

Modeling of metals reducing from B_2O_3 -CaO- Fe_2O_3 -ZnO melts by CO- CO_2 mixtures

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Abstract

Thermodynamic modeling technique has been developed to predict the conditions of metals reduction from oxide melt by gas during bubbling processes. The technique provides approximation to real systems with periodic removal of metal phase and gases from the working body. The given work presents thermodynamic modeling results of Zinc and Iron reduction processes from B_2O_3 -CaO- Fe_2O_3 -ZnO melts by CO- CO_2 different composition mixtures in the 1273-1673 K temperature range. Approximation to real processes is used. Zinc and Iron oxides content in the melt and its reducing degree have been estimated during the calculations.

Three stages of the process have been obtained by the calculations. Reducing of Fe_2O_3 to Fe_3O_4 and FeO is realized in the first stage. Concentration of Fe_2O_3 ($C_{Fe_2O_3}$) decreases almost to zero while $C_{Fe_3O_4}$ and C_{FeO} have been increased simultaneously. Concentration of $C_{Fe_3O_4}$ reaches its maximum to the end of process. Transition of $Fe_3O_4 \rightarrow FeO$ takes place in second stage when C_{FeO} reaches its maximum, and Zinc and Fe begin its reducing. Temperature increase promotes metallization by Zinc, but decreases by Iron. An increase of input gas CO/ CO_2 ratio leads to Fe reducing degree. It thereby ensures required indicators of the Zinc selective reduction achievement but requires more gas consumption.

The relationships between C_{ZnO} and φ_{Zn} depending on temperature and amount of reducing input gas consumption have been obtained. Given work results may be useful for pre-cut estimation of the probable parameters of Zinc distillation process from the melt. Besides, these results may be useful as the basis for the experimental results analysis.

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