

Thermal design of the wing skin of a tourist class reusable spacecraft

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The design of the wing of a tourist class suborbital reusable spacecraft is a challenging scientific and technical problem that requires, among other things, solving the thermal design problem. For this purpose, it is necessary to have information about the thermal loads acting on the vehicle during the flight, and data on the thermophysical characteristics of the materials of the wing. The external thermal loads acting on the wing and the body of the spacecraft during its reentry are determined by mathematical simulation of the aerodynamic flow using the ANSYS CFX software package. The thermophysical characteristics of materials are obtained by simulation of the heat transfer in a representative element of the material volume using the software products Digimat and ANSYS Workbench. Moreover, the problem of warming up the wing structure is solved and the most heat-loaded sections of the wing are identified. The analysis of the temperature fields revealed the need for a special layer of thermal protection. As a heat-protective coating, plastomagnet was chosen. As a result of solving the thermal design problem, we determined optimal from the point of view of weight thicknesses distribution of the plastomagnet coating on the wing surface.

Keywords: thermal design, aerodynamic flow modeling, thermal protection, reusable spacecraft, space tourism

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