

Progettazione di Materiali e Processi

Modulo 1

Progettazione e selezione di materiali e processi

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Outline

- Almost always 2 or more objectives – they conflict
- Trade-off methods
- Penalty functions and exchange constants
- *Demo*
- *Hands-on session with Exercises*

The selection strategy: materials



Design requirements:
expressed as
Constraints and Objectives

Data:
Material attributes
Process attributes
Documentation

Able to be molded
Water and UV resistant
Stiff enough
Strong enough

As cheap as possible
As light as possible

Comparison engine

- Screening
- Ranking
- Documentation

Final selection

Density
Price
Modulus
Strength
Durability
Process compatibility
More.....

Multiple constraints and objectives

Design requirements set **constraints** on material choice

objectives - criteria for optimising

Typical constraints

The material must be

- Electrically conducting
- Optically transparent.....

And meet target values of

- Stiffness
- Strength.....

And be able to be

- Die cast
- Welded

Dealing with multiple constraints
is straightforward

Typical objectives

Minimize

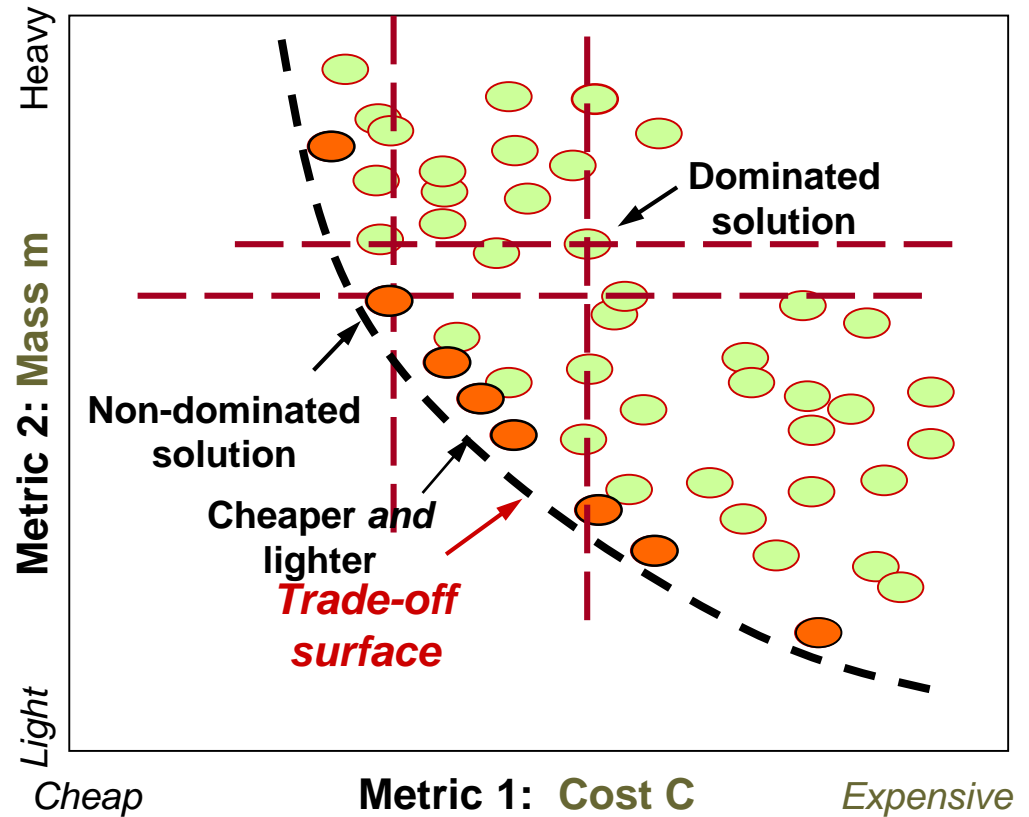
- Mass **m** (*satellite components*)
- Volume (*mobile phones*)
- Energy consumption (*fridges*)
- Carbon footprint (*cars*)
- Embodied energy (*materials*)
- Cost **C** (*everything*)

Dealing with multiple objectives
needs **trade-off methods**

Take, as example, simultaneously minimizing **mass m** and **cost C**

Multi-objective optimisation: *the words*

- **“*Solution*”**: a viable choice, meeting constraints, but not necessarily optimum by either criterion.
- Plot solutions.
(**“*Convention*”**: express objectives to be *minimized*)
- **“*Dominated solution*”**: one that is unambiguously non-optimal
- **“*Non-dominated solution*”**: one that cannot be improved by one metric without degrading the other ones
- **“*Trade-off surface*”**: the surface on which the non-dominated solutions lie (Pareto Front)



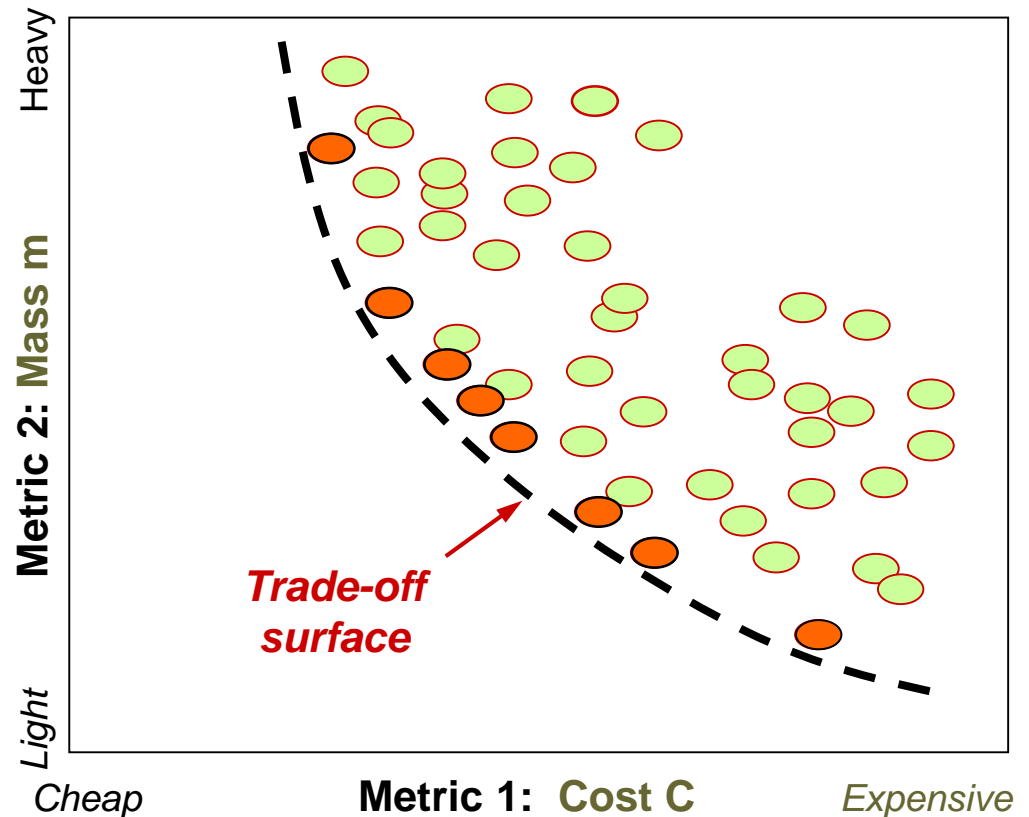
Finding a compromise: strategy 1

- Make trade-off plot
- Sketch trade-off surface
- Use intuition to select a solution on the trade-off surface

▪ “Solutions” nearest the surface offer the best **compromise** between mass and cost

▪ 8 out of 50

▪ Choose from among these; the choice depends on how highly you value light weight, -- a question of **relative values**



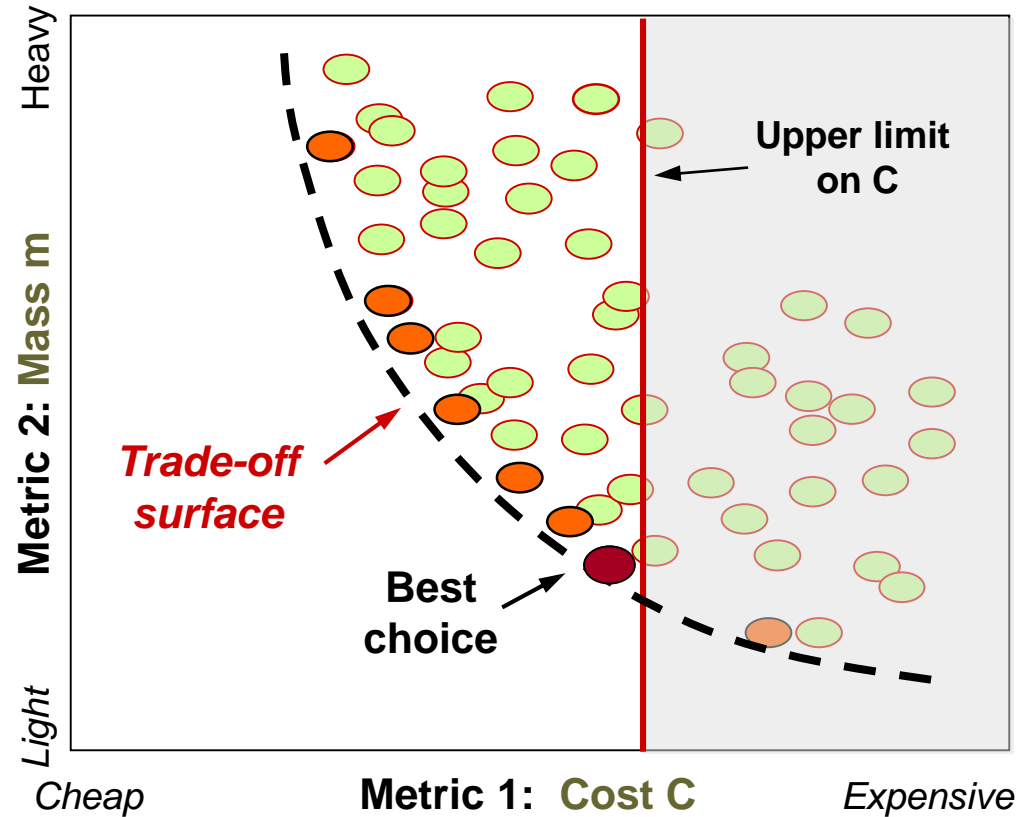
Finding a compromise: strategy 2

▪ **Reformulate** all but one of the objectives as constraints, setting an upper limit for it

Good if budget limit

• BUT....cheating

Cost is treated as *constraint*, not *objective*.



Finding a compromise: strategy 3

Define locally-linear
Penalty function Z

$$Z = \alpha m + C$$

Seek solution with smallest Z

- Either **evaluate Z** for each solution, and choose materials with the lowest value

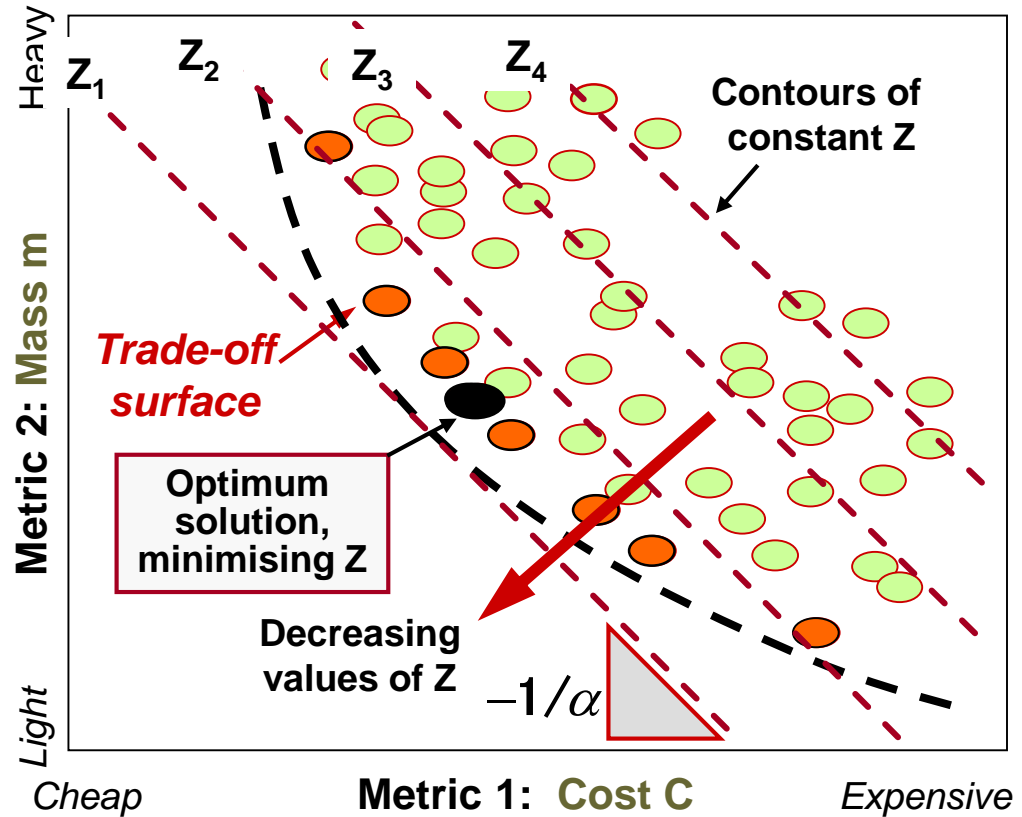
- Or make **trade-off plot**

Plot on it contours of Z

$$m = -\frac{1}{\alpha}C + \frac{1}{\alpha}Z$$

Lines of Z have slope $-1/\alpha$
(needs linear scales)

- Read off** solution with lowest Z



But what is the meaning of α ?

Materials for transport systems



Steel
Composites



Steel / Alu



Alu / (composite)



Alu / Ti / composites



Choice of material depends on system

- **Mass**, in transport systems, means **fuel** \$
- **Life cost** = Initial cost, **C** + Fuel cost over life, scaling with mass **m** kg
- **Penalty function** $Z = C + \alpha m$ \$/kg
- Must first establish **exchange constant**, α

The exchange constant α for transport

Exchange constants for transport systems

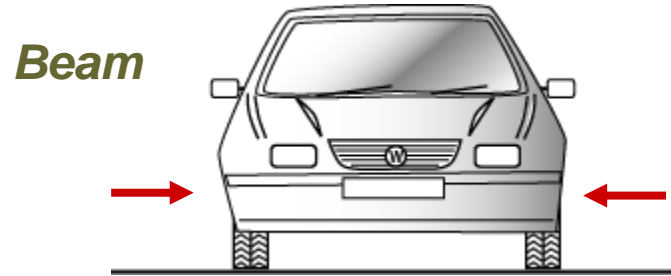
Transport system	α (\$ per kg)
Family car	3 to 6
Truck	5 to 20
Civil aircraft	100 to 500
Military hardware	500 to 2000
Space vehicle	3000 to 10,000



How to get values of α ?

- Full life costing: fuel saving, extra payload
- Analysis of historic data;
- Interviews, surveys

Materials for auto bumpers



Function

Absorb impact, transmit load to energy-absorbing units or supports

Objectives

Minimize mass and material cost

Criteria

Cost C per unit
bending strength

Mass m per unit
bending strength

Index:
minimize

$$C = \frac{C_m \rho}{\sigma_y^{2/3}}$$

$$m = \frac{\rho}{\sigma_y^{2/3}}$$

C_m = Material cost / kg
 ρ = Density, kg/m³
 σ_y = Yield strength, MPa
 α = exchange constant, \$/kg

Penalty
function

$$Z = C + \alpha m = \frac{\rho}{\sigma_y^{2/3}} \left(C_m + \alpha \right)$$

Selection using the penalty function

$$Z = \frac{\rho}{\sigma_y^{2/3}} (C_m + \alpha)$$

Use the
“**Advanced**”
facility to
make the
penalty
function

(Density / (Yield strength^0.66))
*(Price + 10)

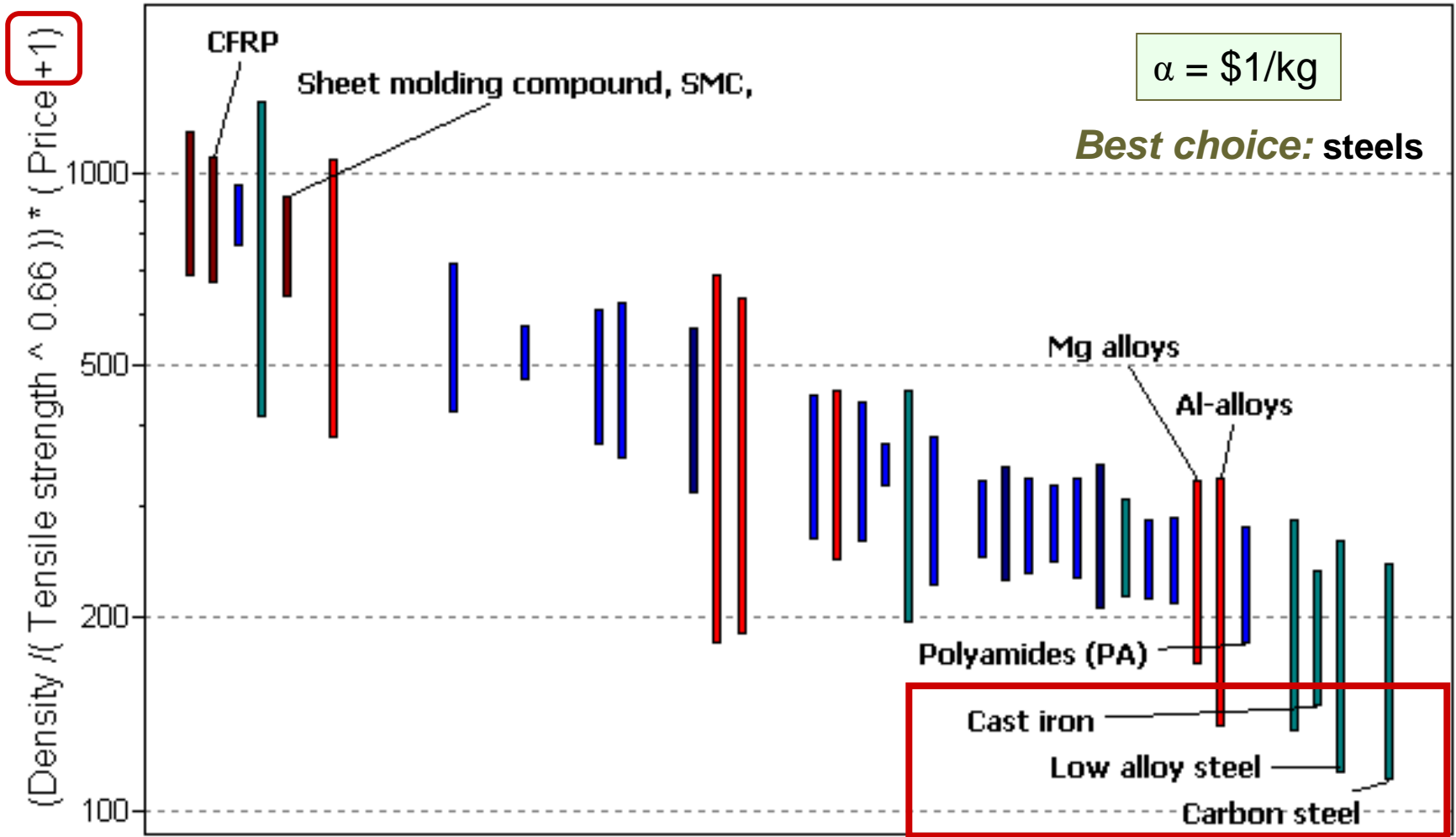
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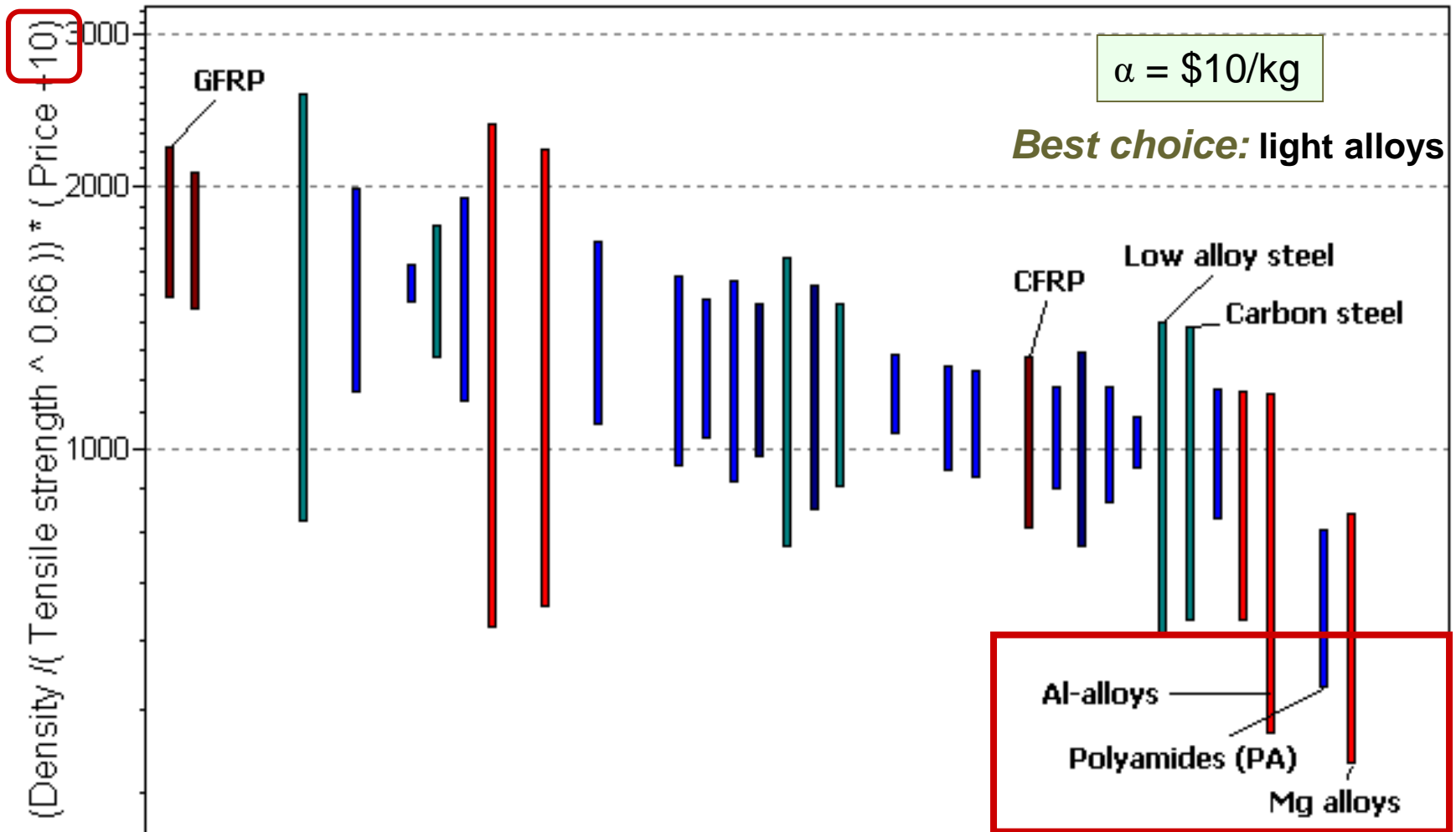
- Density
- Price
- Tensile strength
- etc

The value of the
exchange constant

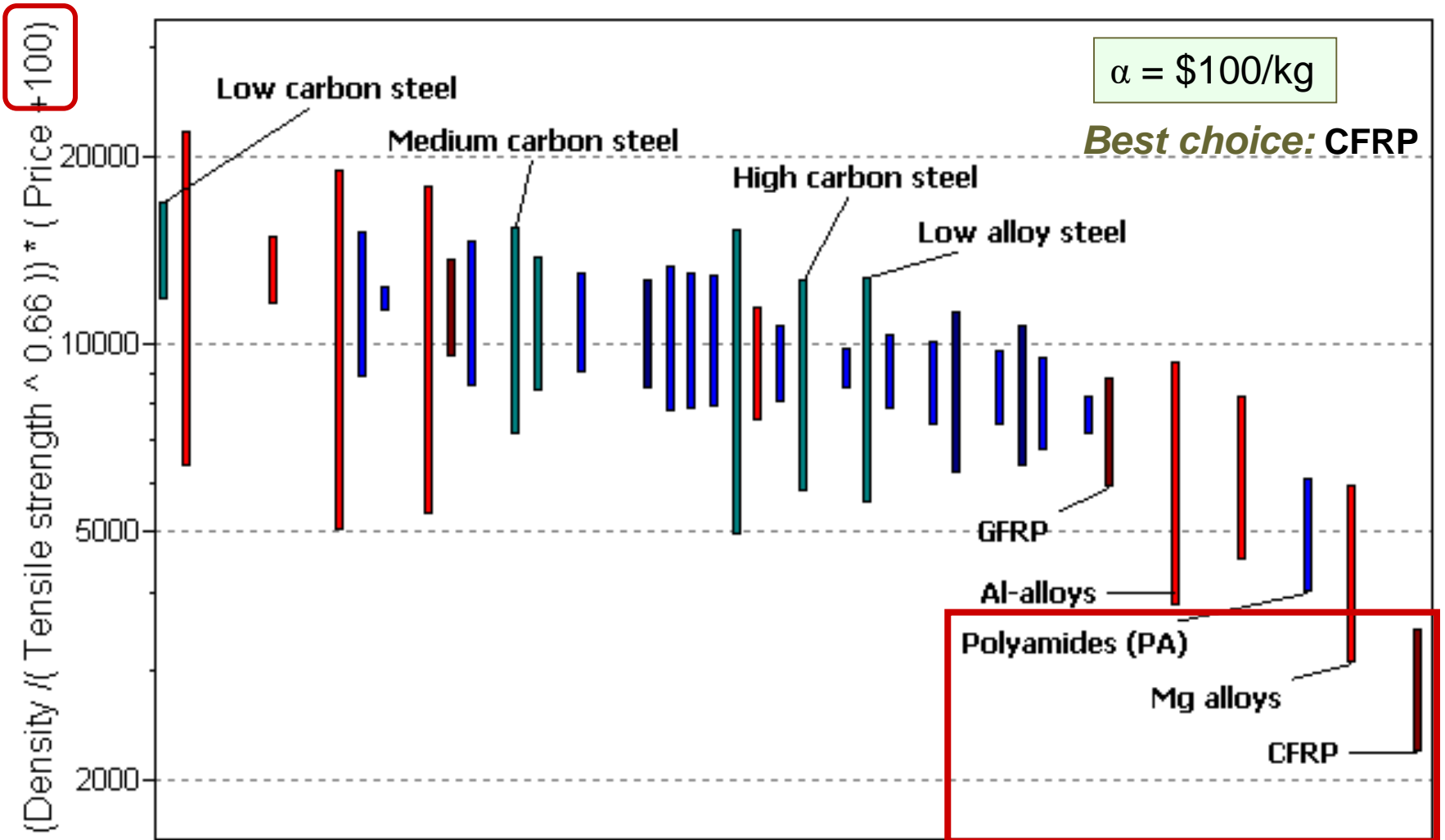
Selection using the penalty function



Selection using the penalty function



Selection using the penalty function



Other exchange constants

Carbon tax is an exchange constant

Cost of abatement, \$

Penalty function $Z = C + \alpha m$

\$/kg of CO₂ to atmosphere

kg of CO₂ to atmosphere

Set $\alpha = 0$ Result: no abatement. Cost of CO₂ is “externalised”
 $\alpha = \infty$ Result: total ban on CO₂ release

Currently $\alpha = \text{€ } 0.02/\text{kg}$ Is it enough?

Landfill tax is an exchange constant

Cost of alternative to landfill, \$

Penalty function $Z = C + \alpha m$

\$/kg of landfill

kg of material to landfill

Currently $\alpha = \text{€ } 0.08/\text{kg}$ Is it enough?

Demo

