

How does space debris impact a solar cell?

The discharge can make noticeable mechanical damage on the surface of solar cells. Space debris impact with spacecraft at an average velocity of ~ 10 km/s and thus induce high-density plasma [1,2]. The characters of high-velocity impact inducing plasma have been studied in Lee's experiment.

How does space-debris impact a solar array?

The space-debris impacts on solar array cause not only mechanical damage but also electrical damage such as solar-array arcing initiated by local high-density plasma created by hypervelocity impact. The formation of plasma can lead to arcing between the solar cells or the cell and the substrate on the solar array.

Does space debris impact a solar array?

Thus, the solar array with a larger area and higher voltage is more sensitive to space debris impact inducing discharge. Mengü Cho's work suggested that the impact of space debris larger than 1 mm can induce sustain arc and secondary discharge on high voltage solar array ...

Can solar arrays be impacted by meteoroids or space debris?

As solar arrays have the largest exposed to the space area, their probability to be impacted by meteoroids or space debris is high. From the inspection of the retrieved HST array, for instance, the whole wing suffered between 5000 and 6000 micrometeoroid impacts in its 4-year life.

What happens when a solar cell is discharged?

During the discharge, the voltage between the solar cells decreases. The voltages after different discharges vary from -36 V to -17.6 V, which indicates that the minimum voltage for maintaining the discharge is 17.6 V. When the voltage difference between the solar cells is 36 V, no discharge is triggered.

How are solar cells insulated?

Between the solar cells and solar panel, a layer of polyimide film is pasted to insulate the solar cell electrodes and conductive substrate. The cover glasses that are used to provide protection for the cells against radiation and microparticles impact damage are made usually of cerium-doped glass 0.01 cm thick.

This paper discusses the hypervelocity impacts of micrometeoroids and orbital debris (MMODs) on inverted metamorphic triple-junction (IMM3J) and perovskite solar cells, which are much thinner...

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Numerous technologies have been studied for removing unwanted objects in space. Our approach uses a short wavelength laser stationed in orbit to vaporize these small objects. This ...

SAMPLES AND METHODS HST Solar Cells The solar cells recovered from the HST were not designed as dedicated collector surfaces for micro-particle recovery in LEO and therefore their construction and composition is extremely complicated. The compositions of the individual solar cells are given in, Graham et al. [12] and are summarised in (Fig.3 ...

Our results indicate that space debris with diameters about 200 μm can trigger solar array discharge when the voltage difference between the solar cells is higher than 37 V. This minimum potential voltage can exist on large and complicated spacecraft such as the solar array on the ISS, which has more than 100 V potential [13] .

Space Debris Research at DLR SOLID-A solar panel based impact detector DLR Institute of Space Systems Bremen, Germany Dr. Waldemar Bauer. High collision probability with small objects (diameter $\geq 100 \mu\text{m}$) Degradation or significant damage of spacecraft / payload expected Available measurement data is insufficient Space Environment Situation Ref.: Flegel et al., ...

?? The simulation experiments were carried out for the cumulative impact of small space debris on solar cell by using the plasma drag small particle accelerator in the Center for Space Science and Applied Research of Chinese Academy of Sciences. After the impact, the craters...

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Solar cells (SCs) are the most ubiquitous and reliable energy generation systems for aerospace applications. Nowadays, III-V multijunction solar cells (MJSCs) represent the standard commercial technology for powering spacecraft, thanks to their high-power conversion efficiency and certified reliability/stability while operating in orbit.

During exposure to space environment solar arrays have high hazard to be impacted by orbital debris, since their large area. The conductors in solar cells would be destroyed by orbital debris impact, which would induce short circuit, open circuit, and a change of output power, and then influence the missions of the spacecraft

Determination of the frequency and importance of impacts by space debris and micrometeoroids of below 1mm in size is best achieved by examining spacecraft surfaces that have been exposed in the near-Earth orbital environment.

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