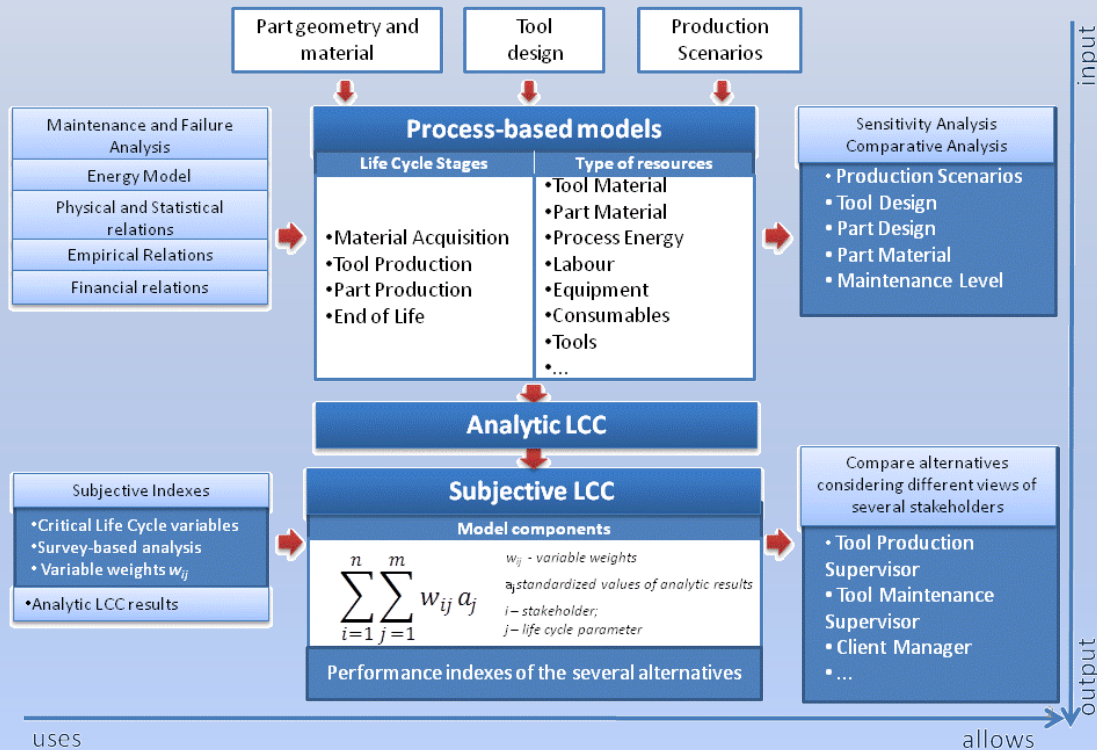


# LIFE CYCLE APPROACH TO SUPPORT TOOLING DESIGN DECISIONS

The design and production of tools is a time consuming, technically difficult and expensive activity. Moreover, tool design choices highly affect the efficiency of the final parts manufacturing process in which they are used. Sometimes the least expensive tool does not lead to the least resource demand part production. It is then necessary to shift the paradigm from the cost of the tool as the main decision factor to the tool life cycle cost and even to other aspects not included in conventional costing. In this context, this research presents a new methodology to approach decision making in tooling design.



- ✓ The life cycle scope is not only the part, but also the tool life cycle
- ✓ Not only the conventional costs are captured, but also more unattainable aspects such as reliability.
- ✓ The methodology was applied to a case study in the moulding industry to exemplify its application

