

Ta Polymer Capacitors Trends & Challenges – SDV

*Key Performance in
Autonomous Driving and
Sensing Applications*

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About the Authors



Cristina Mota Caetano

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Received Masters in Material Science from IST (Technical University of Lisbon). In 1997, started as R&D engineer, with Siemens Matsushita, Germany. From 1999 to 2012, held various R&D and Material & Process Development management roles at EPCOS and KEMET Electronics. Since 2012, have served as the Technical Product Marketing Director for the Tantalum Product Business Unit at KEMET, an Yageo Company,



Keith Moore

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Graduated with degrees in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering. From 1997 to 2015, served in various technical roles focused on the development and manufacturing of tantalum and aluminum products. In 2015, moved into KEMET's product management team as a technical product manager. During which time, served as the ECIA chair for P2-5 Solid Electrolytic Capacitors (Tantalum, Niobium, Aluminum) committee and as the US delegate for IEC TC40 (Capacitors and Resistors for Electronic Equipment) meetings. In 2020, accepted product management responsibilities for Tantalum and Aluminum polymer products.



Rosa Davila

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Holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Chemistry and a Masters in Materials Science. Joined KEMET in 2010 as a New Product Development Engineer and has held various engineering positions for Tantalum PBU. Since June 2021, has worked as Technical Product Manager for Ta and Al Polymer Capacitors. Supports customers in Americas, as well as global SSD and HDD customers. Currently serves as the ECIA chair for P2-5 Solid Electrolytic Capacitors (Tantalum, Niobium, Aluminum) committee and as the US delegate for IEC TC40 (Capacitors and Resistors for Electronic Equipment) meetings.

- Trends and Challenges
- Application and Capacitor Requirements
- Product Offering
- Product Capability
- Future Direction

Trends and Challenges

Rise of
Components

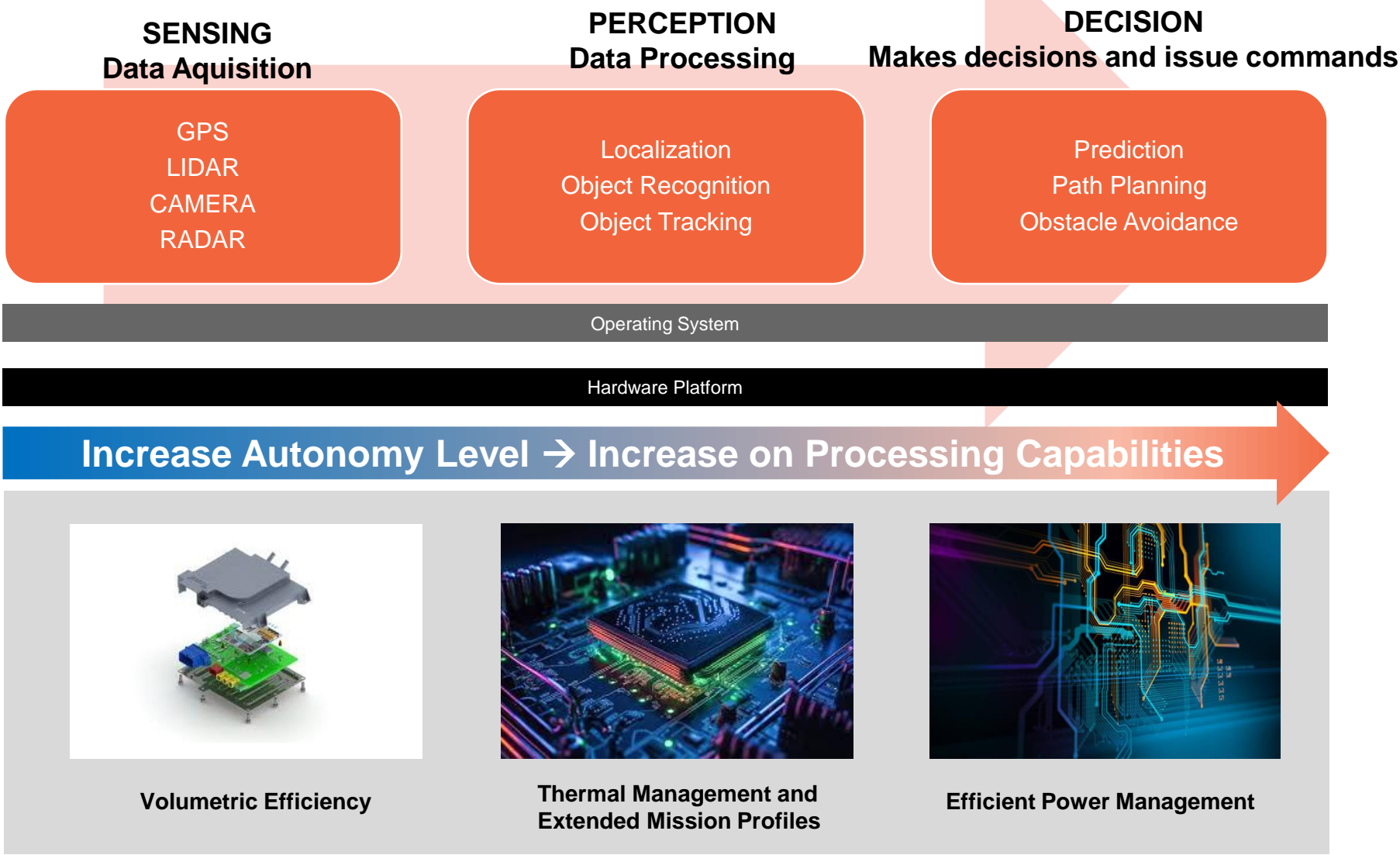
Rise of Software-
Defined Vehicles

Rise of Domain,
Zonal, and Central
Compute Units

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The diagram illustrates the evolution of automotive computing architectures. At the top, five domains are listed: **Body**, **PowerTrain**, **Chassis/Safety**, **AD/ADAS**, and **Smart Cockpit**. Below each domain is a circular icon: a car for Body, a car with a battery for PowerTrain, a steering wheel for Chassis/Safety, a car with a Wi-Fi symbol for AD/ADAS, and a hand interacting with a screen for Smart Cockpit. Below these icons are two horizontal bars. The first bar, labeled **Domain/ ZCU Zonal Computer Units**, is orange and spans the first three domains. The second bar, labeled **Domain/Centralized Computer Unit**, is a lighter orange and spans the last two domains. At the bottom, a large horizontal arrow points from left to right, with a blue-to-orange gradient. The left side of the arrow is labeled **Low-Medium Computing Needs** and the right side is labeled **High Computing Needs**.

Source: McKinsey Center for Future Mobility: <https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/semiconductors/our-insights/getting-ready-for-next-generation-ee-architecture-with-zonal-compute/>



**Application
Requirements**

**Capacitor
Requirements**

Smaller Components	⇒	Higher Cap Per Unit Volume
Lower Loss Components	⇒	Lower ESR, Lower Thermal Resistance
Higher Reliability	⇒	Higher Category Temperature, Longer Life

Automotive Polymer Capacitor

AEC-Q200 Requirements

Stress	Condition
High Temperature Exposure (Storage)	MIL-STD-202 Method 108 (125°C, Unpowered, 1000 hours)
Temperature Cycling	JESD22 Method JA-104 (-55°C to 125°C, 1000 Cycles)
Biased Humidity	MIL-STD-202 Method 103 (85°C, 85%RH, V_r , 1000 hours)
High Temperature Operational Life	MIL-STD-202 Method 108 (125°C, 0.67 V_r , 1000 hours)
External Visual and Physical Dimensions	MIL-STD-883, method 2009 and JESD22-B100
Resistance to Solvents	MIL-STD-202 Method 215
Mechanical Shock	MIL-STD-202 Method 213
Vibration	MIL-STD-202 Method 204
Resistance to Soldering Heat	MIL-STD-202 Method 210
Solderability	J-STD-002
Electrical Characterization	User specification
Terminal Strength	AEC-Q200-006

Source:
AEC-Q200 Rev E – March 20th, 2023 – Table 1 – Stress Qualification for Tantalum (MnO₂ and Polymer) and Niobium Capacitors

Automotive Polymer Capacitor Product Offering

Size Range (metric)	3.2 mm x 1.6 mm x 1.2 mm 7.3 mm x 4.3 mm x 4.0 mm
Capacitance Range - μF	1 - 680
Voltage Range – Volts	2.5 - 75
Category Temperature - $^{\circ}\text{C}$	125 - 150
Lowest ESR (25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 100kHz) – m Ω	6
Maximum Ripple Current (+45 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 100kHz) - Amps	8.7

Automotive Polymer Capacitor

EIA 7343-28, 470 μ F, 2.5 V, 6 m Ω

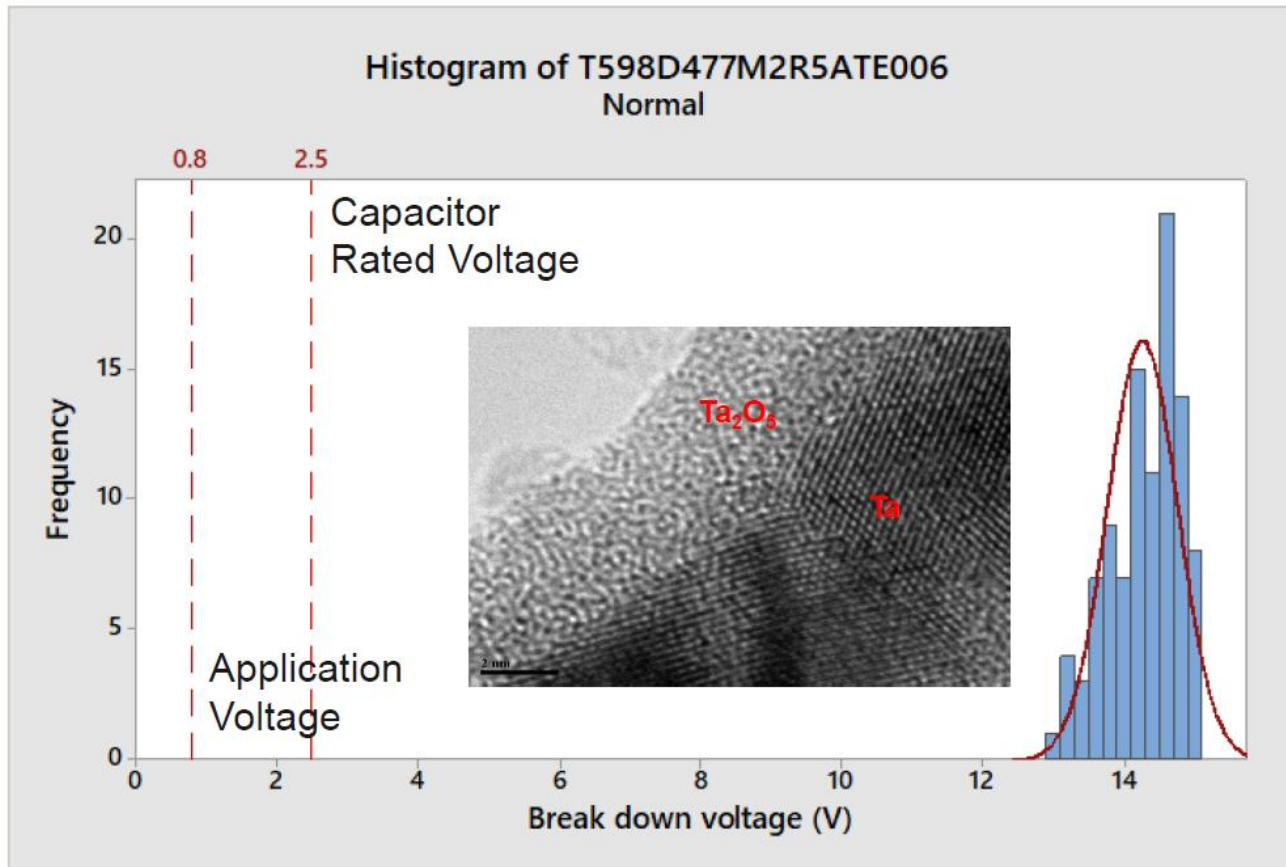


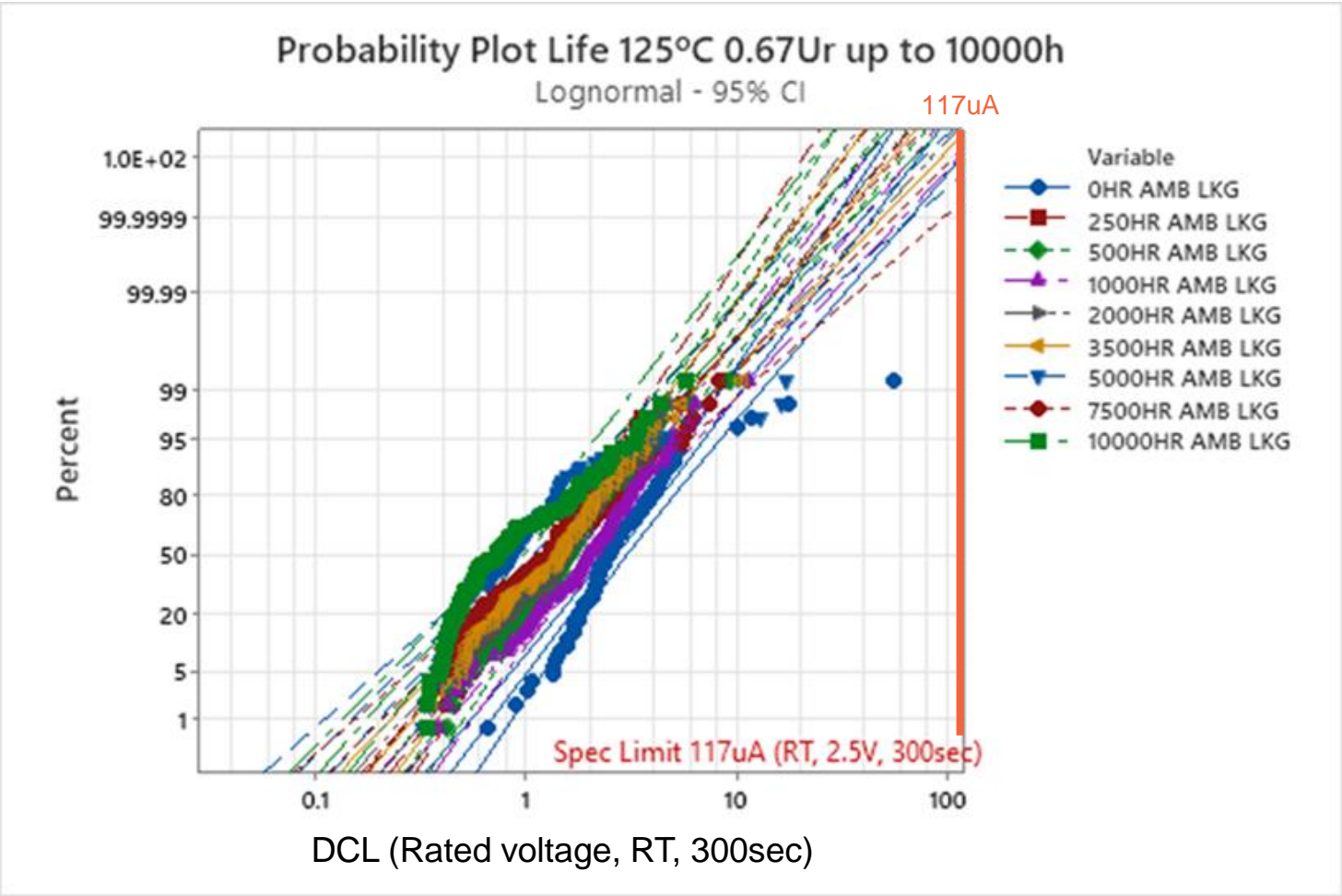
Photo Source:
Innovation Center, Greenville, South Carolina
High Resolution TEM Transmission Electron Microscope – Crystalline Structure of Tantalum and Amorphous structure of the dielectric anodic oxide Ta_2O_5

- High Volumetric Efficiency
- Conservative Design
- Robust Dielectric

Automotive Polymer Capacitor

Extended 125°C / 0.67 Vr Life Testing, 2,000 hr → 10,000 hr

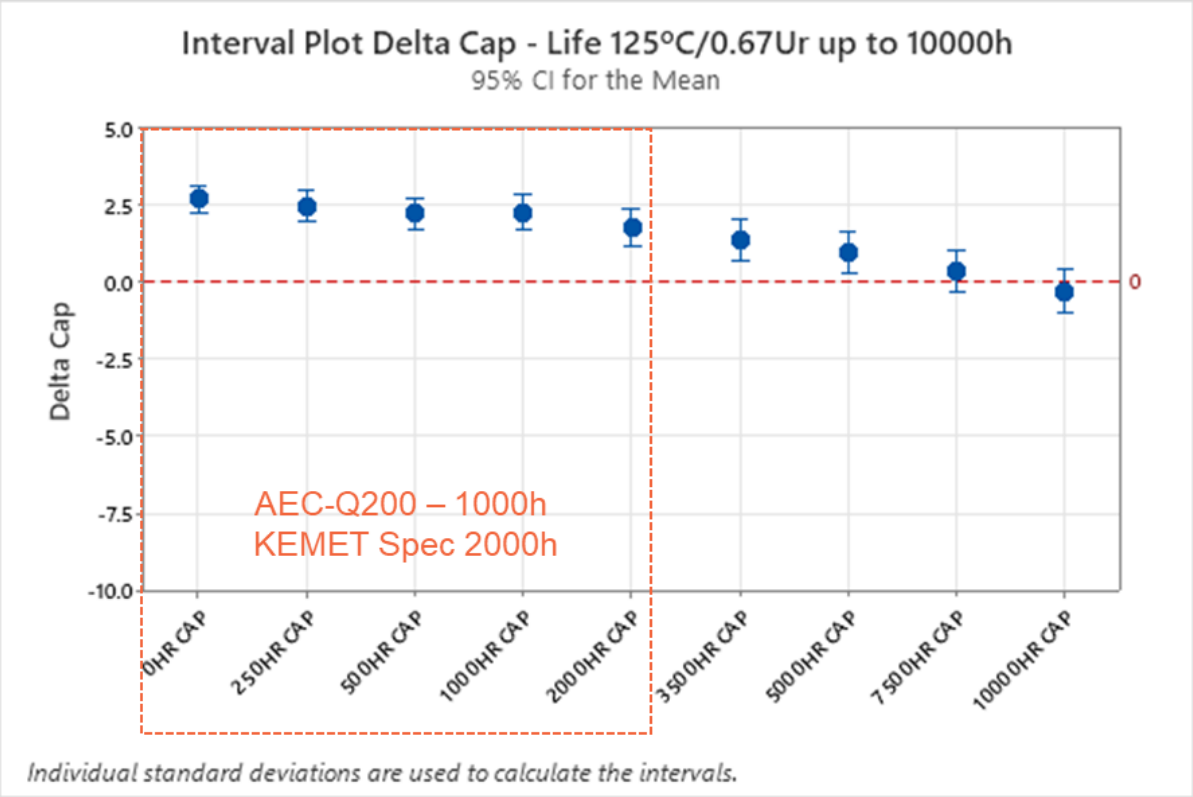
Leakage



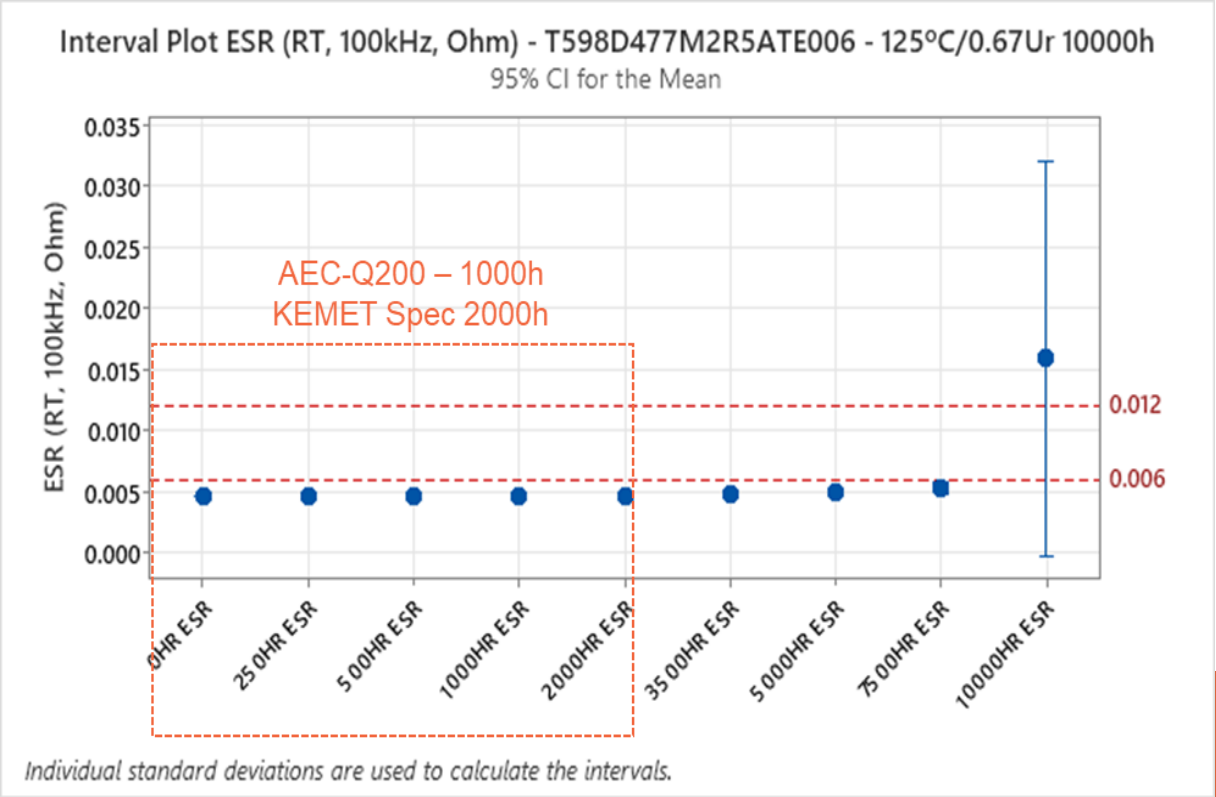
Automotive Polymer Capacitor

Extended 125°C / 0.67 Vr Life Testing, 2,000 hr → 10,000 hr

120 Hz Capacitance

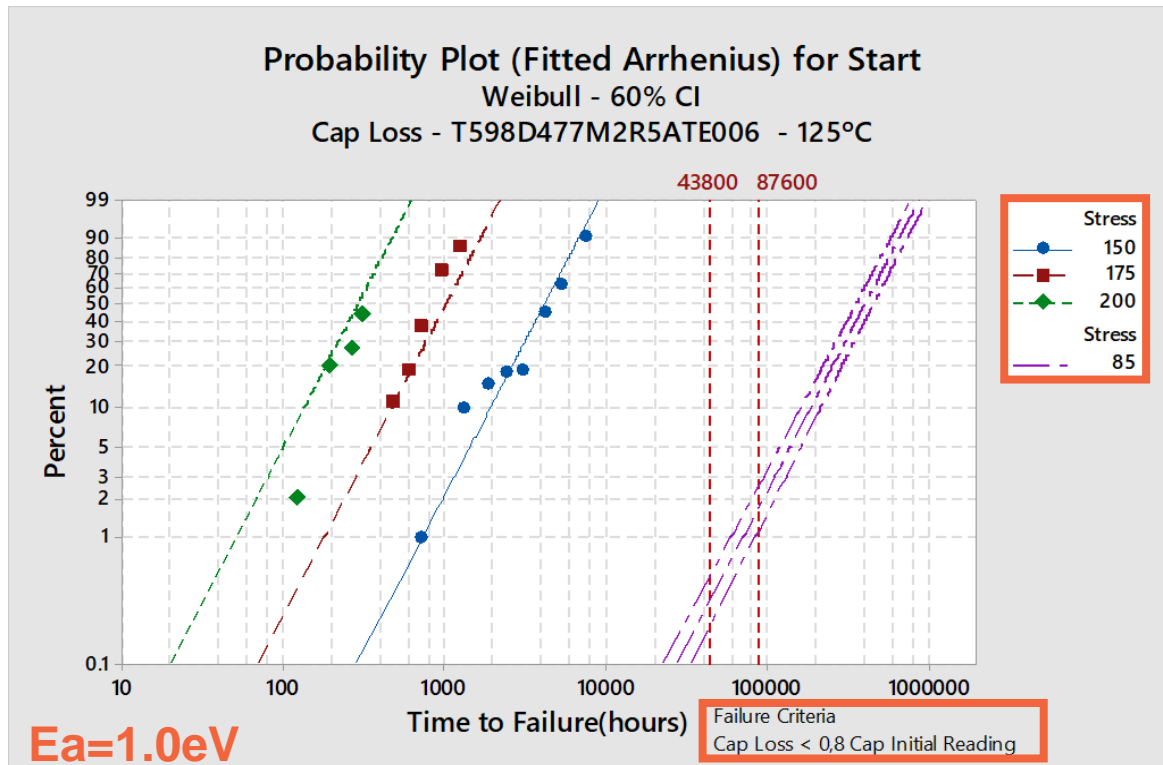


100kHz ESR

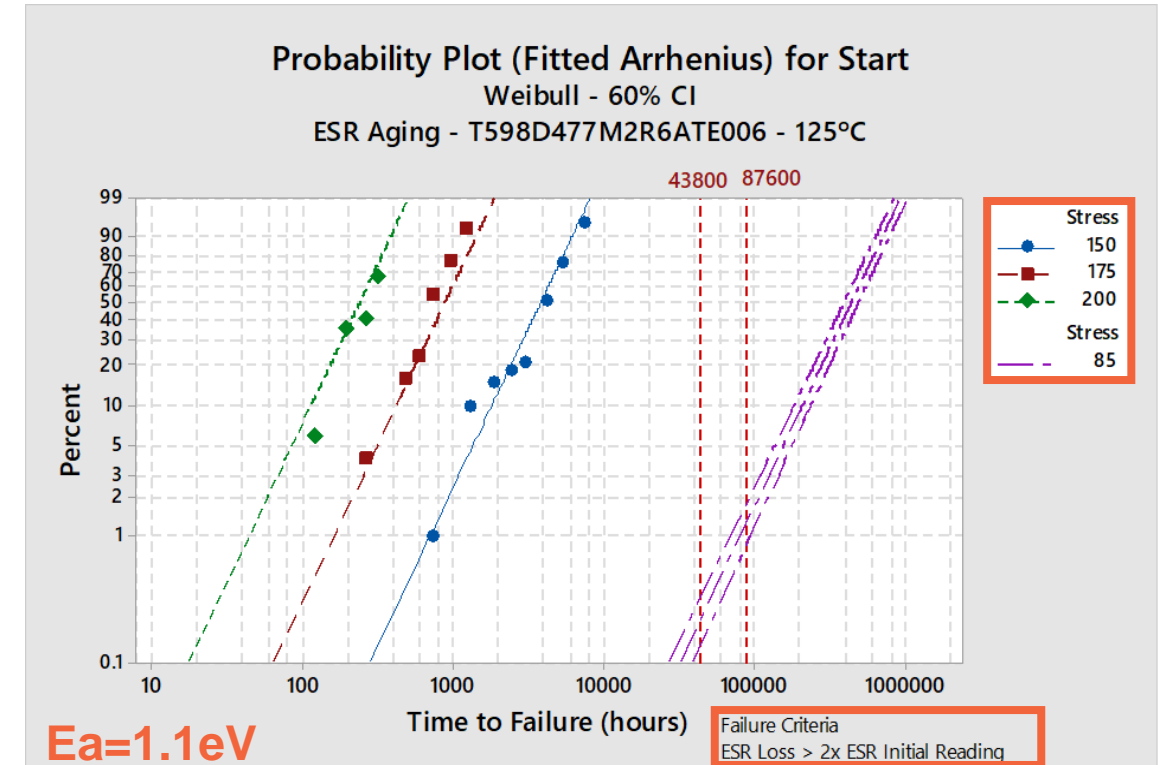


Automotive Polymer Capacitors Capacitance and ESR Loss *Modelling*

Capacitance

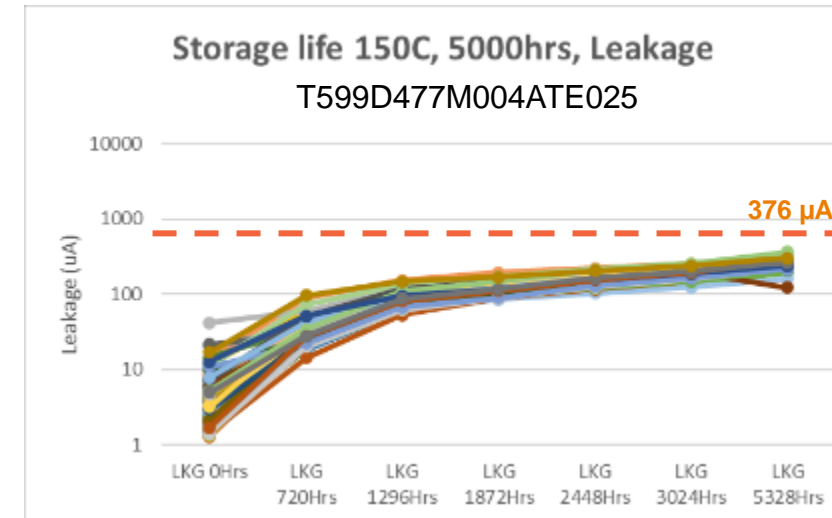
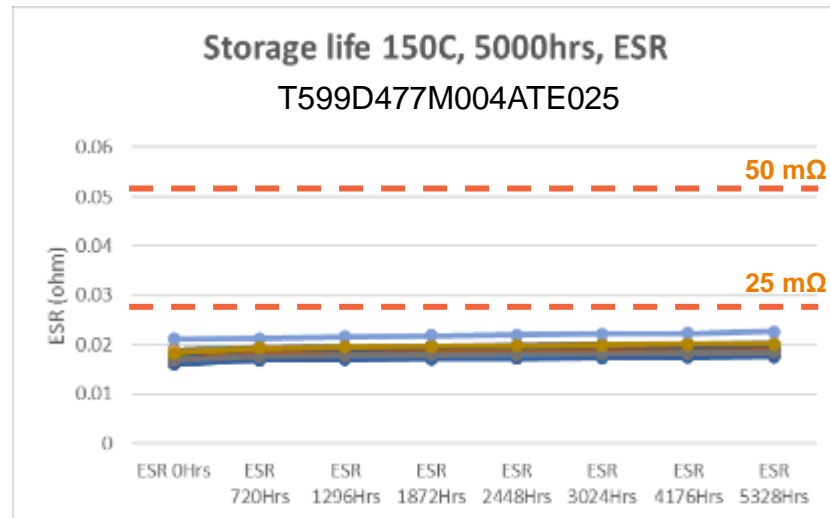
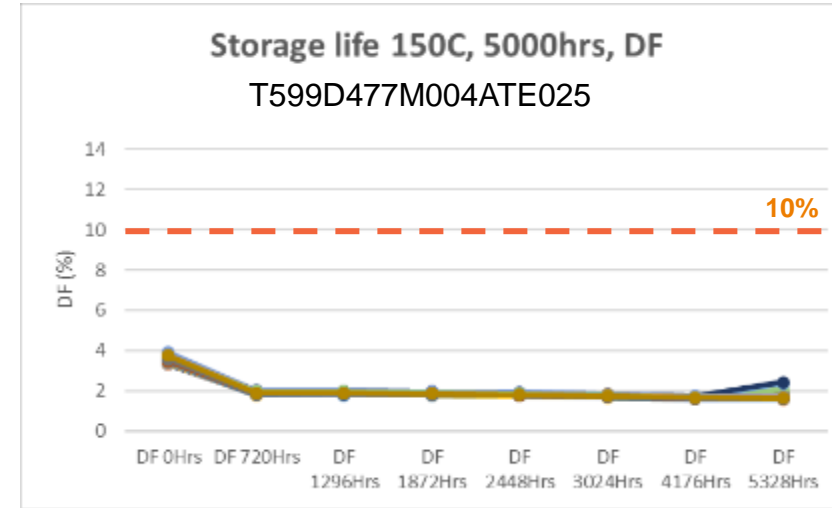
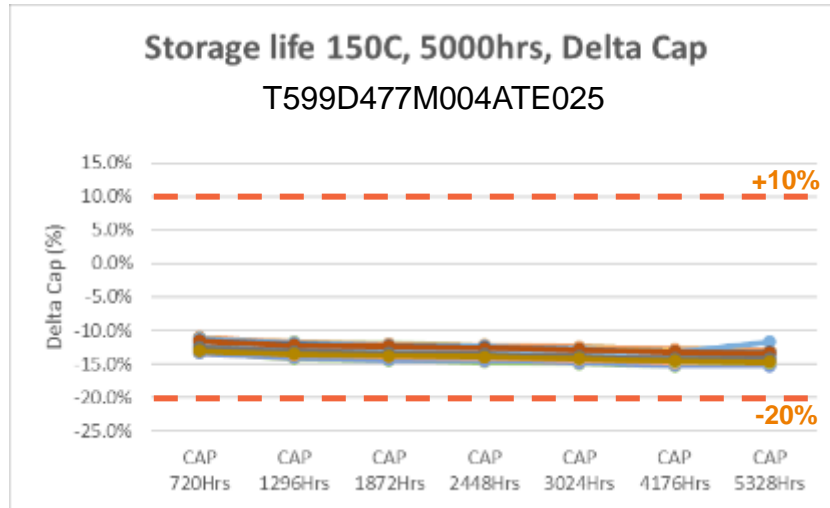


ESR



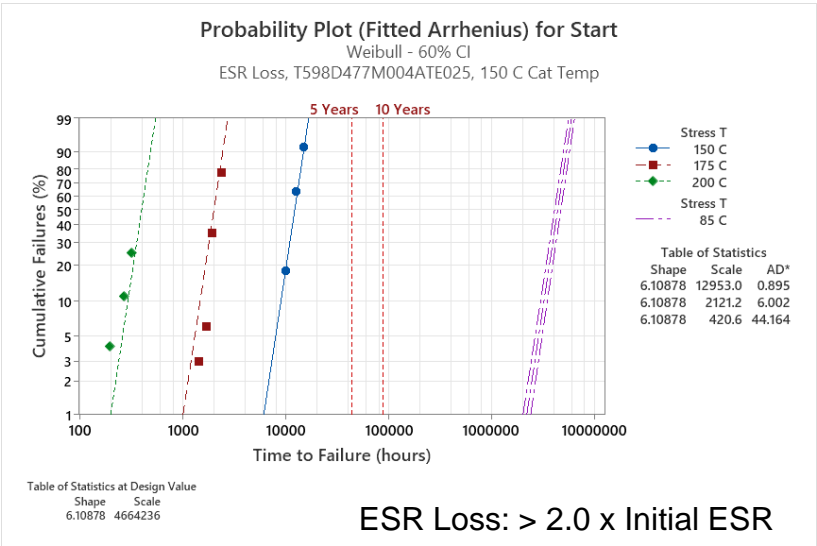
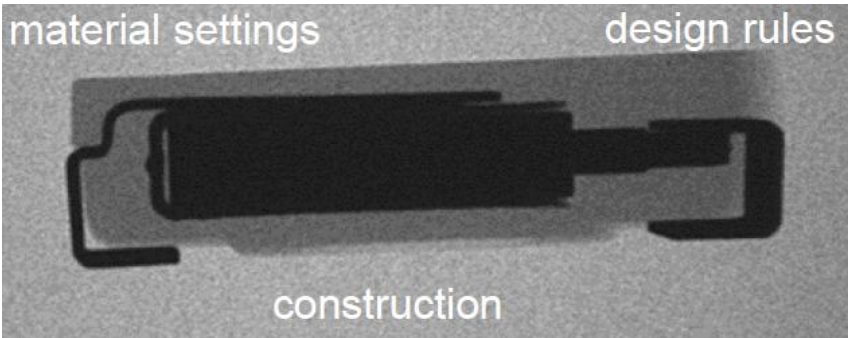
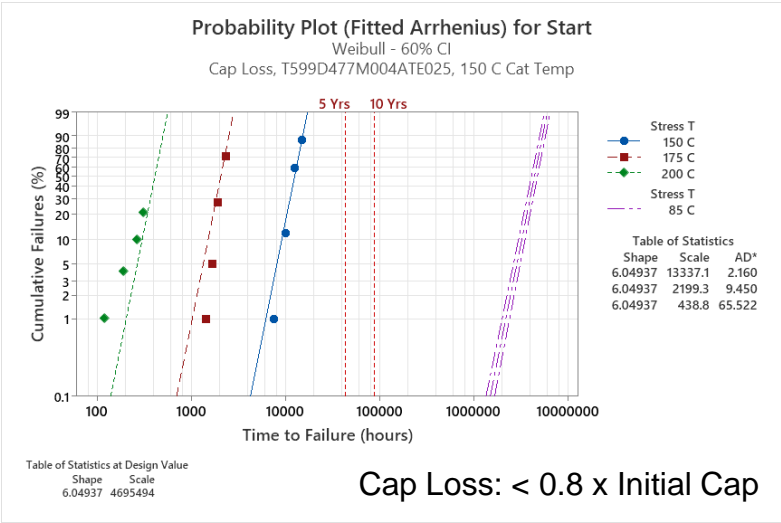
Automotive Polymer Capacitors

Extended Category Temperature, 125°C → 150°C



Automotive Polymer Capacitors

Extended Category Temperature, 125°C → 150°C



Temperature Reference (°C)

150

Ea - activation energy (eV)

1.18

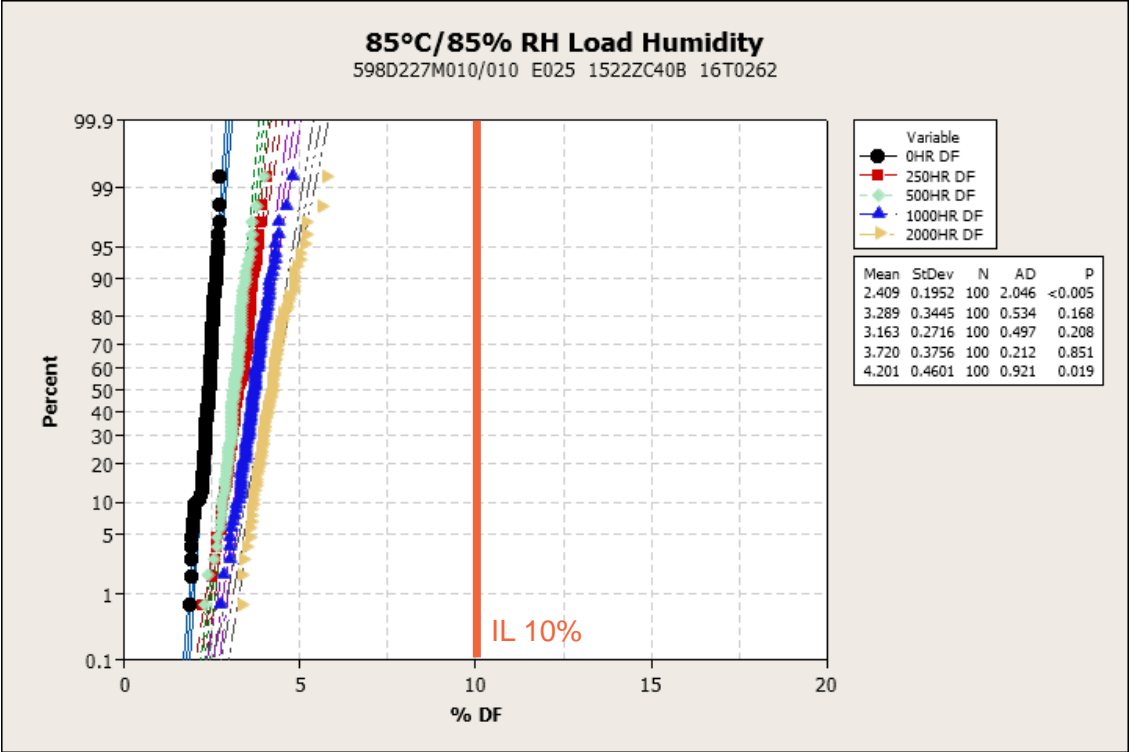
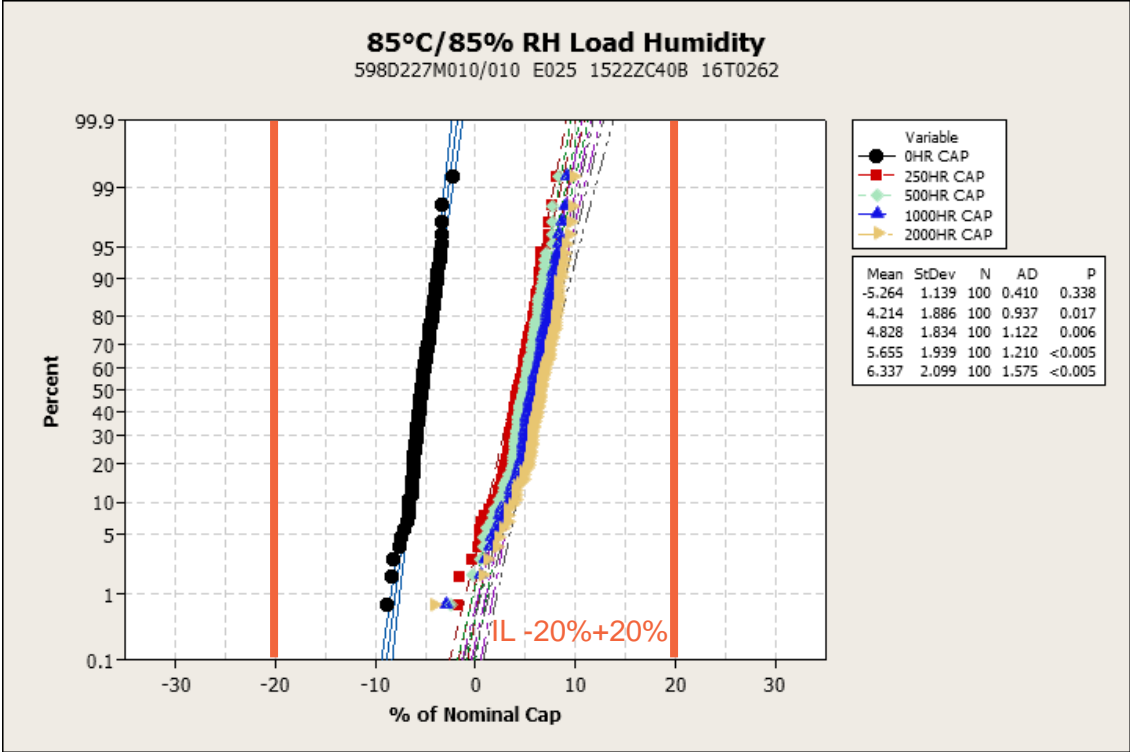
Boltzman Constant

8.62E-05

Temperature (°C)			Acceleration Temp (x)	Lo	Lx (h)	Years
25			785938	5000	3929692465	448595
40			86960	5000	434798985	49635
65			3423	5000	17116400	1954
75			1069	5000	5345397	610
76			955	5000	4775620	545
85			356	5000	1781493	203
90			210	5000	1052072	120
100			77	5000	382794	44
105			47	5000	235579	27
111			27	5000	133780	15
125			8	5000	38177	4

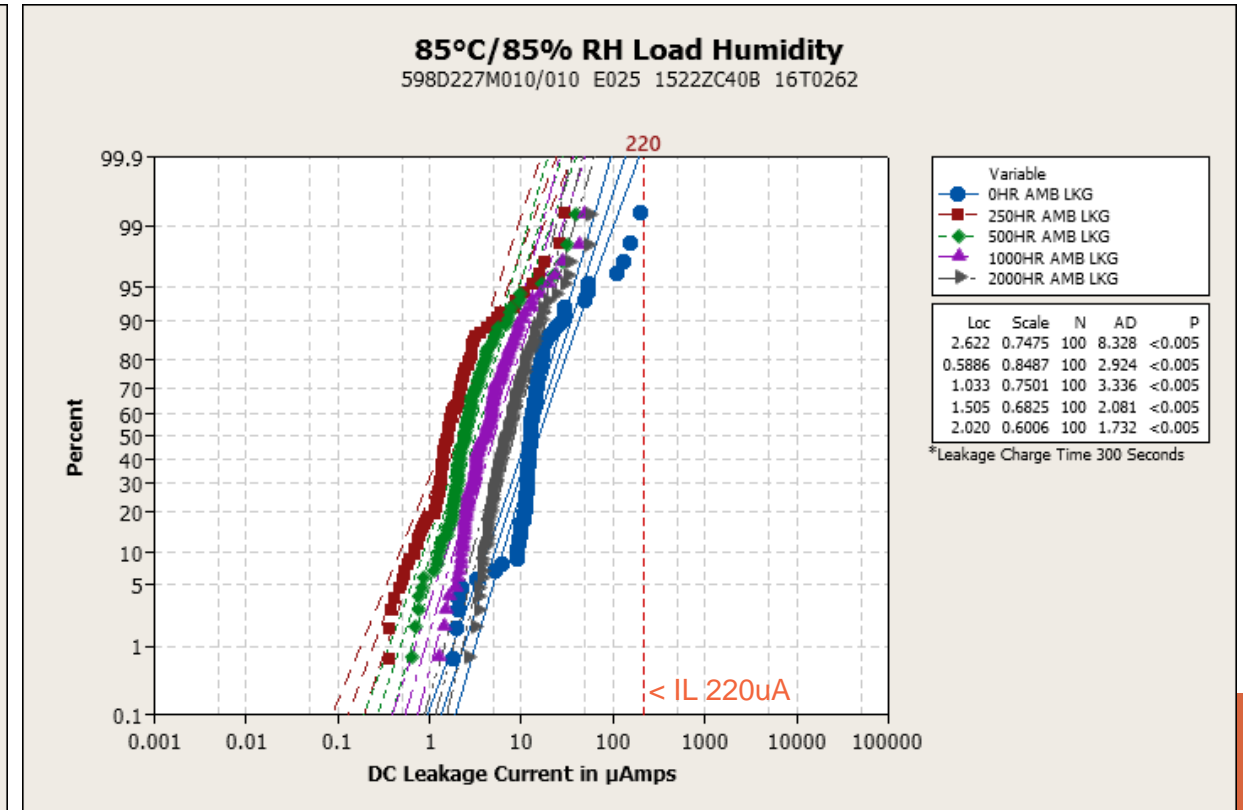
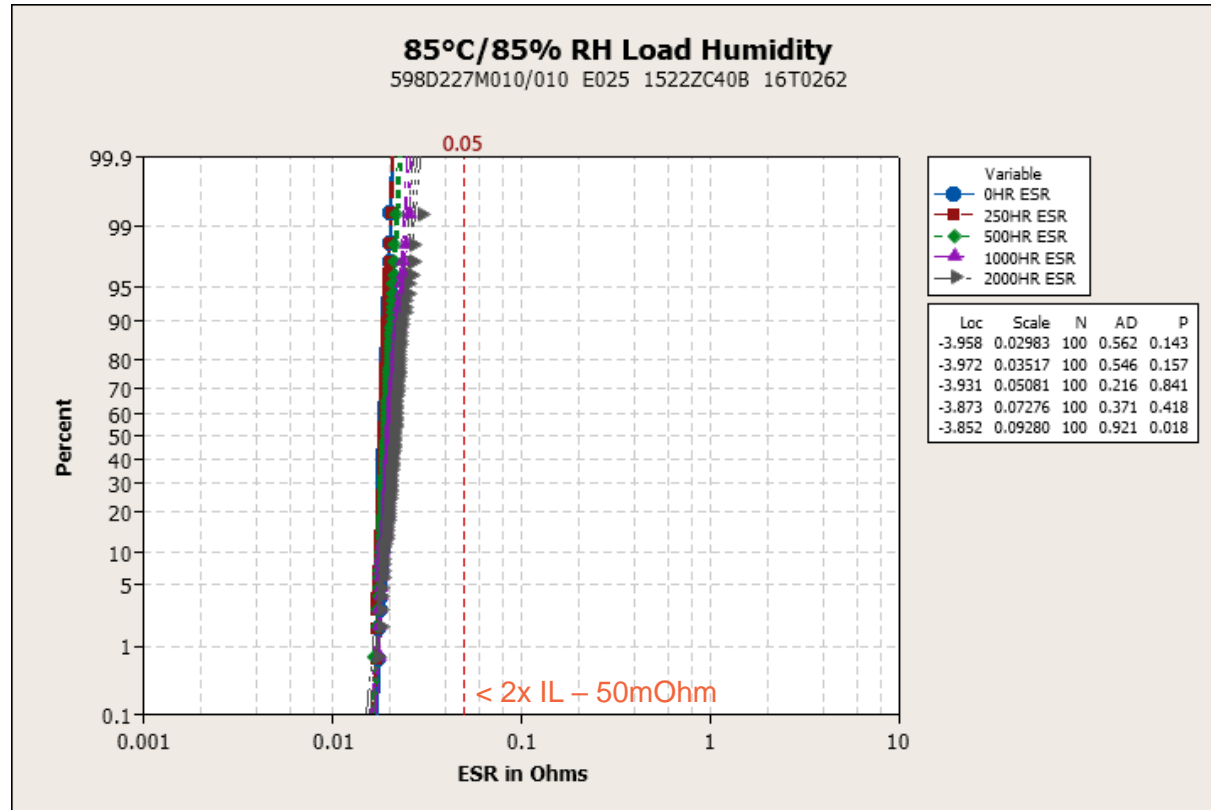
Automotive Polymer Capacitors

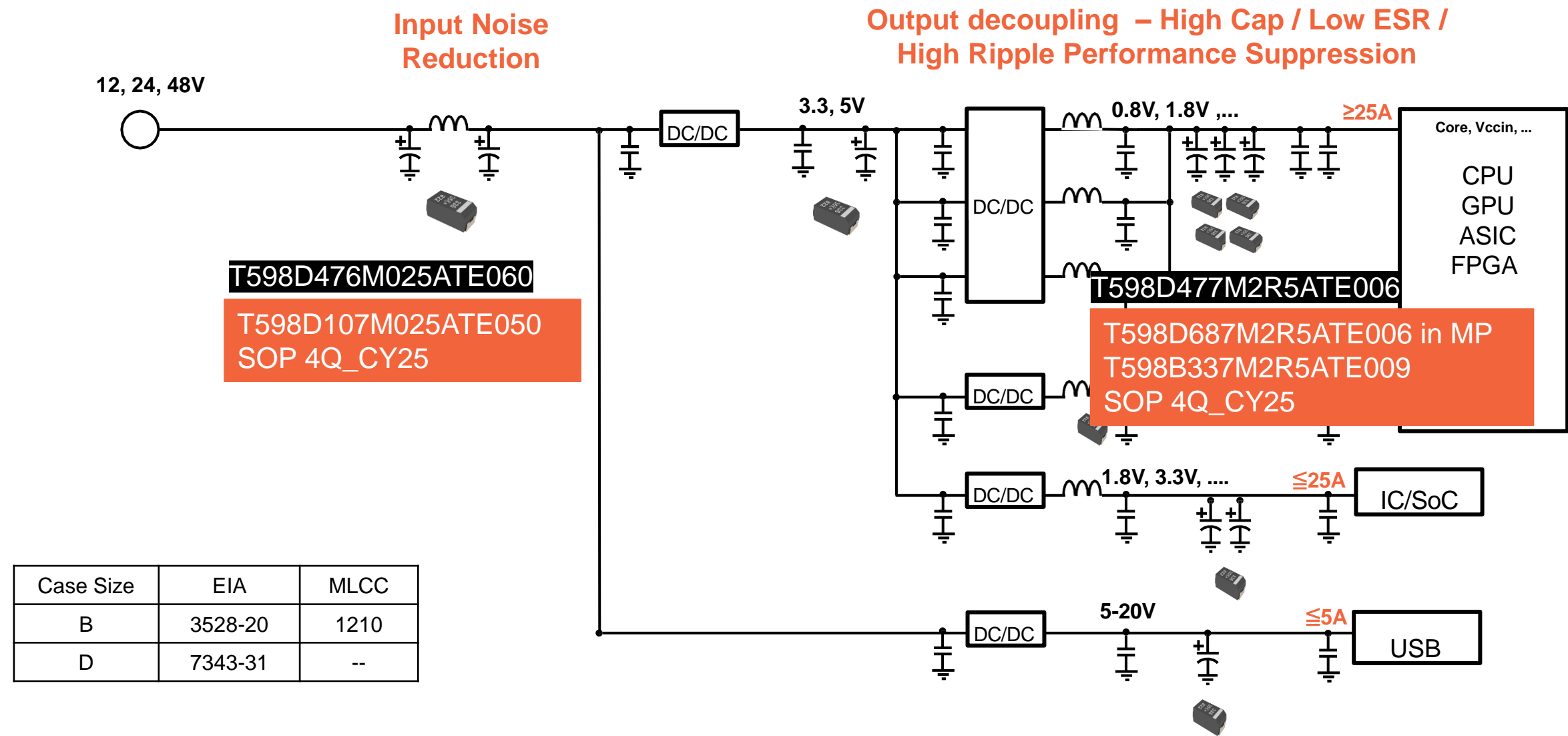
Extended 85°C / 85%RH / Vr Humidity Bias, 1000 h → 2000h



Automotive Polymer Capacitors

Extended 85°C / 85%RH / Vr Humidity Bias, 1000 h → 2000h







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