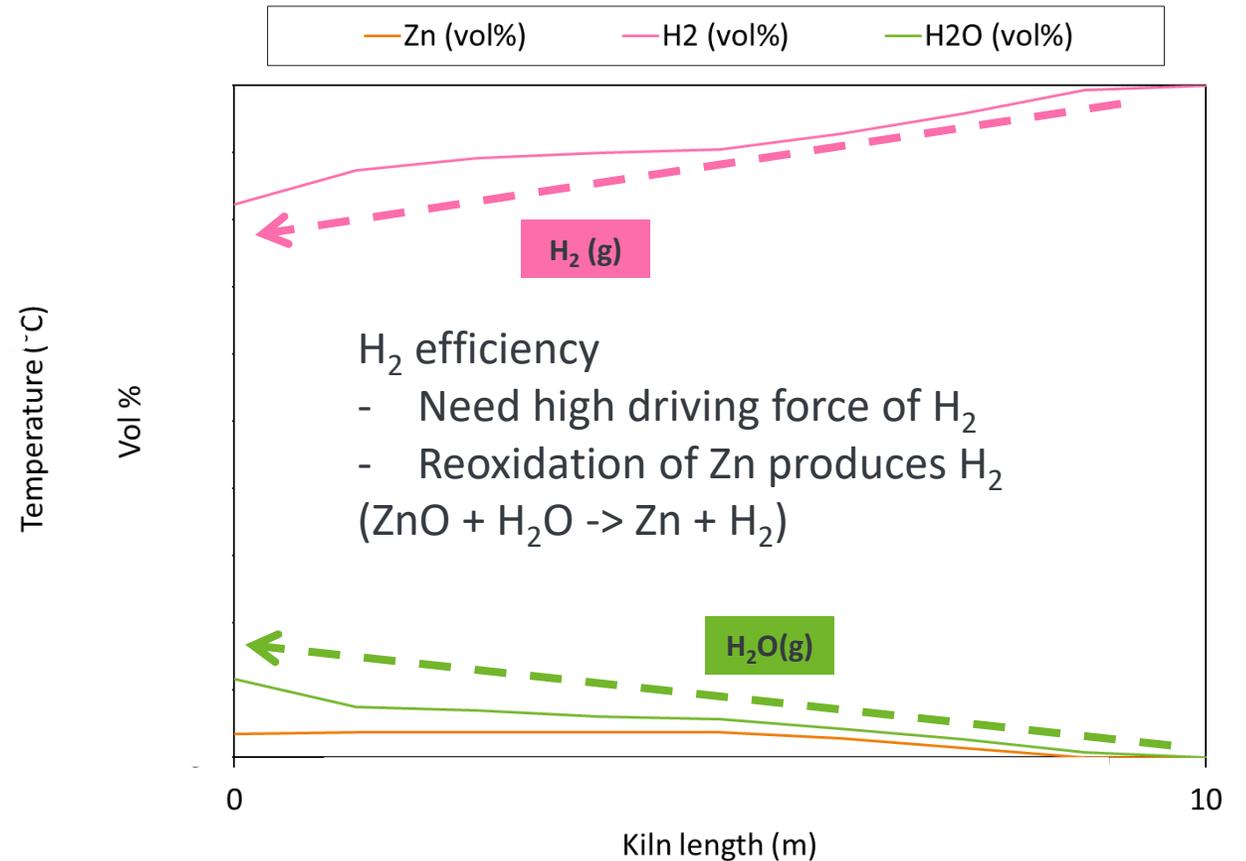


Preliminary Results

Mass and temperature profile

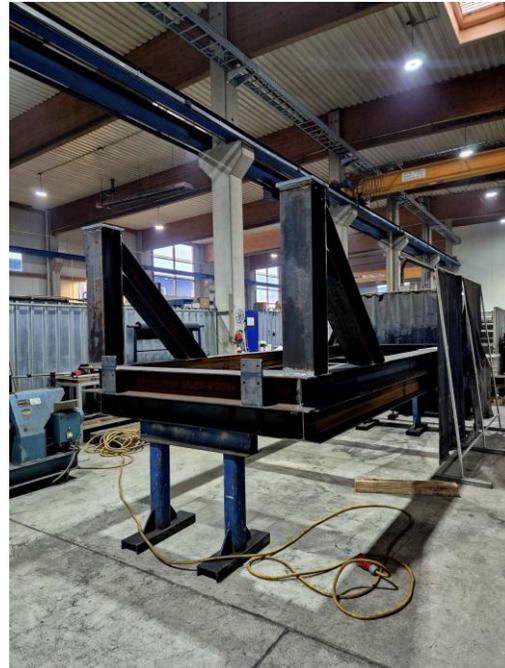


Gas profile



Project Current Status

- Pilot plant is under construction
- Digital twin under development



Thank you for your attention

Contact:

Ambachtenlaan 54, Leuven, Belgium

www.inspyro.be

Andrea.Kotze@inspyro.be

+32 16 298 491

Simulate. Quantify. Optimize.



InsPyro