

Ceramic Capacitors (MLCCs)

**Design and Characteristics** 

### **Test/ Sort/ Packaging/ Shipping**







**Ceramic Capacitors Flex Cracking** 

### **Multilayer Ceramic Capacitor (MLCC)**





### Typical Crack Signatures MLCC Cross-Sections





### Flex or Bend stress

- Occurs after mounted to board
- Common for larger chips (>0805)



### **Flex Cracks**





# **Flex Mitigation Technology**





Data Sheet: <u>http://bit.ly/y7G4V2</u>



Ceramic Capacitors AC Self-Heating

### **J-Lead compared to MLCC**





### **Self Heating due to Dielectric Absorption**





#### Class 2 (X7R, X5R, etc) BaTiO<sub>3</sub> Ferroelectric



**Ferroelectric** permanent dipoles in *domains* align with the AC Field

Domain wall heating & Signal distortion

**Paraelectric** spontaneously created dipoles align with AC field

Class 1 (C0G, U2J) CaZrO<sub>3</sub>

Paraelectric

 $V_{AC}$ 

KEKE

#### **No domains,** so No Domain wall heating & Reduced signal distortion

### **X7R Stack Self Heating**





Current (A)

### **Over Stress: BME X7R Barium Titanate**





1. Under rated conditions, failure takes a long time.

- 2. Accelerated temp/voltage shows bathtub plot
- 3. Something is wearing out the dielectric

Highly Accelerated Testing of Capacitors for Medical Applications KEMET - CARTS 2008

### Over Stress: BME C0G Calcium Zirconate





COG BME takes incredible overstress before wearout. What's different? Barium Titanate vs Calcium Zirconate

Highly Accelerated Testing of Capacitors for Medical Applications KEMET - CARTS 2008



Part Number	Dielectric Family	Rated Voltage
0402 100nF	X7R	16
0603 100nF	X7R	50
1210 1µF	X7R	100
0402 1nF	C0G	25
1206 100nF	C0G	25

### The Bathtub Curve Hypothetical Failure Rate versus Time





Relative failure rate of an entire population over time

### **Ceramic Summary**



Infant Mortality

Manufacturing Defects 100% Screening Reduces Them Flex Cracking Flex Mitigation Not all flex cracked parts fail immediately

#### Wear-Out

10s to 100s of years at rated conditions Derating helps, but is it necessary?
Oxygen Vacancies become mobile More pronounced in X7R (Barium Titanate) than C0G (Calcium Zirconate)





## Thank You

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