



# imec

CEDM EVENT 2017

RELIABILITY OF ELECTRONICS: A PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE APPROACH

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CENTER FOR ELECTRONICS DESIGN & MANUFACTURING



Met steun van:



# CONTENT

Security versus reliability

Why reliability is an issue

The electronics reliability quantification challenge

The traditional approach

The Physics-of-Failure approach

Physics-of-Failure in practice today

# SECURITY VERSUS RELIABILITY

## Reliability:

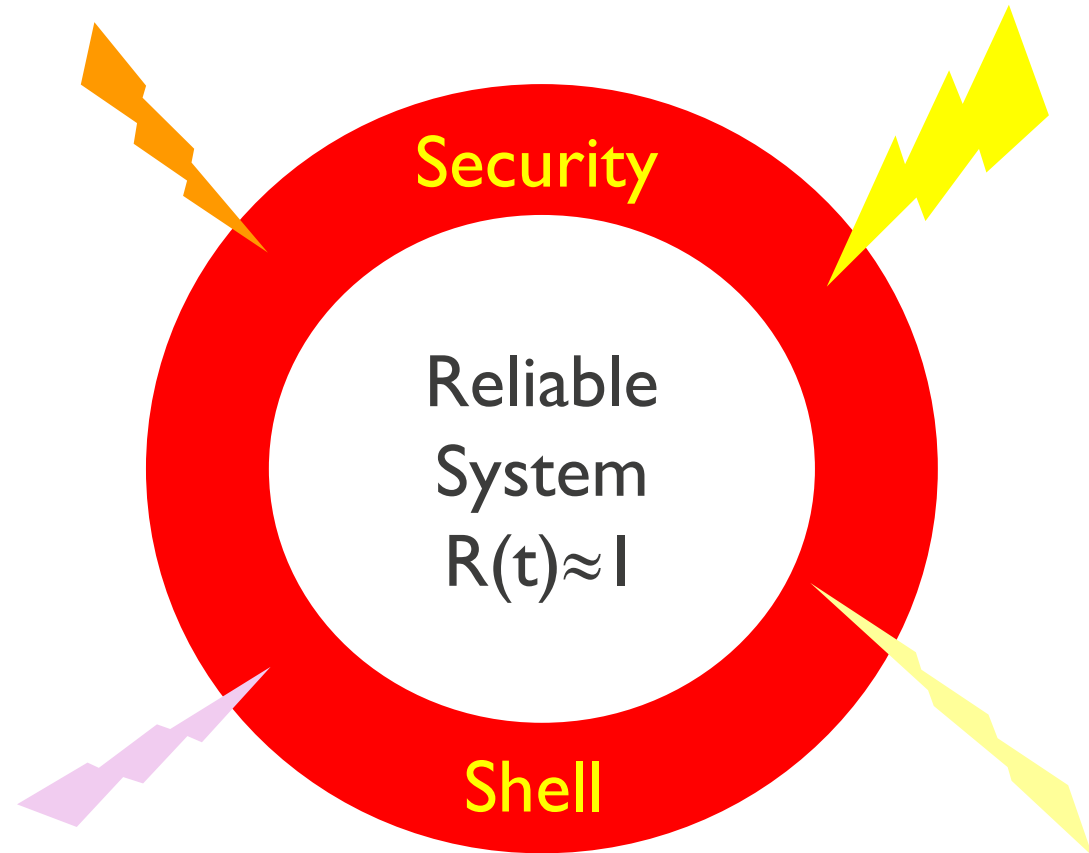
Ability of a system to perform its required functions under stated conditions for a specified period of time.

## Security:

Ability of a system to protect information and system resources with respect to confidentiality and integrity.

→ Not vulnerable to intruders.

# SECURITY VERSUS RELIABILITY



- Reliability is concerned with internal, functional aspects. Security deals with attacks from intruders.
- By differentiating we better understand the system and take actions in consequence.
- If a system is not reliable the security of that system is just a fuzzy topic.

(George lordache, Stony Brook University)

# THE ELECTRONICALLY CONNECTED WORLD



Article  
June 2015

# Manufacturing's next act

By Cornelius Baur and Dominik Wee





INTERNET of DATA

BROWSING  
ANTWERPEN.BE

INTERNET of THINGS

SMARTPHONE  
CALLING  
2min 03sec

SMARTWATCH

INTERNET of HUMANS



# City of Things

15 min  
BEFORE RAIN  
APPROACHES YOU

✈️ 05 min 37 sec  
BEFORE ARRIVAL

✈️ 08 min 07 sec  
SINCE DEPARTURE

🌞 1,214 KWH  
GAINED

☀️ ☀️ ☀️  
1,358 KWH  
GAINED

✖️ 04 TABLES LEFT

✖️ FULLY BOOKED



23 WATT  
USED

ENERGY SAVING  
MEDAL UNLOCKED

🛢️ 432 METER TO THE  
CHEAPEST DIESEL

🚦 04 RED LIGHTS  
ON YOUR WAY

🚶 YOU WALKED 1894 METER  
SO FAR

📦 YOUR PACKAGE  
WILL ARRIVE IN 15 min

🚲 235 METER UNTIL  
BIKE PARKING

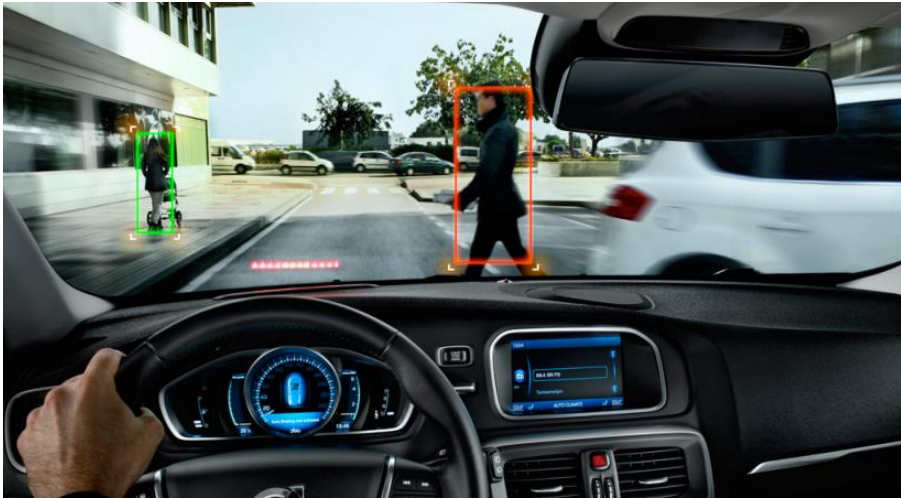
🕒 17 HOURS  
PARKING LEFT

🍔 124 PEOPLE  
FAVORISED



# CONNECTED CAR DIANNE TECHNOLOGY

Real-time execution by the  
AI-enabled point



Knowledge base & Deep  
learning in the Cloud

Push new samples  
to experience pool



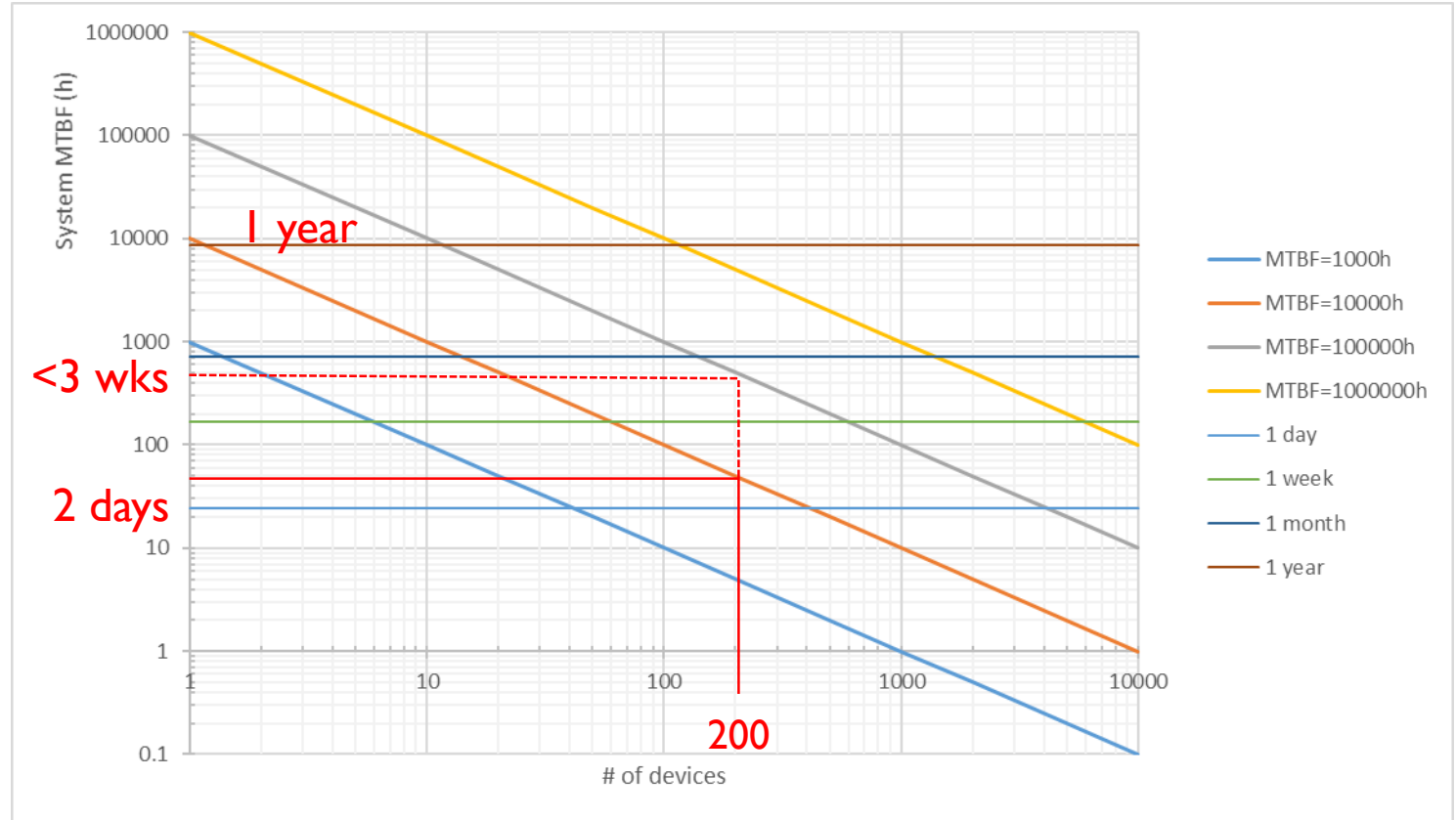
Get optimized NN  
training results



# WHY WE NEED RELIABILITY?

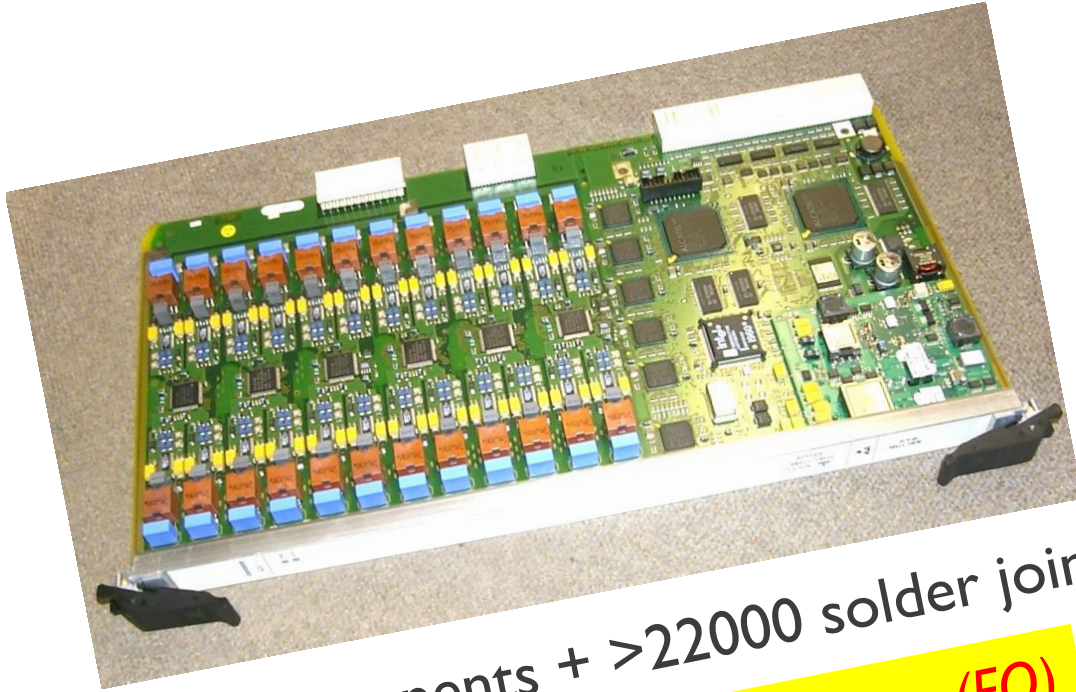
## TIME BETWEEN FAILURE

In the  
Connected  
world  
Reliability  
is  
Essential



# THE RELIABILITY QUANTIFICATION CHALLENGE

SO MANY THINGS CAN FAIL ...



2500 components + >22000 solder joints

= >40000 failure opportunities (FO)

Components

Solder joints

PCB

PBA

$I \text{ PBA} = (1\text{K to } 100\text{K FO})$   
 $\times n \text{ failure mechanisms/FO}$



# THE TRADITIONAL APPROACH

## RELIABILITY PREDICTION STANDARDS

MIL-HDBK-217 - *the oldest, best-known most outdated (1995)*

Telcordia SR-332 - *previously Bellcore, telecommunication, US.*

IEC-61709/SN 29500 - *Siemens, industrial, Germany.*

IEC-TR-62380/Fides 2009 - *French industry, industrial-avionics, France.*

217plus – *Quanterion, commercial MIL-HDBK-217 update, US.*

GJB/Z 299C – *China.*

Describe how to determine the reliability of a **system of electronic components** using **constant failure rate statistics** and field failure data.

Basic principle:  $\lambda_{\text{sys}} = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + \dots + \lambda_n + \lambda_{\text{PCB}}$

# THE TRADITIONAL APPROACH

CONSTANT FAILURE RATE: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Buy NEW



Buy USED

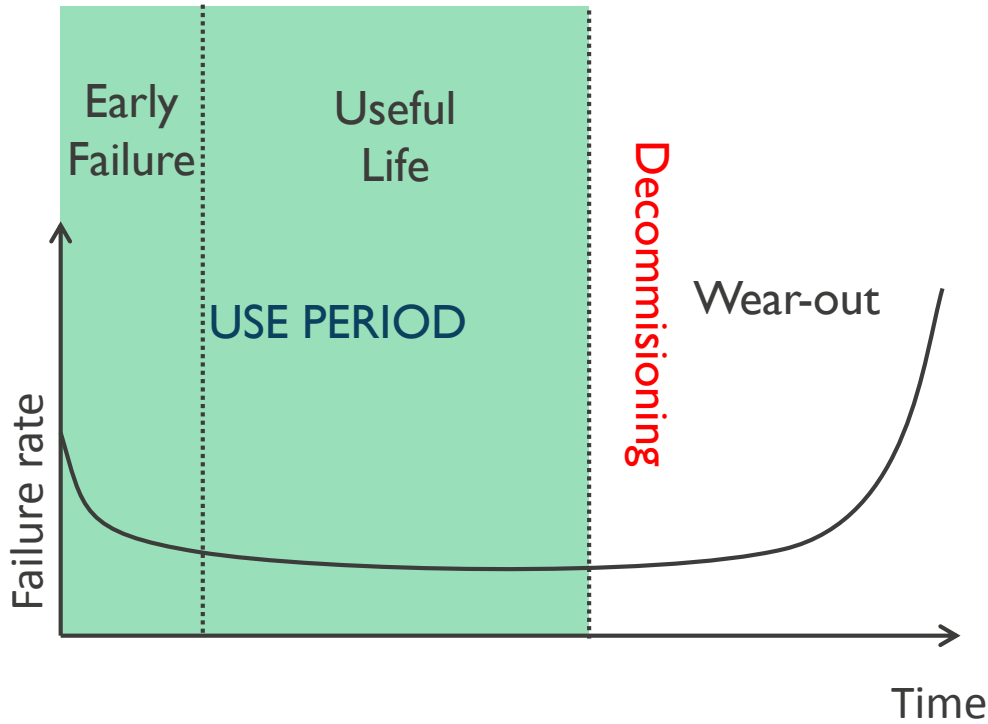


Do you expect the same failure rate for a used car as for a new one?

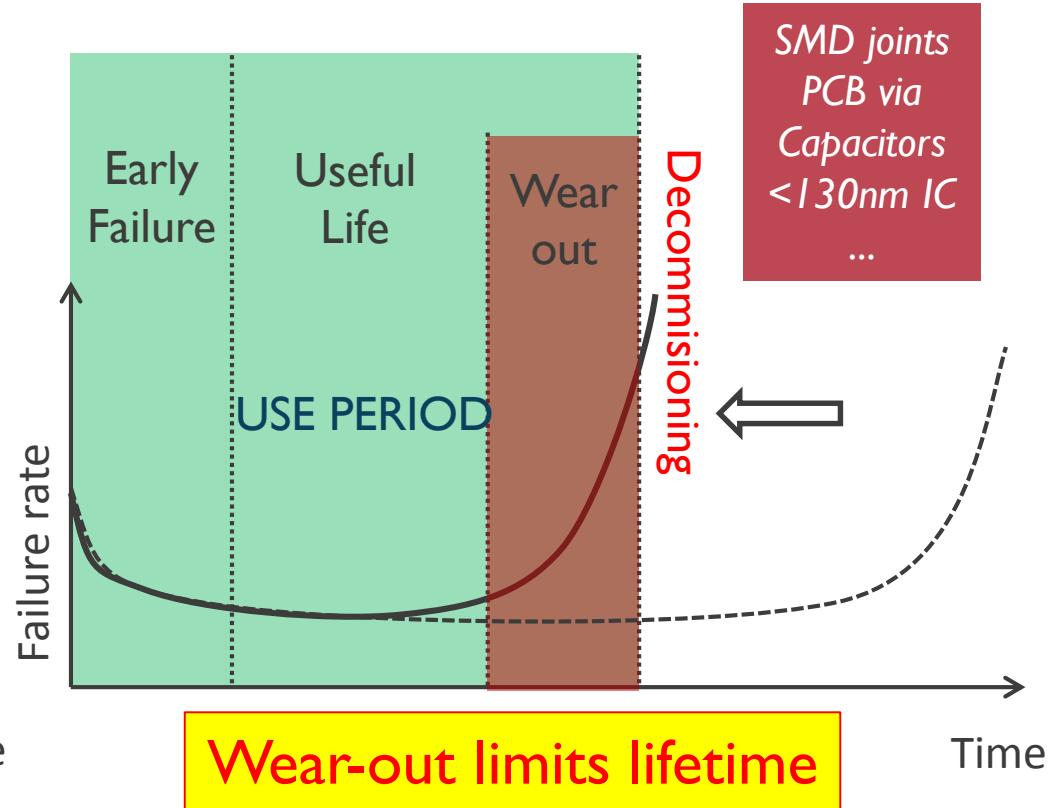
# THE TRADITIONAL APPROACH

## THE REAL WORLD

What it was (before the '80s)



What is now!





# THE TRADITIONAL APPROACH

## STRESS FACTORS AND FAILURE RATE

Semi-empirical/statistical treatment of stress and quality.

Failure rate  
Semiconductor  
Component

IEC TR-62380

MATHEMATICAL MODEL :

$$\lambda = \underbrace{\left\{ \lambda_1 \times N \times e^{-0.35 \times a} + \lambda_2 \right\} \times \frac{\sum_{i=1}^y (\pi_t)_i \times \tau_i}{\tau_{on} + \tau_{off}}}_{\lambda_{die}} + \underbrace{\left\{ 2.75 \times 10^{-3} \times \pi_\alpha \times \left( \sum_{i=1}^z (\pi_n)_i \times (\Delta T_i)^{0.68} \right) \times \lambda_3 \right\}}_{\lambda_{package}} + \underbrace{\left\{ \pi_I \times \lambda_{EOS} \right\}}_{\lambda_{overstress}} \times 10^{-9} / h$$

NECESSARY INFORMATION:

$(t_{ae})_i$  : average outside ambient temperature surrounding the equipment, during

$(t_{ac})_i$  : average inside ambient temperature surrounding the equipment, during

$\lambda_1$  : failure rate of the integrated circuit family. See Tab

$\lambda_2$  : failure rate of the integrated circuit

$N$  : number of transistors of the integrated circuit.

$a$  : [(year of manufacturing) - 1998].

$(\pi_t)_i$  :  $i^{\text{th}}$  temperature factor related to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  junction temperature of the integrated circuit mission profile.

$\tau_i$  :  $i^{\text{th}}$  working time ratio of the integrated circuit for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  junction temperature of the mission profile.

**This is not physics!**

Quality factors allow  
failure rate range  
1 to 8000 (FIDES)

# TRADITIONAL APPROACH

## WHY IS IT STILL USED?

- “*We have always done it that way.*”
- The method is (still) accepted in industry.
- It is more or less comprehensive.
- It always gives a number.
- It is relatively simple to use (summation).
- Provides a lot of stretch... (1 – 8000)
- Lack of Physics-of-Failure know-how at user side.

# THE PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE APPROACH

## DEFINITION

A science-based approach to reliability that uses modeling and simulation to design-in reliability.

It helps to understand system performance and reduce decision risk during design and after the equipment is fielded. This approach **models the root causes of failure** such as fatigue, fracture, wear, and corrosion.

An approach to the design and development of reliable product to prevent failure, based on the knowledge of root cause failure mechanisms. The Physics of Failure (PoF) concept is based on the **understanding of the relationships** between requirements and the physical characteristics of the product and their variation in the manufacturing processes, and the **reaction of product elements and materials to loads (stressors)** and interaction under loads and their influence on the fitness for use with respect to the use conditions and time.



# THE PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE APPROACH

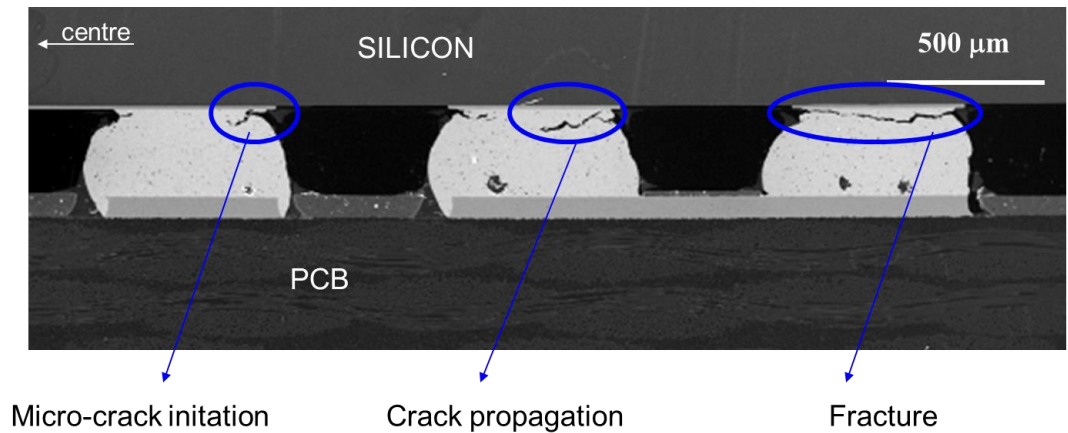
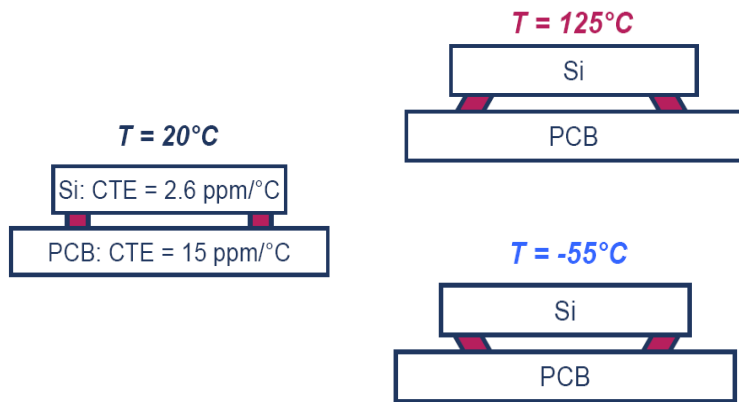
## THE BASICS

1. Quantitative physical model of the failure mechanism.
  - Fatigue failure: solder joints, PCB via's & tracks.
  - Diffusion and evaporation of liquids: degradation of Al-capacitors.
  - Electro-migration (electric field driven) and corrosion.
  - ...
2. Calculation of the stress level dependent “damage factor” determining the lifetime.
3. Apply (empirical) lifetime model:  $\text{lifetime} = F(\text{“damage factor”})$   
(e.g. Wöhler curve)

# THE PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE APPROACH

## AN EXAMPLE: SOLDER JOINT FATIGUE DUE TO THERMAL CYCLING

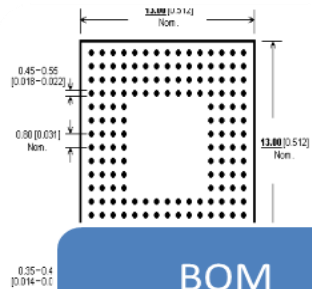
### Failure Mechanism



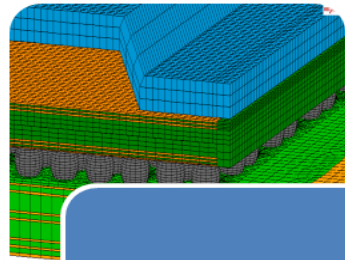
# THE PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE APPROACH

## AN EXAMPLE: SOLDER JOINT FATIGUE DUE TO THERMAL CYCLING

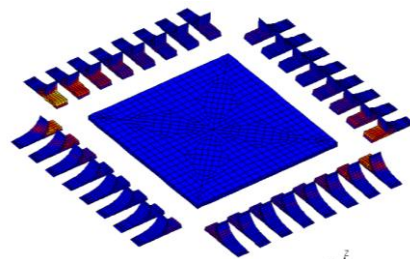
### Quantification



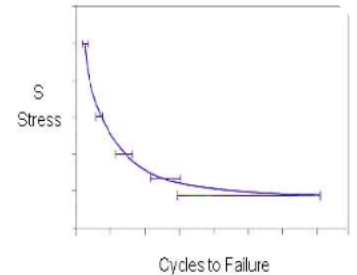
BOM  
+  
Mission profile



Modelling /  
Quantification  
/ Simulation



Cyclic strain in  
solder joints



Life time model

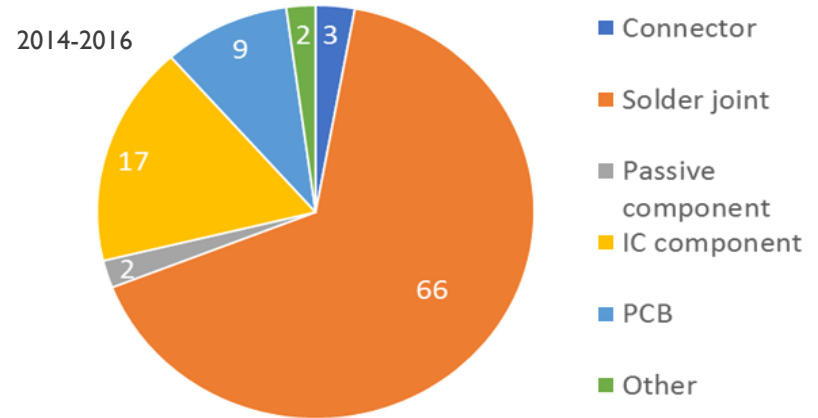
# THE PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE APPROACH

## RELIABILITY OF A SYSTEM

$$\lambda_{\text{sys}} = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + \dots + \lambda_n + \lambda_{\text{PCB}}$$

is not valid.

% distribution of Failure studies by cEDM (imec)



### How to handle?

- Identify all failure opportunities (EDM-D-100 – [www.cedm.be](http://www.cedm.be))
- PoF based reliability function  $R_i(t)$  per FO.

$R_i(t)$ : Probability that no failure has occurred at time  $t$  at failure opportunity  $i$ .

- For a system without redundancy: 
$$R_{\text{sys}}(t) = \prod_{\forall \text{ Fail.Opp.}} R_i(t)$$



# THE PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE APPROACH

OBTAINING  $R(t)$  FOR 1000 TO 100000 FAILURE OPPORTUNITIES?

## What do we need?

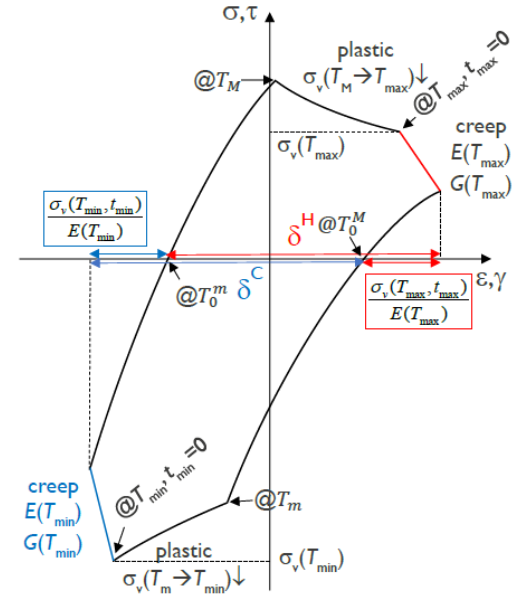
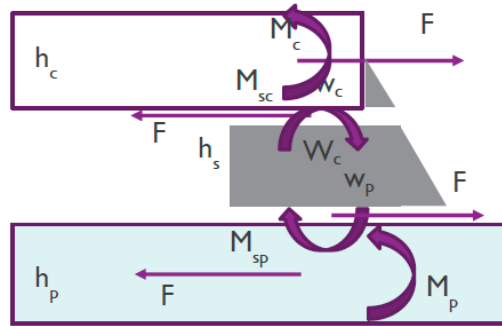
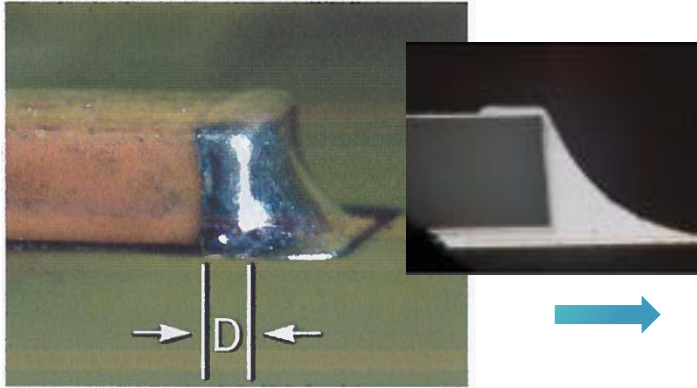
- Quantified understanding of the relationship between design and mission profile and the probability of failure.
- Fast (seconds) quantification of  $R_i(t)$  for all (relevant) failure opportunities to evaluate a PBA in an acceptable time.

## The answer: Analytical modeling

- Physics-based equations that directly relate the stress factors to the “damage factor”.
- Complete physical understanding and insight.
- “immediate” calculation of required answer with basic tools, even Excel.

# THE PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE APPROACH

## AN EXAMPLE: SOLDER JOINTS OF A “CHIP” COMPONENT



$$\frac{L - w_c}{2} \left[ (\alpha_p - \alpha_c)(T_{\max} - T_0^m) - F_{\max}(s_h, T_{\max}, t_{\max}) \left( \frac{1}{E_p h_p b_p} + \frac{1}{E_c h_c b_c} \right) \right] - \frac{L - w_c}{2} \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{\alpha_p + \alpha_c}{2} (T_{\max} - T_0^m) \right) \left( \frac{h_p + h_s}{2} \frac{M_p^{\max}(T_{\max})}{E_p I_p} + \frac{h_c + h_s}{2} \frac{M_c^{\max}(T_{\max})}{E_c I_c} \right) \right] = \delta^H$$

Elastic/plastic/creep, bending, 2D/3D, temperature, dimensions, fillet, materials, ...

# THE PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE APPROACH

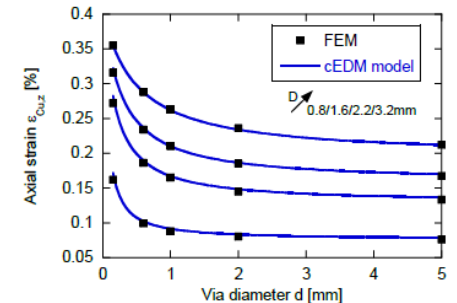
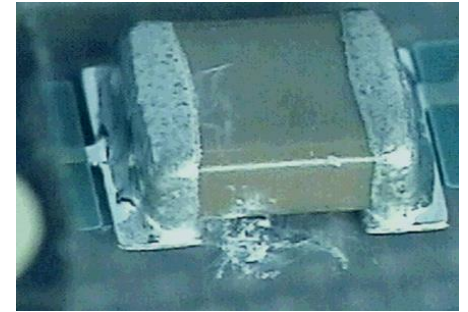
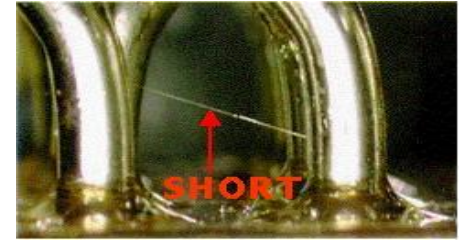
## ANALYTICAL ANALYSIS: CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

Not all failure mechanisms are understood quantitatively.  
E.g. whisker growth.

Model parameters cannot be obtained with the  
required accuracy. E.g. corrosion.

(Still) limited availability of sufficiently accurate  
analytical models. Effort to develop the analytical models.

Acceptance by industry of analytical modeling/evaluation.



# PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE IN PRACTICE TODAY

## ELIMINATING FAILURE OPPORTUNITIES: THE UNKNOWNNS

### Step I: Know what you do not know!

Identify failure opportunities for which the wear-out failure mechanism is unknown, lifetime cannot be assessed, ...

Exotic cases? **Applies to the major part of the components!**

#### Action:

- Document, register as unknown (and hope for the best<sup>(1)</sup>)...
- ... or start some research and test.



(1): Some may find some peace of mind by using constant failure rate modeling. It has no added value w.r.t. to wear-out.



# PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE IN PRACTICE TODAY

## ELIMINATING FAILURE OPPORTUNITIES: QUANTIFICATION VS. MITIGATION

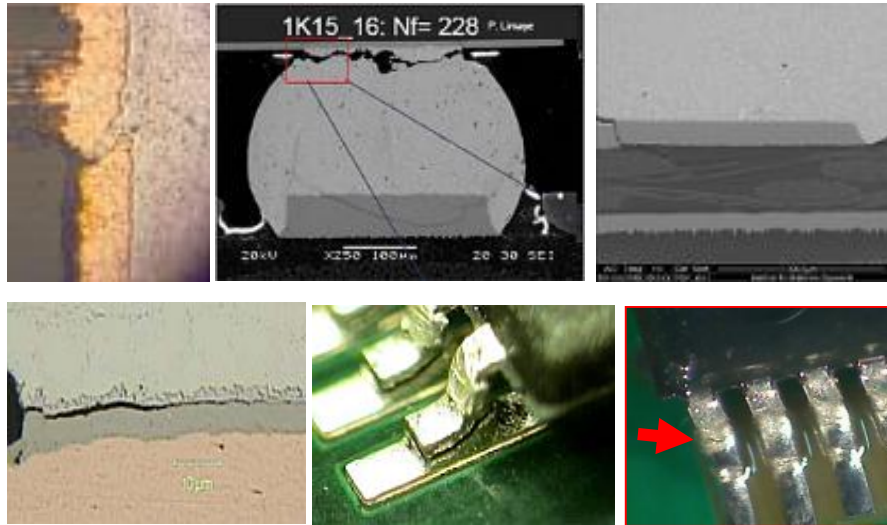
Step 2

**Quantification**

versus

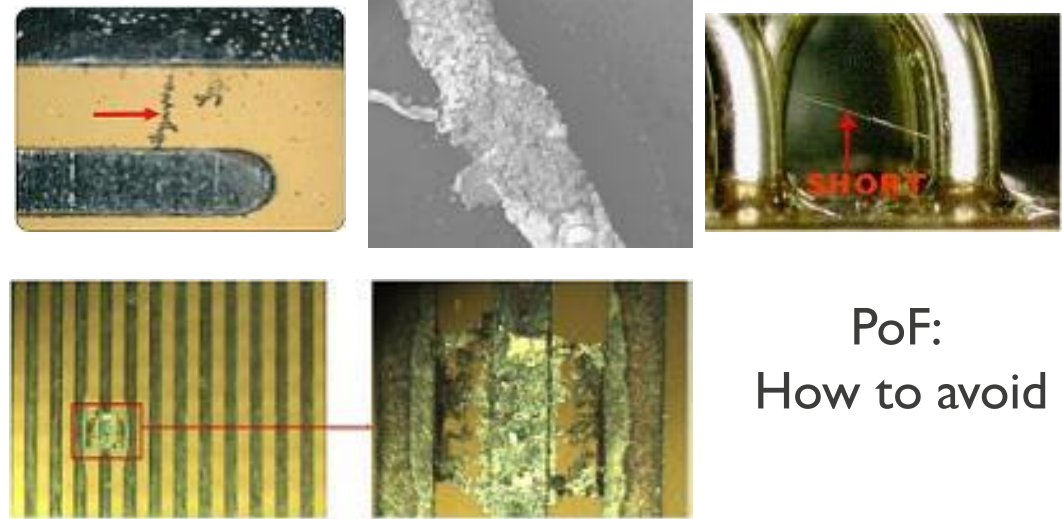
**Mitigation**

**Connection failure**



Quantifiable with PoF:  
Thermo-mechanical stress

**Insulation failure**



PoF:  
How to avoid

- Material specification e.g. fluxes
- Coating
- Environmental protection

$$R_i(t) = I$$

# PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE IN PRACTICE TODAY

## ELIMINATING FAILURE OPPORTUNITIES: NOT CRITICAL

### Step 3: Eliminate non-contributors using FMEA.

E.g. Solder joint fatigue (see EDM-D-002)

Not critical:

- Through-hole connections
- Components with flexible leads
- Components soldered to thin and/or flexible boards

Critical:

- Large SMD ceramic chip components  $\geq 1810$
- QFN > 4mm x 4mm

**This requires some  
PoF expertise.**

# PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE IN PRACTICE TODAY

## STEP 4: MODELS & TOOLS

### Scientific literature:

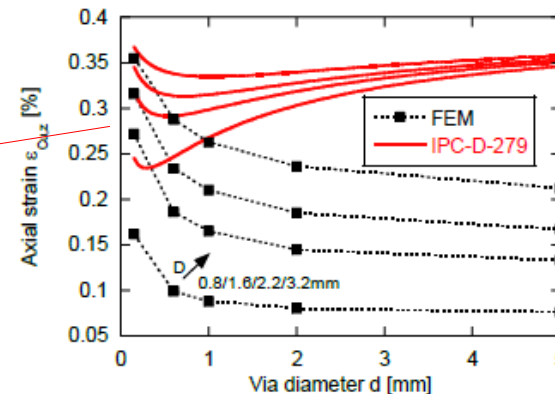
- Often too detailed (in-depth), complicated, hard to implement and use. For scientific use not for industrial implementation.
- Far from complete.

### Standards:

- IEEE 1413-2010: Reliability Prediction of Hardware (IEEE 1413.1: Guide)
- Physics of Failure Reliability Prediction ANSI/VITA 51.3 (2016)

### Models:

- Large empirical part including “quality” factors
- Limited number effects taken into account.
- Not very accurate e.g. IPC-D-279 (solder joint and via fatigue model)



# PHYSICS-OF-FAILURE IN PRACTICE TODAY

## MODELS & TOOLS

Physics-of-Failure based tools combining DfR FMEA, numerical and analytical modeling

### CALCE's SARA

<https://www.calce.umd.edu/software/>



### DfR Solutions' Sherlock

<http://www.dfrsolutions.com/what-is-sherlock>



# CONCLUSION

The reliability of electronics is of increasing importance

A Physics-of-Failure based reliability assessment is the only viable approach to lifetime assessment of modern electronics.

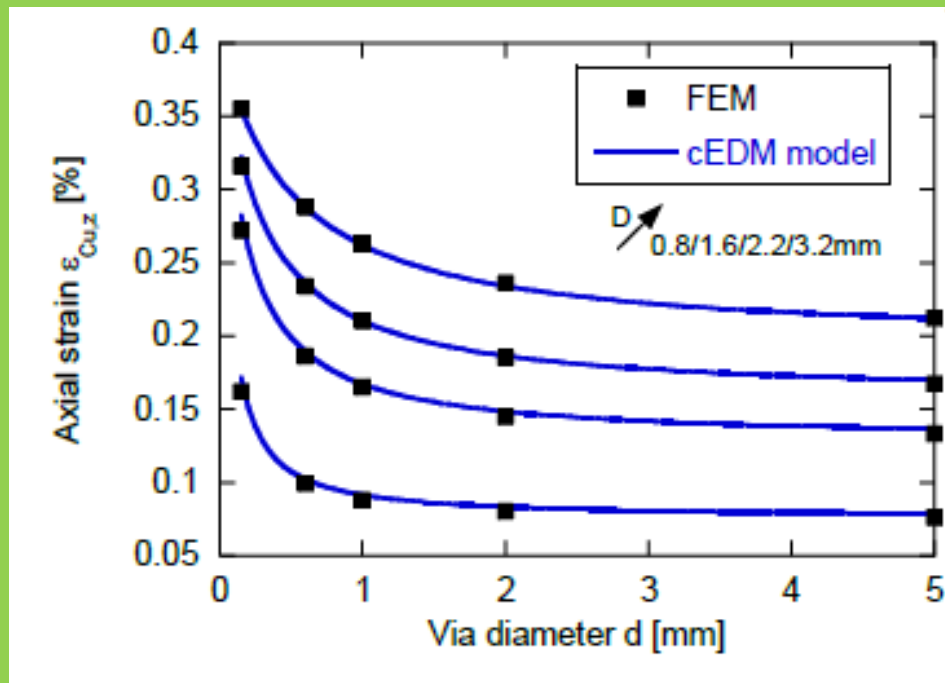
Analytical modeling is pivotal in providing physical insight, fast and sufficiently accurate analysis, increasing the coverage and ease of use.

It is not easy but we can help.

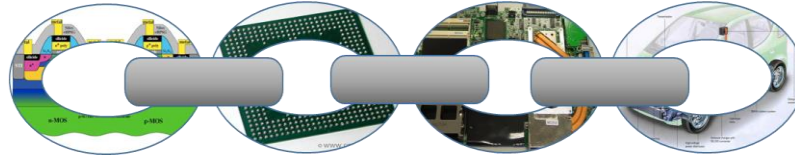




# Modeling Tools Guidelines Assistance



# INPROVOL



## Is InProVoL of interest to you?

Join the 30 companies/organisations in the VIS-traject InProVoL community

- Join user committee
- Join the InProVoL consortium as cEDM partner or member  
(InProVoL consortium member fee is covered by cEDM partner/membership)
- Contact [Bart.Cox@imec.be](mailto:Bart.Cox@imec.be) - +32 16 283108 - +32 478 252316
- Project leader [Bart.Vandevelde@imec.be](mailto:Bart.Vandevelde@imec.be) - +32 16 281513 - +32 473 694157

# THANK YOU



embracing a better life



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