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Investigations on Moisture Induced Reliability Issues

Moisture absorbed into electronic packaging polymer materials causes:

- Hygroscopic stresses
- Degradation of adhesion strength of resins used in electronic packaging
- High vapor pressure generation inside defective delaminated cavities
- \rightarrow Detrimental effect on the reliability of microelectronics packages





Delamination of underfill by hygroscopic

swelling and adhesion degradation

 $D = D_0 \exp\left(\frac{E_D}{kT}\right)$

Popcorn cracking in PBGA package (Galloway *et al*, IEEE CPMT-A, 1997)

Laboratory for Optomechanics and Micro/nano Semiconductor/Photonics Systems

Mechanical Engineering Department, UMCP





Hygroscopic Material Properties

Moisture diffusion (Fick's law) $\dot{C} = \nabla \cdot (D \nabla C)$

(C: concentration, D: diffusivity, T: temperature)

Saturated concentration $C_{sat} = S \times P_v = S \times P_{sat} \times RH\%$

 $(C_{sat}$: saturated weight gain, S: solubility, P_{v} : vapor pressure of ambient)

Required Properties : D and $C_{sat} \leftarrow$ Measurement through moisture weight gain





Hygroscopic swelling strain: $\varepsilon_h = \beta \times C$ where β : coefficient of hygroscopic swelling (CHS)



Measurement techniques for the swelling coefficient have been developed utilizing optometric tools (moiré interferometry and DIC)

Thermal Deformation by ∆T = -60°C Hygroscopic Deformation (85°C/85%RH)



Comparable deformation by hygroscopic swelling to thermal deformation

U field

V field



Adhesion Strength Measurement



Combined Hygro-thermo-mechanical





Verification of Combined Numerical Model





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On-Going Tasks

- Characterization of hygroscopic properties beyond glass transition temperature
- Investigation on degradation of adhesion strength caused by moisture absorption
- Development of an advanced damage model including bulk and interface fracture
- Development of more rigorous vapor pressure model that includes the physical behavior of water molecule-polymer chain interactions

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