



**The Abdus Salam  
International Centre for Theoretical Physics**



**2234-15**

**Meeting of Modern Science and School Physics: College for School  
Teachers of Physics in ICTP**

*27 April - 3 May, 2011*

**Physics of flight (aerodynamics)**

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# Physics of Flight

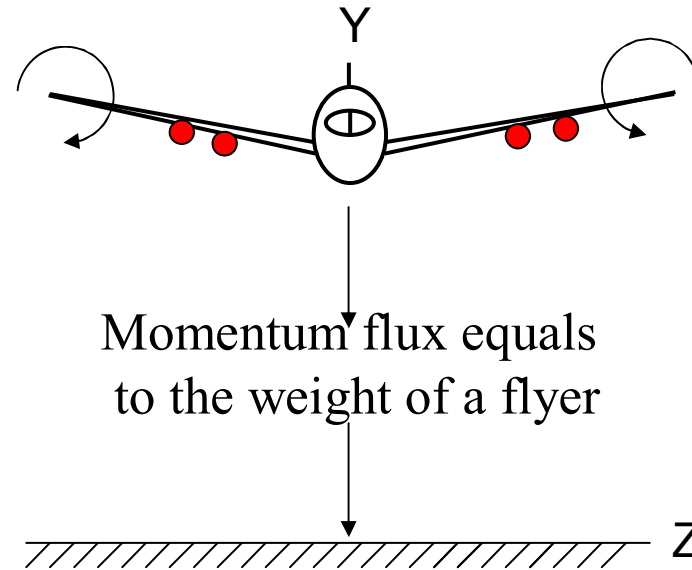
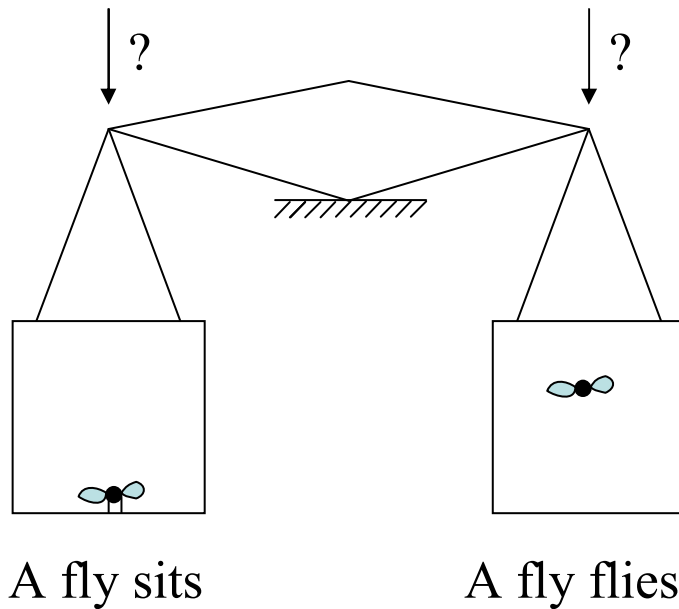
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DEPARTMENT OF AEROMECHANICS  
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# Principal topics

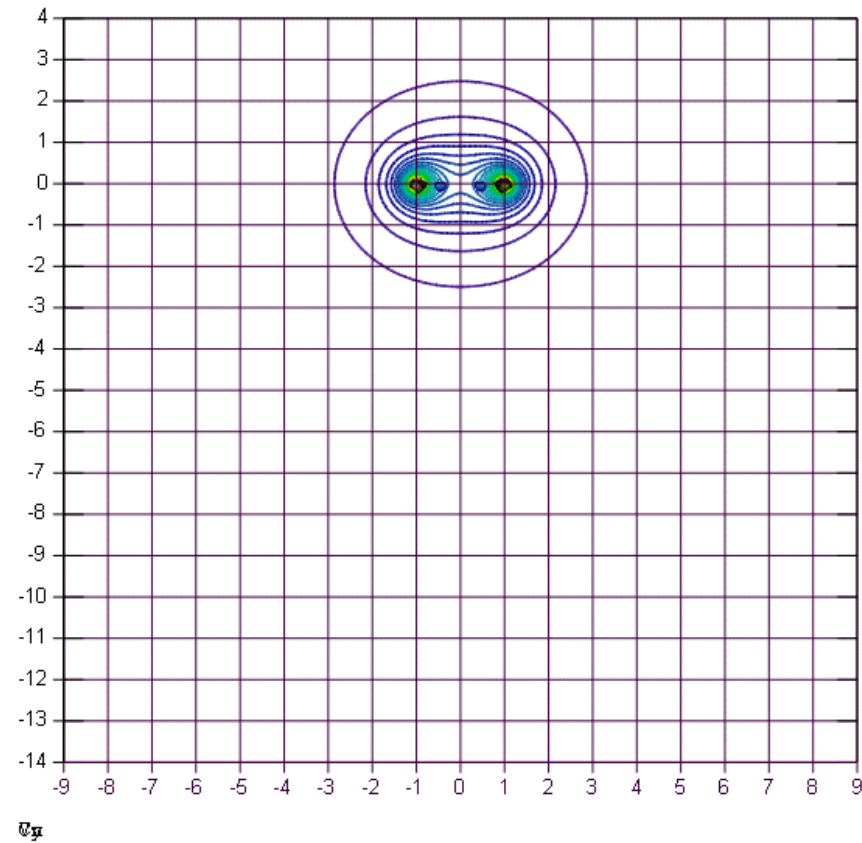
1. General aerodynamic force
2. Parachute area
3. An aircraft leans against the earth surface
4. Those dangerous vortices (animations)
5. An Eagle and a Sparrow
6. Reactive movement
7. Flight and potential energy
8. That huge ORION Project
9. Does the “cosmic cold” exit?
10. Reentry corridor
11. Vehicle heat-proof

# A flyer presses upon the earth surface



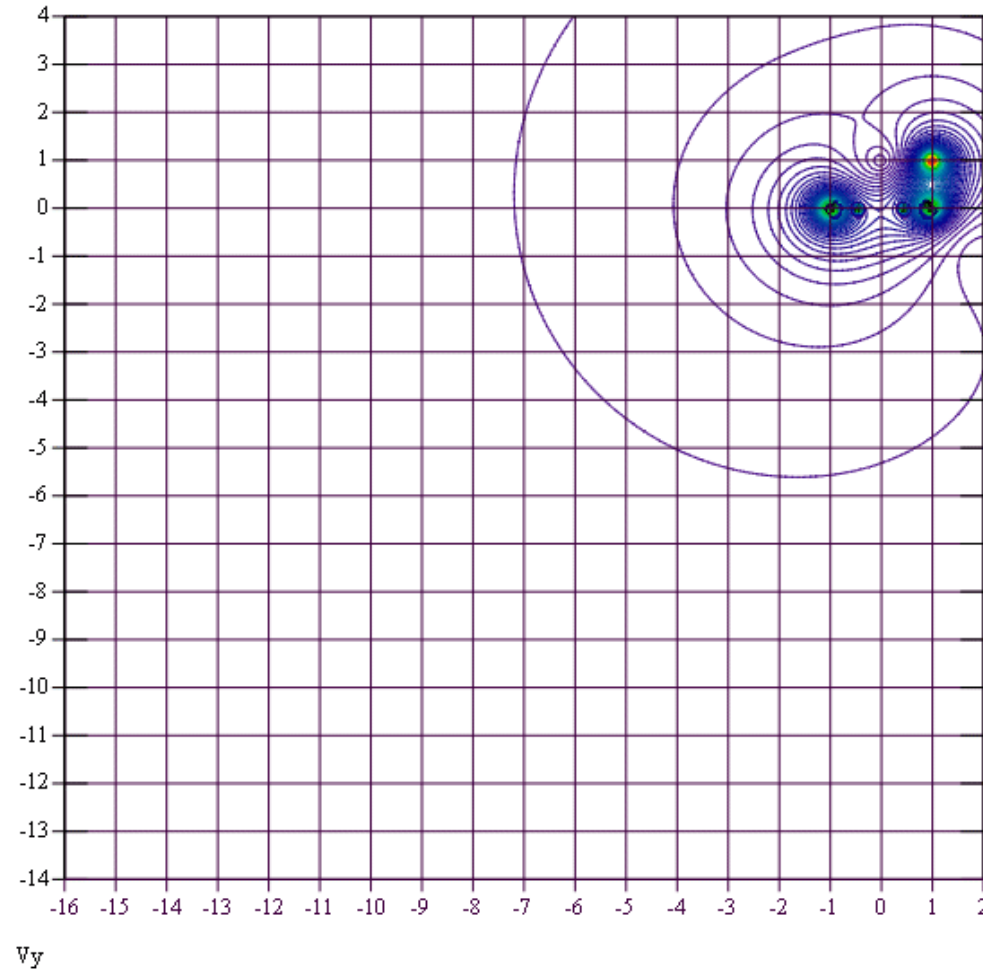
# Descending aircraft vortices in the calm atmosphere

Aircraft position  $y = 0$ ,  $-1 < z < 1$



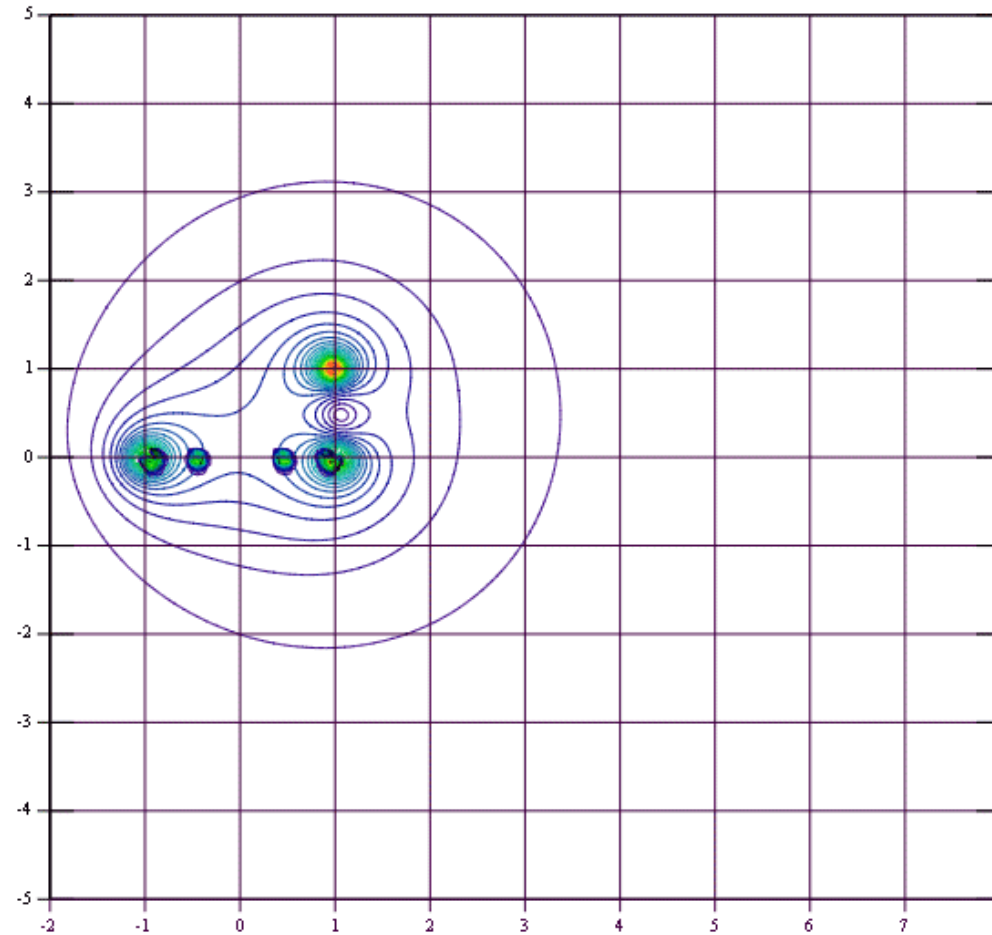
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# Aircraft meets an alien vortex (see up and right)



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# The same, an alien vortex of the opposite size



U.S.

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# PRINCIPAL AERODYNAMIC FORCE

DEPENDS ON  $\rho$   $V$   $L$

$$\frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \quad \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \quad \text{m}$$

$$F \sim \rho V^2 L^2, \quad \text{N} = \frac{\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$$

or  $F \sim \rho V L \Gamma$  (Kutta – Zhukovsky)

$$\Gamma \sim V L - \text{circulation}, \quad \frac{\text{m}^2}{\text{s}}$$



# What parachute area needed?

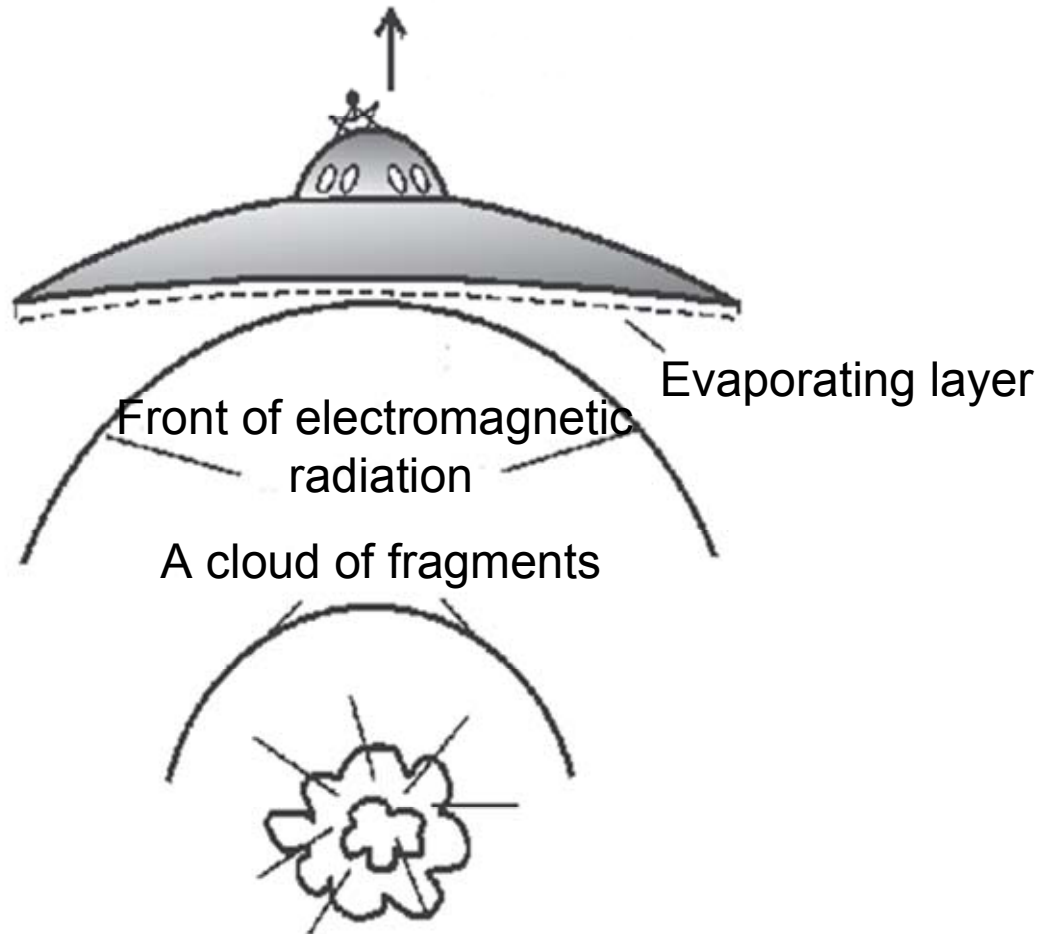
$$m g \approx \rho V^2 S_{\perp},$$

$$S_{\perp} \sim \frac{m g}{\rho V^2} \approx \frac{10^2 \text{ kg} \cdot 10 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}}{1 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \cdot 25 \frac{\text{m}^2}{\text{s}^2}} \approx 40 \text{ m}^2$$

$$V \leq 5 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$



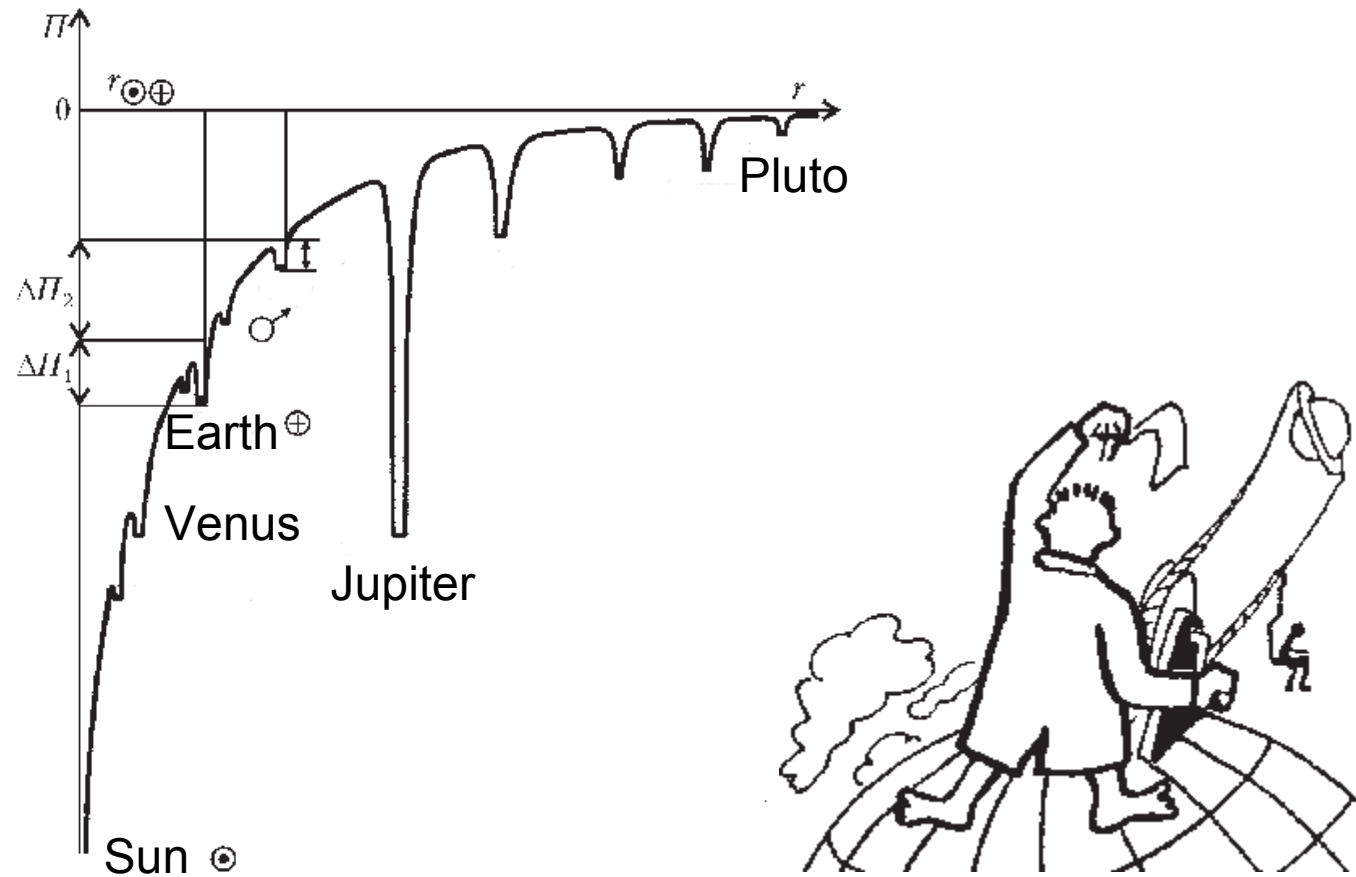
# The huge ORION Project



The step-by-step acceleration of the vehicle  
is provided with the explosions of atom bombs

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# Interplanetary mission from the point of view of potential energy



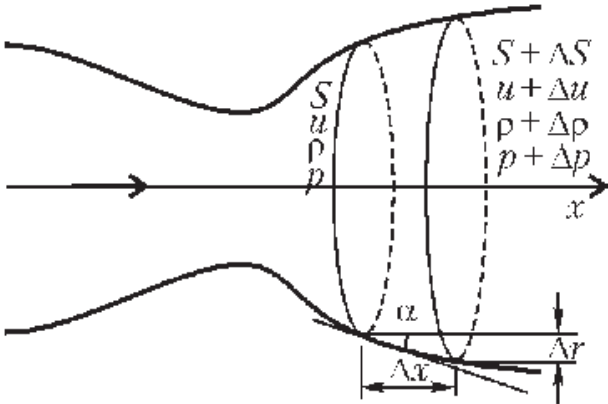
Potential energy of a body in dependence on its distance from the Sun center  
(the case of “parade of planet”)

# Reactive Movement



E.K. Tsiolkovsky formula

$$\frac{u}{u_{exit}} = \ln \frac{m}{m_0}$$



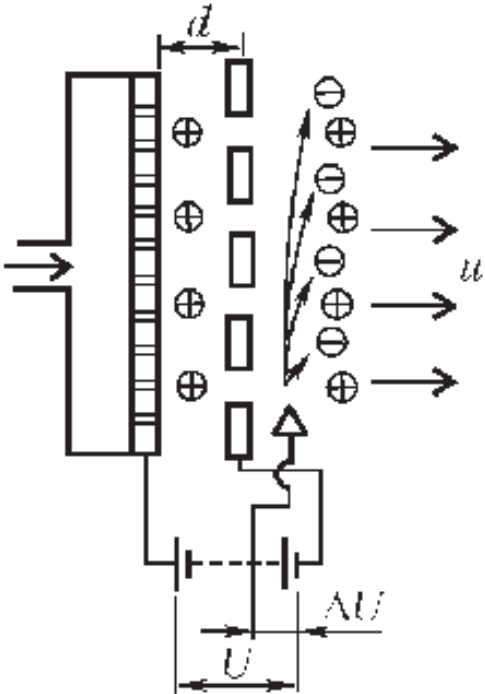
de Laval nozzle which allows to accelerate the gas over sound velocity

$$\rho u S = \text{const}$$

$$p = \rho \frac{RT}{M}$$

$$\frac{u^2}{2} + \frac{5 RT}{2 M} = \text{const}$$

$$\rho u \Delta u = -\Delta p$$

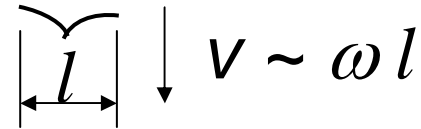
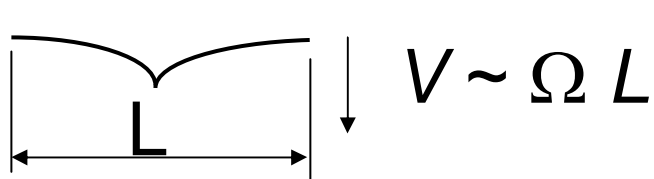


Scheme of the ion thruster

# An eagle and a sparrow

Eagle,  $M \sim L^3$

Sparrow,  $m \sim l^3$



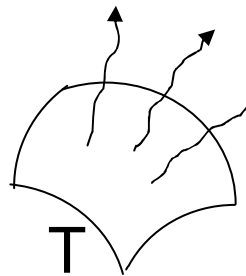
$$Mg \sim \rho V^2 L^2 \sim \rho \Omega^2 L^4 \sim L^3 g$$

$$Mg \sim \rho v^2 l^2 \sim \rho \omega^2 l^4 \sim l^3 g$$

$$\omega^2 l \approx \Omega^2 L \quad \frac{\omega}{\Omega} = \sqrt{\frac{L}{l}}$$

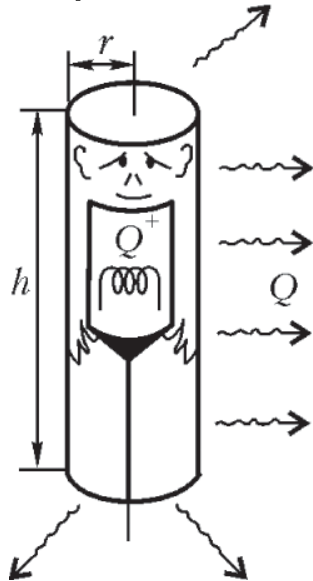
# Is there cold in Space?

Heat Radiation



$q = \sigma T^4$        $\frac{\text{W}}{\text{m}^2}$   
 $\sigma = 5.7 \cdot 10^{-8} \frac{\text{W}}{\text{m}^2 \text{K}^4}$

A simple model of human being



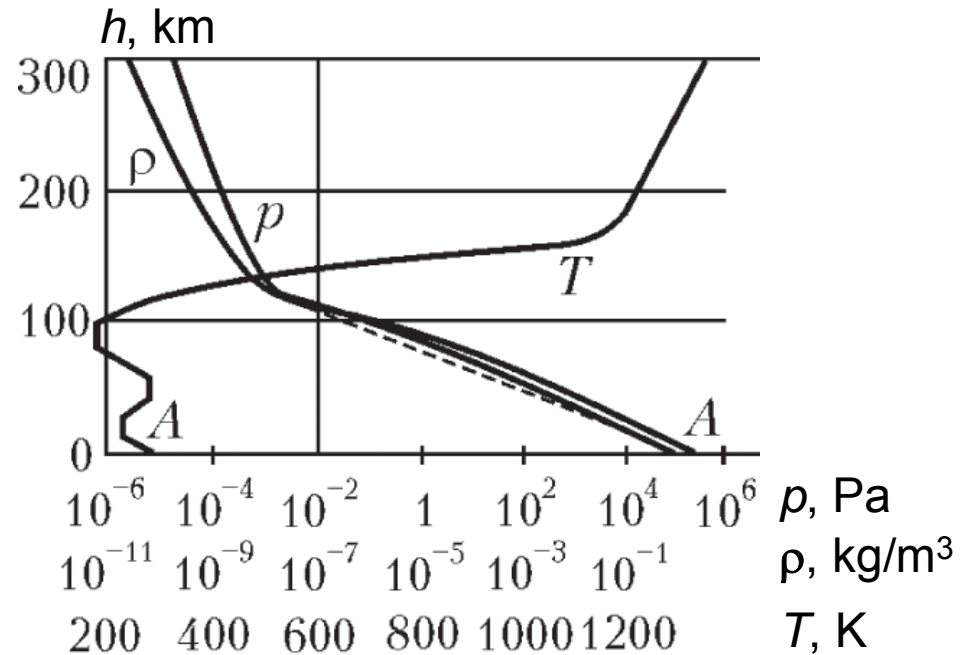
$q_0 = 1400 \frac{\text{W}}{\text{m}^2}$

Heat balance

$$Q_0 + q_0 S_{\perp} = \sigma T_h^4 S$$

$$T_h \sim 350 \text{ K} \rightarrow T_h \sim 80^{\circ} \text{ C} !!!$$

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# REENTRY CORRIDOR

Severe Restriction

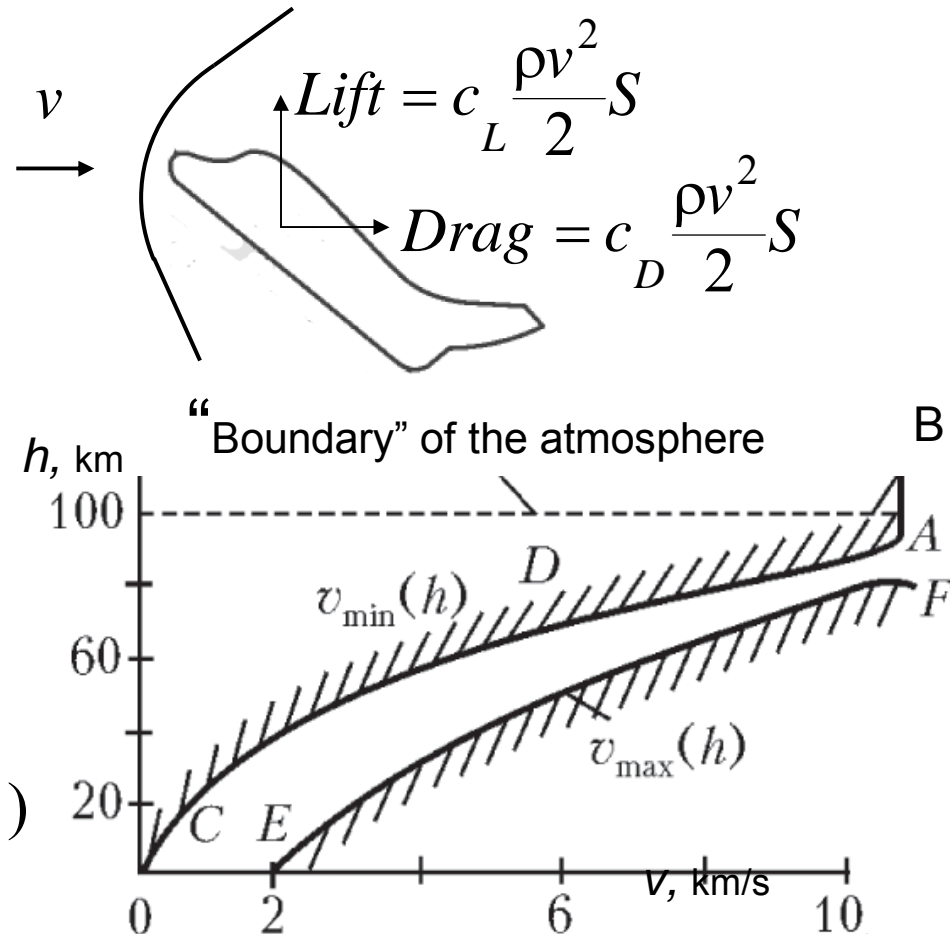
$$AB: v \leq v_1 = \sqrt{g R_E}$$

$$CD: c_L \rho v^2 S \geq m \left( g - \frac{v^2}{R_E} \right)$$

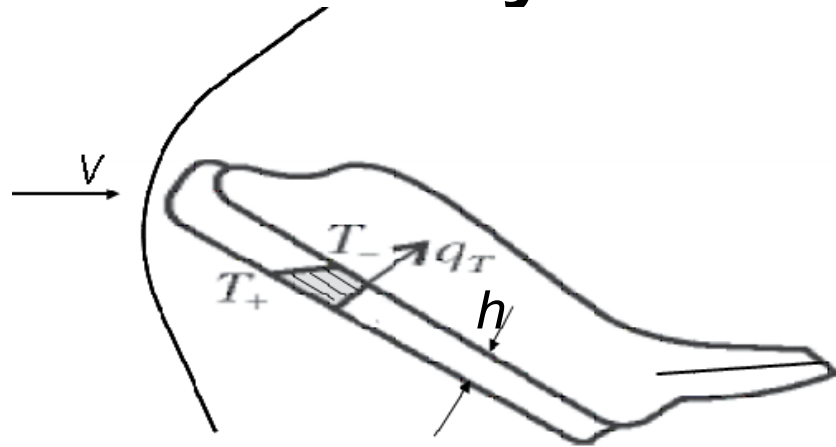
$$EF: \frac{v}{2} \rho v \leq \sigma T_m^4$$

Heat to the flyer

$$Q = c_D S \rho v^3 = \frac{c_D m}{c_L R_E} v (v_1^2 - v^2)$$

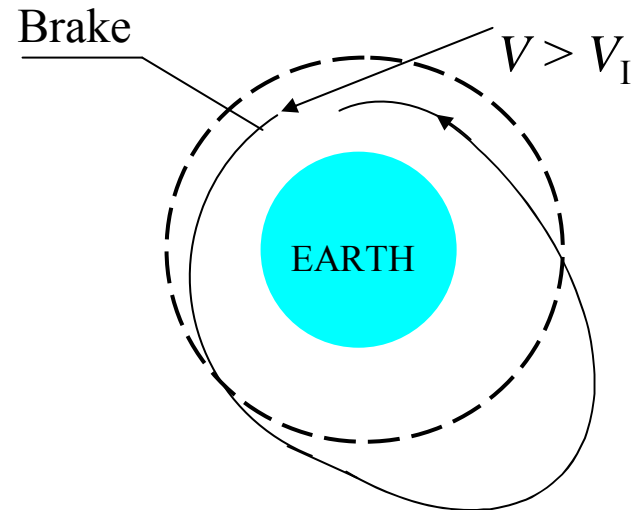


# Reentry Vehicle Heat-Proof



$$q = \lambda \frac{T_+ - T_-}{h}, \frac{\text{J}}{\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{s}}; \tau \sim \frac{\rho c h^2}{\lambda} \sim$$

$$\sim \frac{10^2 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} \cdot 10^3 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{kg} \cdot \text{K}} \cdot (10^{-1} \text{m})^2}{10^2 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{m} \cdot \text{s} \cdot \text{K}}} \sim 10^5 \text{s}$$





Thank you very much  
for your attention !

It was nice to see you...