MODELLING RECYCLING AND MATERIAL EFFICIENCY TRENDS IN THE EUROPEAN STEEL INDUSTRY

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STRUCTURE

- Motivation
- Steel production routes and scrap availability
- Modelling changes in recycling and production
- Results

MOTIVATION

Industrial production projections



Reduced energy demand and CO² emissions

STEEL PRODUCTION ROUTES AND SCRAP AVAILABILITY

Final basic product, distinguishing primary and recycle chains of production





Source: (IISI 1998), Fleiter et al. (2013)

Source: World Steel Association (worldsteel) (2013)

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STEEL PRODUCTION ROUTES AND SCRAP AVAILABILITY



Source: World Steel Association (worldsteel) (2013)

STEEL PRODUCTION ROUTES AND SCRAP **AVAILABILITY**

Whether/when secondary production might stagnate someday despite further GDP per capita growth depends on:

Domestic scrap arising

- Limits
- Dynamics of future infrastructures

Scrap trade

Dynamics of future trade between countries

Scrap quality

- Purity of scrap and waste
- Costs of seperation and purification processes



Source: The World Bank (2012); World Steel Association (worldsteel) (2013b)





System boundaries and assumptions:

- Additional decoupling (to its historic trends) of apparent steel use (ASU) in tonnes and economic value of the steel demanding branches
- II. Home scrap of blast oxygen and electric arc furnace route steelworks is recycled immediately on site
- III. "Prompt scrap ratio = prompt scrap / steel input to manufacture" adapted as constant 15% from Michaelis and Jackson (2000, p.136)
- IV. "Indirect net steel exports" (IndNX) (World Steel Association (worldsteel), 2013b) remain constant on the level of the year 2010







System boundaries and assumptions:

- V. Chosen average life cycle (alc) of steel containing products after literature analysis: 20 years
- VI. "post-use recycled steel scrap rate (r)" (Michaelis and Jackson, 2000a, p. 136f): set to 83% in 2010 and assumed to increase linearly up to 90% (Worldsteel Association (worldsteel), 2010; also cited in UNEP, 2013, p.47)
- VII. Net exports of steel scrap trade assumed to remain constant on the level of the year 2010 over the models projection horizon
- VIII. **EAF-production-scrap ratio** (λ) is assumed to stay the same **as in 2010** As the model is not fully calibrated value for the year 2010 below 1 (see assumption I)
- IX. Ratio of crude steel production to apparent steel use (μ) is assumed to move linearly towards 1 from the level of the year 2010



Regression Methodology:

 Pooled regression analysis for the identification of a behavioural equation for the development of the apparent steel use of a country, average time-dummy coefficient base on 2007

 $ASU_{tj} = \beta_0 + \beta_j \times VA_{t,j} + \varepsilon_{t,i}$

 $\ln ASU_{t,i} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \times \ln bm.va_{t,i} + \beta_2 \times \ln veh.va_{t,i} + \beta_3 \times \ln eng.va_{t,i} + \beta_4 \times \ln constr.va + CD + TD + \varepsilon_{t,i}$

Data availability:

- average length of time-series 1974-2007
- Data in metric tonnes for 23 countries : Worldsteel Association, Steel Statistical Yearbooks 2013 to 1987
- Value added data for 23 countries:
 EU-KLEMS database, University of Groningen transformed in Euro 2005 using market exchange rates



- **Material Flow Methodology:**
 - Assuming a trend to higher gross value added (see assumption I) multiplication with the 2) structural change ratio α

 $asu_{ti} = \alpha_t \times ASU_{ti}$

Available and recovered amount of prompt scrap (Scrap_{prompt}) within year t for country i 3) via prompt scrap ratio δ (assumption II and III)

$$Scrap_{prompt_{t,i}} = \delta \times asu_{t,i}$$

Adapted from Michaelis and Jackson (2000a, p.136)

4) Definition true steel use of a country *i* in year *t*

$$TSU_{t,i} = asu_{t,i} - IndNX_{t,i}$$

Taken from Worldsteel Association (worldsteel) (2012), IndNX assumed to remain constant (assumption IV)

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- Material Flow Methodology:
 - 5) Amount of **post-use/end-of-life scrap** (*Scrap*_{eol})

 $Scrap_{eol_{t,i}} = r \times TSU_{t-alc,i}$

Adapted "*use phase*" model from Michaelis and Jackson (2000a, p.136f) (assumption V & VI) -> no finalized modelling of steel stocks

6) Total domestic scrap availability for EAF steel production (assumption II)

 $Scrap_{domt,i} = Scrap_{prompt_{t,i}} + Scrap_{eol_{t,i}}$

7) Total available amount of scrap (assumption VII)

 $Scrap_{total_{t,i}} = Scrap_{dom_{t,i}} - ScrapNX_{t,i}$



- Material Flow Methodology:
 - 8) Steel produced via the electric arc furnace route ($PROD_{EAF}$) (assumption VIII) $PROD_{EAFt,i} = Scrap_{totalt,i} \times \lambda$
 - 9) **Crude steel** production (*PROD_{CRUDE}*) (assumption IX)

 $PROD_{CRUDE_{t,i}} = ASU_{t,i} \times \mu$

10) Steel production via blast oxygen furnace route (PROD_{BOF})

$$PROD_{BOFt,i} = PROD_{CRUDEt,i} - PROD_{EAFt,i}$$

RESULTS



- Increasing ASU and crude steel production in Germany, Italy, France and the United Kingdom until 2020
- Stagnation/decrease after 2020 in Germany, United Kingdom
- Major driver of ASU underlying economic development of steel demanding branches: construction, vehicle construction, engineering, basic metals (Source: Macroeconomic model ASTRA; Krail et al. 2013)



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RESULTS



- Results reflect growth in steel demanding sectors, combined with assumptions of an increasing post-use recycling rate
- Electric steel production follows rather different pathways: stagnation/decrease in Italy after 2025; France little increases; United Kingdom continues historic trends; TSU dominates German results
- Results for electric steel had to be interpolated in 5-years steps, due to economic fluctuations in the past which are reflected in the TSU (t-20) of the countries





CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

- Western European countries exhibit trends towards secondary production
- Unlimited growth in secondary production cannot be expected and will depend on dynamics of future infrastructures and scrap trade as well as future material strategies
- The shown methodology describes an approach to transparently translate macro-economic information of the major steel demanding industries into projections of future steel use and steel production in physical tonnes on process level under consideration of structural change and recycling using various adjusting screws for scenario analysis:
 - structural change ratio,
 - prompt scrap ratio, recycling rate, EAF-production scrap ratio,
 - and trade in indirect steel and scrap (netto exports), etc.

Model improvements planned:

improved parameter calibration over countries and scenarios, include the dynamic modelling of steel stocks, improved modelling of trade in steel scrap





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INDUSTRY

Thank you for your attention!

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