

**COMUNICAÇÃO TÉCNICA** 

#### Nº 178691

Influence of the agglomeration technology on the mechanical strength of its agglomerates: a review of the methodology to evaluate the cold compression strength

Francisco Junior Batista Pedrosa Sandra Lúcia de Moraes Eric Augustin Leonardo Danninger Fabrício Parreira Felipe Pimenta Flavio Dutra Valdirene Resende

> Palestra apresentada no SYMPOSIUM ON IRON ORE PELLETZING AND ITS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, 5., 2023, Quebec, Canada. 15 slides

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Instituto de Pesquisas Tecnológicas do Estado de São Paulo S/A - IPT Av. Prof. Almeida Prado, 532 | Cidade Universitária ou Caixa Postal 0141 | CEP 01064-970 São Paulo | SP | Brasil | CEP 05508-901 Tel 11 3767 4374/4000 | Fax 11 3767-4099

www.ipt.br



Francisco Junior Batista Pedrosa - Institute for Technological Research Sandra Lúcia de Moraes - Institute for Technological Research Eric Augustin - - Institute for Technological Research Leonardo Danninger - Institute for Technological Research Fabrício Parreira - Vale S.A. - Ferrous Technology Center Felipe Pimenta - Vale S.A. - Ferrous Technology Center Flavio Dutra - Vale S.A. - Ferrous Technology Center Valdirene Resende - Vale S.A. - Ferrous Technology Center





Different burden materials, with different size and shape, which may be used in blast furnace and direct reduction reactors in the steelmaking industry.

Whatever application of the agglomerate products, it needs to withstand mechanical stress promoted by handling, transport, and loading when stored in pile or during the reduction process

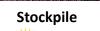
Mechanical specifications of the agglomerated products are defined according to the intensity of these operations.



Agglomeration plant

Blastfurnace/Direct Reduction Reactor







**Stockpile** 





**Railroad transportation** 

Shipping transportation



Breakage mechanism are evaluated by standardized tests elaborated by national and international technical associations:

- Cold compression strength (ISO 4700)
- Abrasion + impact tumbler and abrasion index (ISO 3271)
- Impact drop test (JIS M8711)

Such norms, which are fundamental to evaluate the materials and its use in the industry, were established for sinter, pellets and lump ore, but not to briquette!



- There is some references have been working on this theme.
- Bizhanov and Zagainov (2021) evaluated the compression and impact
  - + abrasion (tumbling test) of pellets and extruded briquettes by Finite Element Method simulation.
- The difference between the aforementioned reference and our research is that we will evaluate the difference between pellets and briquettes obtained from a roller briquette machine.
- In addition, we will base our simulation on experimental data, that is, we will produce the same mixtures to pelletizing and roller briquetting.



- The objective of the research is to develop a methodology for comparing the cold compression strength of briquettes and pellets taking into account the benchmark evaluations.
- This presentation is focused on the development of a method to evaluate the compression of briquettes obtained from roller machine.
- Here are present some ideas that will be evaluated in the next stages of research.



Briquette issue:

• Briquette shape is not spherical like pellets, they are pillow or ellipsoid shaped:

Maximum force

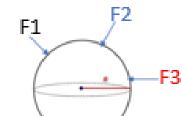
Area  $(\pi x r^2)$ 

Strength:

**Ellipsoid briquettes** 

Pillow briquettes

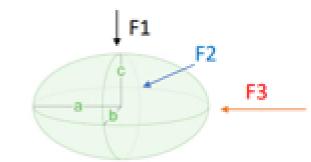
PELLET



#### pellet:

- area 1 =area 2= area 3
  - force 1 = force 2 = force 3
- strength 1 = strength 2 = strength 3
- strength is the same in all direction

Briquettes also have burrs and imperfections!



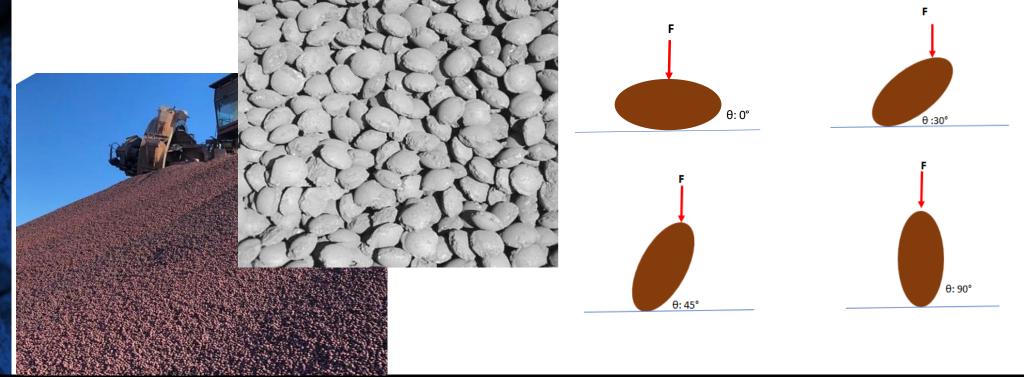
#### briquette:

- area 1  $\neq$  area 2  $\neq$  area 3
- force 1 = force 2 = force 3 ??
- strength  $1 \neq$  strength  $2 \neq$  strength 3
- strength is not the same in all direction



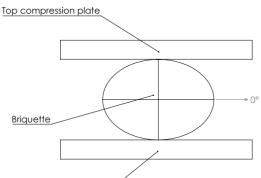
Briquette issue:

• In stockpiles or bed (Blastfurnace or Direct reduction reactor), briquettes are positioned in different directions:





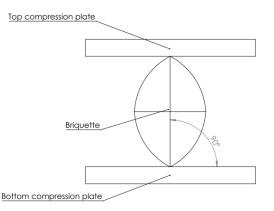
- Obtaining sample of iron ore ellipsoidal briquettes from pilot runs
- Physical characterization of briquettes in different positions (50 briquettes/position):



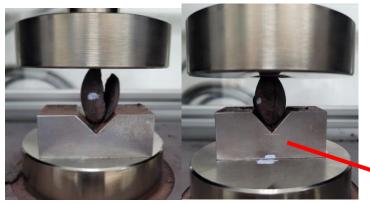
Bottom compression plate

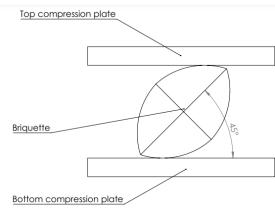
0° with horizontal plane (conventional method)



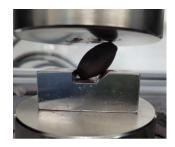


90° with horizontal plane - longer length and 90° horizontal plane - shorter length





45° with horizontal plane - longer length



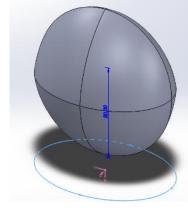
The support was made steel SAE 1020 to avoid deformation



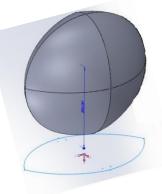
• Briquette strength was calculated by ratio between force and projected area, expressed in terms of MPa:

90° with horizontal plane - longer length

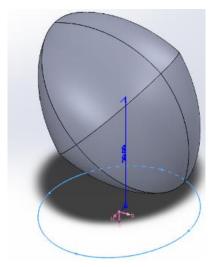
0° with horizontal plane (conventional method)

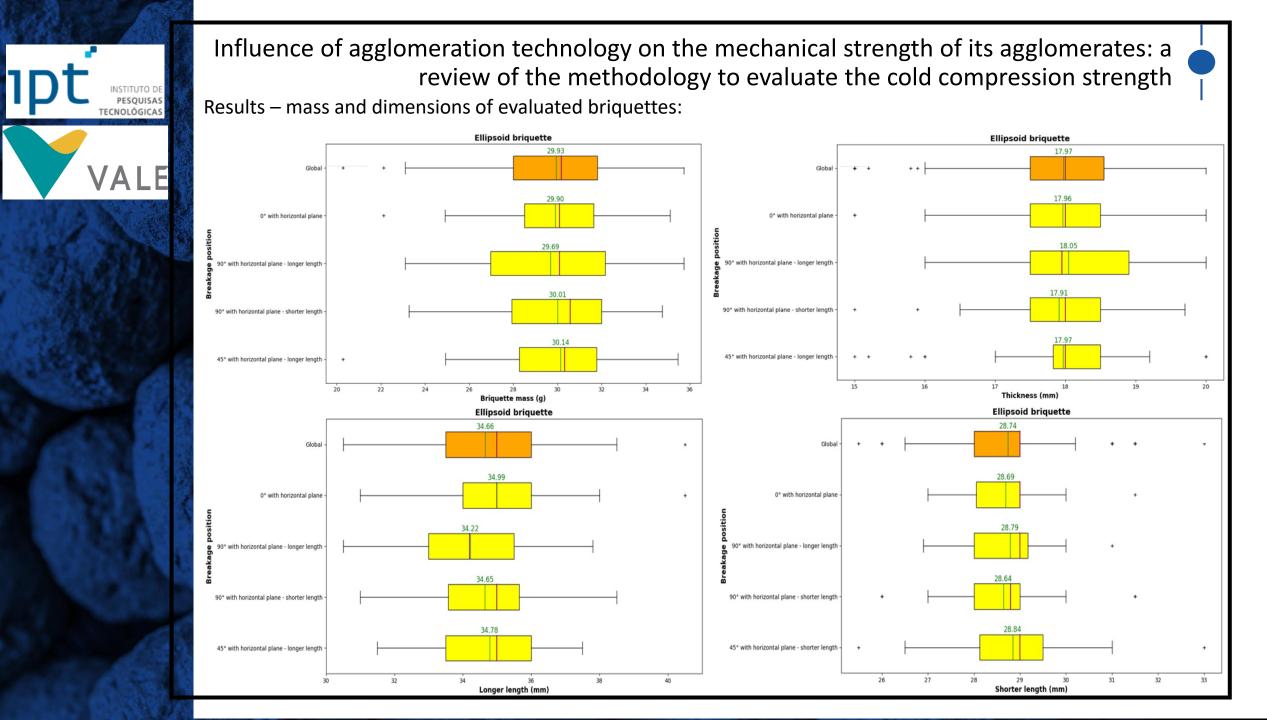


90° with horizontal plane - shorter length



45° with horizontal plane - longer length

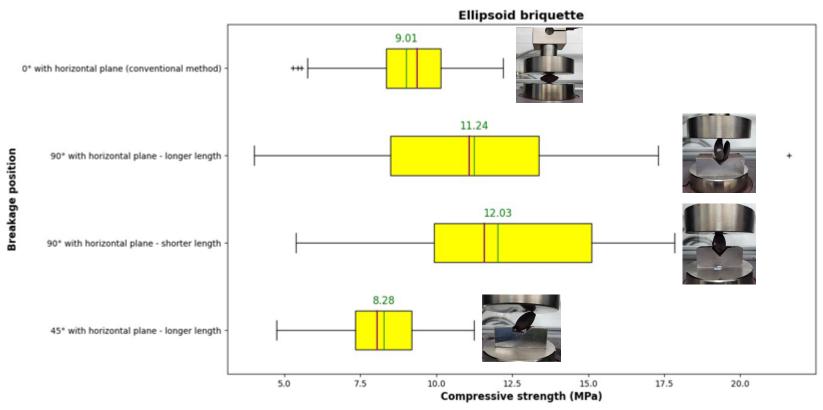




ESOUISA TECNOLÓGICA

Influence of agglomeration technology on the mechanical strength of its agglomerates: a review of the methodology to evaluate the cold compression strength

Results – compressive strength of evaluated briquettes:



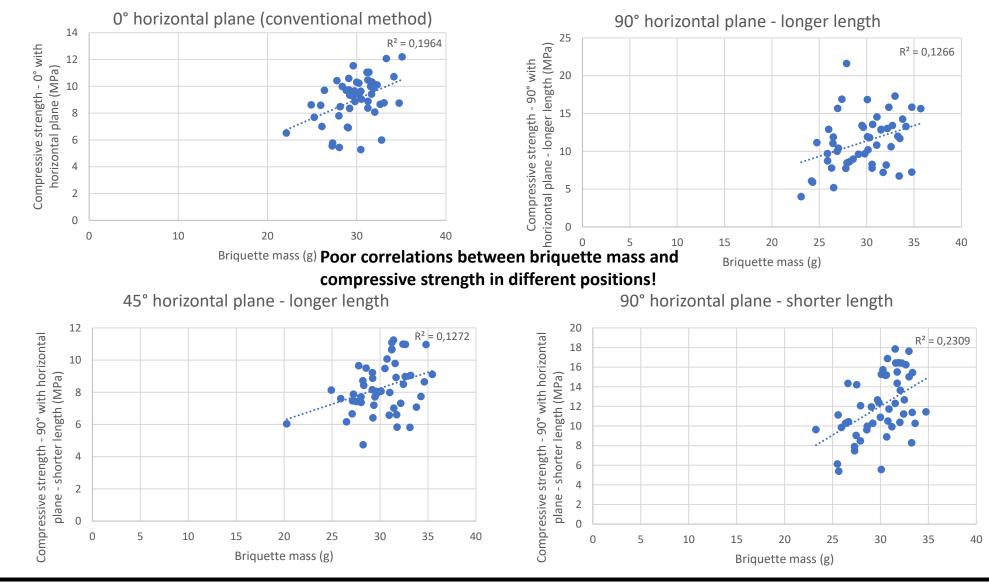
#### **Breakage position**

90° with horizontal plane - longer length 90° with horizontal plane - shorter length 45° with horizontal plane - longer length CCS relative variation in relation to CSS obtained in 0 ° horizontal plane (conventional method) 24,7 % 33 4 %

00,1	/0
-8,2	%

Influence of agglomeration technology on the mechanical strength of its agglomerates: a review of the methodology to evaluate the cold compression strength Results – evaluation of possible correlations:

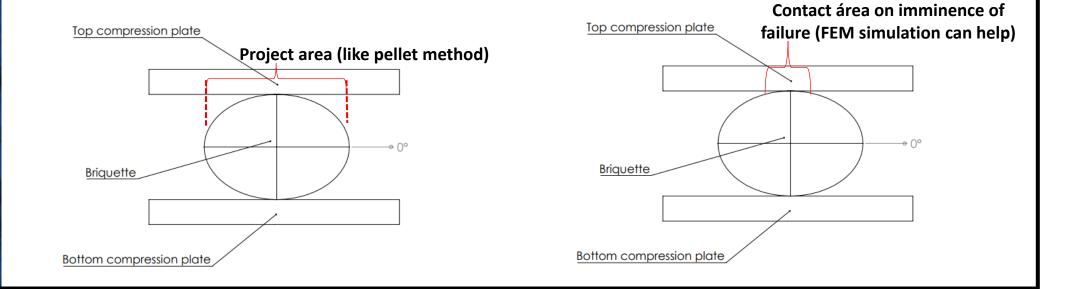
PESQUISAS TECNOLÓGICAS





Next steps:

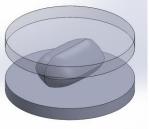
- Evaluate the compression of briquettes at other angles with the horizontal plane (30°, 60°).
- Check if briquette projected area is the best choice to normalize CCS:





Next steps:

• Use Finite Element Method simulations to support the understanding of stress distributions immediately prior to failure:





- Test different operation conditions of briquetting and pelletizing and evaluate possible relationships of mechanical strength between the two techniques, considering:
  - Agglomerate shape and size
  - Agglomeration technologies

## Thank you!



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5 IRON ORE PELLETIZING and its sustainable development