

**KU LEUVEN**

# Materials selection

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# Content

- The Ashby approach for materials selection
- Translation phase
- Screening and ranking
- Search phase and final selection

# Justification



Antoni Gaudi

- At the start of the construction of the Sagrada Familia (1882): a few hundred materials:
- Virtually no plastics
  - Now > 45000
- No light-weight metal alloys
  - Now a few thousand
- No composites
  - Now a few hundreds
- Today: more than 160.000 materials

# A CAR



# A light car



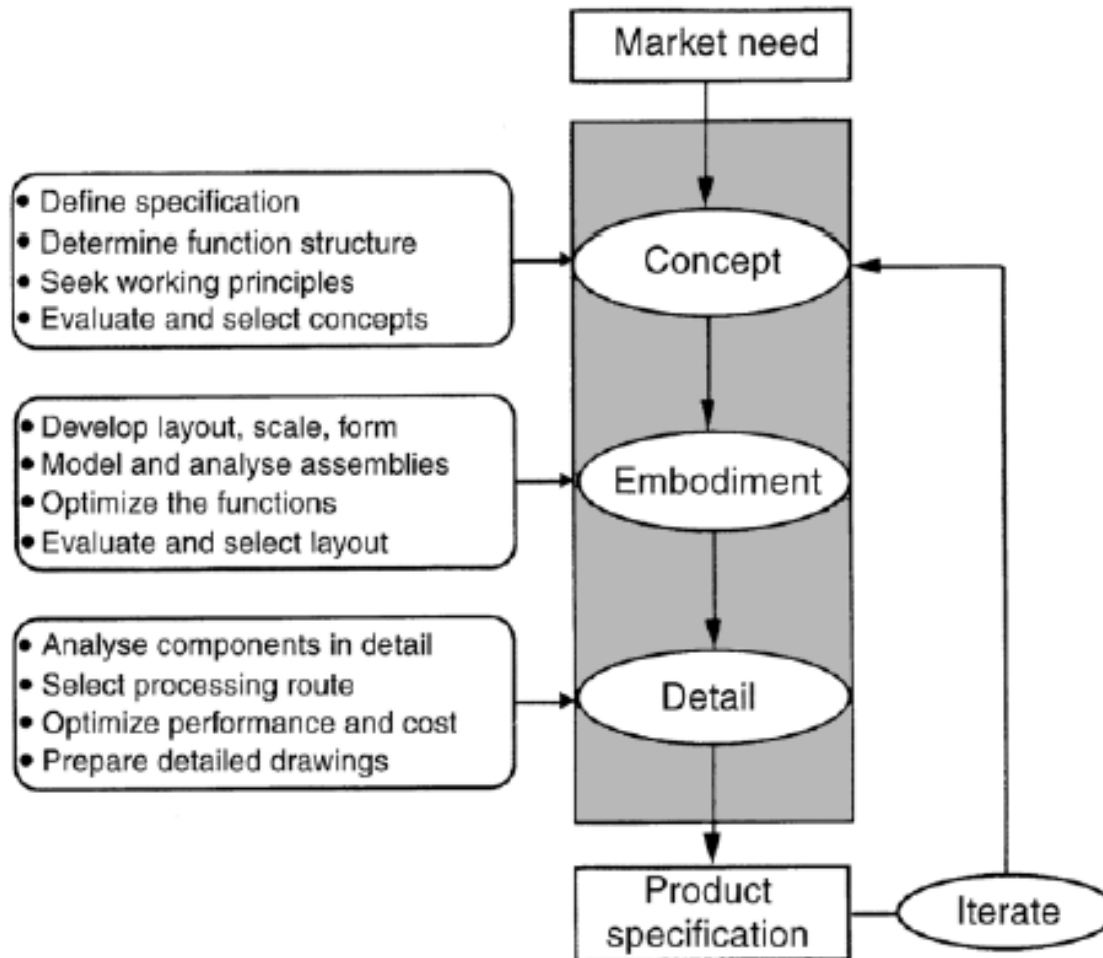
# A cheap car



## An environmentally friendly car



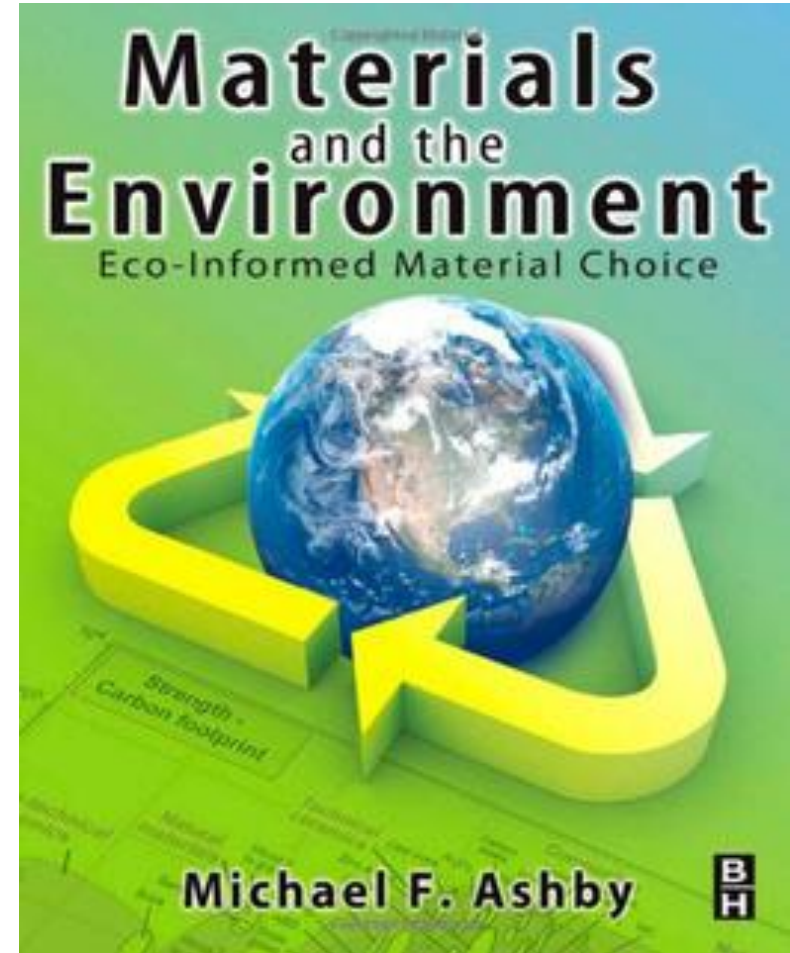
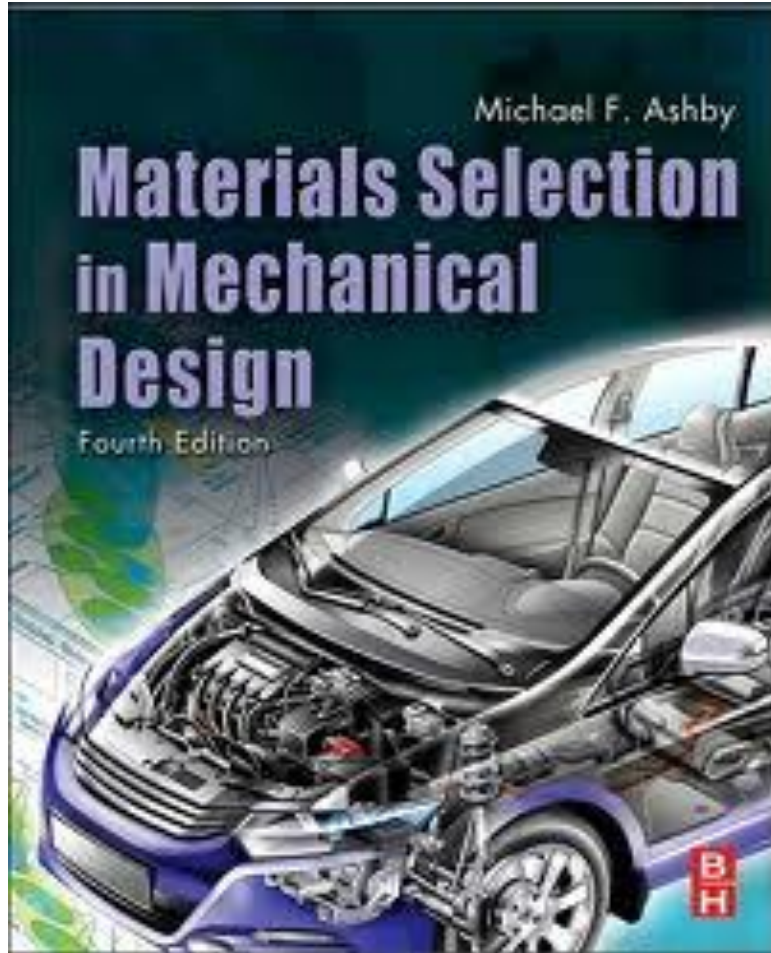
# The design process



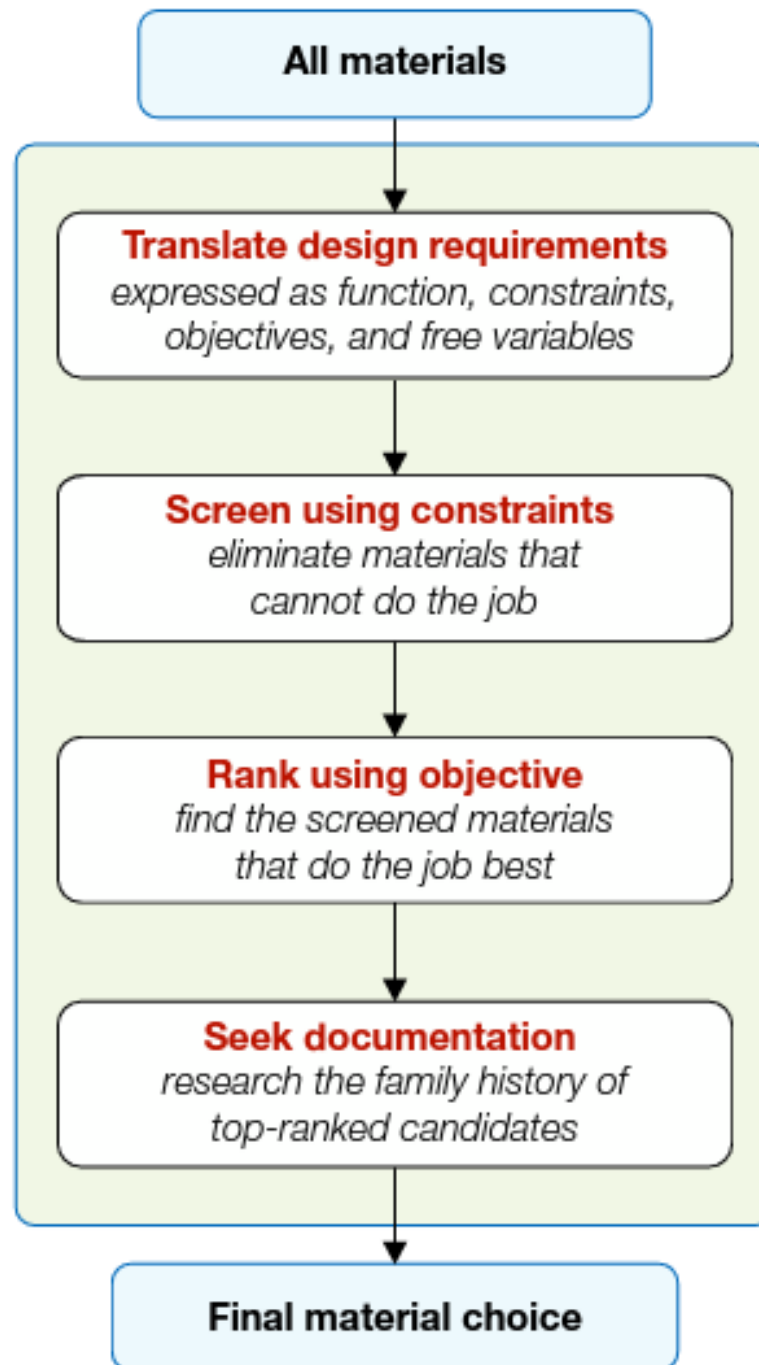
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# The Ashby approach

# TEXTBOOKS



# Steps

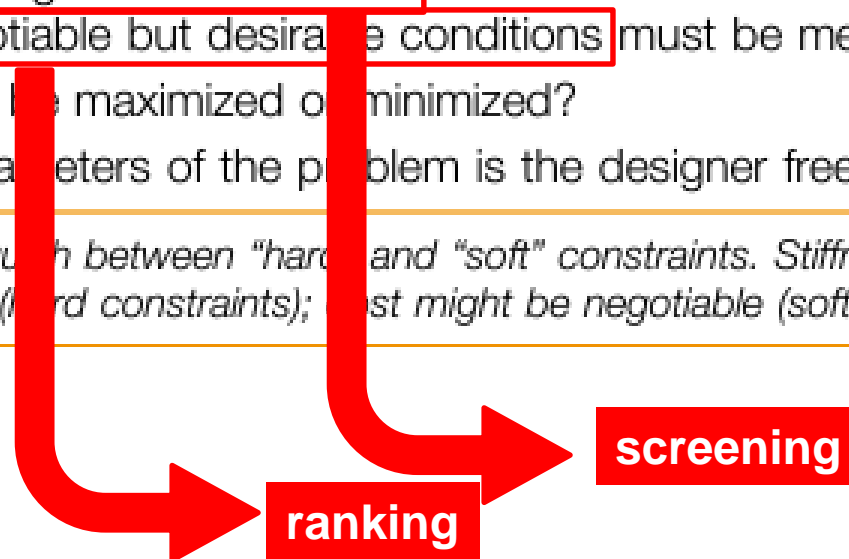


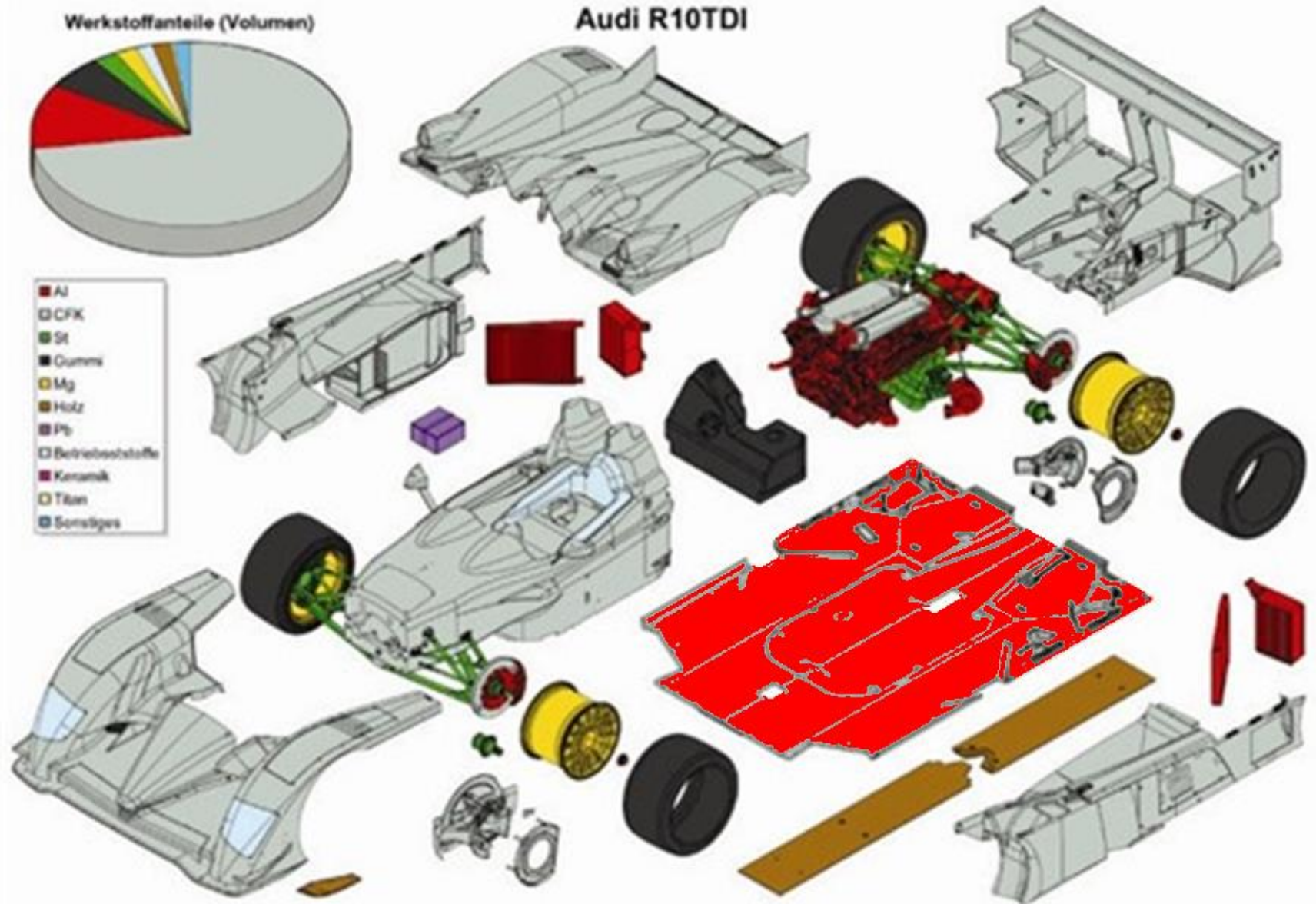
# Translation

**Table 5.1** Function, Constraints, Objectives, and Free Variables

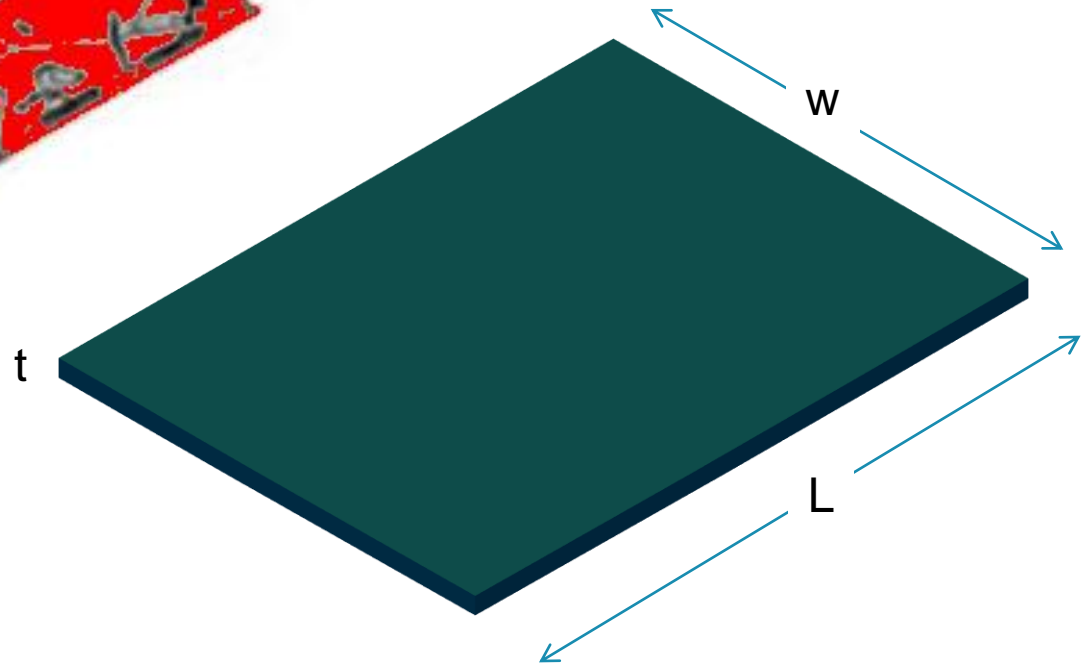
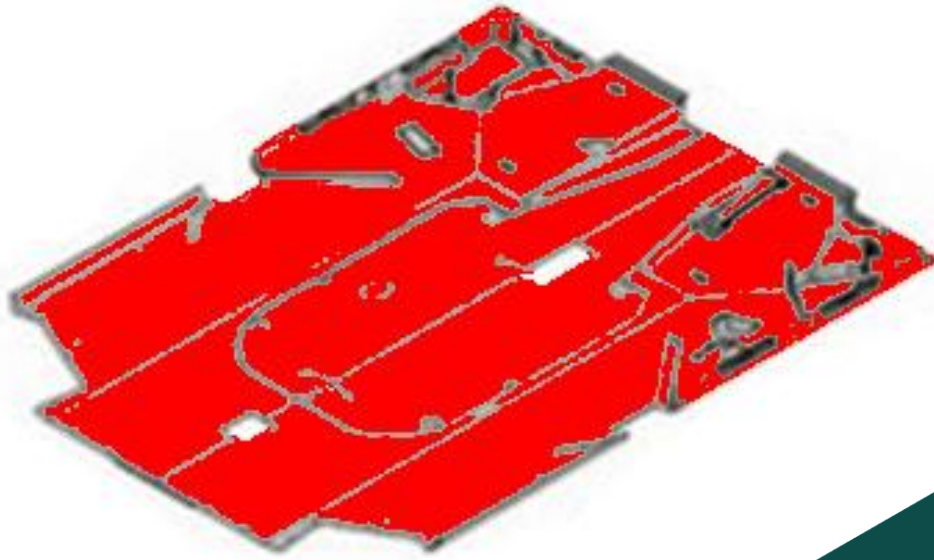
Function	What does the component do?
Constraints*	What nonnegotiable conditions must be met? What negotiable but desirable conditions must be met?
Objectives	What is to be maximized or minimized?
Free variable	Which parameters of the problem is the designer free to change?

*\*It is sometimes useful to distinguish between "hard" and "soft" constraints. Stiffness and strength might be absolute requirements (hard constraints); cost might be negotiable (soft constraint).*

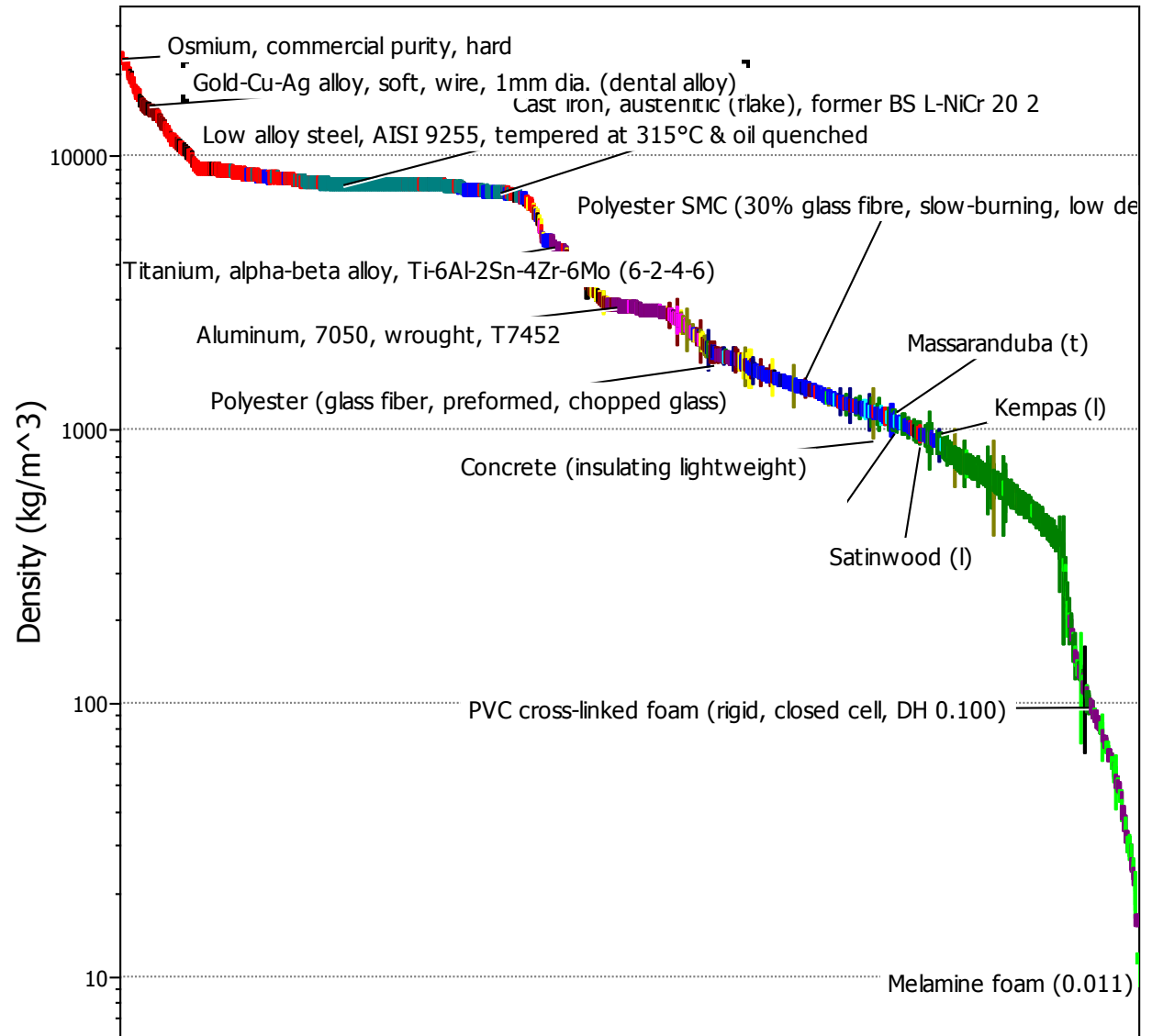




- Minimise weight/cost/environmental impact of bottom plate of car

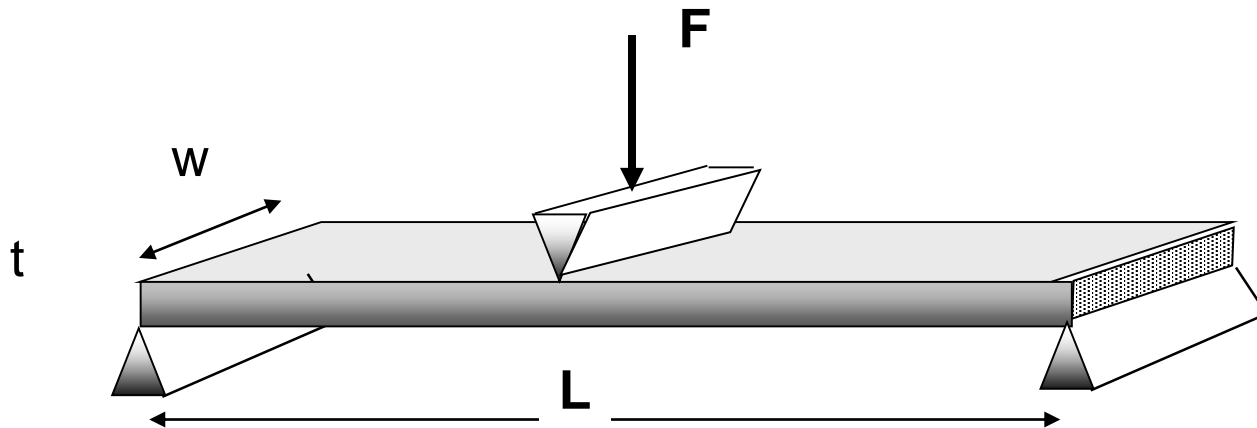


$$m = \rho \cdot L \cdot w \cdot t$$



=> Limited elastic deformation

$$S = \frac{F}{\delta} \geq C_1 \frac{EI}{L^3} \quad I = \frac{wt^3}{12}$$



# Translation

**Table 5.1** Function, Constraints, Objectives, and Free Variables

Function

What does the component do?

Constraints\*

What nonnegotiable conditions must be met?

What negotiable but desirable conditions must be met?

Objectives

What is to be maximized or minimized?

Free variable

Which parameters of the problem is the designer free to change?

*\*It is sometimes useful to distinguish between "hard" and "soft" constraints. Stiffness and strength might be absolute requirements (hard constraints); cost might be negotiable (soft constraint).*

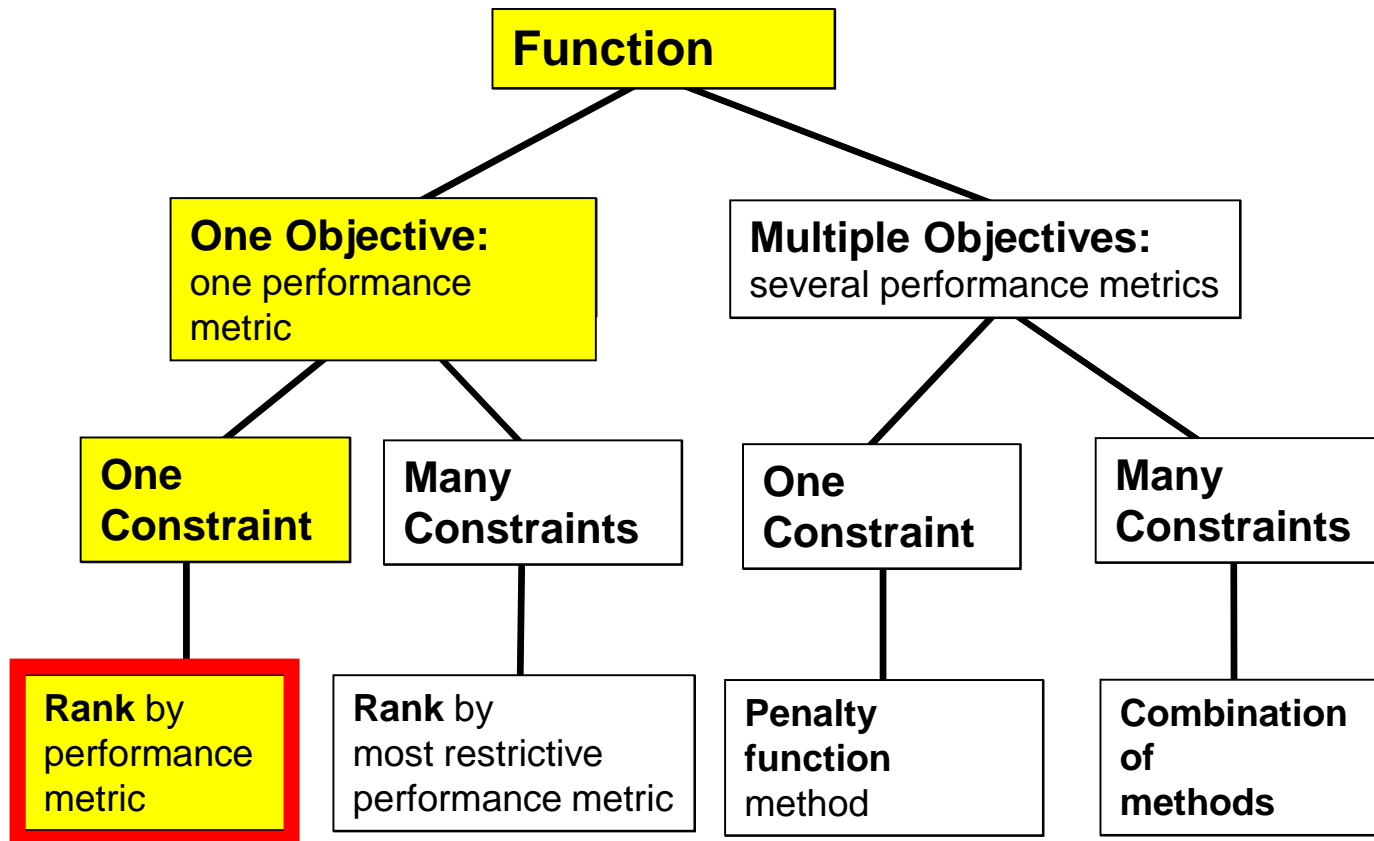
# Free variable(s)

- L & w are determined by car dimensions
- => **constants**
  
- t (thickness of bottom plate) can be varied
- => **free variable**



**Simplest case:**

**Design with one objective, meeting a single constraint**



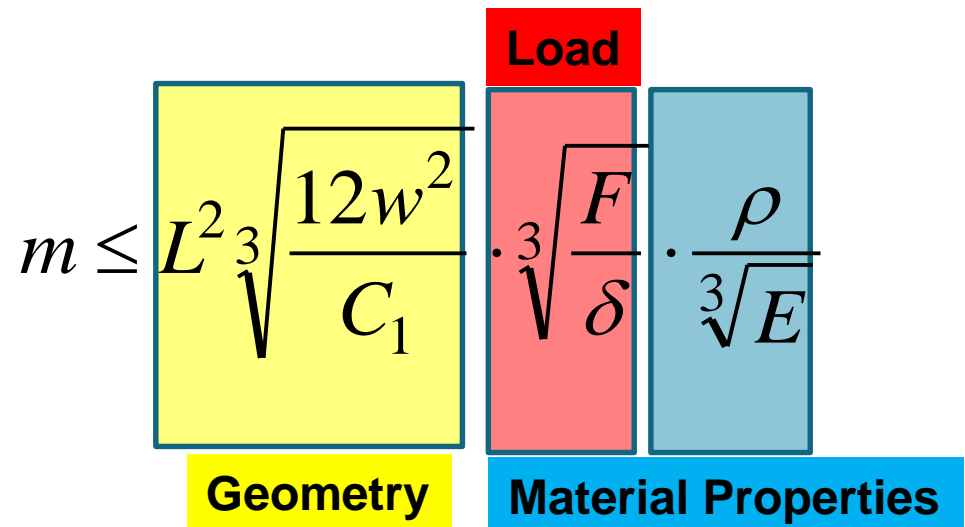
# Case 1 A light car – stiffness constraint

- Eliminate the free variable by combining objective and constraint function

- $m = \rho \times L \times w \times t$

$$S = \frac{F}{\delta} \geq C_1 \frac{E \cdot I}{L^3}$$

$$I = \frac{w t^3}{12}$$

$$m \leq L^2 \sqrt[3]{\frac{12w^2}{C_1}} \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{F}{\delta}} \cdot \frac{\rho}{\sqrt[3]{E}}$$


The diagram illustrates the mass constraint equation  $m \leq L^2 \sqrt[3]{\frac{12w^2}{C_1}} \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{F}{\delta}} \cdot \frac{\rho}{\sqrt[3]{E}}$  broken down into three components:

- Geometry** (yellow box):  $L^2 \sqrt[3]{\frac{12w^2}{C_1}}$
- Load** (red box):  $\sqrt[3]{\frac{F}{\delta}}$
- Material Properties** (blue box):  $\frac{\rho}{\sqrt[3]{E}}$

# Material Index MI

$$MI = \frac{\rho}{\sqrt[3]{E}} \text{ min}$$

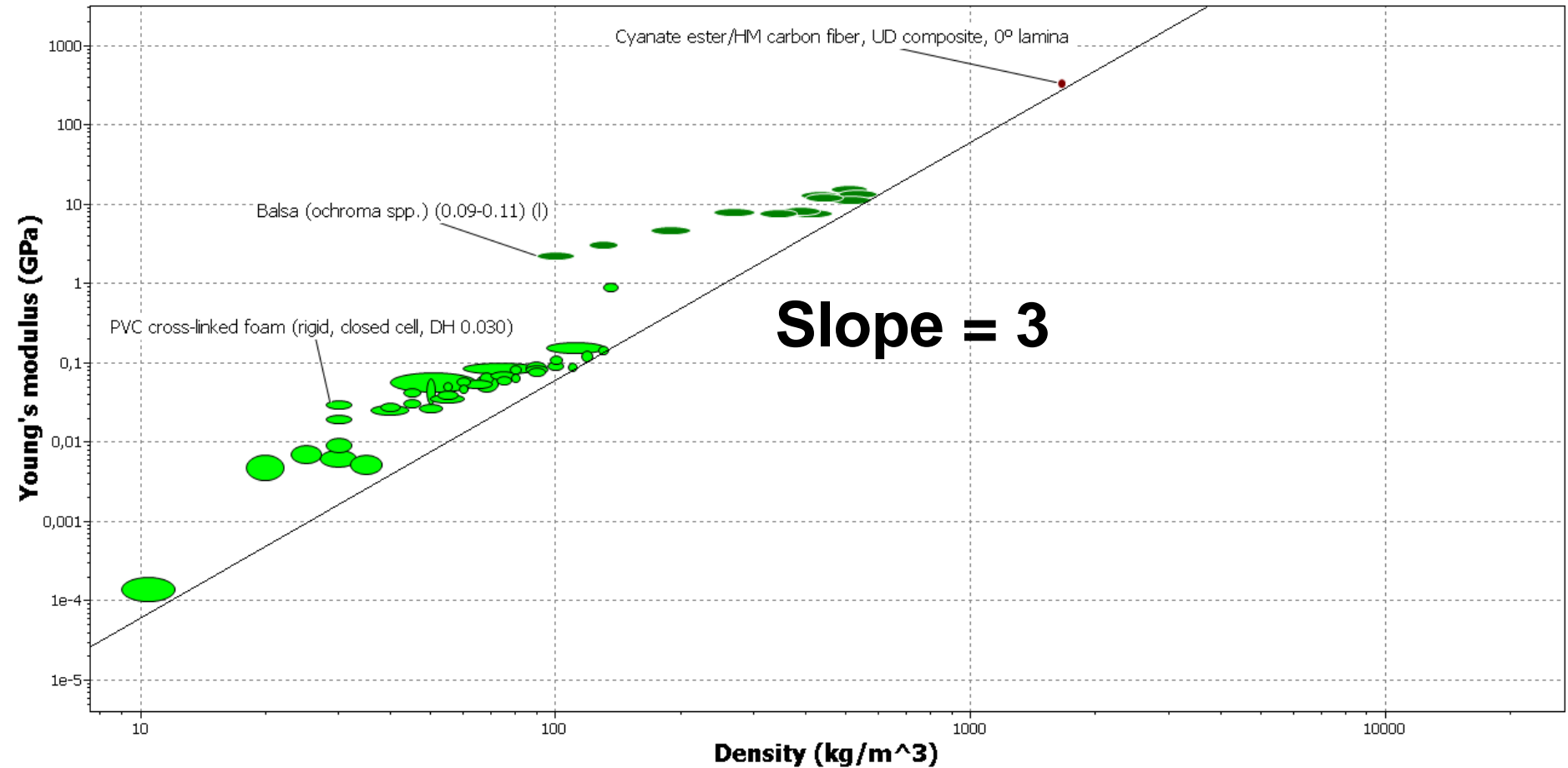
$$\text{Log}(E) - 3\text{log}(\rho) = 3\text{log}(MI')$$

$$\text{Log}(E) = 3\text{log}(\rho) + 3\text{log}(MI')$$

$$MI' = \frac{\sqrt[3]{E}}{\rho} \text{ max}$$

$$Y = mX + Q$$

$$\text{Slope} = 3$$



# List of Materials Passing

Name	Stage 1: Index
Balsa (ochroma spp.) (0.09-0.11) (I)	0.0132
Balsa (ochroma spp.) (0.12-0.14) (I)	0.0112
PVC cross-linked foam (rigid, closed cell, DH 0.030)	0.0104
PVC cross-linked foam (rigid, closed cell, KR 0.030)	0.00906
Balsa (ochroma spp.) (0.17-0.21) (I)	0.00885
PS foam (closed cell, 0.020)	0.00852
PVC cross-linked foam (rigid, closed cell, DH 0.045)	0.00785
PS foam (closed cell, 0.025)	0.00774
Polymethacrylimide foam (rigid, 0.051)	0.00765
PVC cross-linked foam (rigid, closed cell, KR 0.040)	0.00764
Balsa (I) (Id)	0.00744
PVC cross-linked foam (rigid, closed cell, AC 0.040)	0.00743
Glass foam (0.13)	0.00718
PVC cross-linked foam (rigid, closed cell, KR 0.045)	0.00706
Carbon foam (reticulated, vitreous)(0.05)	0.00705
PS foam (closed cell, 0.030)	0.00703
Styrene acrylonitrile foam (closed cell, 0.055)	0.00675



**FOAMS  
and  
WOOD!**

# The foam car



Size to achieve the needed mechanical performance?

How to insert hinges, etc?

Fire resistance?

# The wooden car



Corrosion Properties ?

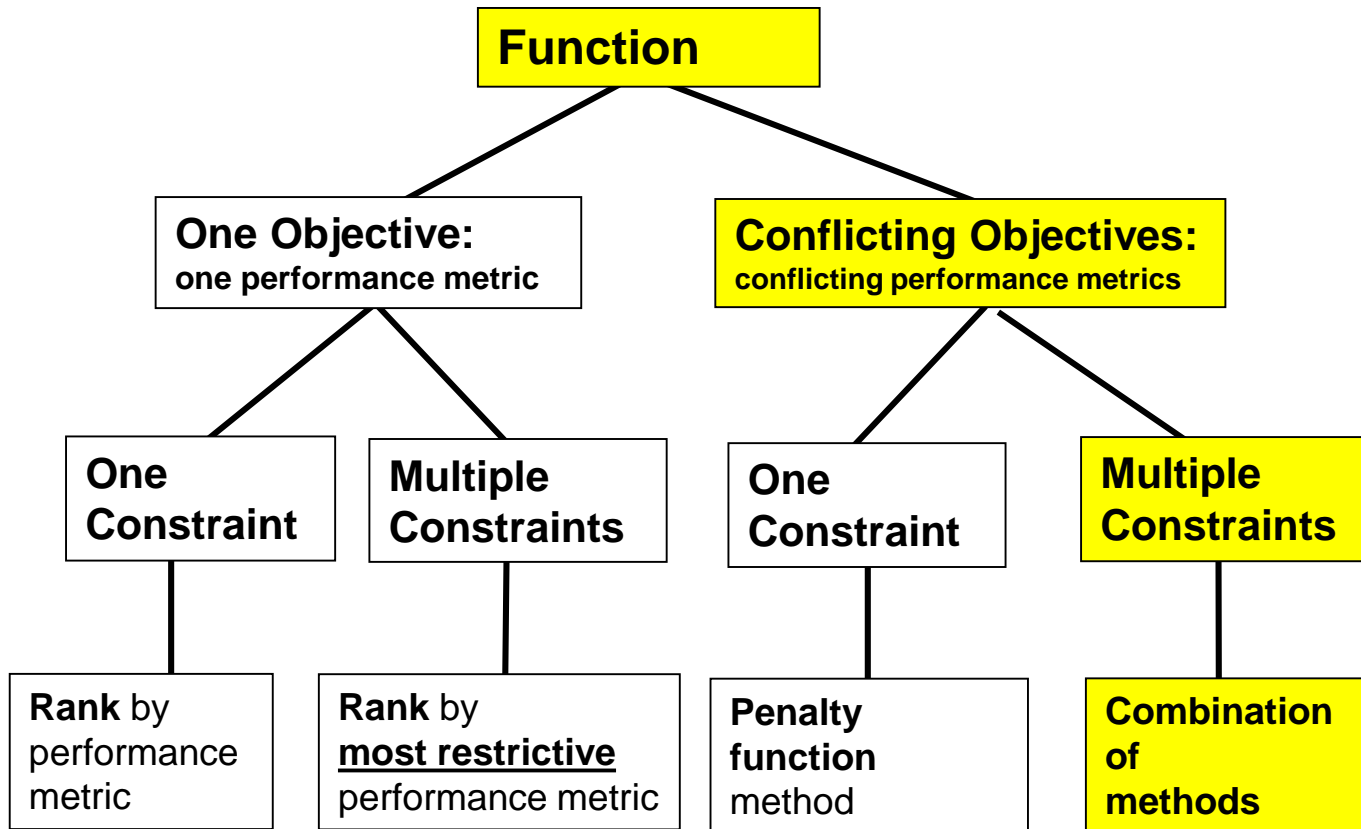
**Screening**

**Working of wood**

Shaping possibilities?

**Check afterwards**

**Check production costs**



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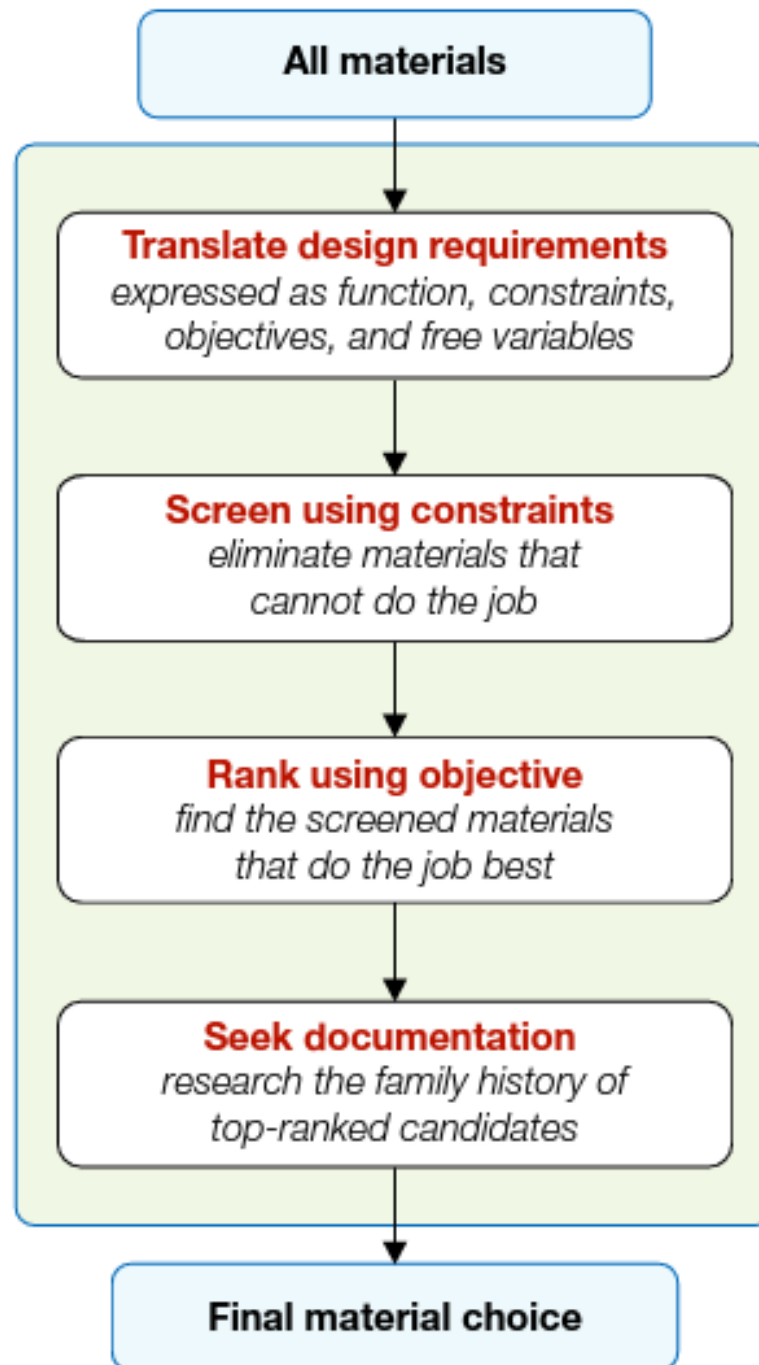
# The case

# The topic

- CO<sub>2</sub>-cartridge
- Applications:
  - Pressure source in paintball gun
  - Emergency kit to inflate tires
  - Life jackets
- Economics
  - Small size (70 mm length)
  - Mass production
  - No re-use, but recycling



# Steps



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# translation

Brainstorm

Function

Objectives

Free variable

Constraints

non-negotiable (→ screening)

negotiable (→ ranking)

# Brainstorm on the cartridge

- Withstand internal pressure in a safe way (typical 9 bar)
- Yield before break
- Corrosion resistant
- UV resistant
- Low cost
- Resistant to thermal shock
- Minimal weight
- Water proof
- Minimal ecological impact
- Limited thermal conductivity
- Function within -25 to +60°C temperature range
- Mass production possible

# CO<sub>2</sub>-cartridge: function

- Function: must contain gas
- Shape: cylinder, volume defined by length  $L$  and radius  $R$
- Objectives:
  - Minimal weight  $m = \rho 2\pi R t L$
  - Minimal cost  $C = C_m \rho 2\pi R t L$
  - Minimal energy for production  $H = H_m \rho 2\pi R t L$
- Free variable: wall thickness  $t$

# Screening or ranking?

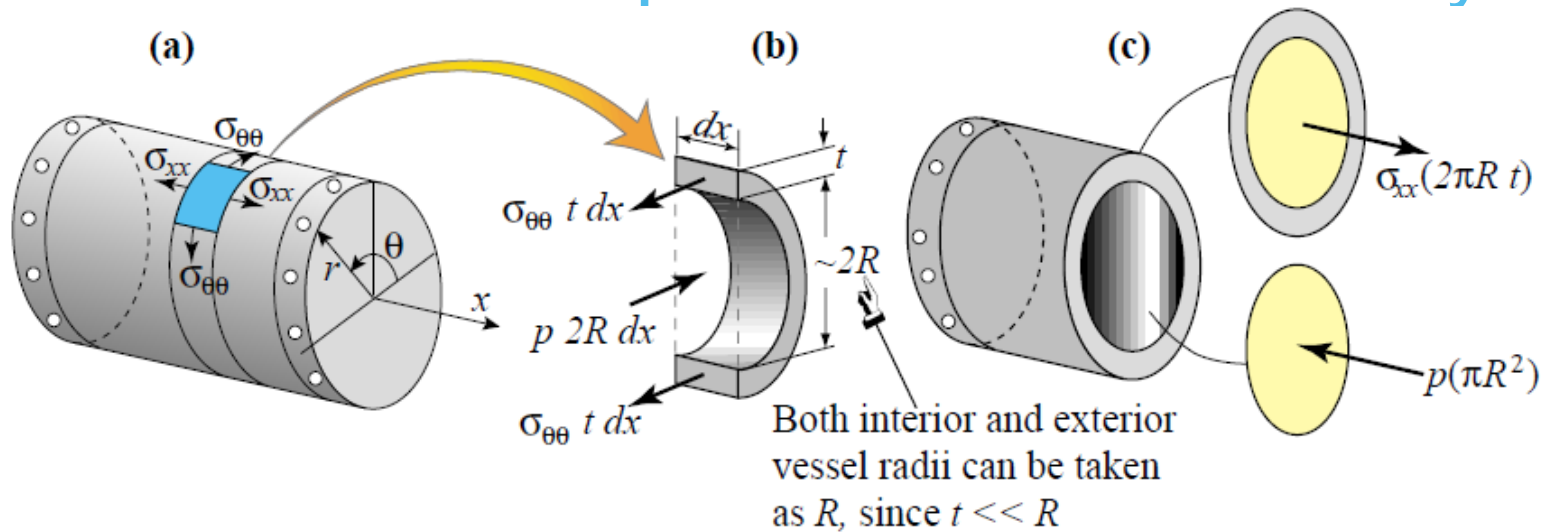
- Withstand internal pressure in a safe way
- Yield before break
- Corrosion resistant
- UV resistant
- Resistant to thermal shock
- Water proof
- Limited deformation under pressure
- Function within -25 to +60°C temperature range
- Mass production possible
- Cylindrical shape

SCREENING

PROCESS

SHAPE

# Withstand internal pressure in a safe way



- End effects neglected
- Thin walled vessel  $\sigma_{\theta\theta} = \frac{pR}{t}$   $\sigma_{xx} = \frac{pR}{2t}$
- Withstanding pressure = not exceed yield strength:

$$\sigma_{\theta\theta} = \frac{pR}{t} \leq \sigma_y$$

# Yield before break

- Avoid brittle failure  $K_{Ic} > K_I = Y\sigma\sqrt{\pi a}$
- Yield before break means:

$$K_{Ic} > K_I = Y\sigma_y\sqrt{\pi a}$$

# Thermal shock

- Expansion of the gas = sudden temperature drop  
Filling of the tank = significant temperature increase
- Expansion of the material  $\Delta L = L_0 \alpha \Delta T \Rightarrow \varepsilon_{th} = \alpha \Delta T$
- This expansion forces surrounding material to deform as well, and this builds up stress:

$$\sigma = E \varepsilon_{th} = E \alpha \Delta T < \sigma_y$$

# Limited deformation under pressure

- Deformation of the container must be limited to  $\Delta R_{\max}$

$$\Delta R_{\max} > \Delta R = \varepsilon R = \frac{\sigma}{E} R = \frac{pR^2}{Et}$$

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# Screening

# Material screening parameters

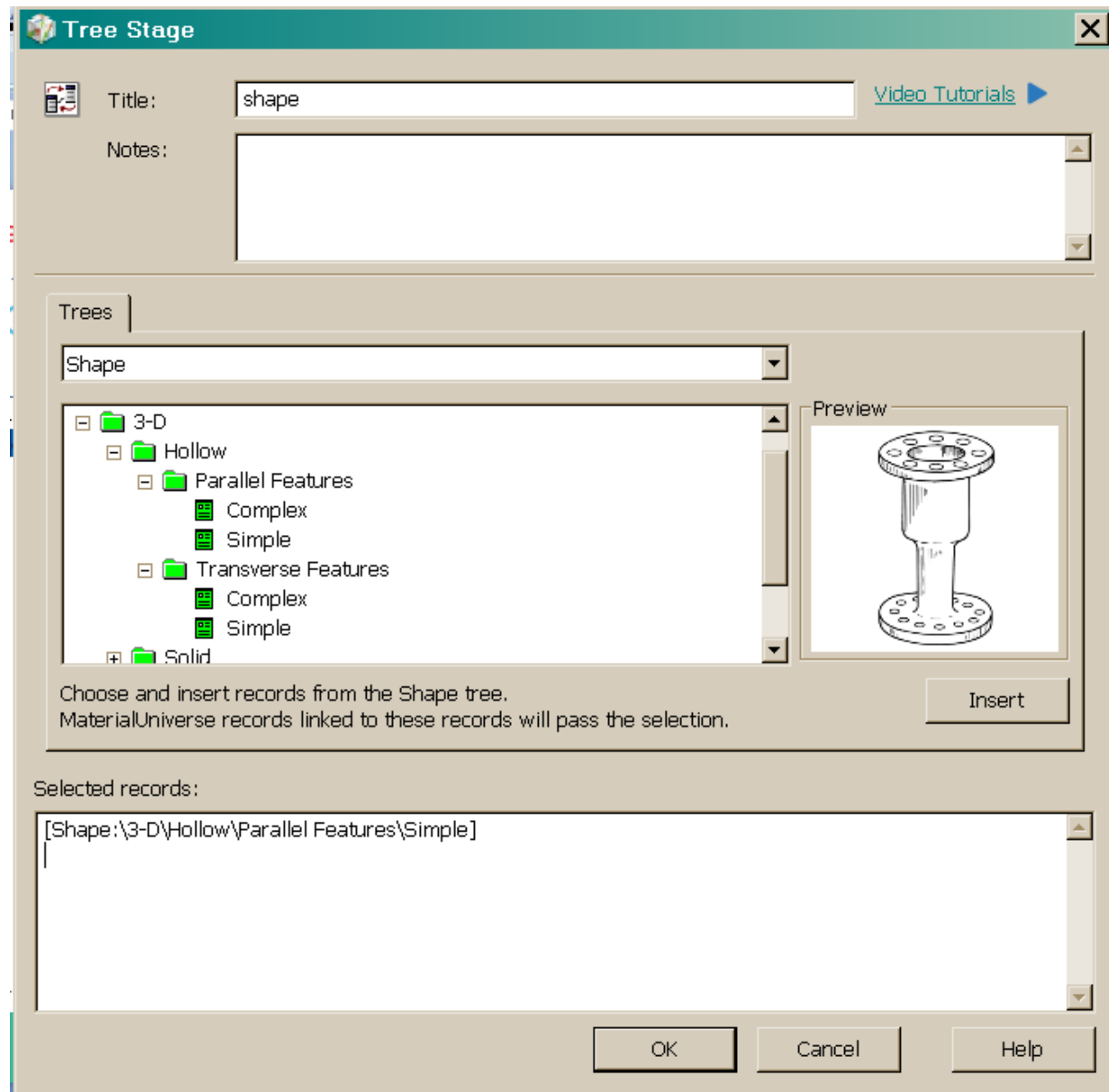
Corrosion resistant

UV resistant

Water proof

▼ Durability	
Water (fresh)	Acceptable; Excellent
Water (salt)	Limited use; Acceptable; Excellent
Weak acids	Limited use; Acceptable; Excellent
Strong acids	
Weak alkalis	Limited use; Acceptable; Excellent
Strong alkalis	
Organic solvents	Limited use; Acceptable; Excellent
Oxidation at 500C	
UV radiation (sunlight)	Good; Excellent
Flammability	

# Shape



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# Ranking

# Withstand internal pressure in a safe way

- Constraint:

$$\sigma_{\theta\theta} = \frac{pR}{t} \leq \sigma_y \quad t = \frac{pR}{\sigma_y}$$

- Objectives

- Minimal mass  $m = \rho 2\pi R t L$   $m = \rho R L \frac{pR}{\sigma_y} = 2\pi \cdot p \cdot R^2 L \left[ \frac{\rho}{\sigma_y} \right]$  **MI1**

- Minimal cost  $C = C_m \rho 2\pi R t L$   $C = 2\pi \cdot p \cdot R^2 L \left[ \frac{\rho C_m}{\sigma_y} \right]$  **MI2**

- Minimal embodied energy  $H = H_m \rho 2\pi R t L$   $H = 2\pi \cdot p \cdot R^2 L \left[ \frac{\rho H_m}{\sigma_y} \right]$  **MI3**

# Yield before break

- Yield before break means:

$$K_{Ic} > K_I = Y\sigma_y\sqrt{\pi a}$$

- Only one free variable
- Safest design tolerates the largest defect:

$$a = \frac{1}{Y^2\pi} \left( \frac{K_{Ic}}{\sigma_y} \right)^2 \quad \text{MI4}$$

# Thermal shock

- This expansion forces surrounding material to deform as well, and this builds up stress:

$$\sigma = E\varepsilon_{th} = E\alpha\Delta T < \sigma_y$$

- Only one free variable
- Best material is the one that allows the biggest temperature difference

$$\Delta T = \frac{\sigma_y}{E\alpha} \quad \text{MI5}$$

# Limited deformation under pressure

- Deformation of the container must be limited to  $\Delta R_{\max}$

$$\Delta R_{\max} > \Delta R = \varepsilon R = \frac{\sigma}{E} R = \frac{pR^2}{Et} \quad t = \frac{pR^2}{E\Delta R}$$

- Objectives

- Minimum mass

$$m = \rho 2\pi R t L \quad m = \rho 2\pi R L \frac{pR^2}{E\Delta R} = 2\pi \cdot p \cdot \frac{R^3 L}{\Delta R} \left[ \frac{\rho}{E} \right] \quad \text{MI6}$$

- Minimum cost

$$C = C_m \rho 2\pi R t L \quad C = 2\pi \cdot p \cdot \frac{R^3 L}{\Delta R} \left[ \frac{C_m \rho}{E} \right] \quad \text{MI7}$$

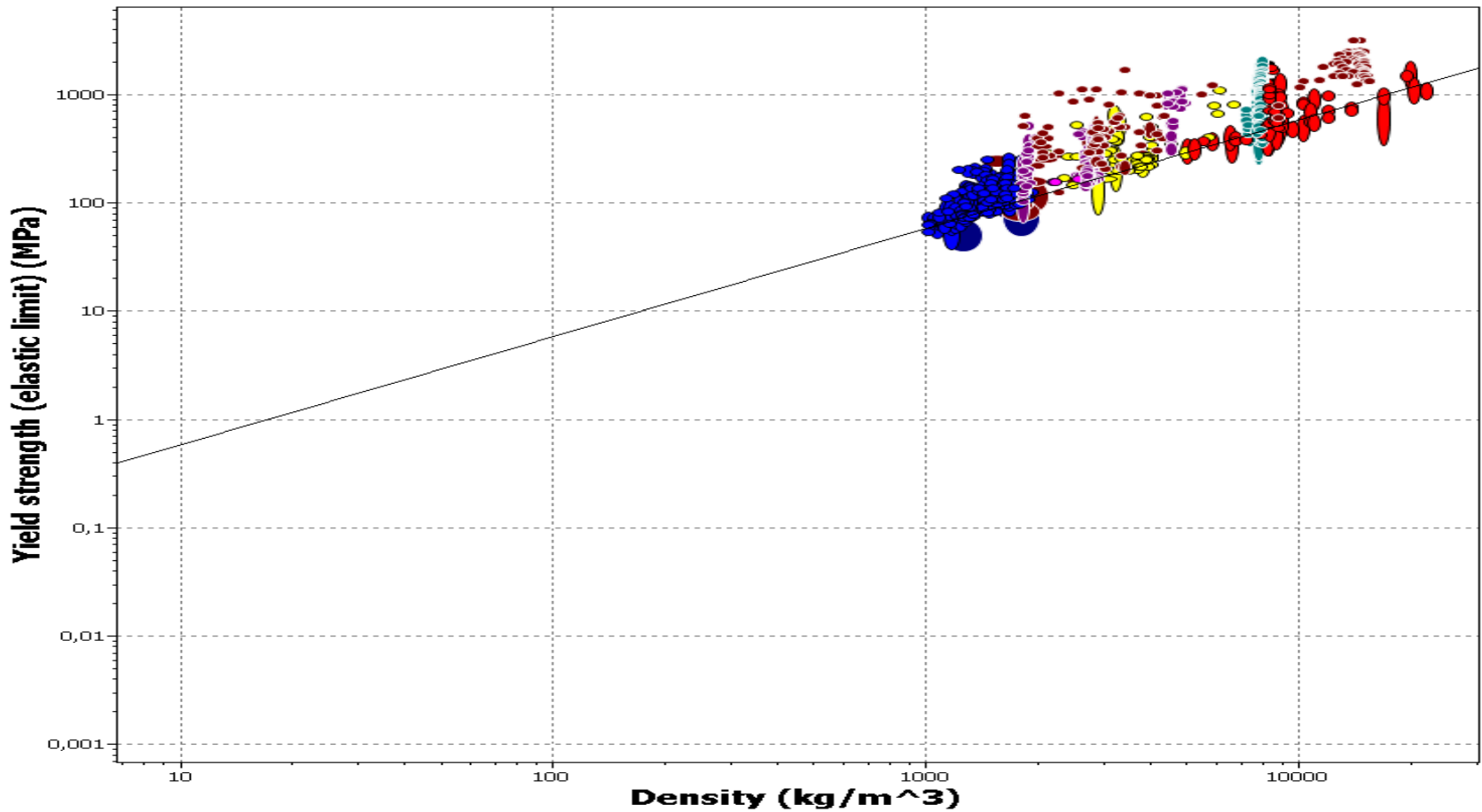
- Minimum embodied energy

$$H = H_m \rho 2\pi R t L \quad H = 2\pi \cdot p \cdot \frac{R^3 L}{\Delta R} \left[ \frac{H_m \rho}{E} \right] \quad \text{MI8}$$

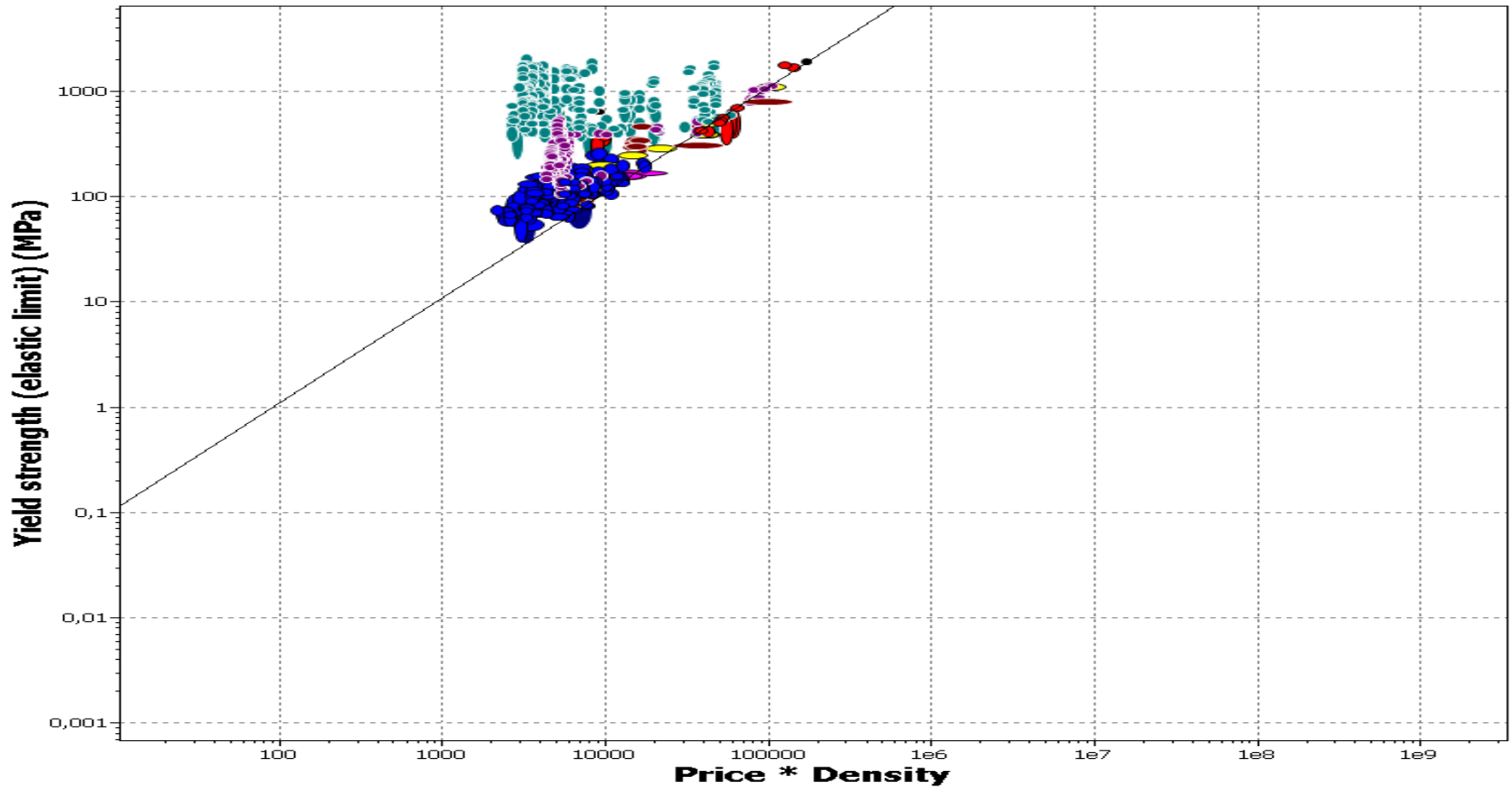
# Overview

MI	Objective	MI	Max/min	X	Y	slope
1	Mass	$\frac{\sigma_y}{\rho}$	Max	$\rho$	$\sigma_y$	1
2	Cost	$\frac{\sigma_y}{C_m \rho}$	Max	$C_m \rho$	$\sigma_y$	1
3	Energy	$\frac{\sigma_y}{H_m \rho}$	Max	$H_m \rho$	$\sigma_y$	1
4	-	$\frac{K_{Ic}}{\sigma_y}$	Max	$\sigma_y$	$K_{Ic}$	1
5	-	$\frac{\sigma_y}{E \alpha}$	Max	$E \alpha$	$\sigma_y$	1
6	Mass	$\frac{E}{\rho}$	Max	$\rho$	E	1
7	Cost	$\frac{E}{C_m \rho}$	Max	$C_m \rho$	E	1
8	Energy	$\frac{E}{H_m \rho}$	Max	$H_m \rho$	E	1

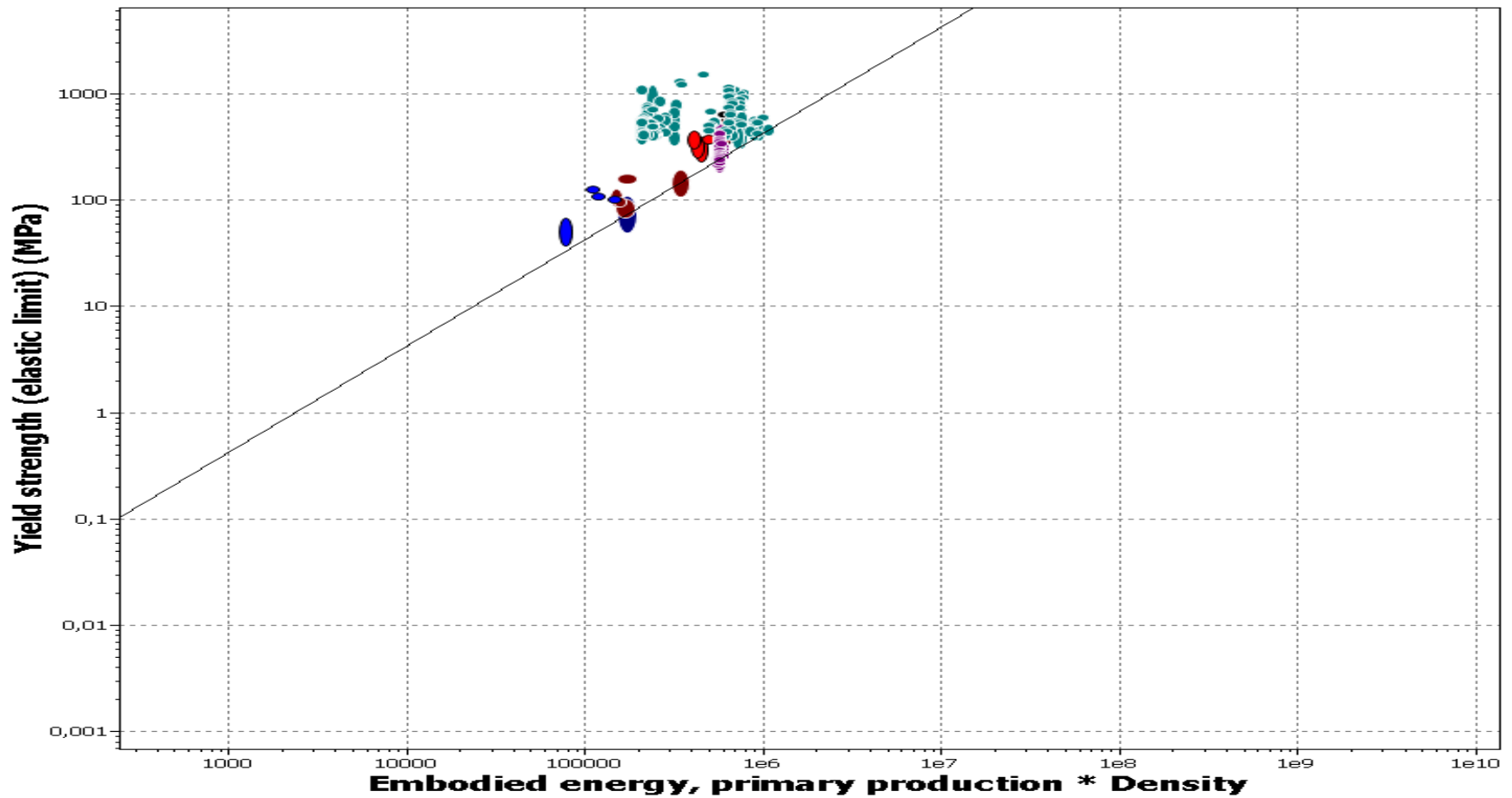
# MI1: yield / mass



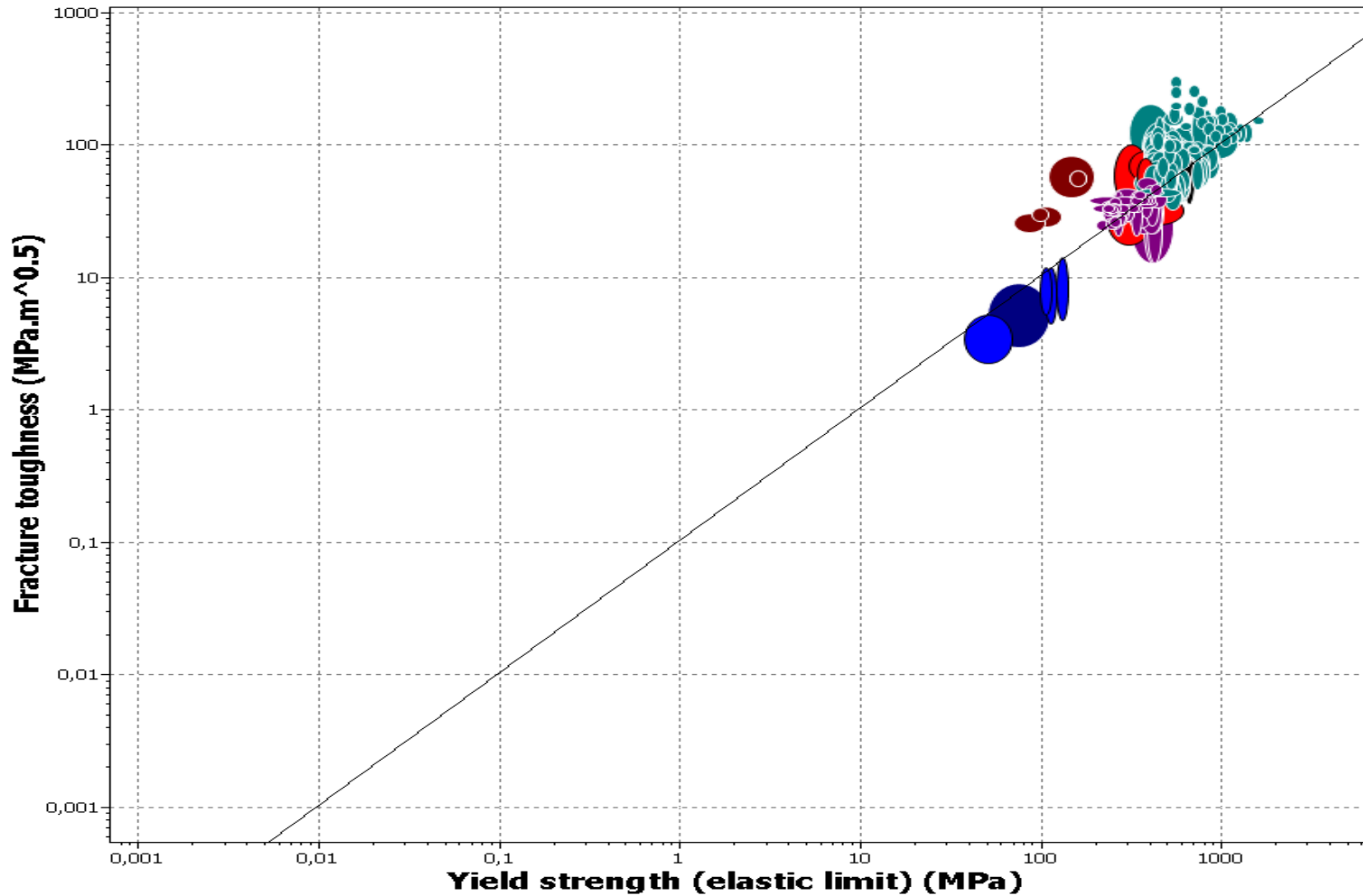
# MI2: yield / cost



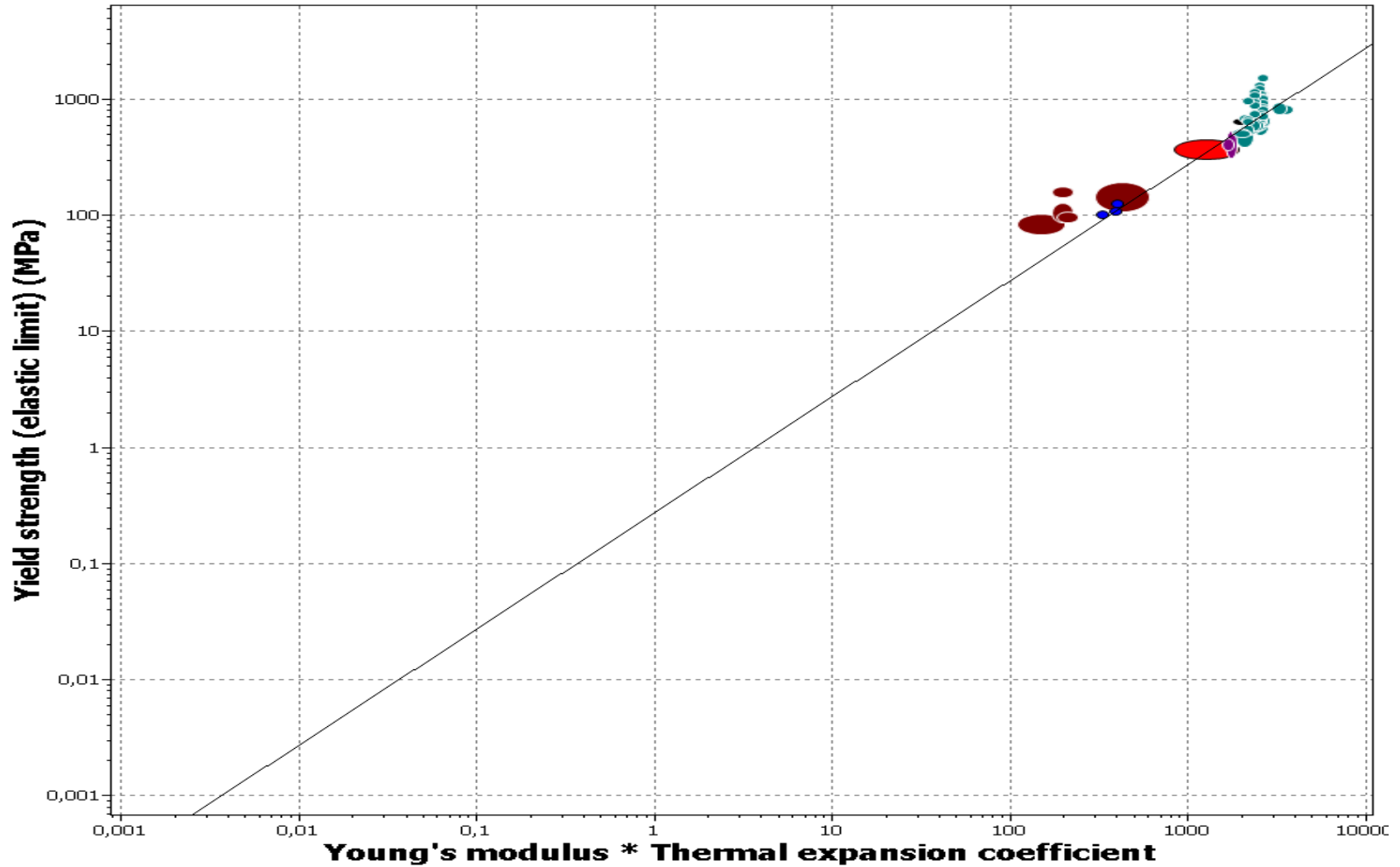
# MI3: yield / embodied energy



# MI4: yield before break

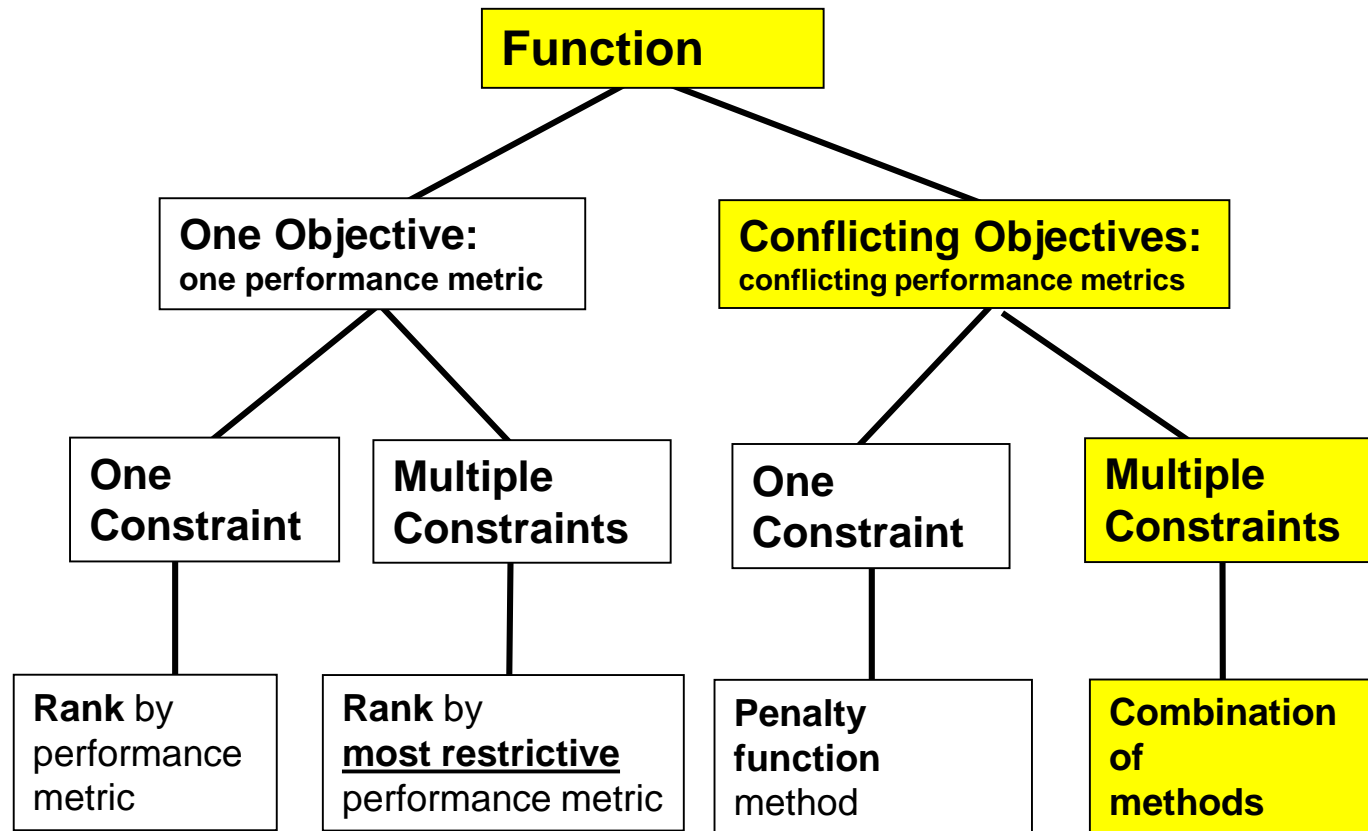


# MI5: thermal shock



# Results

- 58 materials pass all criteria
  - Al 7075
  - Steel
    - Carbon steel
    - Complex phase steel
    - Low alloy steel
    - Stainless steel
- Further refining : 14 steel alloys



$$Z = \prod_i M_i^{\alpha_i}$$

$$Z = \sum_i \alpha_i \frac{M_i}{M_{i,\max}}$$

# Overview of top ranking materials ( $\alpha_i=1$ )

Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	product
Complex phase steel, YS800 (cold rolled)	0,101	0,149	0,0025	0,105	0,316	0,0268	0,0395	6,54E-04	8,54
Low alloy steel, AISI 4135, air melted, quenched & tempered	0,117	0,26	0,0039	0,114	0,35	0,0262	0,0583	8,80E-04	64,12
Press hardening steel, 22MnB5, austenized & H2O quenched, coated	0,139	0,38	0,0053	0,134	0,436	0,0268	0,073	0,00101	322,57
Press hardening steel, 22MnB5, austenized & H2O quenched, uncoated	0,139	0,38	0,0053	0,134	0,436	0,0268	0,073	0,00101	322,57
Stainless steel, martensitic, 15-5PH, wrought, H1075	0,116	0,0193	0,0012	0,13	0,386	0,0258	0,0043	2,76E-04	0,04
Stainless steel, martensitic, 17-4PH, cast, H1000	0,12	0,0202	0,0012	0,136	0,364	0,0258	0,0043	2,64E-04	0,04
Stainless steel, martensitic, 17-4PH, cast, H1100	0,111	0,0252	0,0013	0,175	0,336	0,0257	0,0059	3,04E-04	0,10
Stainless steel, martensitic, 17-4PH, wrought, H1025	0,134	0,0225	0,0014	0,122	0,406	0,0258	0,0043	2,64E-04	0,06
Stainless steel, martensitic, 17-4PH, wrought, H1075	0,118	0,0197	0,0012	0,155	0,393	0,0258	0,0043	2,64E-04	0,05
Stainless steel, martensitic, AISI 420F, wrought	0,0889	0,109	0,0014	0,136	0,335	0,0258	0,0316	4,05E-04	2,04
Stainless steel, martensitic, Custom 450, wrought, H1000	0,14	0,0279	0,0017	0,123	0,47	0,0265	0,0053	3,28E-04	0,18
Stainless steel, martensitic, Custom 450, wrought, H1050	0,124	0,0248	0,0015	0,187	0,417	0,0265	0,0053	3,28E-04	0,17
Stainless steel, martensitic, Custom 450, wrought, H1100	0,0982	0,0195	0,0012	0,285	0,329	0,0265	0,0053	3,28E-04	0,10
Stainless steel, martensitic, PH 13-8Mo, wrought, H1100	0,127	0,0226	0,0015	0,161	0,457	0,0259	0,0046	3,13E-04	0,12

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# Search

# Adding importance to MI's

- Mass, weight, energy: No effect on top 3
  1. Press hardening steel, 22MnB5, austenized & H2O quenched, uncoated
  2. Press hardening steel, 22MnB5, austenized & H2O quenched, uncoated
  3. Low alloy steel, AISI 4135, air melted, quenched & tempered

# Steel 22MnB5

- Cold-rolled boron steel 22MnB5 is a high-strength steel product with **good formability**. Suitable for products requiring **formability in delivery condition** and high strength as a final product, the steel's strength and hardness are achieved by **quench hardening after forming**.

# What if no coatings are to be used

- Martensitic stainless steel

Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	product
Stainless steel, martensitic, 15-5PH, wrought, H1075	0,116	0,0193	0,0012	0,13	0,386	0,0258	0,0043	2,76E-04	1,22
Stainless steel, martensitic, 17-4PH, cast, H1000	0,12	0,0202	0,0012	0,136	0,364	0,0258	0,0043	2,64E-04	1,49
Stainless steel, martensitic, 17-4PH, cast, H1100	0,111	0,0252	0,0013	0,175	0,336	0,0257	0,0059	3,04E-04	9,25
Stainless steel, martensitic, 17-4PH, wrought, H1025	0,134	0,0225	0,0014	0,122	0,406	0,0258	0,0043	2,64E-04	1,33
Stainless steel, martensitic, 17-4PH, wrought, H1075	0,118	0,0197	0,0012	0,155	0,393	0,0258	0,0043	2,64E-04	2,89
Stainless steel, martensitic, AISI 420F, wrought	0,0889	0,109	0,0014	0,136	0,335	0,0258	0,0316	4,05E-04	69,82
Stainless steel, martensitic, Custom 450, wrought, H1000	0,14	0,0279	0,0017	0,123	0,47	0,0265	0,0053	3,28E-04	4,11
Stainless steel, martensitic, Custom 450, wrought, H1050	0,124	0,0248	0,0015	0,187	0,417	0,0265	0,0053	3,28E-04	20,65
Stainless steel, martensitic, Custom 450, wrought, H1100	0,0982	0,0195	0,0012	0,285	0,329	0,0265	0,0053	3,28E-04	66,07
Stainless steel, martensitic, PH 13-8Mo, wrought, H1100	0,127	0,0226	0,0015	0,161	0,457	0,0259	0,0046	3,13E-04	8,11

# Top material

- Stainless steel, martensitic, AISI 420F, wrought
- But: search phase reveals:
  - 420F will withstand **only minor cold work**. Radical forming operations will result in cracking.
- Stainless steel, martensitic, Custom. 450, wrought, H1050
  - *This alloy is a martensitic stainless that combines **corrosion resistance** similar to 304, **easy fabrication** and single step age hardenability, yielding **good strength and ductility**. It possesses a yield strength that is roughly 3 times the strength of standard 304 stainless.*

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Thank you for your attention  
תודה לך על תשומת הלב



*“When it comes to the future,  
there are three kinds of people :  
those who let it happen,  
those who make it happen, and  
those who wonder what happened”*

(John M. Richardson, Jr.)