

# **LCA**

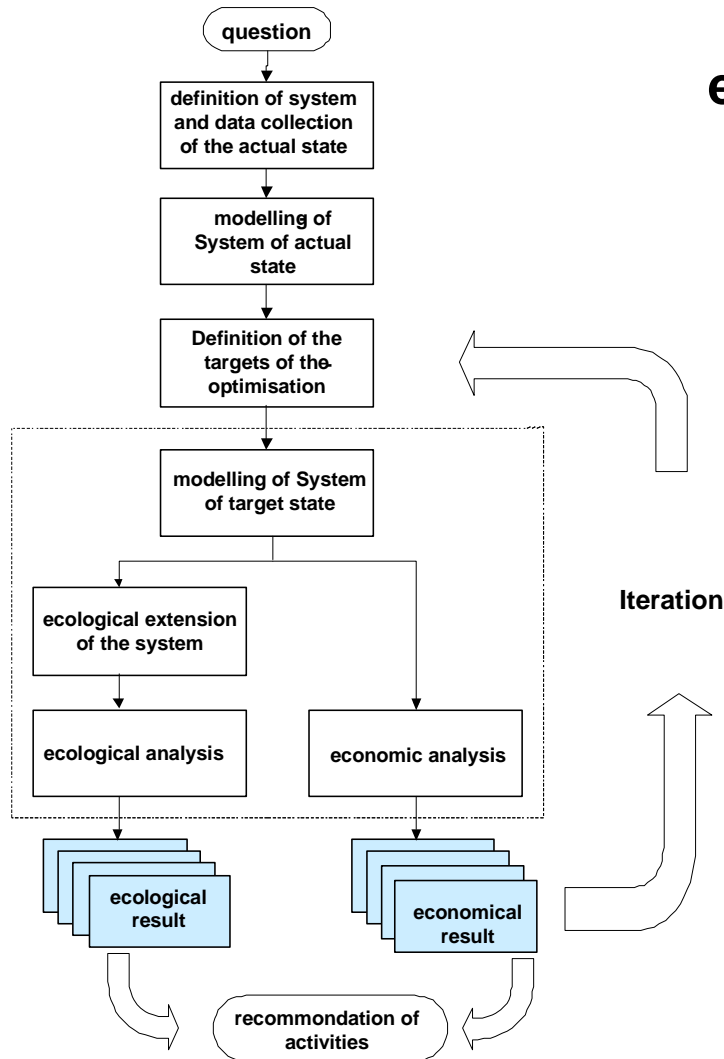
## **for Optimization**

### **of electroplating SME's**

## **Outline of the presentation**

1. Methodology of ecological plant optimization - (EPO)
2. Participants of the project
3. Results
4. Benefit of the projects

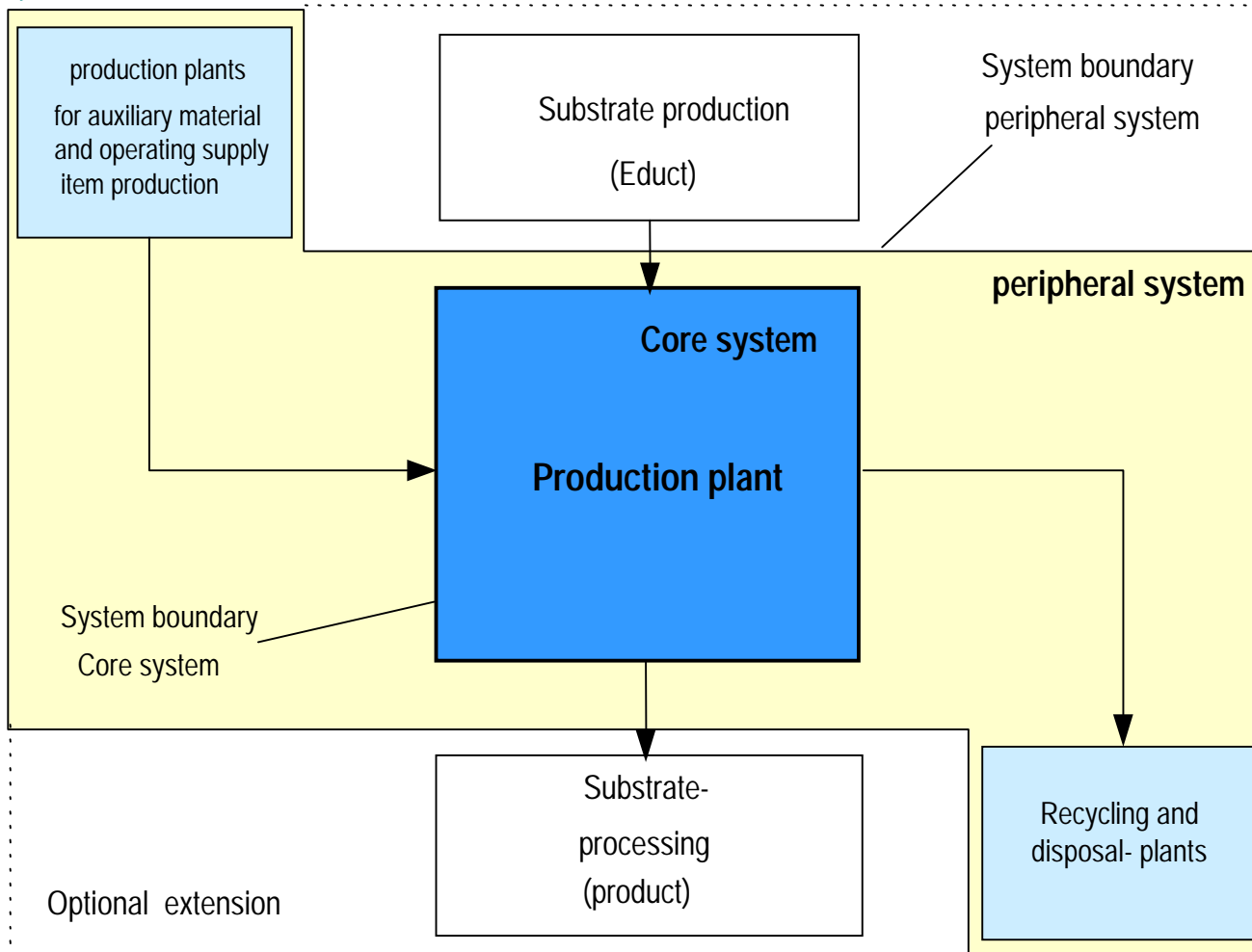
# ecological plant optimisation - EPO -



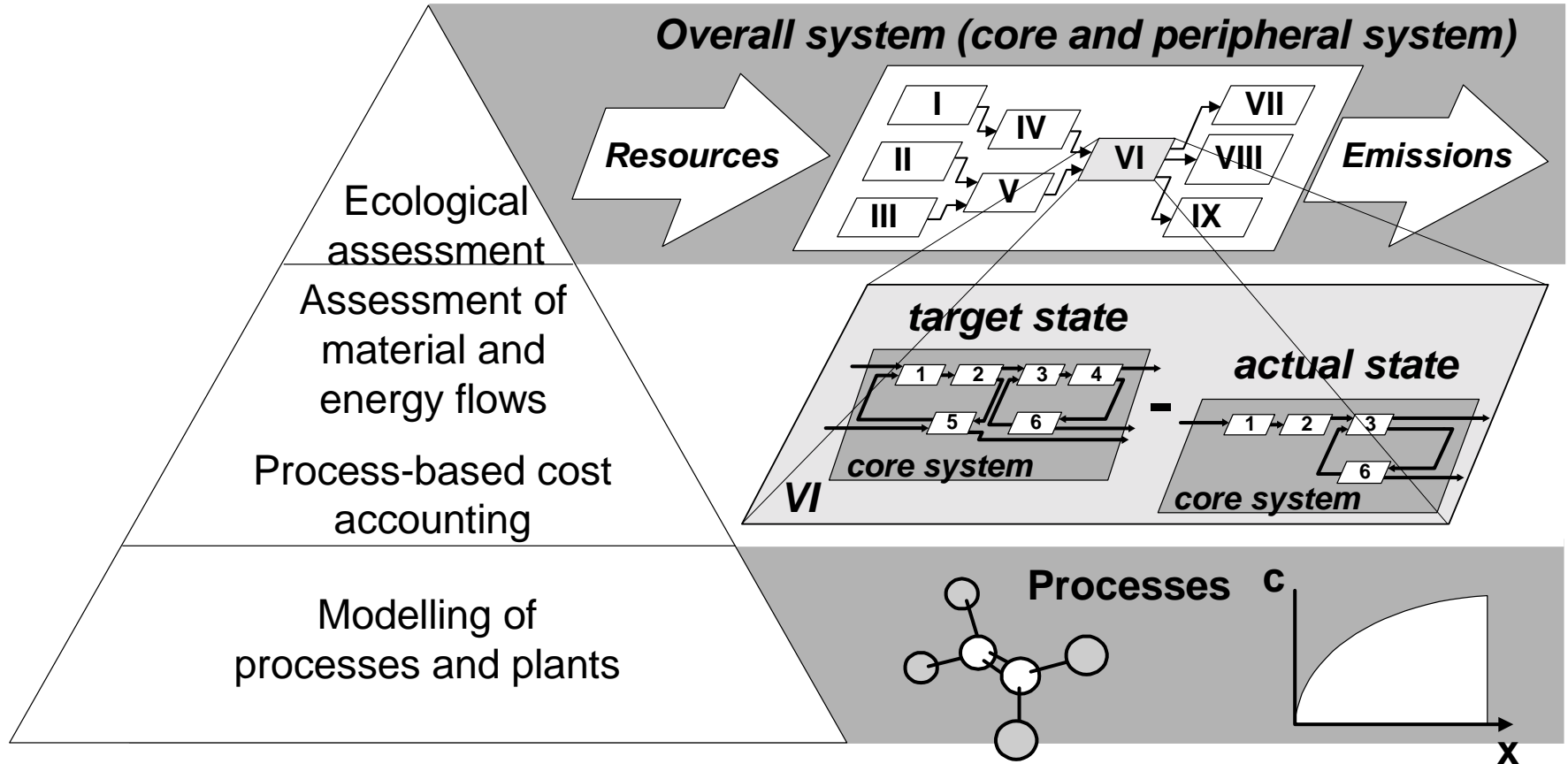
Iterative procedure through  
systematical Material - and energy -  
flow modelling to:

- technological analysis
- economic analysis
- ecological analysis  
of plant optimisation.

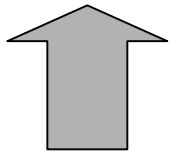
# System view of the EPO



Separation of  
core system  
and peripheral  
system

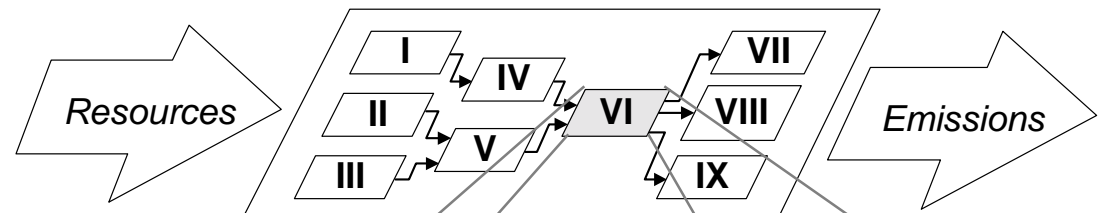


Changing  
elementary  
flows

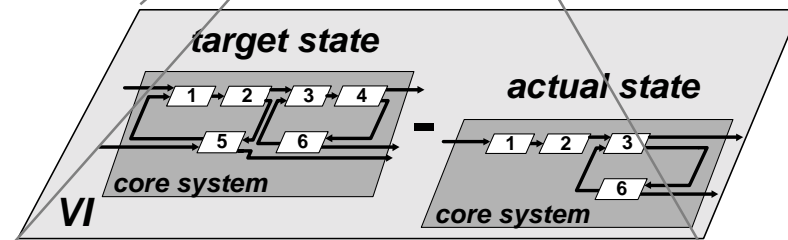


Difference of  
Mass balances

### Overall system (core & peripheral system)




### Core systems



## Impact categories

- Resources
- Air acidification
- Depletion of ozone layer
- Eutrophication
- Aquatic ecotoxicity
- Human toxicity
- Green house effect
- Photochemical oxidants



Assessment method  
based on German UBA  
method

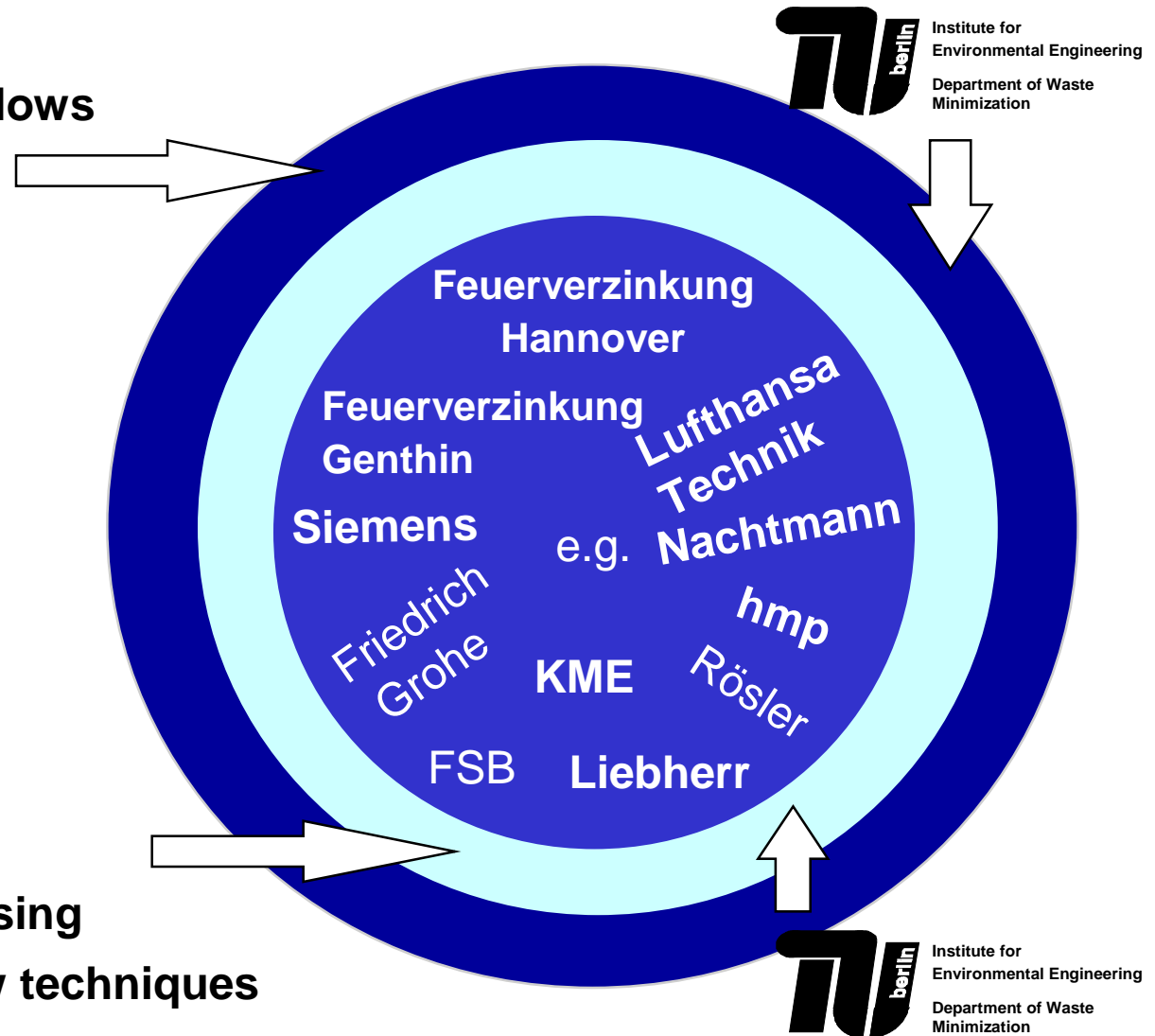
Discussion of results in the society  
needs to have an assessment method  
accepted by the society



**Closed loop material flows  
for surface  
treatment processes**

**About 40  
companies  
involved**

**Conversion of existing  
electroplating plants using  
optimized material flow techniques**



## analysed plants

- repairing- resp. Component electroplating in aircraft ind.
- electroplating for decorative surfaces
- electroplated deplating
- acid polishing of glass
- producing of printed circuit boards
- anodisation of alumina
- electroplating of plastics
- hot dip galvanizing
- vibratory finishing

- Waste water treatment
- Anodisation of alumina incl. nanofiltration, vaporization and recycling
- alkaline rinsing
- etching (pickling)

- Accelerate
- Cadmium-recycling
- Electroless nickel plating
- Chromate-detoxification
- Alodine
- Chromium sulphuric acid etching
- Cyanide- detoxification
- pickling
- E0-pickle; E6-pickle
- Electrolytical degreasing
- Electrolytical metal-extraction (Cu, Ni, Ag, Zn)
- degreasing

## processes

- Softend water process
- Demetalization
- Demetalization with sulfate sludge separation
- Epal-pickle
- External Recycling of Al-etching waste
- Dyeing of alumina
- Hot dip galvanizing
- Fluxing
- Glinting conventional and with vaporation and recycling
- Glinting nickle plating
- Vibratory finishing
- Hard chrome plating
- Ion exchanger circuit installation
- Circuit rinsing
- PCB-slightly etching with exchange, process heating and regeneration
- PCB etching-inner layer
- Matt nickle plating
- Sodumpersulfate etching with NaPS-Regeneration
- Neutralisation/ precipitation
- quality rinsing
- Nitric acid etching of copper
- Hydrochloric acid etching
- Acid rinsing
- Acid polishing
- Sulphuric acid etching of copper
- Sealing and nickle sealing
- rinsing
- Rinsing water cascade
- Thermal concentration
- drying
- Reverse osmose
- Chromium plating
- Copper plating
- Nickle plating
- electrosilvering
- Zinc plating
- Tin plating
- Full desalination of water
- Inside rinsing

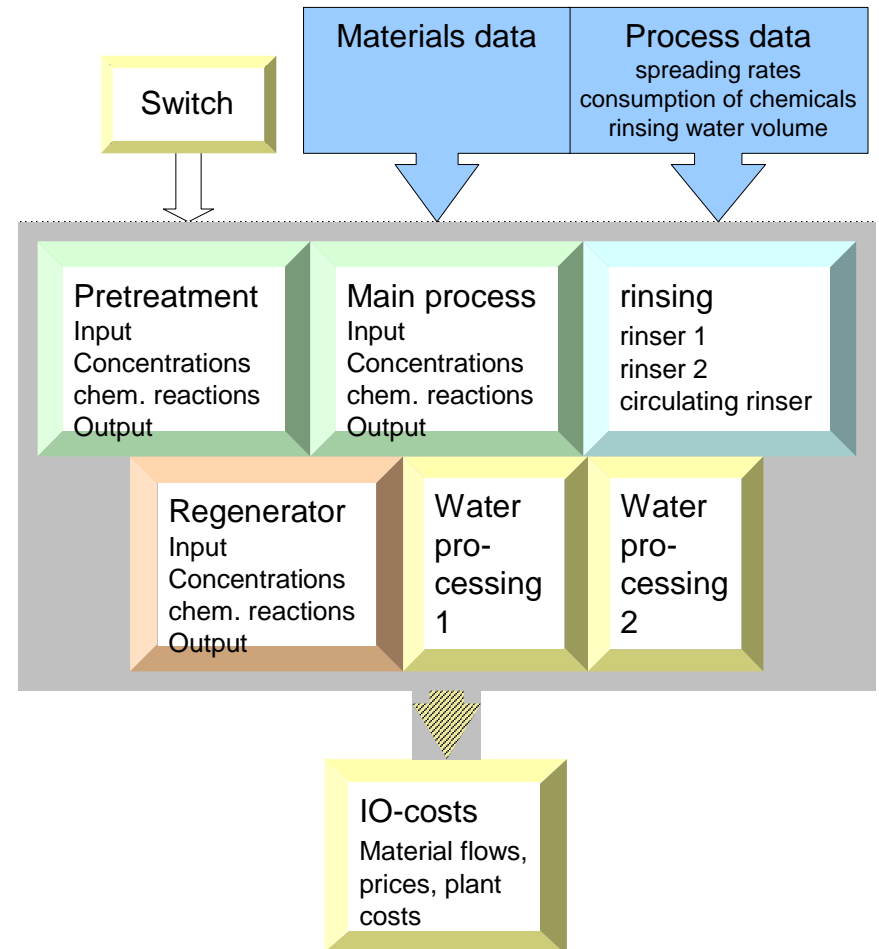
All optimised production plants have decreasing  
environmental impacts and  
Cost savings

but

Not every target and actual state are  
comparable

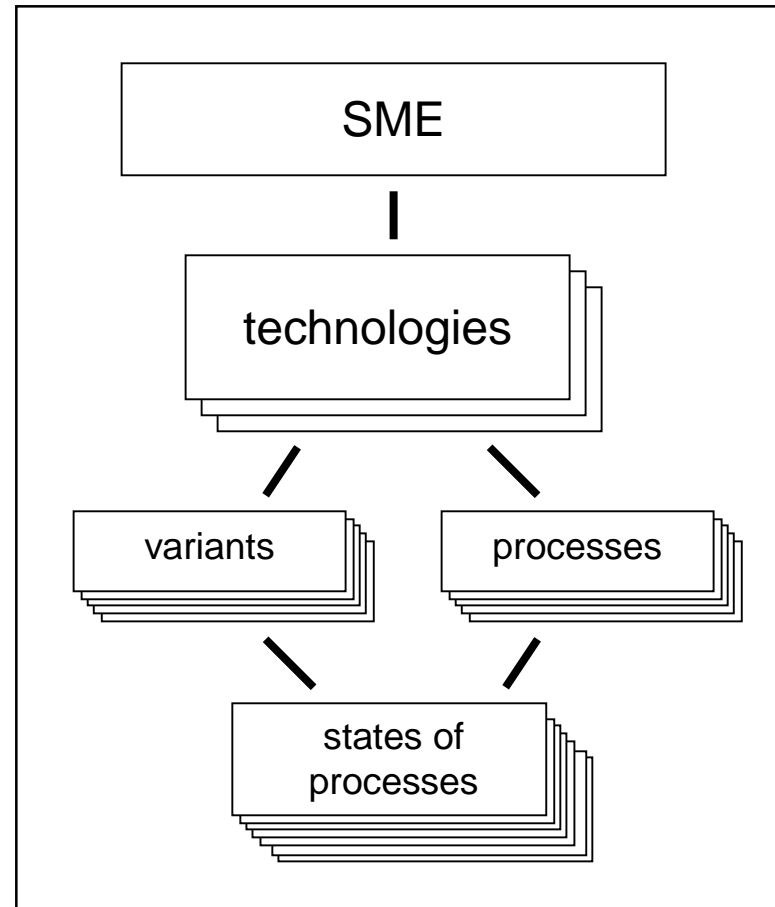
### Modeling of a process: EXCEL workbook

- Pool of Excel-Models (about 900) of electroplating processes
- Central Excel-Workbook supporting the modelling of core systems



Knowledge database with the qualitative results of the research projects „Optimizing of electroplating SME’s“

→ providing information for all analysed, modeled and optimized processes and process-chains



structure of the database for one SME

- The development of the EPO-Method was successful
- The plants were successfully optimised (environmentally and economical)
- Several Excel-Models are ready for use
- For new users there is a Database for the first steps of an EPO

Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe GmbH

Institute for technical chemistry

Department of Technology-Induced Material flow  
(ITC-ZTS)

Dr.-Ing. Robert Ackermann

P.O.box 3640

D-76021 Karlsruhe

Phone: +49 7247 82 2712

Fax: +49 7247 82 6715

e-mail: [Robert.Ackermann@itc-zts.fzk.de](mailto:Robert.Ackermann@itc-zts.fzk.de)