HEXAGON

Case Study Brochure

Cradle CFD

Electronics and Thermal Management

HeatDesigner

Temperature Prediction of an LED Bicycle Headlight

CATEYE Co., Ltd. Case Study HeatDesigner Function

Temperature predictions of an LED bicycle headlight using HeatDesigner compare favorably with measured values

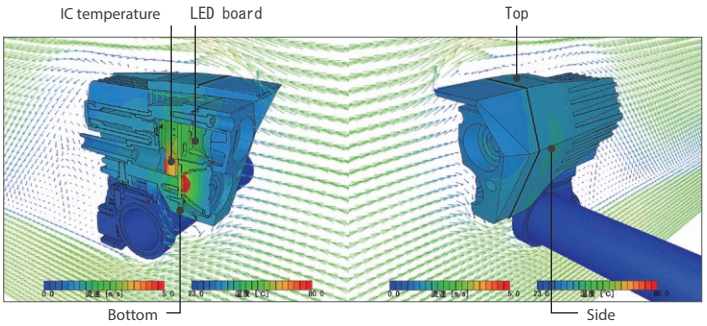
LED Bicycle Headlight

Today's high powered bicycle headlights use multiple LED light clusters to produce high intensity lighting that can approach the candlepower output of an automobile low beam headlight. This high output produces much heat. As a result, designing the bicycle headlight to maximize heat release becomes crucial.

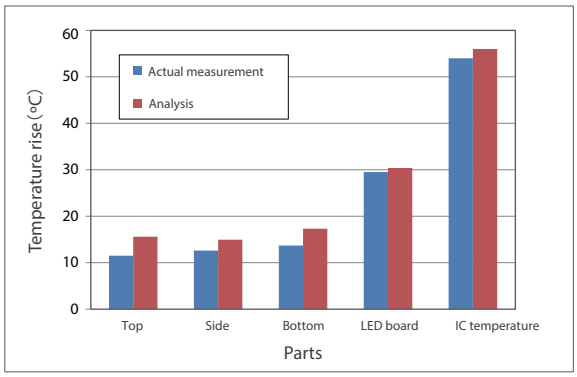
CFD analysis was used to calculate the temperature rise in the Cateye HL-EL930RC bicycle headlight and identify thermal paths. The temperature predictions were compared to measured values, and the thermal paths showed the amount of heat release from each section of the light. This methodology can be used to design more efficient high output bike lights.

LED bicycle headlight (HL-EL930RC)

Measurement and simulation



Simulated velocity vectors and temperature distribution



Temperature rise of each part

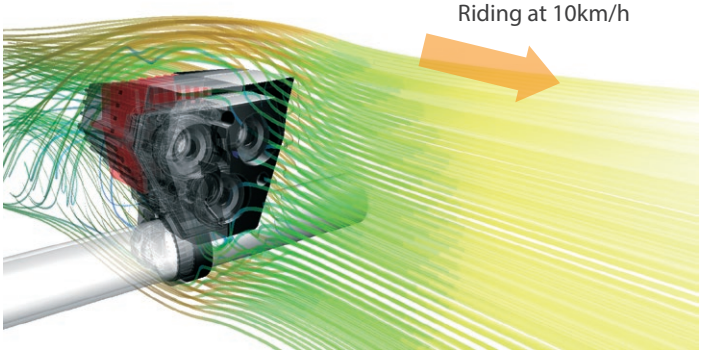
Benefits of simulation

Simulates temperature with high accuracy

➡ Enables accurate comparison of different designs prior to hardware fabrication

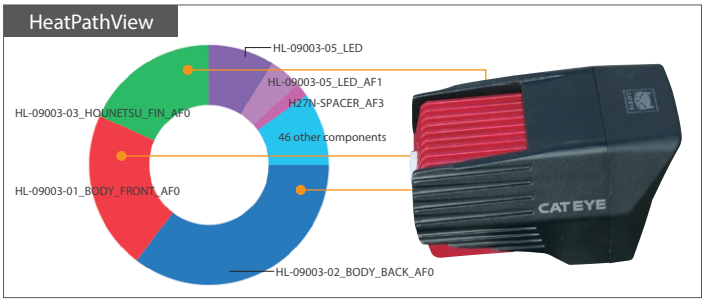
Streamlines

Riding at 10km/h



Streamlines of air flow around the bike light

HeatPathView



Contribution of each section of the light to convection heat release into the air

Identifies which sections of the light contribute the most heat release

➡ This information can be used to improve and optimize the design

Customer Comments

CFD was used to evaluate heat release performance and predict temperature rise of a high output LED bicycle headlight. Test measurements validated the analytical predictions. Prototype development time and costs were reduced by accurately predicting temperatures for different headlight shapes and materials. HeatDesigner is an excellent design simulation tool for products subject to demanding thermal challenges.

scSTREAM

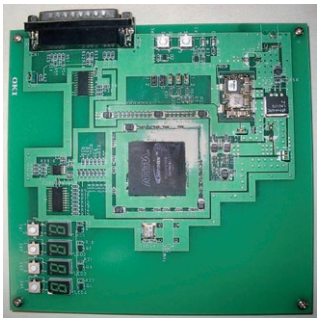
Heat Release Design for Printed Circuit Board

Case Study for OKI Printed Circuits Co., Ltd.

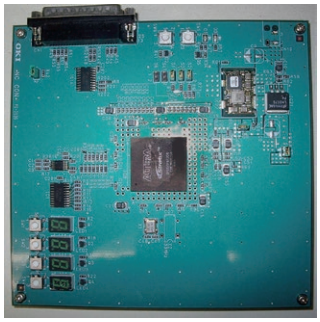
The number of prototypes has been reduced successfully using scSTREAM

Model

Dimension	: 150×150×1.6t(mm)
Num. of Layers	: FR-4 2 Layers
Circuits	: Altera FPGA BGA package Peripheral circuit
Operation	: 66MHz Shift Register



2 Layers(Before)



10 Layers (After)

* Both cases are identical in circuit schematic, parts placement, and total thickness of PCB.

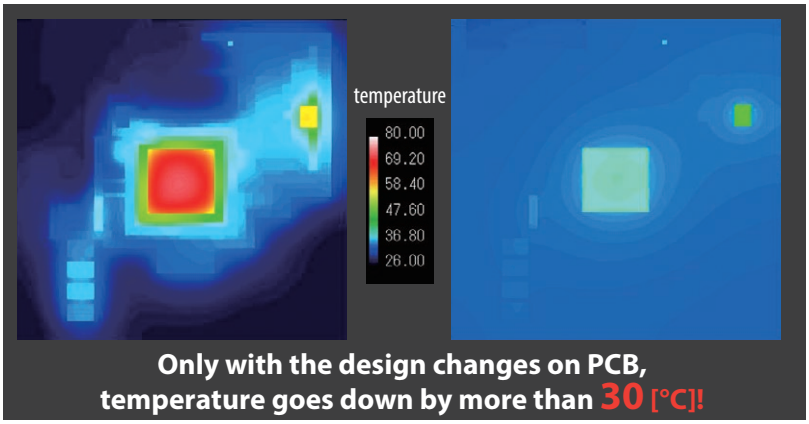
If the heat release could be mainly through natural convectioninstead of forced convection, it is possible to;

1) Reduce the space for cooling fan, flow path, etc.
2) Reduce noise level and improve the acoustic environment
3) Improve quality and reliability
4) Reduce the cost

Design Changes

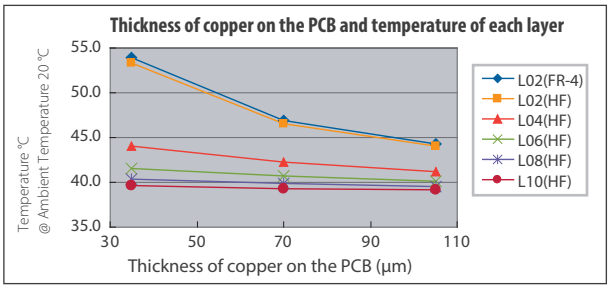
- For increasing the thermal conductivity of PCB
  The number of layers; 2 layers -->10 layers
  Halogen-free insulation
  Increase the residual copper area ratio
- For improving thermal conductivity of Board in PKG
  Ground connection of Chip NC pins
- For improving thermal heat transfer in PCB
  Additional aluminum fin at the back and at the edge of PCB
  Additional pin-fin at the dead space of PCB

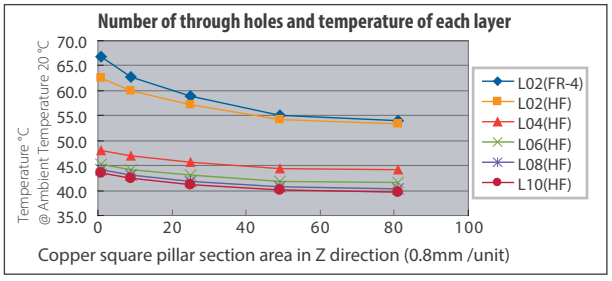
Analysis Results

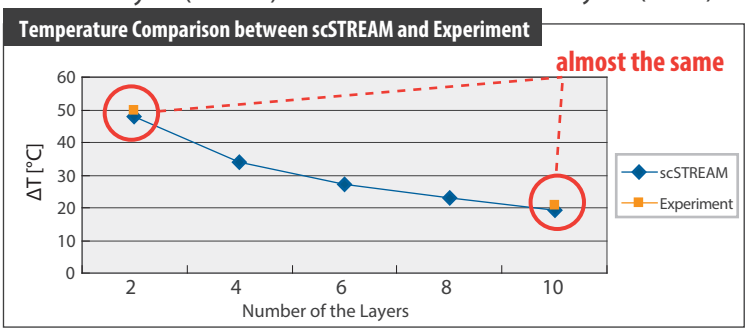


Only with the design changes on PCB, temperature goes down by more than 30 [°C]!

2 Layers(Before) 10 Layers (After)







Temperature for various different number of layers are predicted. Adequate design can be provided to accommodate each customer's need.

Customer Comments

This is the era that even manufacturers of printed circuit board use CFD software in order to improve their designs and make a better proposal.

For proposing the best solution, Software Cradle's scSTREAM is a dependable tool on thermal design and assessment.

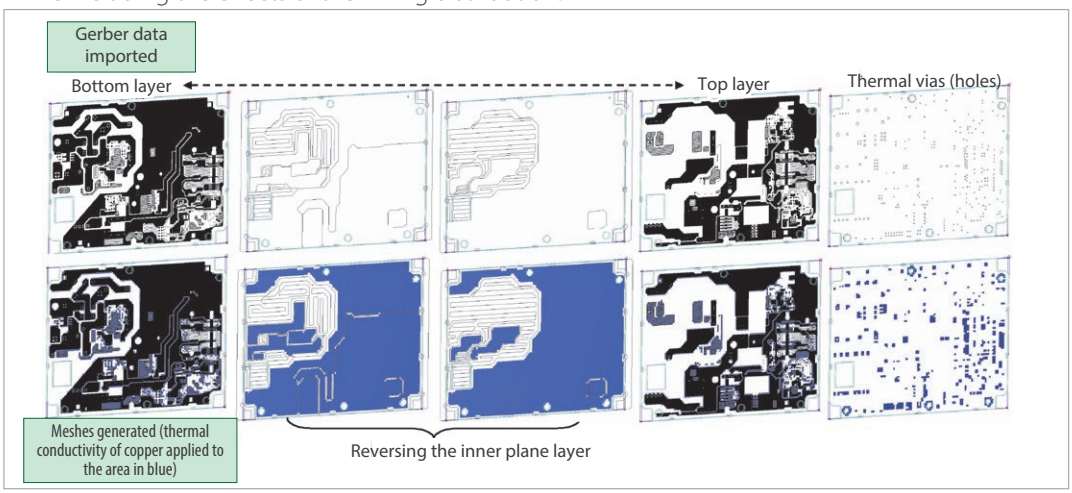
scSTREAM HeatDesigner

Gerber Data Import and Other Functions

scSTREAM and HeatDesigner Features

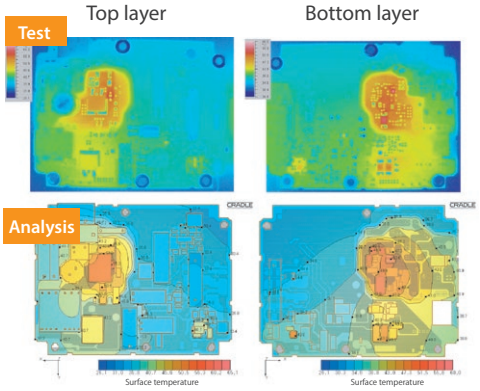
Estimating the Heat Dissipation from a Circuit Board (by Importing Data in Gerber)

Import data in the standardized Gerber format (RS-2740, a type of board circuit format) to estimate the heat dissipation from the board while including the effects of the wiring distribution.



Accounts for:
- Heat dissipation distribution of circuit pattern
- Heat transfer through thermal vias (holes)

Simulate more accurate board temperature distribution



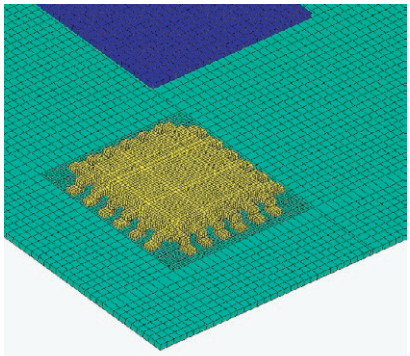
Comparison between standard procedure and Gerber data application

	Standard procedure	Gerber application
Number of mesh elements	14.2 million	7.6 million
Time taken when calculated using 4 cores (Convergence)	18 hours (780 cycles)	13.5 hours (290 cycles)
Memory	7.6 GB	4.8 GB
Model generation	Allocate the pattern, deform it, and generate parts onto circuit	Import Gerber data

By applying Gerber data, model generation workload is reduced to less than a tenth of its original amount

Multi-Block Meshing (Partially Detailed Meshing)

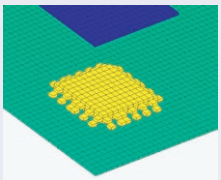
Structured meshes can be refined in specific areas.



Generates detailed meshes for the intricate parts to ensure the model quality

Without multi-blocks

Meshes are coarsely generated. Intricate parts are not precisely represented.

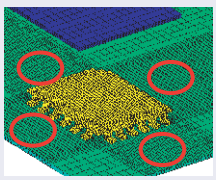


Helps to generate meshes efficiently and improves representation accuracy of specific area

- Controls calculation time and memory share
- Improves calculation accuracy

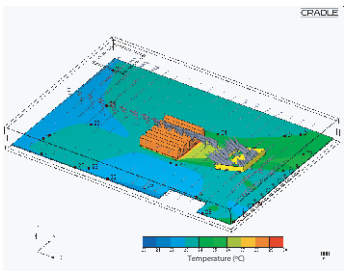
Without multi-blocks

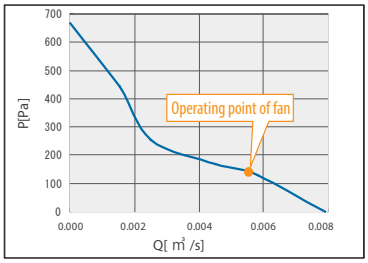
Due to fragmentation, meshes are unnecessarily generated, and can be overly assembled in some places.



Effect of a Diagonally Allocated Fan

A fan can be placed diagonally, which allows analysis of a more complicated heat dissipation mechanism.





PQ characteristics can also be considered

PICLS

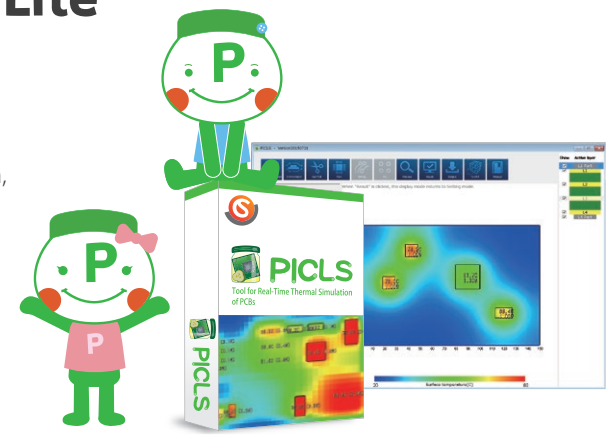
Wow! Was it this easy?!

Non-experts can start thermal analysis right away with easy operation in 2D and real-time results

PICLS PICLS Lite

http://www.cradle-cfd.com/picls/

PICLS is **a thermal simulation tool which helps designers easily perform thermal simulation of PCBs**. Even if you are unfamiliar with thermal simulation, you will obtain a simulation result without stress through the tool's easy and quick operation in 2D. You can import the data of a PCB created in PICLS to scSTREAM and HeatDesigner, that is, you can pass the analysis data seamlessly from the PCB design stage to the mechanical design stage.

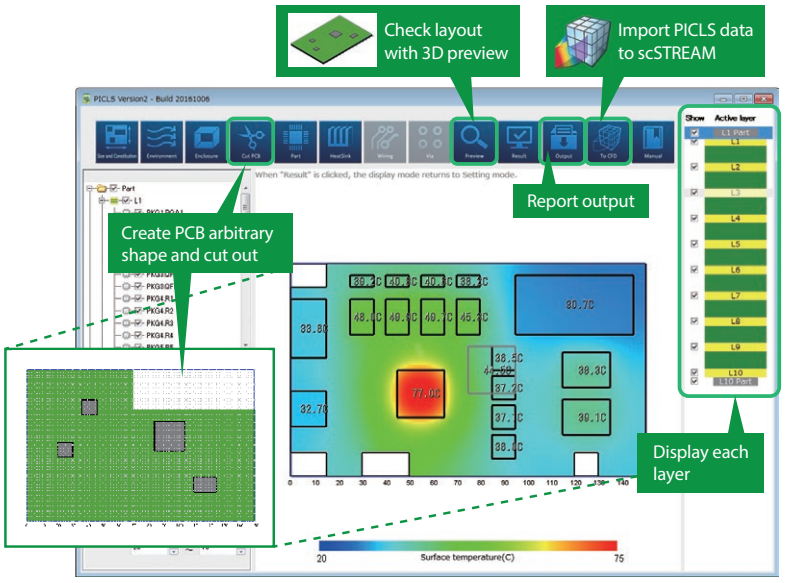


Advantages

- Easy to use
  (Operation in 2D, integrated GUI for pre- and post-processing)
- Inexpensive
- Capable of real-time analysis

Thermal countermeasures using PICLS

- Checking the layout of components to avoid interference of heat between them
- Troubleshooting thermal issues of current products
- Examining thermal interferences of part layouts
- Considering heat release depending on a wiring pattern (coverage ratio)
- Examining the location and the number of thermal vias
- Examining the performance of a heatsink
- Examining the size of a PCB
- Examining the number of layers and the thickness of copper foil
- Considering natural/forced air cooling
- Considering radiant heat
- Considering heatsinks (number of fins, size)
- Examining heat dissipation performances by connection to enclosure
- Considering PCB mounting environment



Functions available in PICLS and PICLS Lite

* PICLS Lite is provided online

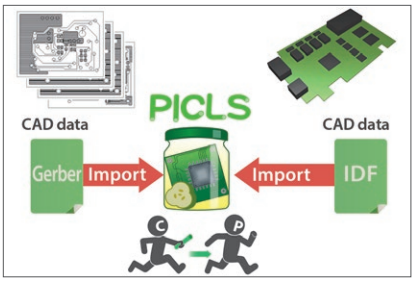
○ …PICLS and PICLS Lite ● …PICLS only

○ Multiple layers	○ Wiring area specification	○ Thermal via
○ 3D preview	○ Displaying each layer	○ Cutting out a PCB
○ Real-time display	○ Automatic report output	○ Forced air cooling
○ Radiation	○ Contact thermal resistance	○ Temperature margin, alert function
● IDF3.0 interface	● Considering a heatsink	● Consideration of simple enclosure
● Library	● Wiring data (Gerber) import	● Drill data import

PICLS

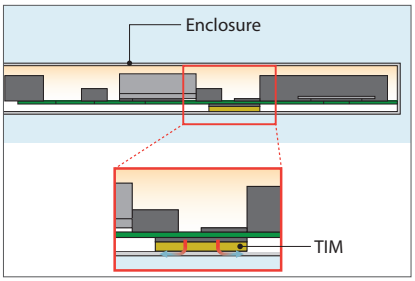
Main features of PICLS and PICLS Lite

Modeling



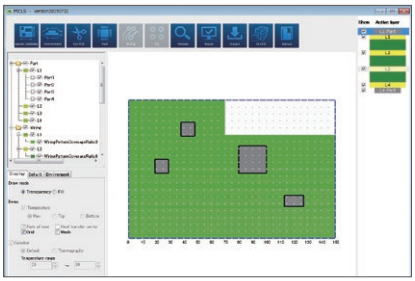
External file interface PICLS

You can import IDF 3.0 and Gerber data



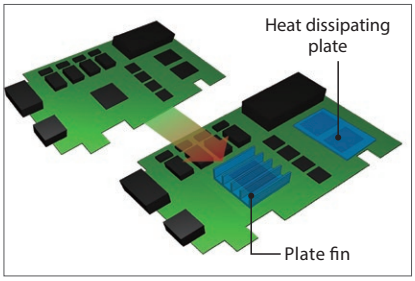
Consideration of simple enclosure PICLS

You can consider heat dissipation by connection to enclosure



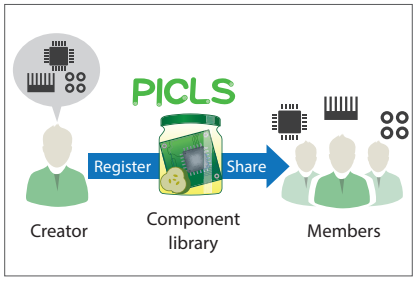
Cutting out a PCB PICLS PICLS Lite

You can create PCB of arbitrary shape using cut-put function



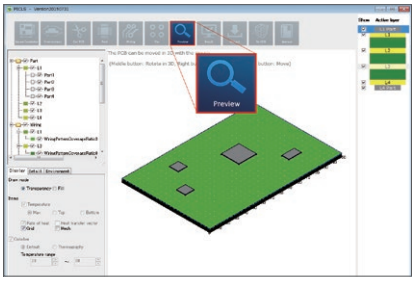
Heatsink PICLS

You can allocate and display parts such as plate fins and heat dissipation plates



Library PICLS

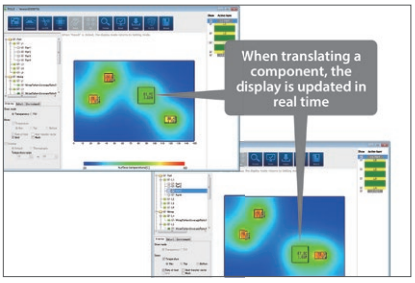
You can register and reuse created parts to the library



Preview PICLS PICLS Lite

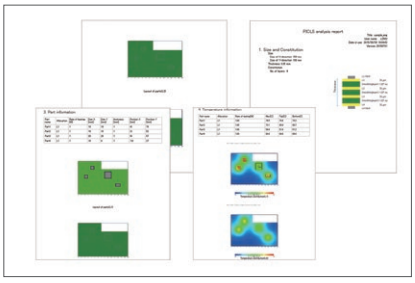
You can check the layout of components in the 3D image

Calculation and Post-Processing



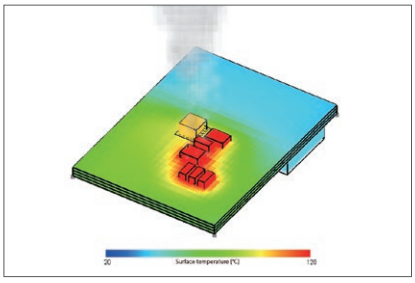
Real-time display PICLS PICLS Lite

The translation of components is displayed in real time



Report output PICLS PICLS Lite

You can output analysis results as reports



Alert function PICLS PICLS Lite

You can check parts whose temperature is higher than threshold

System Configuration

Compliant OS	Recommended environment
Windows 10, Windows 11(Verified by version 21H2, 22H2) Windows Server 2022	**[Memory]** 2.0 GB or more **[Hard disk]** 0.5 GB or more free capacity recommended **[Display resolution]** 1920 x 1080 or more **[Graphics]** Graphics card that supports OpenGL

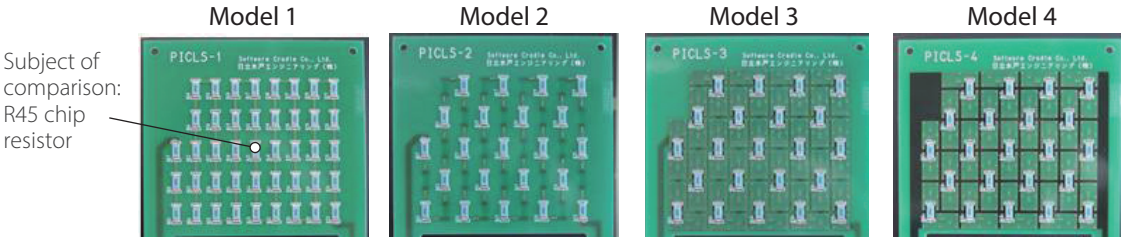
PICLS

Changing Printed Board Layout to Lower Device Temperature: Prediction and Measurements

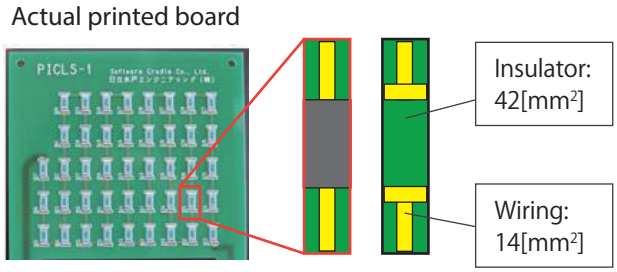
Using PICLS to perform thermal analyses and predict temperatures of chip resistors

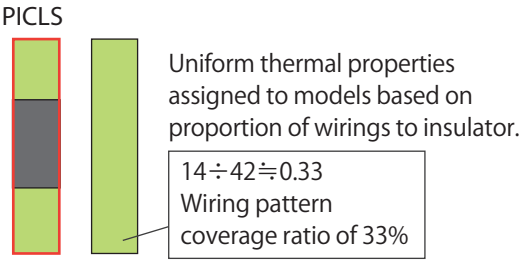
Thermal Analyses of Printed Boards

Analysis targets



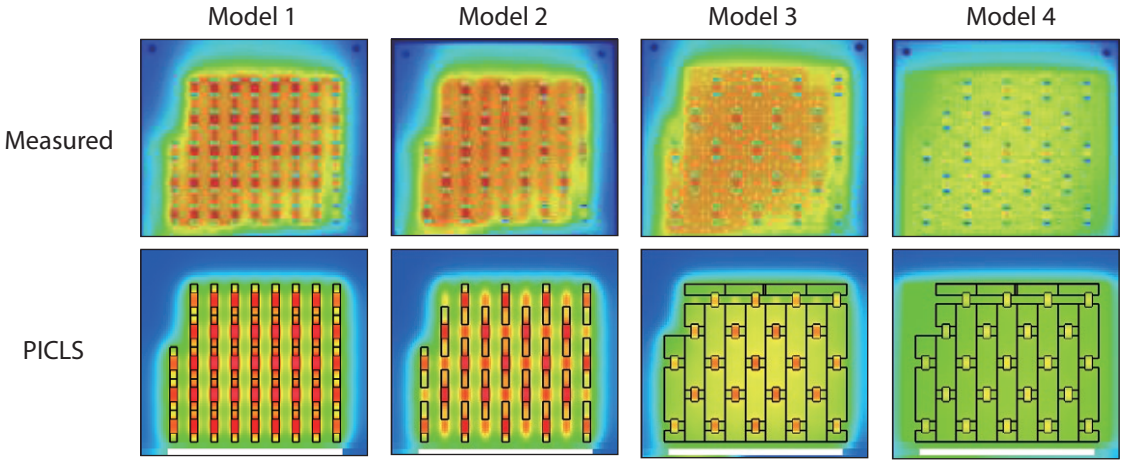
Modeling

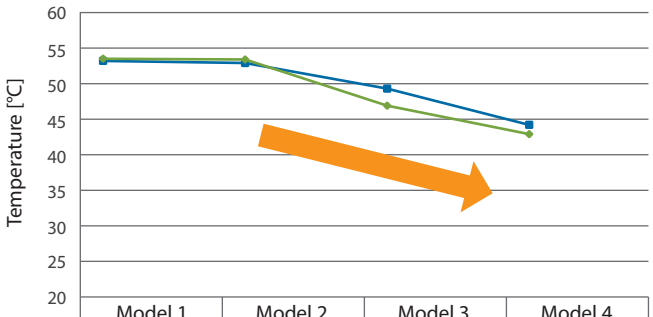




Time needed to generate model: 5 minutes
Time needed for calculation: Seconds

Analysis results





	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4
Actual test	53.2	52.9	49.3	44.2
Thermal analyses using PICLS	53.5	53.4	46.9	42.9

Notes

The R45 chip resistor temperatures are shown in the graph for the four models. Both measurement and analysis results show decreasing temperatures proceeding from Model 1 to 4. PICLS can be used to identify temperature trends for different model layouts and features.

PICLS can be used during conceptual design, to quickly evaluate the effects of electronic component allocation and thermal vias on printed circuit board device temperatures.

SC/Tetra

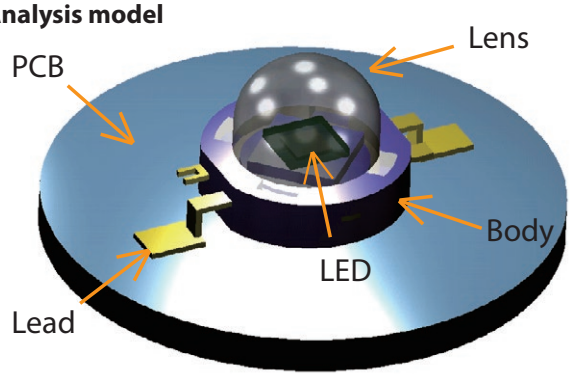
Heat Release of LED Device

Case study of SC/Tetra

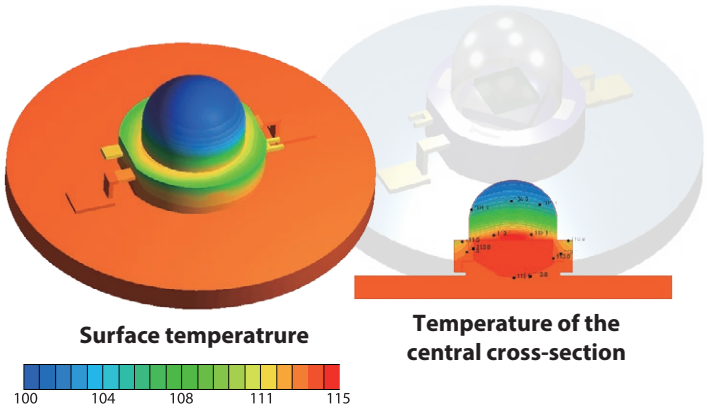
Comparison of SC/Tetra analysis result with experimental result for heat release of LED device

Heat release analysis of LED device

- **Analysis model**

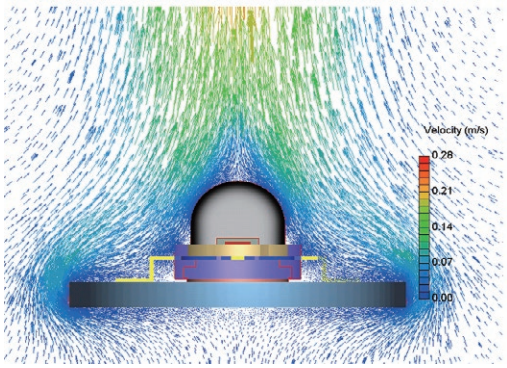


Surface and cross-section temperature distribution

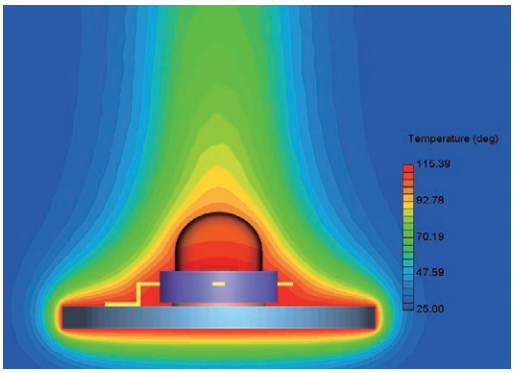


Heat of LED device is released mainly through PCB on which the device is installed and/or heat sink installed on the back of the PCB. SC/Tetra successfully simulates the phenomenon of heat release from the PCB.

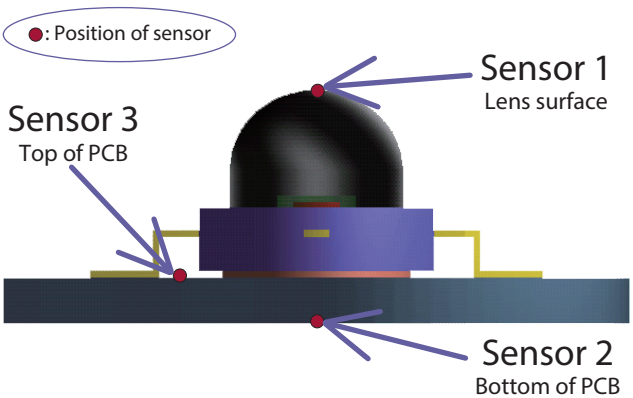
Flow pattern around the device (vector map)

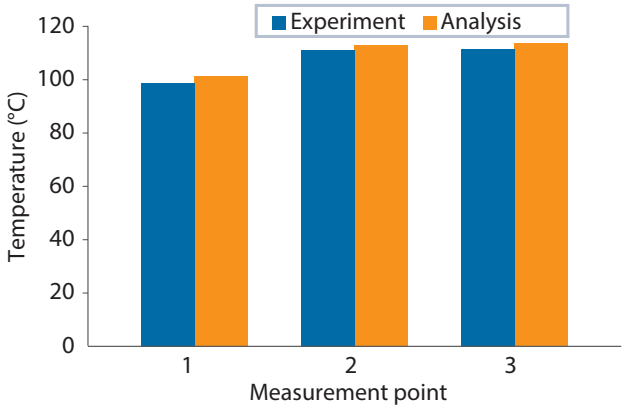


Fluid temperature distribution around the device (contour map)



Comparison between experimental and analysis values (temperature)





Notes

In this analysis, simulation is performed with consideration on heat release through PCB as well as heat release due to natural convection of ambient air. The analysis result is almost the same with the experimental result (approximately 2.2 °C difference), which is adequate to simulate the tendency of the phenomenon.

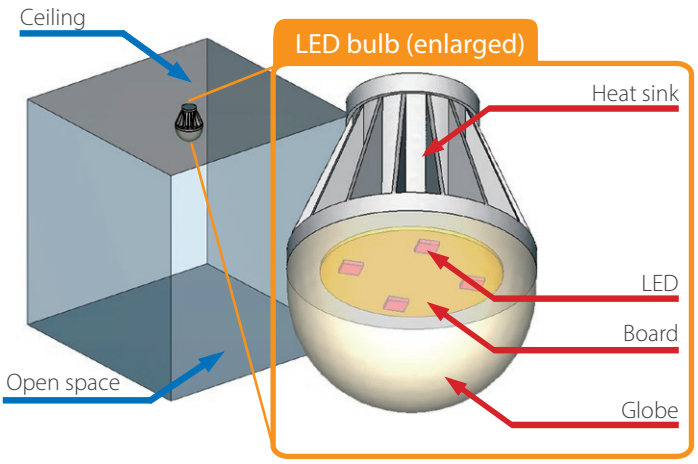
SC/Tetra

Thermal Fluid Analysis on LED Bulb

SC/Tetra Function

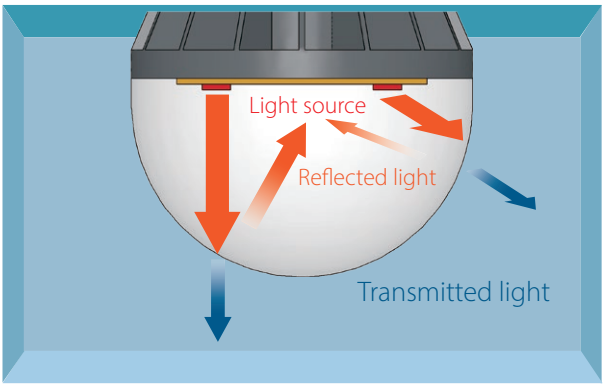
Investigating the Thermal Effect of Bulb Cover Transmittance using SC/Tetra

Details of Analysis Model

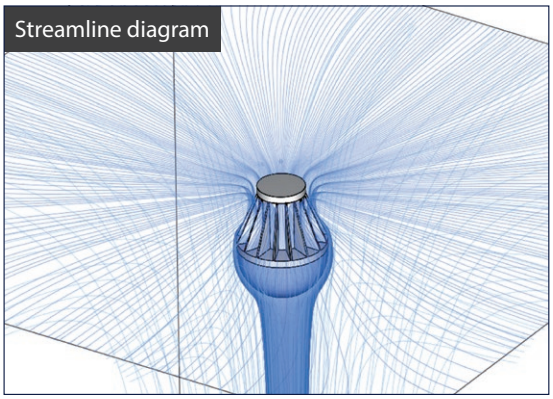


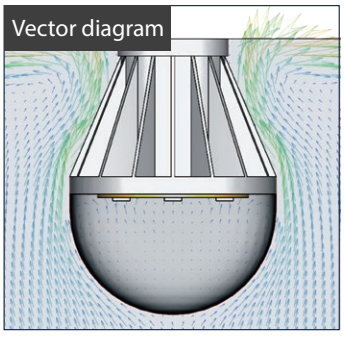
Effect of Bulb Cover Transmittance

Once emitted from the light source, light is transmitted and reflected. The latter is partially absorbed as heat within the globe, hence changing the temperature of the various bulb components. The surface temperature distribution changes depending on the degree of transmittance.



Visualizing the Flow





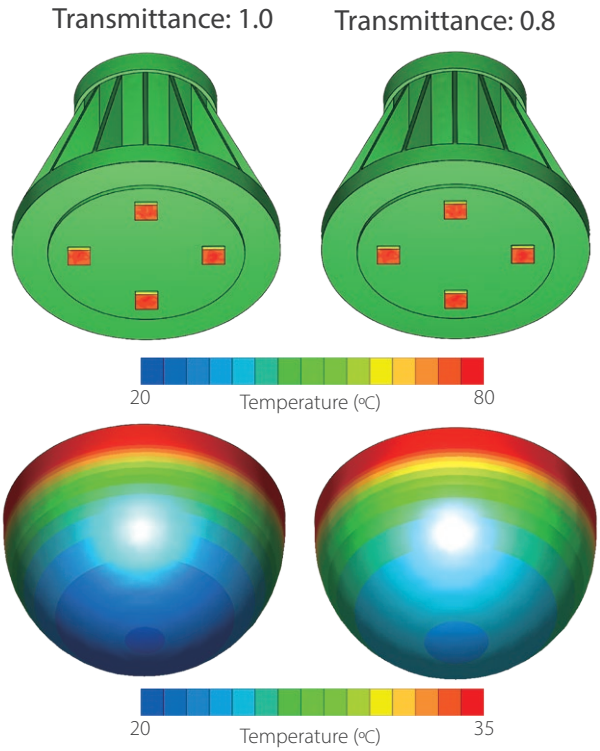
Displaying the streamline

SC/Tetra depicts the flow path in 3D, allowing users to examine details, such as whether there is air in the gaps between fins.

Displaying the vectors

Flow speed is displayed as vectors with a color distribution from blue to red and arrows in different sizes. The arrows indicate directions. This output is often used as a cross section diagram of the target.

How Surface Temp. Distribution Changes by Different Transmittance



Globe surface temperature changes by approx. 3 degrees

Notes

There is a growing demand for LED light bulbs because of their energy efficiency, small size, and long-lasting brightness. LED bulbs can also be adjusted to change color temperature and stretch the width of the beam to create innovative lighting effects. CFD simulation allows better understanding of the physical phenomena, bringing a great advantage to designers in the development of such highly competitive products with superior qualities.

scSTREAM

Heat Dissipation of Lighting Equipment and Optimization

Optional Function

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Purpose of Optimization

The modeling of heat sink needs to:

1. Reduce the LED temperature to the regulation
   - Rising LED temperature [ΔT°C]:
     Minimized (ΔT: below 40°C)
2. Miniaturize itself
   - Heat sink volume [weight]:
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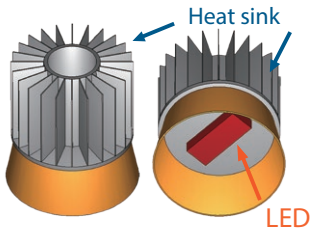
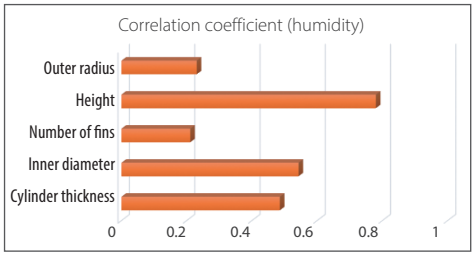
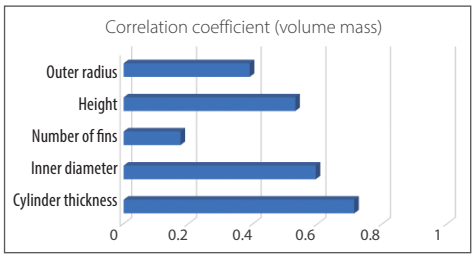
Original model



Sampling results





- The strong correlation between the number of fins, fin height and outer radius shows that the increase in these factors encourages temperature reduction.
- In terms of volume mass, the correlation between the number of fins, fin height, and outer radius is strong.

Optimization methods

■Experiment plan and sampling method
Central composite design ⇒43 samples

■Approximation of multiobjective optimization
Method of application ⇒RBG
Method of multiobjective optimization
⇒NSEA+

■Applications used
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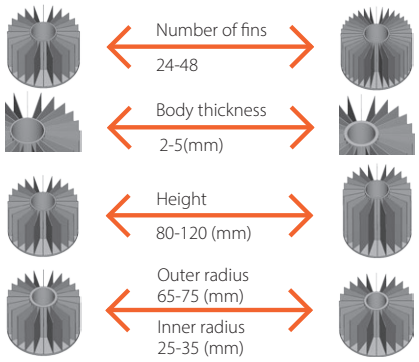
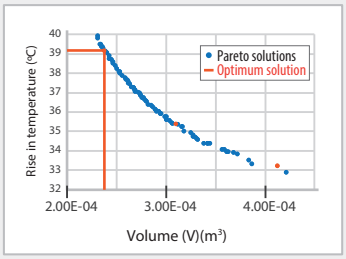
Optimus® for Cradle

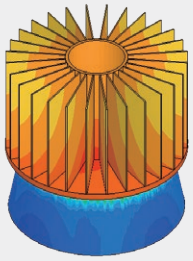
Design variables



Change design variables for sampling

Optimum Designs Derived from Pareto Solutions





Priority on light weight

Volume	2.40×10-4 [m³]
Rise in temperature	39.1 [°C]
Number of fins	28 [pieces]
Heat sink height	82.5 [mm]
Thickness of cylinder	2.4 [mm]
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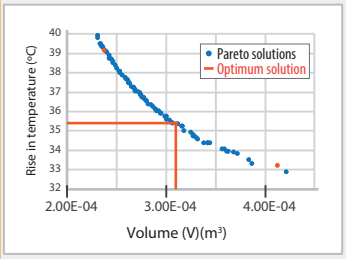

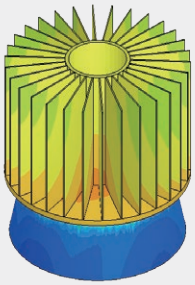

Priority on balance

Volume	3.11×10-4 [m³]
Rise in temperature	35.4 [°C]
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Heat sink height	104.9 [mm]
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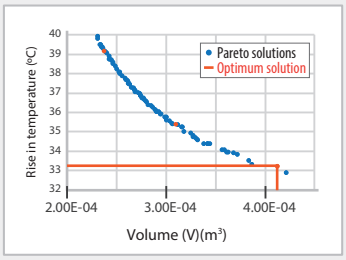

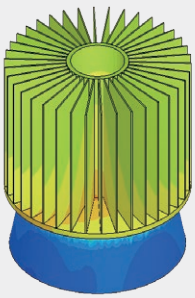

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Volume	4.12×10-4 [m³]
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Notes

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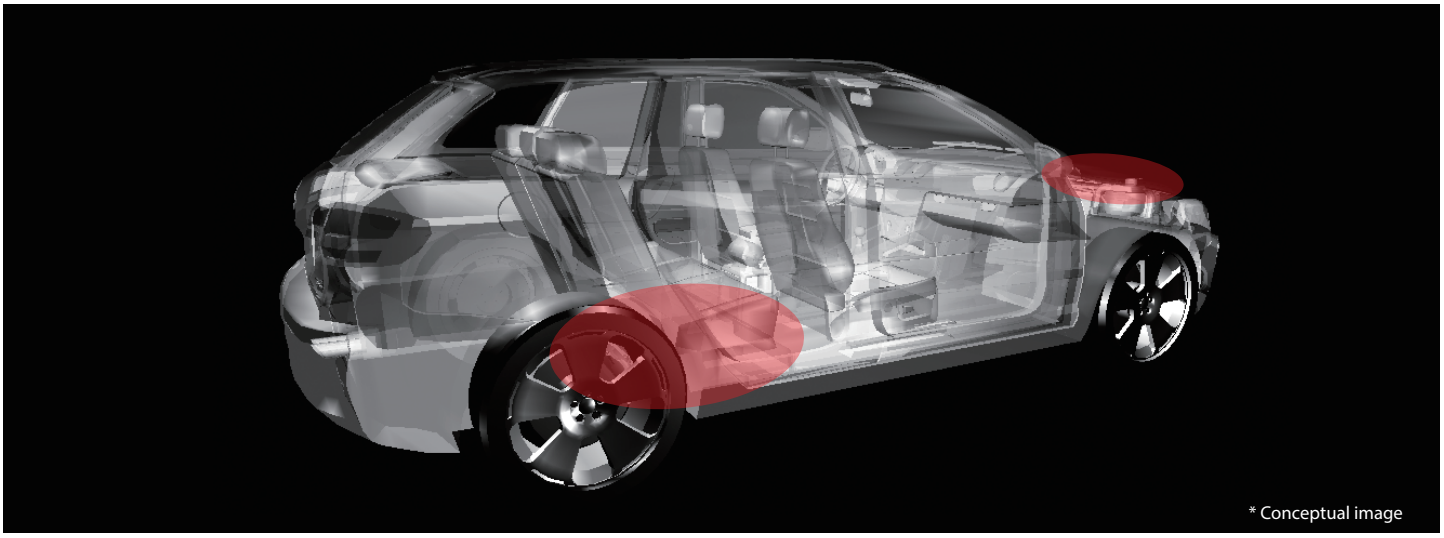
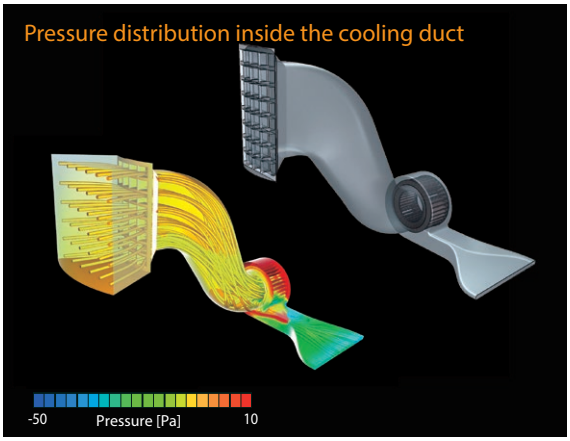
SC/Tetra

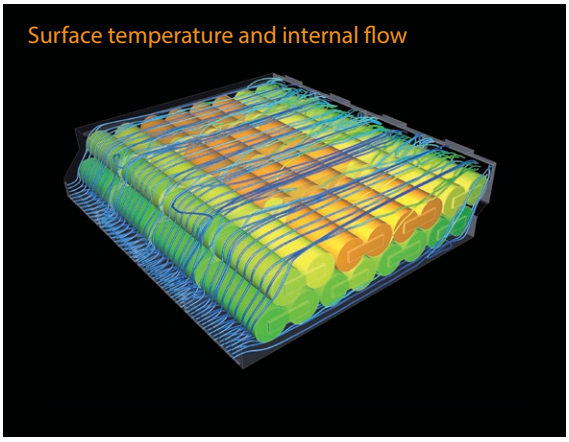
Analysis of Cooling Systems for Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (HEV/EV)



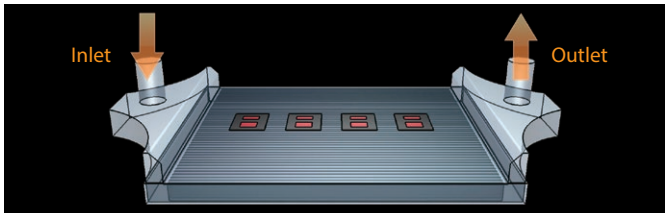
Battery Cooling Fan Module



Battery Packs

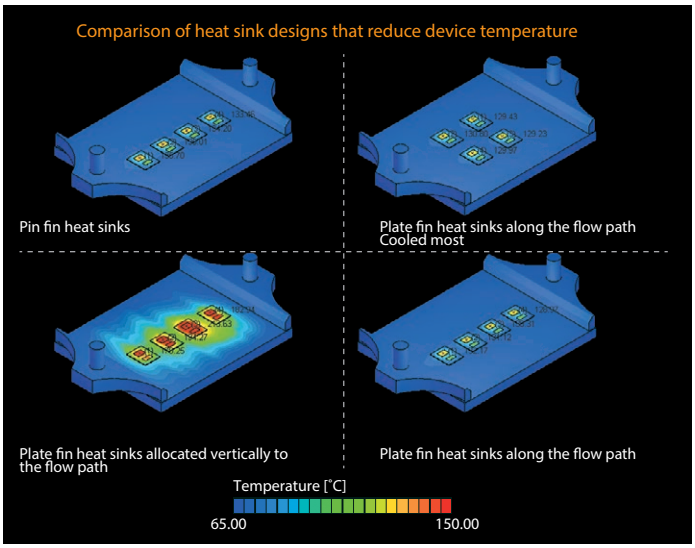


Direct Liquid Cooled IGBT Module



The IGBT (Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistors) plays an essential role in activating the inverter within the PCU (Power Control Unit), the main HEV/EV control module, to generate three-phase electric power.

The IGBT output must be adjusted depending on the vehicle size class. With a larger output, more heat will be generated from the IGBT, which makes cooling performance a crucial factor when designing IGBT modules. Simulation enables engineers to visually evaluate the impact of heat sink shape, observe the effect of heat dissipation, the difference in heat distribution, and other temperature critical patterns. This helps engineers to understand the thermal contributions from each component and determine the optimal design.



SC/Tetra scSTREAM HeatDesigner

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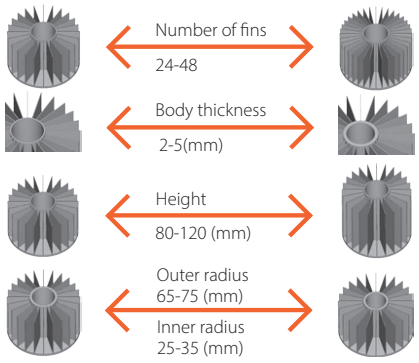

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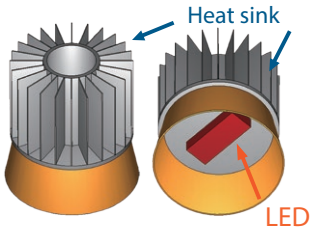

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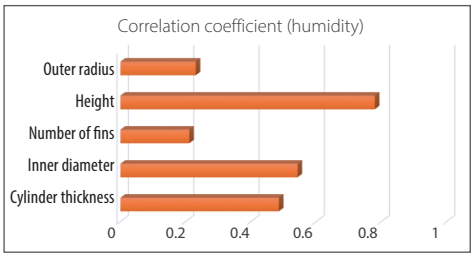

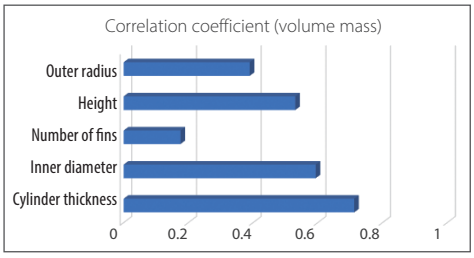

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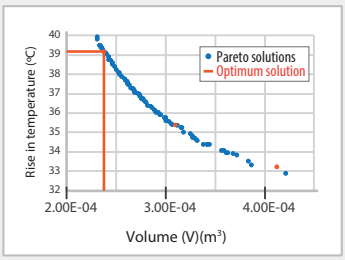

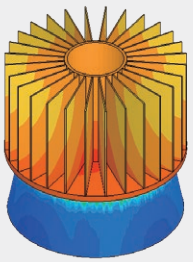

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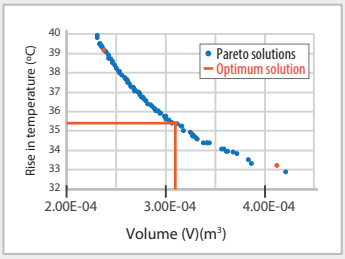

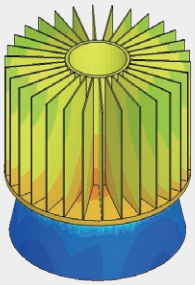

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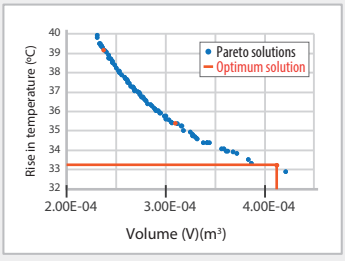

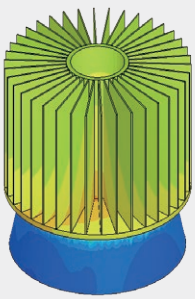

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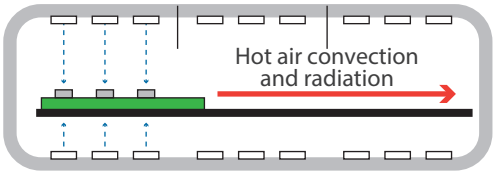
HeatDesigner SC/Tetra

Predicting Temperature Changes and Chip Standing Phenomenon for a Printed Board During Reflow Process

HeatDesigner and SC/Tetra used to analyze the reflow process for a printed board assembly

Simulating Temperature Changes on a Printed Board During Reflow Process Using HeatDesigner

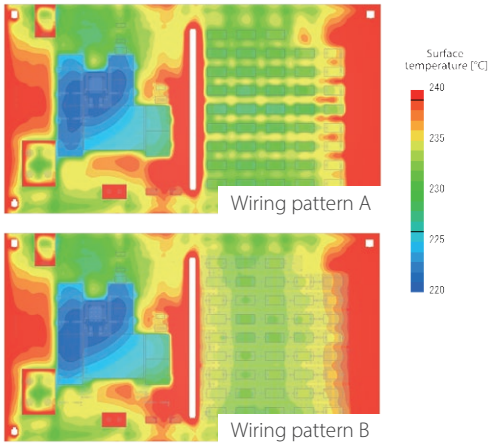
Analysis model



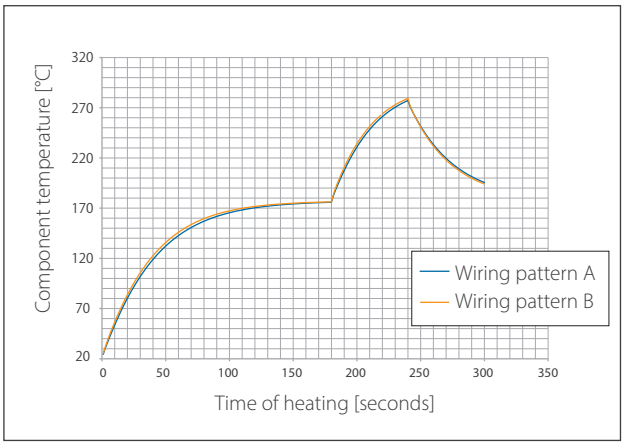
Reflow furnace

A transient thermal fluid analysis is conducted, simulating hot air convection, radiation and heating within the reflow furnace
Wiring patterns, component allocations, and material changes can be evaluated.

Analysis results



Temperature distribution on printed board after 200 seconds

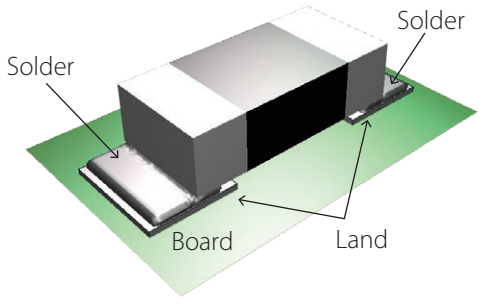


Chip resistor temperature changes as function of time

Printed board temperature is affected by wiring patterns and component allocation.

Simulating Chip Standing Phenomenon Using SC/Tetra

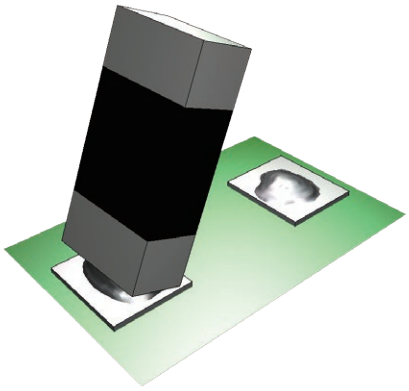
Analysis model



Chip resistor (0402 size)

Time dependent behavior of molten solder is analyzed using the VOF (Volume Of Fluid) method. If the solder is misaligned, the chip resistor can translate and rotate due to the force from the molten solder.

Analysis results



Notes

Analysis results show the occurrence of the chip standing phenomenon (known as Manhattan phenomenon), due to the force generated by the solder acting on the chip resistor. The effects of soldering time, amount of solder, and positions of the chip resistor can be evaluated using the simulation.

Contact us here

Hexagon is a global leader in digital reality solutions, combining sensor, software and autonomous technologies. We are putting data to work to boost efficiency, productivity, quality and safety across industrial, manufacturing, infrastructure, public sector, and mobility applications.

Our technologies are shaping production and people-related ecosystems to become increasingly connected and autonomous – ensuring a scalable, sustainable future.

Hexagon's Manufacturing Intelligence division provides solutions that use data from design and engineering, production and metrology to make manufacturing smarter. For more information, visit hexagonmi.com.

Learn more about Hexagon (Nasdaq Stockholm: HEXA B) at hexagon.com and follow us @HexagonAB.