

Feb. 2023

IQPC 2023 – Advanced EM

# Optimization of electric powertrains

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# Agenda:

- About BorgWarner
- Problem introduction
- Powertrain optimization approach
- Component modelling
  - Electrical Machine
  - Transmission
  - Inverter
- Study Case
- Conclusions

# BorgWarner In Numbers

 **~49k**  
Employees

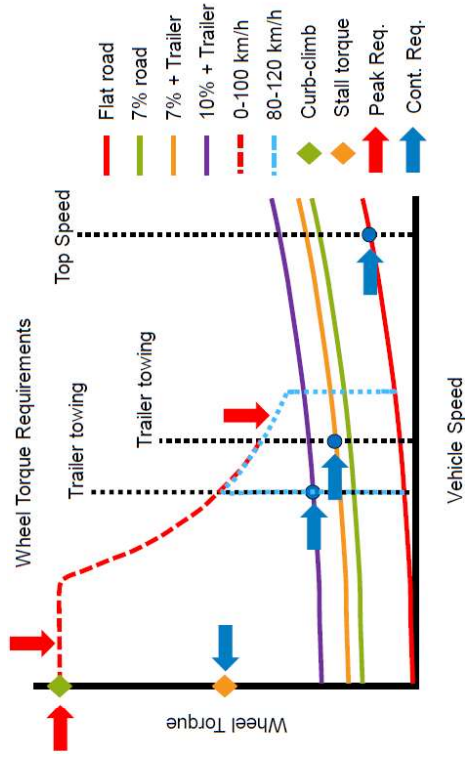
 **93**  
Locations

 **22**  
Countries

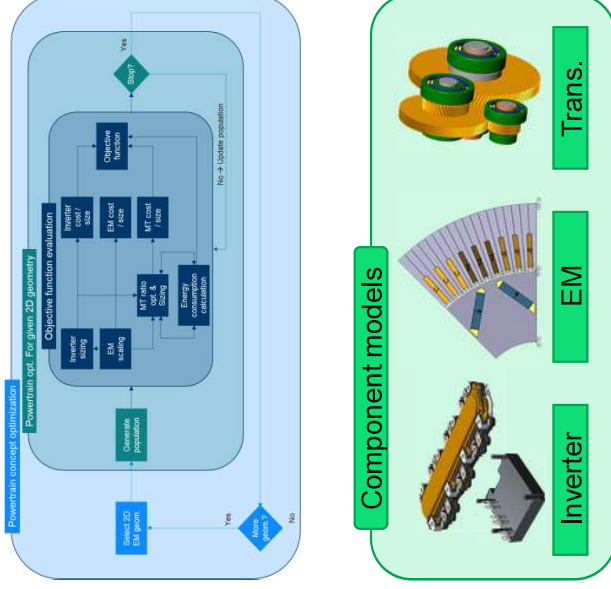
 **\$14.8bn**  
in 2021 Sales

# Main objective: translate wheel requirements into preliminary powertrain designs

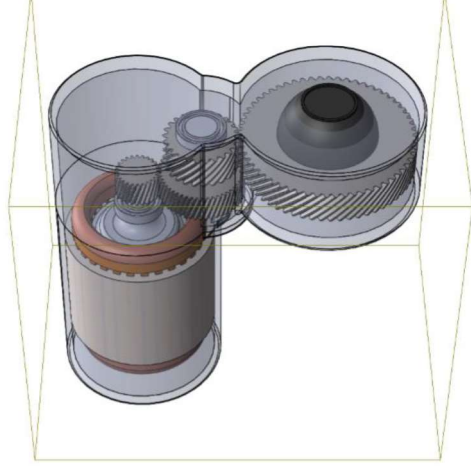
## Vehicle level requirements



## System optimization



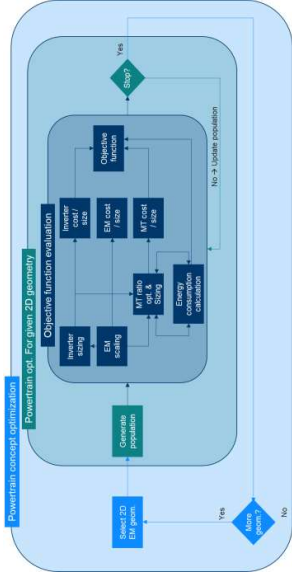
## Preliminary design



# Electric powertrain development workflow

## Concept optimization

### Initial specifications and requirements



### Preliminary design – key attributes defined



## Detailed analysis and component optimization and refinement

EM Multi-objective GA optimization

Weight, Magnetic, BOM, Structural, Thermal, Inertia, Size, NVH

This block contains several simulation results: a weight distribution plot, a magnetic field simulation, a BOM (Bill of Materials) simulation, a structural stress simulation, a thermal analysis plot, and an inertia simulation. The 'Size' and 'NVH' (Noise, Vibration, Harshness) parameters are also indicated.

FC Design and Opt.

Circuit simulations: Currents - Voltages - Losses

Thermal simulations: Temperatures – Stresses – Expected lifetime

Component characterization: Currents - Voltages - Losses

This block shows simulation results for circuit and thermal analysis. It includes plots for currents, voltages, and losses, as well as temperature and stress distributions. The 'Component characterization' section focuses on current and voltage profiles and associated losses.

Trans. Design and Opt.

FEA Structural simulations: Stresses – expected life

Fluid Dynamic simulations: Lubrication and cooling

NVH simulations

This block displays finite element analysis (FEA) structural simulations showing stress distributions on a component, fluid dynamic simulations for lubrication and cooling, and NVH (Noise, Vibration, Harshness) simulations.

System and Vehicle Simulations

Overall energy consumption

- Loss separation
- Vehicle performance
- System NVH
- System Thermal Management

This block shows system and vehicle simulations, including a graph of speed (m/s) over time (min) with markers for WLTP, 1000, 1000, and 1000. It also lists key simulation outputs: overall energy consumption, loss separation, vehicle performance, system NVH, and system thermal management.

## Validation and verification

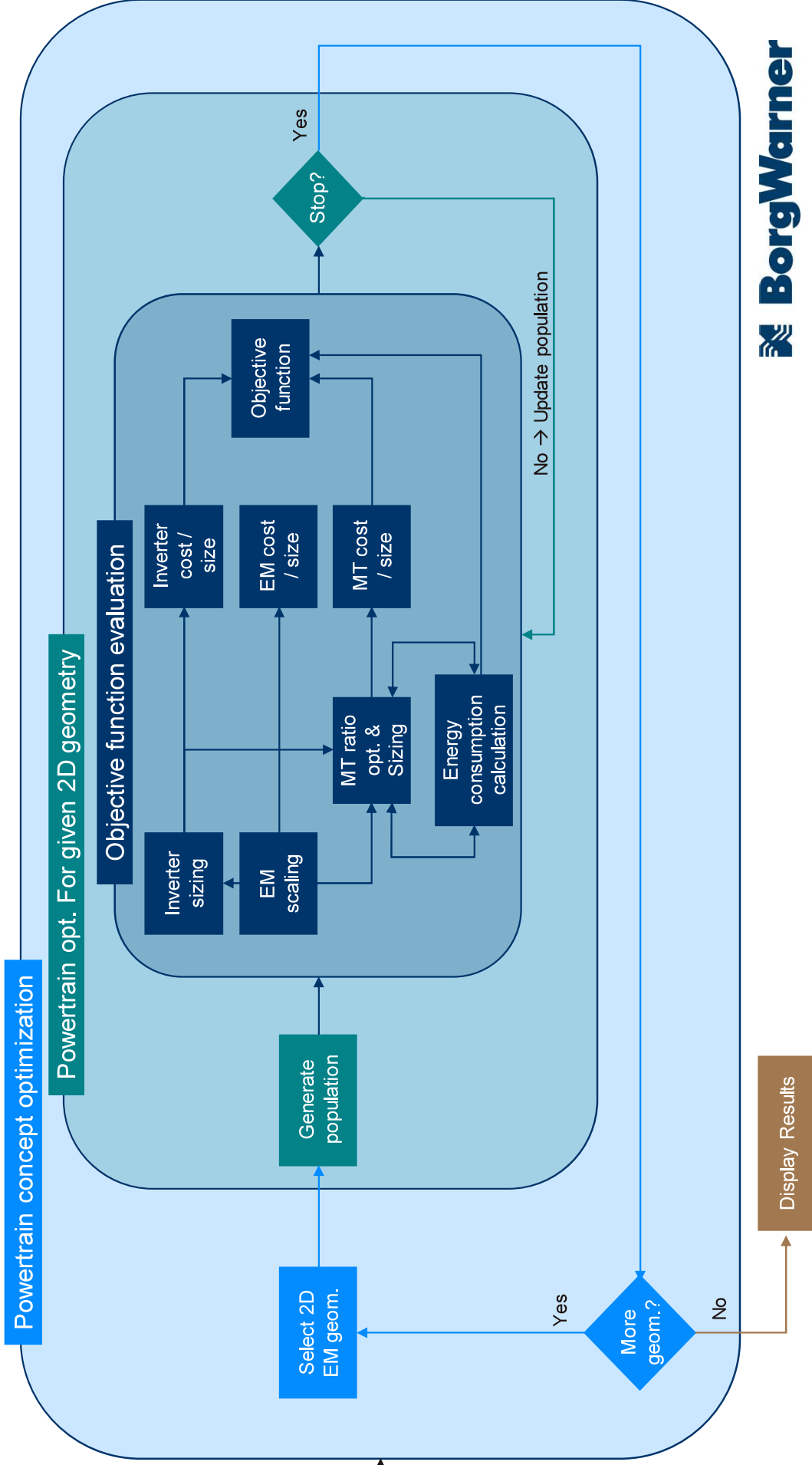
### Prototype bench testing – model calibration



### Vehicle level testing – control calibration



# Powertrain optimization approach



- Performance requirements
- Constraints
- Target vehicle
- Drive cycle
- Material definitions
- Operating conditions (Vdc, Tamb, Twind,...)



# Definition of system requirements

Inputs:

- Target vehicle properties
- Drive cycle to be used for system optimization
- Performance requirements both peak and continuous

Outputs:

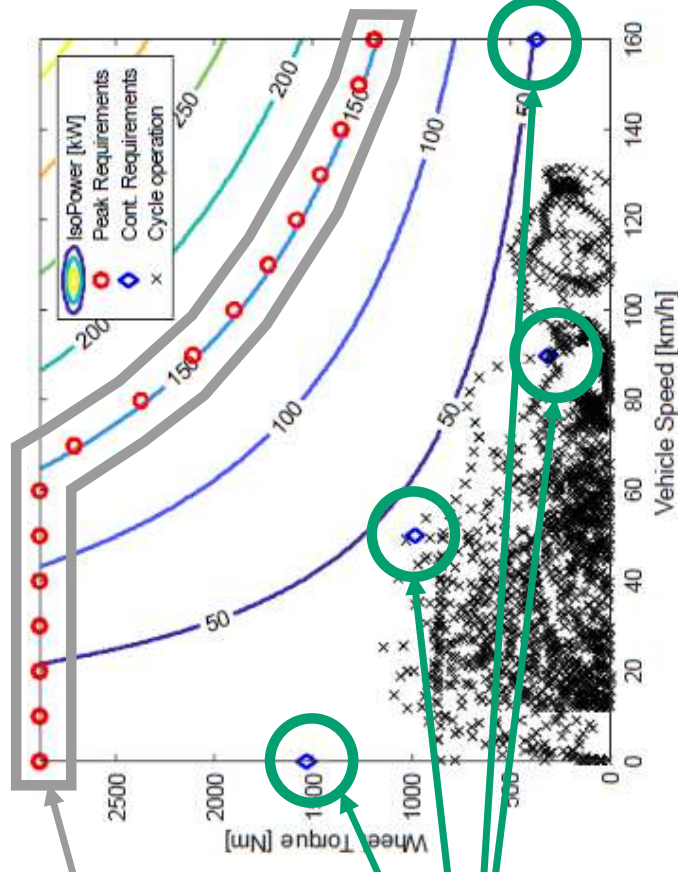
- Peak and continuous wheel torque envelopes

Peak acceleration requirements

Speed initial	Speed final	Target Time
0	100	8
80	120	6

Continuous driving requirements

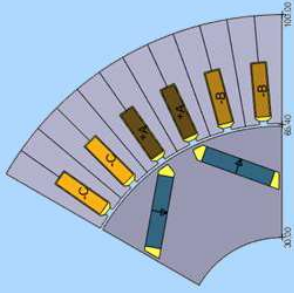
Speed	Slope
90	1
50	5
0	15
160	2



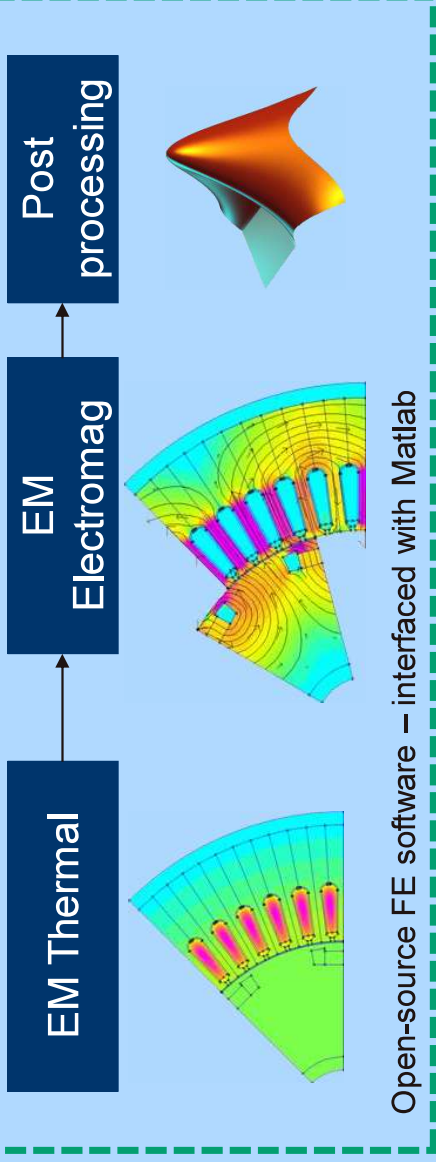
Additional points can be added manually if needed

# EM modelling & Scaling

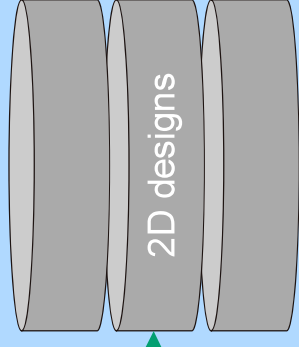
Electrical Machine  
Database generation



Fully parametrized EM geometry – but only selected parameters are varied

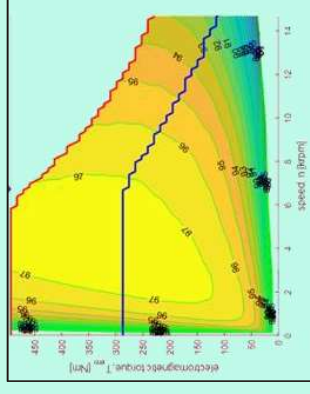
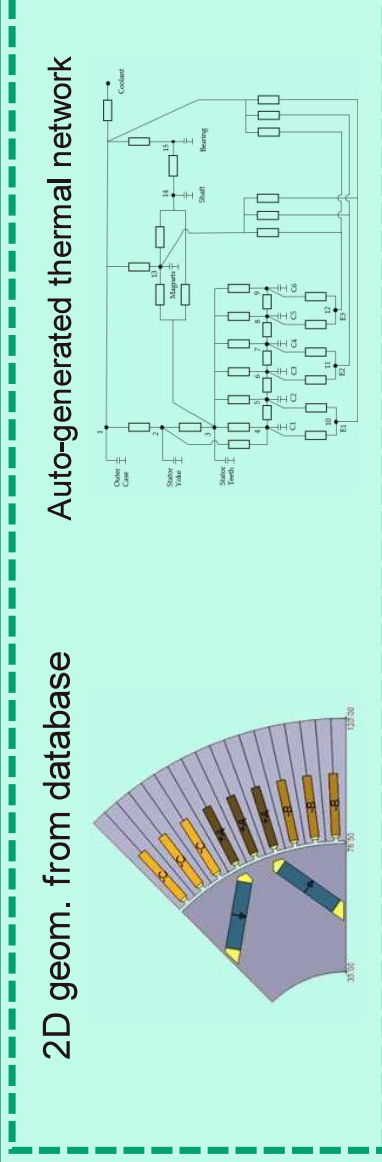


Open-source FE software – interfaced with Matlab



Electrical Machine  
Scaling

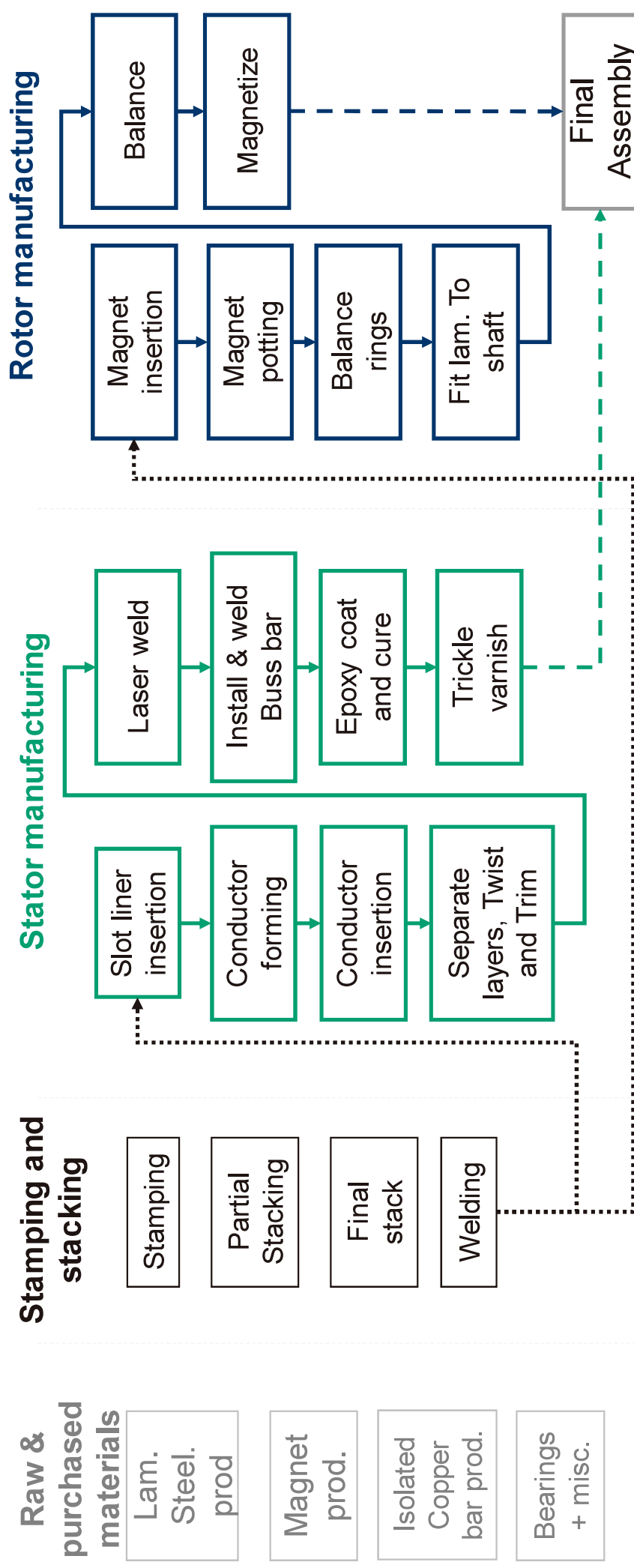
- Phase current
- Length
- Number of turns
- Vdc



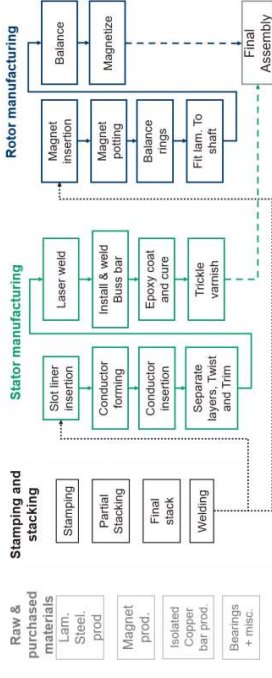
For details on EM Scaling: Domingues-Olavarria, Gabriel, Francisco J. Marquez-Fernandez, Pontus Fyhr, Avo Reinap, Mats Andersson, and Mats Alaküla. "Optimization of electric powertrains based on scalable cost and performance models." IEEE Transactions on Industry Applications 55, no. 1 (2018)



# EM Engineering cost model



# EM Engineering cost model



	Unit	Value	Symbol
Cycle time per operation	[s]	0	To
Material Yield	[-]	0	qm
Additional material cost	[€]	0	$\Delta k(n+1)$
Wage cost	[€/s]	0	Kd
Quality factor	[-]	0	qQ
Stand still factor	[-]	0	qS
CapEx	[€]	0	Ka
Machine Cost running	[€/s]	0	Kcp
Machine Cost standstill	[€/s]	0	Kcs

$$k(\gamma_w, n) = \frac{K_A}{n} + \sum_{w=0}^v k(\gamma_{w-1,w}, n) \left[ \frac{1}{1-qQ} \right] + K_{CP} \left[ \frac{t_0}{1-qQ} \right] + K_{CS} \left[ \frac{t_0 q_S}{(1-qQ)(1-q_S)} \right] + K_D \left[ \frac{t_0}{(1-qQ)(1-q_S)} \right] \quad (6.9)$$

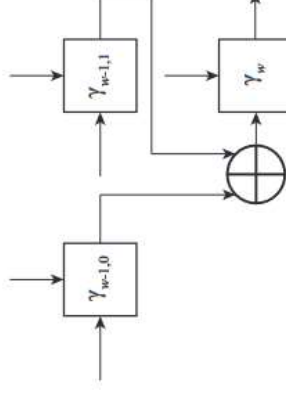
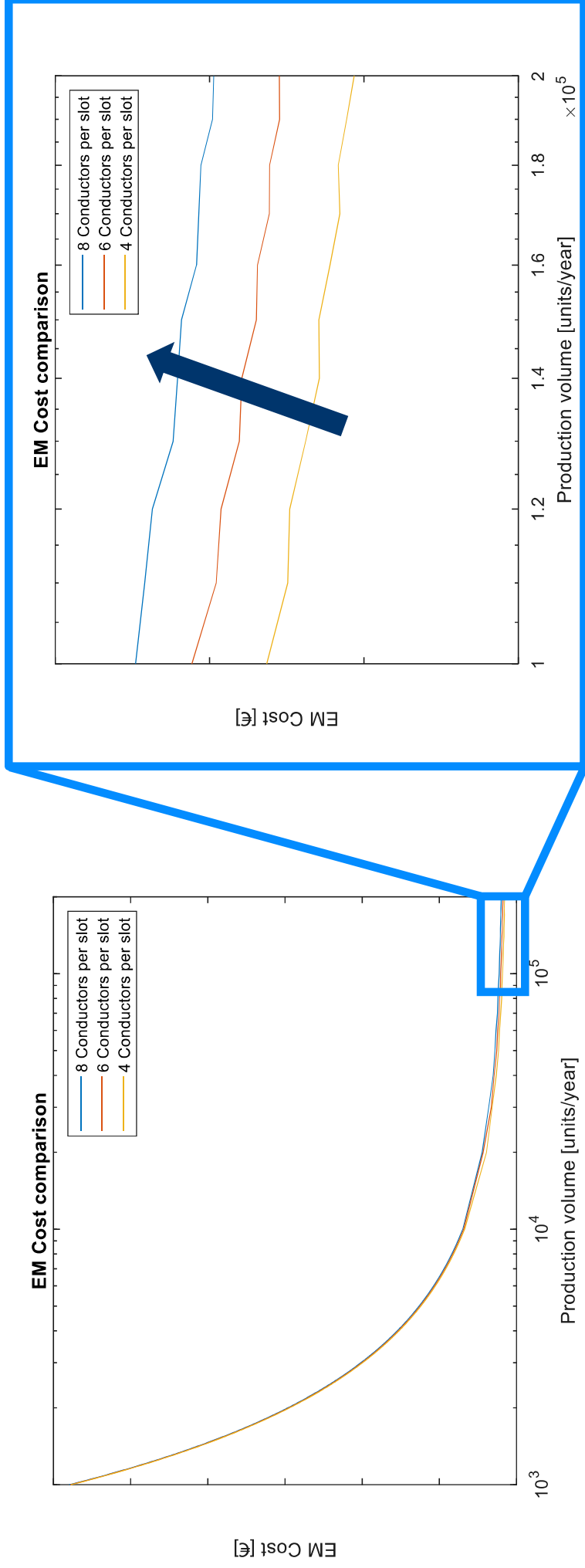


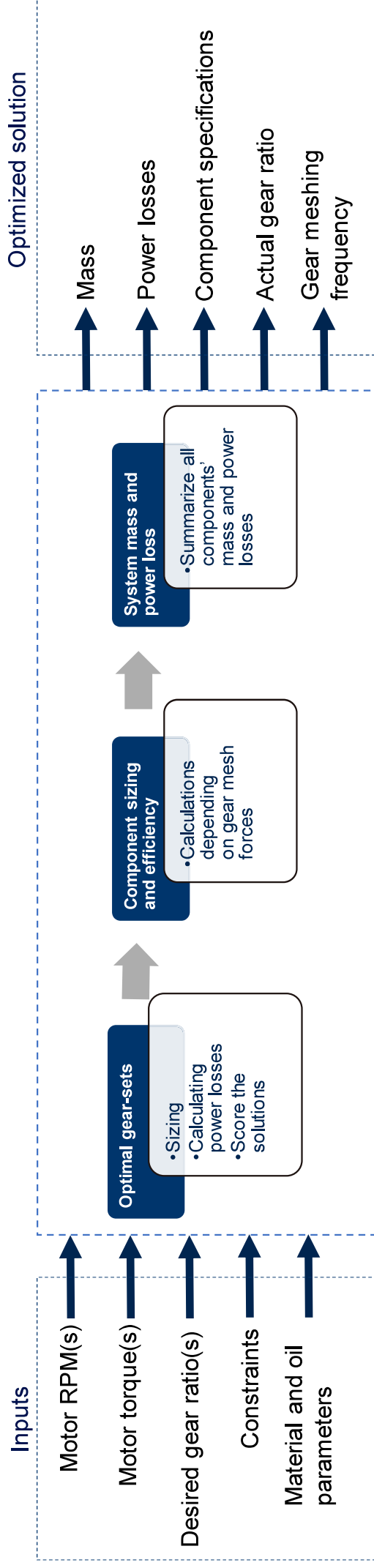
Figure 6.17: Three processes in a system, where there exists a decision between the first two  $\gamma_{w-1,0}$  and  $\gamma_{w-1,1}$ , either of these may be used as materials in  $\gamma_w$ . The symbol  $\oplus$  is exclusive or.

Each process is modeled as described in the table and calculates the added value of each step which then becomes an input for the next.

# EM Engineering cost model – example



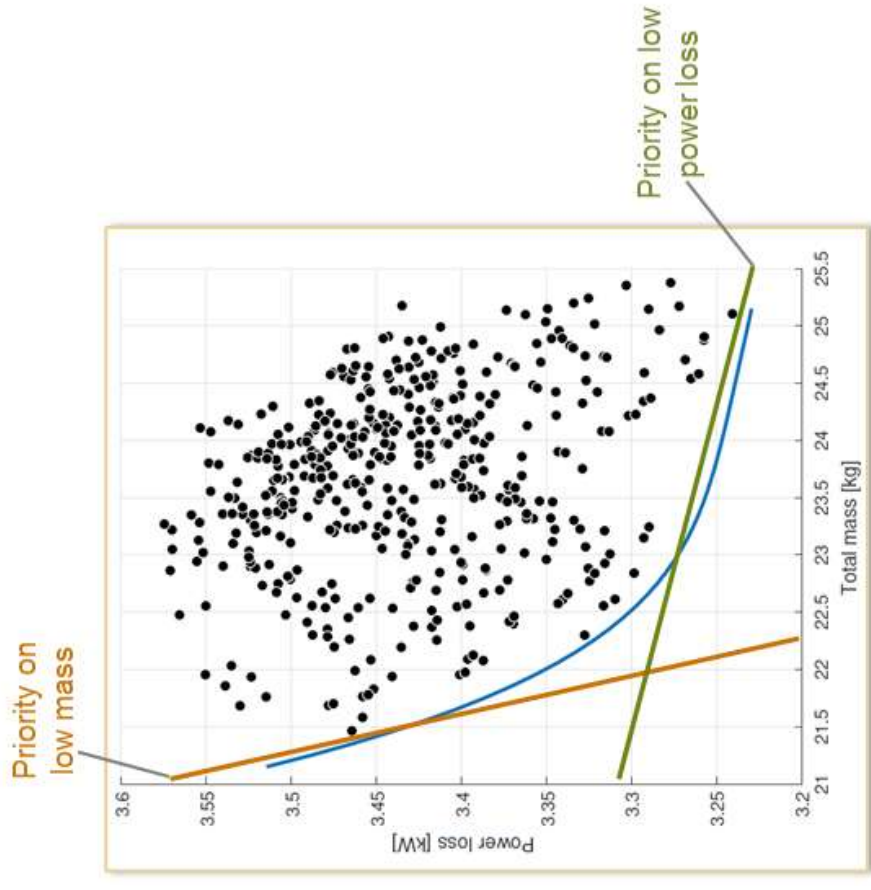
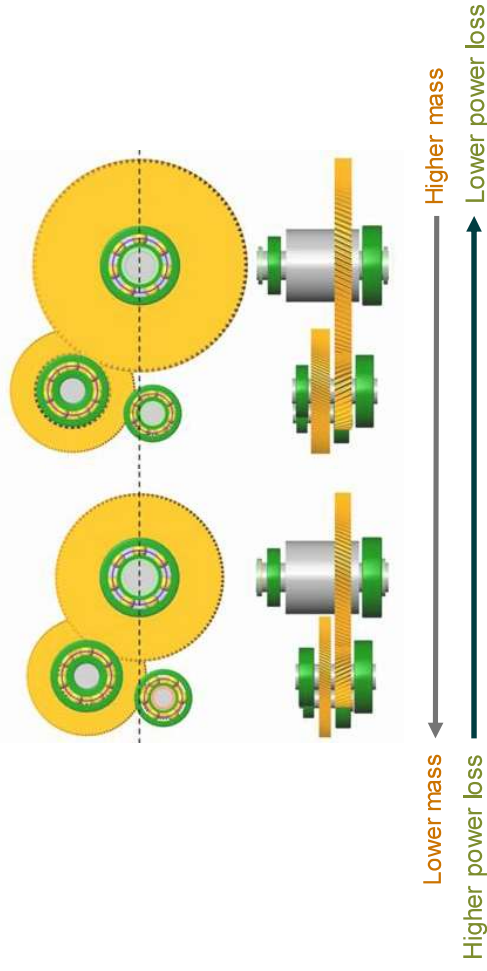
# Transmission sizing model: inner most optimization loop



Transmission components are sized following AGMA standards, and the models have been validated against test data and higher fidelity simulations to ensure the validity of the results

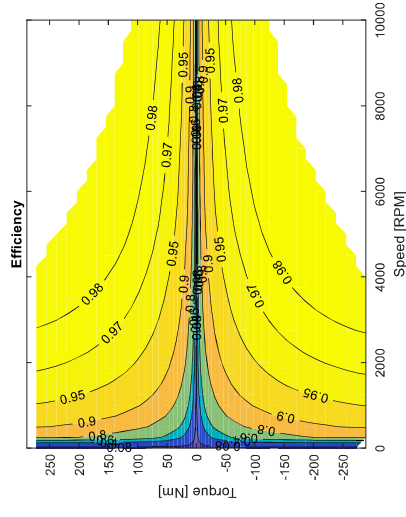
# Transmission sizing model: inner most optimization loop

- Determines what is considered “optimal”





# Inverter sizing procedure



EM voltage, current, power factor  
 Modulation schemes  
 Semiconductor type  
 Packaging type

Identify max. Loss points

Chip area estimation

Thermal properties

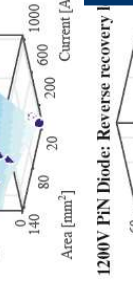
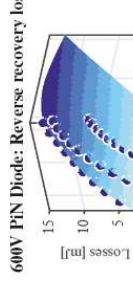
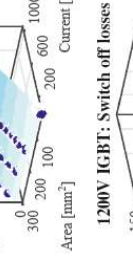
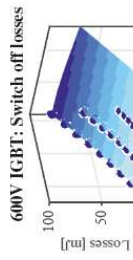
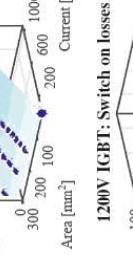
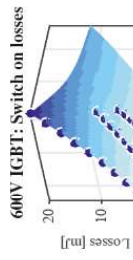
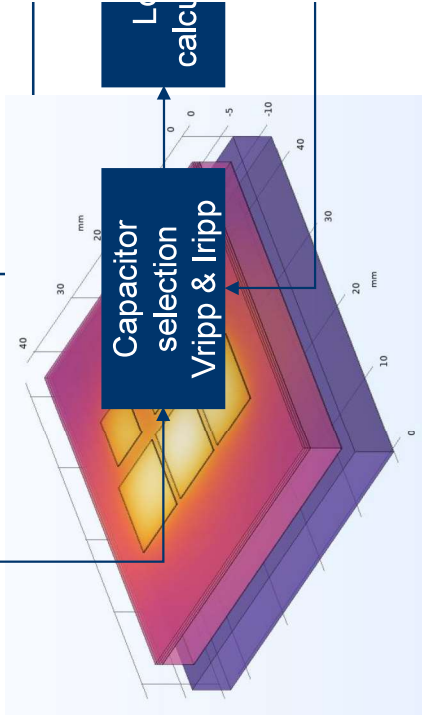
Temperature calculation

Electrical properties

Loss calculation

$T_j \approx T_{max}$

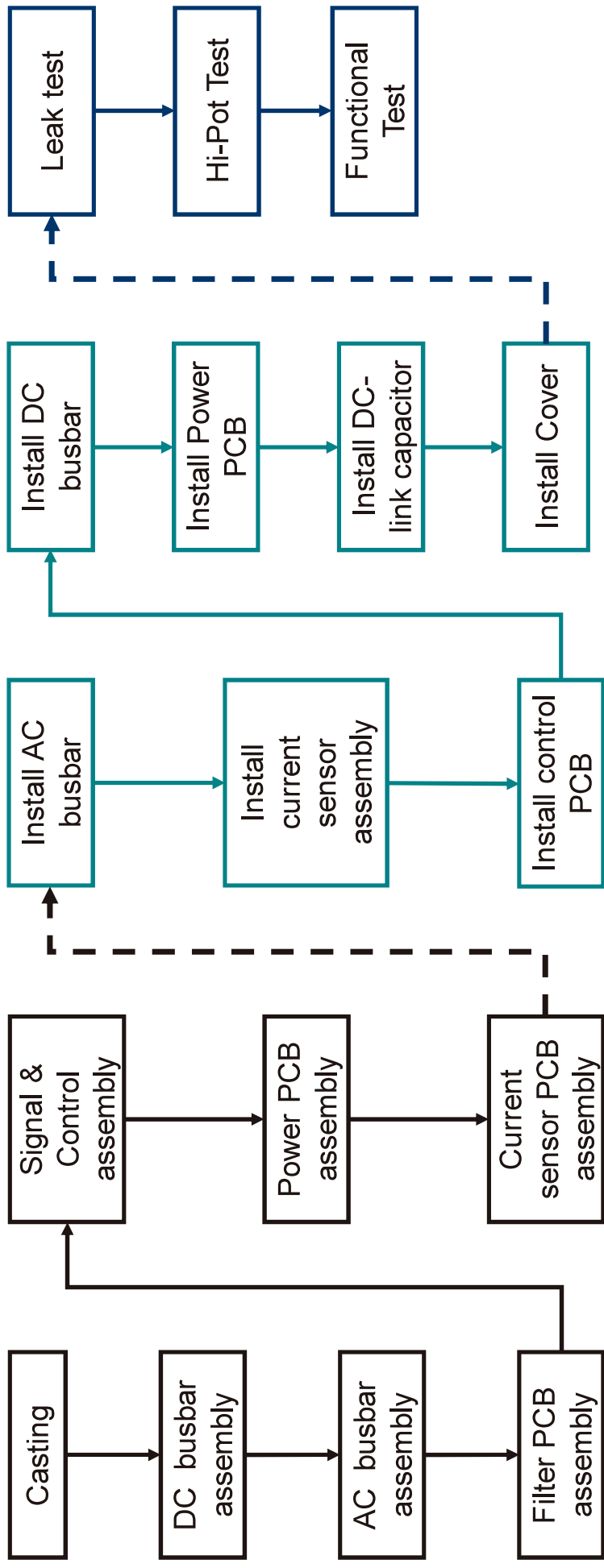
Component specifications



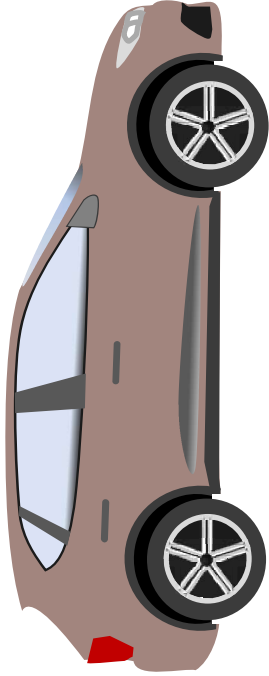
Loss maps  
 Input data for cost model



# Inverter engineering cost model

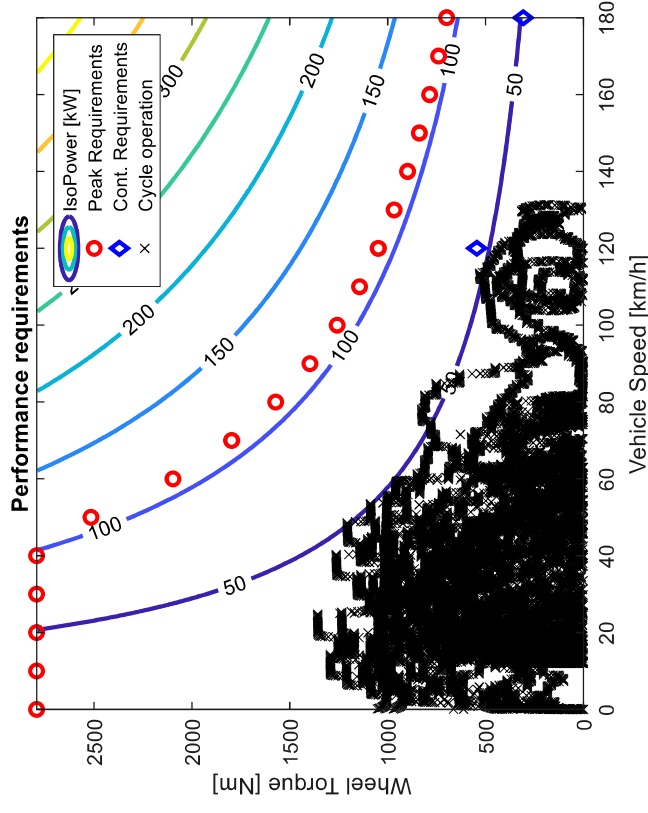


# Application example:

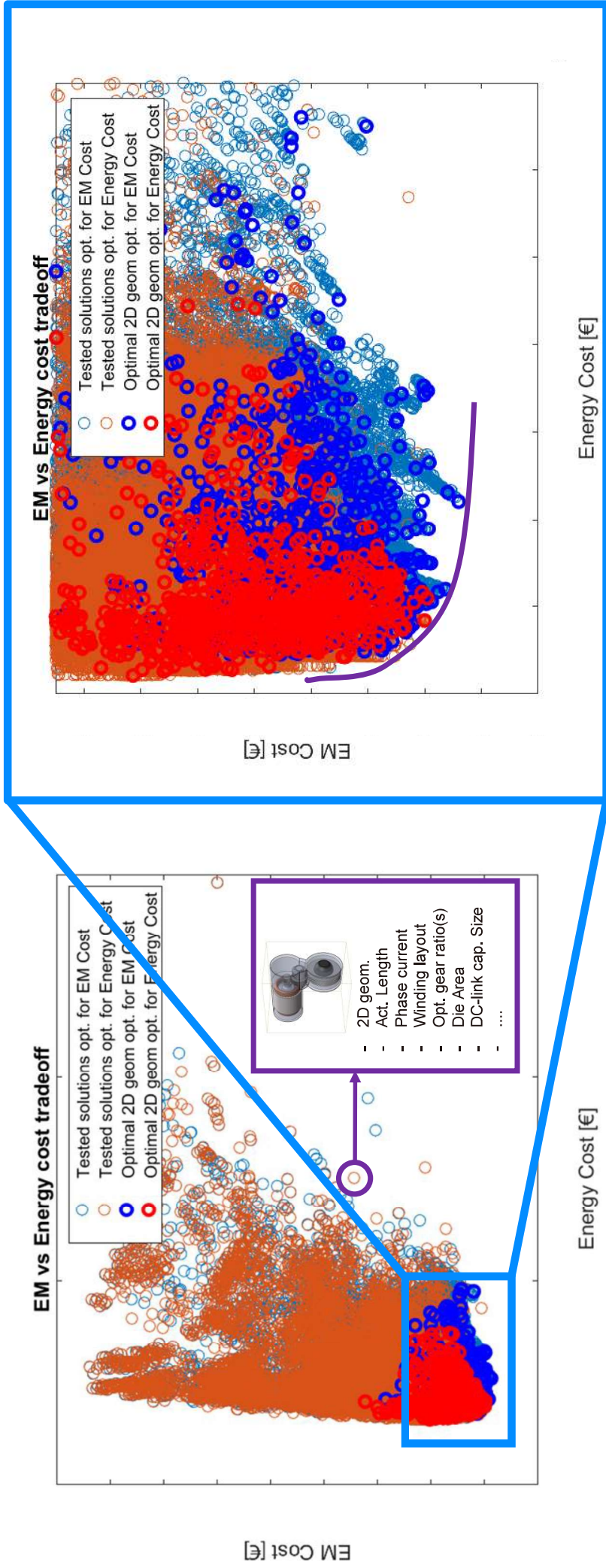


Parameter	Value
Vehicle mass	2000 [kg]
Wheel radius	0.32 [m]
Drag coef.	0.23 [-]
Roll coef.	0.009 [-]
Front. Area	2.22 [m <sup>2</sup> ]

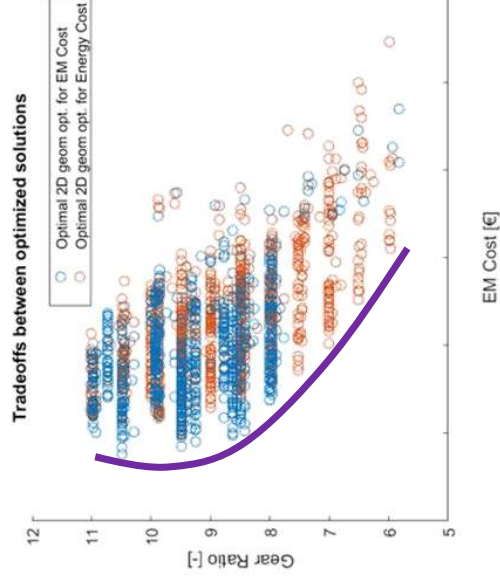
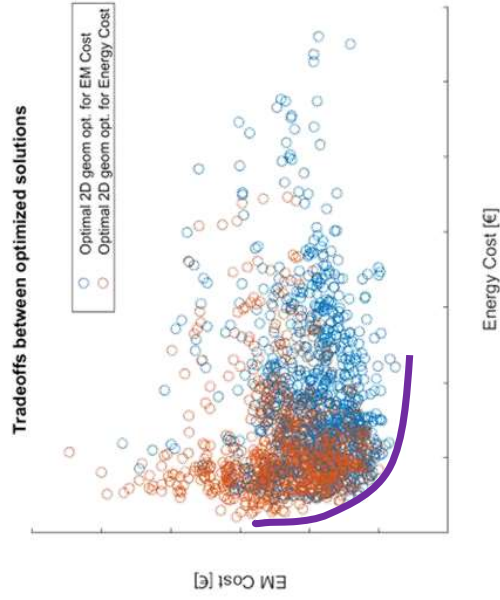
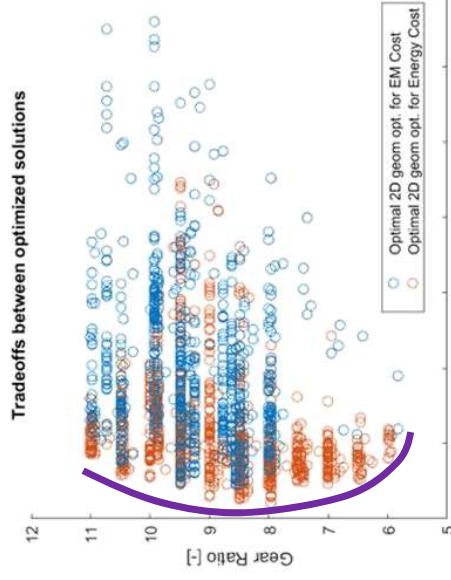
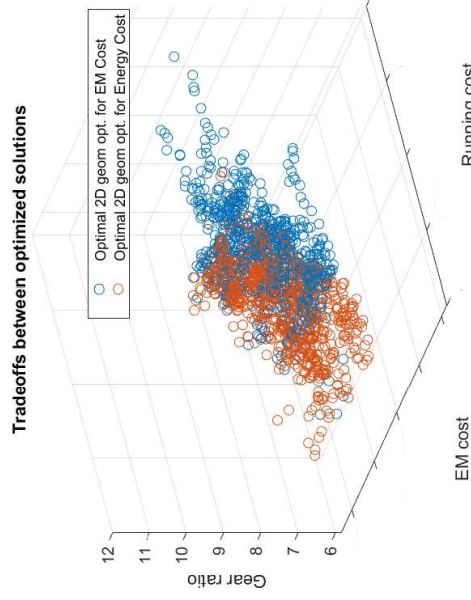
- RWD vehicle
- Initial EM database consisting of ~1000 2D geom.
- Single V-IPMSM, Oil-cooling
- Single speed transmission
- Nominal Vdc – 800V
- Two optimization objectives:
  - EM cost
  - Energy consumption
- Overloading time 60s from 60 deg. C



# Trade-off between energy consumption and EM cost



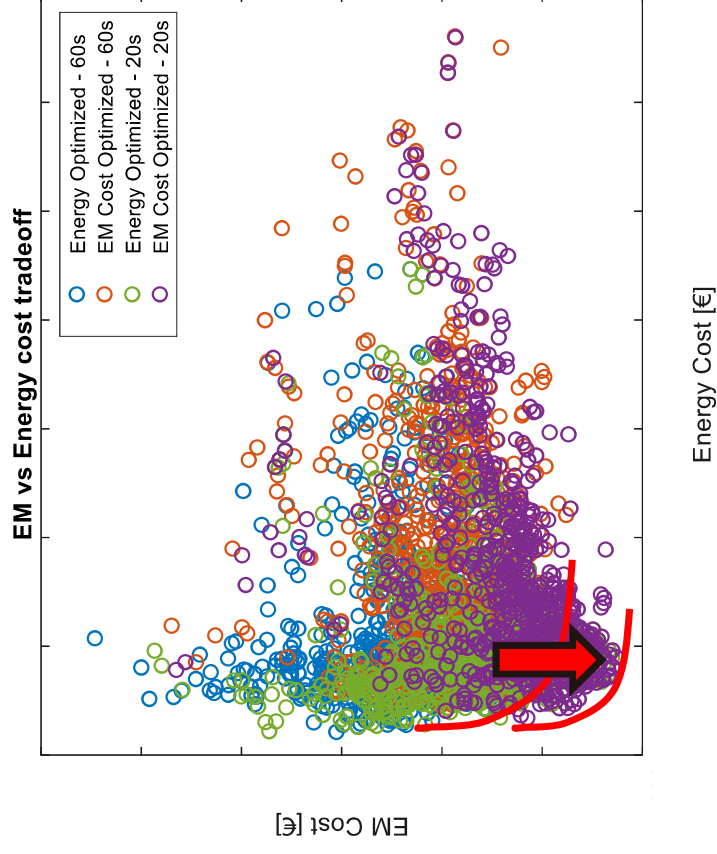
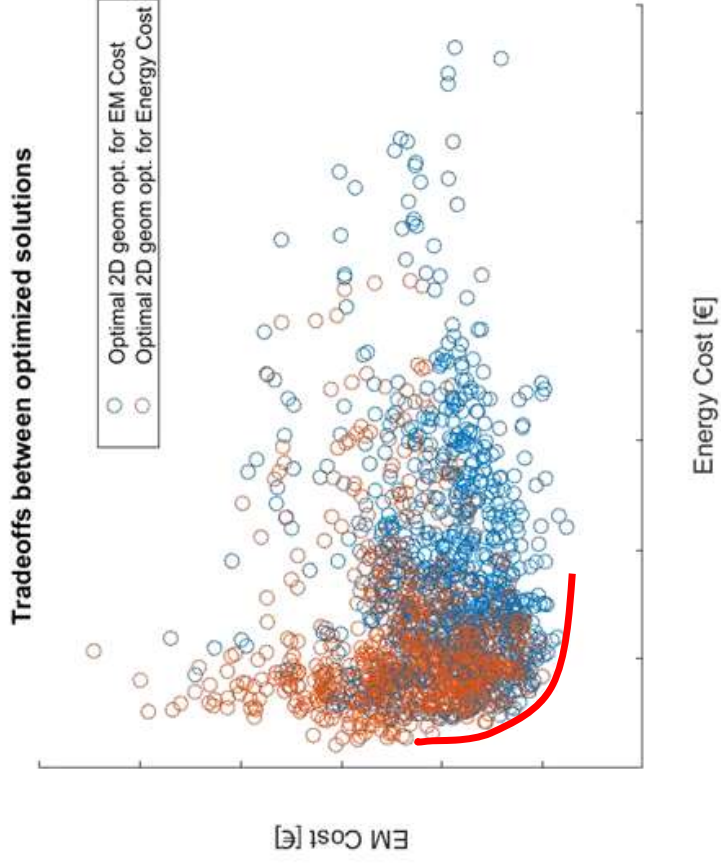
# Analysis of optimal results



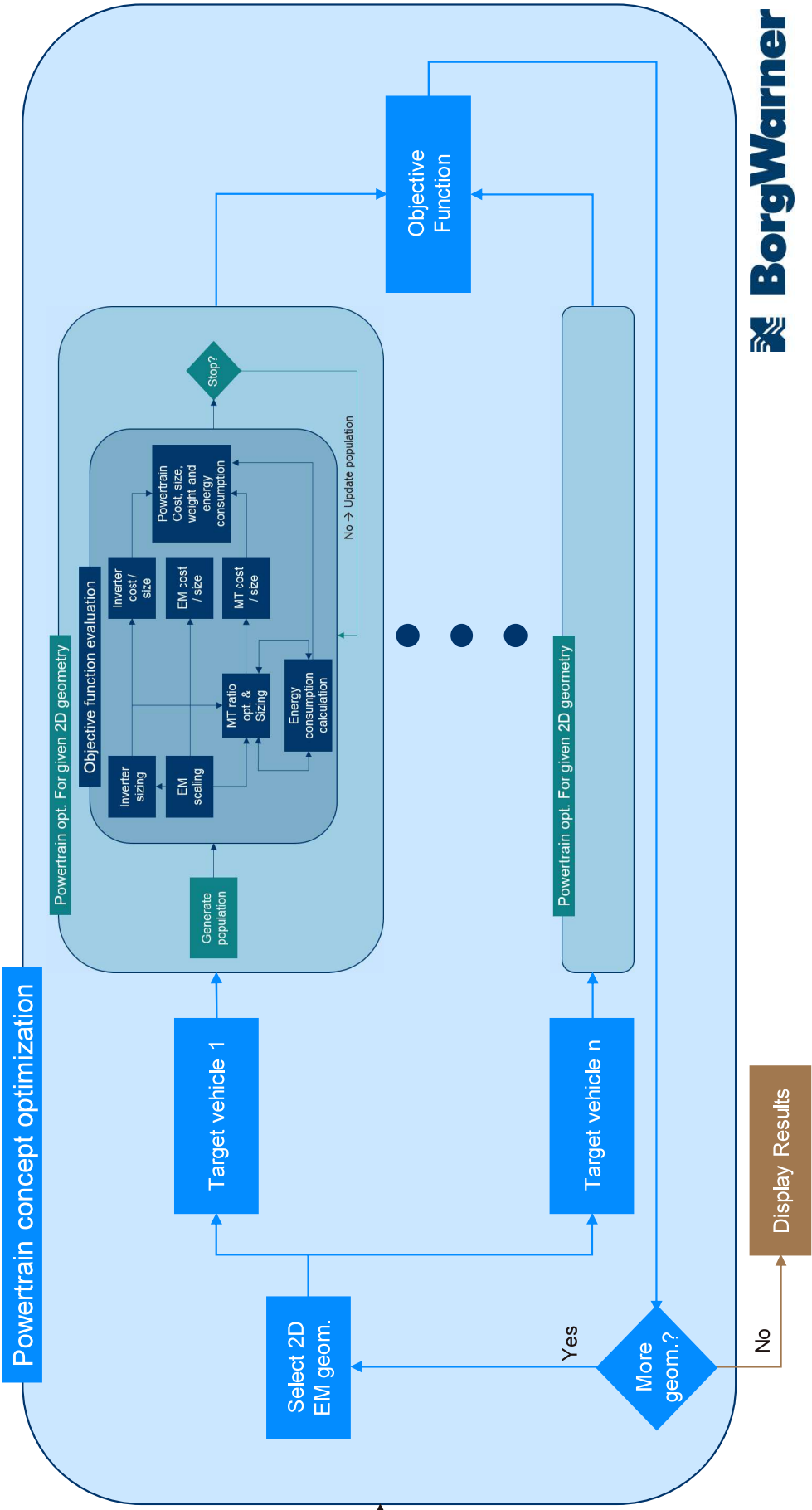
- Clear trade-off between optimization objectives
- For the included geometries, higher transmission ratios reduce EM cost at a slight detriment of energy cost.
- Lower ratios and larger machines operating at lower speeds improve energy consumption.



# Impact of overloading requirements



# Why to stop at the powertrain level? – let's optimize powertrain platforms



- Performance requirements
- Constraints
- Target vehicles
- Drive cycles
- Material definitions
- Operating conditions (V<sub>dc</sub>, T<sub>amb</sub>, T<sub>wind</sub>, ...)

# Conclusions:

- The Concept development phase for electric powertrains can be significantly shortened and the solution space explored in a more efficient way.
- Approach the problem from a system perspective from the beginning
- Develop models that provide a good balance between accuracy and execution time
- Use a mix of expert knowledge and sensitivity analysis to determine which parameters and simplifications can be made
- Detailed cost models are needed to capture tradeoffs between components accurately.
- Tradeoffs between objectives are better understood when analysed from a system perspective.
- Often, suboptimal components lead to optimal systems!

# Thank you for your attention!

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Special thanks to:

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Eric Bourniche and Aleksandar  
Mateski.



**BorgWarner**