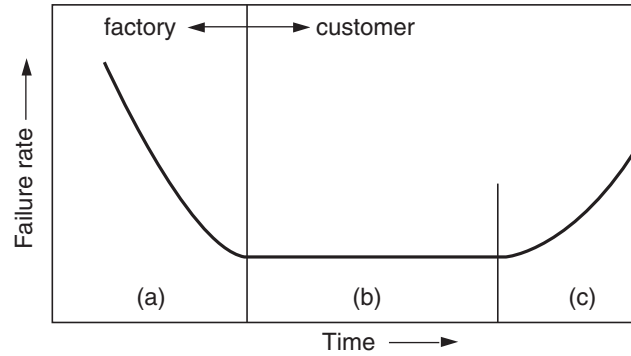


Failure rate

The failure rate of an aluminum electrolytic capacitor follows a bathtub curve.



- (a) initial failure period (infant mortality)
- (b) random failure period (useful life period)
- (c) wear-out failure period

Expected life - (*for reference)

Temperature, humidity, ripple current and atmospheric pressure etc. have influence on the life of aluminum electrolytic capacitors. Among them, temperature has the greatest effect on life of capacitors. The relationship between ambient temperature and life of capacitor can be explained to so-called ARRHENIUS equation, generally the life of capacitor is reduced approximately by one-half for each temperature increase of 10°C. The life acceleration equation computes as shown below.

$$L = L_s \times 2^{\frac{T_s - (T + \Delta T)}{10}}$$

L : Lifetime of capacitor to be estimated (Hour)
L_s : Base life time of capacitor (Hour)
T_s : Maximum operating temperature shown in catalog (°C)
T : Ambient temperature (°C)
ΔT : An increase temperature produced by internal heating due to actual operating ripple current. (°C)

Expected life chart - (*for reference)

