

SPACE DEBRIS: THE ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM

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The aim of this work is a system analysis of the engineering features of the deorbiting of space debris fragments. New results reflect a possibility to change the concept of near-Earth space debris mitigation from space debris elimination to space debris utilization. The paper presents a brief analysis of different aspects of the problem of space debris mitigation in near-Earth space. Different methods and means to prevent the space debris formation and to reduce space debris population are considered. Scientific problems involving the development of methods and means for near-Earth space debris mitigation are formulated.

Keywords: *space debris, spacecraft protection, near-Earth space cleaning, tether systems, space debris deorbiting, active removal, cluster, utilization orbit.*

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