



# Failure Modes, Effects and Criticality Analysis and Accelerated Life testing of LEDs for Medical applications

*M. Sawant and A. Christou*  
University of Maryland  
College Park MD.



# Agenda



## 1. Medical Diagnostic Application for LEDs

## 2. Failure Modes and Effects Criticality Analysis (FMECA)

- Failure Modes & Mechanisms of AlGaInP/GaP LEDs
- Initial FMECA Analysis (Before Accelerated Life Test)
- Residual FMECA Analysis (After Accelerated Life Test)

## 3. Accelerated Life Testing (ALT) of AlGaInP/GaP LEDs

- Inverse Power Law Model for High Current & Arrhenius Model for High Temperature Aging
- Logarithmic Degradation Rate modeling
- Optical Power vs.  $V_f$  performance during ALT
- Peak wavelength & Full Width Half Max (FWHM) during ALT

## 4. Regression Analysis of Prior Publ.Data for AlGaInP/GaP LEDs

## 5. Conclusions.



# Medical Diagnostic Application for LEDs

Fig. 1.1a LED in Lighting / Fiber Optics Application

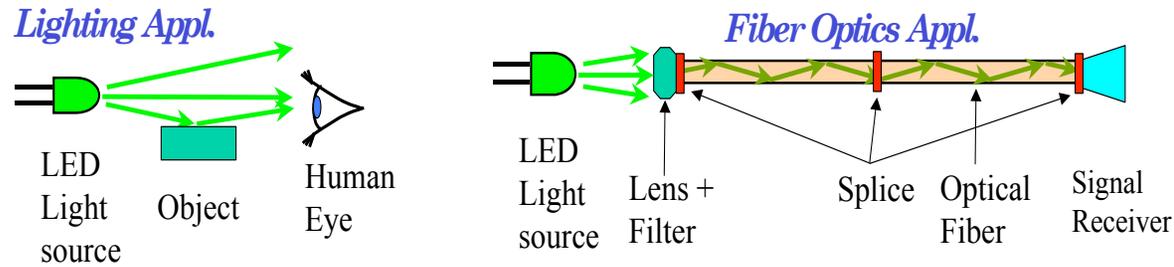
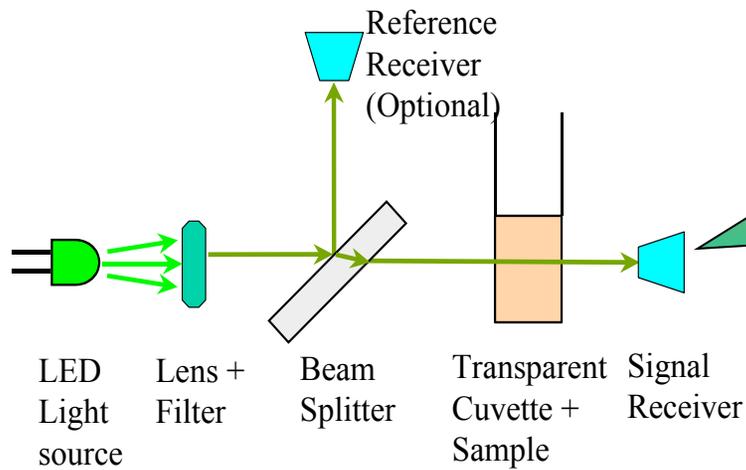


Fig. 1.1b LED in Medical Diagnostic Application



Interpret Patient Results  
20% degradation means LED failure!

# Generic AlGaInP/GaP LED structure & fab. process

AlGaInP/GaP chip fabrication process, Vanderwater et al [6]

LED epitaxial structure grown on GaAs substrate

GaAs substrate chemically removed

n-GaP wafer bonded in place of GaAs substrate

Contacts added & packaging

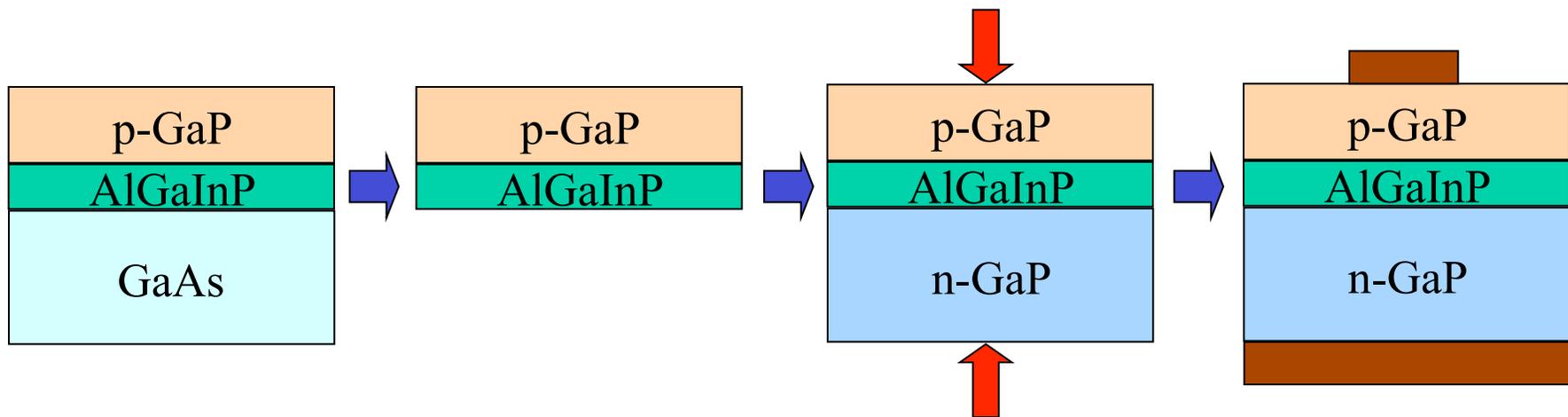


Diagram not to scale

High Temperature  
& Pressure



# Failure Modes/Mechanisms AlGaInP/GaP LEDs

## Packaging failure: Bond Wires [2]

- Electro-migration of bond wires
- Burnout due to excessive current
- Void formation at the solder metal stem
- Reaction of solder metal with package electrodes

## P - N Metal contacts [2]:

- Interdiffusion

## Active Region [6,7,12]:

- Dislocation growth
- Metal diffusion in AlGaInP
- Heating effects of AlGaInP active region resulting in enhanced current injection

## ITO layer [16] for current spreading & light extraction:

- Loss of Oxygen from ITO
- De-adhesion

## Packaging [2] failure: Heat sink

- Heat sink de-lamination

## Plastic Encapsulation [21]:

- Discoloration
- Carbonization
- Polymer degradation

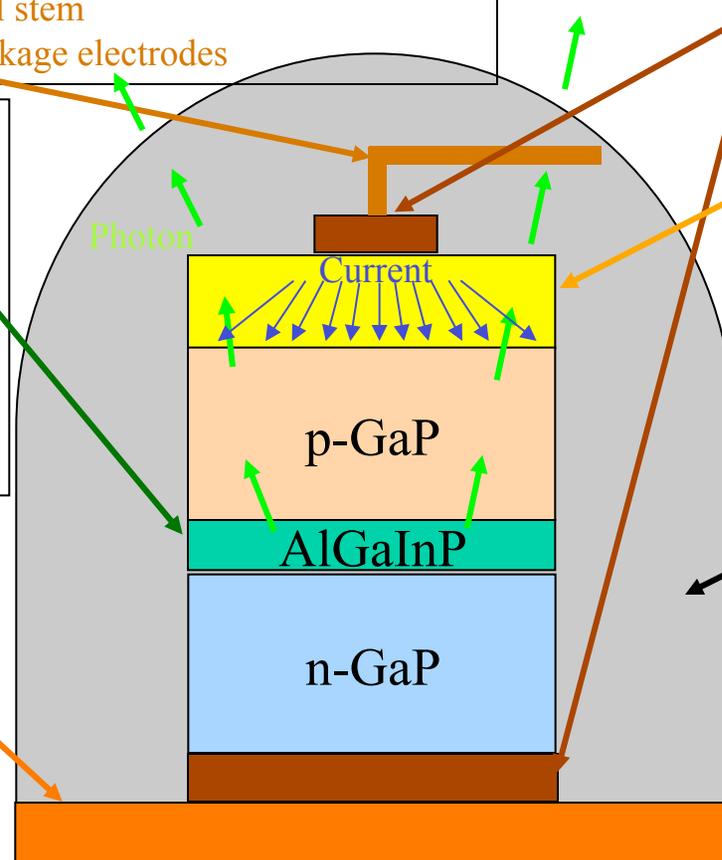


Diagram not to scale

# Failure Modes & Effects Criticality Analysis

## Severity Classification for Medical Diagnostic Application

Level	Rating	Description for Medical Diagnostic Instrument
Catostrophic	1	Inaccurate analytical result, Erroneous But Believable (EBB) result May lead to death of patient or user or Serious deterioration in their state of health
Critical	2	Incorrect diagnosis or use of less effective or inappropriate treatment
Marginal	3	Possible Erroneous But Believable (EBB) result, Test is used in conjunction with other diagnostic information.
Minor	4	Delayed or no medical test result, Incorrect result causing no difference in diagnosis or no inappropriate treatment, Incorrect result requiring reflex or confirmatory testing.
None	5	---

# FMECA continued

## Occurrence Classification

Level	Rating	Description
Frequent	1	A single failure mode probability > 20% of overall component failure probability
Resonably Probable	2	A single failure mode probability > 10% and < 20%of overall component failure probability
Occassional	3	A single failure mode probability > 1% and < 10%of overall component failure probability
Remote	4	A single failure mode probability > 0.1% and < 1%of overall component failure probability
Extremely Unlikely	5	A single failure mode probability < 0.1%of overall component failure probability

Failure mode criticality number

$$C_m = \beta \alpha \lambda T$$

$\beta$  - Failure Effect Probability

$\alpha$  - Failure Mode Ratio

$\lambda$  - Failure Rate

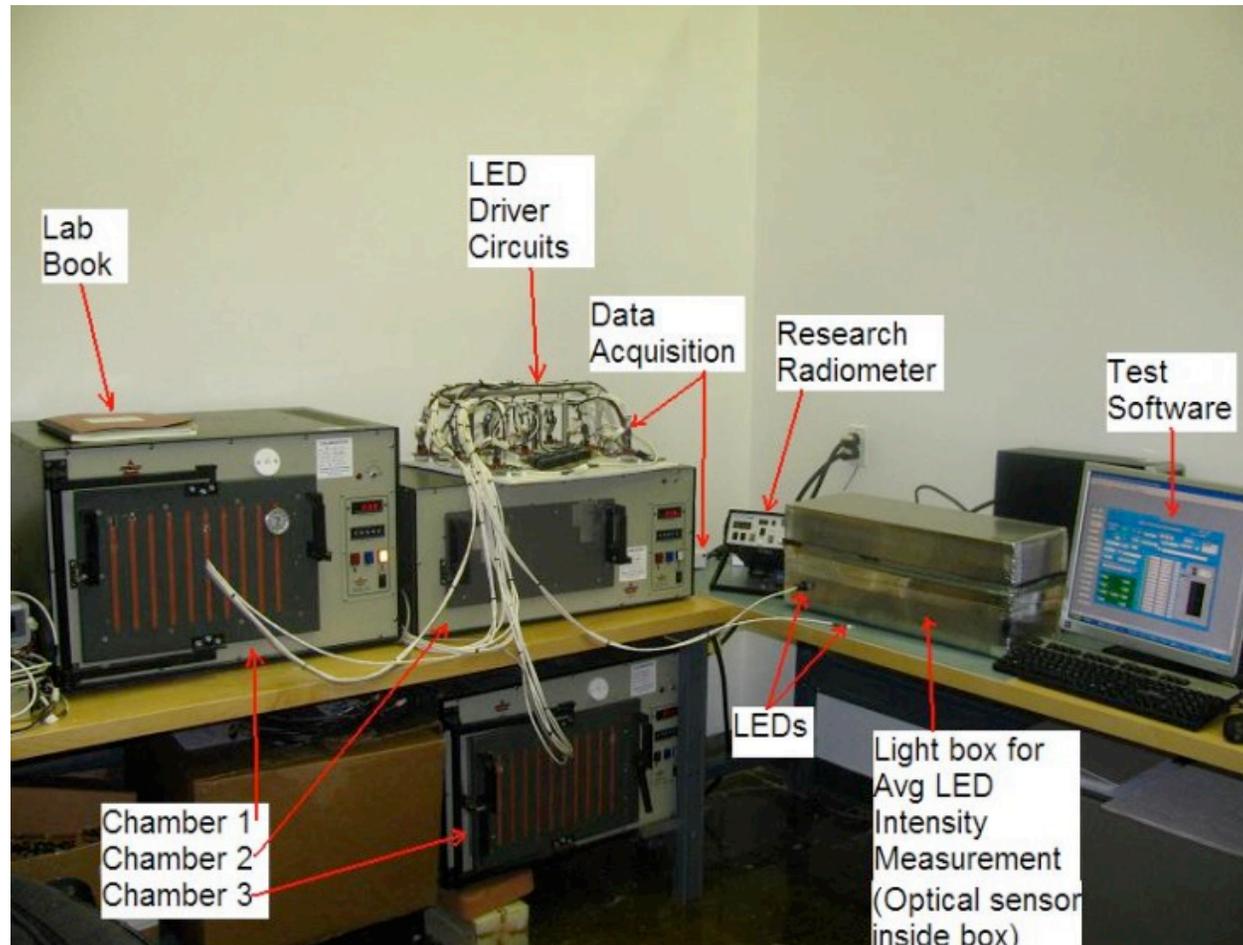
T - Operating Time



# FMECA Initial (Before Accelerated Life Test)

Sr.#	Failure Modes/Mechanisms	Causes	Local Effects at LED level	System Effects in Medical equipment	Severity	Failure Effect Probability ( $\beta$ )	Failure Mode Ratio ( $\alpha$ )	Failure Rate	Operating Time (T) in hrs	Criticality #
1	Packaging failure (Heat Sink)	Heat sink de-lamination	- Decrease of optical output - Local heating effects	- Unscheduled module replacement - Delayed medical test results	3	0.4	0.3	1.8E-11	31500	6.7E-08
2	Degradation of plastic encapsulation	- Discoloration - Carbonization - Polymer degradation at high temperature	- Gradual decrease of optical output	- Excessive drift requires unscheduled calibration - Delayed medical test results	3	0.4	0.2	1.8E-11	31500	4.5E-08
3	Degradation of ITO layer	- Loss of Oxygen from ITO - De-adhesion	- Decrease of optical output - Non-uniform light emission	- Unscheduled module replacement - Delayed medical test results	4	0.3	0.1	1.8E-11	31500	1.7E-08
4	Packaging failure (Bond Wires)	- Electro-migration of bond wires - Burnout due to excessive current - Void formation at the solder metal stem - Reaction of solder metal with package electrodes	- Abrupt LED failure	- Unscheduled module replacement - Delayed medical test results	4	0.9	0.1	1.8E-11	31500	5.0E-08
5	Degradation of active layer	- Dislocation growth - Metal diffusion in AlGaInP - Heating effects of AlGaInP active region resulting in enhanced current injection	- Gradual decrease of optical output	- Excessive drift requires unscheduled calibration - Delayed medical test results	4	0.4	0.4	1.8E-11	31500	9.0E-08
6	Degradation of P-N metal contacts	- Interdiffusion	- Change in IV characteristics	- Design will accommodate minor changes in IV characteristics	5	0.4	0.2	1.8E-11	31500	4.5E-08

# Accelerated Life Test Setup



# Setup for LED Characterization

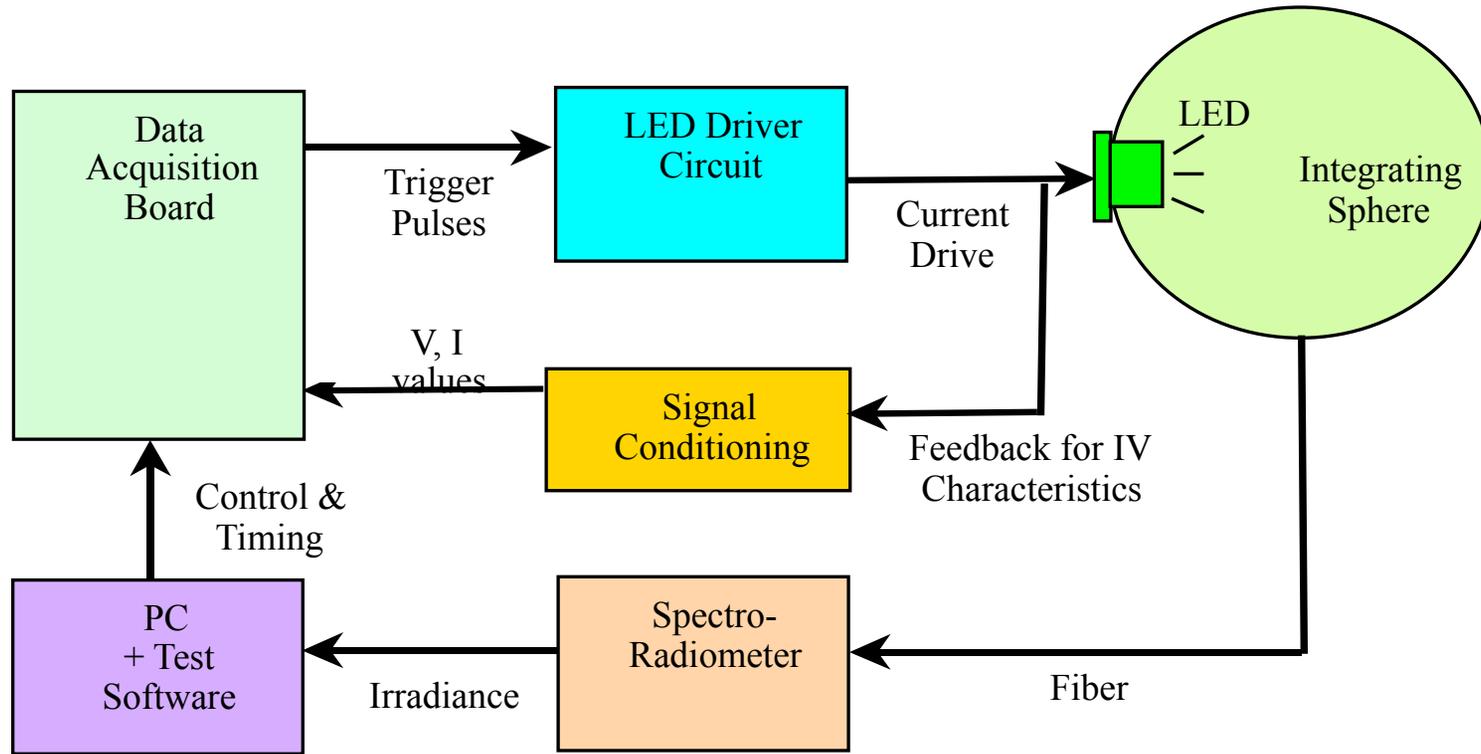


Fig. 2.3.3 Setup for LED Characterization

# Accelerated Life Test Conditions

## Test Conditions:

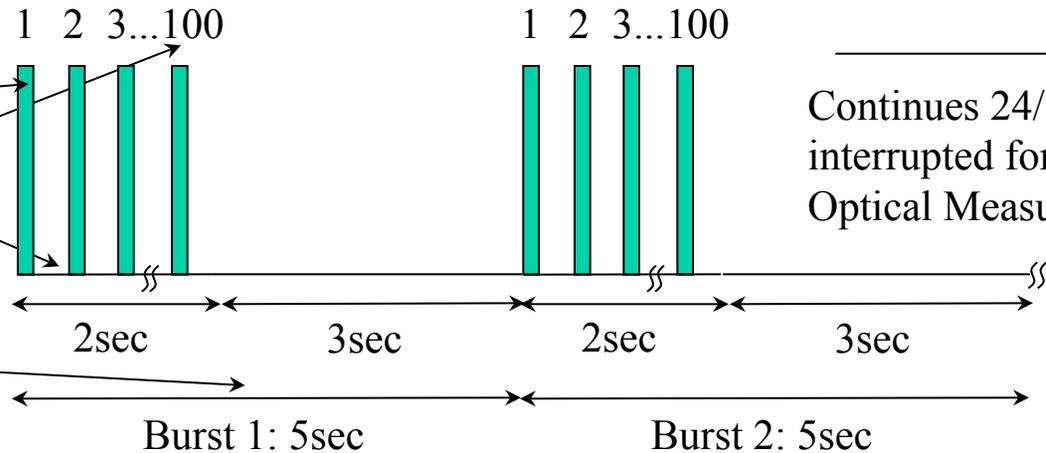
Chamber 1: 35°C  
5 LEDs in each Batch

Chamber 2: 55°C  
5 LEDs in each Batch

Chamber 3: 75°C  
5 LEDs in each Batch

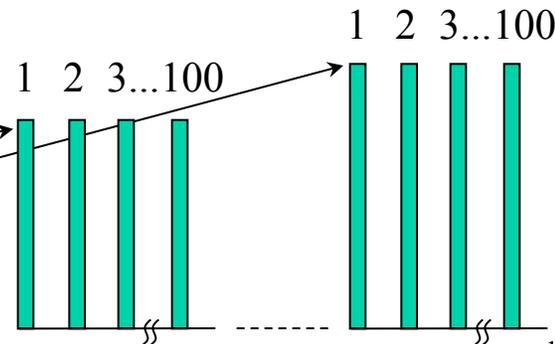
## Burst/Pulse Testing:

Pulse On: 0.1ms  
Pulse Off: 19.9ms  
# of Pulses: 100  
Burst On: 2s  
Burst Off: 3s  
Burst Period: 5s  
Duty Cycle:  $100 \times 0.1/5000$   
= 0.2%



## LED Driver:

Separate driver for each of the 15 LEDs  
Pulsed at constant Peak Current: 483mA for Batch 2  
Pulsed at constant Peak Current: 725mA for Batch 3



# Inverse Power Law Modeling: Current Density

The inverse power law relationship is given as

$$TTF = A.J^{-n} \quad - (1)$$

Where TTF=Time to failure in hrs, J=LED Current density in Amps/sq<sup>2</sup>, A & n are +ve constants

Taking Ln on both sides,

$$\ln(TTF) = \ln A - n \ln J \quad - (2)$$

This gives a straight line relationship where ‘-n’ is the slope, LnJ is the accelerating variable and LnA is the y-intercept. The negative slope implies that as the current density increases, the TTF decreases.



# Arrhenius Reaction Rate Modeling: Temperature

Arrhenius reaction rate model is  $Rate = Be^{-\left(\frac{Ea}{KT}\right)}$  - (3)

Where T=Temperature in °K, Ea=Activation energy of the LED degradation, K=Boltzmann's constant, B is another constant.

Taking reciprocal of the 'rate' to get 'time'  $TTF = Ce^{\left(\frac{Ea}{KT}\right)}$  - (4)

Where TTF=Time to failure in hrs, C=1/B is another constant. Taking Ln,

$$\ln(TTF) = \ln C + \frac{Ea}{KT} \quad - (5)$$

A straight line relationship where 'Ea/K' as slope and LnC is the y-intercept. For graphing convenience, we use 'Ea' as slope and 1/KT as the accelerating variable. As temperature increases, 1/KT decreases and the TTF also decreases.



# Acceleration Factor Computation

Acceleration Factor for Inverse Power Law Model is given by

$$AF_1 = \frac{TTF_{Use}}{TTF_{Acc}} = \left( \frac{J_{Acc}}{J_{Use}} \right)^n \quad - (6)$$

Acceleration Factor for Arrhenius Reaction Rate Model is given by

$$AF_2 = \frac{TTF_{Use}}{TTF_{Acc}} = e^{\frac{Ea}{K} \left( \frac{1}{T_{Use}} - \frac{1}{T_{Acc}} \right)} \quad - (7)$$

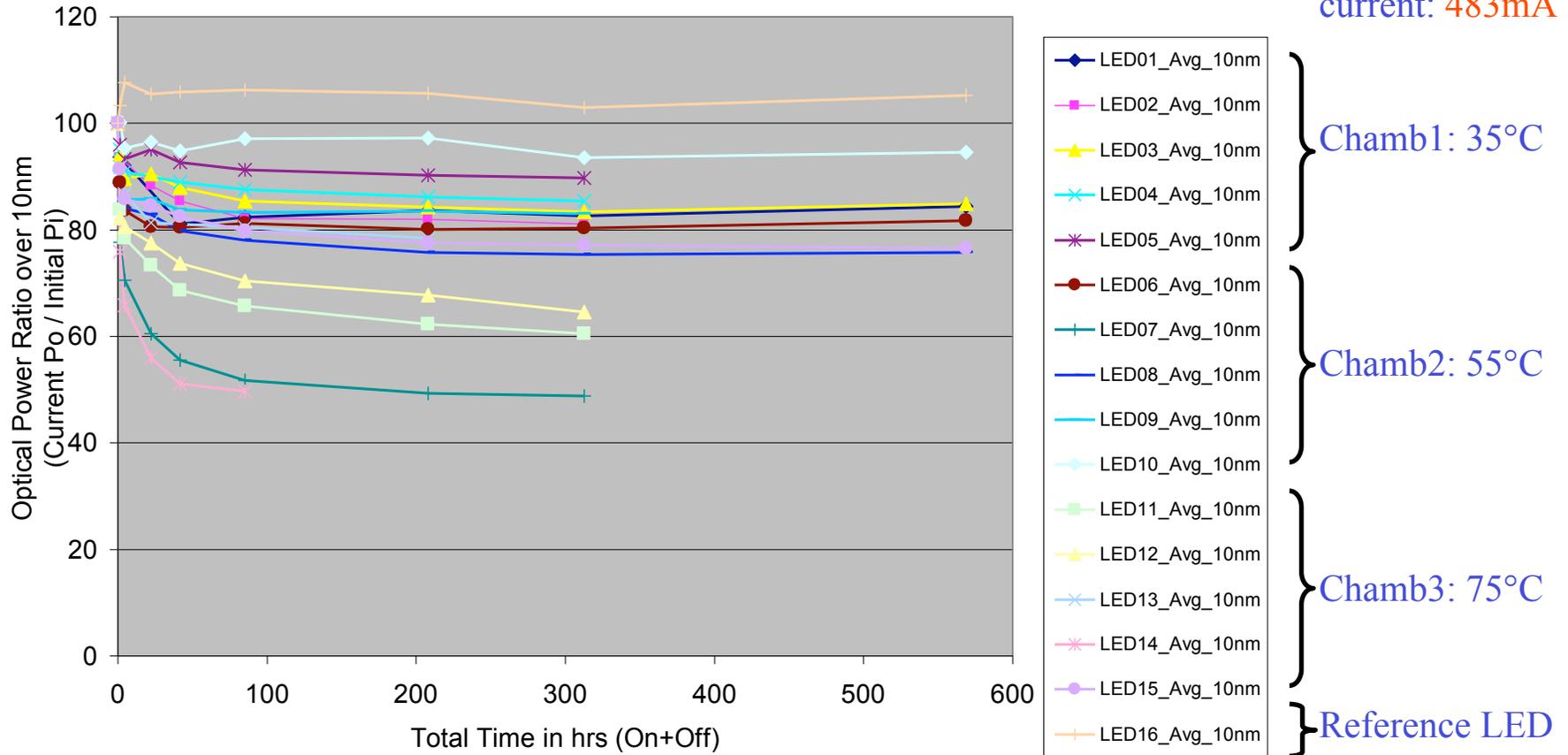
Assume Ea & convert all TTF data to use Temperature T to estimate 'n'  
Take n above & convert all TTF data to use current density J to estimate 'Ea'.  
Repeat using Iterative Regression Analysis to estimate 'Ea' and 'n'.

Overall Acceleration Factor is given by

$$AF = AF_1 \times AF_2 = \left( \frac{J_{Acc}}{J_{Use}} \right)^n e^{\frac{Ea}{K} \left( \frac{1}{T_{Use}} - \frac{1}{T_{Acc}} \right)} \quad - (8)$$

# Accelerated Life Test Data - Batch2

Spectrometer Characterization 640nm LEDs



Test Results: Using regression, Act Energy: 1.14eV, IPL n: 4.48

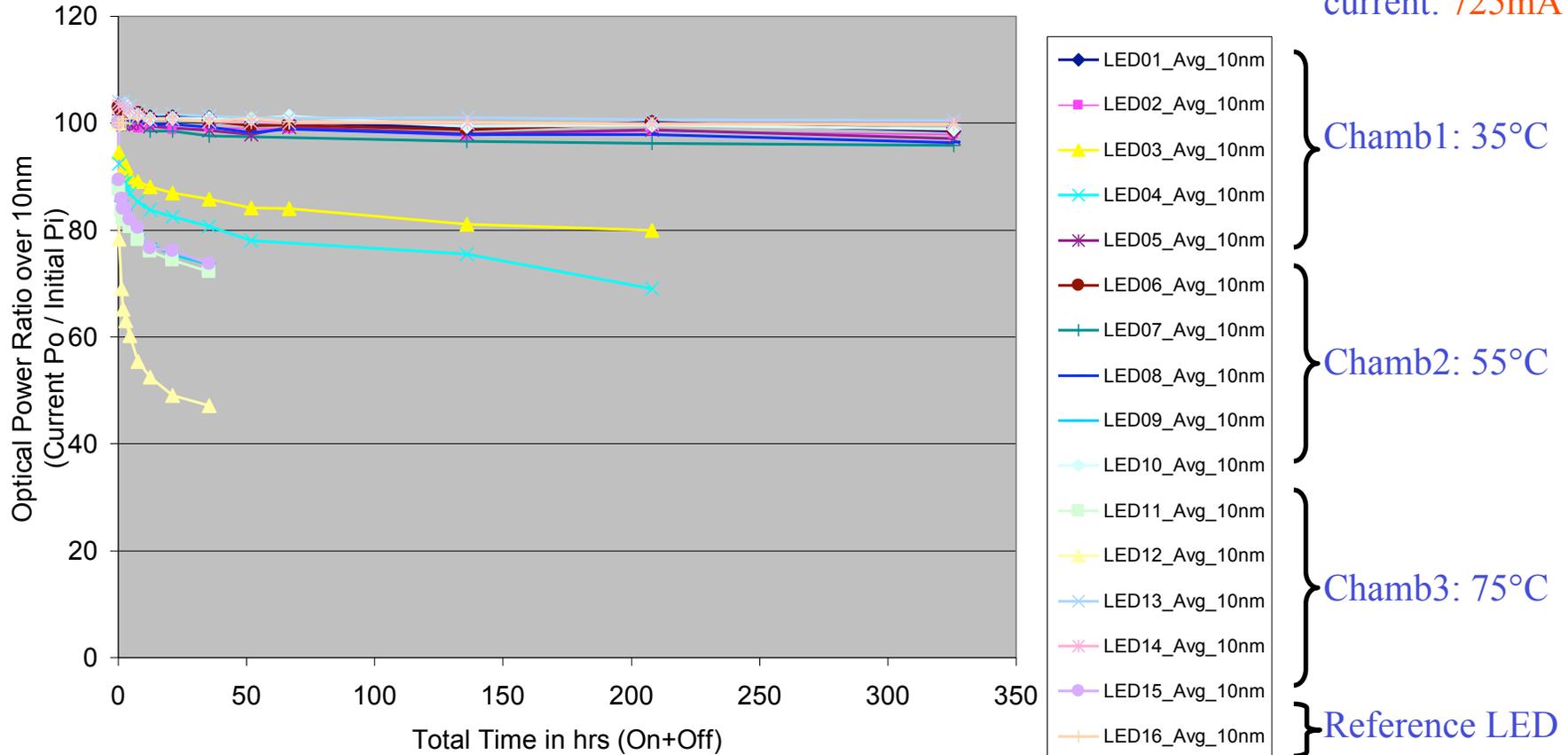
Failure Modes: Active region & encapsulation, Degradation Rate: Logarithmic with Time



# Accelerated Life Test Data - Batch3

Spectrometer Characterization 640nm LEDs

Peak LED  
current: 725mA



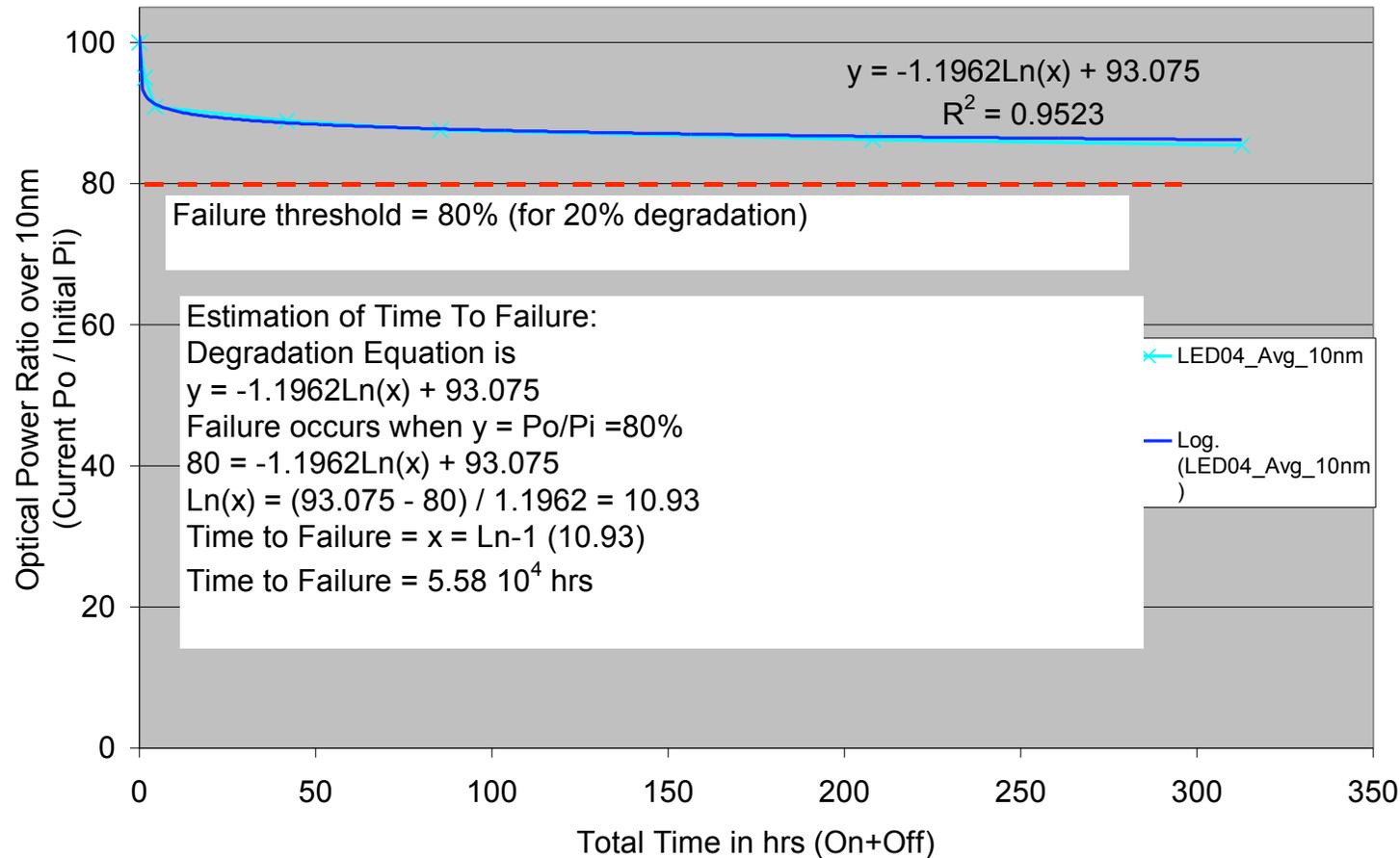
Test Results: Using regression, Act Energy: 1.14eV, IPL n: 4.48

Failure Modes: Active region & encapsulation, Degradation Rate: Logarithmic with Time



# Logarithmic degradation: Time To Failure Prediction

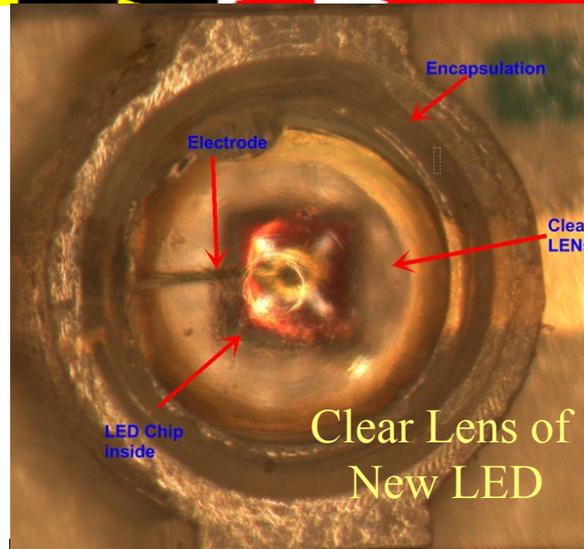
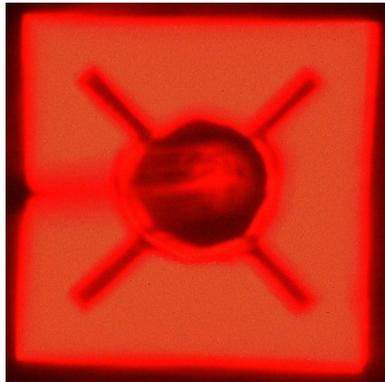
Spectrometer Characterization 640nm LEDs



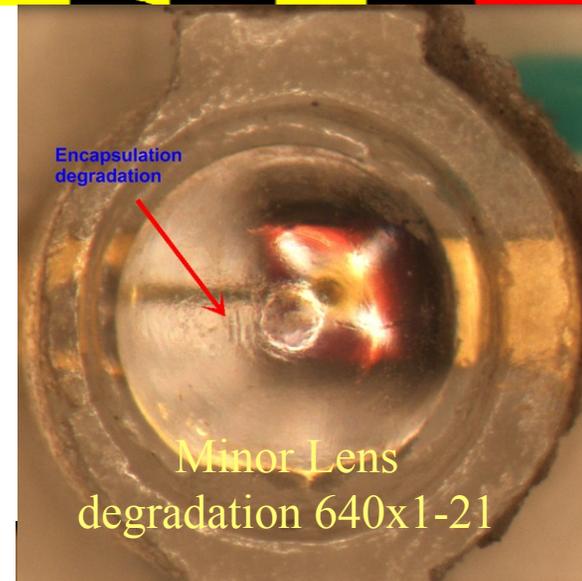
Logarithmic degradation rate of LED. In agreement with Yanagisawa et al [31]

# Accelerated Life Test: LED Photos

New Chip  
(340x340 $\mu$ m)  
On at 40 $\mu$ A

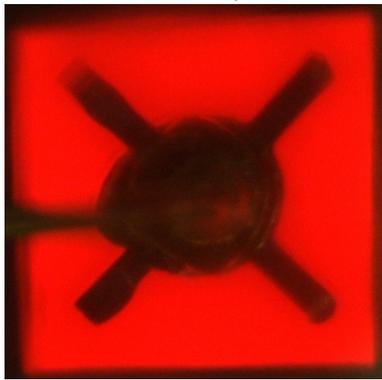


Clear Lens of  
New LED

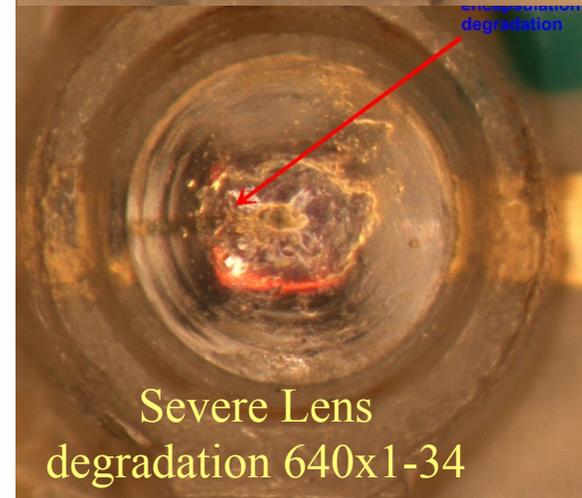


Minor Lens  
degradation 640x1-21

640x1-26  
On at 40 $\mu$ A



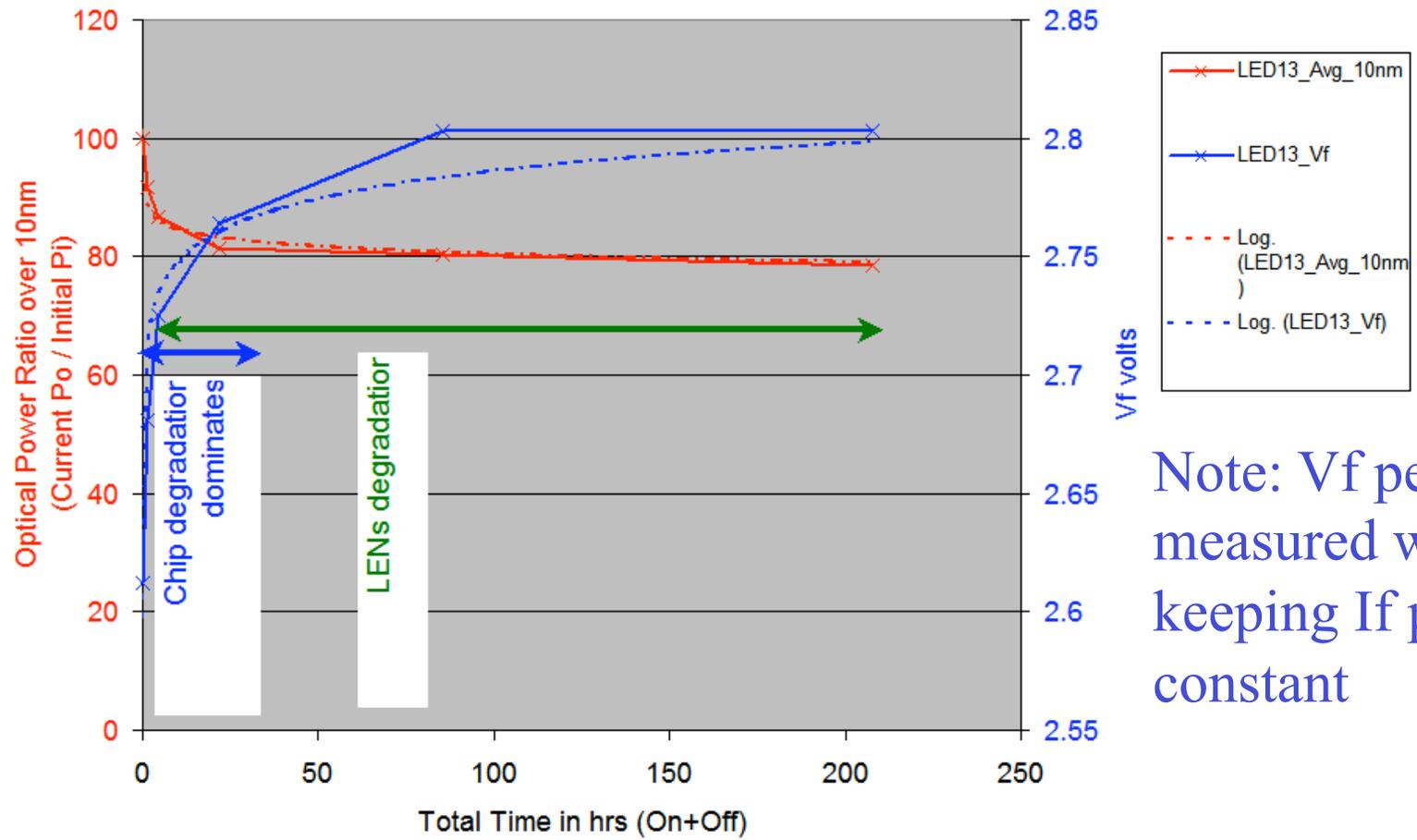
Moderate Lens  
degradation 640x1-26



Severe Lens  
degradation 640x1-34

# Chip (Vf) Vs LENSs degradation

Optical vs Vf performance 640nm LEDs



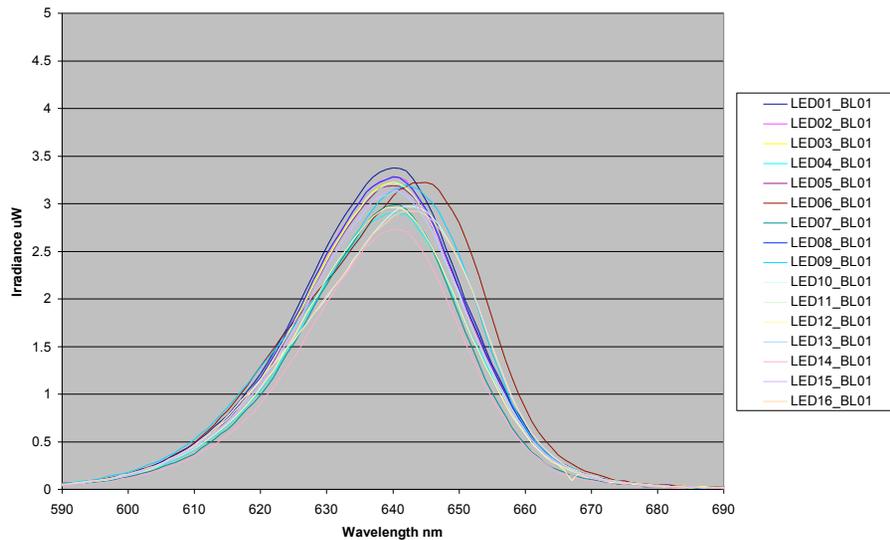
Note: Vf peak measured while keeping If peak constant

# Accelerated Life Test: Spectrum change

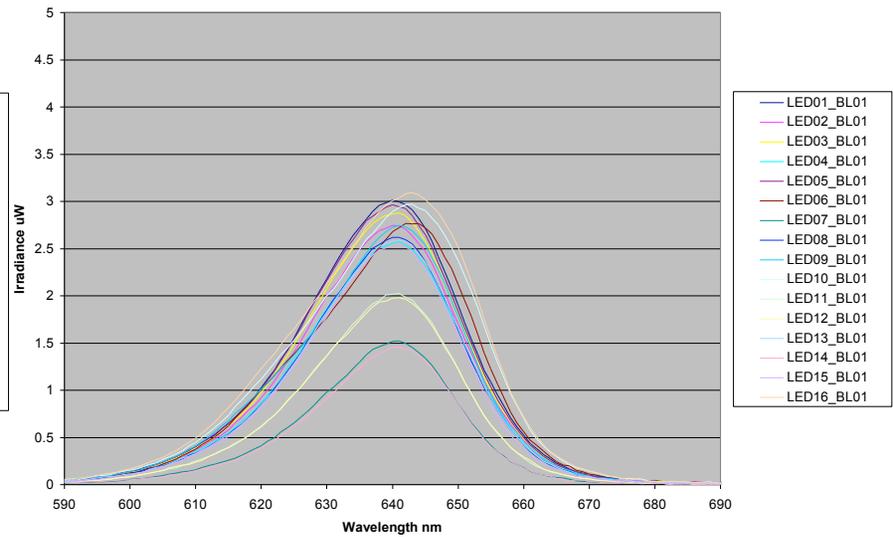
Before Accelerated Life Test

After Accelerated Life Test

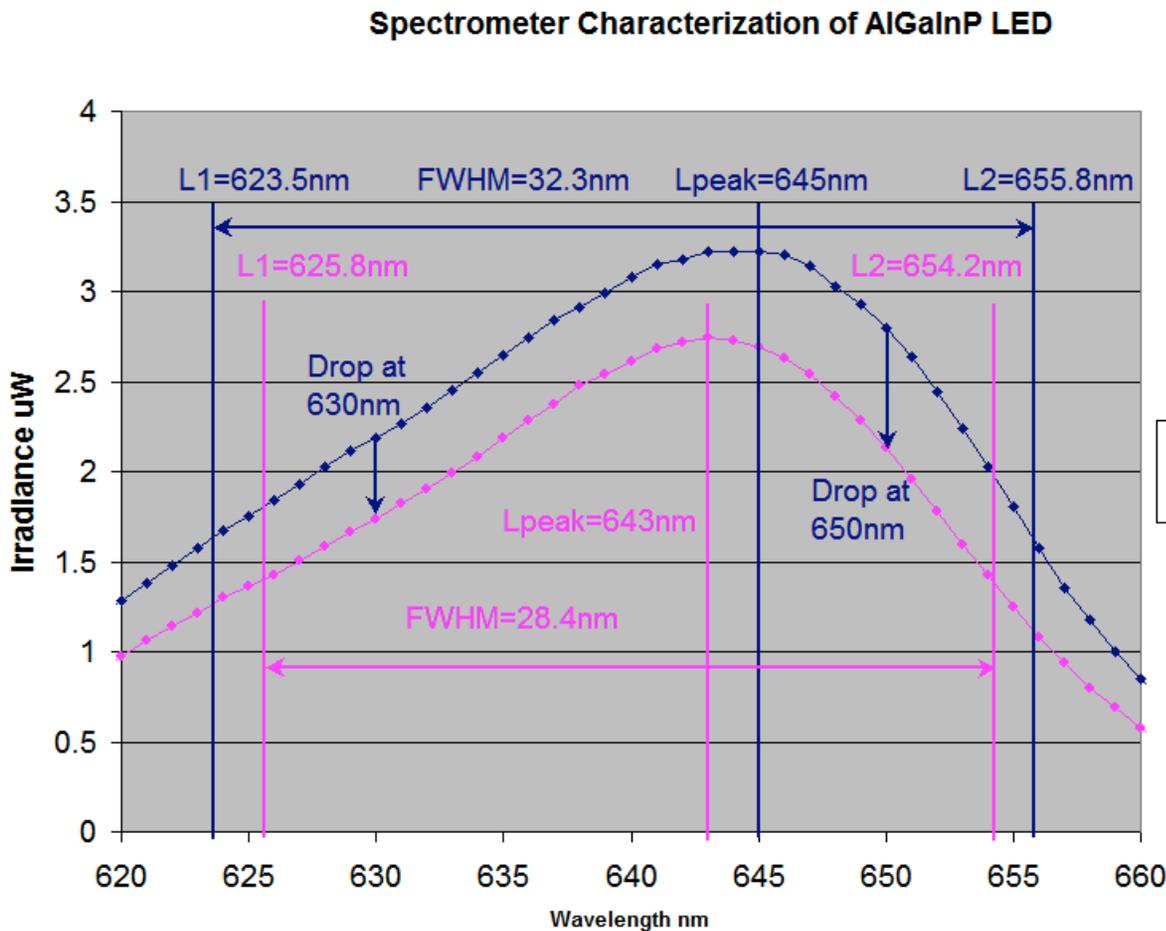
Initial Spectrometer Characterization 640nm LEDs Batch2



Final Spectrometer Characterization 640nm LEDs Batch2



# Accelerated Life Test: Peak Shift & narrow FWHM



For LED 640x1-26  
Before Acc. Life Test  
 $\lambda_{peak} = 645\text{nm}$   
HWFM = 32.3nm

After Acc. Life Test  
 $\lambda_{peak} = 643\text{nm}$   
HWFM = 28.4nm  
Peak shifted to left  
FWHM narrowed



# Results of Accelerated Life Test Batch2

UUT	Temp C	TTF hrs Observed 20% degra	MTTF	Acc Factor	Act. Energy eV	TTF hrs Estimated 20% degra	Equation for Logarithmic degradation model	LENS degradation	Vf Increase %	% Drop @ 630nm rel to 640nm	% Drop @ 650nm rel to 640nm
640x1-21	35	Suspend	3457.9			1755.6	$y = -1.4537\ln(x) + 90.86$ $R^2 = 0.8617$	Minor Surface	4.0	3.2	-0.2
640x1-22	35	Suspend				335.9	$y = -2.8548\ln(x) + 96.606$ $R^2 = 0.9119$	Minor Few Bubbles	4.6	4.4	0.4
640x1-23	35	Suspend				8282.1	$y = -1.4323\ln(x) + 92.922$ $R^2 = 0.9367$	Minor Surface	6.5	4.6	1.0
640x1-24	35	Suspend				55851.2	$y = -1.1962\ln(x) + 93.075$ $R^2 = 0.9523$	Moderate Edge of globe	7.1 -> 5.2	4.7	1.0
640x1-25	35	Suspend				1.8E+08	$y = -0.8057\ln(x) + 95.326$ $R^2 = 0.8927$	Moderate Surface	4.9	3.5	2.6
640x1-26	55	207.9	201.9	17.1	1.24	195.0	$y = -1.5697\ln(x) + 88.277$ $R^2 = 0.9025$	Moderate Surface	2.9	5.2	9.6
640x1-27	55	1.5				0.3	$y = -4.3842\ln(x) + 73.933$ $R^2 = 0.9732$	Moderate Surface	7.9 -> 6.4	4.9	2.1
640x1-28	55	41.7				38.7	$y = -1.9411\ln(x) + 87.094$ $R^2 = 0.9864$	Minor Few Bubbles	7.5	5.6	0.8
640x1-29	55	Suspend				1225.0	$y = -1.4315\ln(x) + 90.179$ $R^2 = 0.9535$	Minor Few Bubbles	2.5	3.8	12.5
640x1-30	55	Suspend				9.7E+17	$y = -0.4285\ln(x) + 97.745$ $R^2 = 0.5402$	Minor Few Bubbles	4.5	0.3	0.0
640x1-31	75	4.4	48.8	70.8	0.98	1.5	$y = -3.2403\ln(x) + 81.238$ $R^2 = 0.9684$	Moderate Surface+Bubbles	3.6	6.0	2.6
640x1-32	75	4.4				3.2	$y = -2.748\ln(x) + 83.18$ $R^2 = 0.9754$	Minor Few Bubbles	11.7 -> 7.0	6.1	3.2
640x1-33	75	85.3				125.9	$y = -1.8618\ln(x) + 89.002$ $R^2 = 0.9464$	Minor Very Few Bubbles	8.8	4.1	2.3
640x1-34	75	1.5				0.2	$y = -4.6769\ln(x) + 71.53$ $R^2 = 0.9691$	Severe Surface	8.6 -> 4.5	4.6	3.5
640x1-35	75	85.3				113.4	$y = -1.9047\ln(x) + 89.011$ $R^2 = 0.9633$	Minor Few Bubbles	11.5 -> 7.8	4.2	4.1

# Results of Accelerated Life Test Batch3

UUT	Temp C	TTF hrs Observed 20% degra	MTTF	Acc Factor	Act. Energy eV	TTF hrs Estimated 20% degra	Equation for Logarithmic degradation model	LENs degradation	Vf Increase %	% Drop @ 630nm rel to 640nm	% Drop @ 650nm rel to 640nm
640x1-41	35	Suspend	175.2			9.7E+16	$y = -0.5742\ln(x) + 102.46$ R2 = 0.7083	Moderate Surface	-0.8	1.1	1.5
640x1-42	35	Suspend				4.7E+22	$y = -0.3873\ln(x) + 100.22$ R2 = 0.7377	Minor Surface	-1.6	1.8	4.4
640x1-43	35	208.1				316.3	$y = -2.339\ln(x) + 93.465$ R2 = 0.9704	Moderate Bubles	8.6	5.0	-0.8
640x1-44	35	35.3				34.1	$y = -2.5448\ln(x) + 88.985$ R2 = 0.8966	Minor Surface	5.6	5.7	0.0
640x1-45	35	Suspend				6.8E+19	$y = -0.4472\ln(x) + 100.42$ R2 = 0.7487	Severe Surface Scratch	0.3	2.0	3.4
640x1-46	55	Suspend	6.0	29.2	1.47	1.2E+16	$y = -0.6064\ln(x) + 102.43$ R2 = 0.8948	Moderate Surface	-0.9	0.9	2.7
640x1-47	55	Suspend				4.0E+11	$y = -0.7681\ln(x) + 100.51$ R2 = 0.9481	Minor Surface	-1.6	1.2	1.7
640x1-48	55	Suspend				1.6E+14	$y = -0.6449\ln(x) + 101.1$ R2 = 0.8551	Moderate Surface	-1.6	1.2	1.6
640x1-49	55	7.8				6.0	$y = -2.7834\ln(x) + 84.99$ R2 = 0.9781	Minor Surface	7.5	6.6	0.0
640x1-50	55	Suspend				3.9E+13	$y = -0.7512\ln(x) + 103.5$ R2 = 0.8257	Minor Surface	-2.2	1.5	-0.9
640x1-51	75	4.4	3.7	47.9	0.89	3.8	$y = -2.8983\ln(x) + 83.881$ R2 = 0.9886	Minor Surface	7.5	6.8	0.1
640x1-52	75	0.3				0.1	$y = -5.7886\ln(x) + 68.472$ R2 = 0.986	Minor Surface	6.6	6.5	0.0
640x1-53	75	Suspend				3.9E+17	$y = -0.5841\ln(x) + 103.66$ R2 = 0.9172	None	-1.6	1.0	2.7
640x1-54	75	Suspend				3.4E+17	$y = -0.5618\ln(x) + 102.68$ R2 = 0.9082	Minor Surface	-2.3	0.2	1.9
640x1-55	75	7.8				7.0	$y = -2.7536\ln(x) + 85.365$ R2 = 0.9692	Minor Surface	10.1	6.2	0.5



# Regression Analysis of Published Data: AlGaInP

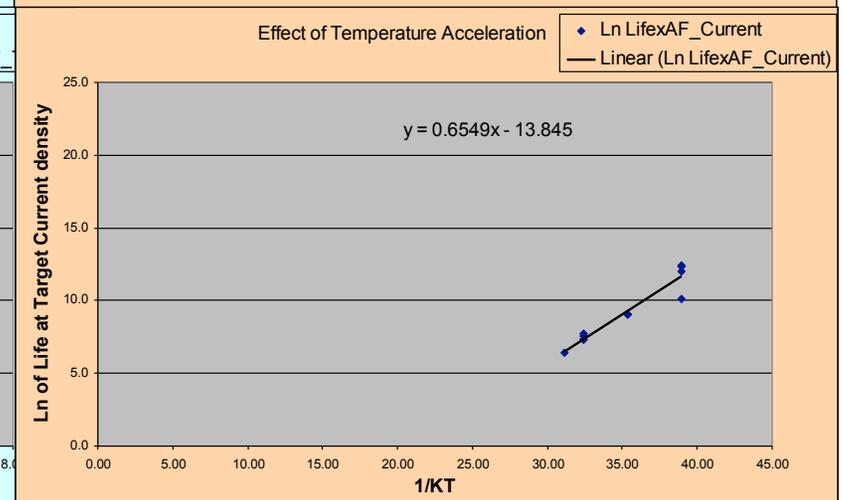
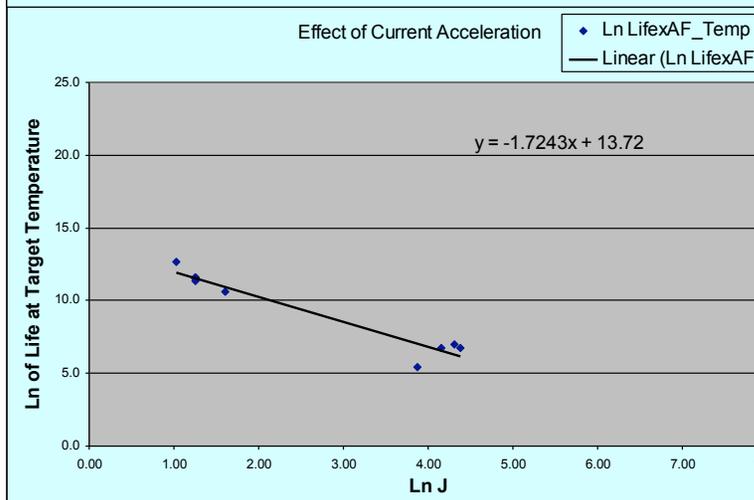
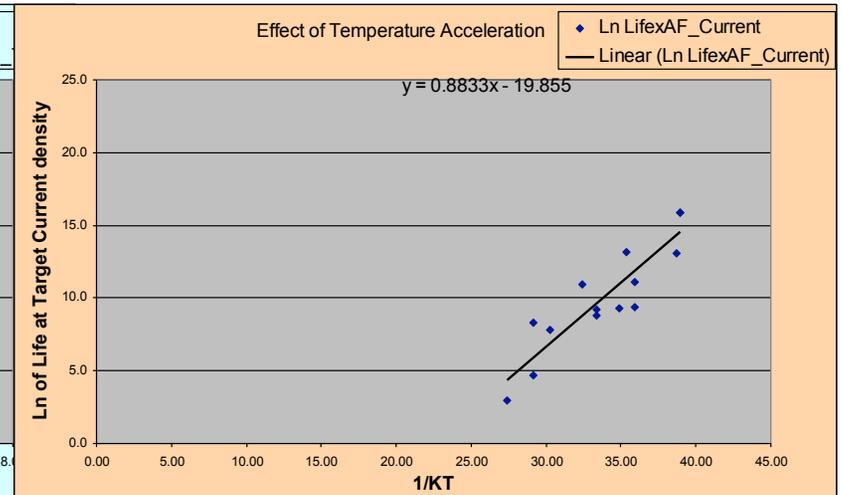
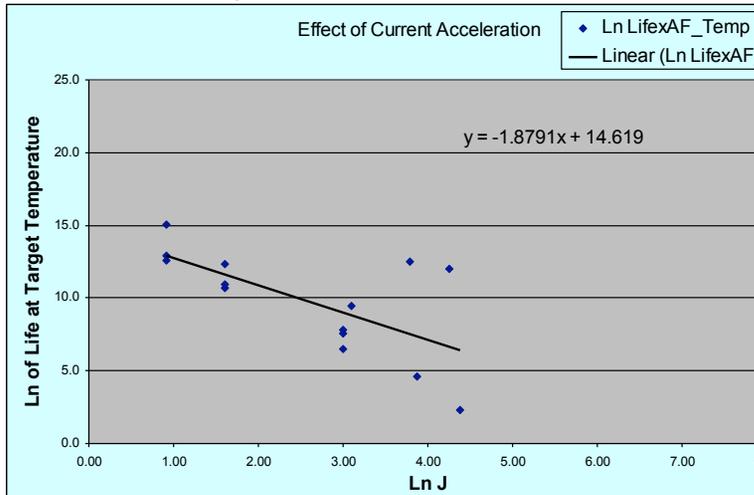
Current Density: Inverse Power Law    Temperature: Arrhenius Reaction Rate

DH-DC  
IPL  
 $n=1.88$

Arrhen.  
Act.En.  
 $=0.88\text{eV}$

MQW-DC  
IPL  
 $n=1.72$

Arrhen.  
Act.En.  
 $=0.65\text{eV}$

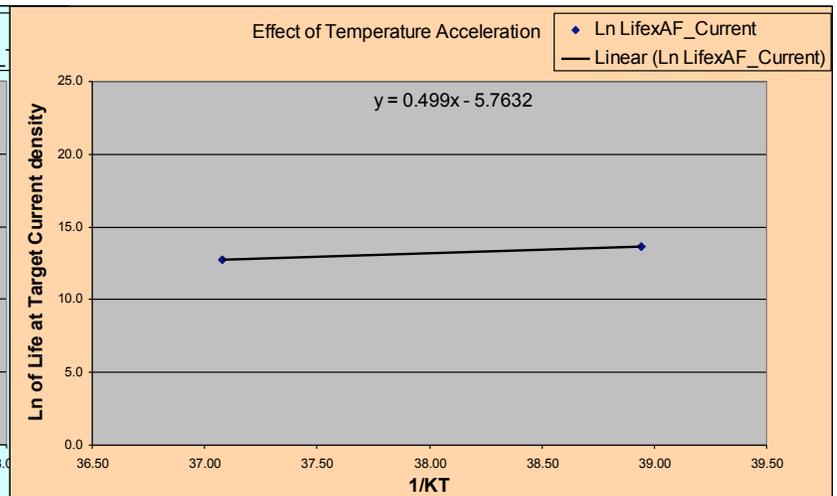
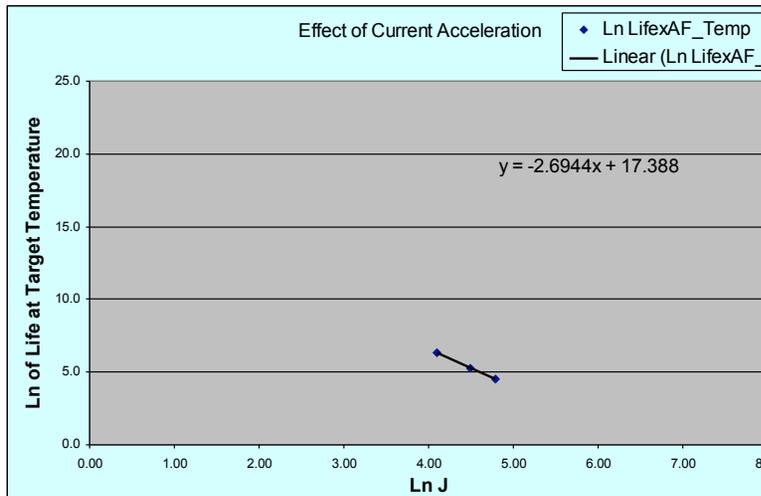


# Regression Analysis of Published Data: GaN

Current Density: Inverse Power Law    Temperature: Arrhenius Reaction Rate

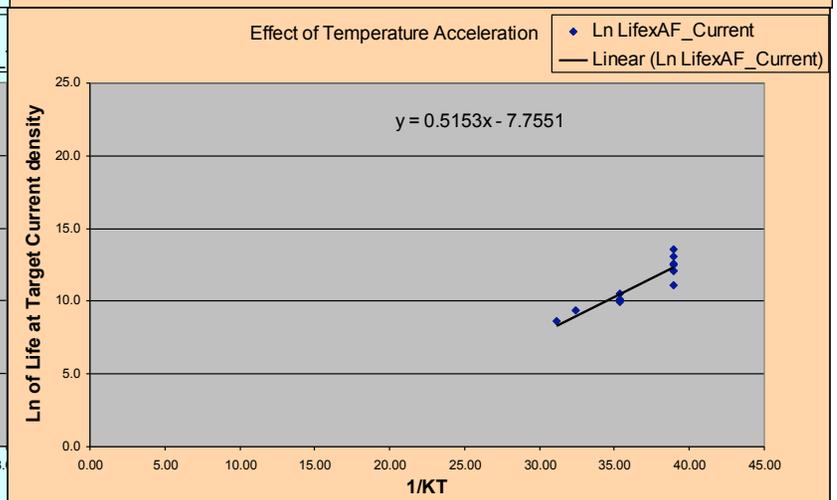
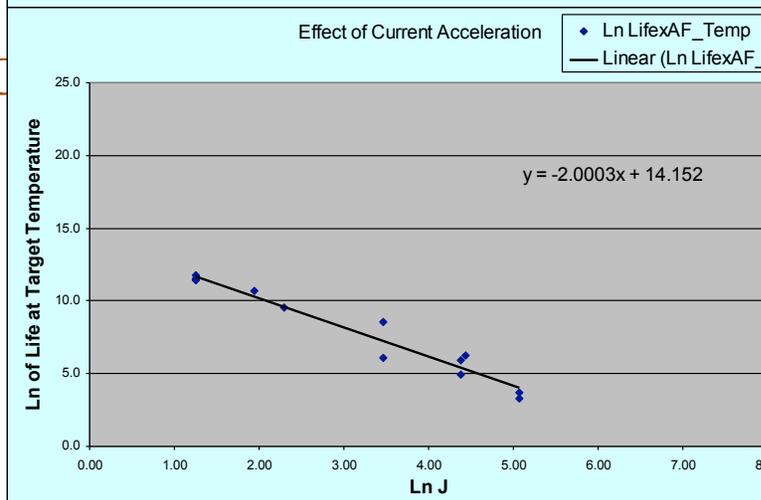
DH-DC  
IPL  
 $n=2.69$

Arrhen.  
Act.En.  
 $=0.49\text{eV}$



MQW-DC  
IPL  
 $n=2.00$

Arrhen.  
Act.En.  
 $=0.51\text{eV}$



# FMECA Initial (Before Accelerated Life Test)

Sr.#	Failure Modes/Mechanisms	Causes	Local Effects at LED level	System Effects in Medical equipment	Severity	Failure Effect Probability ( $\beta$ )	Failure Mode Ratio ( $\alpha$ )	Failure Rate	Operating Time (T) in hrs	Criticality #
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4	Packaging failure (Bond Wires)	- Electro-migration of bond wires - Burnout due to excessive current - Void formation at the solder metal stem - Reaction of solder metal with package electrodes	- Abrupt LED failure	- Unscheduled module replacement - Delayed medical test results	4	0.9	0.1	1.8E-11	31500	5.0E-08
5	Degradation of active layer	- Dislocation growth - Metal diffusion in AlGaInP - Heating effects of AlGaInP active region resulting in enhanced current injection	- Gradual decrease of optical output	- Excessive drift requires unscheduled calibration - Delayed medical test results	4	0.4	0.4	1.8E-11	31500	9.0E-08
6	Degradation of P-N metal contacts	- Interdiffusion	- Change in IV characteristics	- Design will accommodate minor changes in IV characteristics	5	0.4	0.2	1.8E-11	31500	4.5E-08

# FMECA Residual (After Accelerated Life Test)

Sr.#	Failure Modes/Mechanisms	Causes	Local Effects at LED level	System Effects in Medical equipment	Severity	Failure Effect Probability ( $\beta$ )	Failure Mode Ratio ( $\alpha$ )	Failure Rate	Operating Time (T) in hrs	Criticality #
1	Packaging failure (Heat Sink)	Heat sink de-lamination	- Decrease of optical output - Local heating effects	- Unscheduled module replacement - Delayed medical test results	3	0.4	0.3	1.8E-11	31500	6.7E-08
2	Degradation of plastic encapsulation	- Discoloration - Carbonization - Polymer degradation at high temperature	- Gradual decrease of optical output	- Excessive drift requires unscheduled calibration - Delayed medical test results	3	0.6	0.7	1.8E-11	31500	2.3E-07
3	Degradation of ITO layer	- Loss of Oxygen from ITO - De-adhesion	- Decrease of optical output - Non-uniform light emission	- Unscheduled module replacement - Delayed medical test results	4	0.3	0.1	1.8E-11	31500	1.7E-08
4	Packaging failure (Bond Wires)	- Electro-migration of bond wires - Burnout due to excessive current - Void formation at the solder metal stem - Reaction of solder metal with package electrodes	- Abrupt LED failure	- Unscheduled module replacement - Delayed medical test results	4	0.9	0.1	1.8E-11	31500	5.0E-08
5	Degradation of active layer	- Dislocation growth - Metal diffusion in AlGaInP - Heating effects of AlGaInP active region resulting in enhanced current injection	- Gradual decrease of optical output	- Excessive drift requires unscheduled calibration - Delayed medical test results	4	0.6	0.6	1.8E-11	31500	2.0E-07
6	Degradation of P-N metal contacts	- Interdiffusion	- Change in IV characteristics	- Design will accommodate minor changes in IV characteristics	5	0.4	0.2	1.8E-11	31500	4.5E-08

# Conclusions

Performed Initial FMECA Analysis of LED for Medical Application

Accelerated Life Testing (ALT) of AlGaInP LEDs

Logarithmic degradation rate modeling

Used Arrhenius Model for High Temperature Aging

Used Inverse Power Law Model for High Current Aging

Optical vs.  $V_f$  performance and Spectrum change during ALT

Regression Analysis of Prior Publ. Data for AlGaInP / GaN LEDs

Comparison of Prior published and Accelerated Life test data.

Performed Residual FMECA Analysis after Accelerated Life Test

Approach to verify LED suitability for Medical diagnostic appl



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