

Fuel gas operation management practices for reheating furnace in iron and steel industry

Chen, D.M.^{a,b}, Liu, Y.H.^a, He, S.F.^c, Xu, S.^c, Dai, F.Q.^b, Lu, B.^{a,*}

^aSchool of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Anhui University of Technology, Ma'anshan, P.R. China

^bThe State Key Laboratory of Refractories and Metallurgy, Wuhan University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, P.R. China

^cMa'anshan iron and Steel Co., Ltd, Ma'anshan, Anhui, P.R. China

ABSTRACT

How to evaluate the fuel gas operation (FGO) of various working groups (WGs) and working shifts (WSs) in reheating furnace is still ambiguous problem. In this paper, a novelty time-series FGO evaluation model was proposed. The strategy mainly included: Firstly, the fuel gas per ton steel (FGTS) was calculated in certain time interval; Secondly, the FGTS time-series data set was formulated in statistical period; Thirdly, the FGTS time-series data set was divided according to working schedule; Lastly, the FGO evaluation model was established. Case study showed that: i) The fuel gas operation evaluation results of various WGs in different WSs were accorded with normal distribution; ii) For various WGs, A WG performed best, followed by C WG and D WG. The performance of B WG was the worst due to its violent fluctuation of fuel gas operation evaluation results in three WSs; iii) For different WSs, the day WS and swing WS performed well, whereas the performance of night WS was unsatisfactory. Discussion results showed that the improvement of working skills, working responsibility and working passion, which were effective measure to achieve energy saving in terms of operation, should be enhanced through skills training and the reward and punishment system. Generally, this novelty time-series FGO evaluation method could also be applied to other industrial equipment.

© 2020 CPE, University of Maribor. All rights reserved.

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords:

Iron industry;
Steel Industry;
Fuel gas operation (FGO) management;
Reheating furnace;
FGO evaluation model;
Fuel gas per ton steel (FGTS) time-series;
Working groups;
Working shifts

*Corresponding author:

road_lu12@163.com
(Lu, B.)

Article history:

Received 26 March 2020

Revised 9 July 2020

Accepted 13 July 2020

Reference

- [1] Duan, W., Yu, Q., Wang, K., Qin, Q., Hou, L., Yao, X., Wu, T. (2015). ASPEN plus simulation of coal integrated gasification combined blast furnace slag waste heat recovery system, *Energy Conversion and Management*, Vol. 100, 30-36, doi: [10.1016/j.enconman.2015.04.066](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enconman.2015.04.066).
- [2] Karali, N., Park, W.Y., McNeil, M. (2017). Modeling technological change and its impact on energy savings in the U.S. iron and steel sector, *Applied Energy*, Vol. 202, 447-458, doi: [10.1016/j.apenergy.2017.05.173](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2017.05.173).
- [3] Chen, Q., Gu, Y., Tang, Z., Wei, W., Sun, Y. (2018). Assessment of low-carbon iron and steel production with CO₂ recycling and utilization technologies: A case study in China, *Applied Energy*, Vol. 220, 192-207, doi: [10.1016/j.apenergy.2018.03.043](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2018.03.043).
- [4] Lu, B., Tang, K., Chen, D., Han, Y., Wang, S., He, X., Chen, G. (2019). A novel approach for lean energy operation based on energy apportionment model in reheating furnace, *Energy*, Vol. 182, 1239-1249, doi: [10.1016/j.energy.2019.06.076](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2019.06.076).
- [5] Griffin, P.W., Hammond, G.P. (2019). Industrial energy use and carbon emissions reduction in the iron and steel sector: A UK perspective, *Applied Energy*, Vol. 249, 109-125, doi: [10.1016/j.apenergy.2019.04.148](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2019.04.148).
- [6] Lu, B., Chen, G., Chen, D., Yu, W. (2016). An energy intensity optimization model for production system in iron and steel industry, *Applied Thermal Engineering*, Vol. 100, 285-295, doi: [10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2016.01.064](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2016.01.064).

- [7] An, R., Yu, B., Li, R., Wei, Y.-W. (2018). Potential of energy saving and CO₂ emission reduction in China's iron and steel industry, *Applied Energy*, Vol. 226, 862-880, doi: [10.1016/j.apenergy.2018.06.044](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2018.06.044).
- [8] Chen, D., Lu, B., Zhang, X., Dai, F., Chen, G., Liu, Y. (2018). Fluctuation characteristic of billet region gas consumption in reheating furnace based on energy apportionment model, *Applied Thermal Engineering*, Vol. 136, 152-160, doi: [10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2018.03.007](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2018.03.007).
- [9] Chen, D., Lu, B., Chen, G., Yu, W. (2017). Influence of the production fluctuation on the process energy intensity in iron and steel industry, *Advances in Production Engineering & Management*, Vol. 12, No. 1, 75-87, doi: [10.14743/apem2017.1.241](https://doi.org/10.14743/apem2017.1.241).
- [10] Zhang, Q., Zhao, X., Lu, H., Ni, T., Li, Y. (2017). Waste energy recovery and energy efficiency improvement in China's iron and steel industry, *Applied Energy*, Vol. 191, 502-520, doi: [10.1016/j.apenergy.2017.01.072](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2017.01.072).
- [11] Zhang, Q., Xu, J., Wang, Y., Hasanbeigi, A., Zhang, W., Lu, H., Arens, M. (2018). Comprehensive assessment of energy conservation and CO₂ emissions mitigation in China's iron and steel industry based on dynamic material flows, *Applied Energy*, Vol. 209, 251-265, doi: [10.1016/j.apenergy.2017.10.084](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2017.10.084).
- [12] He, K., Wang, L. (2017). A review of energy use and energy-efficient technologies for the iron and steel industry, *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, Vol. 70, 1022-1039, doi: [10.1016/j.rser.2016.12.007](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2016.12.007).
- [13] Peng, J., Xie, R., Lai, M. (2018). Energy-related CO₂ emissions in the China's iron and steel industry: A global supply chain analysis, *Resources, Conservation and Recycling*, Vol. 129, 392-401, doi: [10.1016/j.resconrec.2016.09.019](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.resconrec.2016.09.019).
- [14] Hu, R., Zhang, Q. (2015). Study of a low-carbon production strategy in the metallurgical industry in China, *Energy*, Vol. 90, Part 2, 1456-1467, doi: [10.1016/j.energy.2015.06.099](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2015.06.099).
- [15] McBrien, M., Cabrera Serrenho, A., Allwood, J.M. (2016). Potential for energy savings by heat recovery in an integrated steel supply chain, *Applied Thermal Engineering*, Vol. 103, 592-606, doi: [10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2016.04.099](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2016.04.099).
- [16] Ke, H.-L., Dong, B., Ye, B. (2014). Research and application of slab heating curve in reheating furnace, *Metallurgical Industry Automation*, Vol. 38, No. 3, 50-55, doi: [10.3969/j.issn.1000-7059.2014.03.010](https://doi.org/10.3969/j.issn.1000-7059.2014.03.010).
- [17] Mayr, B., Prieler, R., Demuth, M., Moderer, L., Hochenauer, C. (2017). CFD analysis of a pusher type reheating furnace and the billet heating characteristic, *Applied Thermal Engineering*, Vol. 115, 986-994, doi: [10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2017.01.028](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2017.01.028).
- [18] Tang, G., Wu, B., Bai, D., Wang, Y., Bodnar, R., Zhou, C. (2018). CFD modeling and validation of a dynamic slab heating process in an industrial walking beam reheating furnace, *Applied Thermal Engineering*, Vol. 132, 779-789, doi: [10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2018.01.017](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2018.01.017).
- [19] Han, S.H., Chang, D., Kim, C.Y. (2010). A numerical analysis of slab heating characteristics in a walking beam type reheating furnace, *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer*, Vol. 53, No. 19-20, 3855-3861, doi: [10.1016/j.ijheatmasstransfer.2010.05.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijheatmasstransfer.2010.05.002).
- [20] Emadi, A., Saboonchi, A., Taheri, M., Hassanpour, S. (2014). Heating characteristics of billet in a walking hearth type reheating furnace, *Applied Thermal Engineering*, Vol. 63, No. 1, 396-405, doi: [10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2013.11.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2013.11.003).
- [21] García, A.M., Amell, A.A. (2018). A numerical analysis of the effect of heat recovery burners on the heat transfer and billet heating characteristics in a walking-beam type reheating furnace, *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer*, Vol. 127, Part B, 1208-1222, doi: [10.1016/j.ijheatmasstransfer.2018.07.121](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijheatmasstransfer.2018.07.121).
- [22] Han, S.H., Chang, D. (2012). Radiative slab heating analysis for various fuel gas compositions in an axial-fired reheating furnace, *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer*, Vol. 55, No. 15-16, 4029-4036, doi: [10.1016/j.ijheatmasstransfer.2012.03.041](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijheatmasstransfer.2012.03.041).
- [23] Han, S.H., Lee, Y.S., Cho, J.R., Lee, K.H. (2018). Efficiency analysis of air-fuel and oxy-fuel combustion in a reheating furnace, *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer*, Vol. 121, 1364-1370, doi: [10.1016/j.ijheatmasstransfer.2017.12.110](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijheatmasstransfer.2017.12.110).
- [24] Wang, J.-G., Shen, T., Zhao, J.-H., Ma, S.-W., Wang, X.-F., Yao, Y., Chen, T. (2017). Soft-sensing method for optimizing combustion efficiency of reheating furnaces, *Journal of the Taiwan Institute of Chemical Engineers*, Vol. 73, 112-122, doi: [10.1016/j.jtice.2016.09.037](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtice.2016.09.037).
- [25] Zhang, Q. (2017). Application of reheating furnace waste heat integrated utilization technology, *Energy for Metallurgical Industry*. Vol. 36, No. 1, 45-47, doi: [10.3969/j.issn.1001-1617.2017.01.011](https://doi.org/10.3969/j.issn.1001-1617.2017.01.011).
- [26] Dal Magro, F., Jimenez-Arreola, M., Romagnoli, A. (2017). Improving energy recovery efficiency by retrofitting a PCM-based technology to an ORC system operating under thermal power fluctuations, *Applied Energy*, Vol. 208, 972-985, doi: [10.1016/j.apenergy.2017.09.054](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2017.09.054).
- [27] Jiménez-Arreola, M., Wieland, C., Romagnoli, A. (2017). Response time characterization of organic rankine cycle evaporators for dynamic regime analysis with fluctuating load, *Energy Procedia*, Vol. 129, 427-434, doi: [10.1016/j.egypro.2017.09.131](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.egypro.2017.09.131).
- [28] Pili, R., Romagnoli, A., Spliethoff, H., Wieland, C. (2017). Techno-economic analysis of waste heat recovery with ORC from fluctuating industrial sources, *Energy Procedia*, Vol. 129, 503-510, doi: [10.1016/j.egypro.2017.09.170](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.egypro.2017.09.170).
- [29] Wang, L. (2016). An example of waste heat recovery of heating furnace based on energy cascade utilization, *Metallurgical Power*, Vol. 1, 30-31, doi: [10.3969/j.issn.1006-6764.2016.01.010](https://doi.org/10.3969/j.issn.1006-6764.2016.01.010).
- [30] Lu, B., Chen, D., Chen, G., Yu, W. (2017). An energy apportionment model for a reheating furnace in a hot rolling mill - A case study, *Applied Thermal Engineering*, Vol. 112, 174-183, doi: [10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2016.10.080](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2016.10.080).
- [31] Chen, D., Lu, B., Dai, G.-Q., Chen, G., Zhang, X. (2018). Bottleneck of slab thermal efficiency in reheating furnace based on energy apportionment model, *Energy*, Vol. 150, 1058-1069, doi: [10.1016/j.energy.2018.02.149](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2018.02.149).
- [32] Chen, D., Lu, B., Dai, F.-Q., Chen, G., Yu, W. (2018). Variations on billet gas consumption intensity of reheating furnace in different production states, *Applied Thermal Engineering*, Vol. 129, 1058-1067, doi: [10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2017.10.096](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2017.10.096).

- [33] Ferreira, J.E.V., Pinheiro, M.T.S., dos Santos, W.R.S., da Silva Maia, R. (2016). Graphical representation of chemical periodicity of main elements through boxplot, *Educación Química*, Vol. 27, No. 3, 209-216, [doi: 10.1016/j.eq.2016.04.007](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eq.2016.04.007).
- [34] Hubert, M., Vandervieren, E. (2008). An adjusted boxplot for skewed distributions, *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, Vol. 52, No. 12, 5186-5201, [doi: 10.1016/j.csda.2007.11.008](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.csda.2007.11.008).