

**High Performance Packaging of Power Electronics:**  
*Role of Thermally Engineered Materials*

M.C. Shaw

*Rockwell Science Center, Thousand Oaks, CA*

**30 May, 2001**

# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

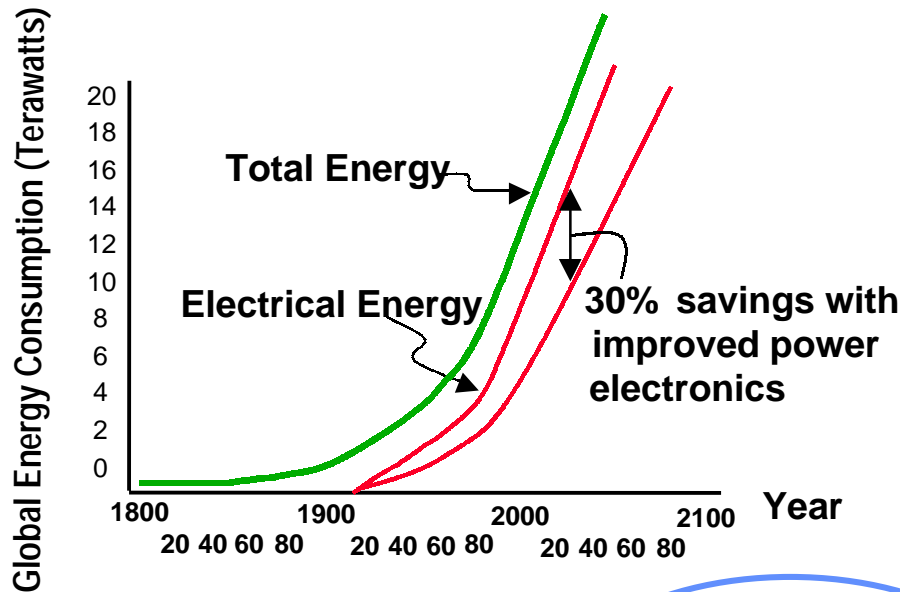
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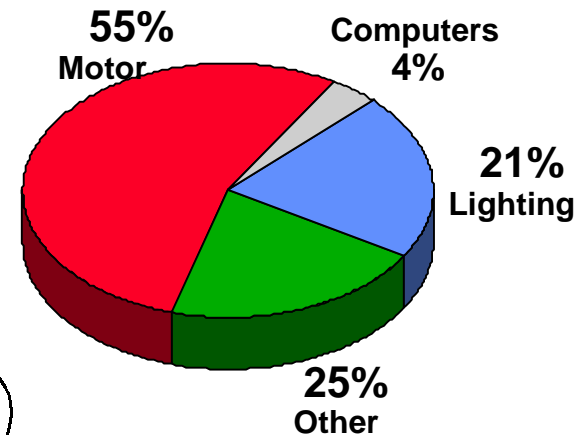
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<b>14. ABSTRACT</b> ? Advantages of new approaches must be demonstrated at the system, e.g., motor drive, level. Device Power Density (A/cm2 or W/cm2 ) System Power Density (W/m3) Lifetime Assurance of Entire System System Cost Analysis Ultimately Required			
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# Global Energy Consumption and Power Electronics

(Source: NSF Center for Power Electronic Systems: <http://www.cpes.vt.edu/>)



## US Electrical Energy Consumption



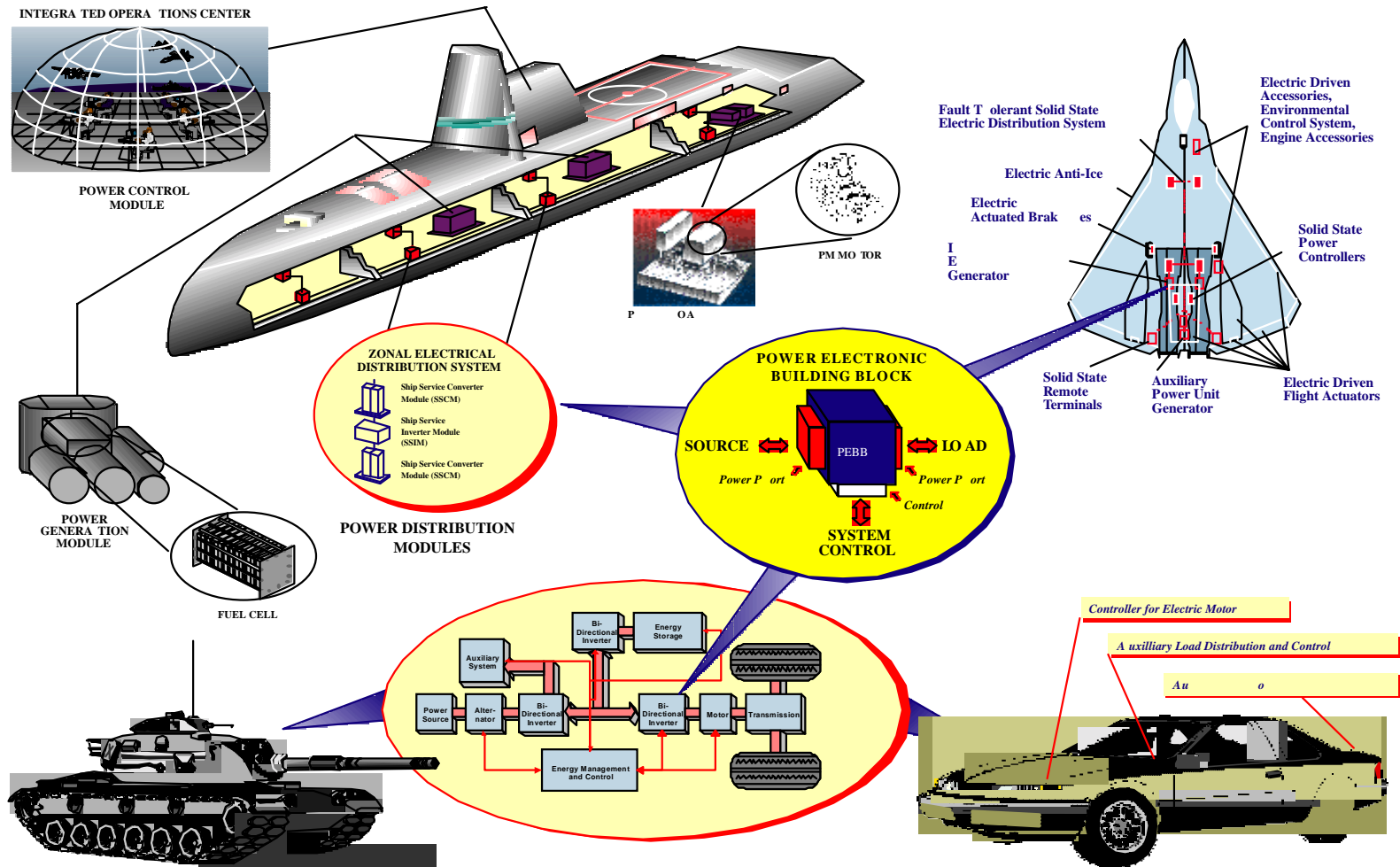
**\* Output of 840 power plants**

\* EPRI

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# Defense Power Electronics Requirements Example: PEBBs

Courtesy of G. Campisi, Office of Naval Research



# Power Electronic Systems

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- **Motor Drives**

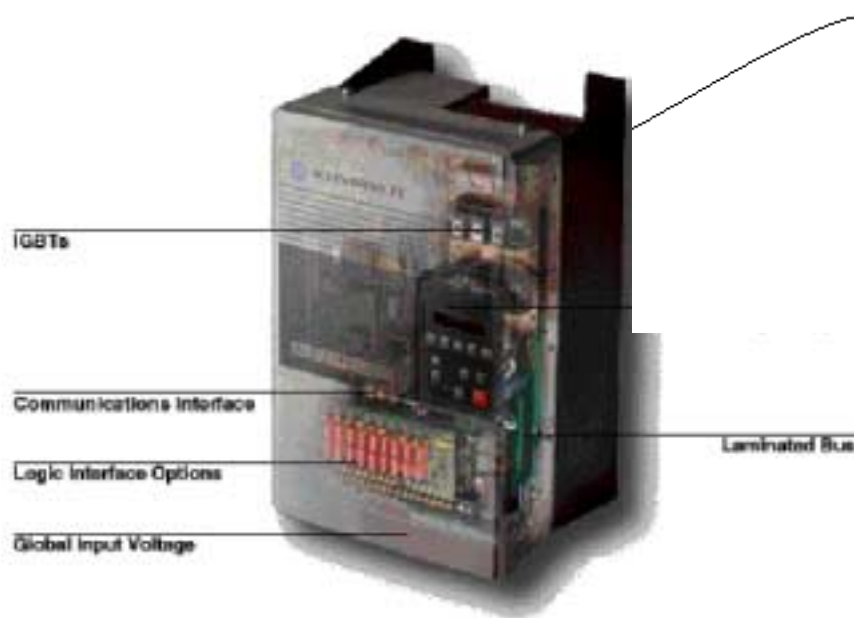
Today's Topic

- **Radar / Microwave Communications**
- **dc to dc Converters**
- **Power Supplies**
- **Electric Vehicle Drives**
- **Weapons Systems**

# Drive & Motor *Automation System*

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## Rockwell Automation - Allen Bradley 1336 Force Drive



### *Performance Metrics:*

- *Power Density*
- *Cost*
- *Reliability*

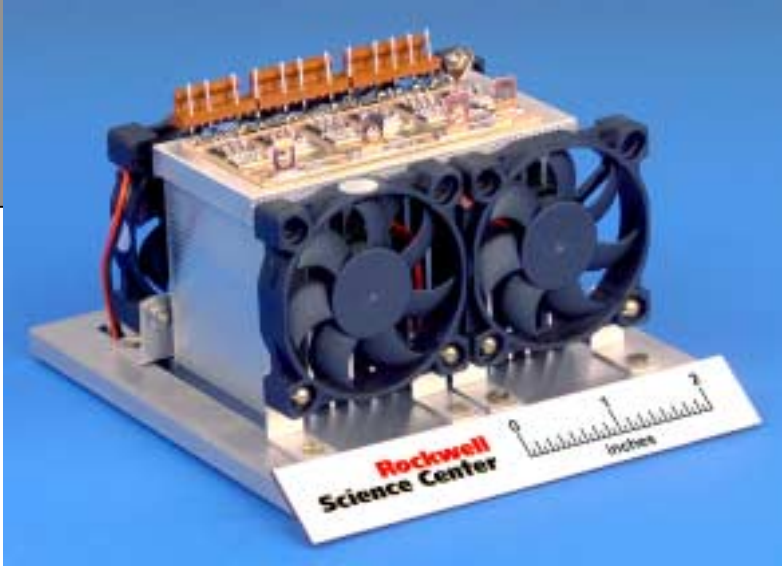
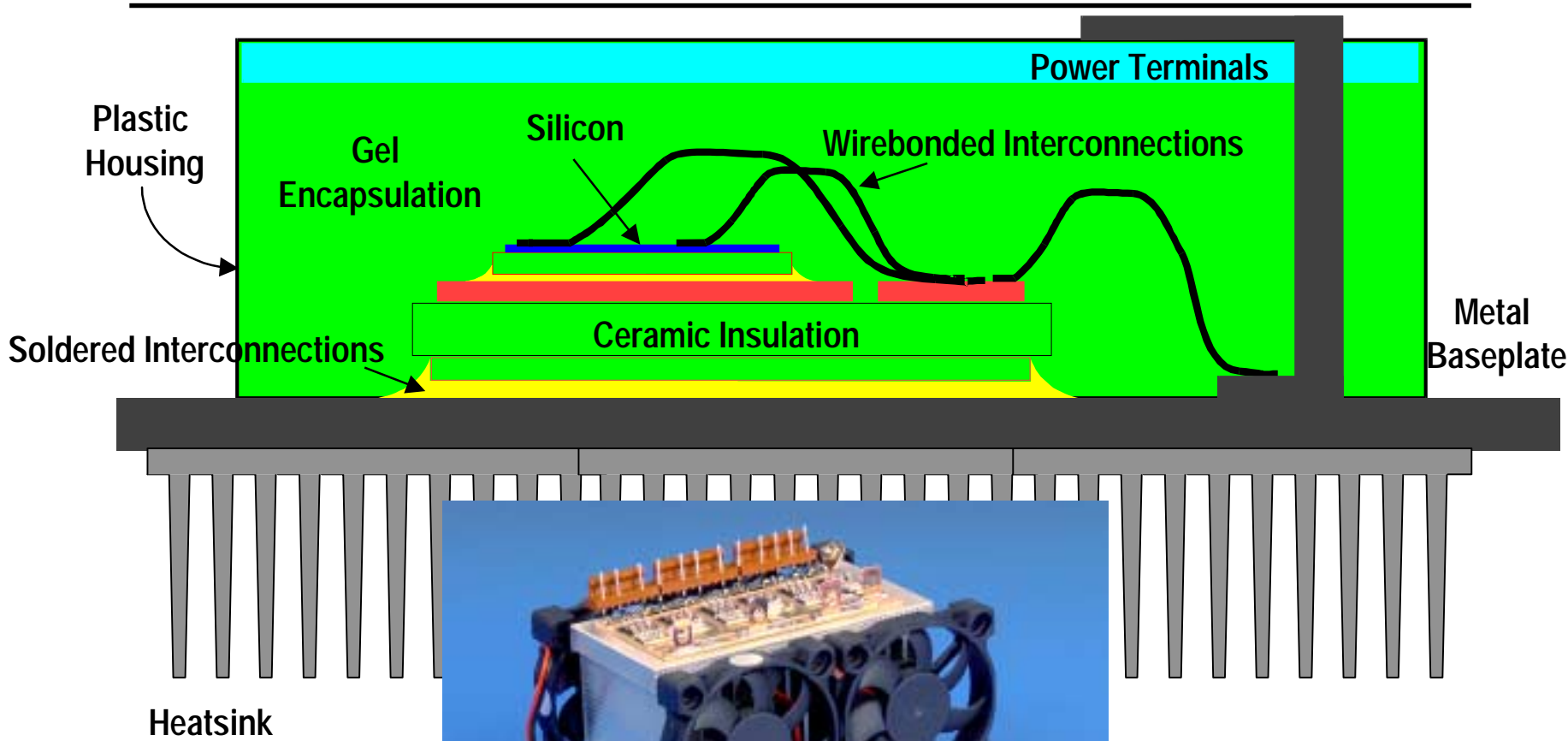


Converts AC power (fixed frequency, voltage) to  
AC Power (variable frequency, current, and voltage)  
Enables exact control of speed (RPM) and torque of *motors*  
*Motors become controlled electromechanical energy converters.*

Rockwell Automation  
Reliance Electric AC Motor

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# Basic Power Packaging Elements



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# Generic Electronic Packaging Technology Hurdles

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Controlled Power Density ( W / m<sup>3</sup> )

High Power Requirements from Devices

High Packaging Densities

Weight Requirements

Cost ( \$ / Function )

Reliability ( MTBF )

# High-Temperature Packaging of SiC Electronics

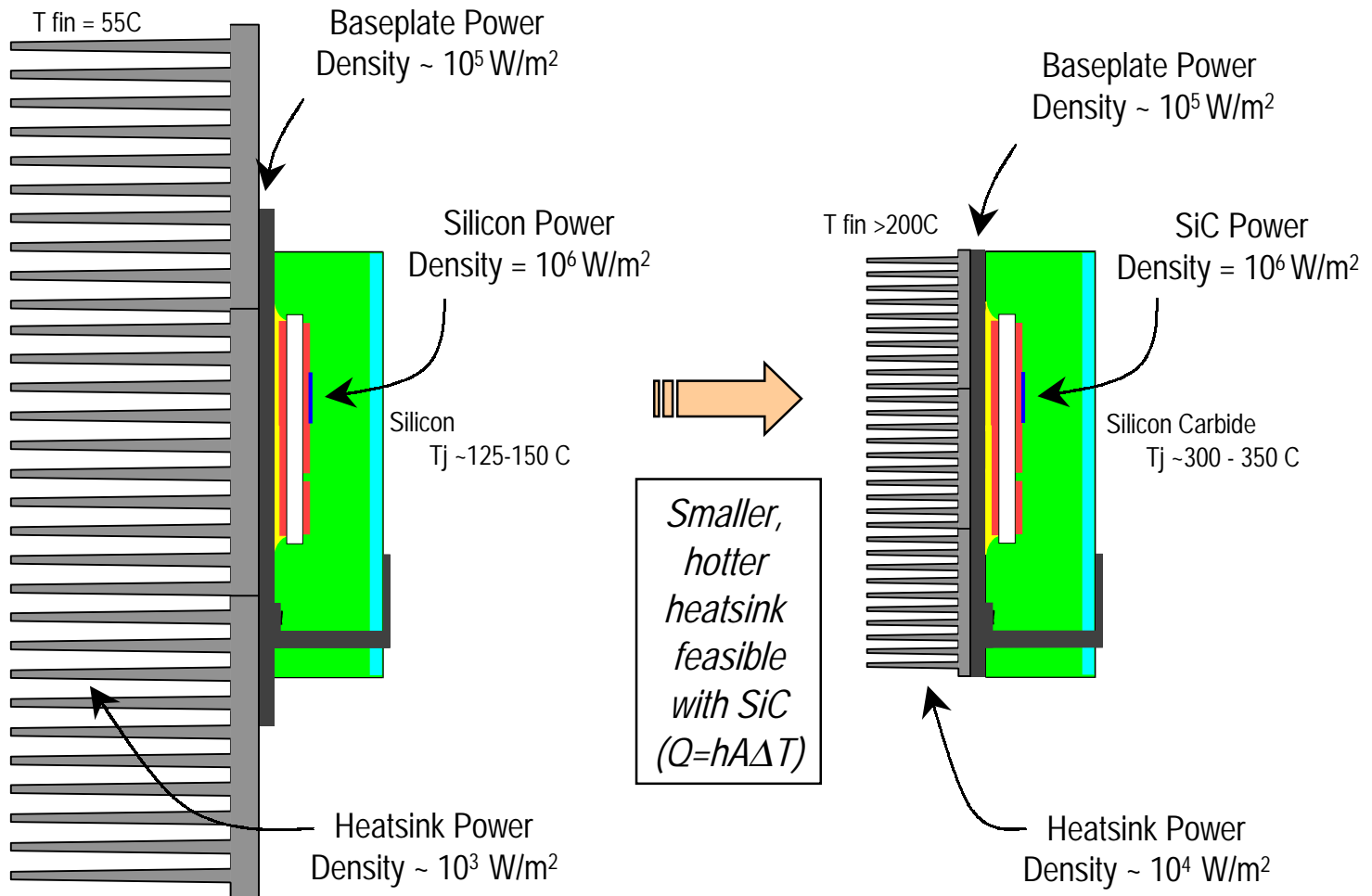
M.C. Shaw, J.R. Waldrop, F. Zok,<sup>1</sup>  
*Rockwell Science Center, Thousand Oaks, CA*  
<sup>1</sup>*University of California, Santa Barbara CA*



30 May, 2001



# Decrease in System Volume Through Utilization Of *Silicon Carbide (SiC) Electronics*



# Thermomechatronics

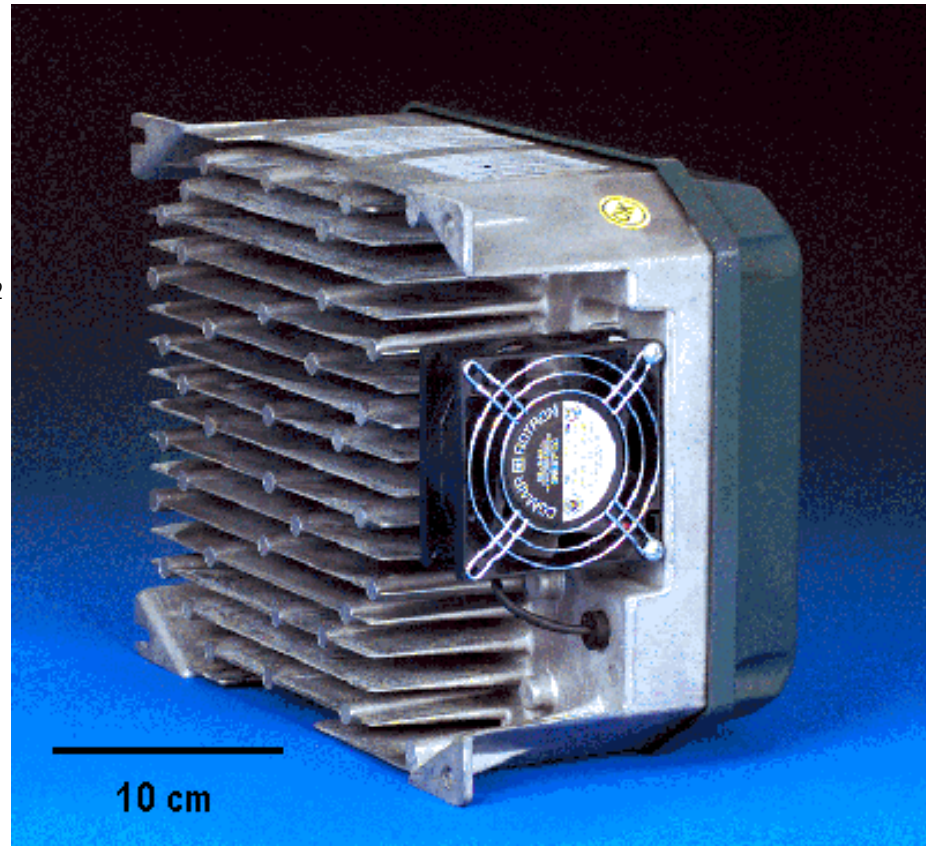
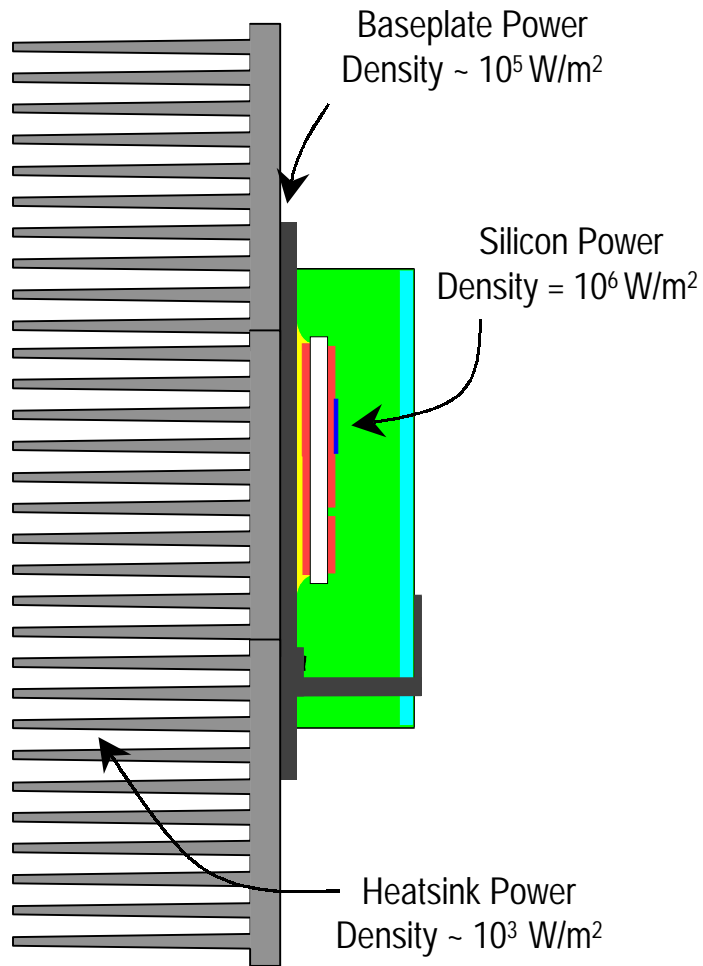
M.C. Shaw and E.R. Brown,<sup>1</sup>

*Rockwell Science Center, Thousand Oaks, CA*

<sup>1</sup>*University of California, Los Angeles CA*

30 May, 2001

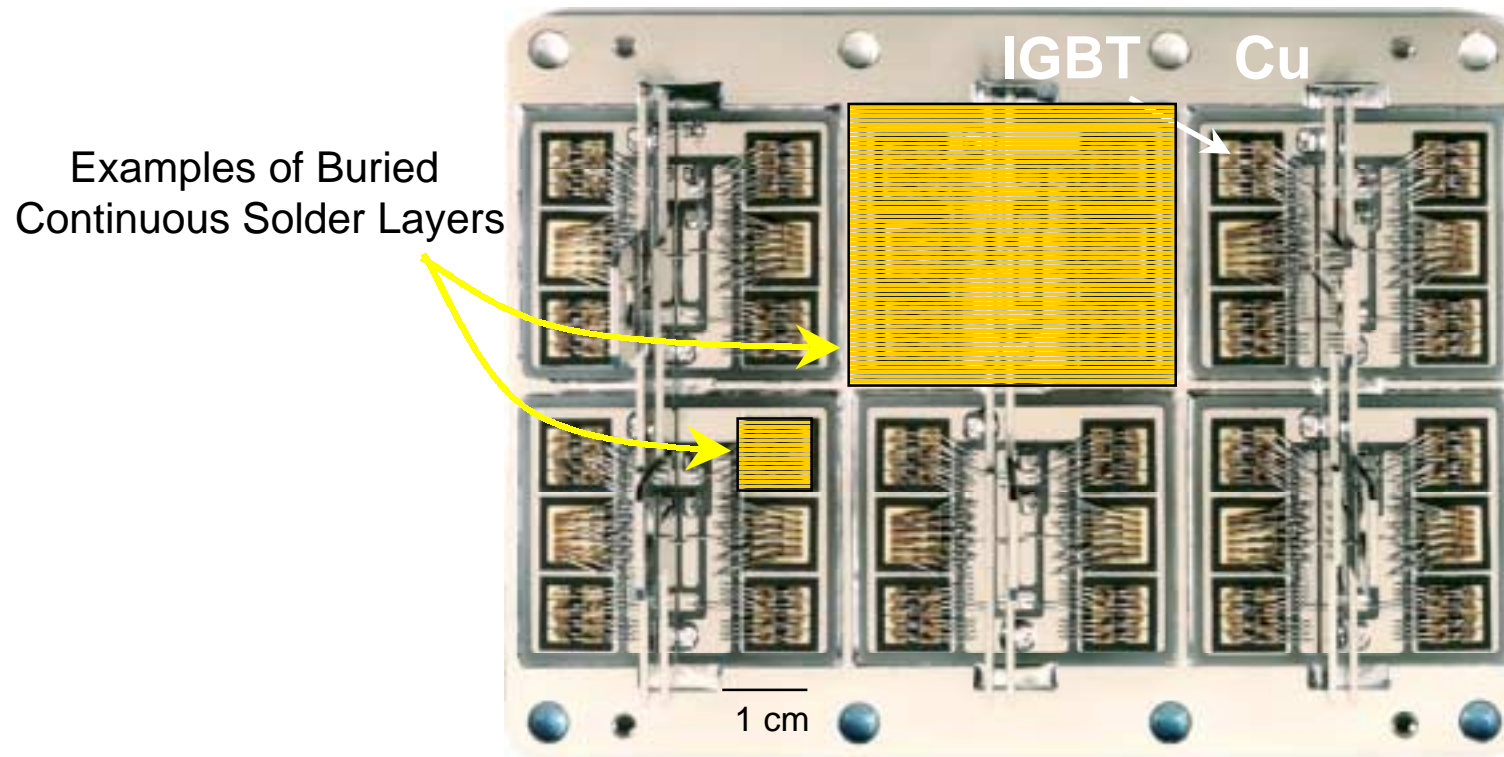
# Thermal Management of Power Electronics: Spread Power Density from Device to Heatsink



5 hp Motor Drive Example

# Large Area Solder Joint Reliability in Power Assemblies

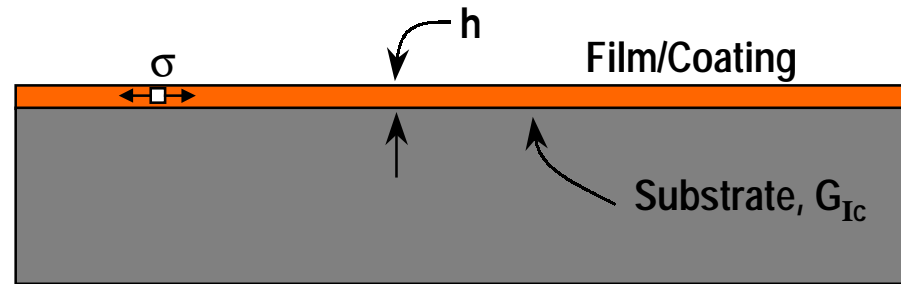
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Internal view of a 1200A, 3300V IGBT module  
(courtesy: Eupec GmbH+ Co.)

# Elastic Fracture Mechanics Energy Balance in Layered Systems

$\sigma$  = Stress in coating  
 $h$  = Coating thickness  
 $E, \nu$  = Elastic properties  
 $Z \sim 0.3$

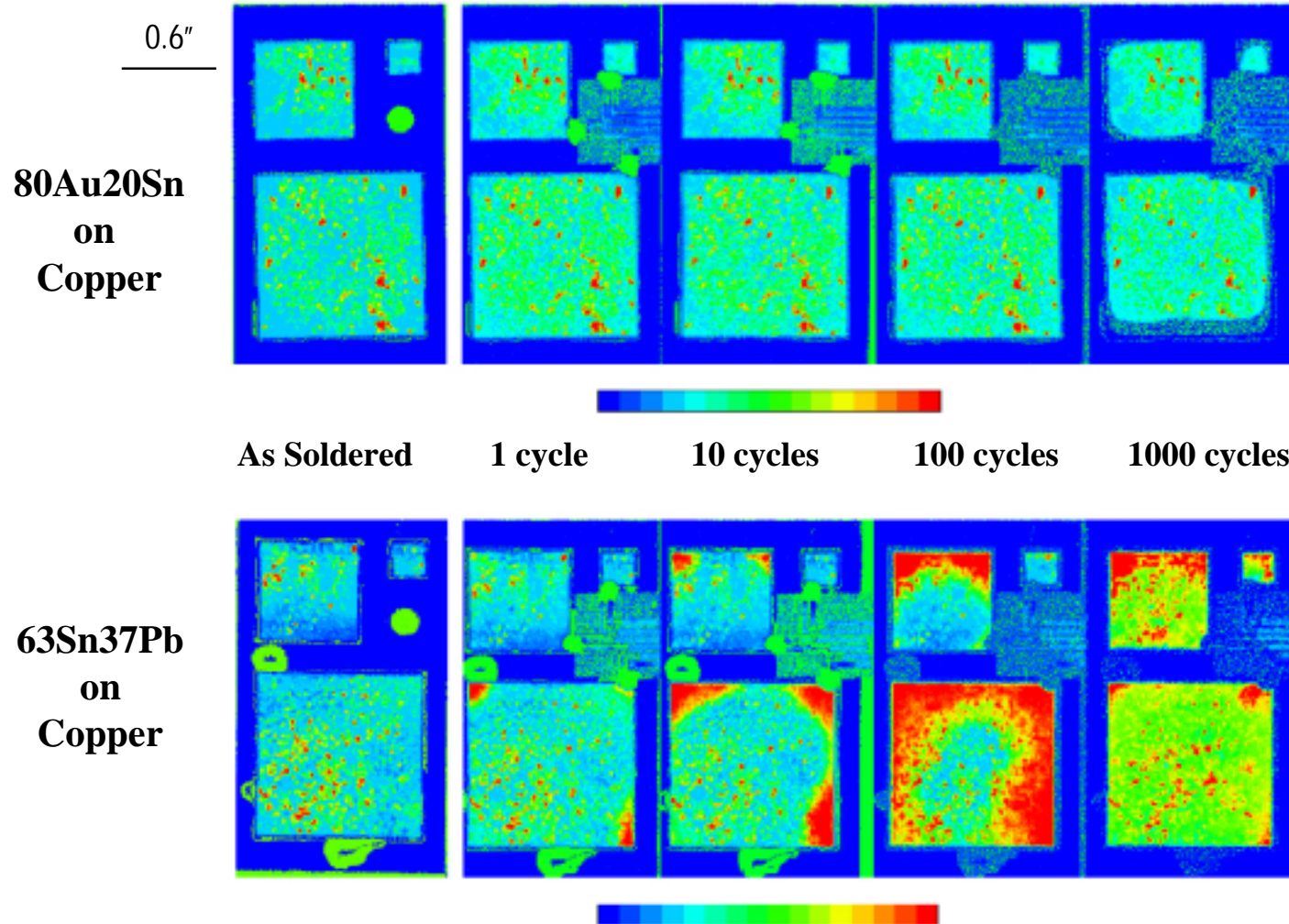


$$\frac{Z \sigma^2 h (1 - \nu^2)}{E} \begin{matrix} > \\ < \end{matrix} G_{Ic}$$

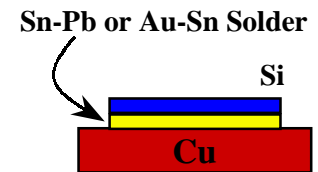
Driving Force for Crack Growth or Material or Interfacial Crack Growth Resistance

Cracking depends on which is larger:

# Thermal Cycling of Sn - Pb (Elastic/Plastic) vs Au-Sn (Elastic) Joints



$\Delta\alpha = 14.1$  ppm;  
Elastic Solder

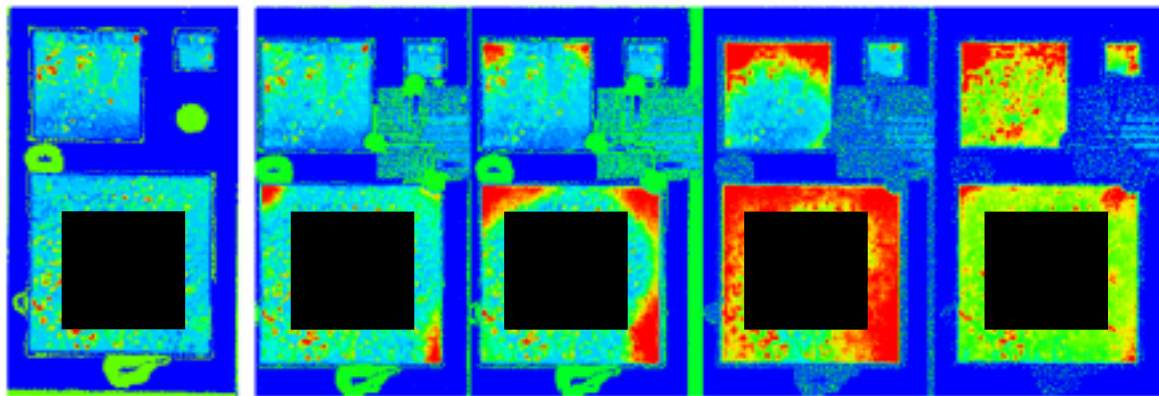
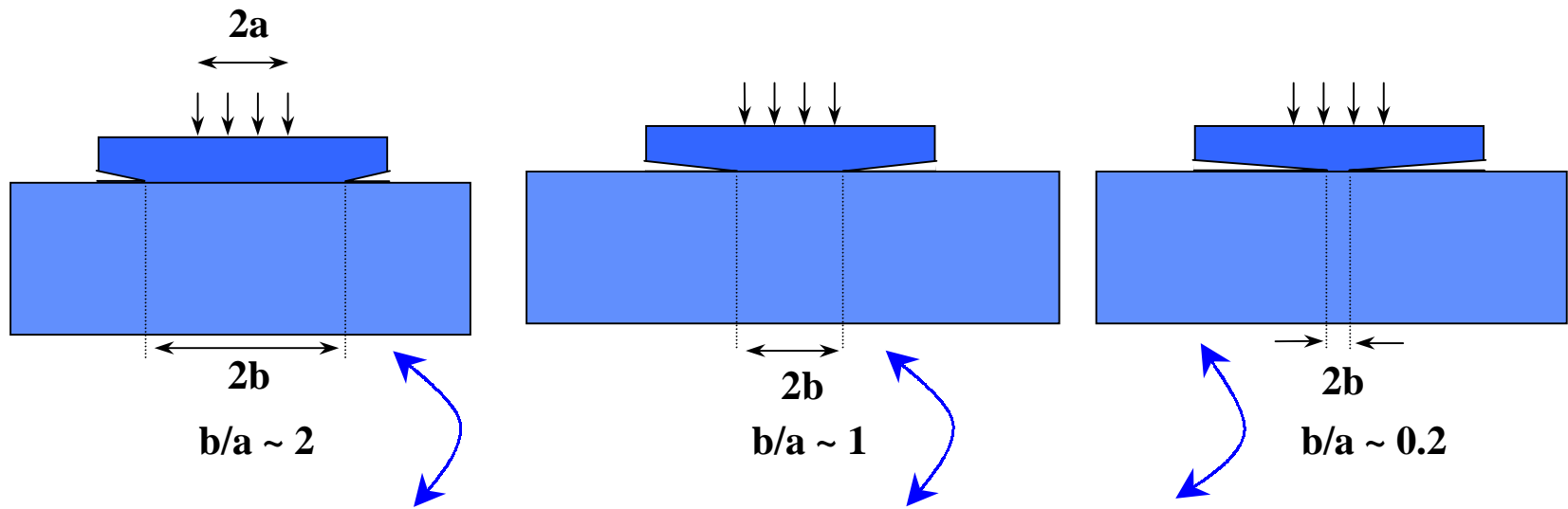


$\Delta\alpha = 14.1$  ppm,  
Elastic / Plastic Solder

*Ultrasonic Reflection Microscopy*

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# Model of progressive crack growth in DBC/baseplate solder joint



As Soldered

1 cycle

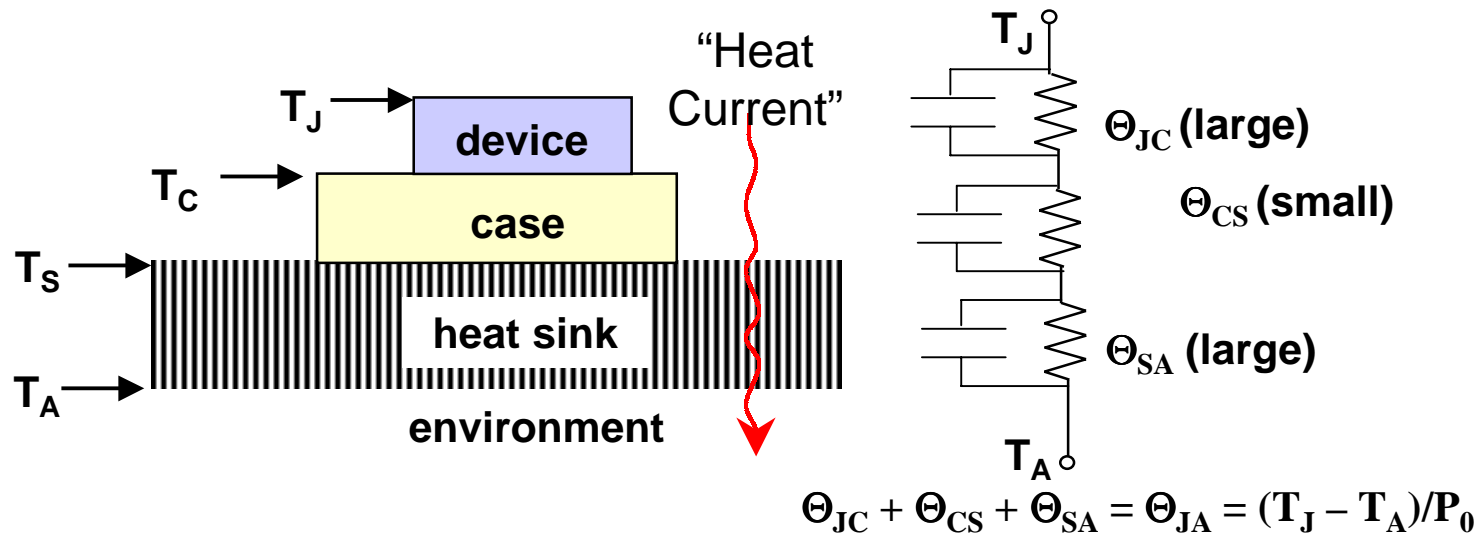
10 cycles

100 cycles

1000 cycles

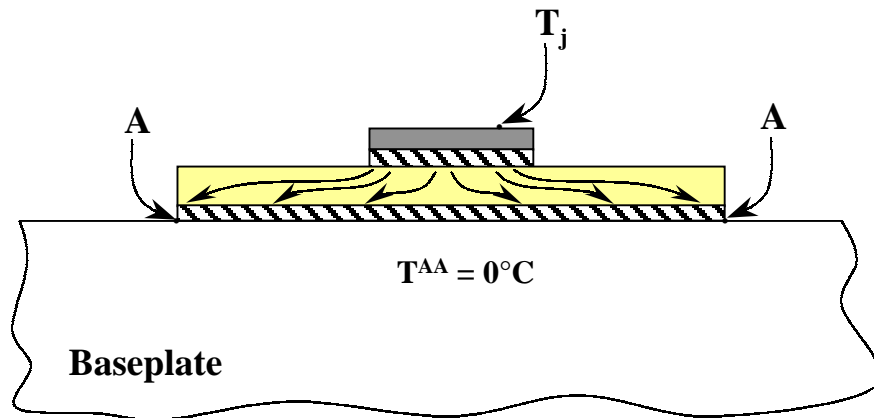
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# Thermal Equivalent Circuit

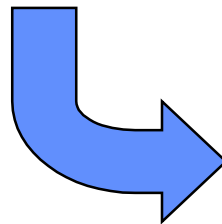


Thermal Resistance	Analytic Form	Typical Values
$\theta_{JC}$	$\sim \rho t/A_s$ $\rho$ -> thermal resistivity, $t$ -> thickness	$1.4^\circ\text{C/W}$
$\theta_{CS}$	$\sim \rho t/A_s$	$\sim 0.1\text{-}1^\circ\text{C/W}$
$\theta_{SA}$	$\sim 1/hA_s$ $h$ -> heat transfer coefficient	$10\text{-}33^\circ\text{C/W}$ (natural convection); $1\text{-}10^\circ\text{C/W}$ (forced air)

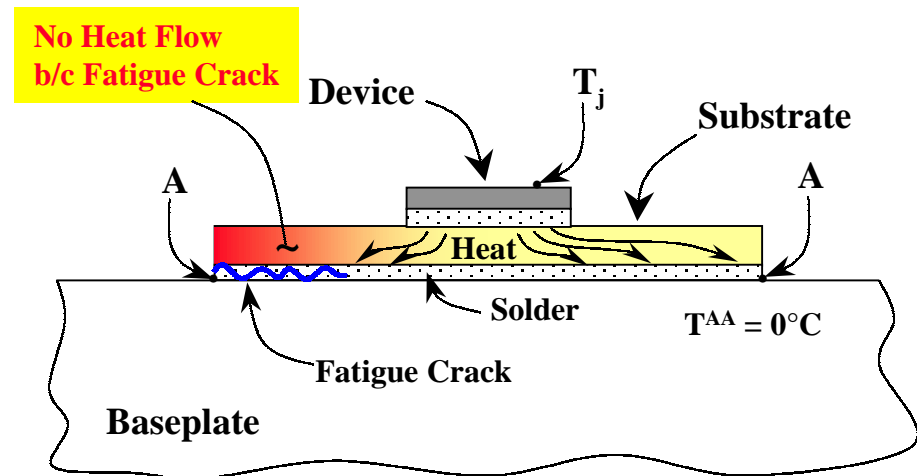
# Solder Joint Fatigue Raises Package Thermal Resistance



*Pristine condition -  
lowest thermal  
resistance*

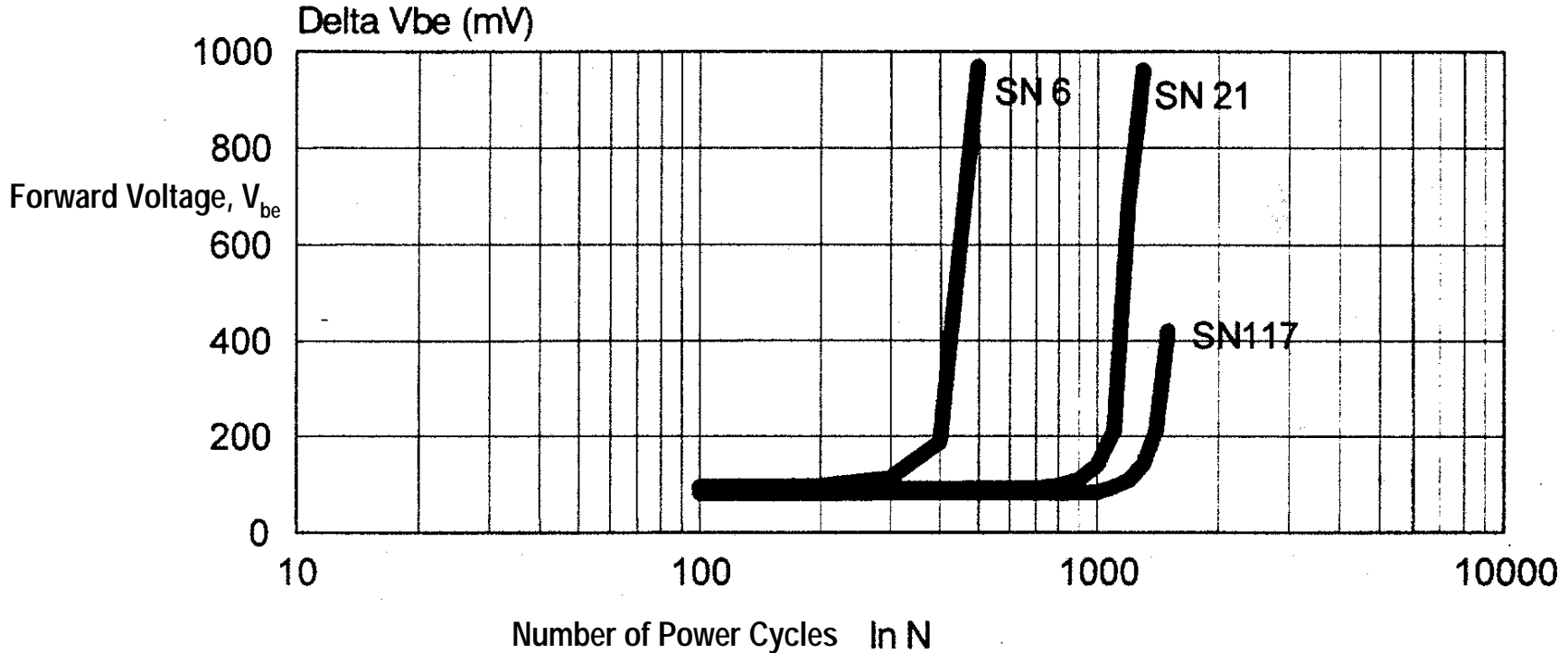


*Thermally cycled  
condition - higher  
thermal resistance*



# Bipolar Transistor Performance Degradation with Repeated Power Cycling (Ref: Evans and Evans)

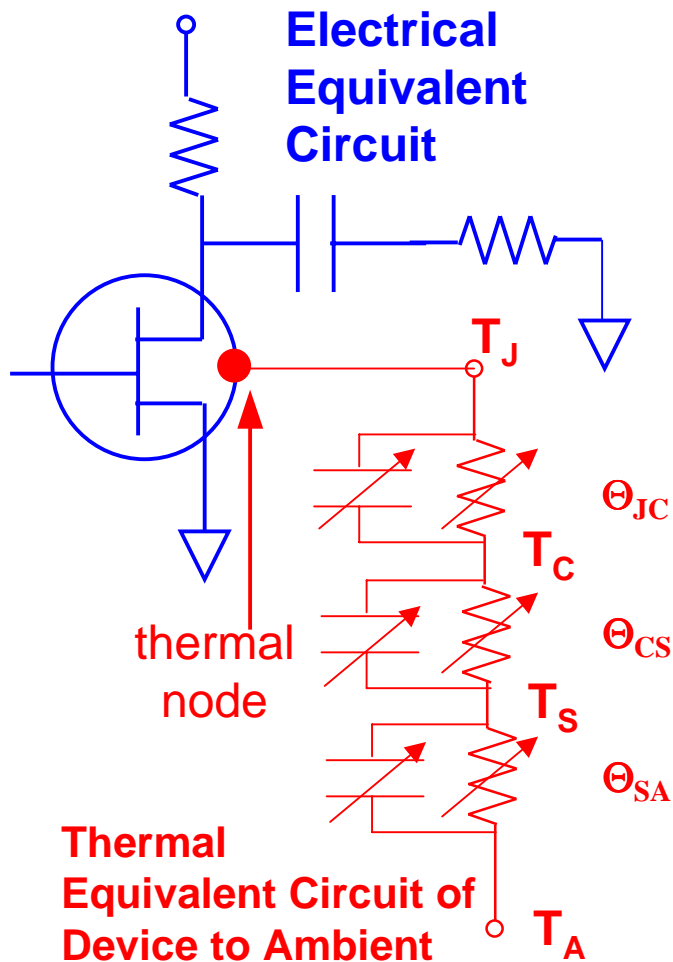
(Evans and Evans, IEEE Trans. Comp. Pack., Mfg. Tech., Part A, v. 21 no. 3 pp. 459 - 468, 1998)



*Experimental Results Showing Large Increase in Forward Voltage Drop,  $\Delta V_{be}$ , with Repeated Power Cycling,  $N$*

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# Coupled Electro-Thermal Simulation

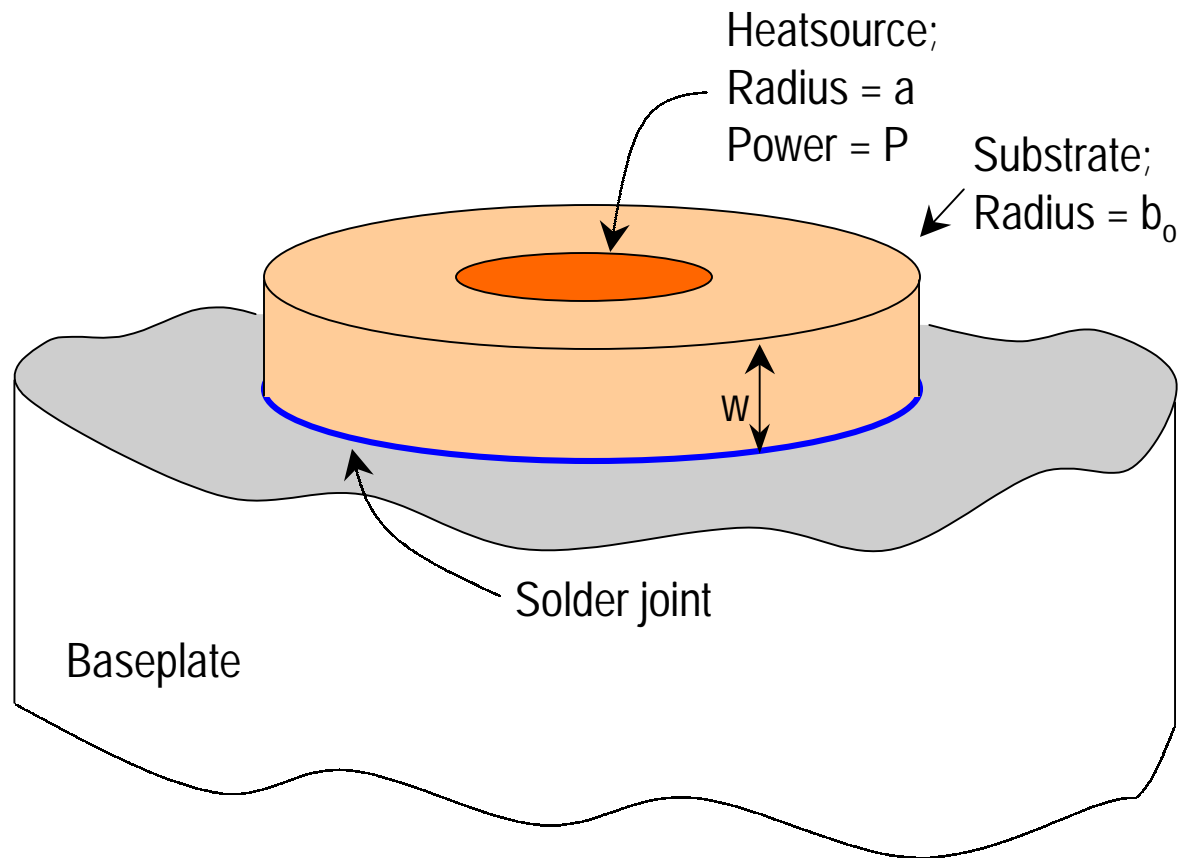


## Modeling Features:

- Nonlinear thermal circuit models
- Connect electrical to thermal circuits through unique "thermal node" (after A. Hefner of NIST)
- SPICE-like environment

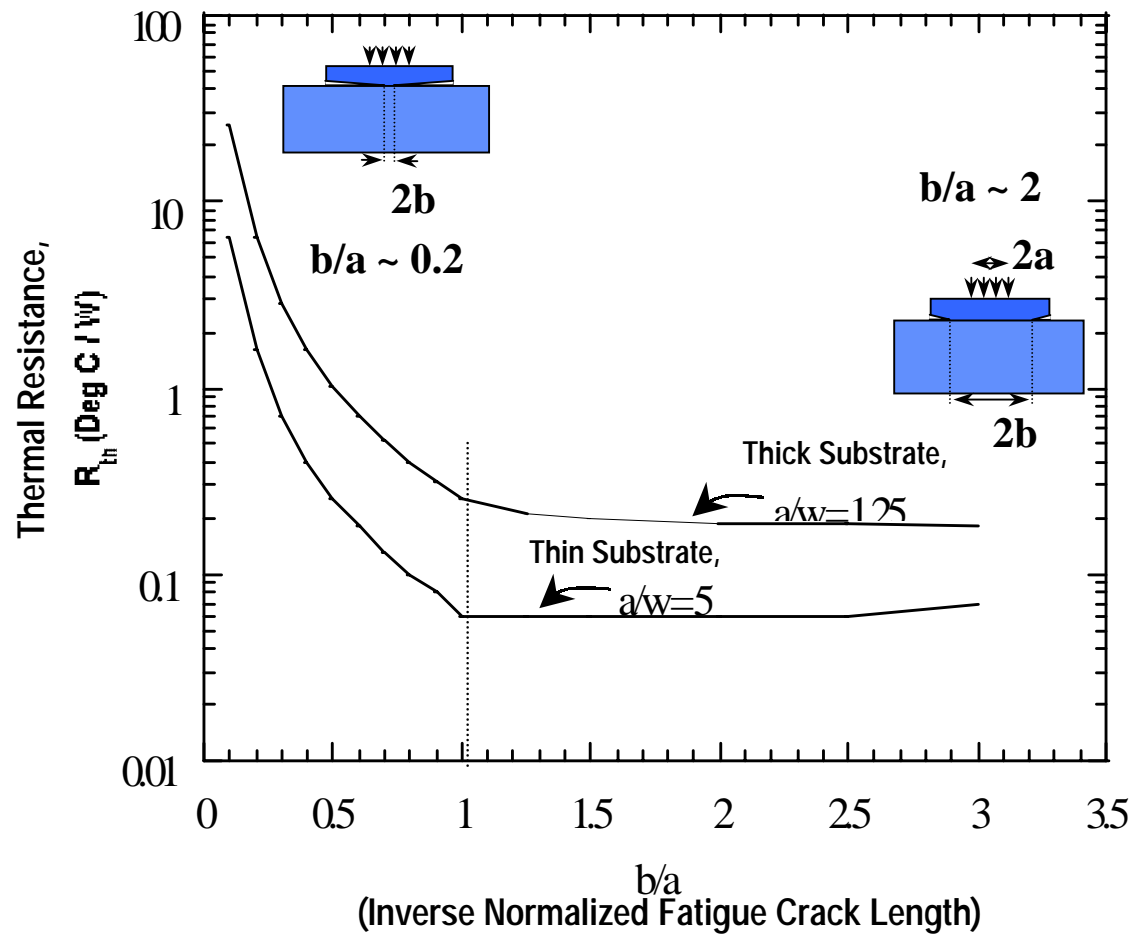
# Schematic of Model Package Geometry

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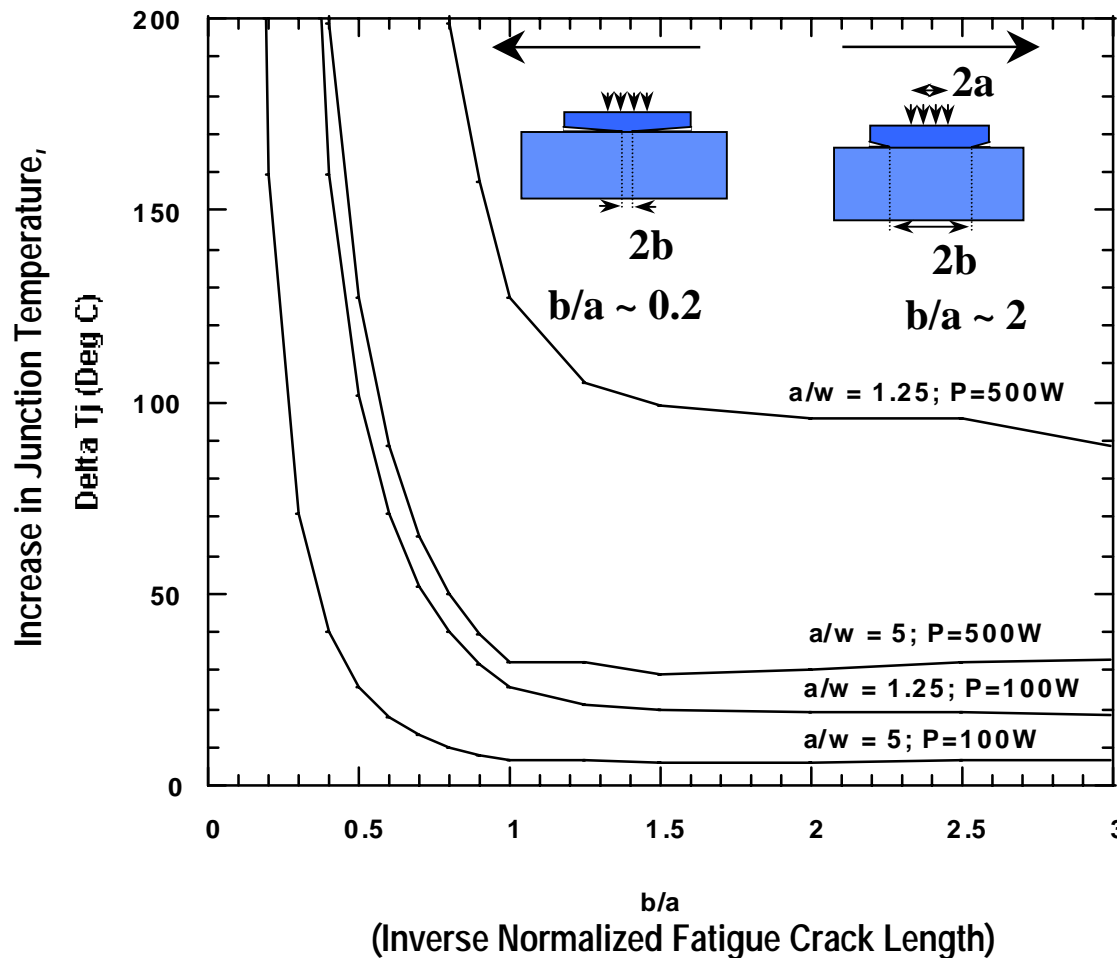


# Calculated Thermal Resistance, $R_{th}$ , vs. Inverse Normalized Fatigue Crack Length, $b/a$ .

Note the rapid increase in  $R_{th}$  with penetration of the fatigue crack into the region below the device ( $b/a \sim 1$ )



# Dependence of Junction Temperature Increase, $\Delta T_j$ , on Inverse Normalized Fatigue Crack Length, $b/a$

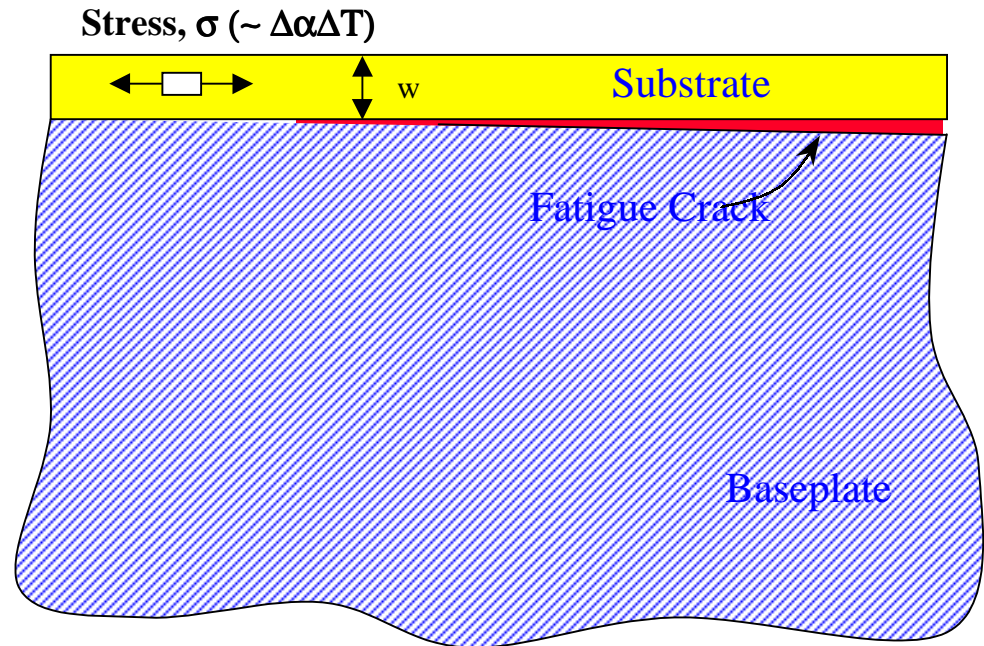


*Two different power levels and substrate thicknesses.*

# Strain Energy Release Rate, $G_{Ic}$ , Depends on $\Delta T_j$

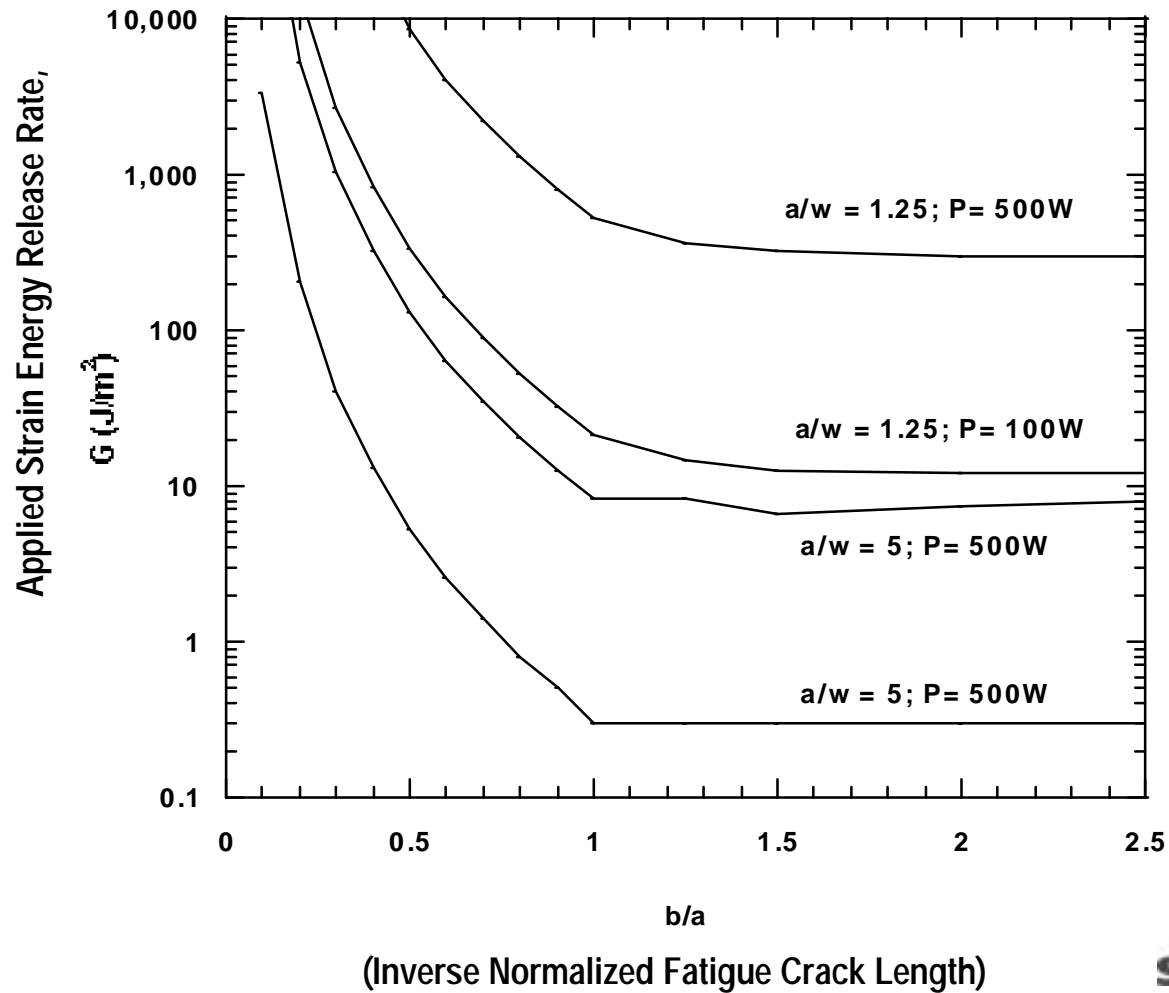
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$$\frac{Z \sigma^2 h (1 - \nu^2)}{E} = G_{Ic}$$

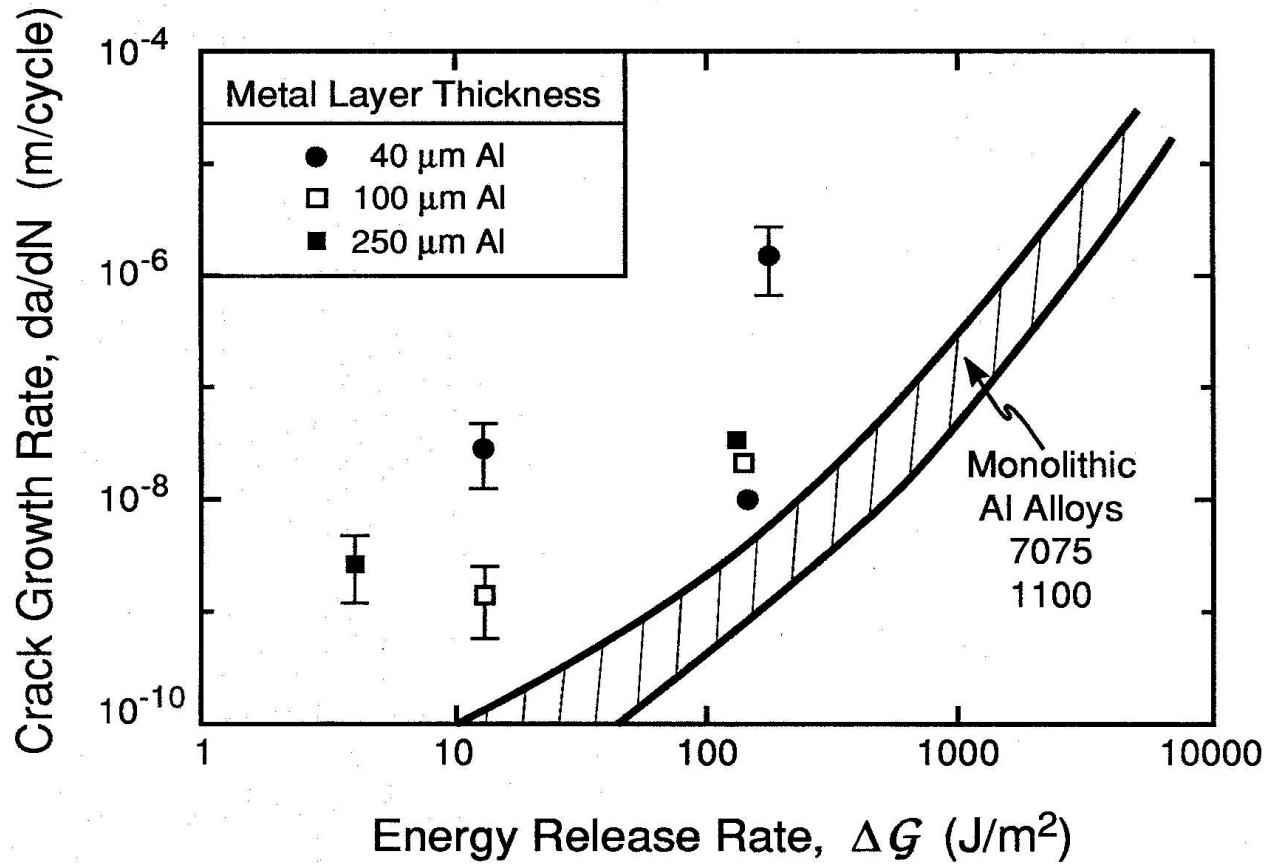


*Strain energy release rate is the driving force for fatigue crack growth*

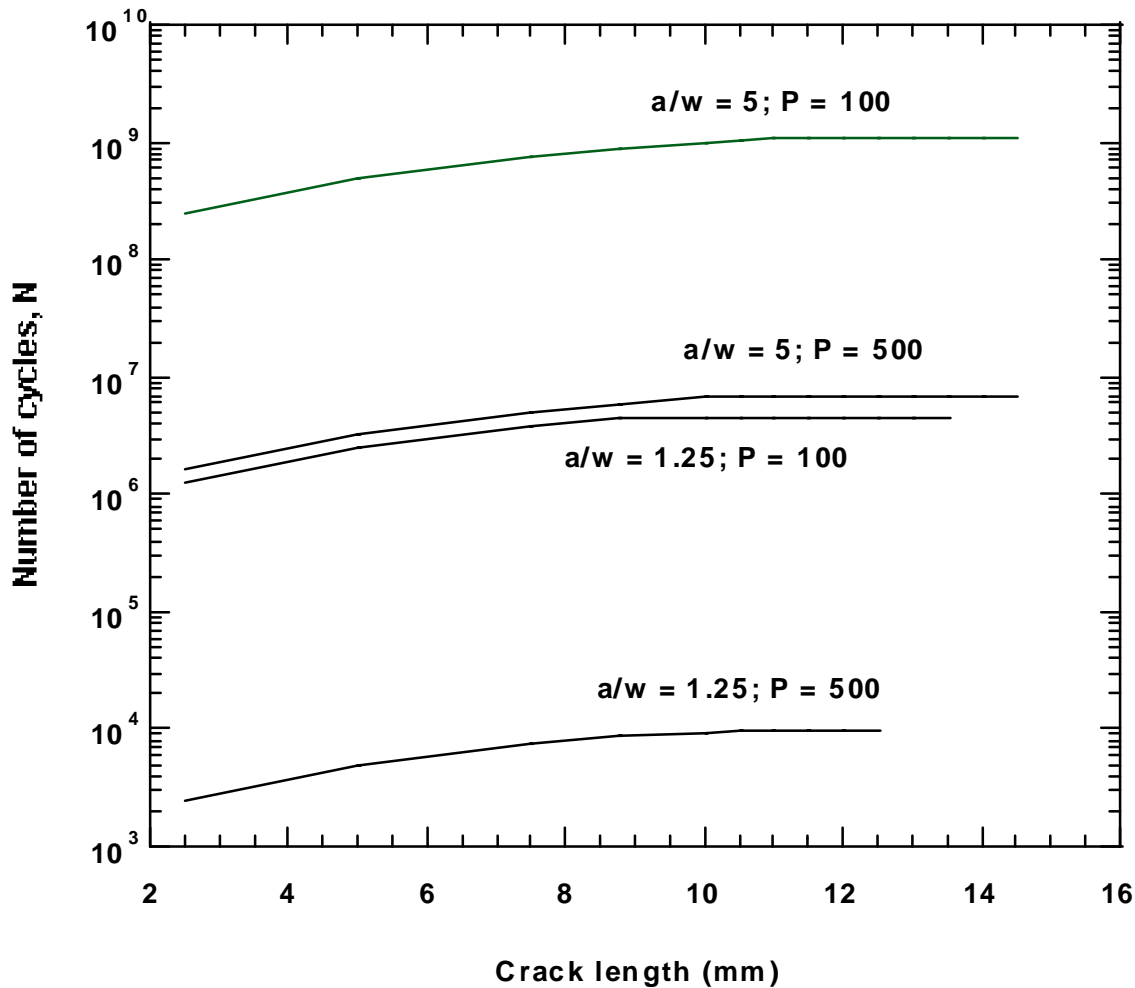
# Applied Strain Energy Release Rate, $G$ , at Fixed Device Power Dissipation vs. $b/a$ .



Experimental crack growth *rate* data,  $da/dN$ , vs. cyclic *strain energy release rate range*  $\Delta G$  for the Al-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Al-Al systems.

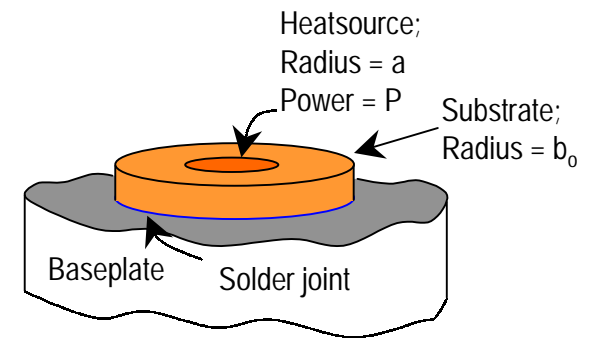
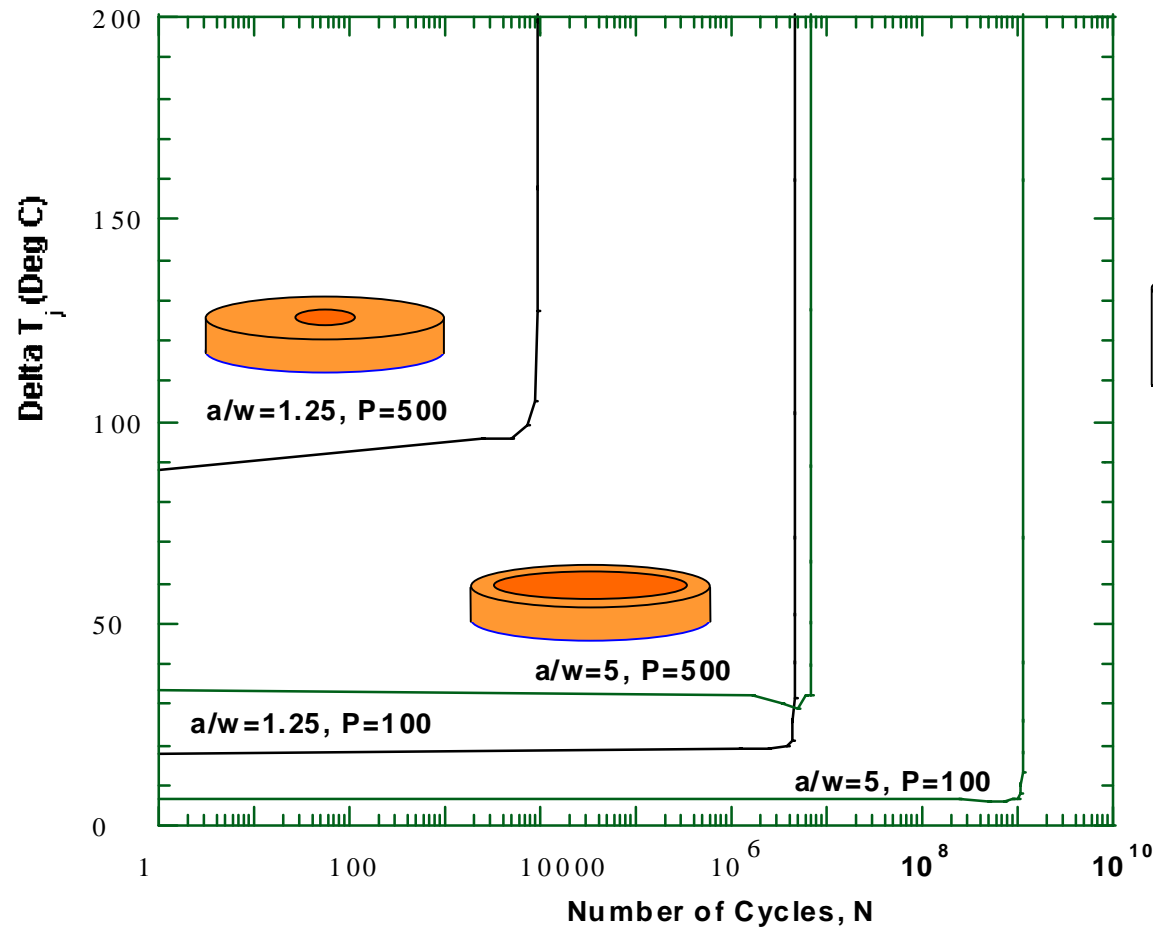


# Relationship between the number of power cycles, $N$ , and the crack length, $l$ for two different power levels and substrate thicknesses.

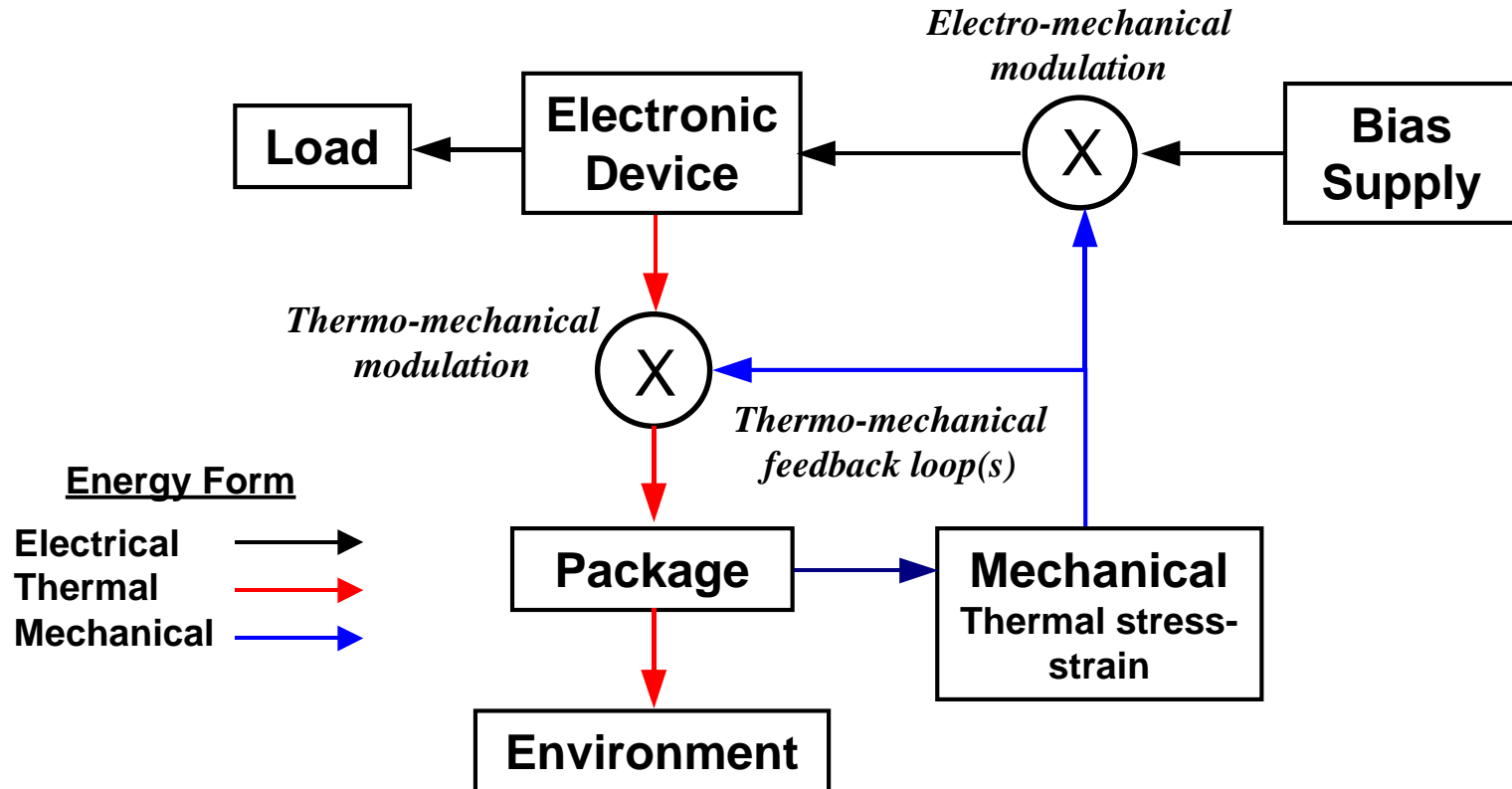


*Note the highly nonlinear relationship between the crack lengths and number of power cycles.*

# Predicted Junction Temperature Increase, $\Delta T_j$ , vs. Power Cycles, $N$



# Thermomechatronic Analysis of coupled flow of electrical, thermal and mechanical energy



# Conclusions

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- Advantages of new approaches must be demonstrated at the system, e.g., motor drive, level.

*Device Power Density (A/cm<sup>2</sup> or W/cm<sup>2</sup>)*

*System Power Density (W/m<sup>3</sup>)*

*Lifetime Assurance of Entire System*

*System Cost Analysis Ultimately Required*

- Research Needs:

## 1) Materials

- Controllable and High Thermal Conductivity
- Functional Integration of Electrical, Thermal, Mechanical Features
- High Temperature Capability
- Lightweight
- Compatible with Solid-State Devices
- Easily Processed

## 2) Efficient, System-Based Design Methodologies

- Mechanical, Thermal, Coupling
- Lifetime Prediction / Reliability
- Design Optimization / Tradeoff Capability