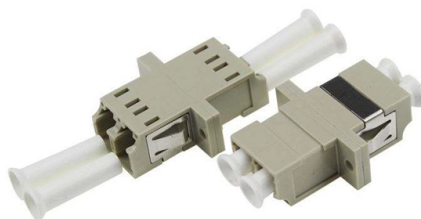


Ceramic substrate for optical module chips



Overview

In this paper, a novel multi-chip LED module with AlN-based ceramic substrate was successfully developed.

Key Takeaways

Aluminum nitride (AlN) ceramic substrates are the preferred choice for high-speed optical module chips due to their superior thermal conductivity, electrical insulation, and compatibility with photonic devices.

Key Advantages of Ceramic Substrates

High Thermal Conductivity: AlN ceramic substrates typically offer thermal conductivity in the range of 170–230 W/m·K, significantly higher than traditional alumina (Al_2O_3) ceramics. This allows efficient heat dissipation from high-power components such as laser diodes, driver chips, and DSPs, reducing local temperature rise and improving module reliability.

Electrical Insulation and Structural Support: AlN provides excellent electrical insulation while supporting the mechanical structure of optical modules. It enables electrical isolation, component mounting, and heat conduction simultaneously, meeting the multi-functional requirements of densely integrated optical modules.

Thermal Expansion Matching: The thermal expansion coefficient of AlN closely matches that of silicon and indium phosphide (InP) chips, minimizing thermal stress during temperature cycling and enhancing long-term reliability.

High-Frequency Performance: Ceramic substrates support stable signal transmission in high-speed optical communication systems, making them suitable for microwave, millimeter-wave, and optical transceivers.

Fabrication and Integration

Ceramic substrates for optical modules are often produced using High-Temperature Co-Fired Ceramic (HTCC) or Low-Temperature Co-Fired Ceramic (LTCC) processes. These methods allow the creation of multilayer substrates with through-holes, internal circuits, and polished surfaces suitable for thin-film metallization. This enables precise integration of photonic and electronic components . Customization: Substrate size, metallization patterns, and cavity shapes can be tailored to match specific optical module designs, including coherent optical sub-assemblies (COSA) and Si photonics devices .

Applications

AlN ceramic substrates are widely used in:

- High-speed optical transceivers (400G, 800G, 1.6T)
- Laser diode (LD) and electro-absorption modulator (EML) packaging
- Optical engines and photonic integrated circuits
- High-power, high-density optical modules Their combination of thermal management, electrical insulation, and mechanical stability makes them essential for next-generation optical communication systems .

Summary

For optical module chips, AlN ceramic substrates provide a reliable foundation that balances heat dissipation, electrical isolation, and structural support. They are increasingly favored over alumina in high-speed, high-power, and miniaturized optical modules, ensuring stable operation and long-term performance in advanced communication networks .

Article Content

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Due to its excellent thermal conductivity and electrical insulation properties, aluminum nitride (AlN) ceramic substrates

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AlN Ceramic Substrate for Optical Modules | High Thermal Conductivity

An AlN ceramic optical module substrate is a high-performance ceramic component used for optical packaging applications,

Why AlN Ceramic Substrates Are Used in Optical Modules

In practical optical module designs, AlN ceramic substrates are primarily used to support and dissipate heat from laser

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High-performance aluminum nitride ceramic heat dissipation substrates are now crucial materials for high-end optical

Ceramic Substrates: The Core Material Revolution Powering AI

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Kyocera proposes an LTCC substrate for optical communication devices that utilize Si photonics technology.

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Ceramic substrates for optical communication modules are critical components used in high-speed photonic and optoelectronic

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Interposers and substrates, once passive elements in packaging, now play an active role in dissipating heat to

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China Electronics Technology Group (CETC) - Manufactures ceramic and hybrid substrates for home-grown optical

Ceramic Packaging of IC Devices

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ADCERAX delivers aluminum nitride substrates engineered for stable thermal behavior, clean electrical

Thermal design and analysis of multi-chip LED module with ceramic substrate

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LTCC (Low Temperature Co-Fired Ceramics) Packages / Substrates

LTCC provides lower transmission loss compared to conventional alumina ceramics and is therefore used for packaging cutting-edge

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While semiconductor chips often receive the most attention, the performance and reliability of an electronic module frequently

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In this chapter, the recent advances and trends in advanced substrates for high-performance computing (HPC) applications driven by

Aluminum Nitride Substrate

aluminum-nitride-ceramic-substrate-pieces The image shows aluminum nitride ceramic substrate pieces, known for their high thermal

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These balanced material properties make aluminum nitride ceramics an ideal foundation for high-value optical chips.

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These comprehensive properties make aluminum nitride ceramics an ideal “foundation” for high-value optical chips. In

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