

# Subject/Title

Comparative **digital design** strategies for structural systems of mid-rise building:

... in the view of building as:

**materials stock** from expert environmental impact assessment.

- Maryam Jafari

Mid-rise building : 50 -200 m height

### Considered structural systems are:

- shear wall
- Frame system (braced frame, rigid frame)
- outrigger and belt
- Tube system (framed tube, braced tube, tube in tube)
- diagrid, space truss
- exoskeleton
- mushroom-slabs systems

### Considered materials are:

- Timber: [massive, GL, CLT]
- Concrete: [cast-in-situ, prefab, printed, formwork printed, HRFRC]
- steel
- combined materials of various grades / strength classes.

Background

Research  
objectives

State of the  
art

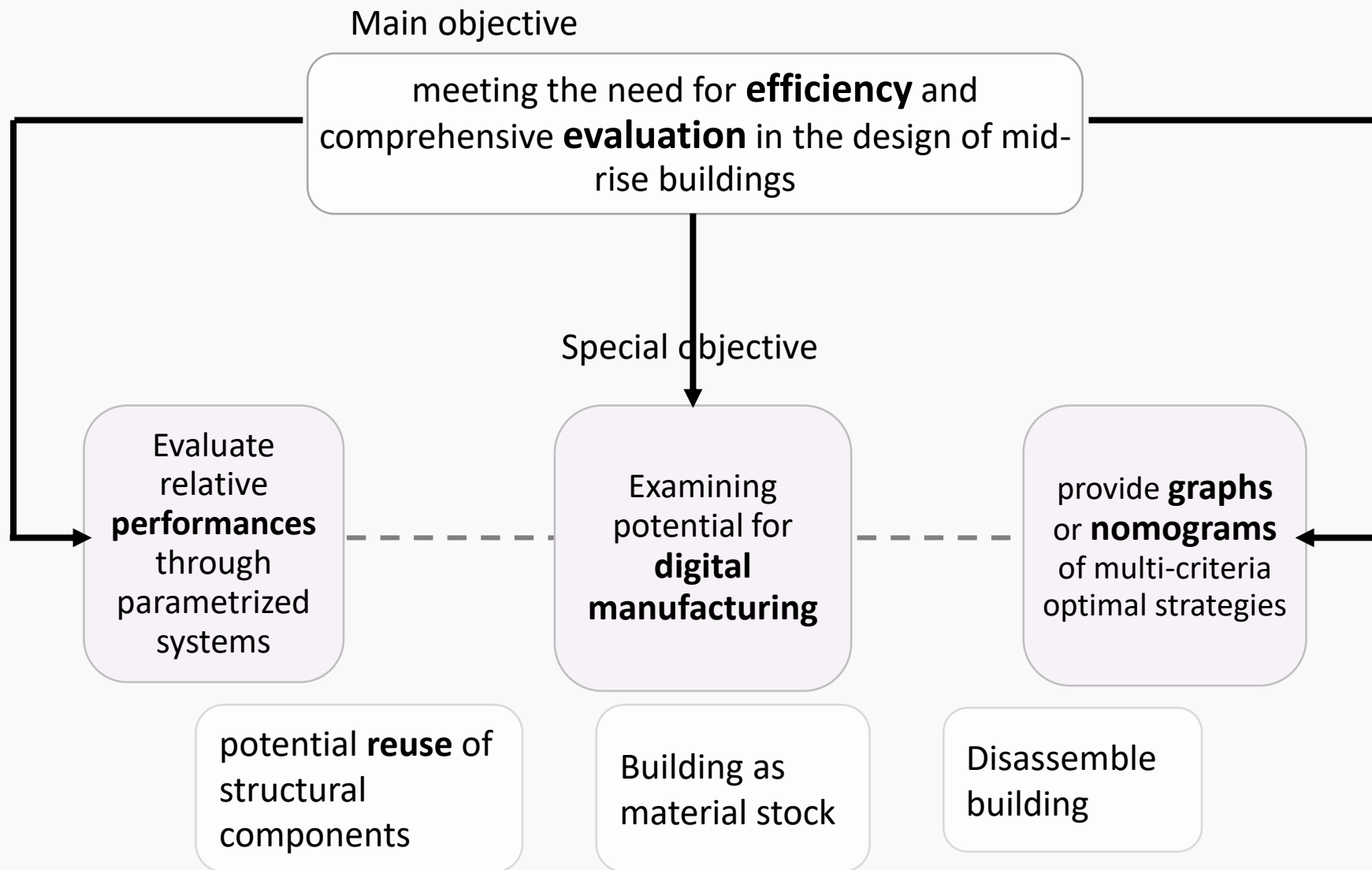
Research  
phases

Work plan

Inputs

Environmen  
tal  
databases

LCA  
software



# Background

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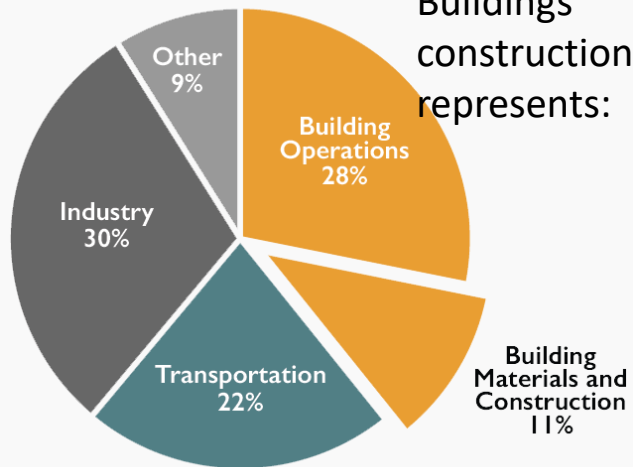
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Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions by Sector

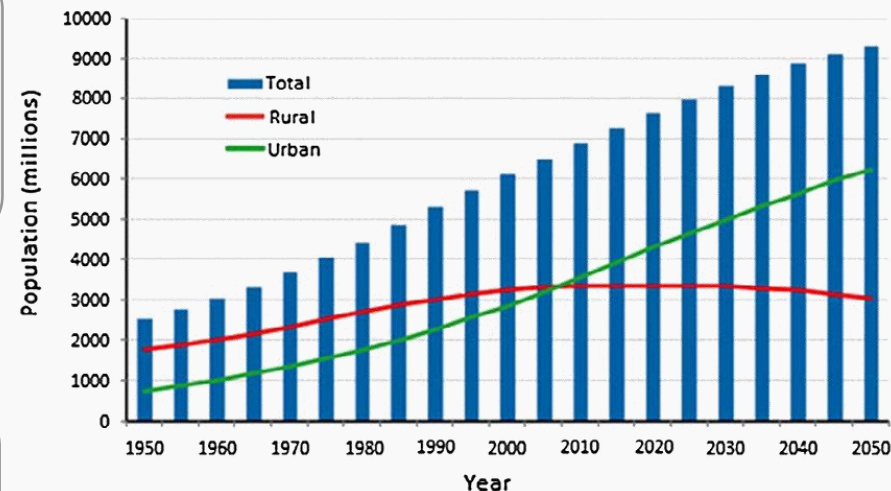


Buildings construction represents:

- **11%** of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (energy sector)
- **6%** of energy consumption

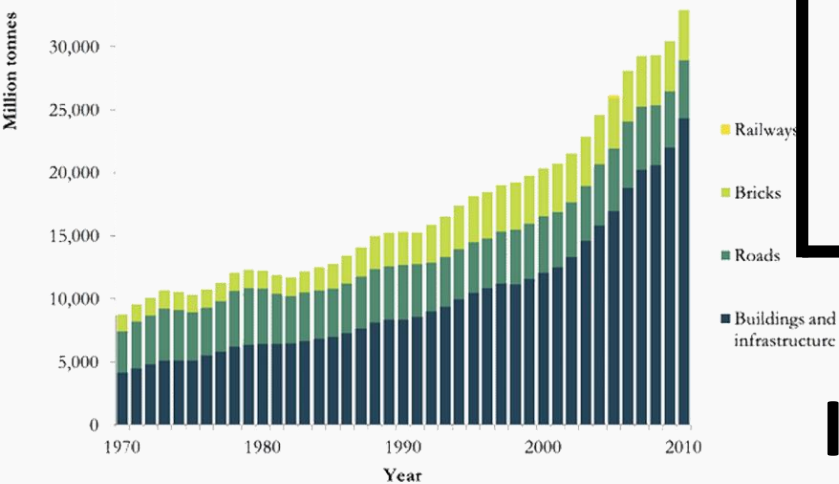
**+ Population growth**

9.7 billion in 2050  
Urbanization rate: 66% in 2050



**40%** of extracted resources

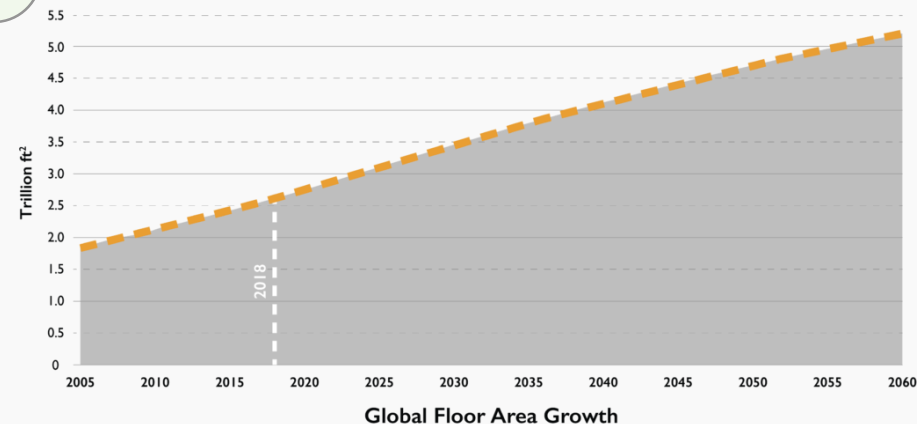
Global building stock:  
**double by 2060**



**59.57–66.73%** of building's total embodied energy

structure accounts:

**Impact < > Needs**



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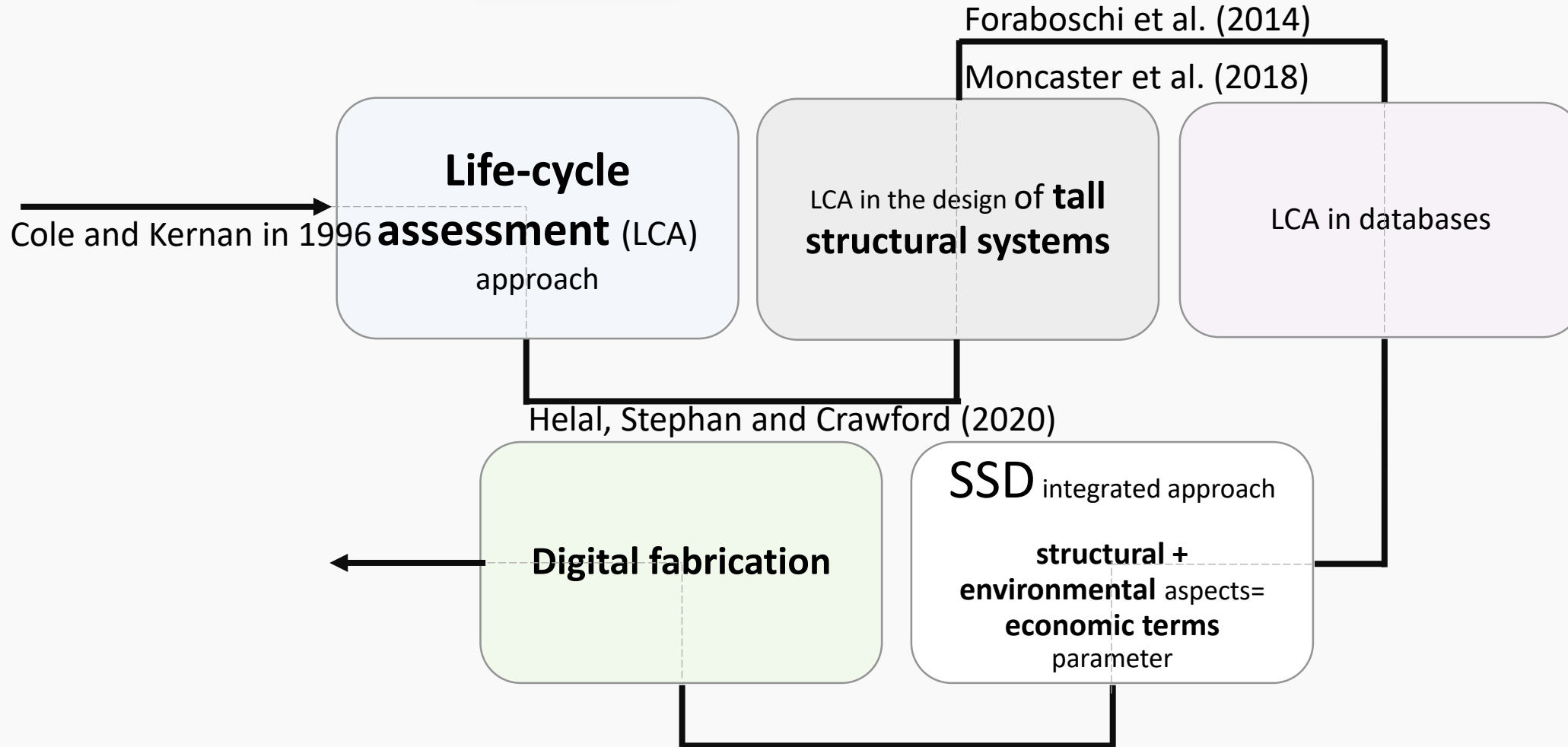
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- **Literature review**

### Expected Result

**State of the art** for structural design, structural efficiency, economy, and environmental behavior in middle-rise buildings

- **modelling strategies and assessment approaches**

### Expected Result

Selecting structural assessment and LCA approach & parameters. Extracting useful data from the associated environmental database.

- **Parametric and interactive combined simulations**

### Expected Result

Assembling **parametric models** and implementing simulations.  
Providing **charts** demonstrating most efficient and greener strategies.

- **sorting structural strategies**

### Expected Result

Questioning the positive influence of digital fabrication on **environmental indicators**.  
Testing the transfer of selected parametric models to numerical definition for CNC.

- **Scientific reporting**

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**WP0**

- 0. Constructive scenarios (input)

**WP1:**

- 1.1. WP.1. Literature input.

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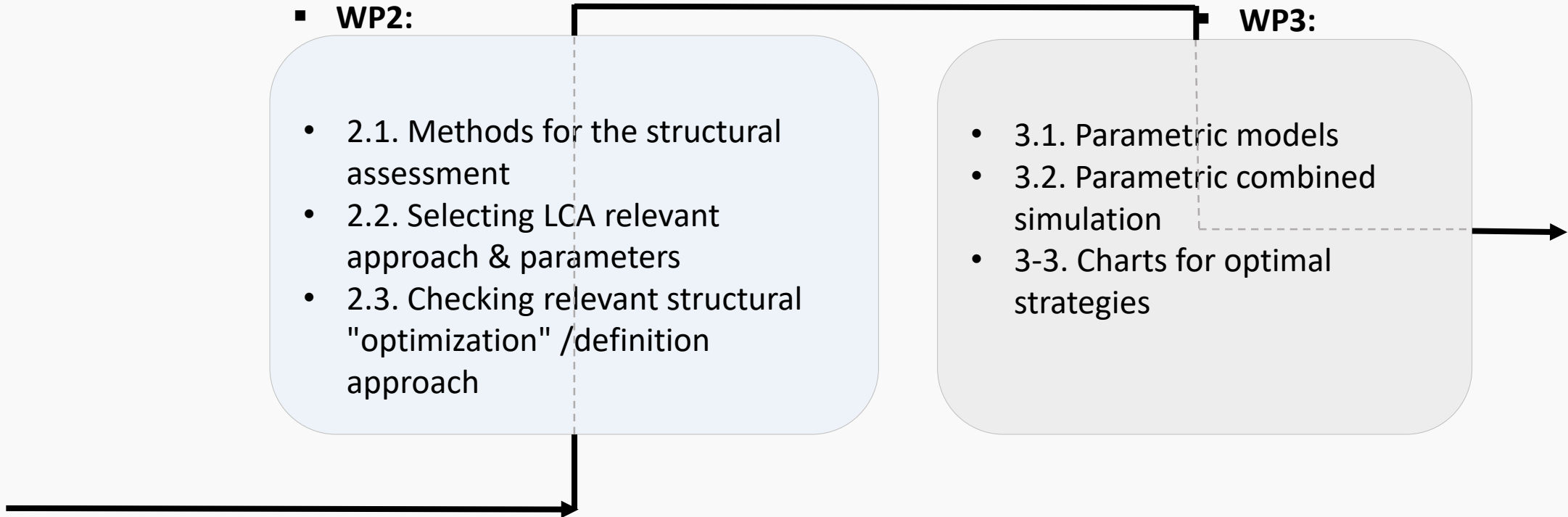
LCA  
software

▪ **WP2:**

- 2.1. Methods for the structural assessment
- 2.2. Selecting LCA relevant approach & parameters
- 2.3. Checking relevant structural "optimization" /definition approach

▪ **WP3:**

- 3.1. Parametric models
- 3.2. Parametric combined simulation
- 3-3. Charts for optimal strategies



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**WP4:**

- 4-0. structural strategies with respect to the numerical potential
- Digital modelling and testing for CNC
- 4.2. real scale prefabricated nodes/structural components
- 4-3. Digital fabrication and optional testing

**WP5:**

- 5 Scientific reporting
- 5.1. Intermediate results on green structural strategies.
- 5.2. Final reporting
- 5.3. Possible benefits of adapting the (SSD) method

Background

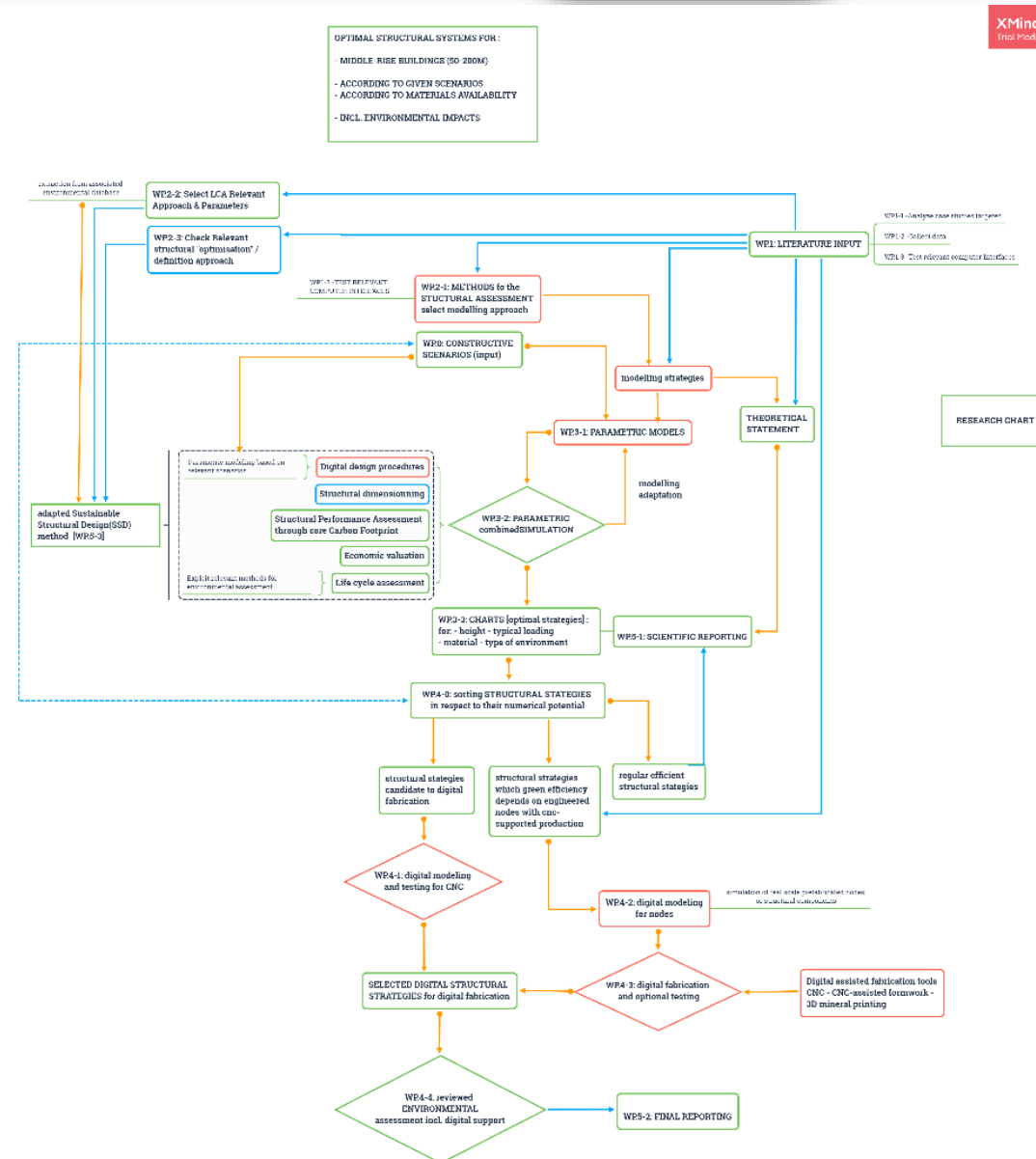
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## Research chart



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| Stage   | Description                                                 | 2021-2022 |     |     |      | 2022-2023 |     |     |      | 2023-2024 |     |     |      | 2024-2025 |     |     |      |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----|------|-----------|-----|-----|------|-----------|-----|-----|------|-----------|-----|-----|------|
|         |                                                             | 1-3       | 4-6 | 7-9 | 9-12 | 1-3       | 4-6 | 7-9 | 9-12 | 1-3       | 4-6 | 7-9 | 9-12 | 1-3       | 4-6 | 7-9 | 9-12 |
| WP.1    | LITERATURE INPUT                                            |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.2.1  | METHODS for the STUCTURAL ASSESSMENT                        |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP. 2.2 | Select LCA Relevant Approach & Parameters                   |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.2.3  | Check Relevant structural "optimization" /definition method |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.3.1  | PARAMETRIC MODELS                                           |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.3.2  | PARAMETRIC combined SIMULATION                              |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.3.3  | CHARTS                                                      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.4.0  | STRUCTURAL STRATEGIES for CNC fabrication                   |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.4.1  | Digital modelling and testing for CNC                       |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.4.2  | Digital modelling for nodes                                 |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.4.3  | Digital fabrication and optional testing                    |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.4.4  | Reviewed ENVIRONMENTAL assessment incl. digital support     |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.5.1  | SCIENTIFIC REPORTING                                        |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.5.2  | FINAL REPORTING                                             |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |
| WP.5.3  | Sustainable Structural Design(SSD) method                   |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |           |     |     |      |



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### LCA database

- Ecoinvent database
- ICE database
- Sphera Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) Database
- EDIBATEC
- Epic: hybrid LCA assessment
- Inies

### Sustainability certificates

- LEED: American and Canadian sustainability certification
- BREEAM: British sustainability certificate
- CASBEE: Asian sustainability certificate
- DGNB: German sustainability certificate
- Green Star: Australian Sustainability Certificate
- HQE: French sustainability certificate
- LENOZ: Luxembourg sustainability certificate
- Environmental label wood from here
- BNB: Evaluation system for sustainable building for federal buildings

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### Standards

- EN 15804:2012+A1:2013(MAIN)
- BS EN 15804:2012+A2:2019
- ISO 14040:2006/AMD 1:2020
- RICS professional standards and guidance
- LPCB standards and certification

### LCA deceleration

- EPD
- FDES

### Software for LCA

Totem, SimaPro, GaBi, Air.e LCA, OpenLCA, Umberto, One Click LCA, Trayak, eBalance, EIME, Ecodesign Studio, Carbmee, TEAM 5.2, iPoint Compliance Agent LCA Module, LifeCycle Tracker, Aveny LCA 2, eToolLCD, Granta Design Solutions, EcodEx, EarthSmart, Air.e HdC, ECODESIGN+, Instant LCA Packaging, PackageSmart, Bilan Produit, CCaLC, Eco-Bat, Pleiades ACV, CO2Print Modeler, LCA Calculator, LCA4Waste ([the-ecoinvent-association/software-tools/](http://the-ecoinvent-association/software-tools/), n.d.)

In this project, the main purpose is:

- To browse systems and materials to find **optimal systems** based on different parameters.
- To make synthesis by drawing **charts** (optimal strategies) for height, typical loading, material, type of environment.
- To make a comparison between using or not using **digital fabrication**.

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Thank you for your consideration