

# Reactions of $Fe_xO$ containing materials in Hisarna Slag and hot metal



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# Introduction – Hlsarna Technology

• 20% without CCS  
• 80% with CCS

**CO2 Emission**




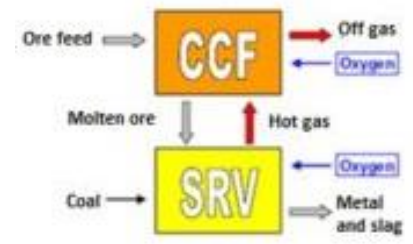
• Advance furnace technology improves the quality of steel.  
• More use of scrap steel.  
• Full Zinc recovery

**Quality**



• Reduction in cost  
• Less complex  
• Energy efficient  
• Output = 6x

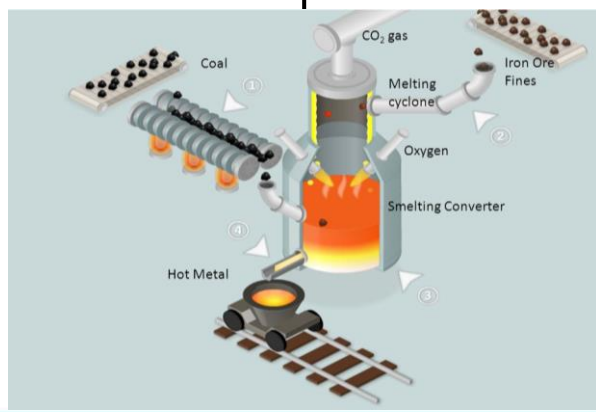
**Efficiency**

In addition to the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>, other gaseous emissions are also drastically reduced due to the elimination of cokemaking and sintering plants

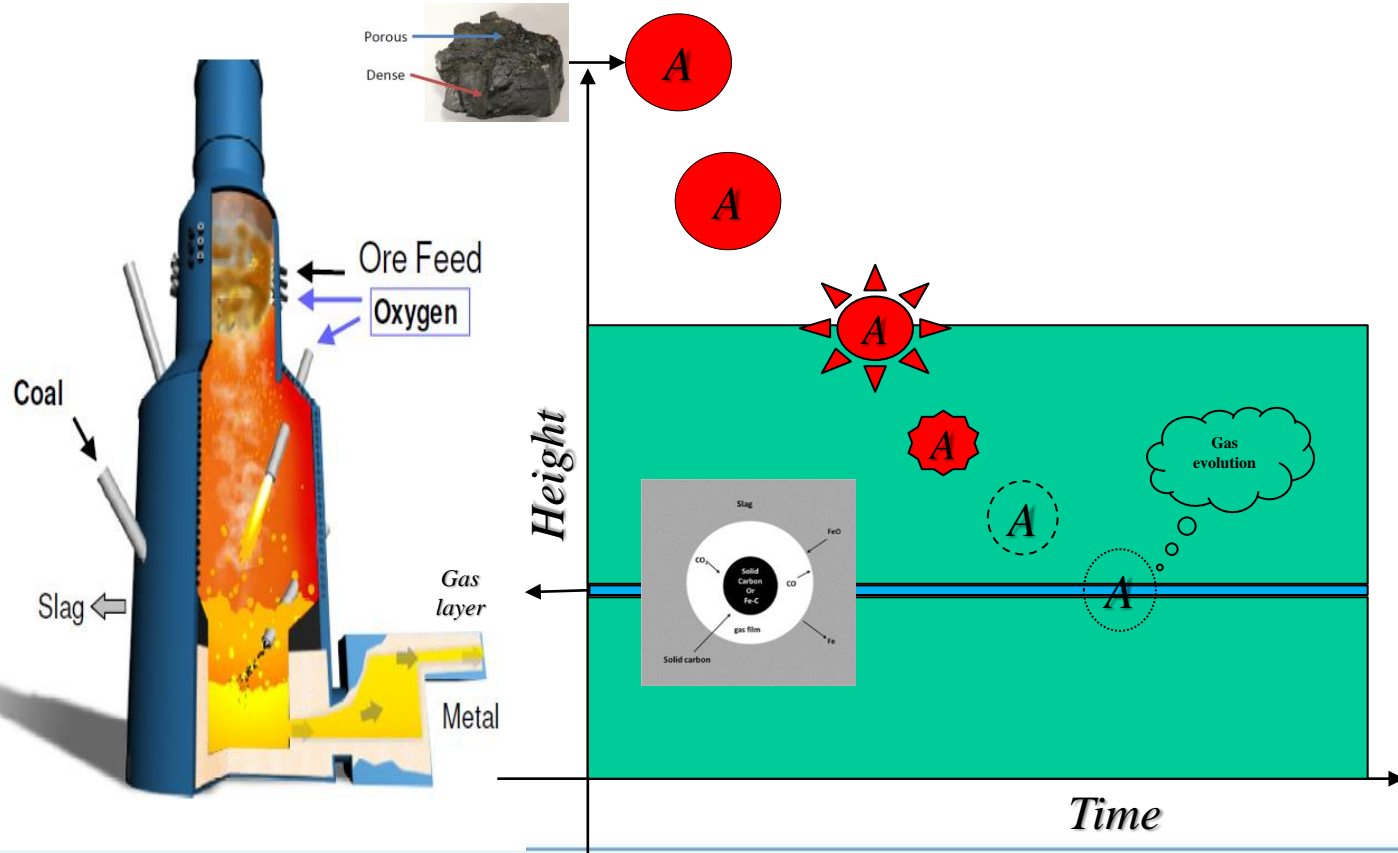
	Emission Reduction*		
	CO <sub>2</sub>	NOx	SOx
Hlsarna without CCS	20 %	70 %	60 %
Hlsarna with CCS	80 %	90 %	85 %

\* Compared to BF/BOS/HRC route



\* Meijer, K., Guenther, C. & Dry, R. J. Hlsarna Pilot Plant Project. *InSteelCon* 1–5 (2011)

# Slag foaming conditions – Heat and Mass transfer Model



- Belly zone – 1600°C
- Accretion falling from 700°C – 1000°C zone
- PE, KE known of an assumed shape and size of accretion.
- Density, specific heat known

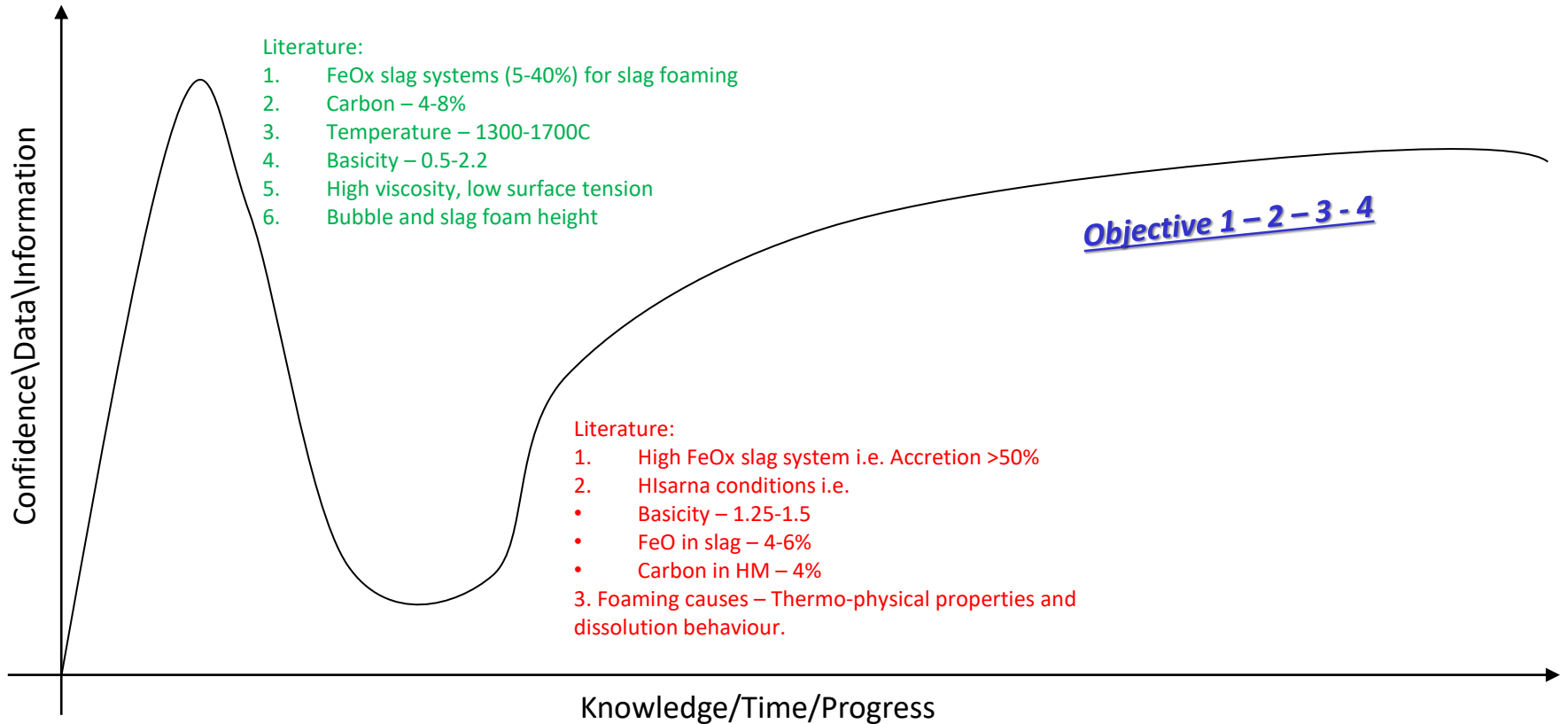
- Slag layer – 1450°C to 1500°C
- Viscosity, density, specific heat known
- Surface tension and buoyancy to be calculated.
- Heat transfer model (From slag into Accretion – Static model) using COMSOL

- HM layer – 1500°C to 1550°C
- Viscosity, density, specific heat known
- Surface tension and buoyancy to be calculated.
- Heat transfer model (From slag into Accretion – Static model) using COMSOL

\* Ab, L. *Hlsarna Experimental Campaigns B and C*. vol. 9424 (2013).

\* Khasraw, D., Yan, Z., Hage, J.L.T. *et al*. Reduction of FeO in Molten Slag by Solid Carbonaceous Materials for Hlsarna Alternative Ironmaking Process. *Metall Mater Trans B* **53**, 3246–3261 (2022).

# Dunning Kruger Effect – Knowledge gap

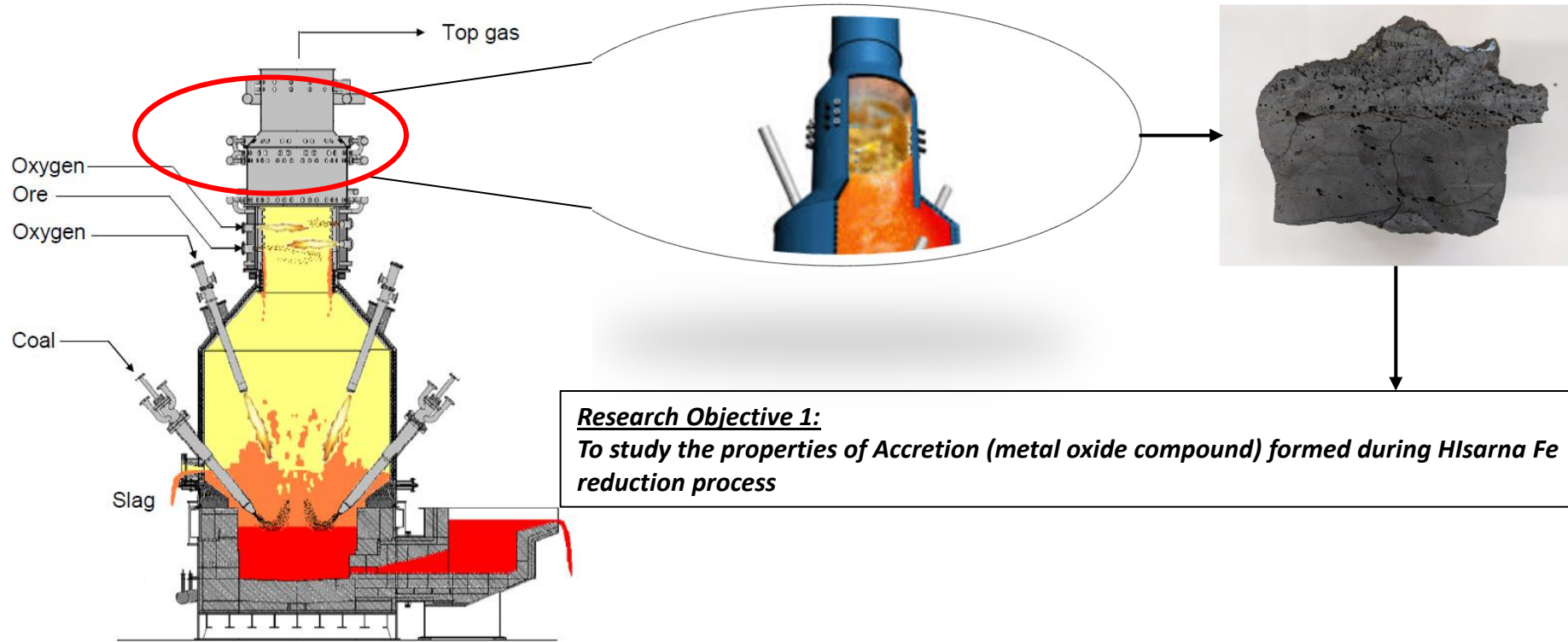


\* Jouhari, A. K., Galgali, R. K., Chattopadhyay, P., Gupta, R. C. & Ray, H. S. Kinetics of iron oxide reduction in molten slag. *Scand. J. Metall.* **30**, 14–20 (2001).

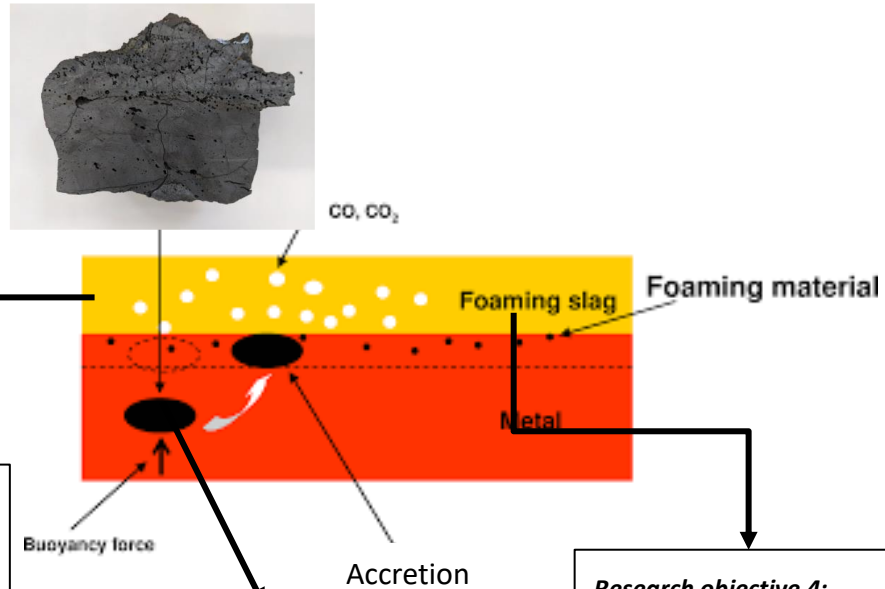
\* Zhu, T. X., Coley, K. S. & Irons, G. A. Progress in slag foaming in metallurgical processes. *Metall. Mater. Trans. B Process Metall. Mater. Process. Sci.* **43**, 751–757 (2012).

\* Yi, S. H. & Rhee, C. H. Effects of additives on the foaming behavior of the FeO-SiO<sub>2</sub> based slag. *Steel Res.* **68**, 429–433 (1997).

# Hisarna challenges and research idea



# Project aim and Hlsarna conditions



## Research Objective 2:

To study the  $Fe_xO$  containing material dissolution mechanism and reaction rate in Hlsarna slag

## Research Objective 3:

To study the  $Fe_xO$  containing material reaction mechanism in Fe-C melt

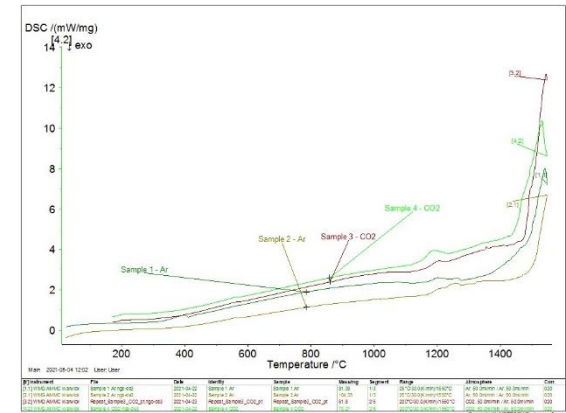
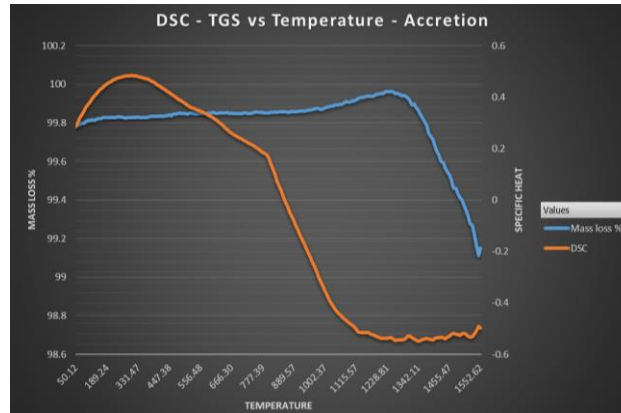
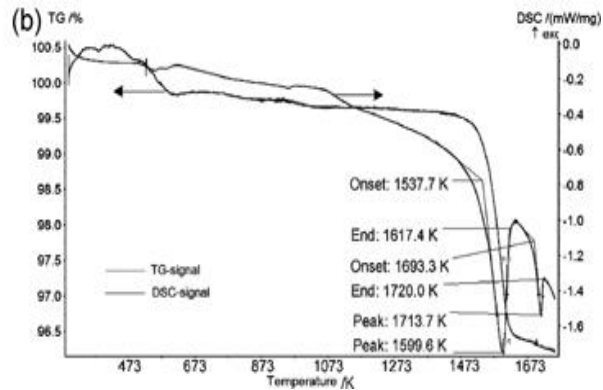
## Research objective 4:

Study the factors affecting and reaction mechanisms for sudden foaming in Hlsarna slag

## Hlsarna conditions:

- Slag composition –  
CaO+SiO<sub>2</sub>+Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>+MnO+MgO+FeO
- FeO – 4-6% (initial high and accretions falling into the SRV)
- Carbon in melt – 4-5%
- CO<sub>2</sub>+H<sub>2</sub>O+N<sub>2</sub>+CO – Gases evolved
- Presence of Zn, Ti, P in the slag
- Temperature range – 1500°C
- Accretions build-up and sudden/uncontrolled slag foaming

# Analysis of TGA\DSC Curves – Iron ore vs Accretion



Temperature	Element	Observation	Reason
200-400	Goethite	Endothermic peaks (flat and double peaks)	Dehydration – Mass loss. Size distribution of Goethite crystals and rearrangements.
>700<850-950	Hematite	Sharp endothermic peak	Phase transformation to Magnetite – Thermal reduction of hematite
>950<1350-1500~	Magnetite	Sharp exothermic curve	Phase transformation from Magnetite to ferric iron – Melting/reduction

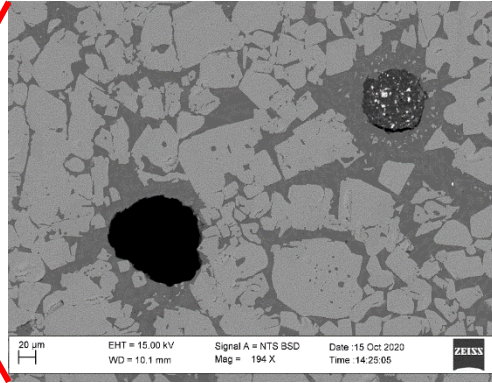
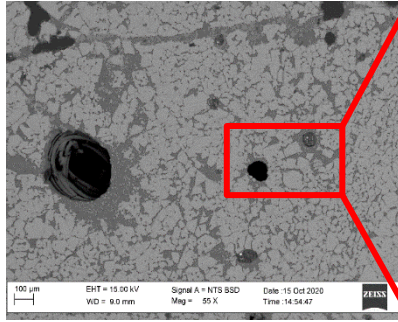
- Limiting oxygen index – higher the value, better the flaming combustion of the material.
- Due to decomposition of certain elements (endothermic) larger surface area is exposed for adsorption
- In exothermic curve, adsorption capability will be higher along the pores and increased surface area.

\* Jouhari, A. K., Galgali, R. K., Chattopadhyay, P., Gupta, R. C. & Ray, H. S. Kinetics of iron oxide reduction in molten slag. *Scand. J. Metall.* **30**, 14–20 (2001).

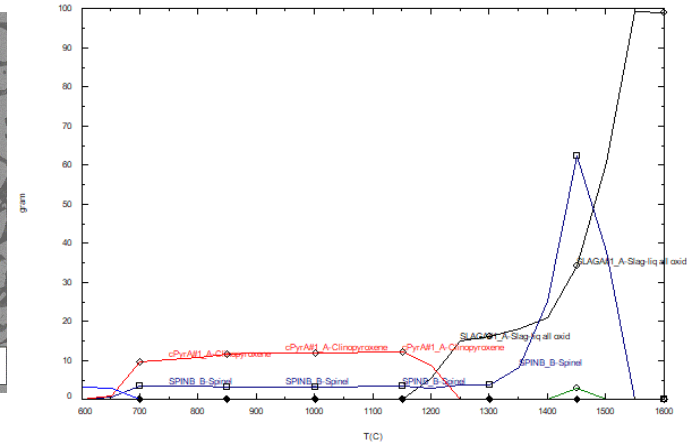
\* Qu, Yingxia & Yang, Yongxiang & Zou, Zongshu & Zeilstra, Christiaan & Meijer, Koen & Boom, Rob. (2014). Thermal Decomposition Behaviour of Fine Iron Ore Particles.

ISIJ International. 54. 2196-2205. 10.2355/isijinternational.54.2196.

# Characteristics of Accretion



84 Fe2O3 + 8 SiO2 + 3 CaO + 3 Al2O3 +  
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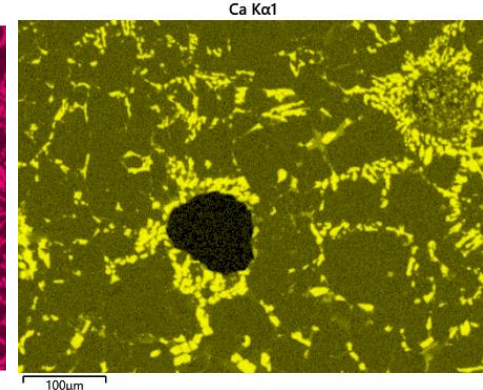
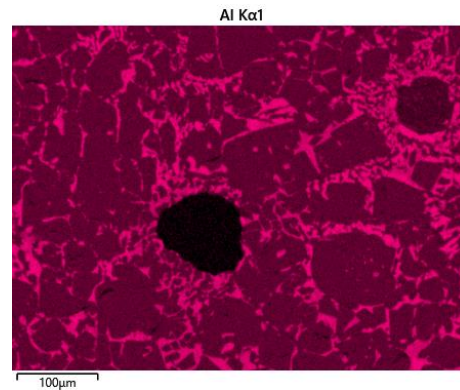
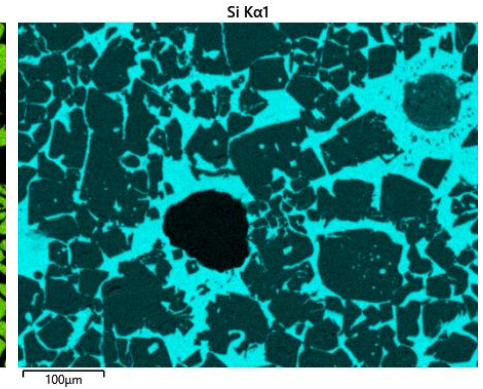
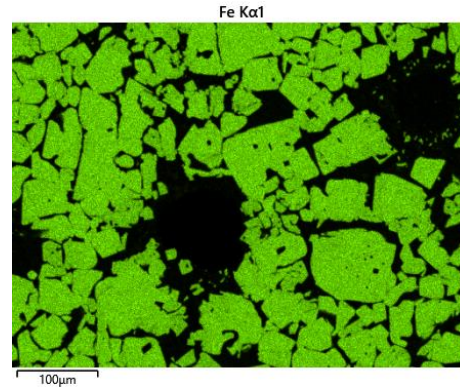
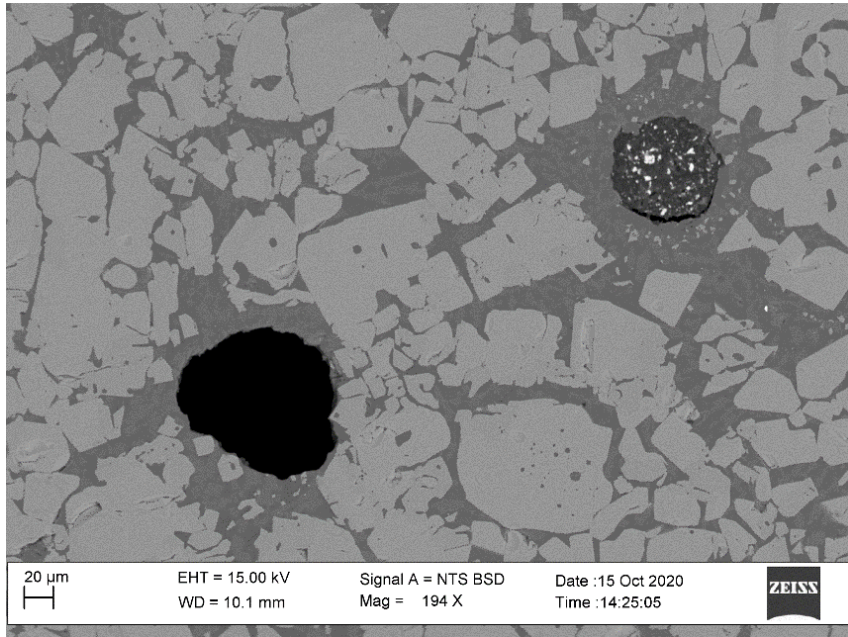


Elements	FeOx	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	CaO	MgO	MnO	TiO <sub>2</sub>
Quantity	84.5%	8%	2.5%	3%	1%	0.5%	0.5%

- The Factsage model for Accretion shows the formation of slag(l) phases after 1150°C and complete liquid phases post 1500°C.

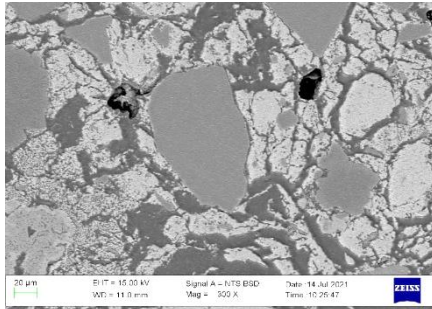


# SEM EDS Analysis – Original Accretion

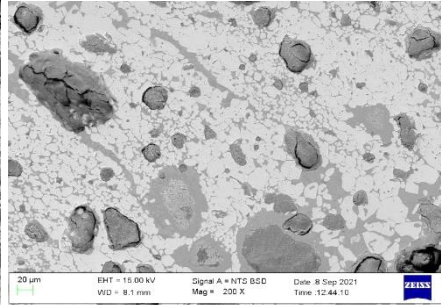


# SEM EDS Analysis – Synthetic Accretion

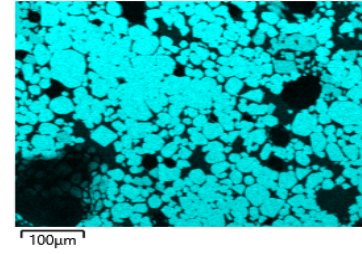
3 hours



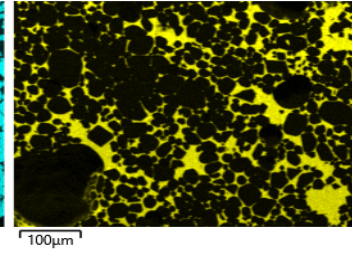
6 hours



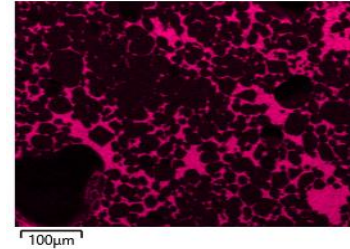
Fe Kα1



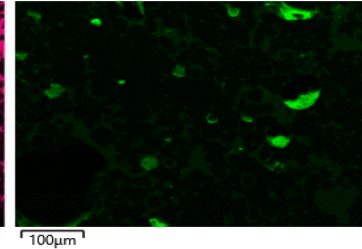
Si Kα1



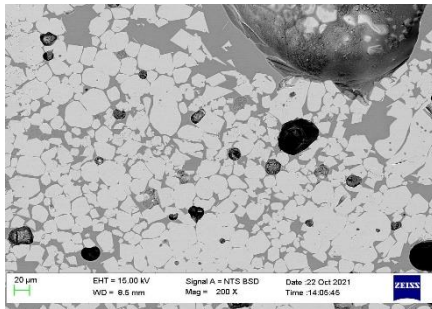
Ca Kα1



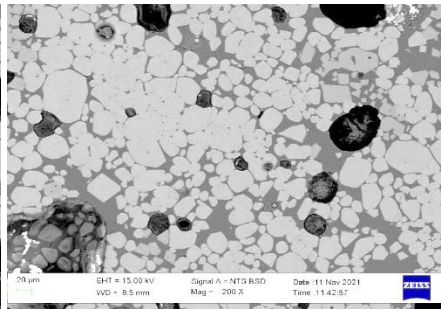
Al Kα1



12 hours



24 hours



**Equipment:**

Muffle Furnace  
Pelleting die and press

**Parameter:**

Temperature – 1150/1200/1250°C  
Time – 3/6/12/24 hours  
Heating rate – 5°C/min  
Cooling rate – 3°C/min  
Atmosphere - Air

# Slag-Accretion dissolution – Experimental method



## Slag+Crucible

- Measure 20g of HIsarna slag.
- Add the slag powders into the crucible and mix/stir it well.



## Melting of slag

- Place the crucible in the Muffle furnace.
- Heat the slag to 1500°C at 50°C/min.
- Isothermal for 30 minutes to attain homogeneity.



## Accretion

- Prepare synthetic accretion using the proven sintering method. (24 hours)
- Measure and prepare a 10g/5g/2.5g accretion sample for dissolution.



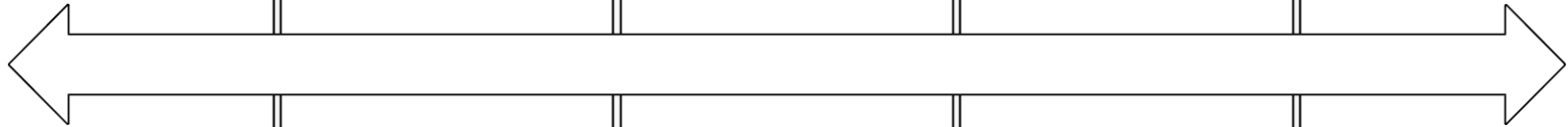
## Dissolution

- Open the furnace and drop the accretion into the molten slag.
- After 1/3/5 minute take the crucible out and quench in water.
- Iterate

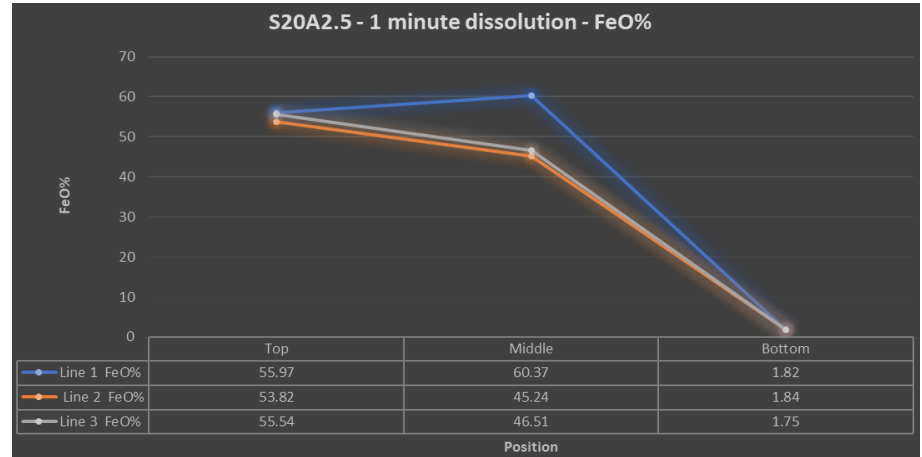
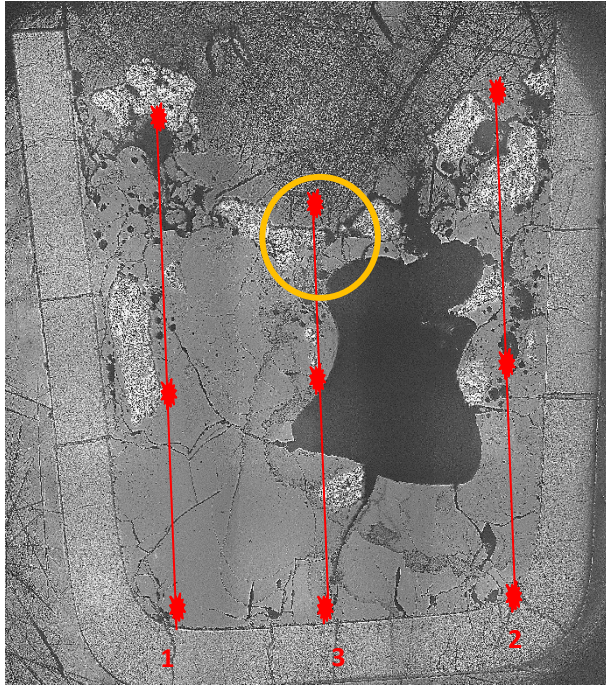


## Characterization

- Cut the crucible in half to assess the dept of fall/dissolution.
- Sample preparation for SEM.
- Characterize.
- Repeat the same for different accretion samples.

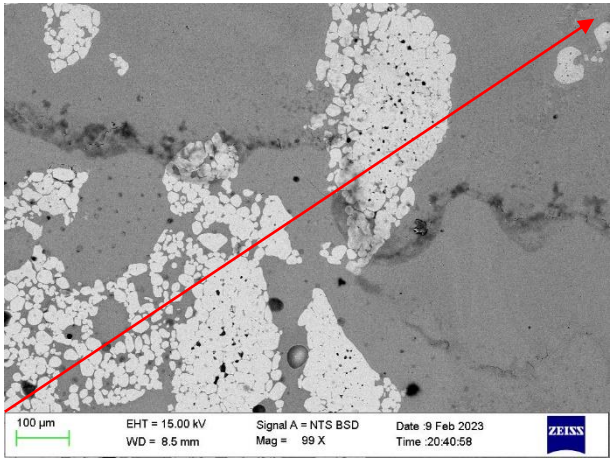


# 20g Slag – 2.5g Accretion – 1 minute dissolution

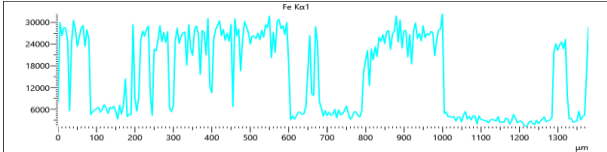
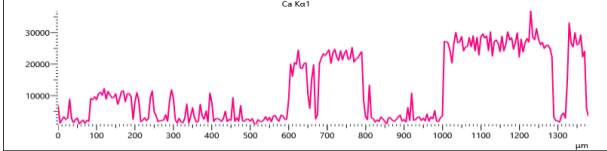
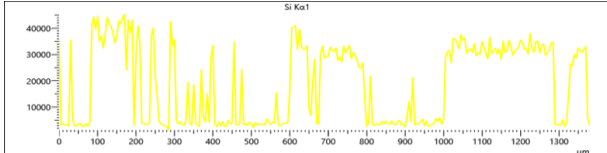
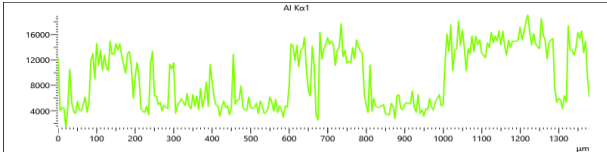


- ❖ Accretion disintegrated into fragments i.e. onset of decomposition.
- ❖ FeO% measured on the Accretion-slag boundary layer.
- ❖ No increase in slag FeO% without accretion presence. (See bottom slag composition)

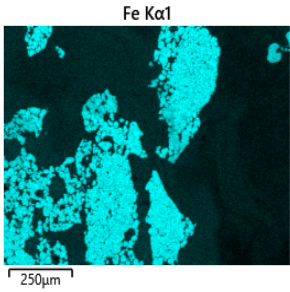
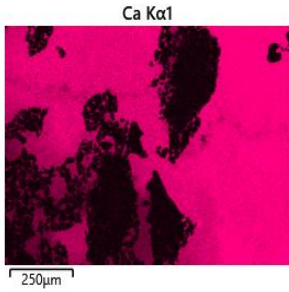
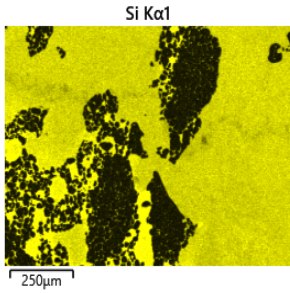
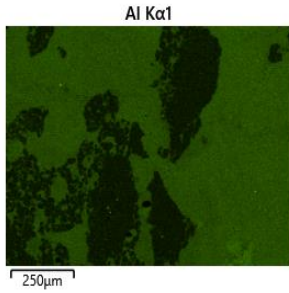
# 20g Slag – 2.5g Accretion – 1 minute dissolution



**SEM Image – 3 - Top**

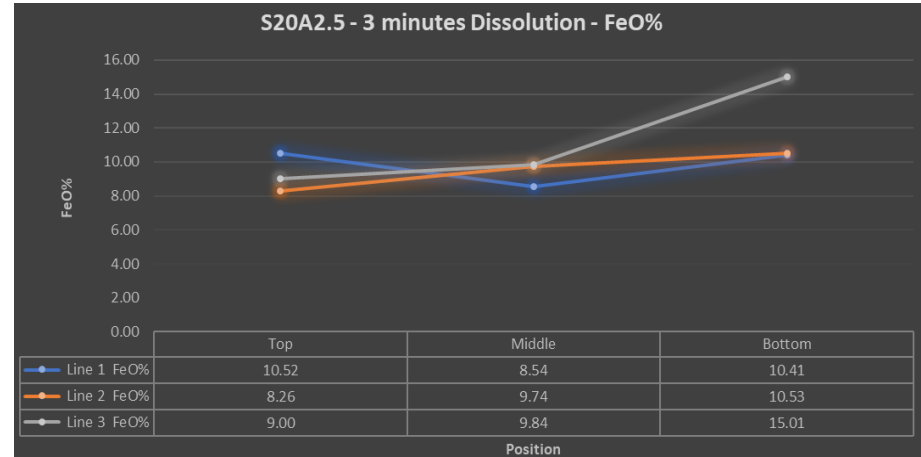
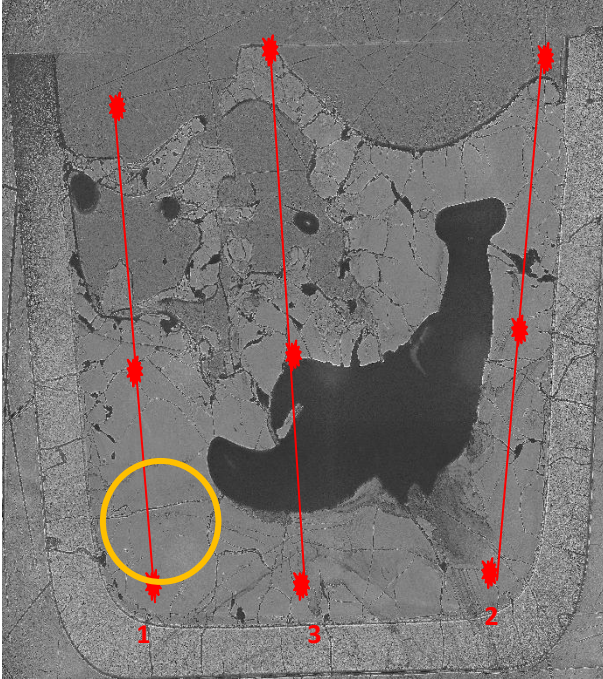


**Line scan**



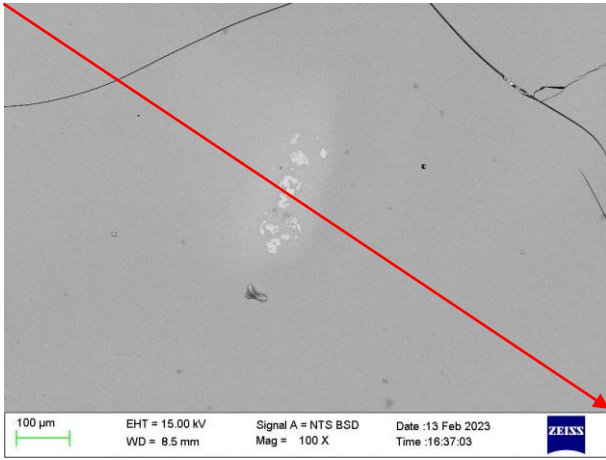
**EDS Map scan**

# 20g Slag – 2.5g Accretion – 3 minute dissolution



- ❖ Accretion disintegrated into fragments and decomposed i.e. onset of dissolution.
- ❖ Tiny fragments of accretion is visible under the microscope.
- ❖ Increase in slag FeO% across the crucible.

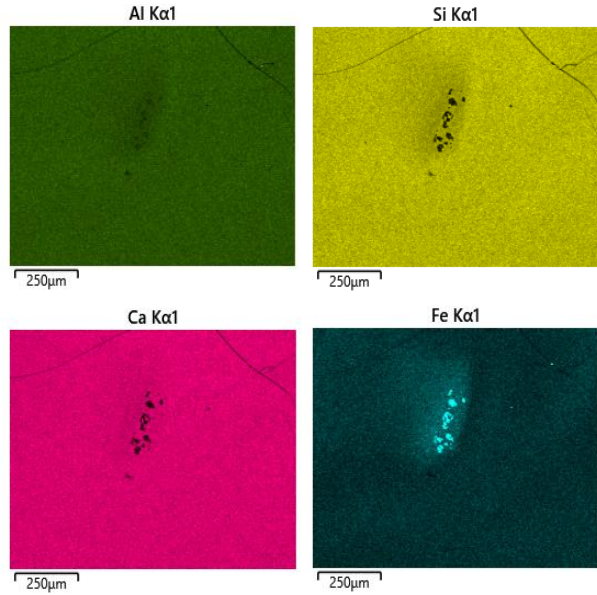
# 20g Slag – 2.5g Accretion – 3 minutes dissolution



**SEM Image – 1 –  
Bottom Top**



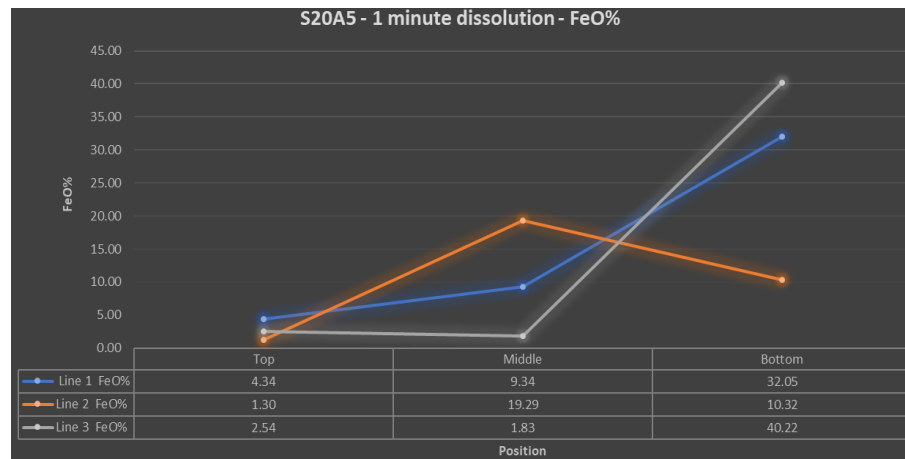
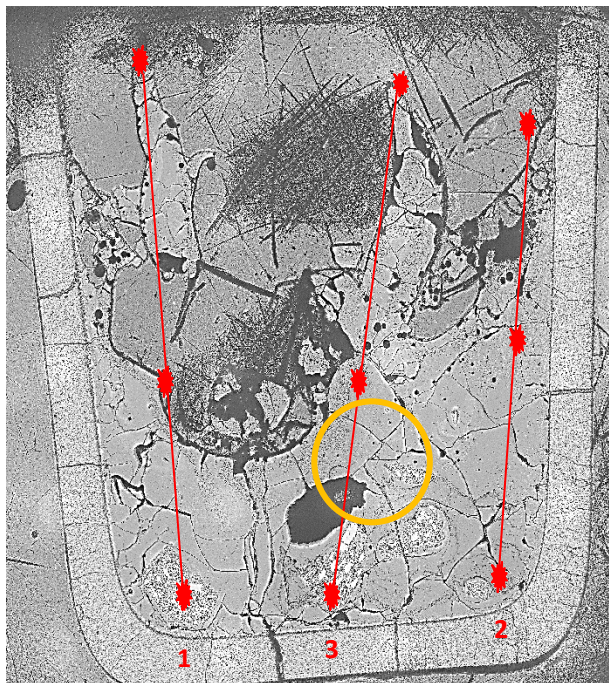
**Line scan**



**EDS Map scan**



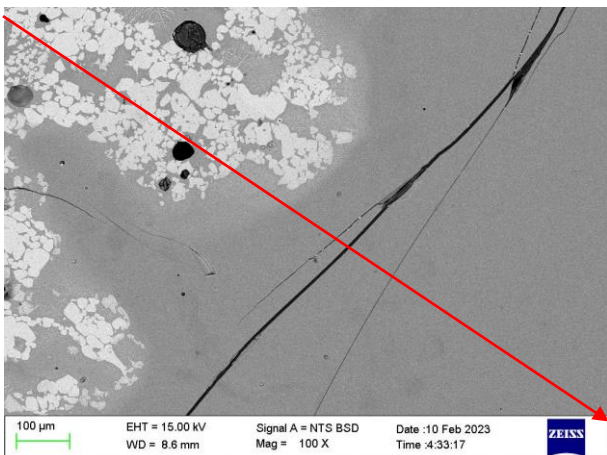
# 20g Slag – 5g Accretion – 1 minute dissolution



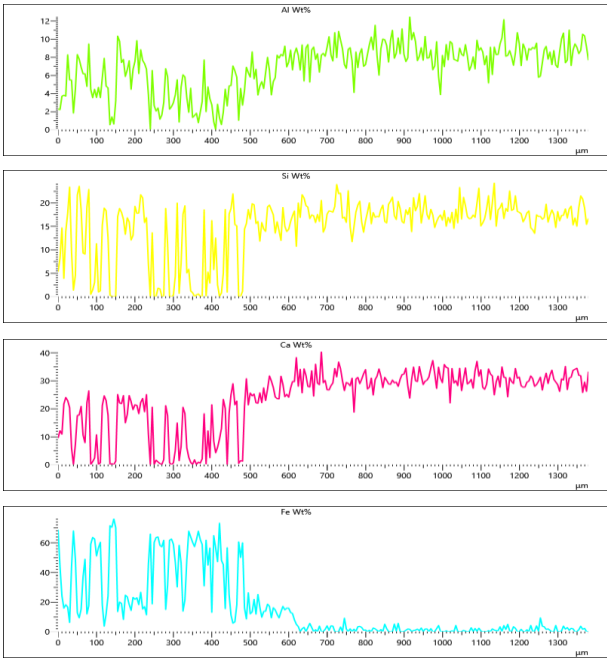
- ❖ Accretion disintegrated into fragments and settled at the bottom of crucible.
- ❖ Tiny fragments of accretion is visible under the microscope in top and middle part of the crucible.
- ❖ Increase in slag FeO% around the accretion in the slag but low FeO% away from the accretion.



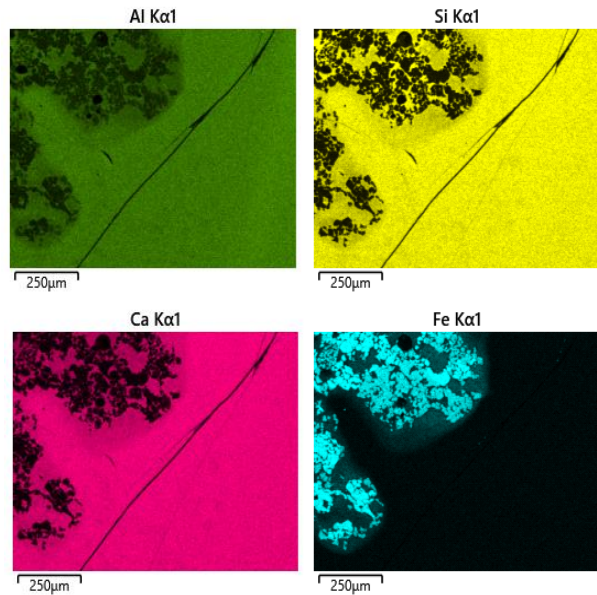
# 20g Slag – 5g Accretion – 1 minute dissolution



**SEM Image – 3 – Middle Bottom**



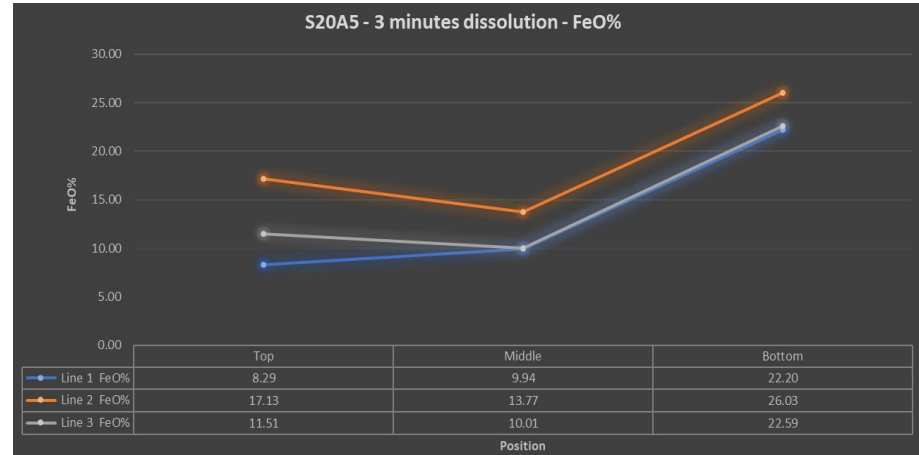
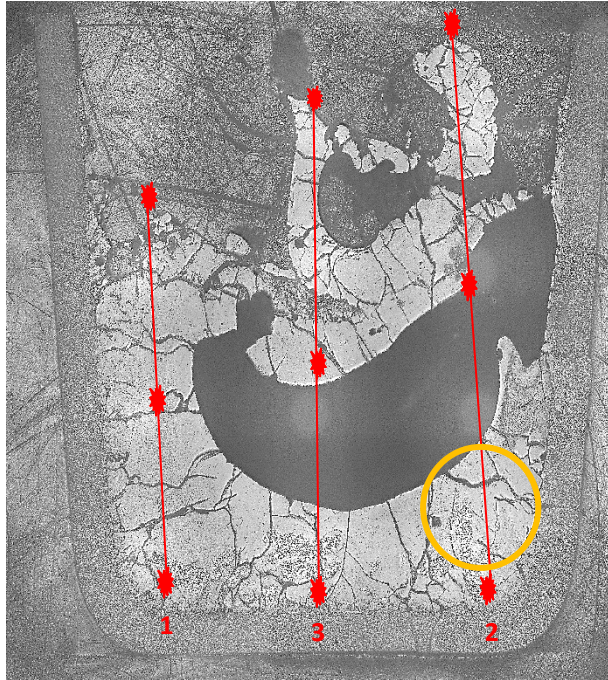
**Line scan**



**EDS Map scan**

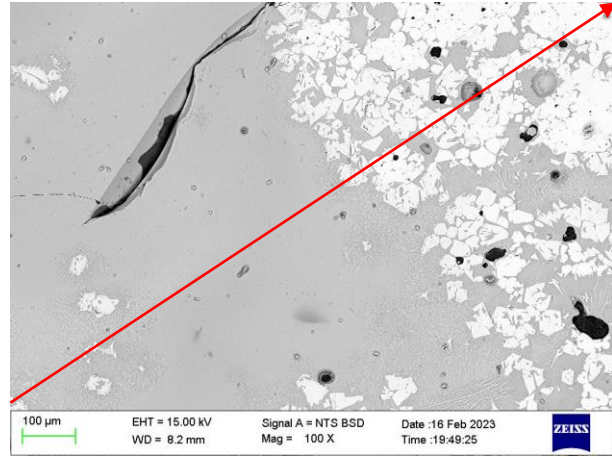


# 20g Slag – 5g Accretion – 3 minute dissolution

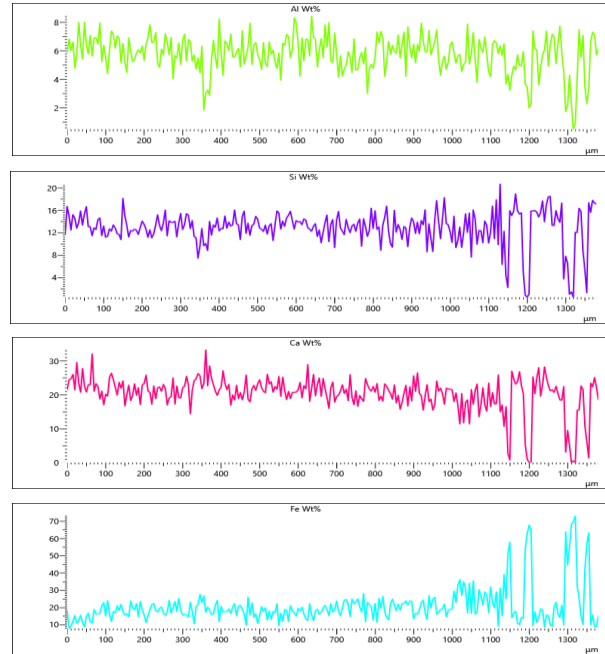


- ❖ Accretion disintegrated into fragments and settled in the middle and the bottom of the crucible.
- ❖ Tiny fragments of accretion is visible under the microscope across different locations in the crucible.
- ❖ Increase in slag FeO% around the accretion in the slag but low FeO% away from the accretion.

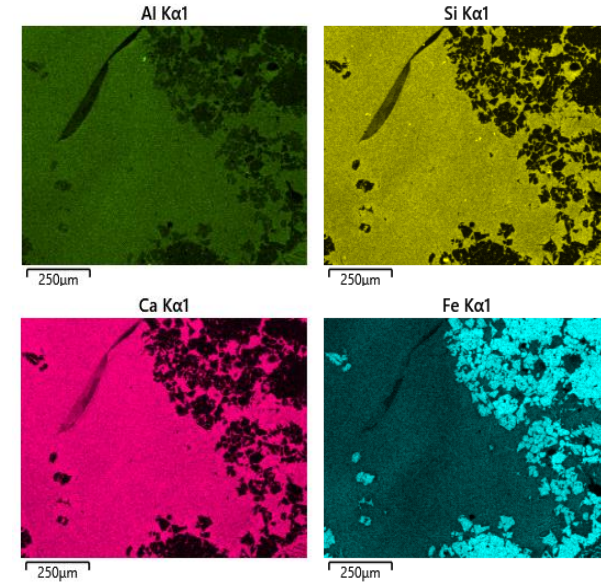
# 20g Slag – 5g Accretion – 3 minute dissolution



**SEM Image – 2 –  
Bottom**



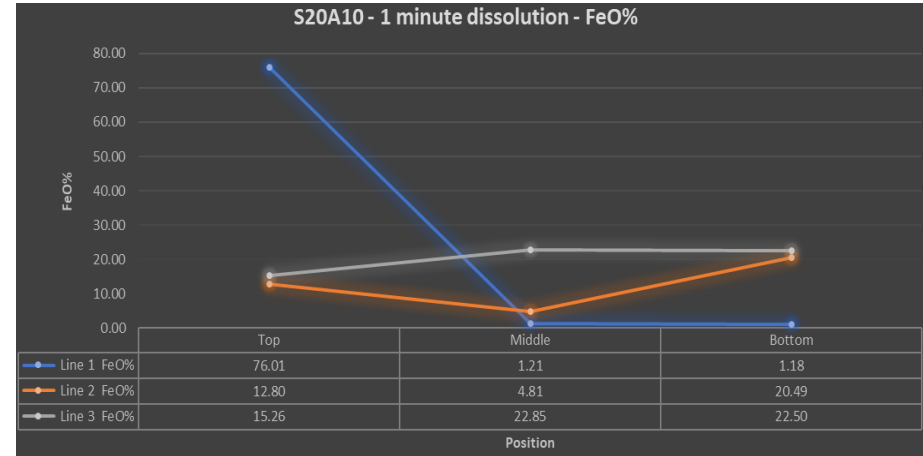
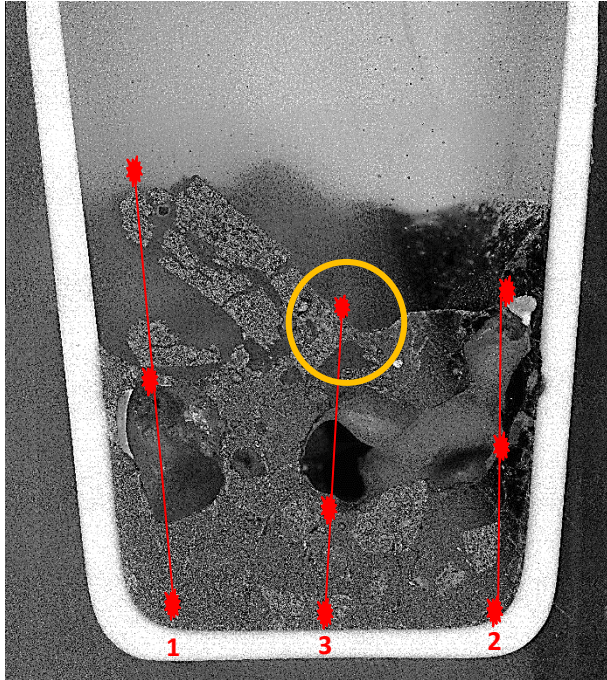
**Line scan**



**EDS Map scan**

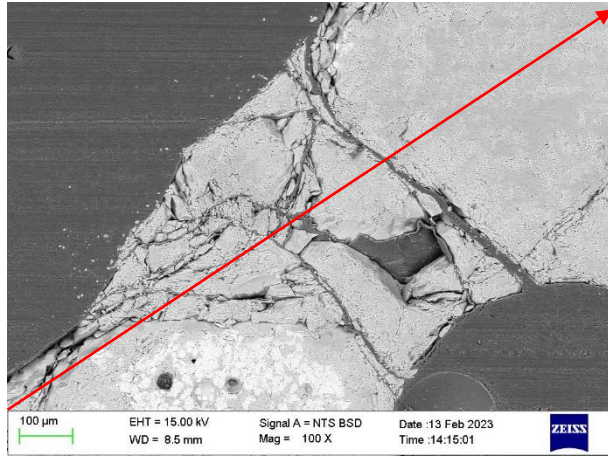


# 20g Slag – 10g Accretion – 1 minute dissolution



- ❖ Big chunk of accretion deformed and slightly disintegrated into fragments which are settled at the bottom.
- ❖ Large area of accretion remains inert at the top.
- ❖ Increase in slag FeO% around the accretion in the slag but low FeO% away from the accretion.(Line 1)

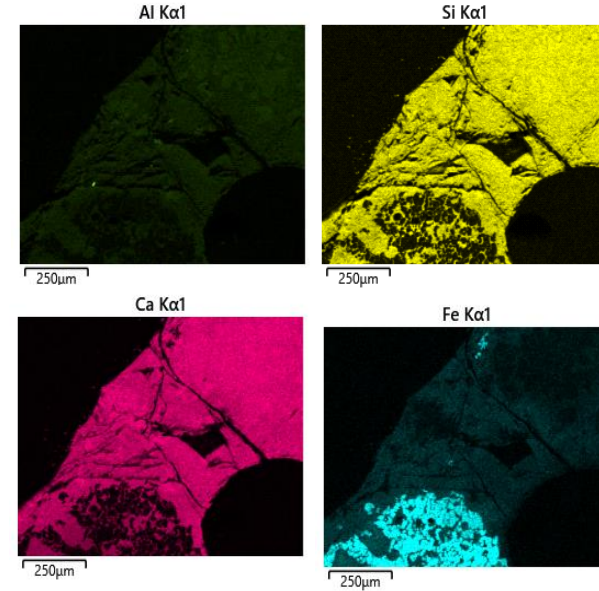
# 20g Slag – 10g Accretion – 1 minute dissolution



SEM Image - 3 - Top



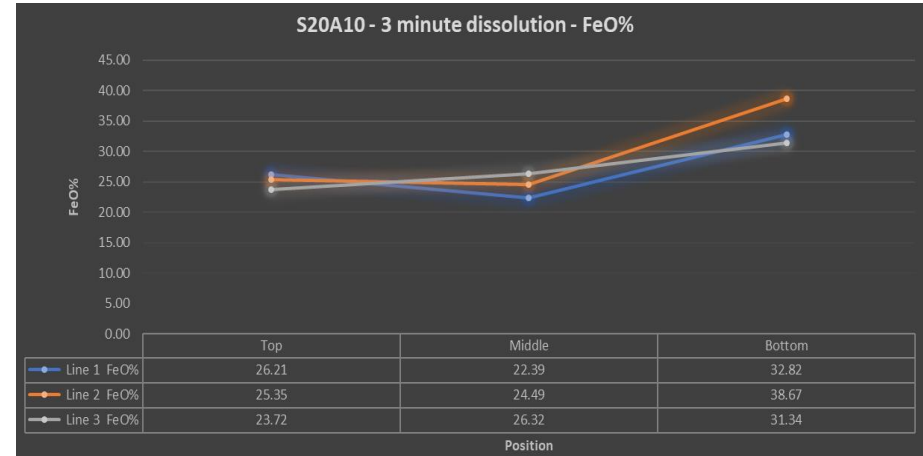
Line scan



EDS Map scan

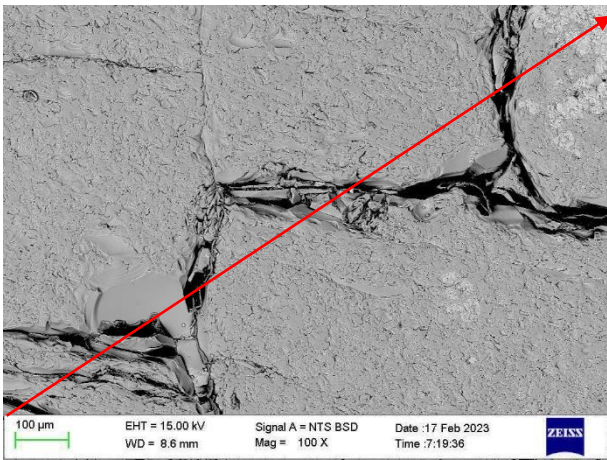


# 20g Slag – 10g Accretion – 3 minute dissolution

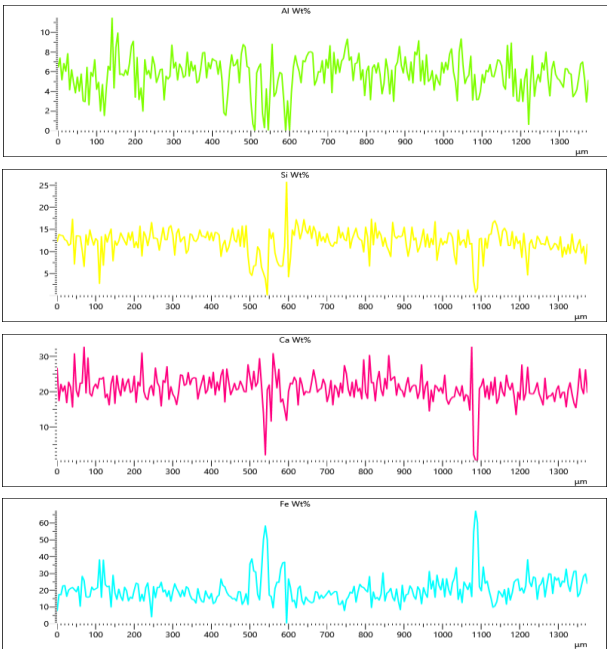


- ❖ Accretion disintegrated into fragments and scattered across the crucible and visible under the microscope.
- ❖ Increase in slag FeO% around the accretion in the slag and increasing FeO% away from the accretion.

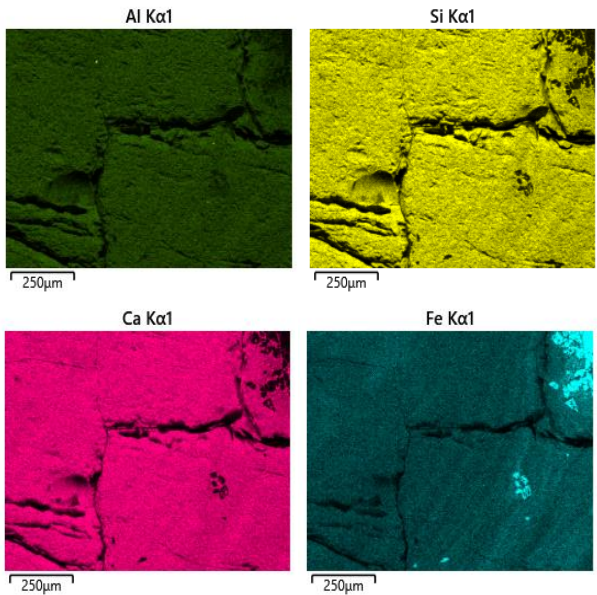
# 20g Slag – 10g Accretion – 3 minutes dissolution



**SEM Image – 1 – Top**



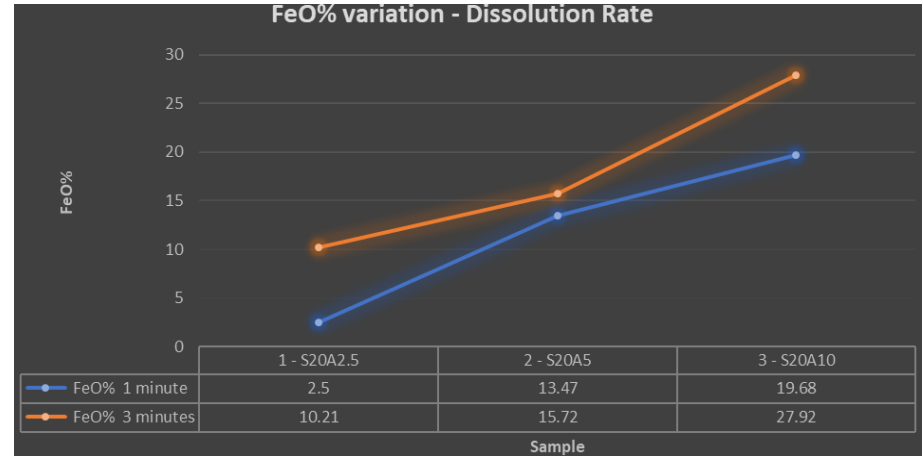
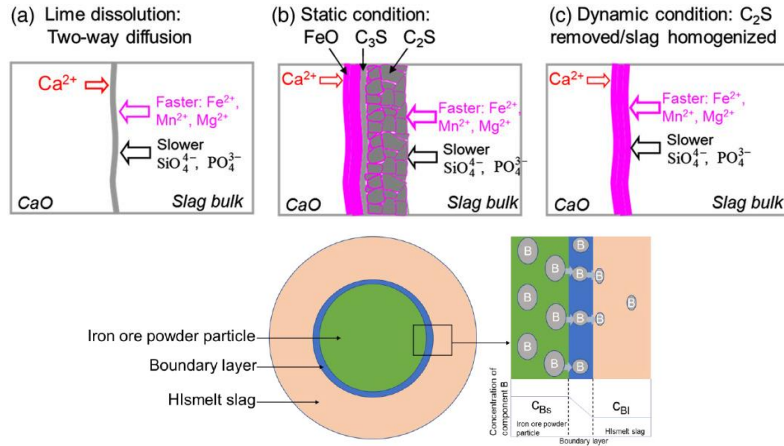
**Line scan**



**EDS Map scan**



# Analysis - Discussion



- ❖ FeO% in the slag increases as the dissolution time increases.
- ❖ FeO% in the slag increases rapidly as the weight of the accretion reduces and dissolution time increases.
- ❖ Dissolution rate is the controlling parameter for accretion reaction.
- ❖ Decomposition of accretion is initial parameter before dissolution sets in.
- ❖ Spinel/slag dissolution is a 2 – way process, forming Di/tri – Calcium silicate along the boundary.

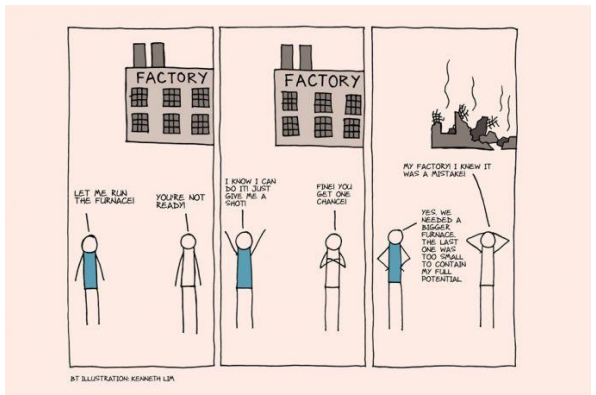


## Observation:

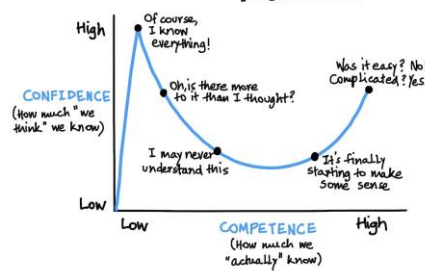
- The chemical composition of **accretion is similar to that of the iron ore** used in the Hisarna furnace.
- The absence of volatile elements like **gases, water, goethite and kaolinite**, skips the endothermic reactions of the accretions.
- Since the accretion has higher percentage of Hematite, curves are mainly exothermic in behaviour due to the reduction of hematite to magnetite to wüstite, releasing energy – transforming phases.
- The physical appearance of Tata steel's accretion was brittle, porous and hard. (difficult to break by hand)
- The 24 hours sintered accretion in Muffle furnace exhibits similar microstructure properties with more porosity with that of the industrial sample.
- 1 minute dissolution (drop method) throws light on penetration behaviour of the slag into the porous matrix of accretions.
- Fe% in the slag varied from ~1-28% within 3 minutes of the dissolution - EDS analysis.



# Pun intended and who are we.....?



## The Dunning Kruger Effect





**Thanks You  
For Your Attention**

Do u have

**Any  
QUESTION?**

