2016 fall

**<Freshman Seminar>** 

## "New materials to open the future"

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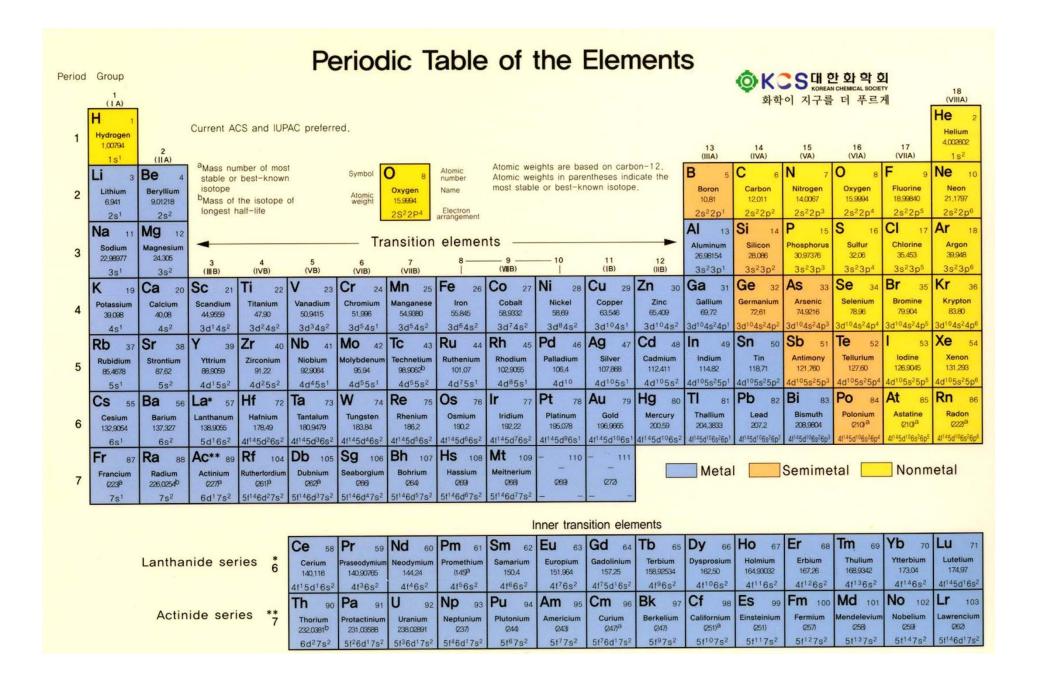
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## What are Materials?

- That's easy! Look around.
- Our clothes are made of materials, our homes are made of materials - mostly manufactured. Glass windows, vinyl siding, metal silverware, ceramic dishes...
- Most things are made from many different kinds of materials.

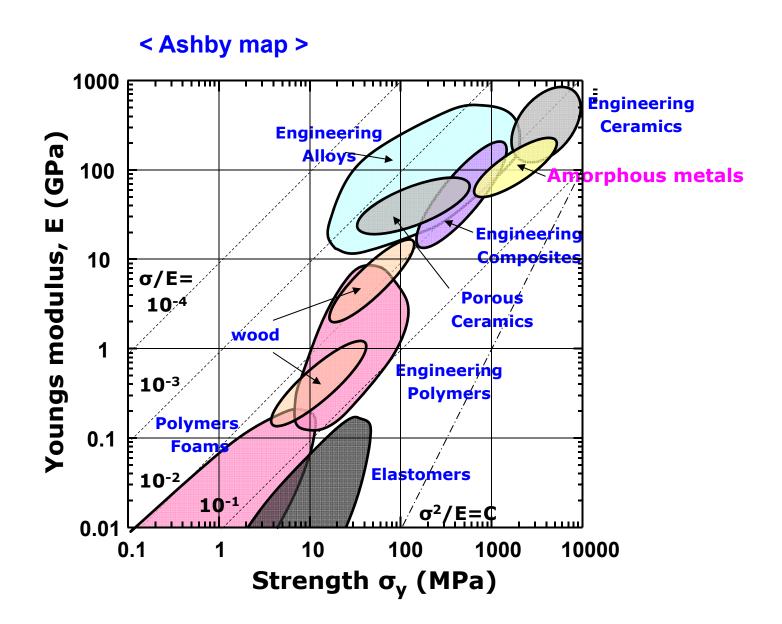


# Kinds of Materials

- Metals: are materials that are normally combinations of "metallic elements". Metals usually are good conductors of heat and electricity. Also, they are quite strong but malleable and tend to have a lustrous look when polished.
- Ceramics: are generally compounds between metallic and nonmetallic elements. Typically they are insulating and resistant to high temperatures and harsh environments.

# Kinds of Materials

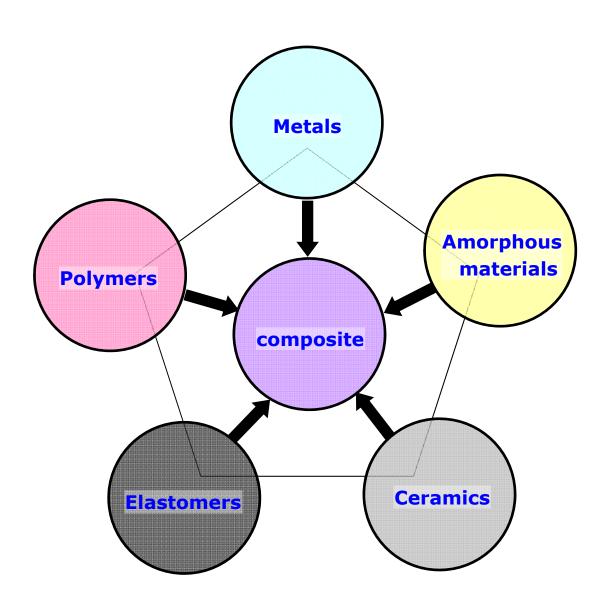
- **Plastics:** (or polymers) are generally organic compounds based upon carbon and hydrogen. They are very large molecular structures. Usually they are low density and are not stable at high temperatures.
- Semiconductors: have electrical properties intermediate between metallic conductors and ceramic insulators. Also, the electrical properties are strongly dependent upon small amounts of impurities.



# Kinds of Materials

 Composites: consist of more than one material type. Fiberglass, a combination of glass and a polymer, is an example. Concrete and plywood are other familiar composites. Many new combinations include ceramic fibers in metal or polymer matrix.

#### Menu of engineering materials



#### The Mars Rovers - Spirit and Opportunity



Spirit and Opportunity are made up of materials such as \* Metals \* Ceramics \* Polymers \* Semiconductors \* Composites