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Hacking The Atom: Explorations In Nuclear Research (Volume 1)



Synopsis

Hacking the Atom, Volume 1 in the Explorations of Nuclear Research series, shows, for the first time, why low-energy nuclear reaction (LENR) phenomena are not the result of fusion, why they are the result of nuclear processes, and why they can now be explained by a viable theory. This theory is consistent with existing physics, expands scientific knowledge and reveals a promising new field of nuclear science. The science has been obscured by the actions of a collection of scientists who promoted the idea of room-temperature "cold fusion." Their belief in this fantasy perpetuated the early stigma associated with the research and discouraged acceptance by the wider scientific community. Hacking the Atom exposes this human drama, breaking a decade-long silence. The events depicted are more astonishing and fascinating than has ever been revealed and indicate the presence of a paradigm shift in nuclear science. The consequences are potentially more important than anyone has ever imagined.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Hacking the Atom, Vol. I by Steven Krivit will be appreciated by scientists and non-scientists alike, providing an in-depth look at the controversial topic of cold fusion and the more complex phenomenon of Low Energy Nuclear Reactions. Krivit leads readers through a fascinating history of the experiments and the scientists involved in this field of research. Most valuably, Krivit demonstrates very effectively how slowly and painfully prevailing research paradigms shift in a hotly debated and controversial field like cold fusion. He deftly recreates the uneasiness of researchers

as they faced mounting experimental data that they could not explain. Inevitably, some begin to question long-entrenched beliefs about cold fusion, leading to a period of highly contentious presentations and conferences. But such instability was a catalyst for a new set of experiments that led to novel, more successful theories (such as Widom-Larsen) that have shaped the LENRs research field as it is today. Krivit also hints that LENRs research is now ready for further technological and engineering advances, which may soon lead to exciting new thermal energy sources. *Hacking the Atom, Vol. I* is impressive for its historical and scientific accuracy, as well as its readability. Krivit strikes a delicate balance between historical recount and devious intrigue, transforming what could have been a dry and technical narrative into something that reads almost like a mystery novel. The result is a deft examination of a complex topic that was a true pleasure to read.

“*Hacking the Atom*” is part explanatory popular science, part technical investigation, and part revelatory hidden prior history. It is also a deep-dive into inner workings of human dynamics underlying a scientific paradigm shift al la Thomas Kuhn. LENRS are a new area of research that offer great promise as a clean, radiation-free nuclear energy technology that could be suitable for use in commercial applications ranging from small battery-like devices to large power plants. The book, or should I say adventure, is organized chronologically around a timeline that starts in 1990, after the initial “cold fusion” uproar had died down, and ends in 2015. It begins in early to mid-1990s when LENR researchers at major U.S. universities as well as at Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and other academic institutions in Japan were observing bewildering, seemingly inexplicable arrays of nuclear transmutation products in electrochemical cells. After 2005, Krivit interweaves the development and gradual acceptance of the Widom-Larsen theory --- that successfully explains all relevant experimental LENR data --- with progress of ongoing experimentation in the field. The book also unveils the efforts of a small band of researchers to protect their “cold fusion” turf as well as other parallel machinations by respected scientists such as Dr. Richard Garwin, who was involved in engineering the first Hydrogen bomb, that occurred inside the U.S. government. It ends in 2015 when Krivit has cleared away all the smoke and reveals that enough is now known about LENR science, he suggests, that knowledgeable technologists might begin fruitful thermal device engineering programs and eventual commercialization of a new energy source.

I found Steven Krivit’s book on nuclear science and LENR fascinating. If the scientific reports

that he discusses are correct, then the potential for low-energy nuclear reaction research is staggering. This is a game changer. Imagine the possibilities of a radiation-free source of nuclear energy. No uranium à “ ONLY WATER. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and recommend it.

If you're anything like me, there's nothing you like doing more on a Saturday night than curling up with a 500 page book on the new science of so-called low-energy nuclear reactions (LENR). Sounds like a snore, you say? Au contraire, mon frère. "Hacking the Atom" by Steven Krivit is a breezy read, as entertaining as it is educational. Remember the cold fusion hubbub of 1989? Quick recap: Martin Fleischmann and Stanley Pons claimed that nuclear fusion (the merging of two or more positively-charged atomic nuclei) is possible at room temperatures, rather than the incredibly high temperatures found where fusion happens naturally, i.e. inside the Sun. The stakes couldn't be higher. The idea suggested the possibility of an inexhaustible source of clean energy. But the Fleischmann-Pons study was discredited and cold fusion became so stigmatized that unfortunately, most scientists distance themselves from the legitimate experimental research. Worse, some of Fleischmann and Pons followers perpetuated the claim that LENR were based on fusion, to their own detriment, reinforcing the "reputation trap" -- a guarantee that you won't be taken seriously in the scientific community. "Hacking the Atom" explains why LENR phenomena are actually not due to cold fusion, but rather a whole other set of nuclear processes. Curious yet? Basically this book depicts the development of a new field of science, giving readers a look behind the scenes at the science, the drama, and the personalities involved. Highly recommend for geeks and non-geeks alike.

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