

What is Acceleron fusion?

Acceleron Fusion is the latest startup to take a swing at this challenging nuclear-energy technology, banking on a novel approach that uses beams of heavy subatomic particles called muons to achieve fusion at much lower temperatures.

Why did Acceleron close a \$24 million funding round?

Today, Acceleron announced it has closed a US \$24 million funding round to help develop prototypes of key reactor components and has now completed 100 hours of continuous fusion at its test facility at the Paul Scherrer Institute in Villigen, Switzerland. The experiments are aimed at gathering data rather than producing useful amounts of energy.

How hot can Acceleron fusion be?

Using this approach, Acceleron's plant could operate below 1,000 °C-- not exactly "cold" fusion, but not nearly as hot as other strategies such as magnetic confinement or inertial confinement. These other fusion approaches require temperatures in the millions of degrees to heat fuel until it becomes a plasma.

Does Acceleron have a cold fusion experiment?

Update: Added details about the 1989 "cold fusion" experiment and updated the headline. Where most startups aim to recreate the superheated, super-pressurized conditions inside of a star, Acceleron takes a different approach.

How does Acceleron slash the energy required to produce muons?

Acceleron's approach is to first try to slash the energy required to produce muons, in part by piggybacking on improvement in accelerator efficiency. This has jumped from around 20 percent in the 1980s to 50 percent today, Knaian says, and the U.S. Department of Energy targets 75 percent for next-generation accelerators.

6 ???· Acceleron has now completed more than 100 hours of continuous fusion in its machine, using the High Intensity Proton Accelerator facility and Swiss Muon Source at the Paul ...

Acceleron Banks on Muons for Colder Fusion The startup has raised US \$24 million to pursue a plasma-free approach to fusion 03 DEC 2024 Edd Gent is a Contributing Editor for IEEE Spectrum. Fusion power has experienced a renaissance in recent years, with billions of dollars in private investment flowing into the field. Acceleron Fusion is the latest startup to take ...

This plasma must then be contained with powerful magnets or lasers, which are complex and energy-intensive. Acceleron's technology bypasses these requirements by operating below 1,000 °C. This ...

As atomic nuclei zip around without their electrons, some ram into each other, fusing into a new nucleus and

releasing enormous amounts of energy. That's what happens inside a star.

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5 ???· Cambridge, Mass.-based fusion startup Accelaron Fusion announced that it has closed a \$24 million Series A funding round co-led by Lowercarbon Capital and Collaborative Fund. According to Accelaron, the funding will fuel the company's efforts to advance its low-temperature muon-catalyzed fusion technology.

"Accelaron is paving a path to plasma-free, sub-1000-degree fusion. It's cooler, cheaper, higher-energy gain fusion that stands to turn the industry on its head," said Dr. Clea ...

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Recent advances in accelerator technology, high-strength materials, and computer simulation have significantly improved the feasibility of muon-catalyzed fusion energy. We have collected data on more than 100 hours of continuous fusion in our machine.

"Accelaron is paving a path to plasma-free, sub-1000-degree fusion. It's cooler, cheaper, higher-energy gain fusion that stands to turn the industry on its head," said Dr. Clea Kolster, Partner and Head of Science at Lowercarbon Capital.

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