

# Analysis of the causes of abnormal noise of capacitors

What causes a capacitor to fail?

Keysight Technologies' failure analysis team determined the root cause of these failures to be voids in the capacitor dielectric layer. The voids allowed the propagation of metal into the dielectric layer. This metal migration led to latent failures in the field.

How can you tell if a capacitor is failing?

There were no visual deformities seen under standard microscopy on the capacitor's top metal. Most subtle failures in a capacitor are those in the dielectric which are difficult to find under standard spectroscopy. To determine the location of the short, a current of 50 mA was forced through the failed capacitor.

Can hand analysis predict noise performance of switched-capacitor circuits?

This tutorial reviews hand analysis techniques that allow the designer to predict the noise performance of switched-capacitor circuits at various levels of complexity. The material presented in this course focuses on practical examples ranging from basic passive and active track-and-hold circuits, integrators and SC delta-sigma modulators.

Why is my capacitor voiding?

The root cause of the voiding is suspected to be a process issue at the metal lift specifically around the seams. This could be caused by over-etching of the capacitor nitride, especially during the via etch step. The over-etch would cause voiding, providing a path for electromigrated metal through the dielectric layer of the capacitor.

Are switched-capacitor circuits noisy?

Switched-capacitor circuits are widely used in today's analog and mixed signal circuits. Although from a circuit design point the field has matured, simplifications in the noise analysis driven by conventional wisdom have resulted in an under-estimation of the actual noise present when those circuits are operated at high speeds.

Is thermal noise a bottleneck in a switched-capacitor circuit?

Noise, and in particular thermal noise, is recognized as a major bottleneck limiting the performance of switched-capacitor circuits and it is essential that all of the major contributors to noise are appropriately considered when designing any switched-capacitor circuit.

analysis method. The main reason why SC noise analysis is so difficult is that noise is sampled on many different capacitors, and when being sampled, its spectrum is aliased. The core idea of making analysis by hand possible is to use an intuitive rather than an algebraic method to derive the continuous-time noise spectra in the different ...

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One of the primary goals of this study was to determine the root cause of the noise generation. A failed shunt capacitor, similar to those used at both substations, was donated by the utility ...

PSMA/IEEE Capacitor Workshop -2020.04.21 Mark Scott, Ph.D. scottmj3@miamioh Electrolytic Capacitors  
o R ESR determined by volume of electrolyte. - Dependent on temperature. - Negative Temperature Coefficient.  
o Primary Failure Mechanisms: - Electrolyte Vaporization o Electrolyte is lost over time. o Heavily dependent on ...

In this letter, we analyze the nonsaturating upturns of capacitance under strong accumulation bias in MOS capacitors with high-k dielectrics. By comparing the electrical properties of dielectric samples with and without HfO<sub>2</sub> and by varying the ambient temperature, it is found that the conduction through the shallow trap levels in the HfO<sub>2</sub> bulk produces not only ...

Vibration and audible noise generated by power capacitors subjected to nonsinusoidal waveforms are discussed. A study of the relation between the vibration (audible noise generated) and the ...

Correlated double-sampling (CDS) is widely used to suppress the effect of flicker noise in switched-capacitor (SC) circuits. Once the flicker noise is suppressed by CDS, the noise of the SC circuits is ultimately determined by the thermal noise. In this work, we develop a method to calculate the thermal noise

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One of the most commonly used EMC measures in power electronics, and in particular isolated DC/DC converters, is adding a primary-secondary Y-capacitor to reduce common-mode (CM) ...

Filter capacitors are among the most serious noise sources in HVDC converter stations, and there are still no satisfactory noise reduction measures. This paper proposes the use of the mass tuning...

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failure rate of the capacitor, and strengthen the analysis of common faults, a corresponding method is established to ensure its safety performance. 2. Common Faults in Power Capacitors 2.1 Seepage Oil Leakage . Capacitor leakage and oil leakage are common faults. The reasons are manifold, such as improper handling methods, or the use of porcelain sleeves to cause ...

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