







A large, stylized lightning bolt strikes from the top left, illuminating the scene with bright blue and white light. The background is a gradient of blue, with the lightning bolt creating a sense of energy and power.





Electronic Components
KEMET
CHARGED.[®]

Tantalum Capacitors

Design and Characteristics

Dielectric Materials

<h3>Paper</h3>   <table border="1"><tr><td>Carbon 6 C 12.011</td><td>Hydrogen 1 H 1.0078</td><td>Oxygen 8 O 15.999</td></tr></table>	Carbon 6 C 12.011	Hydrogen 1 H 1.0078	Oxygen 8 O 15.999	<h3>Ceramic</h3>   <table border="1"><tr><td>Barium 56 Ba 137.33</td><td>Titanium 22 Ti 47.867</td></tr></table>	Barium 56 Ba 137.33	Titanium 22 Ti 47.867	<h3>Plastic Film</h3>   <table border="1"><tr><td>Carbon 6 C 12.011</td><td>Hydrogen 1 H 1.0078</td><td>Oxygen 8 O 15.999</td></tr></table>	Carbon 6 C 12.011	Hydrogen 1 H 1.0078	Oxygen 8 O 15.999
Carbon 6 C 12.011	Hydrogen 1 H 1.0078	Oxygen 8 O 15.999								
Barium 56 Ba 137.33	Titanium 22 Ti 47.867									
Carbon 6 C 12.011	Hydrogen 1 H 1.0078	Oxygen 8 O 15.999								

<h3>Tantalum</h3>   <table border="1"><tr><td>Tantalum 73 Ta 180.95</td><td>Oxygen 8 O 15.999</td></tr></table>	Tantalum 73 Ta 180.95	Oxygen 8 O 15.999	<h3>Aluminum</h3>   <table border="1"><tr><td>Aluminium 13 Al 26.982</td><td>Oxygen 8 O 15.999</td></tr></table>	Aluminium 13 Al 26.982	Oxygen 8 O 15.999
Tantalum 73 Ta 180.95	Oxygen 8 O 15.999				
Aluminium 13 Al 26.982	Oxygen 8 O 15.999				

KEMET – Ta / Al Polymer Products



7
Manufacturing
Plants*



3 billion
Components
Shipped per Year*

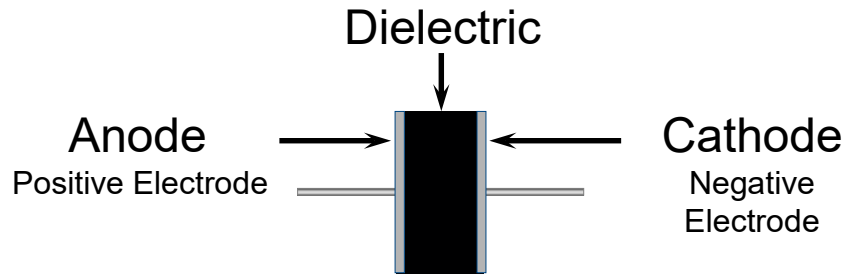


2
Innovation
Centers

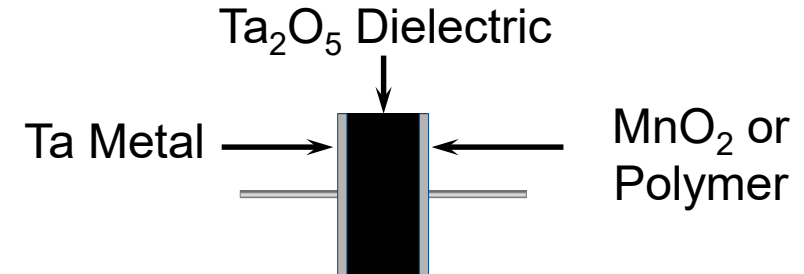
* Includes TOKIN

Design

General



Tantalum

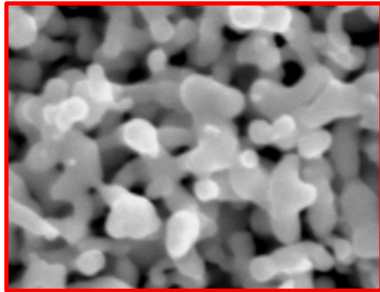


$$C = \frac{k \epsilon_0 A}{d} \longrightarrow C \propto \frac{A}{d}$$

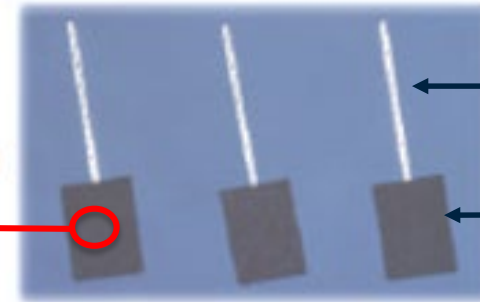
constant

- where:
- C = capacitance, Farad
 - k = dielectric constant, unitless; for Ta₂O₅, k = 27
 - ε₀ = permittivity in vacuum, 8.854 x 10⁻¹² Farad / meter
 - A = surface area of conductive plate, meter
 - d = dielectric thickness, meter; Ta₂O₅, thickness is 20 x 10⁻¹⁰ meter per applied formation volt

Construction



SEM Photo of Anode Surface

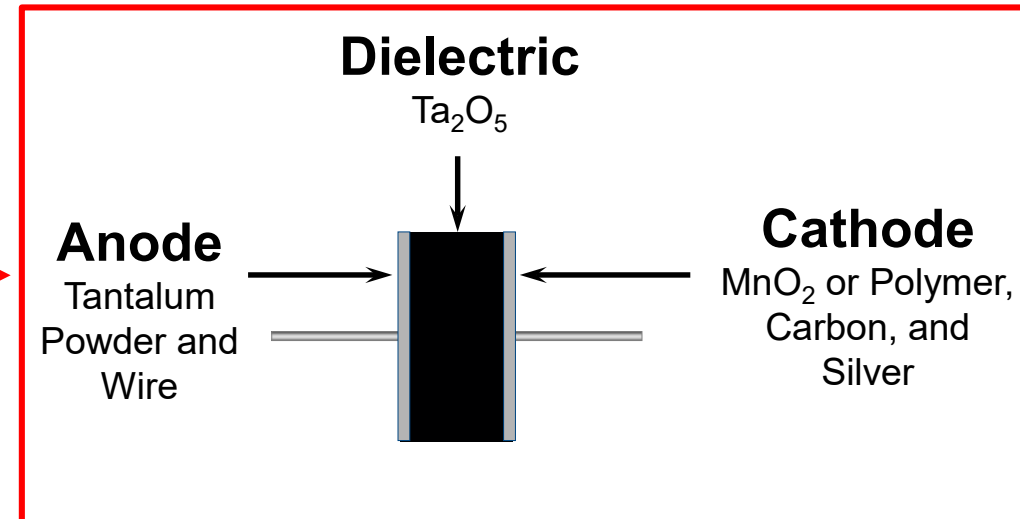
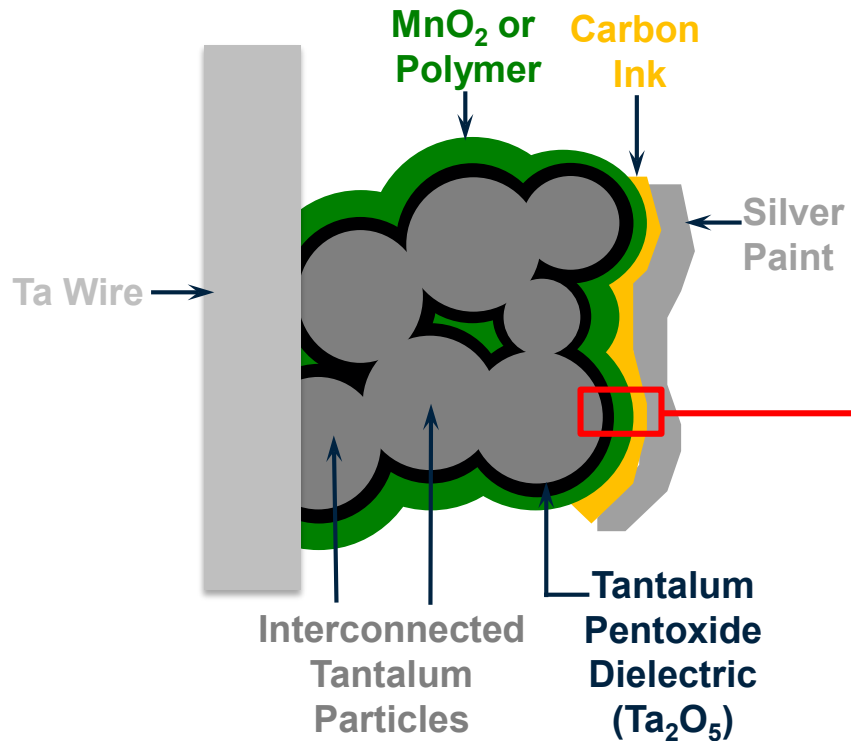


Tantalum Wire

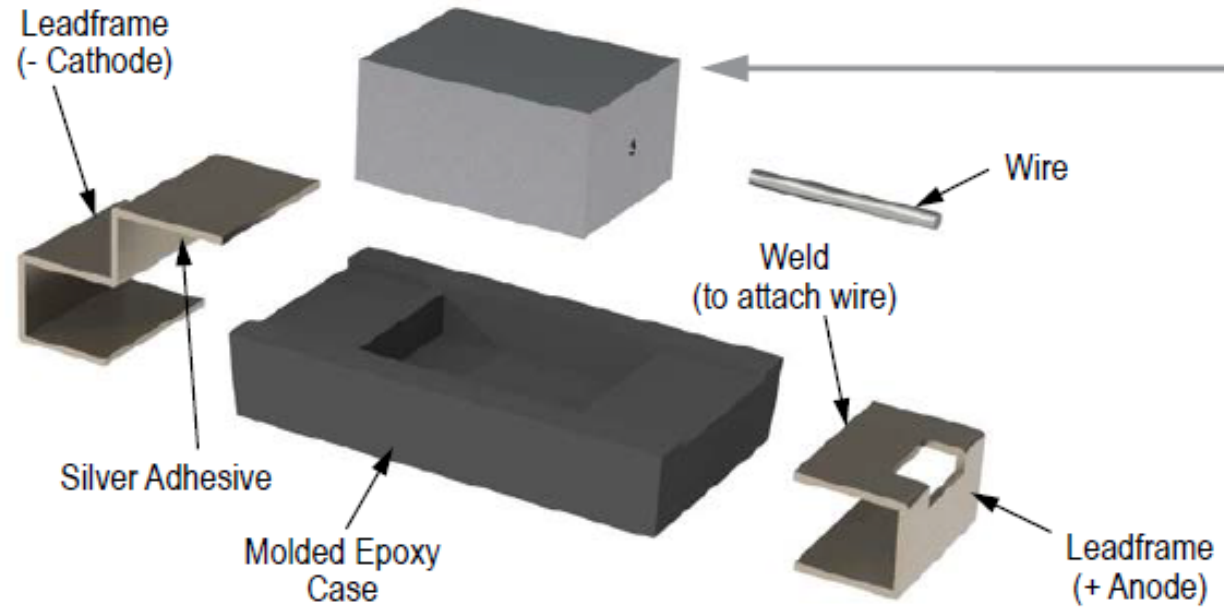
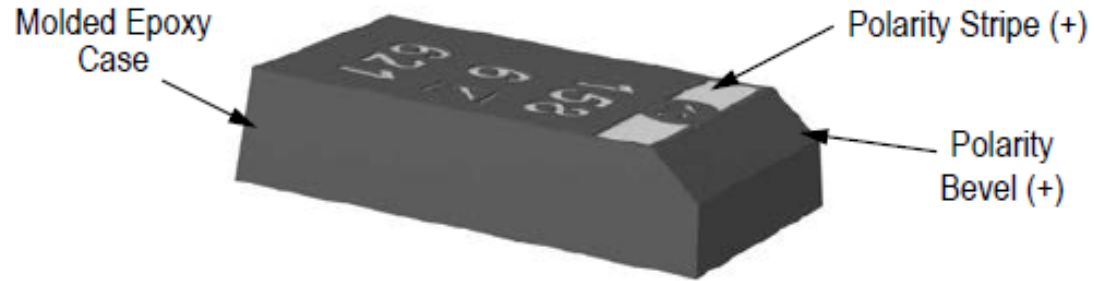
$\rho_{\text{Tantalum}} = 16.69$
g/cm³

Tantalum Anode
(Porous Body)

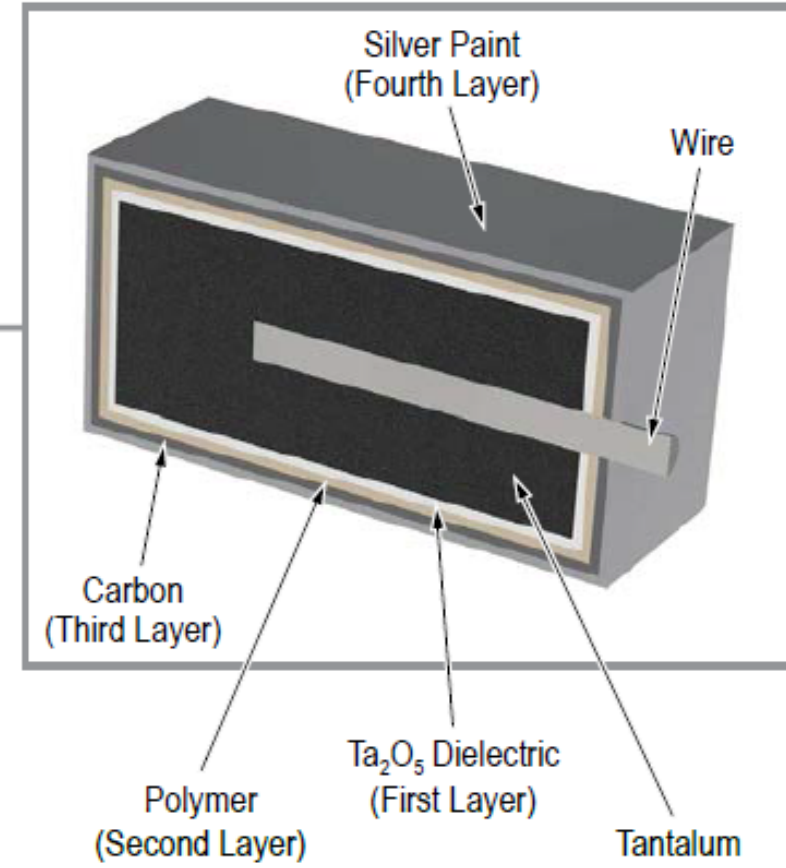
$\rho_{\text{Pressed Anode}} = 5.0$ to
7.0 g/cm³



Standard Package



















Detailed Cross Section

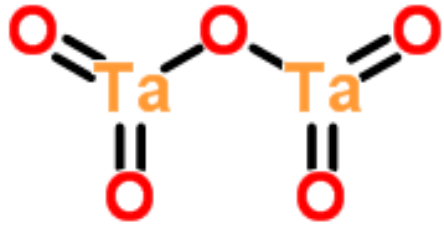


A large, stylized lightning bolt graphic in shades of blue and white, extending from the left side of the slide towards the center. The bolt is composed of multiple jagged, branching lines, creating a sense of energy and power.

Materials and Processes

<p>Ta 73 180.95</p>  <p>Tantalum</p>	<h3>Tantalum has many Applications</h3> <table border="0"><tr><td data-bbox="1324 414 1579 571"><p>Electronics</p></td><td data-bbox="1605 414 1936 571"><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Capacitors- Resistors- Hard Disk Drives- Acoustic Filters</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="1324 599 1579 771"><p>Optics</p></td><td data-bbox="1605 599 1936 771"><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Camera Lenses- Phone Display- Ink Jet Printers- X-Ray Film</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="1324 799 1579 956"><p>Superalloys</p></td><td data-bbox="1605 799 1936 956"><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Aircraft Frames- Turbine Blades- Jet Engine Discs</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="1324 985 1579 1142"><p>Medical</p></td><td data-bbox="1605 985 1936 1142"><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Joint Replacement- Skull Plates- Screws/clamps- Wires</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="1324 1170 1579 1328"><p>High Temp</p></td><td data-bbox="1605 1170 1936 1328"><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rocket Nozzles- Furnaces- Cutting Tools- Chemical Resistant</td></tr></table>	 <p>Electronics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Capacitors- Resistors- Hard Disk Drives- Acoustic Filters	 <p>Optics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Camera Lenses- Phone Display- Ink Jet Printers- X-Ray Film	 <p>Superalloys</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Aircraft Frames- Turbine Blades- Jet Engine Discs	 <p>Medical</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Joint Replacement- Skull Plates- Screws/clamps- Wires	 <p>High Temp</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rocket Nozzles- Furnaces- Cutting Tools- Chemical Resistant
 <p>Electronics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Capacitors- Resistors- Hard Disk Drives- Acoustic Filters										
 <p>Optics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Camera Lenses- Phone Display- Ink Jet Printers- X-Ray Film										
 <p>Superalloys</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Aircraft Frames- Turbine Blades- Jet Engine Discs										
 <p>Medical</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Joint Replacement- Skull Plates- Screws/clamps- Wires										
 <p>High Temp</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rocket Nozzles- Furnaces- Cutting Tools- Chemical Resistant										
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High ductility• High corrosion resistance• High melting point (3020°C)• High resistance to heat and wear• High biocompatibility											

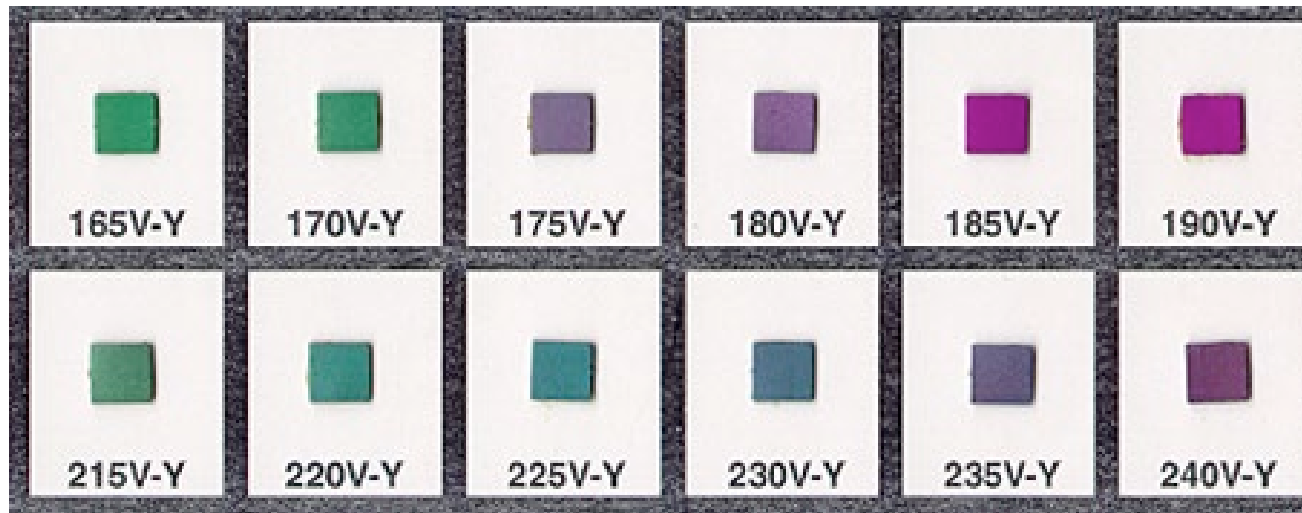
Tantalum Pentoxide (Ta_2O_5)



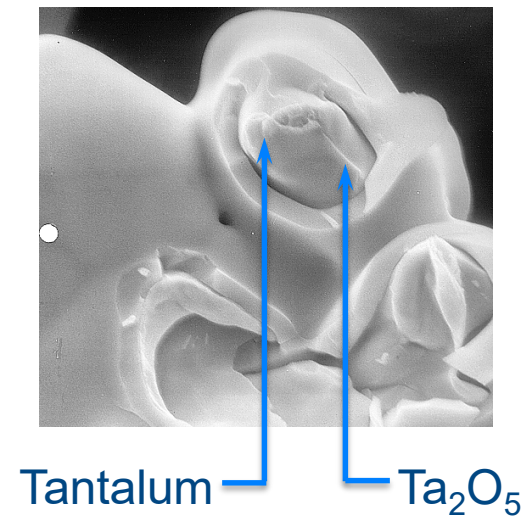
- Dielectric constant: 27
- Dielectric breakdown: 470 volt/mm
- Dielectric thickness: 2.0 nm/volt
- Resistant to chemical attack

V_R	Dielectric Thickness (nm)	
	Ta	MLCC
2	20.7	600
4	27.6	600
6	36.8	600

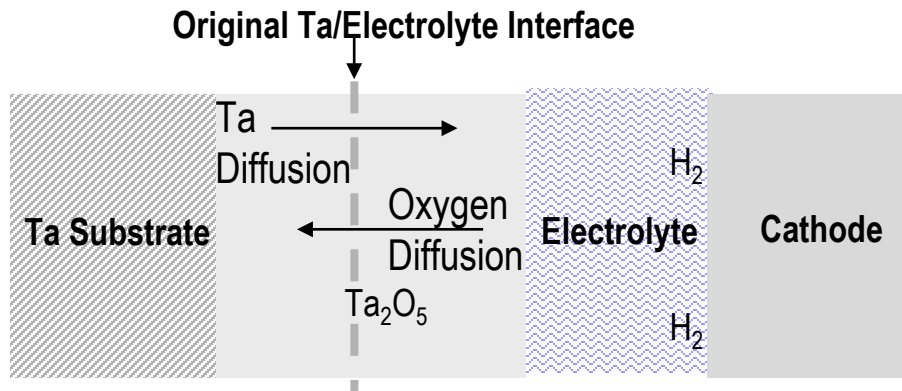
Interference Color



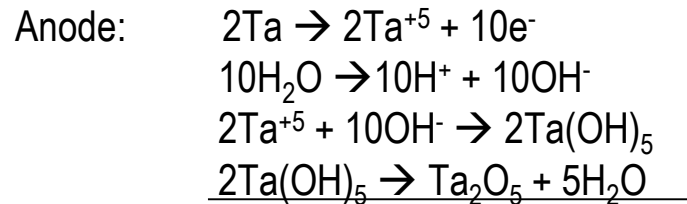
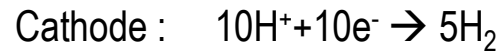
Fractured Anode (Post Formation)



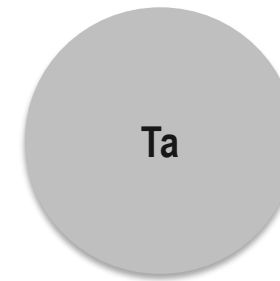
Traditional Anodization (Ta)



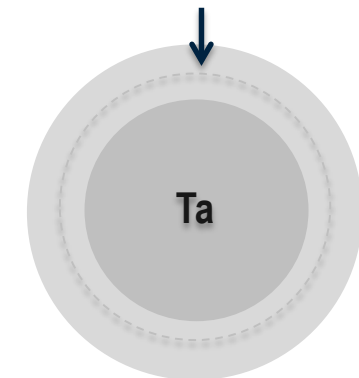
Half Reactions



Before Formation



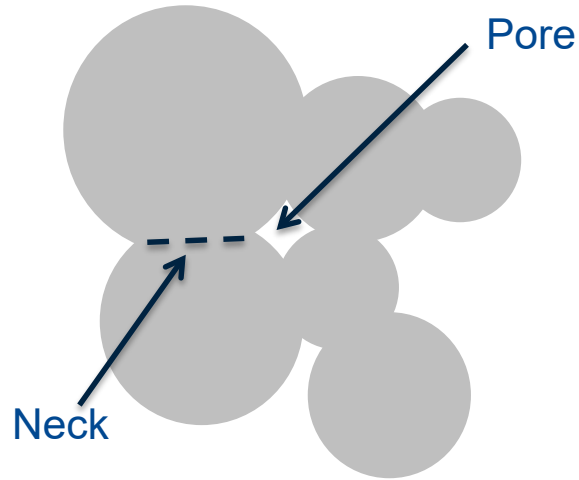
Original Surface
of Ta Particle



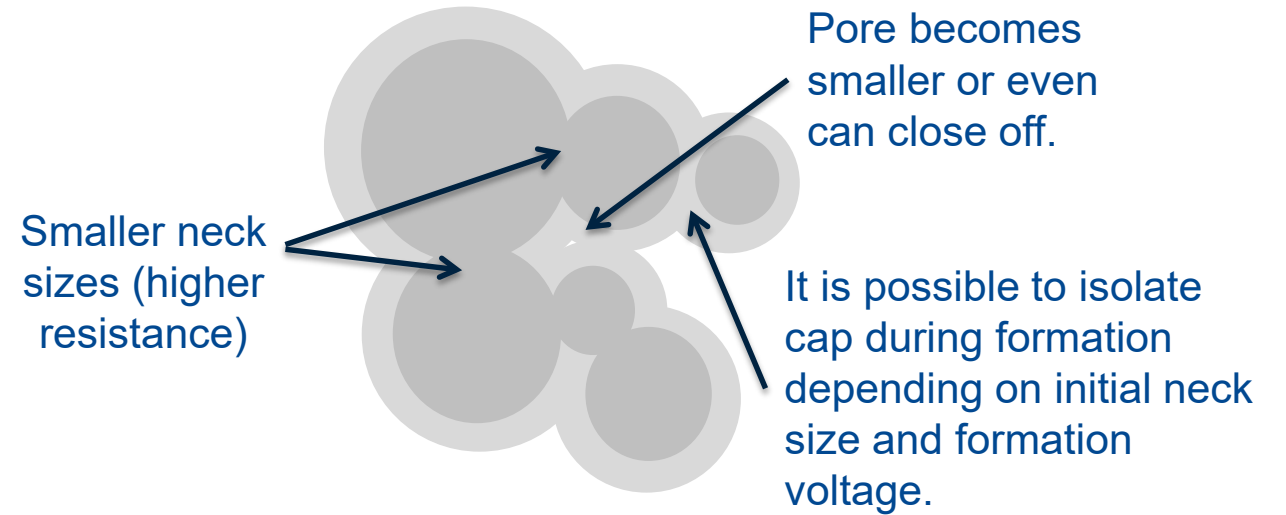
After Formation

Dielectric (Ta_2O_5) grows inwardly and outwardly from the original surface of Tantalum particle

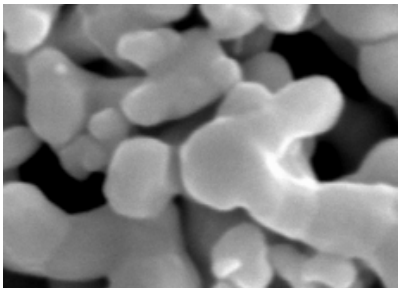
Before Formation



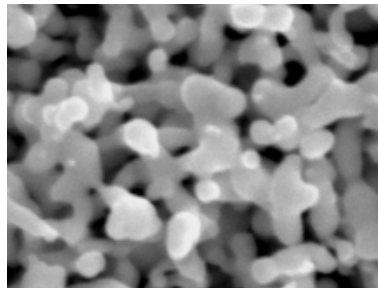
After Formation



SEM Photos (10,000x) of Anode Surface

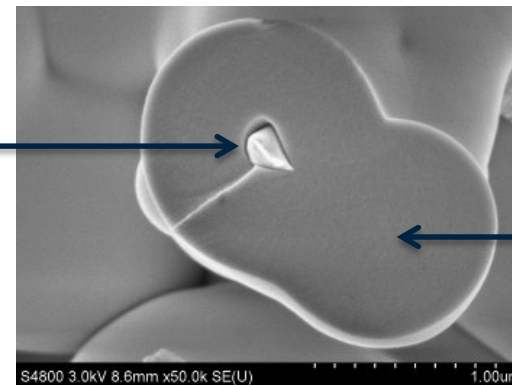


50K Powder

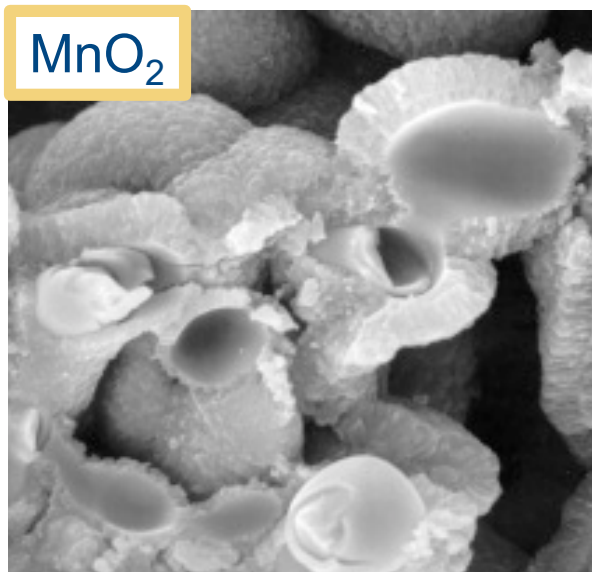
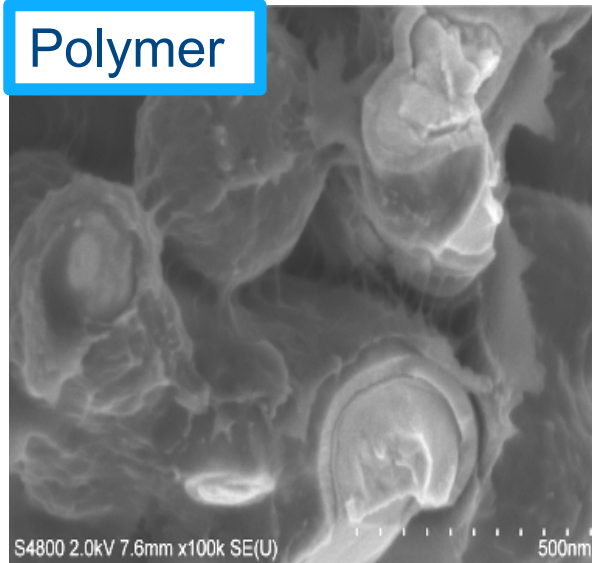


150K Powder

Small Neck of Effective Tantalum

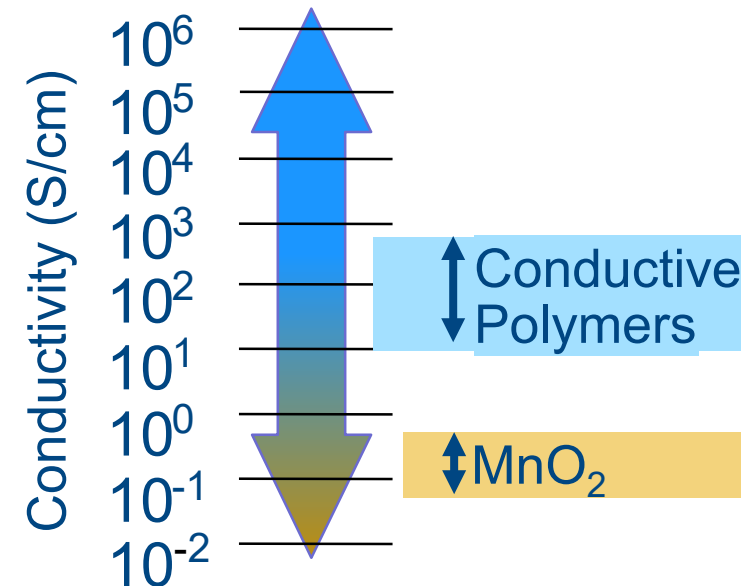


Dielectric has formed completely through neck



Cathode forms the negative connection:

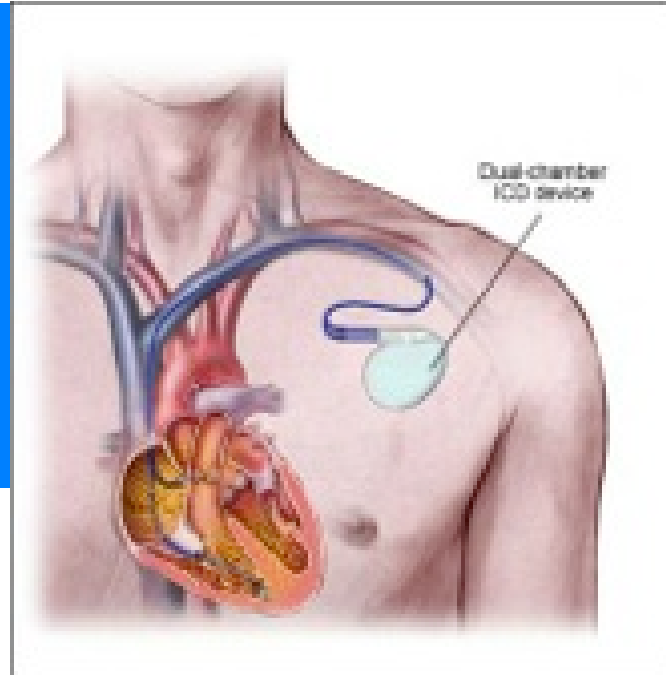
- Polymer is an intrinsically conductive polymer.
- MnO₂ is manganese dioxide.



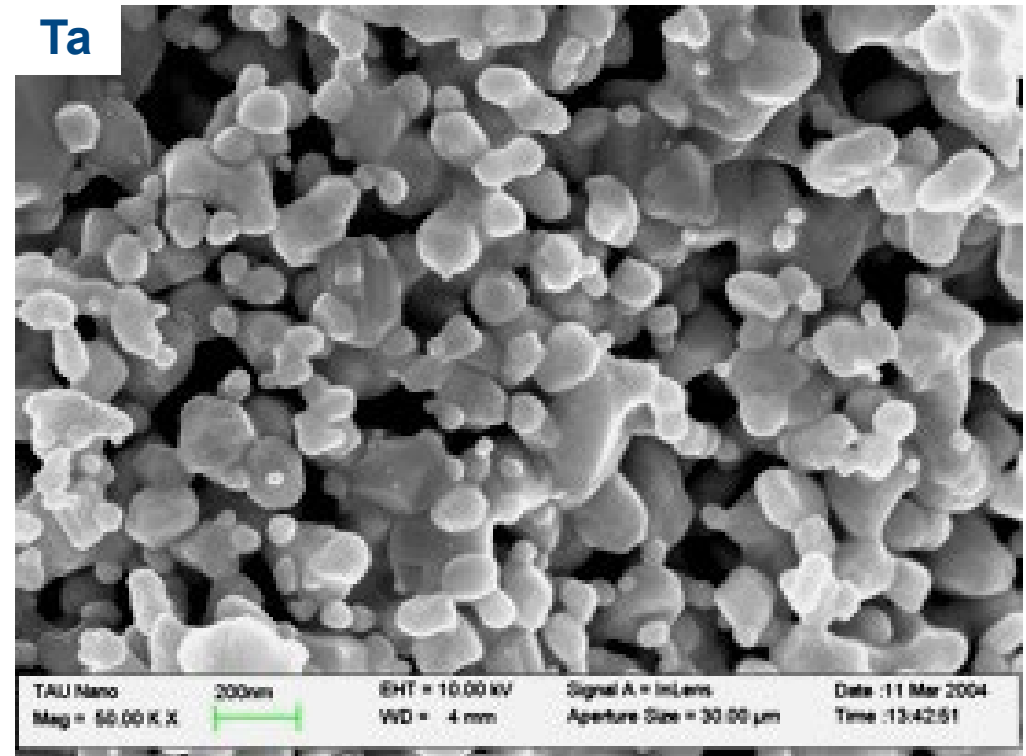
Characteristics

Why Use Tantalum?

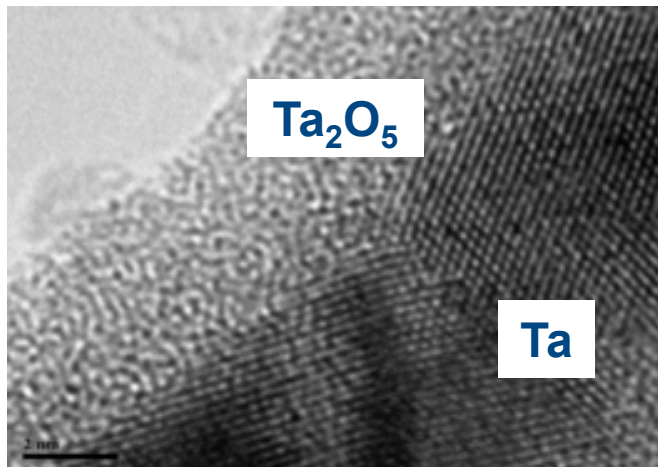
Military
Space
Medical
Automotive
Computers
Telecom



SEM of a Sintered Ta Anode

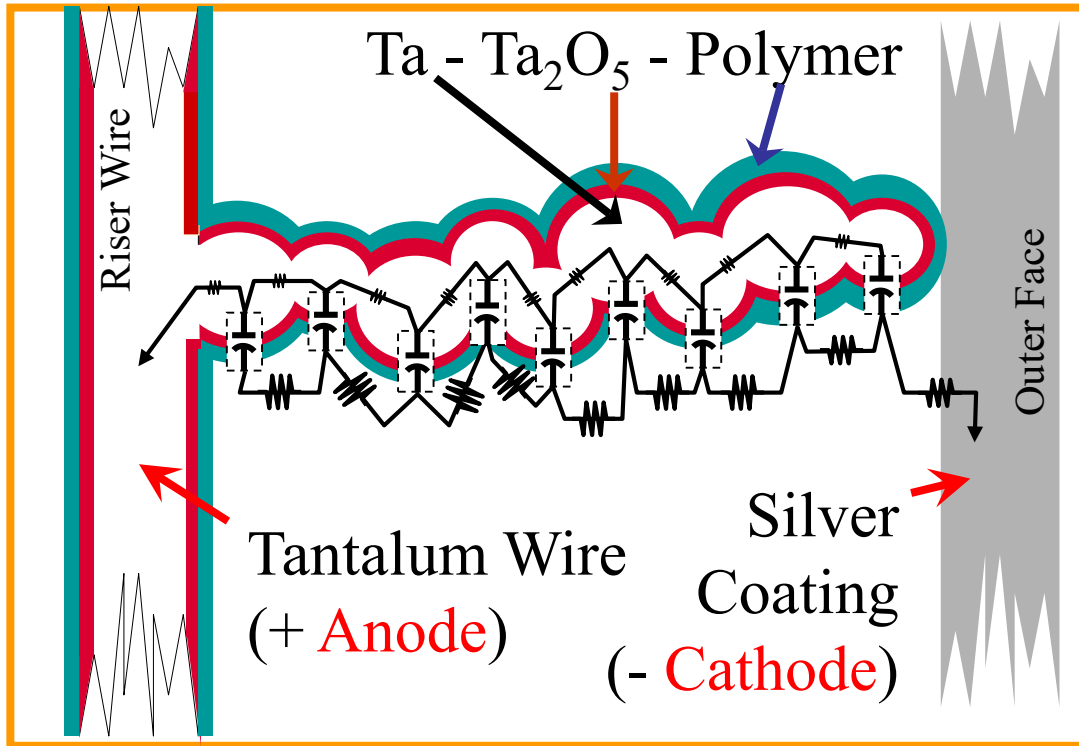


Ta Oxide Dielectric

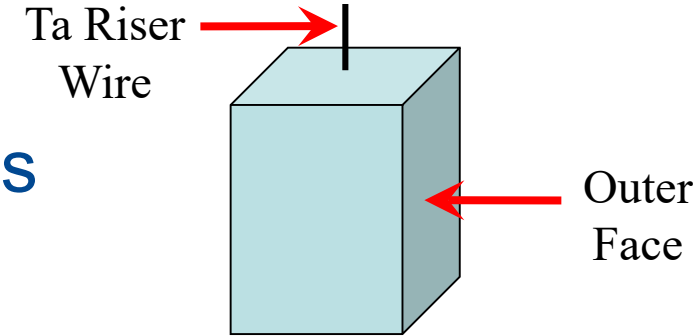


- Stable C (No Temp or Bias Effects), DCL (t)
- Reliable (Decreasing Failure Rate)
- Long Life (Exceeds Expected Life of All Hardware)
- Most Volumetrically Efficient (CV/cc, E/cc)

RC-Ladder Effect



RC-Ladder Effects



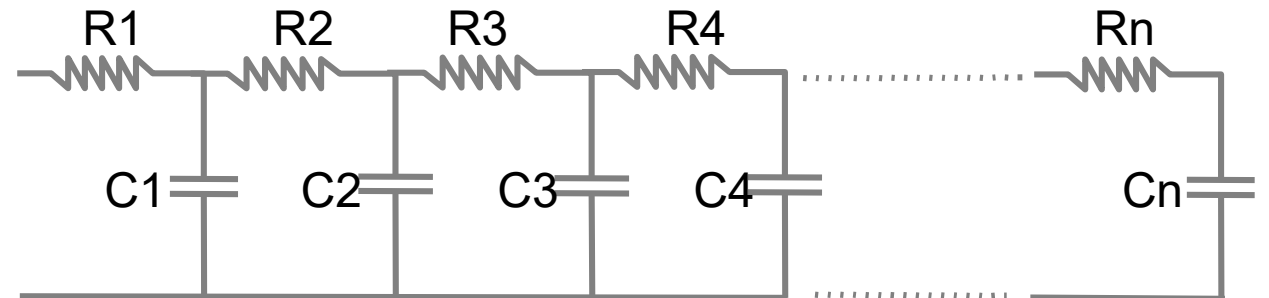
$$tc1 = C1 \times R1$$

$$tc2 = C2 \times (R1+R2)$$

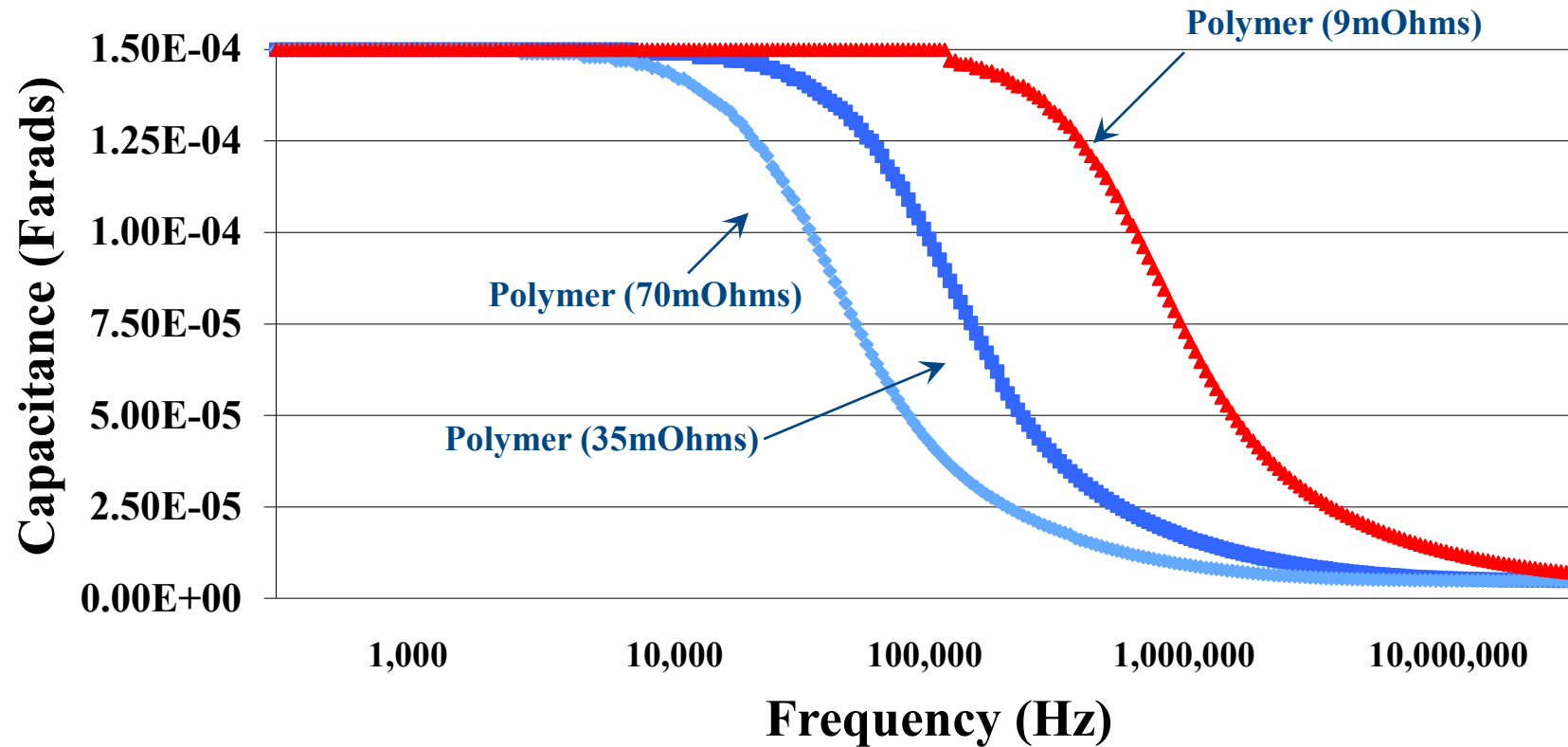
$$tc3 = C3 \times (R1+R2+R3)$$

$$tcn = Cn \times (R1+R2+R3...+Rn)$$

RC-Ladder effects are factored by both capacitance and resistance.



Capacitance vs. Frequency



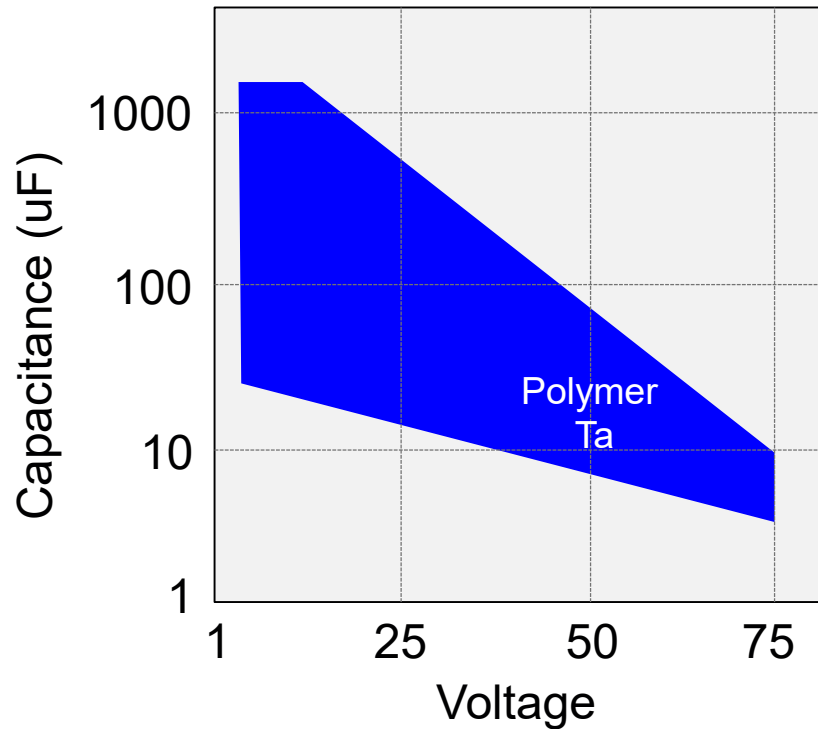
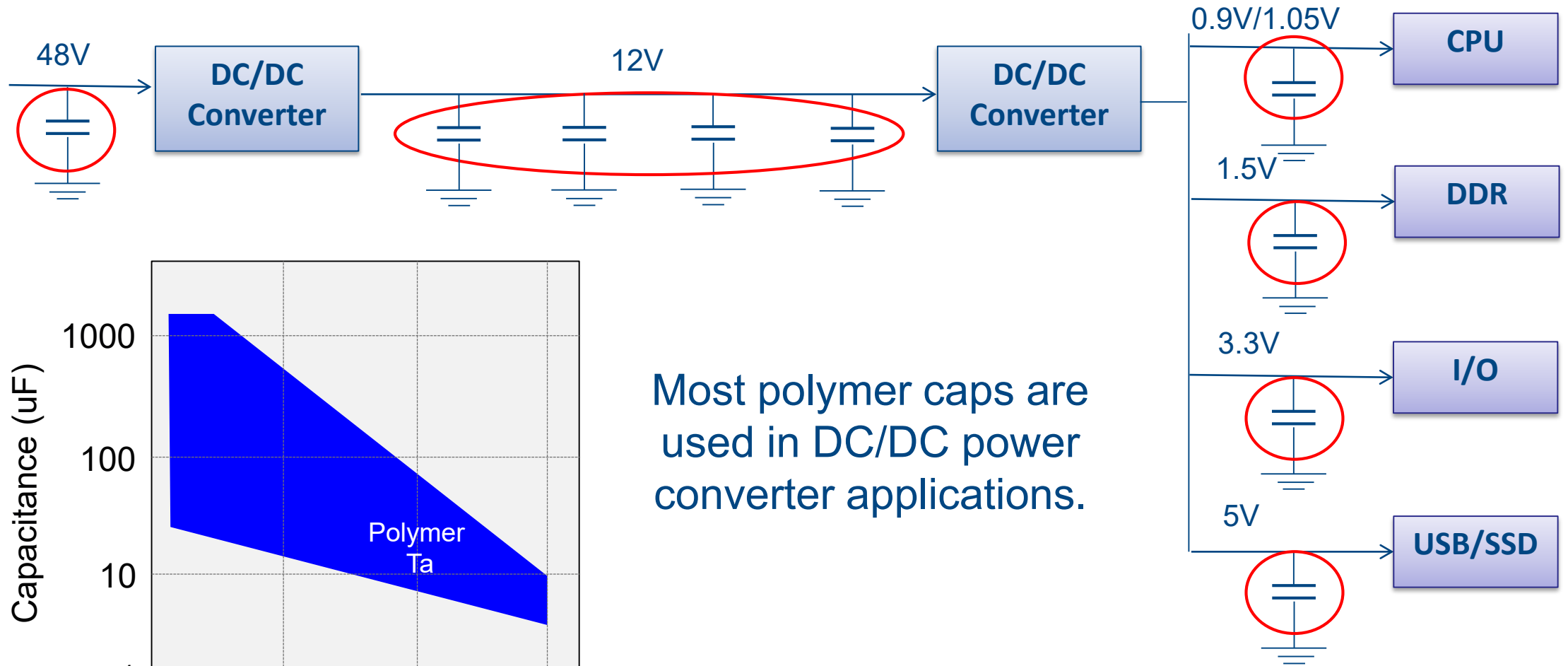
Polymers are commonly used in applications up to 1MHz.
Applications exceeding 1MHz typically call for MLCCs.

A large, stylized lightning bolt graphic in shades of blue and white, extending from the left side of the slide towards the center. The bolt is composed of multiple jagged, branching lines, creating a sense of energy and power.

Applications Most Suitable For Polymer Capacitors

DC/DC Converter

Filtering, Decoupling, and Hold Up



Most polymer caps are used in DC/DC power converter applications.

Reliability Models

Reliability Model

Leakage

KO-CAP capacitors have an average failure rate of 0.5 %/1,000 hours at category voltage, V_C , and category temperature, T_C . These capacitors are qualified using industry test standards at V_C and T_C . The minimum test time (1,000 or 2,000 hours) is dependent on the product series.

The actual life expectancy of KO-CAP capacitors increases when application voltage, V_A , and application temperature, T_A , are lower than V_C and T_C . As a general guideline, when $V_A < 0.9 * V_C$ and $T_A < 85^\circ\text{C}$, the life expectancy will typically exceed the useful lifetime of most hardware (> 10 years).

The lifetime of a KO-CAP capacitor at a specific application voltage and temperature can be modeled using the equations on the next slide. A failure is defined as passing enough current to blow a 1-Amp fuse. The calculation is an estimation based on empirical results and is not a guarantee.

Reliability Model

Lifetime

$$V_{AF} = \left(\frac{V_C}{V_A}\right)^n$$

Inverse
Power Law

where: V_{AF} – acceleration factor due to voltage, unitless

V_C – category voltage, Volt

V_A – application voltage, Volt

n – exponent, 16

$$T_{AF} = e^{\left[\frac{E_a}{k}\left(\frac{1}{273+T_A} - \frac{1}{273+T_C}\right)\right]}$$

Arrhenius Equation

where: T_{AF} – acceleration factor due to temperature, unitless

E_a – activation energy, 1.4 eV

k – Boltzmann's constant, 8.617E-5 eV/K

T_A – application temperature, °C

T_C – category temperature, °C

$$A_F = V_{AF} * TAF$$

where: A_F – acceleration factor, unitless

T_{AF} – acceleration factor due to temperature, unitless

V_{AF} – acceleration factor due to voltage, unitless

$$Life_{U_A, T_A} = Life_{U_C, T_C} * AF$$

where: $Life_{V_A, T_A}$ – guaranteed life at application voltage and temperature, years

$Life_{V_C, T_C}$ – guaranteed life at category voltage and temperature, years

A_F – acceleration factor, unitless

Constants (n , E_a) were agreed upon by technical teams based on empirical results. These values can vary based on part type. For the product line, these are accepted values for the purpose of giving guidance.

Qualification Plan: 105°C, Vr, 2000 hours.

Ur	Equivalent Time (hours) at Specified Temperature (°C)				
	45°C	65°C	85°C	105°C	125°C
1.00	6,587,826	321,712	22,011	2,000	231
0.90	35,551,833	1,736,149	118,785	10,793	1,248
0.80	234,046,611	11,429,505	781,992	71,054	8,215
0.67	3,995,262,380	195,105,889	13,348,893	1,212,923	140,238
0.50	431,739,793,834	21,083,715,712	1,442,520,611	131,072,000	15,154,549

Ur	Equivalent Time (years) at Specified Temperature (°C)				
	45°C	65°C	85°C	105°C	125°C
1.00	752	37	3	0.2	0.03
0.90	4,058	198	14	1.2	0.1
0.80	26,718	1,305	89	8	0.9
0.67	456,080	22,272	1,524	138	16
0.50	49,285,365	2,406,817	164,671	14,963	1,730

De-Rating Recommendations

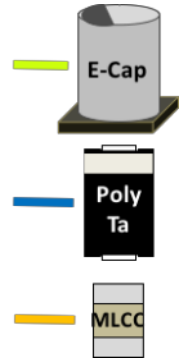


Baseline Condition

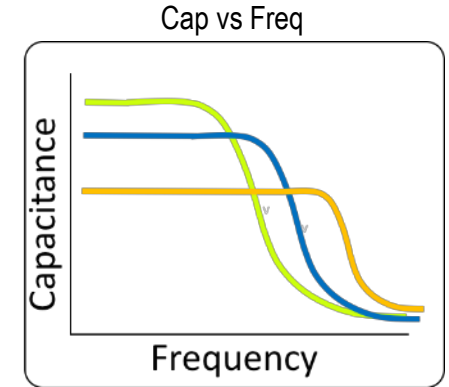
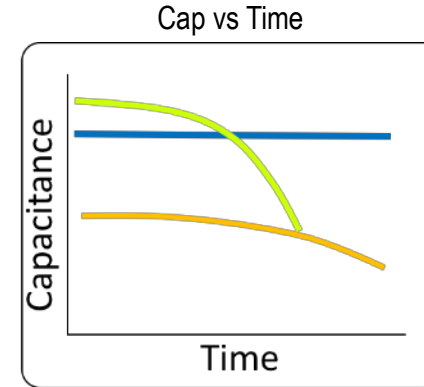
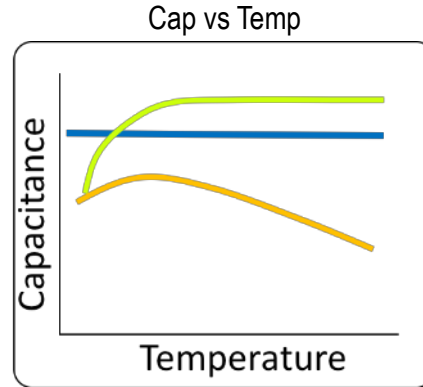
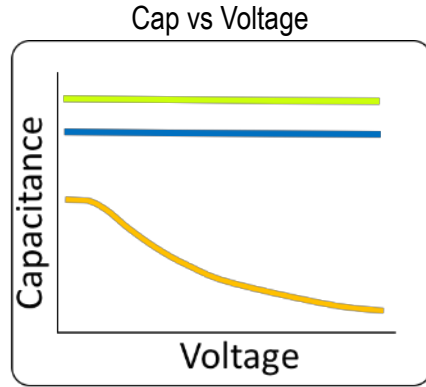
A large, stylized lightning bolt graphic in shades of blue and white, extending from the left side of the slide towards the center. The bolt is composed of multiple jagged, branching lines, creating a sense of energy and power.

Strengths And Weaknesses By Dielectric

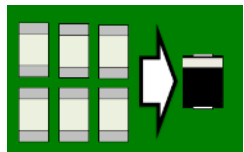
Dielectric Comparison



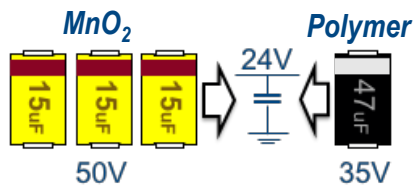
Stable Capacitance



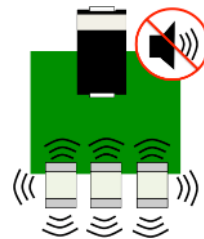
Delivered Capacitance



De-rating



No Piezo Noise



Low Profile



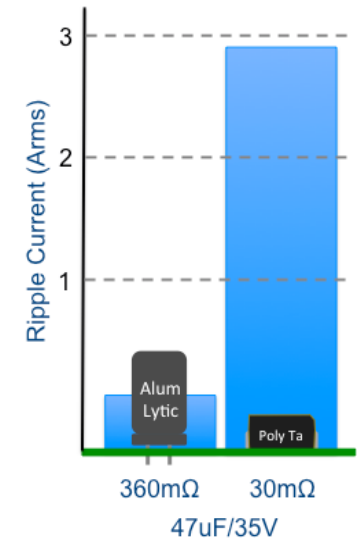
Non-Ignition Failure Mode



No Flex Cracks



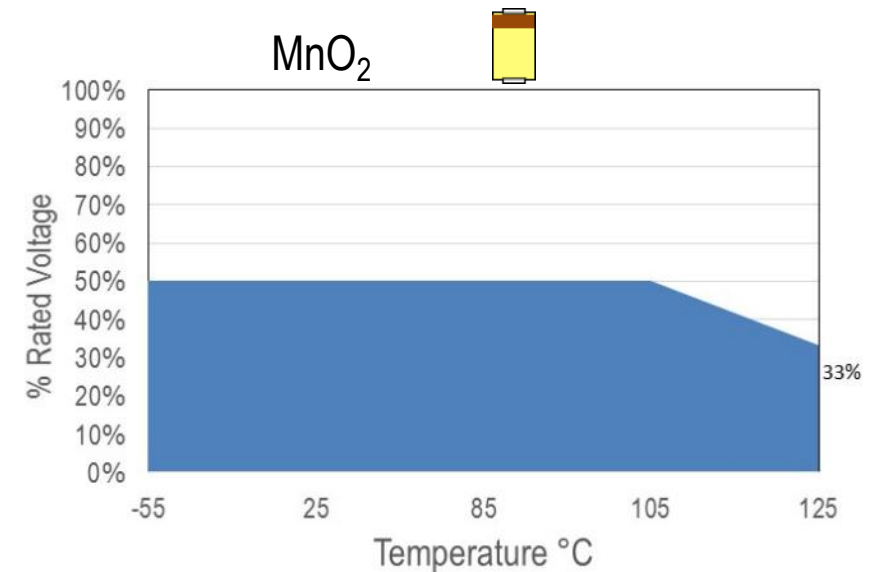
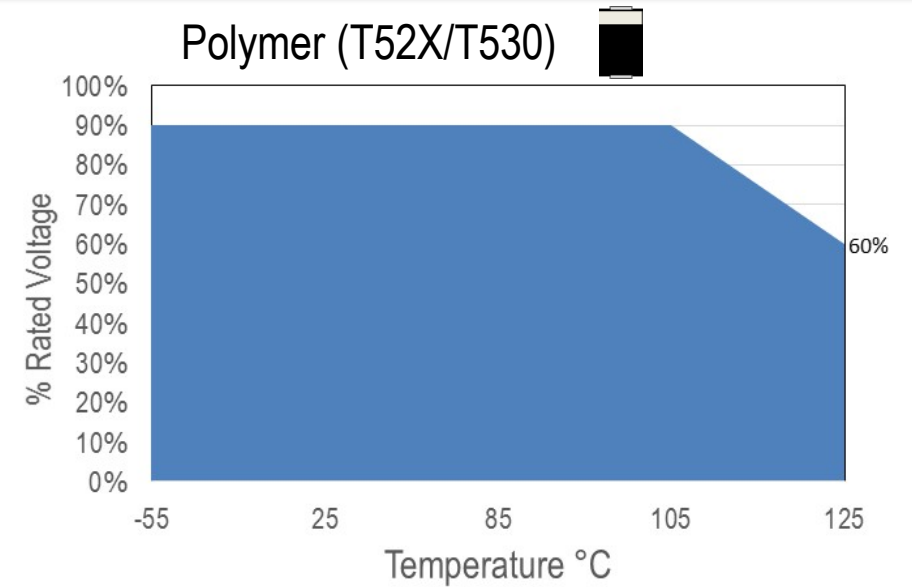
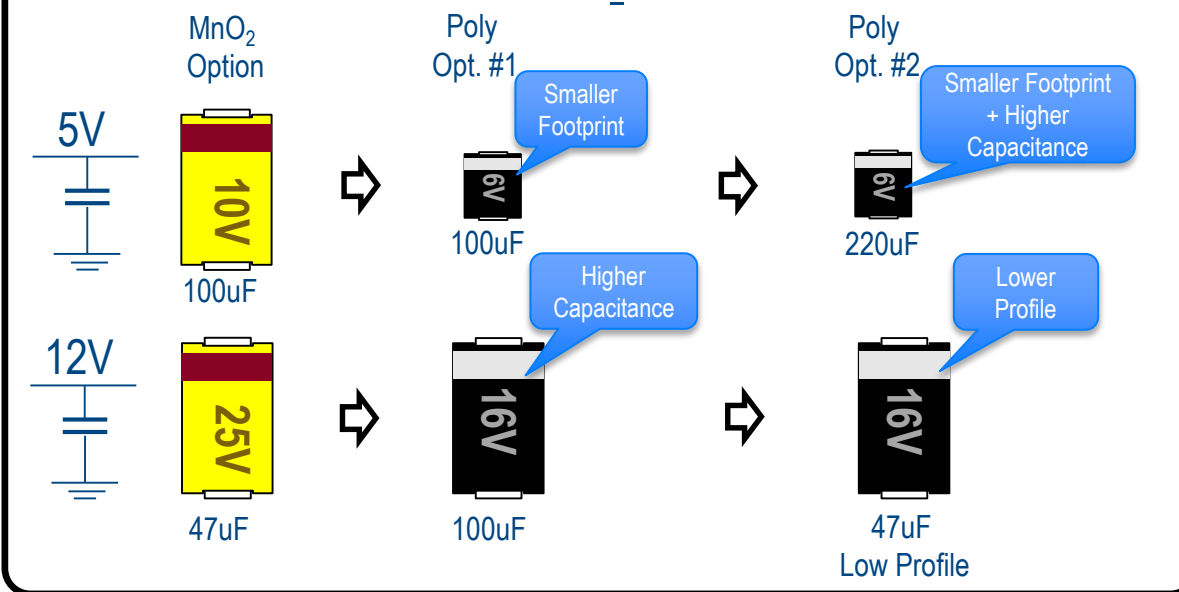
High Ripple Handling



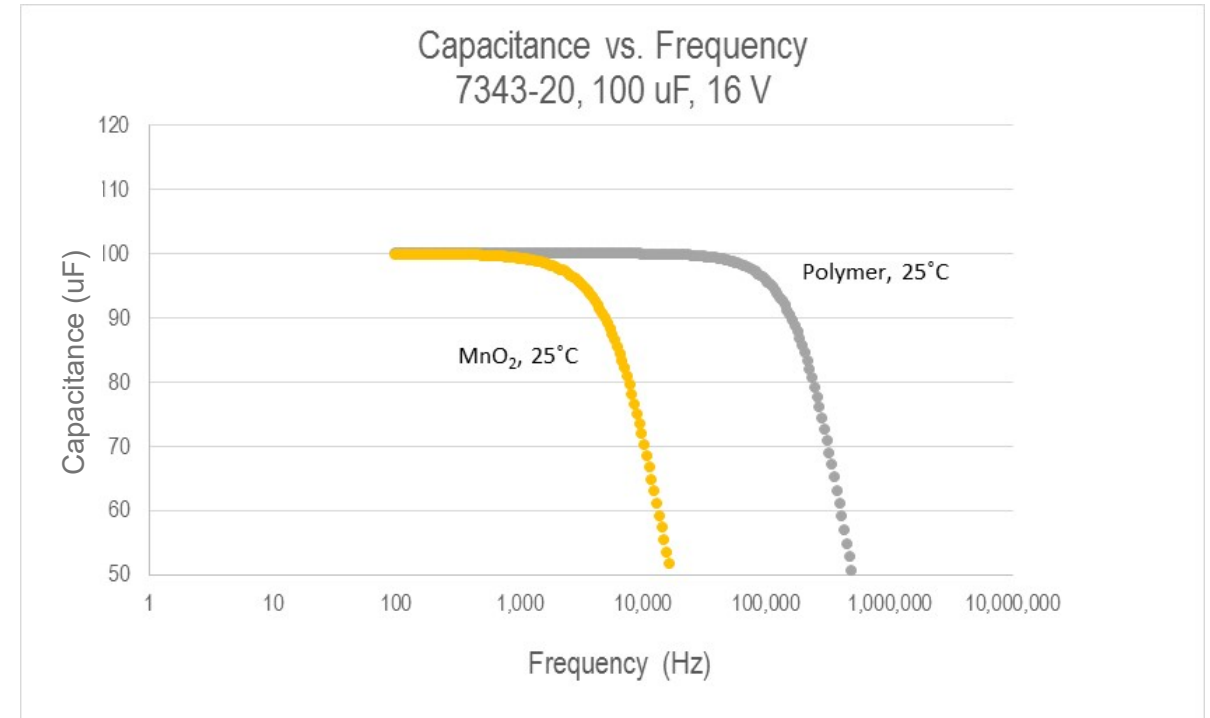
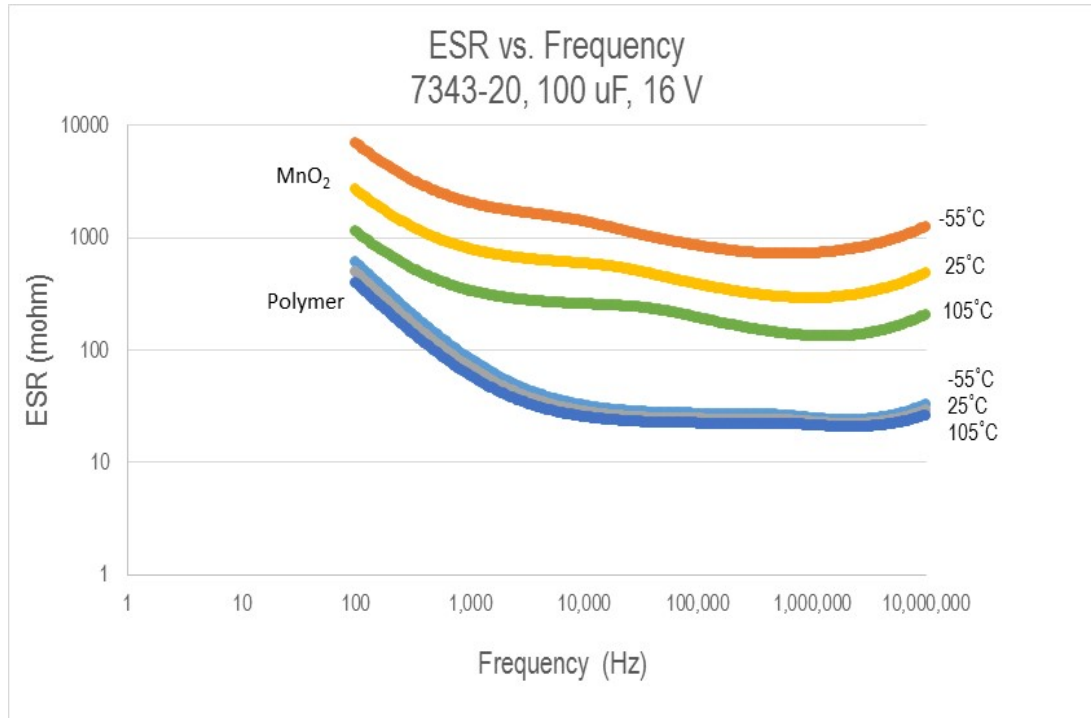
MnO₂ vs. Polymer

Application Voltage	MnO ₂ Voltage Rating	Polymer Voltage Rating
1.0 -1.5	4.0	2.5
3.3	6.3	4.0
5.0	10	6.3
12	25	16
24	50	35
28	50(?)	35 & 50
36	N/A	50
48	N/A	63 & 75

Replacing MnO₂ with Polymer



MnO₂ vs. Polymer



- Polymers are much lower in ESR which result in a more efficient circuit.
- Polymer capacitors retain more actual capacitance than MnO₂.

When Polymer Is Not the Ideal Choice



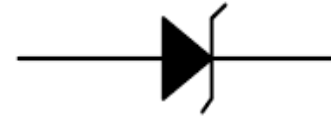
Frequencies approach or exceed 1 MHz



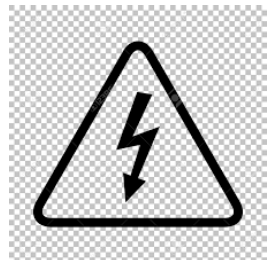
Ultra low ESR ($\ll 4$ m Ω) is needed.



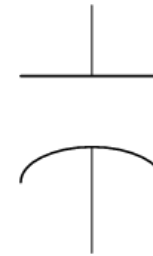
Temperatures exceed 150°C unless expected life time is short (within days).



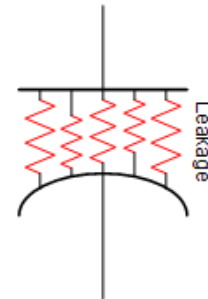
Reverse bias occurs.



Voltage rails exceed 48 Volts.



Low cap (< 0.68 μ F) is needed.



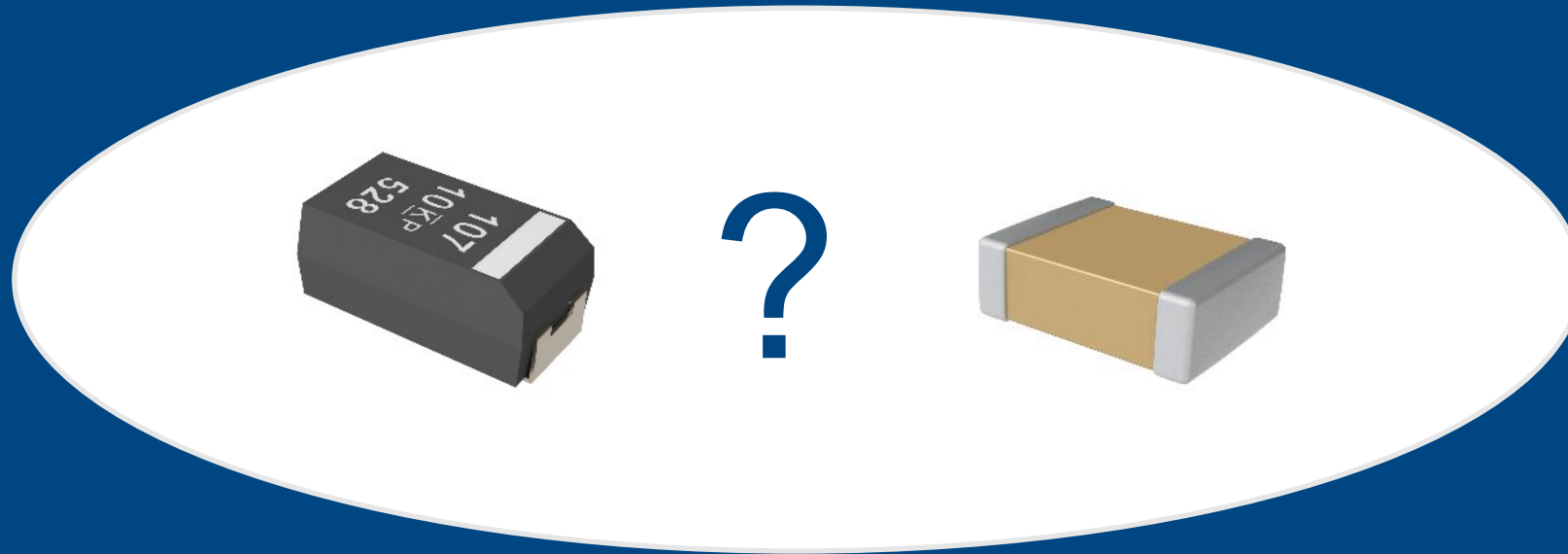
Low leakage is needed for maximum battery life.

MLCC to Polymer Considerations

Leakage

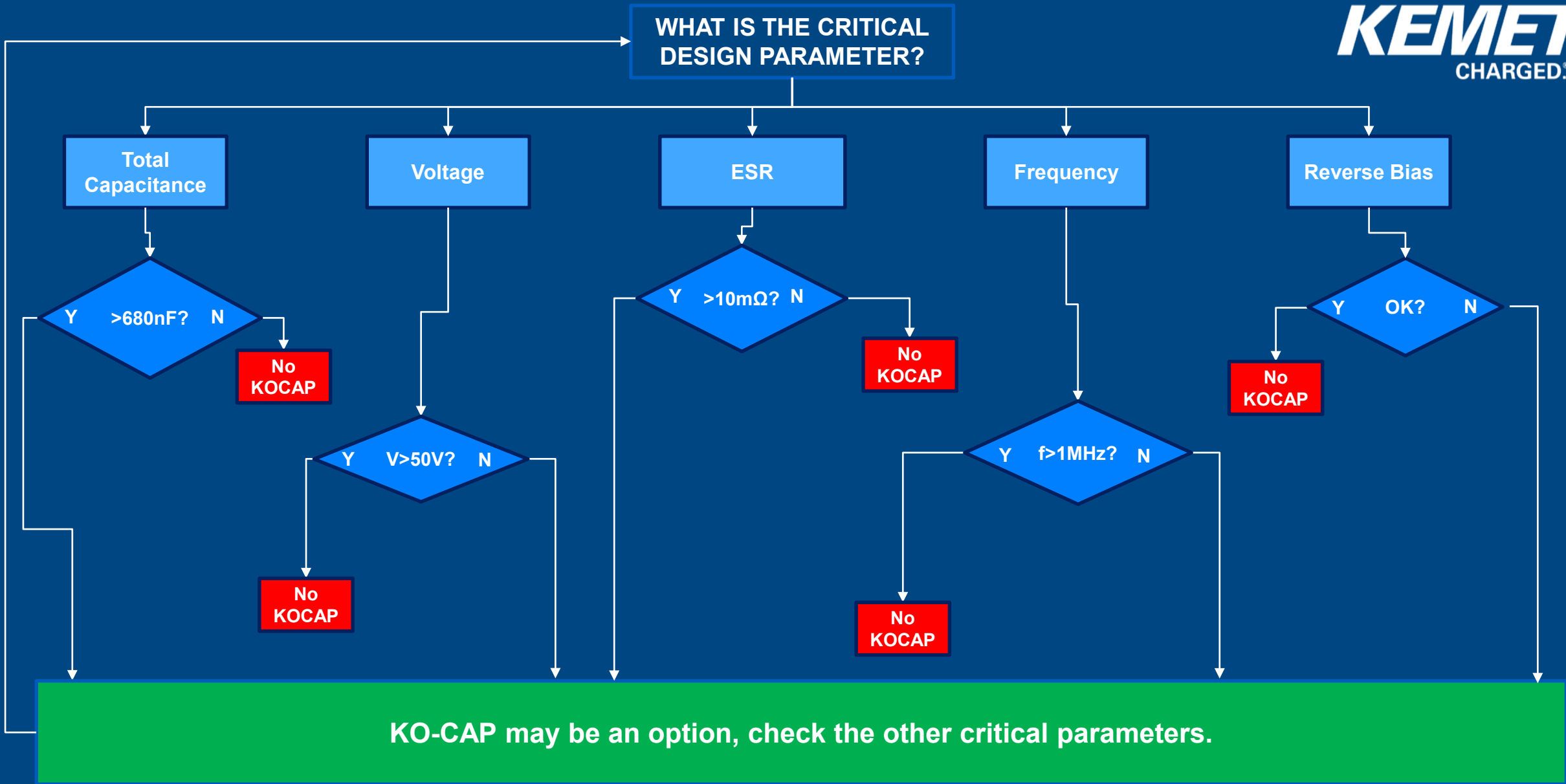
Application Voltage

Switching Frequency



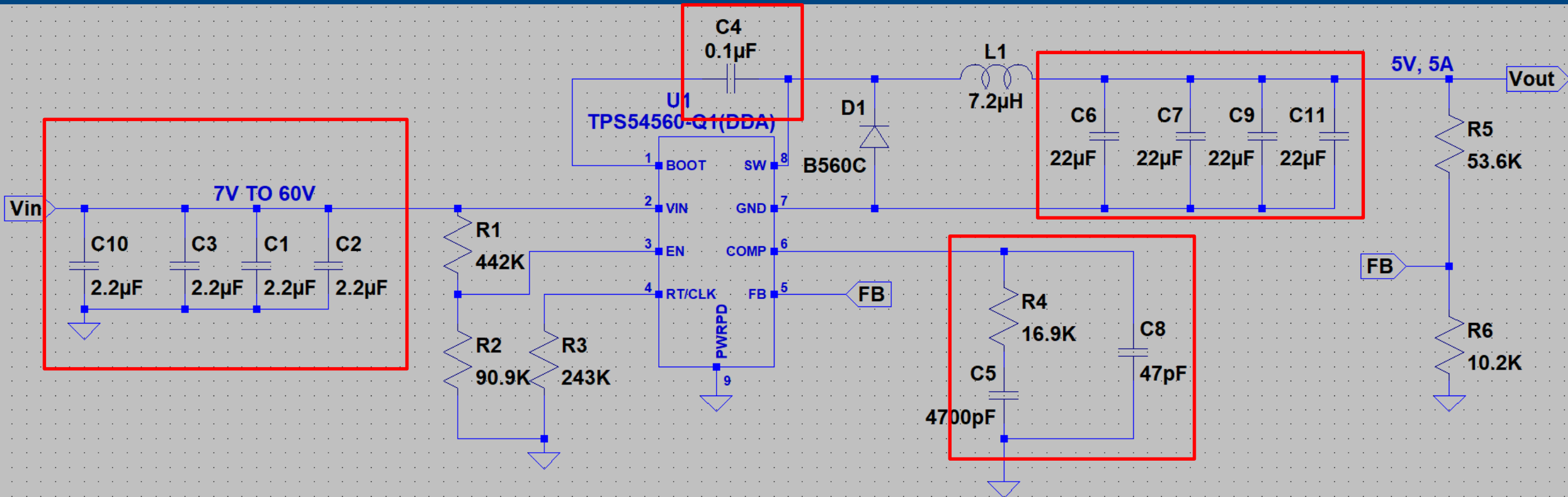
Total Capacitance

ESR



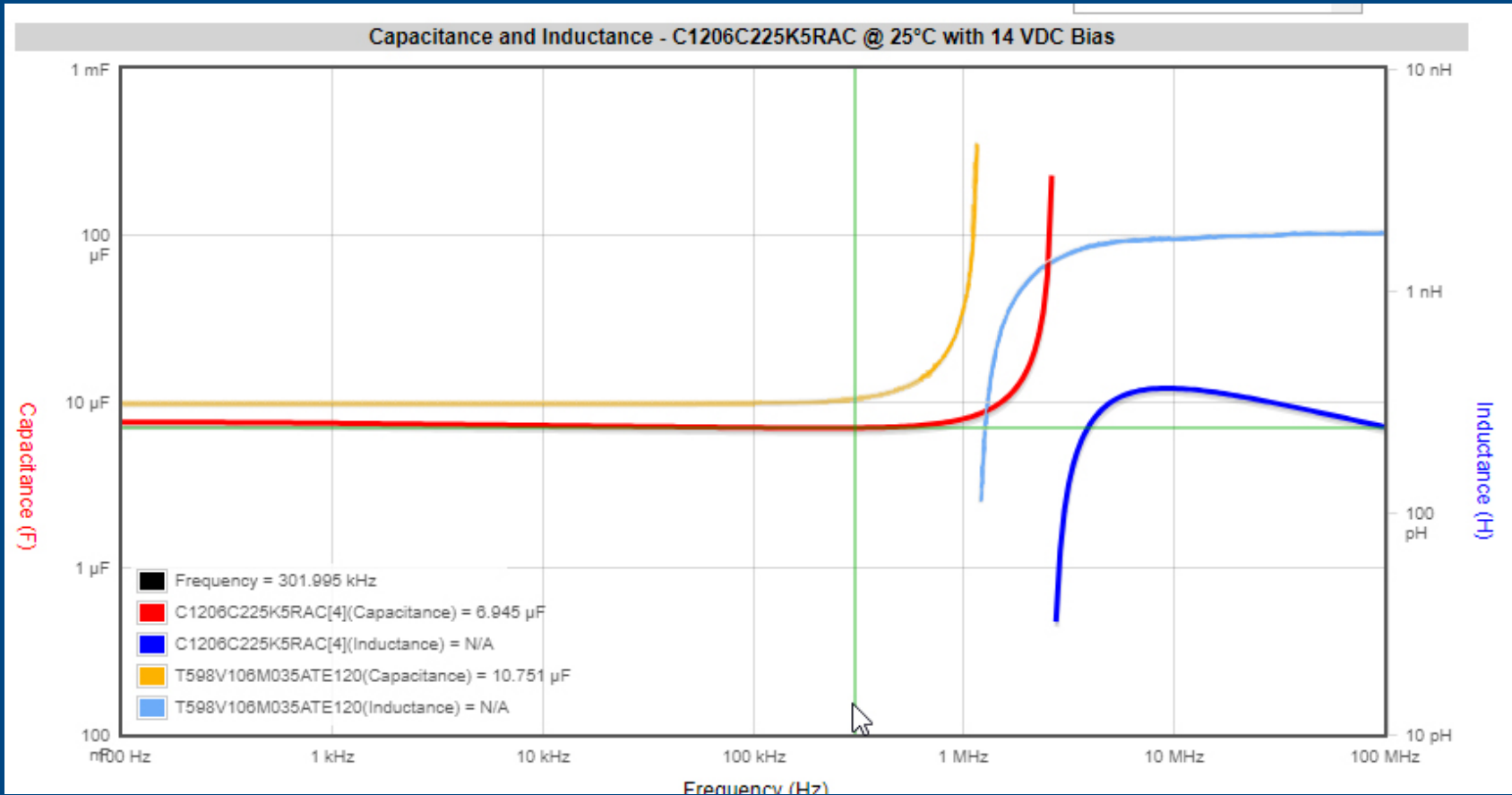
If you pass all the checks then you are in good shape for KO-CAP

A Common Buck



Location (Ref Des)	Original MLCC	Description	KO-Cap Replacement	Description	Result
Input (C1, C2, C3, C10)	C1206C225K5RAC	50V X7R 2.2uF 10%	T598V106M035ATE120	35V KO 10uF 20%	Layout change: 4 to 1
Support (C4)	C0402C104K4RAC	16V X7R 0.1uF 10%	None		DQ: Size
Support (C5)	C0603C472K3GAC	25V C0G 4.7nF 10%	None		DQ: Size
Support (C8)	C0402C470K3GAC	10V C0G 47pF 10%	None		DQ: Size
Output(C6, C7, C9, C11)	C1206C226K8RAC	10V X7R 22uF 10%	T520A226M006ATE100	6.3V KO 22uF 20%	Drop-in replacement

Input Side – Does it work as well?



ON

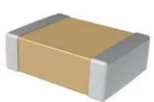


KO-CAP has more effective delivered cap @ given conditions

Input Side – What's this going to cost me?



C1206C225K5RACTU



Mouser #: 80-C1206C225K5R
Mfr. #: C1206C225K5RACTU
Mfr.: KEMET
Customer #:
Description: Multilayer Ceramic Capacitors MLCC - SMD/SMT 50volts 2.2uF X7R 10%
[View Simulation and SPICE Model in K-SIM](#)
Datasheet: [C1206C225K5RACTU Datasheet](#)
More Information: [Learn more about KEMET C1206C225K5RACTU](#)

Compare Product [Add To Project](#) | [Add Notes](#)

Availability

Stock: 0
On Order: 131483 [View Delivery Dates](#)
Factory Lead-Time: 38 Weeks

Enter Quantity: Minimum: 1 Multiples: 1


Pricing (USD)

Qty.	Unit Price	Ext. Price
1	\$1.04	\$1.04
10	\$0.729	\$7.29
100	\$0.46	\$46.00
500	\$0.415	\$207.50
1,000	\$0.378	\$378.00

Full Reel (Order in multiples of 2000)



T598V106M035ATE120



Mouser #: 80-T598V106M035E120
Mfr. #: T598V106M035ATE120
Mfr.: KEMET
Customer #:
Description: Tantalum Capacitors - Polymer SMD 35V 10uF 2917 20% ESR=120mOhm AEC-Q200
[View Simulation and SPICE Model in K-SIM](#)
Lifecycle: **New Product:** New from this manufacturer.
Datasheet: [T598V106M035ATE120 Datasheet](#)
More Information: [Learn more about KEMET T598V106M035ATE120](#)

Compare Product [Add To Project](#) | [Add Notes](#)

In Stock: 686

Stock: 686 Can Ship Immediately
On Order: 0
Factory Lead-Time: 23 Weeks

Enter Quantity: Minimum: 1 Multiples: 1

Pricing (USD)

Qty.	Unit Price	Ext. Price
1	\$3.10	\$3.10
10	\$2.47	\$24.70
100	\$1.78	\$178.00
500	\$1.59	\$795.00

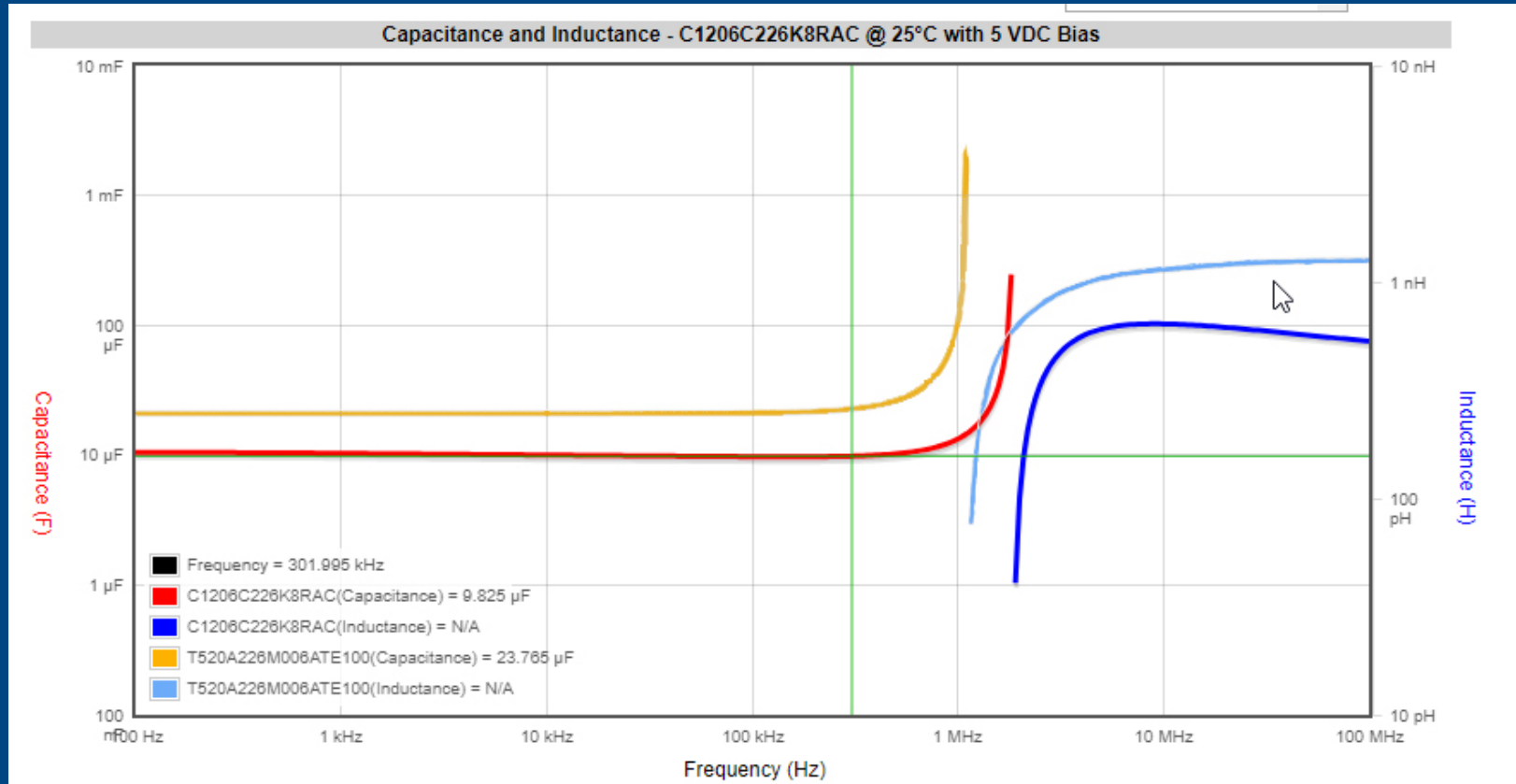
Full Reel (Order in multiples of 1000)

1,000	\$1.06	\$1,060.00
2,000	\$0.982	\$1,964.00
10,000	\$0.963	\$9,630.00

Capacitor Part Number	No of Caps	Cap/pc (µF) @ 14V	Effective Cap (µF)	ASP/pc (Mouser)	ASP/Total Cap (Mouser)	Difference
C1206C225K5RAC	4	1.75	7	\$1.04	\$4.16	
T598V106M035ATE120	1	10	10	\$3.10	\$3.10	25%



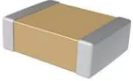
Output Side – Does it work as well?



KO-CAP has more effective delivered cap @ given conditions

Output Side – What’s this going to cost me?

C1206C226K8RACTU



[Enlarge](#)

Images are for reference only
See Product Specifications

[Share](#)

Compare Product

Mouser #: 80-C1206C226K8R

Mfr. #: C1206C226K8RACTU

Mfr.: KEMET

Customer #:

Description: Multilayer Ceramic Capacitors MLCC - SMD/SMT 10volts 22uF 10%
[View Simulation and SPICE Model in K-SIM](#)

Datasheet: [C1206C226K8RACTU Datasheet](#)

More Information: [Learn more about KEMET C1206C226K8RACTU](#)

Availability

Stock: 0

On Order: 236998
[View Delivery Dates](#)

Factory Lead-Time: 38 Weeks

Enter Quantity: Minimum: 1 Multiples: 1 [Buy](#)


Pricing (USD)

Qty.	Unit Price	Ext. Price
1	\$1.95	\$1.95
10	\$1.46	\$14.60
100	\$0.936	\$93.60
500	\$0.839	\$419.50
1,000	\$0.78	\$780.00

Full Reel (Order in multiples of 2000)



T520A226M006ATE100



[Enlarge](#)

Images are for reference only
See Product Specifications

[Share](#)

Compare Product

Mouser #: 80-T520A226M6ATE100

Mfr. #: T520A226M006ATE100

Mfr.: KEMET

Customer #:

Description: Tantalum Capacitors - Polymer SMD 6.3V 22uF 1206 20% ESR=100mOhms
[View Simulation and SPICE Model in K-SIM](#)

Datasheet: [T520A226M006ATE100 Datasheet](#)

More Information: [Learn more about KEMET T520A226M006ATE100](#)

In Stock: 14,594

Stock: 14,594 Can Ship Immediately

On Order: 0

Factory Lead-Time: 21 Weeks

Enter Quantity: Minimum: 1 Multiples: 1 [Buy](#)

Pricing (USD)

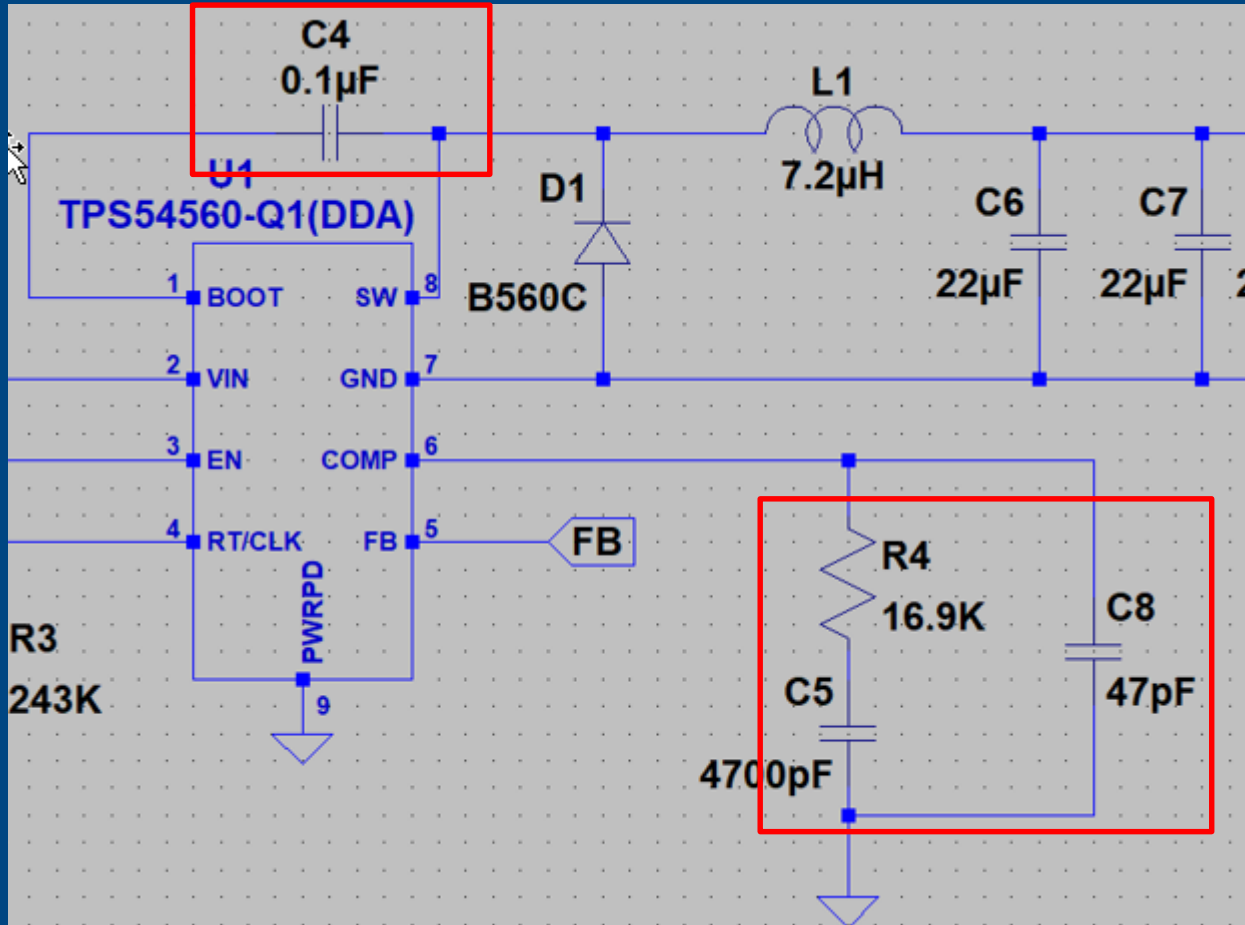
Qty.	Unit Price	Ext. Price
1	\$1.07	\$1.07
10	\$0.71	\$7.10
100	\$0.443	\$44.30
500	\$0.40	\$200.00
1,000	\$0.366	\$366.00

Full Reel (Order in multiples of 2000)

Capacitor Part Number	No of Caps	Cap/pc (µF) @ 5V	Effective Cap (µF)	ASP/pc (Mouser)	ASP/Total Cap (Mouser)	Difference
C1206C226K8RAC	4	9.825	36.3	\$1.95	\$7.80	
T520A226M006ATE100	4	22	88	\$1.07	\$4.28	45%



Support Capacitors



C4, C5, C8 have no KO-CAP equivalent options. Their cap values are below the range of KO-CAP.

Operating Parameters of Support Caps May Yield Other Options

Other Considerations

- ESR
 - KO-CAP ESR is generally higher than ceramics, but the additional capacitance helps to mitigate the additional ripple.
 - Some series have ESR lower than 10mOhms, contact FAE if close to limit.
- Voltage
 - Derating rules may need to apply to extend life, if necessary.
- Leakage
 - Leakage mostly a major consideration with fixed, non-chargeable direct battery voltage is applied
- Robustness
 - KO-CAP will NOT tolerate reverse bias.
- Supply
 - KO-CAP supply chain is stable and KEMET capacity to be increased by 25%
 - KO-CAP capacity is currently below maximum for most series
 - KO-CAP can offer immediate and sustainable relief
- Design
 - The best value proposition is to replace banks of ceramics with fewer KO-CAPs
 - Drop-in replacements are possible but less likely

Contact a KEMET FAE for further support (www.kemet.com/ask)

A large, stylized lightning bolt graphic in shades of blue and white, extending from the left side of the slide towards the center. The bolt is composed of multiple jagged, branching lines, creating a sense of energy and power. The background behind the bolt is a gradient of light blue, fading into white on the right side of the slide.

Thank You!