Thermal analysis of high power LED light

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Keywords: high-power LED; heat dissipation; simulation analysis

Abstract. As a typical green lighting source, but most of high-power LED input power is converted into heat, heat dissipation has important influence on its performance. For the LED lamp radiator, the heat conduction mode is obtained. By the finite element simulation analysis and thermal analysis of natural convection radiator, the steady-state temperature distribution of the radiator is simulated, and compared the simulation analysis and thermal test results. Results show that the design of the radiator satisfies the requirement of heat dissipation, and verifies the correctness of thermal resistance analysis method.

Introduction

Compared with the traditional incandescent lamp and fluorescent lamp, high power white LED has high brightness, low power consumption, long life, good directivity, fast response, no radiation, green as a new generation of green environmental protection solid lighting source.

LED produces light by electronic transition between different energy band, and the light does not contain the infrared part, and its heat cannot disappear by radiation. At present the LED luminous efficiency can reach 10%—20%, the rest of energy is converted into heat. Therefore, used multiple single LED chip assembly into a module, a high power LED temperature will rise rapidly, which leads to working voltage decrease, light intensity decrease, longer wavelengths of light, speed droop. So, the research on high power LED heat dissipation is of important theoretical and engineering value. Now the commonly thermal radiation are: air cooling, heat pipe cooling and thermoelectric refrigeration, etc. By using the theory of evaporation heat absorption refrigeration, heat pipe has good cooling effect.

By the finite element simulation analysis and thermal analysis of natural convection radiator, the steady-state temperature distribution of the radiator is simulated, and compared the simulation analysis and thermal test results. Results show that the design of the radiator satisfies the requirement of heat dissipation, and verifies the correctness of thermal resistance analysis method.

The thermal calculation of LED lighting lamps and lanterns

The structure of a 50w white LED. A 50W high-power white light LED lighting is mainly composed of radiator, LED chip, the condenser cover, lamp holder and the power supply, chimney.

As shown in Figure 2, Figure 3, a radiator is designed with simple structure, low cost, easy production. The radiator use aluminum fins which has good thermal conductivity performance, and the thermal conductivity is $150 W/m^2\cdot k$, metal circuit board and radiator base with high thermal conductivity silicone adhesive coefficient which thermal conductivity is $3.8 W/m^2\cdot k$. 
Thermal analysis model. The 50W high power LED is a more chip components, composed of five 10W chip packages. Calculation is simplified to: all chip in series connection, and array in the same circuit boards, chip specifications are exactly the same, work temperature and consumed power completely consistent, ignore the thermal interaction between the chip, so similar to parallel circuit chip thermal resistance model of type. As shown in Fig 3 $R_{JC}$ is the thermal resistance between the chip and internal heat sink, $R_{JR}$ is the thermal resistance between internal heat sink thermal resistance metal circuit board, $R_{BR}$ is the thermal resistance between circuit board and radiator.

![Figure 3 multichip LED equivalent thermal model](image)

We can see that the multichip LED integrated encapsulation of the equivalent heat path is than each LED chip thermal resistance connect in parallel and then connection with thermal resistance, thermal resistance and convection radiator thermal resistance in series.

The parallel formula:

$$\frac{1}{R_{JC}} = \frac{1}{R_{JC1}} + \frac{1}{R_{JC2}} + \frac{1}{R_{JC3}} + \frac{1}{R_{JC4}} + \frac{1}{R_{JC5}}$$

Because each chip is the same, so:

$$R_{JC} = \frac{R_{JC1}}{5}$$  \hspace{1cm} (2)

And similarly:

$$R_{CB} = \frac{R_{CB1}}{5}$$  \hspace{1cm} (3)

The total thermal resistance of the model:

$$R_{JR} = \frac{R_{JC1}}{5} + \frac{R_{CB1}}{5} + R_{BR}$$  \hspace{1cm} (4)

According to the concept of thermal resistance, the LED junction temperature can be obtained:

$$T_J = T_D + R_{JR} \times P_D$$  \hspace{1cm} (5)

$T_D$ is the environmental temperature, $P_D$ is the chip's total power consumption.
\[ R_{\text{th}} = 8^\circ C / W, \ T_A = 25^\circ C, \]

Thermal resistance of thermal conductive adhesive \( R_1 = 1.8^\circ C / W \).

\[ T_f \leq 65^\circ C. \] We can get

\[ R_{\text{th}} \leq \frac{65 - 25}{5} - 2 - 1.8 = 6.2^\circ C / W \]

Radiator thermal resistance \( R = 5.5^\circ C / W \);

We can get the available minimum heat dissipation area of the radiator

\[
S = \frac{1}{R_{th}} = 0.302 m^2
\]

The heat flow field analysis of LED lamps and lanterns the cooling structure

This article uses the finite element method to simulate the steady-state heat flow field distribution of chip.

**Radiator steady state thermal analysis.** The steady state thermal analysis of LED lamps and lanterns. The temperature distribution should meet with heat source of heat conduction differential equation when LED chip works in a state performance.

\[
\frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} + \frac{q}{k} = 0
\]

(7)

\( T \) is the temperature, \( q \) is the heat per unit volume, \( k \) is the coefficient of thermal conductivity.

Using finite element software simulation, we define that the environment temperature 25 °C, radiator’s convective heat transfer coefficient 5\( W / m^2 \cdot k \), the chip P-N junction is the heat source, Heat generation rate for unit volume 2.04\( \times 10^8 W / m^3 \). From the Fig 4, we can find the highest temperature area concentrated in the center of chip, and the highest temperature is 62.3\( ^\circ C \).

![Fig 4 Steady-state temperature field distribution of the radiator](image)

**Conclusion**

On the basis of the establishment of high-power LED thermal resistance model, this paper calculated the minimum effective cooling area. Through the simulation and experiment, the aluminum finned radiator design is verified to fulfill the requirements of the engineering application under the 25 °C environment temperature within full working capacity, and the chip maximum junction can be controlled within 65 °C.
References


