Points of downsizing the chip multilayer ceramic capacitors
-Notice for board design-version.3

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Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd
1. Introduction

For the purpose of products downsizing, the plan to displace smaller parts is under discussion. Consider that crack risk of board bending stress may be occurred, when a chip multilayer ceramic capacitors (MLCC as follows) is only changed its land size to 1005mm (0402 inch) or 0603mm (0201 inch), from existing 1608mm (0603 inch). Here are some points need to pay attention.

This material is to summarize the mechanism of the crack risk and the recommendation to improve safety on operating. As to use the MLCCs safely, we recommend you to read the material.

If you want to know more details about board bending stress, please refer to “Application Manual – Board bending stress –” in our website, my Murata.

Attention: The contents shown after 3. FEM simulation is just to show the analysis result of deflection test which was generated by using analysis software. This result does not guarantee any analysis result.
2. Comparison the deflection of the MLCC

2-1. Test condition

Comparison of deflection by using deflection test

Test Method:
We only change land size according to MLCC size. We do not change any other factors. Wiring width is 1mm and copper foil thickness with plating is 35μm.

Test items:
0603mm (0201 inch), 1005mm (0402 inch), 1608mm (0603 inch)

Test method of deflection
This section shows the comparison of crack occurrence ratio against degree of flexure according to MLCC chip size. The smaller the chip size is, the lower the deflection result is.
3. FEM simulation

The board design can affect the mechanical stress generated in the capacitor. Please refer to “Application Manual – Board bending stress –”. This material is to clarify how the board design influences the deflection test results. By using FEM analysis, we compare the stress that occurred in the edge of termination of MLCC.

Substrate – Test board –

Test method of deflection

Board type: FR4
Board thickness: 1.6mm, Single Side
3. FEM simulation
3-1. Analysis condition

Analysis software: Femtet®
Model: Mechanical stress analysis, 3D ¼ or 3D ½ symmetrical model
Analysis type: Elastic, 0MPa at 25 degree C before reflow soldering
Element: Maximum principal stress
MLCC: 1608mm (0603 inch), 1005mm (0402 inch), 0603mm (0201 inch)
Wiring length of the substrate: 25mm

Fixed axis (X and Z direction's displacement is fixed)

Cross section restrictive condition X=0
Cross section restrictive condition Y=0

The substrate temperature is 25 degree C after reflow soldering. Displacement is 2mm down and displacement points are 5mm from the substrate edge. Strain on center of the substrate is about 2500μstrain.

External electrode edge portion of the substrate

Cross section restricted condition

Element point

Maximum principal stress contours

Maximum principal stress

Board type: FR4
Board thickness: 1.6mm, Single Side

Make a ¼ symmetrical model because of the symmetry of the substrate

Analysis type: Elastic, 0MPa at 25 degree C before reflow soldering
3. FEM simulation
3-2. Comparison of MLCC size

Simulation model for deflection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>1608mm (0603 inch)</th>
<th>1005mm (0402 inch)</th>
<th>0603mm (0201 inch)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wiring width</td>
<td>1mm</td>
<td>1mm</td>
<td>1mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper foil</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>35μm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis model
(¼ symmetrical model)

Analysis result
(Maximum principal contours)

When MLCC size is smaller under the same wiring width, the stress applied on the MLCC is higher.

- 1608mm (0603 inch):
  - Wiring width: 1mm
  - Copper foil: 35μm

- 1005mm (0402 inch):
  - Wiring width: 1mm
  - Copper foil: 35μm

- 0603mm (0201 inch):
  - Wiring width: 1mm
  - Copper foil: 35μm

The basis of relative comparison with the 1608mm (0603 inch), wiring width 1mm is 100: tensile 100, external electrode 132, solder paste 183 compression.
3. FEM simulation
3-2. Comparison of MLCC size

Verification by similarity contraction (1005mm (0402 inch))

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>1608mm (0603 inch)</th>
<th>1005mm (0402 inch) (similarity contraction)</th>
<th>1005mm (0402 inch) (similarity contraction)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wiring width</td>
<td>1mm</td>
<td>0.625mm (similarity contraction)</td>
<td>0.625mm (similarity contraction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper foil</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>22μm (similarity contraction)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis model
(¼ symmetrical model)

Analysis result
(Maximum principal contours)

Solder paste and land size are also contracted similarly.
There is no change in substrate resin.

When wiring width and copper foil is changed, based on MLCC downsizing, the stress applied on the MLCC is approximately same level.
### Verification by similarity contraction (0603mm (0201 inch))

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>1608mm (0603 inch)</th>
<th>0603mm (0201 inch) (similarity contraction)</th>
<th>0603mm (0201 inch) (similarity contraction)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wiring width</td>
<td>1mm</td>
<td>0.375mm (similarity contraction)</td>
<td>0.375mm (similarity contraction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper foil</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>13μm (similarity contraction)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Analysis model

- Analysis model (¼ symmetrical model)

#### Analysis result

- (Maximum principal contours)

- Tensile
- Compression

- solder paste
- external electrode

- the basis of relative comparison with the 1608mm (0603 inch), wiring width 1mm is 100

When wiring width and copper foil is changed, based on MLCC downsizing, the stress applied on the MLCC is approximately same level.
4. Countermeasure of wiring width
4-1. 1005mm (0402 inch)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Wiring width</th>
<th>Copper foil</th>
<th>Analysis model (¼ symmetrical model)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1005mm (0402 inch)</td>
<td>0.25mm 35μm</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1005mm (0402 inch)</td>
<td>0.15mm 35μm</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1005mm (0402 inch)</td>
<td>Non(or Via) 35μm</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis result (Maximum principal contours)

The basis of relative comparison with the 1608mm (0603 inch), wiring width 1mm is 100

When wiring width is thinner, the stress applied on the MLCC is reduced.
It is effective to have thinner wiring width based on MLCC downsizing.
4. Countermeasure of wiring width
4-2. 0603mm (0201 inch)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Wiring width</th>
<th>Copper foil</th>
<th>0603mm (0201 inch)</th>
<th>0603mm (0201 inch)</th>
<th>0603mm (0201 inch)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.25mm</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>0.1mm</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>Non(or Via)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>35μm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis model (¼ symmetrical model)

Analysis result (Maximum principal contours)

When wiring width is thinner, the stress applied on the MLCC is reduced.
It is effective to have thinner wiring width based on MLCC downsizing.

the basis of relative comparison with the 1608mm (0603 inch), wiring width 1mm is 100
5. Countermeasure of wiring draws direction
5-1. 1005mm (0402 inch)

When wiring is drawn in the MLCC width direction (MLCC short direction), the stress applied on the MLCC is reduced.
5. Countermeasure of wiring draws direction
5-2. 0.603mm (0201 inch)

When wiring is drawn in the MLCC width direction (MLCC short direction), the stress applied on the MLCC is reduced. When distance between wiring and MLCC is enlarged, the stress is more reduced.
6. Summary of FEM analysis

- The tensile stress applied to MLCC cased by deflection can be minimized to the approximately same level by downsizing wiring design (including wiring width and copper foil).

- When downsizing MLCC without changing wire width and copper foil, the stress applied to the MLCC gets higher.

- In order to reduce the stress applied to MLCC,
  1. Wiring width should be thinner according to MLCC size/downsizing.
  2. The direction of wiring extraction should be W(width) direction (MLCC short direction).
Comparison of deflection by using deflection test

**Substrate – Test board –:**
- Board thickness: 1.6mm
- Wiring width: 0.15mm
- Copper foil thickness with plating: 35μm, 70μm, 105μm

**Test items:**
- 0603mm (0201 inch)

Test method of deflection

Substrate – Test board –
This section shows the comparison of crack occurrence ratio against degree of flexure according to copper foil thickness with plating. The thicker the copper foil thickness is, the lower the deflection result is. Please take these points into consideration when downsizing MLCC to 0603mm (0201 inch).
### Analysis result (Maximum principal contours) tensile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>0603mm (0201 inch)</th>
<th>0603mm (0201 inch)</th>
<th>0603mm (0201 inch)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wiring width</td>
<td>0.15mm</td>
<td>0.15mm</td>
<td>0.15mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper foil</td>
<td>35μm</td>
<td>70μm</td>
<td>105μm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When copper foil is thicker, the stress applied on the MLCC is higher.
End

https://www.murata.com