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**Lehr- und Forschungsgebiet Karosserietechnik**

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UNIVERSITY  
INSTITUT FÜR ALLGEMEINE MECHANIK

**FH AACHEN**  
UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

# **“Intelligent Car Body”**

**A Design Approach for Construction of a Virtual Car Body for Small  
Sized Batch Production based on LS-DYNA simulations**

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11<sup>th</sup> LS-DYNA Forum 2012

9th – 10th October 2012

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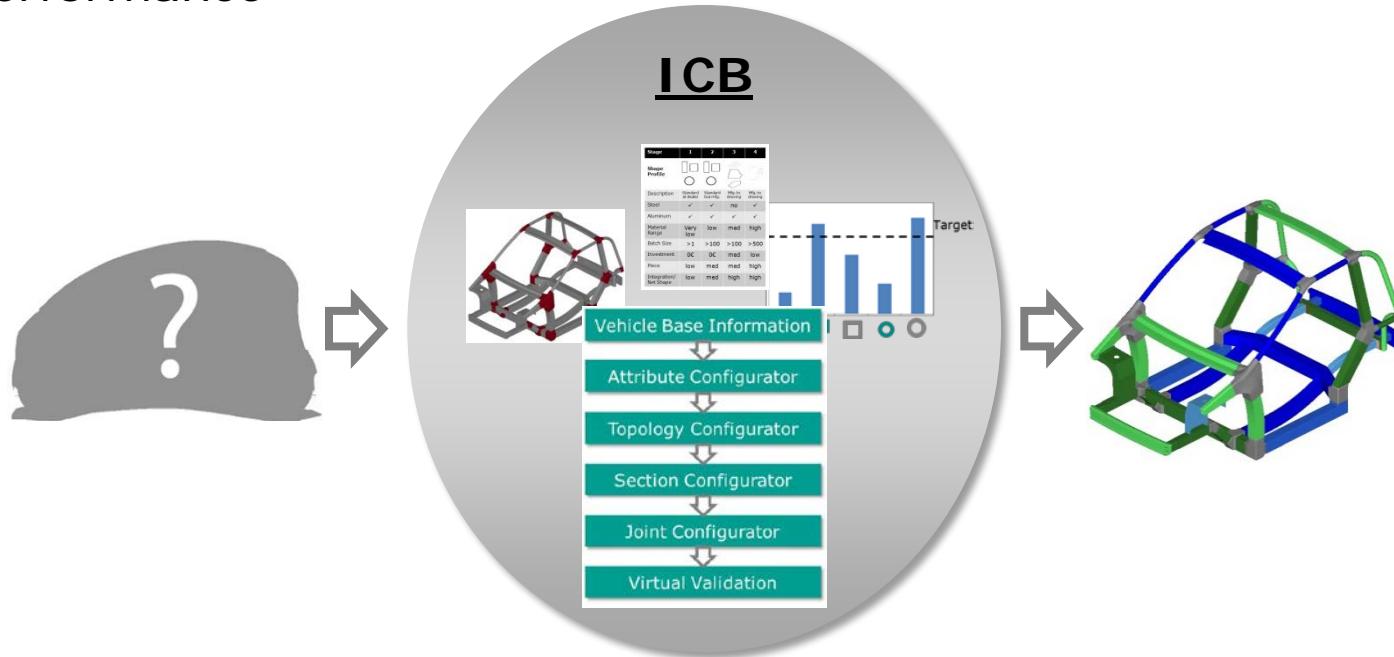
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## What is “Intelligent Car Body - ICB”

“Intelligent Car Body” is an approach, which aims at:

- Creating a tool which can guide the design engineer through the car body construction process in the initial design stages
- Constructing a car body which possesses intelligence in the fields of construction, manufacturing techniques and structural performance



## Motivation

### Challenges for small sized batch production

Bezeichnung	[Fzg./Jahr]	
	Min.	Max.
Einzelfertigung (Manufaktur)	1	5
Kleinserie (Manufaktur)	5	50
Kleinserie	klein	50
	mittel	200
	groß	500
mittlere Serienfertigung	klein	1.000
	mittel	10.000
	groß	30.000
Großserienfertigung	klein	50.000
	mittel	100.000
	groß	300.000

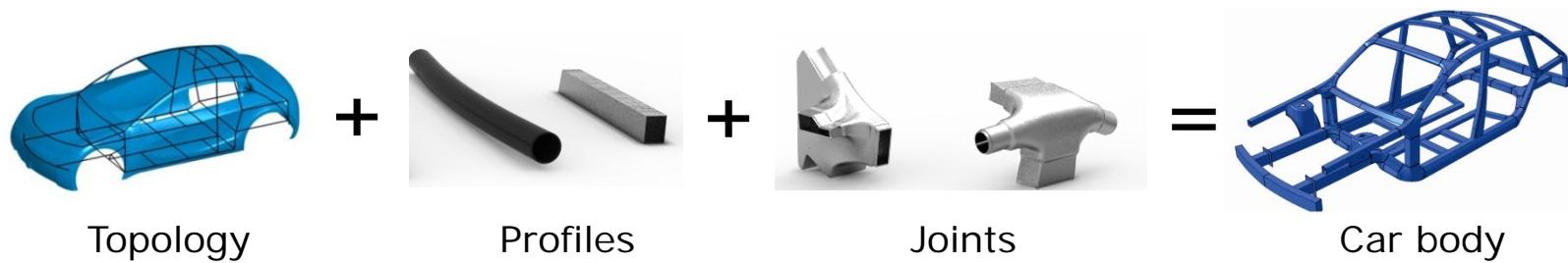


- Restricted knowledge for design
- High development time
- High development costs
- High capital investment
- Fast launching in market

Intelligent Car Body (ICB)

## The “Flexbody”

- “Flexbody” construction concept

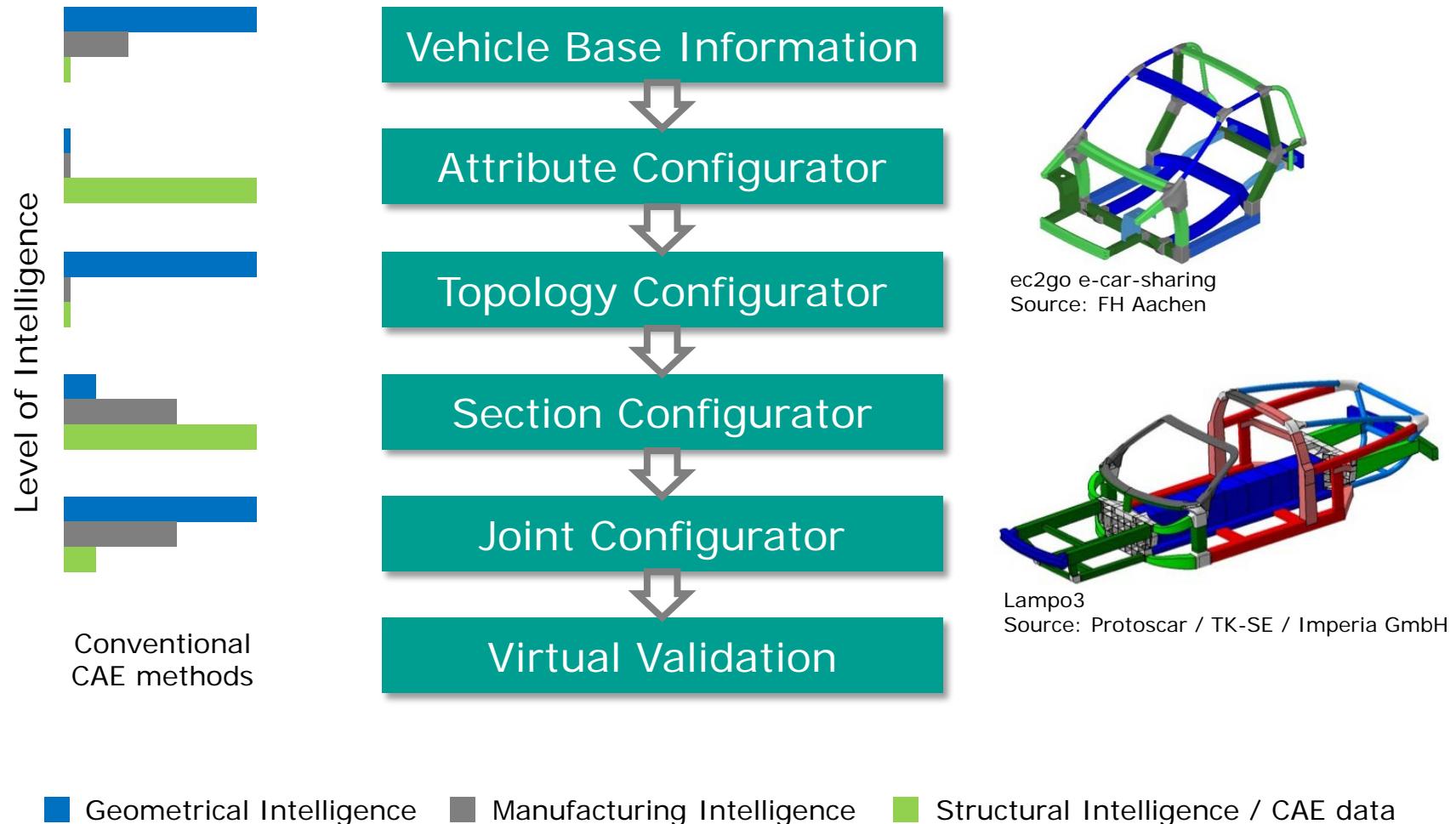


Source: Imperia GmbH

- “Flexbody” is advantageous for small series vehicle production
  - Optimizes production cost according to batch size
  - Quick adaption to meet individual vehicle specifications

# Intelligent Car Body

## Methodology: “Intelligent Car Body”



# Intelligent Car Body

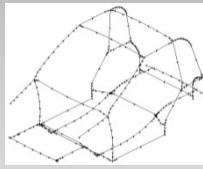
## Fields of Intelligence in ICB

"ICB" employs knowledgebase at three levels

### Geometrical Intelligence

For parametric CAD construction

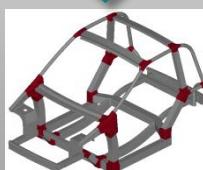
#### Step 1: Topology



#### Step 2: Profiles



#### Step 3: Joints



### Manufacturing Intelligence

For selection of materials and manufacturing processes

#### Profile database

Stage	1	2	3	4
Shape Profile				
Description	Standard at dealer	Standard but milg.	no	Hdg. to drawing
Steel	✓	✓		✓
Aluminum	✓	✓	✓	✓
Material Range	Very low	low	med	high
Batch Size	> 1	> 100	> 100	> 500
Investment	0€	0€	med	low
Piece	low	med	med	high
Integration/Net Shape	low	med	high	high

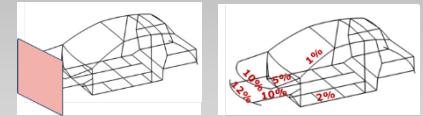
#### Joint database

Stage	1	2	3	4
Technology	Milling	Precision casting	Sand casting	Centrifugal casting
Steel	✓	✓	no	no
Aluminum	✓	✓	✓	✓
closed section	no*	✓	✓	no*
Material Range	high	med	high	high
Batch Size	> 1	> 100	> 100	> 500
Investment	0€	Low	Med	high
Piece	High	High	med	low
Integration	med	high	med	low

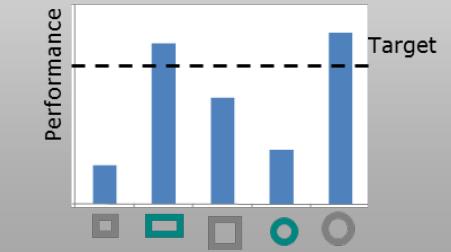
### Structural Intelligence

For optimum design of profile cross sections

#### Load distribution



#### Analytical evaluation

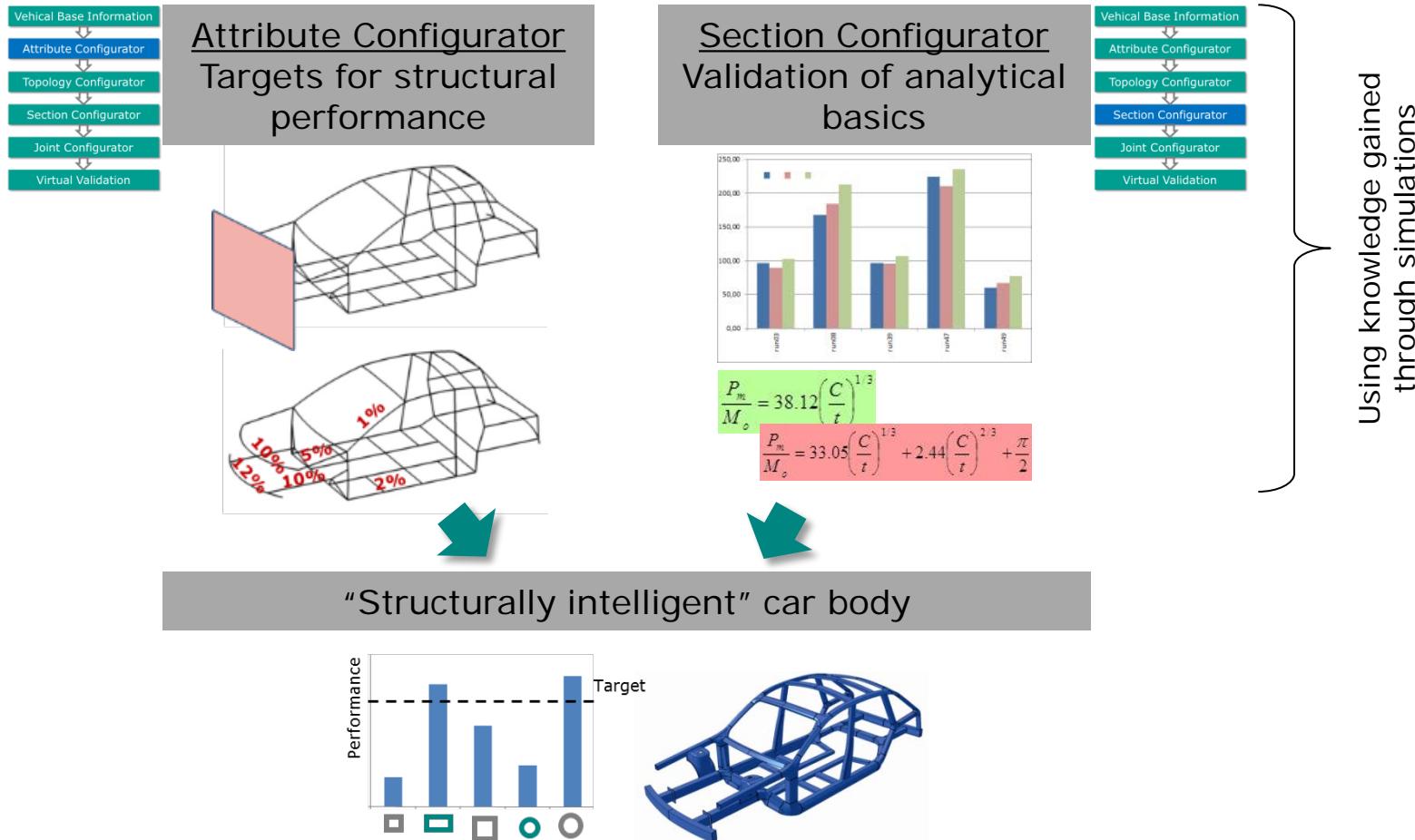


#### Profile Selection

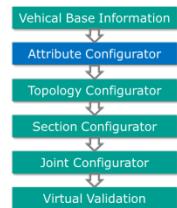
# Intelligent Car Body

## Structural intelligence

- Aim: To predict the structural performance of a car body in early design stages and hence reduce the optimization time.



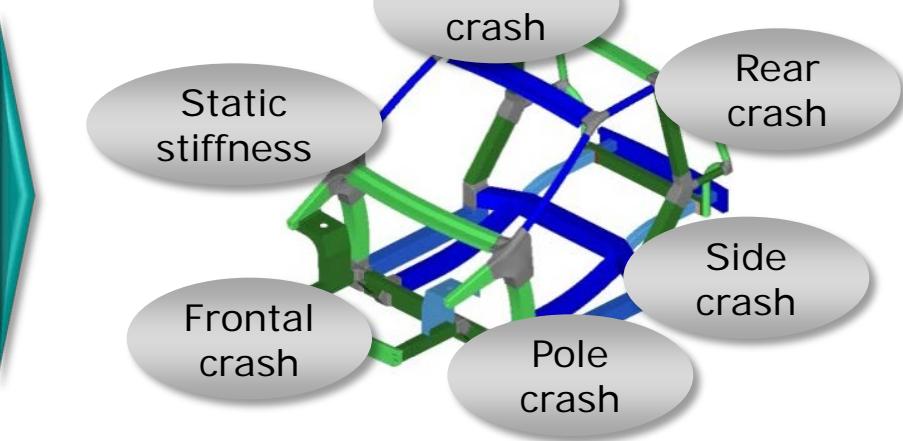
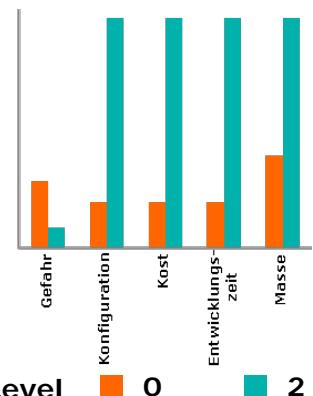
# Intelligent Car Body



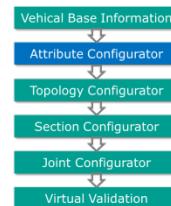
## a. Attribute Configurator: "Safety Model"

- Step 1: Creating a "Safety Model" for the target car body

Crashtest		Lev el	Barriere		Winkel	Geschwin.	Beschreibung	Bild
Position	Regelung		Typ	Überlap pung	Abmaße			
Frontalcrash	FMVSS 208	1	starr	100%		0°	32 - 56 km/h starre, feststehende Batterie	
	FMVSS 208	2	starr	100%		30°	32 - 56 km/h starre, feststehende Batterie	
	ECE R 94	1	verform bar	40%	1000 X 450 X 650 mm	0°	56 km/h 200 mm über Boden	
	Euro NCAP							
<b>"Safety Model"</b>								
Lenkanlage bei Unfallstoßen	ECE R 12						bei Frontalaufprall => ECE-R42 verwenden	
	ECE R 95	1	verform bar		1500 X 500 mm	90°	50 km/h 260 mm über Boden, Barriere wiegt 950 kg, Mittellinse der Barriere geht durch R-Punkt des Fahrers	
	Euro NCAP	2	verform bar		1500 X 500 mm	90°	50 km/h 260 mm über Boden, Barriere wiegt 950 kg, Mittellinse der Barriere geht durch R-Punkt des Fahrers	
<u>Level</u>								
0: mandatory								
1: recommended								
2: "best-in-class"								



Selected loadcases

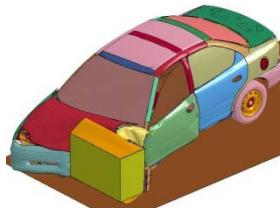
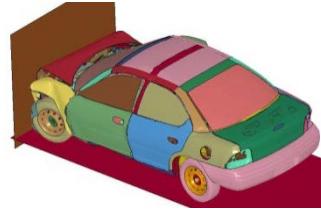


## a. Attribute Configurator: Benchmark

- Step 2: Generating a benchmark using numerical simulations



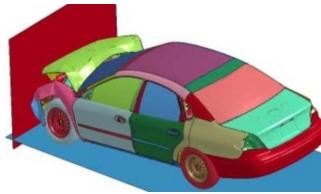
Chrysler Neon



...



Ford Taurus

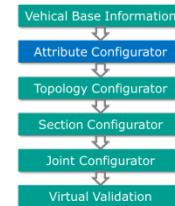


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Knowledge gained from the numerical simulations

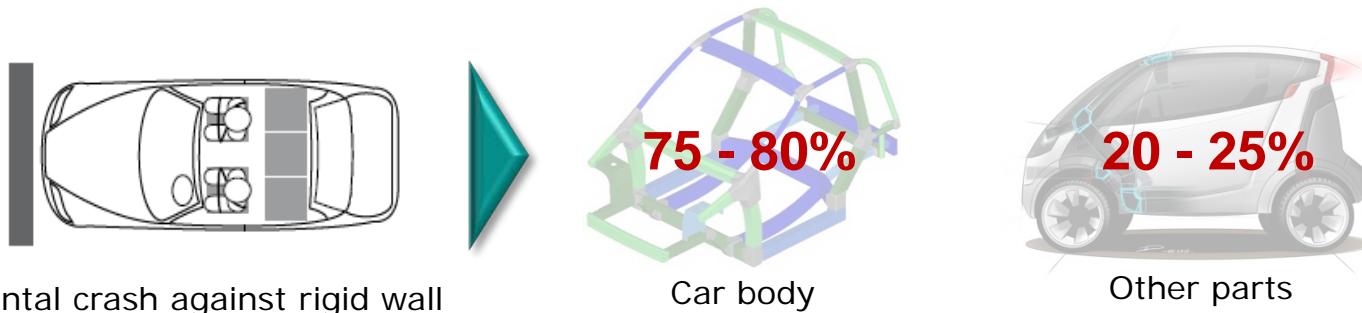
- Typical trends of force-displacement curves
- Energy of deformation
- Distribution of deformation energy in the car body components

# Intelligent Car Body

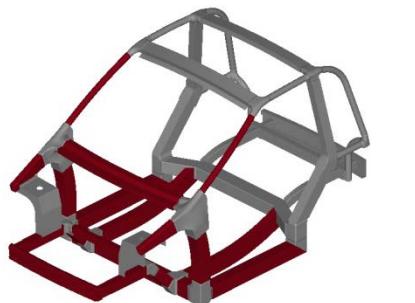


## a. Attribute Configurator: Targets definition

- Step 3: Defining performance level for the target car body\*
- Distribution of energy during deformation



- Targets for individual profiles



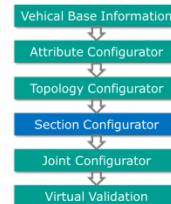
Profiles having high influence



Targets

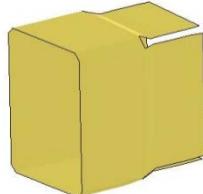
Mode of deformation

\*Example for frontal crash

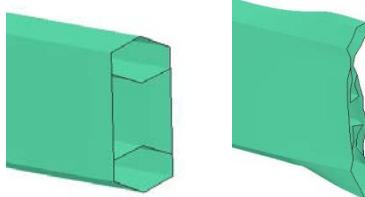


## b. Section Configurator: Types of loads

- Modes of deformation observed in “Flexbody” profiles

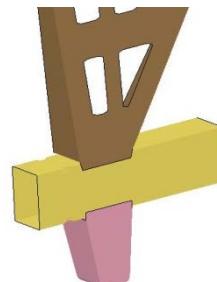


Axial folding



Crumpling

...



Mixture of folding and bending

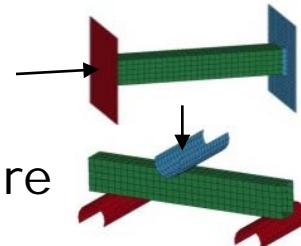


Components not loaded  
to their full capacity

Source: “ec2go”, FH Aachen

- Basic modes of deformation (-> simple loads)

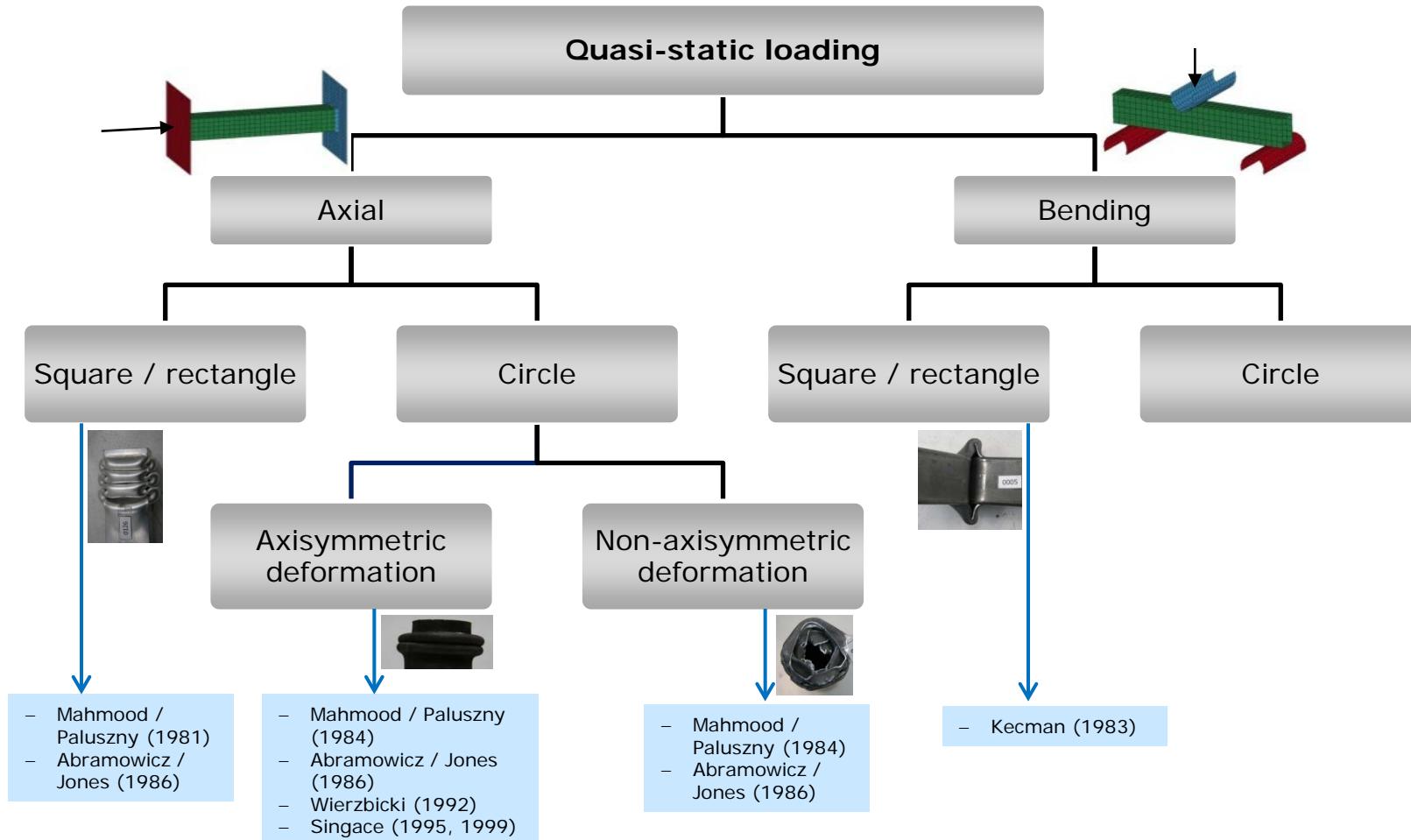
- Axial failure

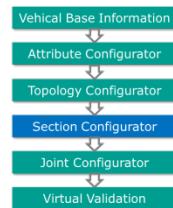


- Bending failure

## b. Section Configurator: Analytical Basics

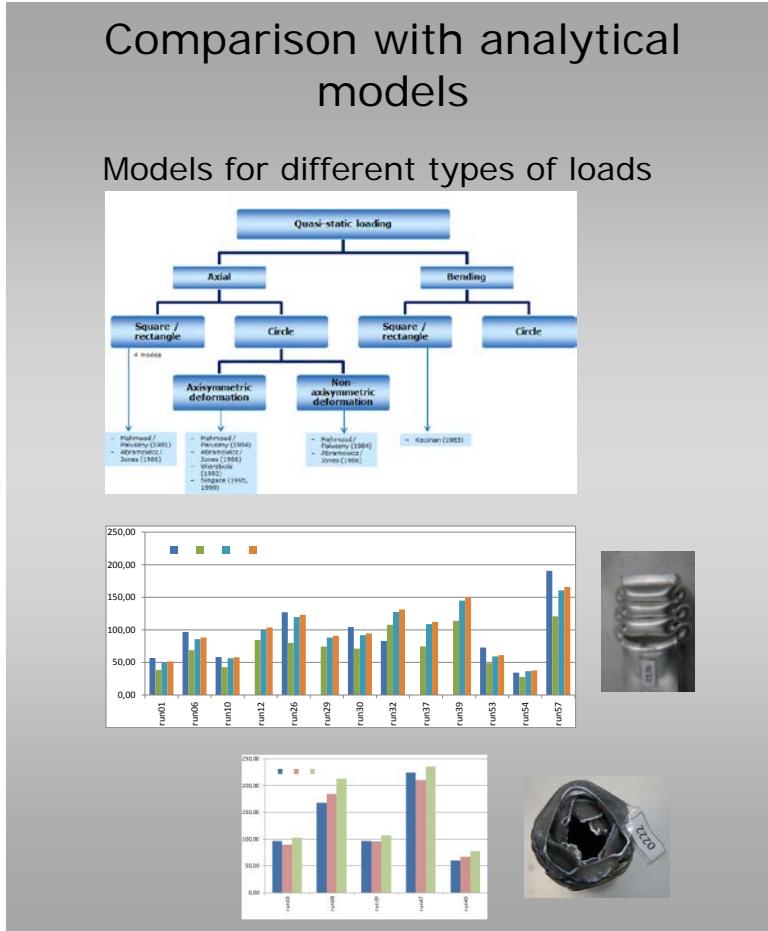
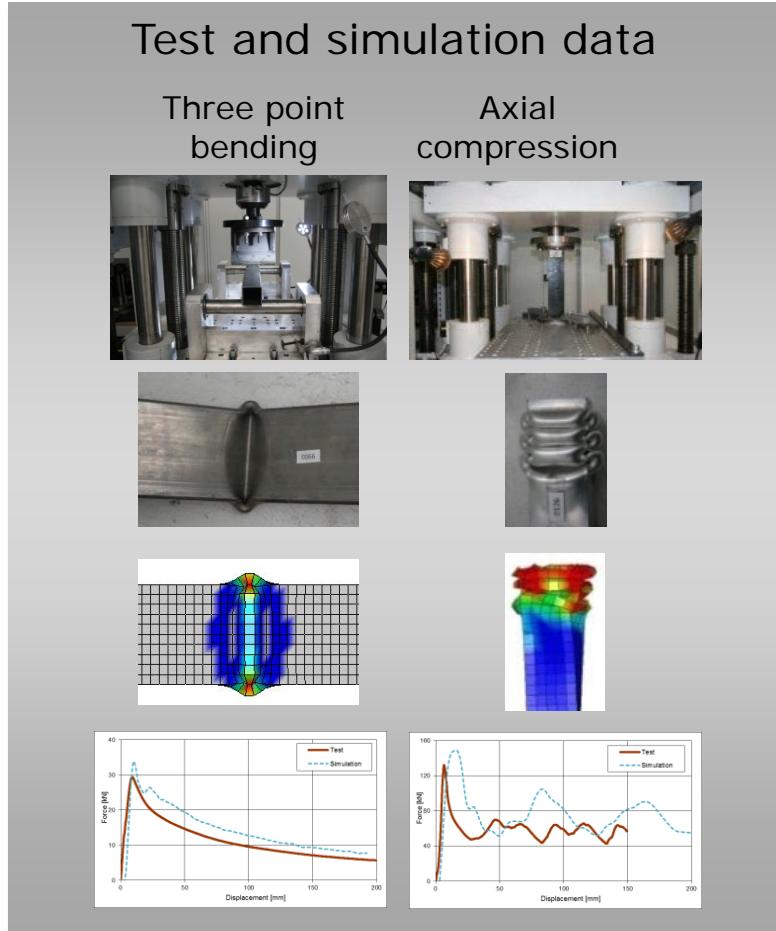
- Available analytical models for simple loads





## b. Section Configurator: Validation

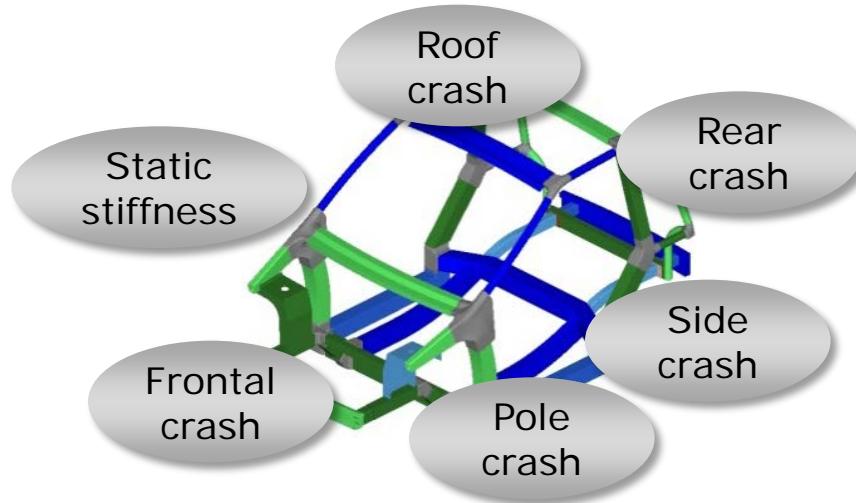
- Validation of analytical models for simple loads



## c. Virtual Validation

- Validating the constructed car body for various loadcases

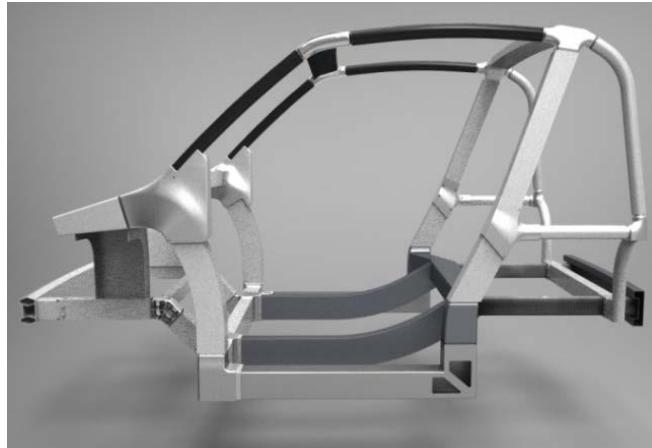
	Component based (ICB approach)	Complete vehicle (CAE)	Vehicle testing
NVH – Static stiffness – <i>Dynamic stiffness</i>	X	X	no
Crash / Crush	X	X	optional
Durability	no	optional	X



## Final remarks

Advantages of the proposed approach

- Connects various steps in car body development process in a logical order and hence facilitates transfer of data
- Data is generated from CAD / CAE and is proposed to use as "knowledgebase" for car body design



## Contact

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Thank you for your attention!

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