



Thermal resistance measurement of metalized ceramic substrates for next generation power modules toward international sandardization

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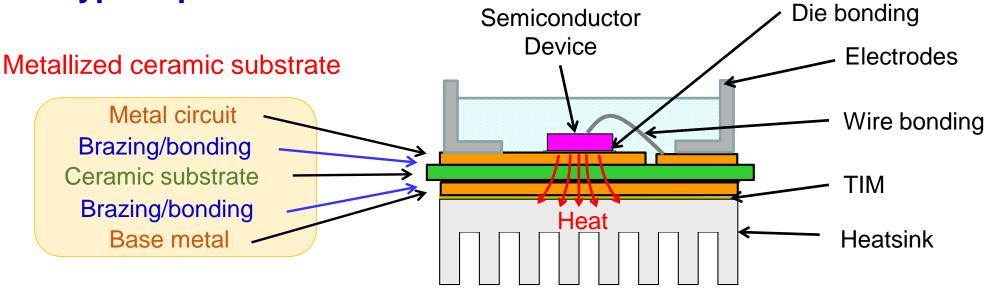
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Motivation of thermal measurement standard



Schematic of a typical power module:



- The issue in power module design: "Thermal management"
 - ✓ Output power and power density is increasing => Higher heat generation
 - ✓ Heat transportation: Semiconductor dies => Cooling system
 - ✓ Major heat path: via circuit board made of metallized ceramic substrate

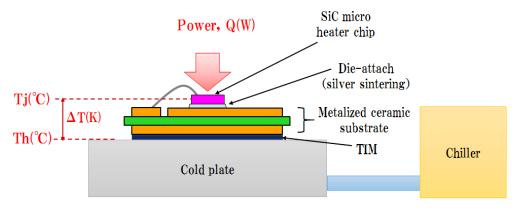
=> Precise thermal characterization standard is required.



Experimental concept of evaluation for $R_{\rm th}$



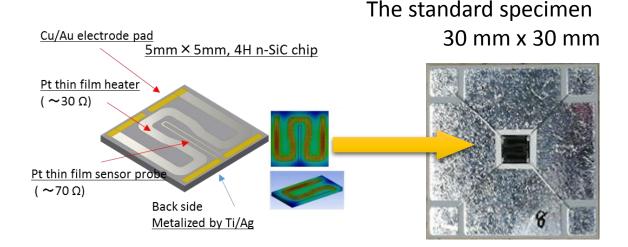
The method is under discussion at ISO TC206.



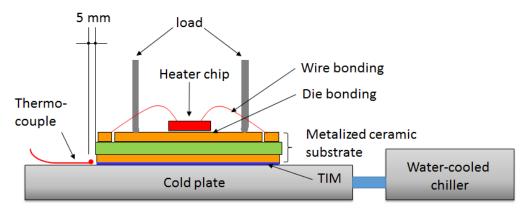
$$Rth = (Tj - Th) / Q$$

$$Rth = \Delta T / Q$$

•SiC micro heater chip improves the accuracy of R_{th}



Experimental configuration



• This machine is under development

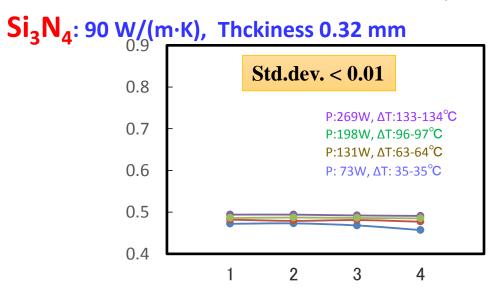


Thermal resistance

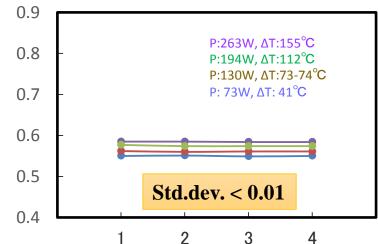
Stable, converged, and accurate $R_{\rm th}$



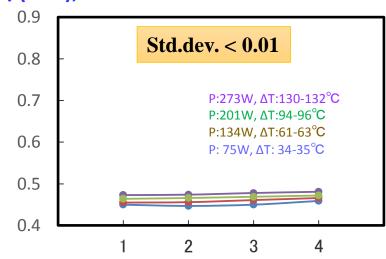
Thickness of Cu layer = 0.3 mm, Load: 10 kg, Thermal grease:~160 mg



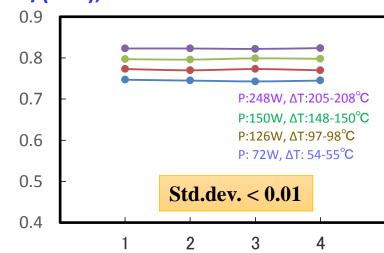
 Si_3N_4 : 90 W/(m·K), Thickness 0.64 mm



AIN: 180 W/(m·K), Thickness 0.64 mm



 Al_2O_3 : 30 W/(m·K), Thickness 0.64 mm



Individual measurements trials



Conclusions



- 1. The method proposed to ISO evaluates the thermal resistance $R_{\rm Th}$ in a typical usage of metalized ceramic substrate with die-attachment of a micro-heater chip that mimics a real power device chip.
- 2. The comprehensive measurement conditions defined in the standard method assures the reliability, reproducibility, and excellent resolution of obtained R_{Th} ; The standard deviations of individual four trials remains much less than 0.01 K/W.
- 3. The example measurements for several types of metalized ceramic substrates exhibited realistic and reasonable R_{Th} .
- 4. The standard measurement machine will be in the market 2021.

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"Thermal characterization of ceramic substrates for next generation power semiconductors"