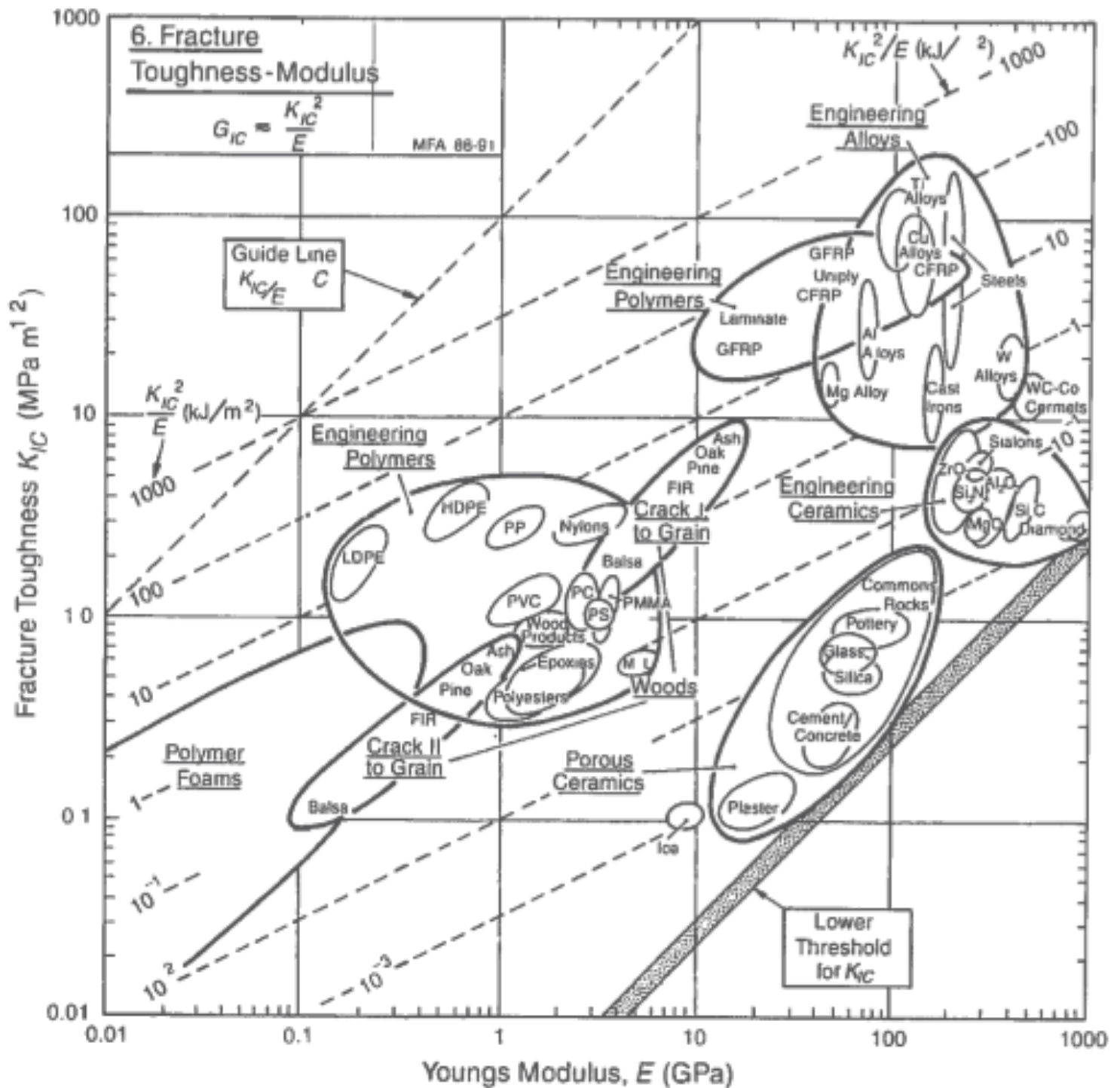


06Q: Fracture Toughness



Comment on the difference between the regimes occupied by polymers and GFRP (graphite fiber reinforced polymers).

The fracture toughness of the composites is more than ten to one hundred times greater than the fracture toughness of plain polymers. Explain this behavior in terms of the equation

$$2\gamma_F = \frac{K_{IC}^2}{E}$$