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# BC95-G MTBF Test Report

## NB-IoT Module Series

Rev. BC95-G MTBF Test Report

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# About the Document

## History

Revision	Date	Author	Description
1.0	2019-04-24	Fioson WANG	Initial

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# 1 Purpose

The purpose of an MTBF test is to ensure the life time of the module can meet application designs.

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## 2 Scope

This document is applicable to all BC95-G modules and designs developed by Quectel.

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# 3 MTBF Representation

## 3.1. MTBF Formula

MTBF is calculated in traditional way via the formula below (according to Telcordia SR-332 Issue 3):

$$MTBF = \frac{1}{\lambda_{SS}} = \frac{1}{\Pi_T \lambda_{PC}}$$

- $\Pi_T$ : Thermal Factor, refer to **Chapter 3.2** for detailed description;
- $\lambda_{PC}$ : The failure rate of the key devices.

## 3.2. $\Pi_T$ Calculating Formula

$$\Pi_T = \exp \left( \frac{Ea}{K} \left( \frac{1}{T_0} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right) \right)$$

- $Ea$  = activation energy in eV, the value in this test is 0.7;
- $K$  = Boltzmann constant =  $8.617 \times 10^{-5}$  eV/K;
- $T_0$  = reference temperature in °K =  $40 + 273 = 313$ ;
- $T_1$  = operating temperature in °K = operating temperature in °C + 273.



# 4 MTBF Calculation

## 4.1. Part Count Prediction

*The following table shows the failure rate prediction of the key devices (normal temperature). MTBF is determined by the key devices whose failure rate is much higher than other devices.*

**Table 1: Failure Rate Prediction of the Key Devices**

Part Description	Category	Quantity	λss/FITS
RES MF +/-5% 1/20W RO	Resistor	24	0.08
CAP X5R +/-20% 6.3V RO	Capacitor	69	0.10
IND HIGH +/-5% RO	Inductor	13	0.11
TVS Bi Vrwm=4.5V 350pF 1.6x1.0mm H0.55mm RO	TVS	1	0.04
PMIC LDO Active Discharge 2.2-5.5V Fix 2.8V 150mA XDFN4 1x1mm H0.43mm RO	PMIC	1	3.29
PMIC DC-DC 2.7-5.5V 0.6-3.4V 750mA DSBGA-6 H0.6mm RO	PIMC	1	3.90
PMIC Load Switch 1.2-5.5V 3A 21mR@1A 6-WLCSP 1.0x1.5mm H0.63mm RO	PIMC	1	3.29
IC RF SAW BALUN 1805-2170MHz 0.6x0.5mm H0.4mm RO	SAW	1	29.85
IC RF SAW BALUN 729-960MHz 0.6x0.5mm H0.4mm RO	SAW	1	29.92
IC RF TX LPF 1695-2180MHz 1.0x0.5mm H0.5mm RO	Filter	1	0.011
IC RF TX LPF 699-960MHz 1.6x0.8mm H0.7mm RO	Filter	1	0.001
IC RF PA LTE B1/2/3/4/5/8/12/13/17/18/19/20/28/ 3.0x4.2mm H0.825mm RO	PA	1	0.59
IC RF SWITCH SP4T 39dBm 2.0x2.0mm H0.6mm RO	Switch	1	0.2
IC BB HI2115 121-TFBGA 0.5pitch 5.800x5.800mm H1.075mm RO	CPU	1	36.40
PCB BC95-G V3.1 6L HDI 19.9x23.6mm H0.6mm XL RO	PCB	1	10.00

Assume that the environmental factor  $\pi_E=1$  (Ground, Fixed, and Controlled) in this prediction, then the failure rate of the key devices can be calculated as:

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_{PC} &= \pi_E \sum_{i=1}^n N_i \lambda_{ss_i} \\ &= 127.74(FITS)\end{aligned}$$

## 4.2. Thermal Factor

- The Thermal Factor calculation formula is:

$$\pi_T = e^{\frac{E_a}{k} [\frac{1}{T_0} - \frac{1}{T_1}]}$$

When  $T_1 = (85+273) \text{ } ^\circ K$

$E_a = 0.7$

$k = 8.62 \times 10E-5$

$T_0 = (40+273) \text{ } ^\circ K$

The value of Thermal Factor = 26.08

## 4.3. MTBF Result

- When  $T = (85+273) \text{ } ^\circ K$

$$\begin{aligned}MTBF &= \frac{1}{\lambda_{ss}} = \frac{1}{\pi_T \lambda_{PC}} \\ &\approx 300168.77 \text{ Hours} \\ &\approx 34.26 \text{ Years}\end{aligned}$$

## 4.4. Conclusion

Through the comprehensive testing on MTBF, it is founded that MTBF value is 40.91 years at the module temperature of 85°C. This means that the “mean life” for our product based on the data we have collected with no failure can reach or exceed 34.26 years when module temperature is 85°C, which are compliant with the standard values. Therefore, the testing on MTBF is successfully completed.

## 5 Appendix A Reference

Table 2: Terms and Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
FITS	Failures per billion device hours
MTBF	Mean Time Between Failures

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