

# $\mu$ C for EPP in the U.S. and the World

## Based on Your Work Since the 90's

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University of Chicago  
2nd Annual Muon Collider Meeting  
August 7-8 2025

August 7, 2025

MuC August 7-8

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Overview

Particle  
Colliders

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- **Vision:** U.S. involvement and leadership in new accelerator projects to realize stunning opportunities in particle physics.
- **Current Projects Under Construction:**
  - **LBNF/DUNE in the U.S.:** Expected to begin science operations around 2030.
  - **HL-LHC at CERN:** Also expected to begin science operations around 2030.
  - Both projects are anticipated to continue operations for 10 years or more.

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- **Muon Collider:**
  - **R&D:** Essential to begin as soon as possible (estimated  $\approx 7$  years).
  - **Demonstrator Construction:** Ideally starts soon after DUNE begins science operations (lasts  $\approx 10$  years).
  - **Full Construction (if feasible):** Could begin around the time FCC-ee science operations start.
- **FCC-ee (CERN):**
  - **Construction:** Could begin around the same time as the muon-collider demonstrator.
  - **Role:** Ensures intensive Higgs studies and particle physics progress while a muon collider is being built in the U.S.
- **100-TeV Proton Collider:** Potential project beyond the 40-year horizon, extending discovery reach.
- **Urgency:** Scientific urgency and national imperative to act now to maintain U.S. momentum, leadership, and talent in a competitive and fast changing world.

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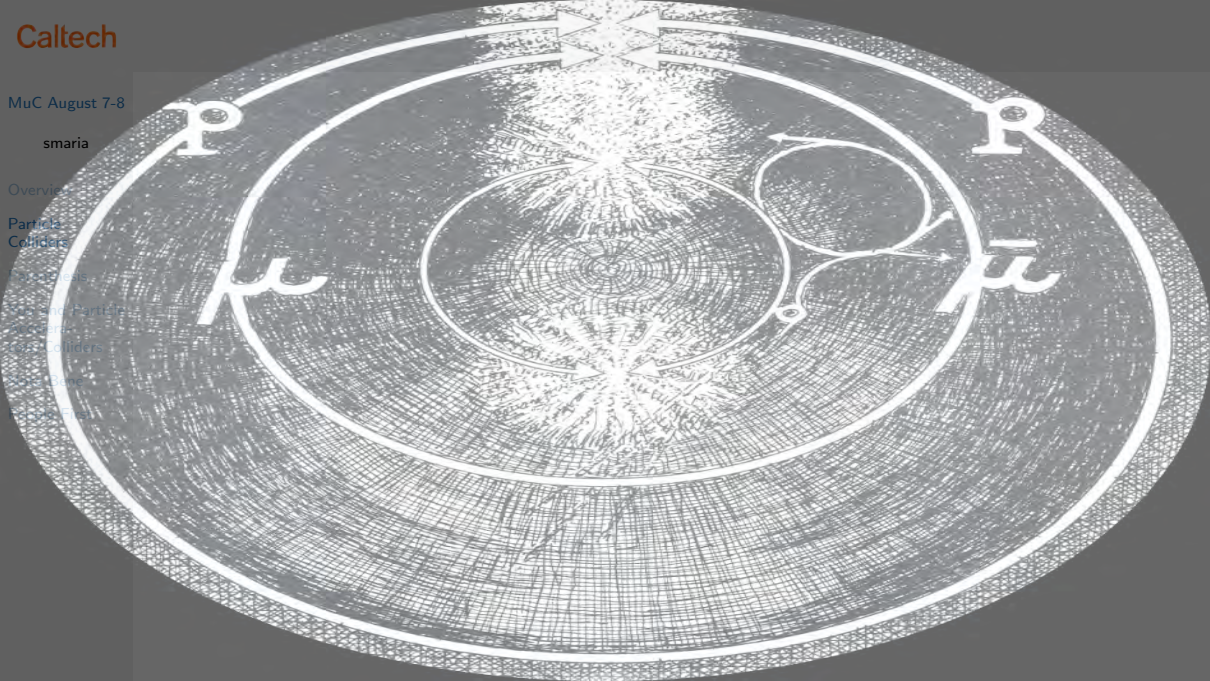
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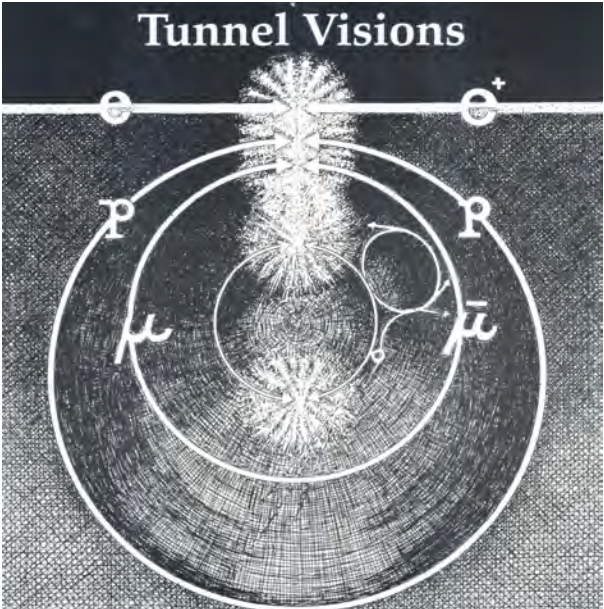
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**Tunnel Visions is a series of eight two hour sessions on possible future accelerator options for Fermilab. The leading proponents of Linear Colliders, Muon Colliders, and Very Large Hadron Colliders will be challenged by a group of four conveners in each session.**



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- Combines advantages of electron/positron and proton colliders.
- Enables precision measurements due to point-like muon collisions.
- Capable of reaching the 10 TeV energy frontier.
- Offers significant advantages in operating costs and energy consumption.
- Potentially fits on the Fermilab site, leveraging existing neutrino physics strength.

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- Novelty presents unknown operational challenges for colliding unstable particles in high numbers.
- Critical technical challenges in producing, compressing, controlling, and colliding muons.
- Muons decay rapidly (millionth of a second at rest), requiring extremely rapid acceleration and collision.
- Ionization cooling is a major challenge, requiring beam squeezing by a factor of a million.
- Diverse RF systems (room-temperature and superconducting) needed across a wide frequency range.

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- Immediate initiation of R&D towards feasibility is essential (estimated  $\approx 7$  years).
- Demonstrator construction to follow R&D (estimated  $\approx 10$  years), ideally after DUNE operations begin.
- A decision on feasibility is critical around the time FCC-ee science operations commence.
- The technology demonstrator is not yet precisely defined.
- Norbert Holtkamp: “12 [engineering] miracles need to be performed to make a muon collider feasible,” with the 13th miracle probably being systems integration.
- Host the world’s highest energy elementary particle collider by mid-century is no walk in the rose garden.

- A proposed "Higgs factory" at CERN, colliding electrons and positrons.
- Designed to produce millions of Higgs particles for high-precision measurements.
- Would occupy a new 90 km tunnel with four interaction points.
- Science operations could potentially begin as early as the mid-2040s.
- The tunnel could be repurposed for a 100 TeV proton-proton collider (FCC-hh) in the future.
- Considered the most advanced Higgs factory project in terms of implementation, with completed feasibility studies.
- Offers additional capabilities for precision electroweak measurements, top quark studies, and new physics searches.
- U.S. participation is crucial for scientific advancement, international collaboration, technological leadership, and training.

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- In 1995, wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park after a 70-year absence.
- Their reintroduction led to a significant decrease in the elk population, which had overgrazed the park.
- Less grazing allowed vegetation, particularly aspens and willows, to recover along riverbanks.

Ripple, W. J., & Beschta, R. L. (2012). "Trophic cascades in Yellowstone: The first 15 years after wolf reintroduction". *Biological Conservation*, 145(1), 205-213.  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0006320711004046>

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- The regrowth of trees stabilized riverbanks, reducing erosion and creating new habitats.
- Beaver populations increased due to more willow trees, building dams that further diversified the landscape.
- This led to a rise in various species, including birds, fish, and other mammals.
- The entire ecosystem, from plants to rivers, was transformed and restored through this trophic cascade.



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- International collaboration is vital for a thriving particle physics ecosystem.
- The program of activities needed to address the agenda of particle physics is beyond the resources – human and fiscal – of any single nation, and planning and coordination are essential to success.
- Particle physics programs of CERN and the United States have become interdependent to the mutual benefit of both. American involvement at CERN is now a major element in the U.S. program.
- The United States must work to strengthen international planning and coordination on all levels. It is important for the United States to be more involved in the decision-making process.
- Without the international collaboration as successfully demonstrated at CERN, maintained with critical FCC-ee contributions and leadership, it will be impossible to build the muon collider in the U.S.

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- Particle physicists gave birth to the World Wide Web (WWW).
- The field itself operates as a Complex Adaptive System (CAS):
  - **Interdependent Components:** Researchers, experimental facilities (e.g., LHC, detectors), data analysis tools, theoretical frameworks, and funding bodies.
  - **Dynamic Interactions:** Continuous feedback between theoretical predictions and experimental results, leading to new discoveries and refined understanding.
  - **Adaptation & Evolution:** The field constantly adapts to and invents technological advancements (e.g., accelerator, detector upgrades), new data, and evolving scientific questions.
  - **Emergent Properties:** Breakthroughs (e.g. Higgs boson discovery) and revolutionary technologies emerge from these complex, collaborative interactions.
  - **Resilience & Vulnerability:** Its health relies on sustained international collaboration, funding, and the continuous development of new talent and technologies.

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- As a junior faculty member, your career builds on 7-10 years of intensive graduate and postdoctoral work.
  - This includes experience with modern data analysis (including ML/AI), and operating/upgrading cutting-edge detectors.
  - You have contributed to the current EPP program, extracting science results and publishing papers.
- Your next 10-15 years offer a rich trajectory in current and upcoming experiments with googles and googles of data, yielding significant scientific output.
- Concurrently, for the next 10-20 years, you have the opportunity to **\*\*design, build, and guide students\*\*** in the ambitious projects you are passionate about (e.g., Muon Collider, FCC).
- This path is a chance for challenging "marshots" and beyond – lots of learning and invention.

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- Your greatest reward will likely be the students and postdocs you train, who will hopefully surpass you in capacities, if not also in wisdom.
- This serious work contributes to the resilience and sustained growth of the complex adaptive particle physics system.

NEWS

### Muon collider gains momentum

Fermilab pins hopes on untested technology in race to stay at the cutting edge of physics.

As beams of protons again begin circling around the underground ring of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), teams of physicists are already competing to design a successor. Last week, US scientists staked their claim in a daring new venture: the world's first muon collider.

The collider could assemble two muon-muon beams, each of which plan to smash together electrons and positrons that have been accelerated through long, straight tunnels. But some physicists at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab) in Batavia, Illinois, are uncertain about the expense and feasibility of the linear colliders, and question whether they would push the boundaries of physics beyond what the LHC is expected to achieve. Then one

Electron accelerators that need to reach energies of greater than a few hundred gigaelectronvolts (GeV) electromagnetically limit their energy loss through synchrotron radiation by keeping the electrons moving in a straight line. But that makes for bigger, more expensive colliders (see graphic). A ring collider also has the advantage of higher collision rates, as the circulating particles get multiple chances to hit their target. Electrons in a linear collider get just one chance to hit the incoming positrons, making precise beam alignment much more critical.

**On the campaign trail**  
Just a few years ago, Oddone was lobbying to fund the SLAC (see Science 495, 778-779, 2007).

he used initially to study neutrinos, but could also be lobbied to make muons. A stop-site programme to create colliders, says Oddone, makes more sense than hitting off the "wacky molecule" at once.

Fermilab has submitted a proposal to the US Department of Energy to launch a national muon-science project and to increase funding for muon-collider research from \$10 million to \$1.5 billion per year. At a high-energy physics advisory meeting in Washington DC on 22 October, William Brinkman, director of the department's Office of Science, said that the high cost of the SLAC has put it on the "back burner". Instead, he wants Fermilab to pursue the idea of a muon-collider. "It would be nice to

**SIZE UP EVERYTHING**

In particle physics, bigger colliders generally achieve higher-energy collisions — and have higher costs. But a muon collider could match high energies with a small footprint, and relatively low costs. It would also be much less complex, than proposed alternatives, according to Fermilab physicist Virginia Oddone, who has directed the number of major technological components in four of the five machines illustrated here.

**TEVATRON**  
1986-present  
Accelerator: Protons  
Energy: 1.3 TeV  
1.6 km

**LARGE HADRON COLLIDER**  
First collisions: 2008  
Accelerator: Protons  
Cost: \$10.4 billion  
Energy: 7 TeV  
Circumference: 27 km

**COMPACT LINEAR COLLIDER**  
Proposed  
Accelerator: Electrons  
Cost: \$200 million to \$300 million  
Energy: 3 TeV  
Circumference: 200 km

**MUON COLLIDER**  
Proposed  
Accelerator: Muons  
Cost: Unknown  
Energy: 3 TeV  
Circumference: 7 km

**INTERNATIONAL LINEAR COLLIDER**  
Proposed  
Accelerator: Electrons  
Cost: \$10 billion to \$20 billion  
Energy: 3 TeV  
Circumference: 40 km

BCG vaccination for cattle (p. 100 & 102)

Steps toward regulating indoor air quality (p. 101)

Science's quest for quantum computing (p. 103)

# Science

8 JULY 2010 \$5.00

A radical new particle accelerator concept emerges. Call it physicists' **MUON SHOT**

p. 100

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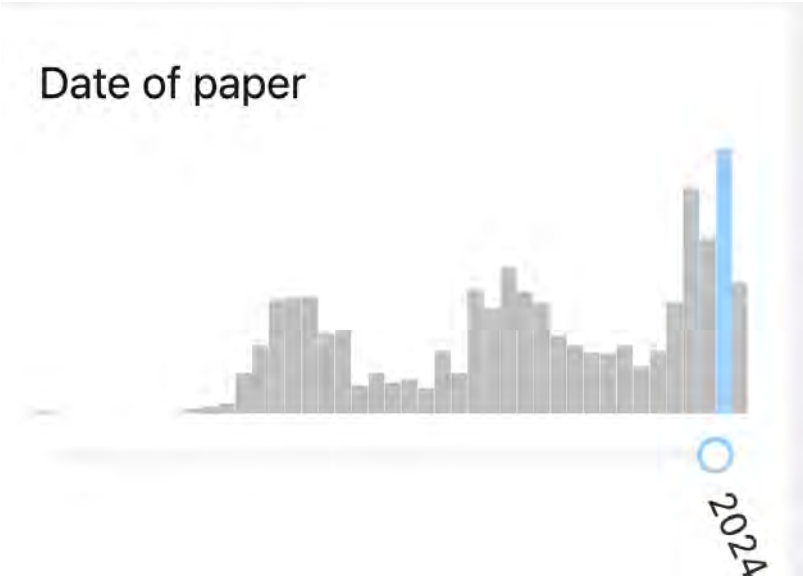
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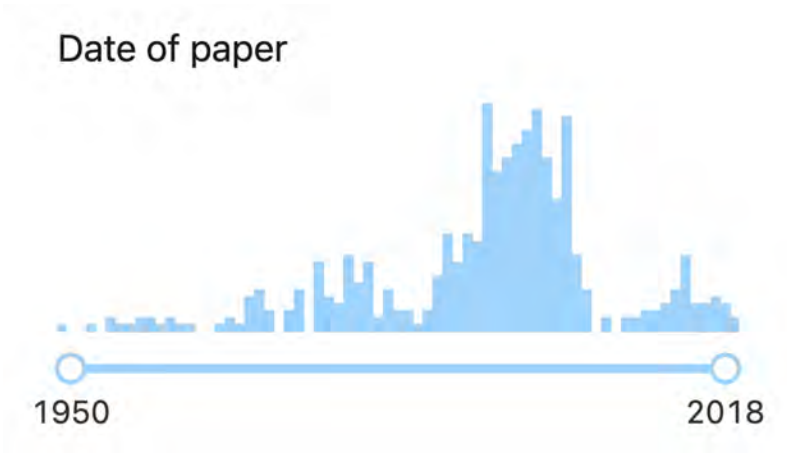
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### $\mu^+\mu^-$ Collider: Feasibility Study

J.C. Dallara (Brookhaven), R.B. Palmer (Brookhaven), A.V. Toklestrup (Fermilab), A.M. Sessler (LBL, Berkeley), A.N. Skrinsky (Novosibirsk, IYF) [\[Open PDF\]](#)  
Jul, 1996

481 pages  
Part of 1996 DPE / DPE Summer Study On New Directions For High-Energy Physics. Proceedings, Snowmass 1996  
Published in: eConf C960625 (1996) R4  
Contribution to: Snowmass 96  
Report number: SLAC-R-988, BNL-52503, FERMILAB-CONF-96-092, LBL-38946, LBNL-38946  
View in: OSTI Information Bridge Server

[pdf](#) [links](#) [cite](#) [reference search](#) 416 citations

#### Citations per year

| Year | Citations |
|------|-----------|
| 1996 | 50        |
| 1997 | 45        |
| 1998 | 40        |
| 1999 | 35        |
| 2000 | 30        |
| 2001 | 25        |
| 2002 | 20        |
| 2003 | 25        |
| 2004 | 20        |

**Abstract:**  
A feasibility study is presented of a 2+2 TeV muon collider with a luminosity of  $L=10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The resulting design is not optimized for performance, and certainly not for cost; however, it does suffice—the authors believe—to allow them to make a credible case, that a muon collider is a serious possibility for particle physics and, therefore, worthy of R and D support so that the reality of, and interest in, a muon collider can be better assayed. The goal of this support would be to completely assess the physics potential and to evaluate the cost and development of the necessary technology. The muon collider complex consists of components which first produce copious pions, then capture the pions and the resulting muons from their decay; this is followed by an ionization cooling channel to reduce the longitudinal and transverse emittance of the muon beam. The next stage is to accelerate the muons and, finally, inject them into a collider ring which has a small beta function at the colliding point. This is the first attempt at a point design and it will require further study and optimization. Experimental work will be needed to verify the validity of diverse crucial elements in the design.

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# Caltech Particle Accelerators: Pillars of Discovery and Innovation

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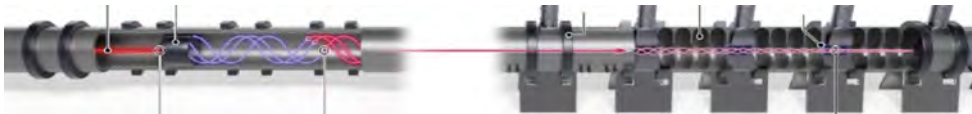
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- Particle accelerators are foundational to discovery science, enabling breakthroughs from the Higgs boson to new states of matter.
- Future endeavors include the development of a U.S.-based muon collider and contributions to the Higgs Factory at CERN (FCC) – and EIC.
- Beyond fundamental physics, accelerator science drives innovation in diverse fields, including medical treatments, advanced materials, and semiconductor manufacturing (e.g., EUV lithography).



# Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning at the Center and the Extreme Edge of Discovery

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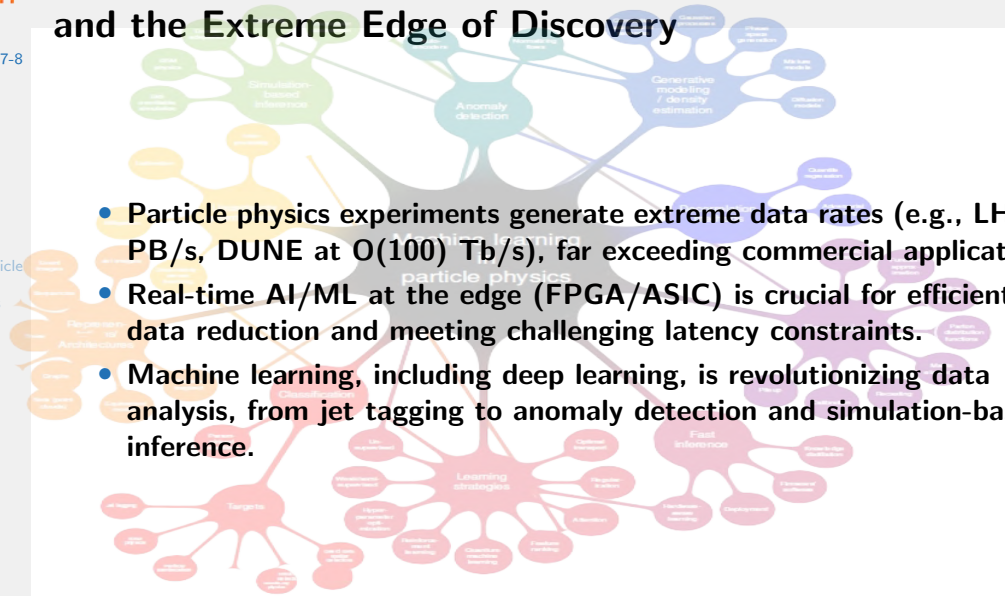
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- Particle physics experiments generate extreme data rates (e.g., LHC at PB/s, DUNE at O(100) Tb/s), far exceeding commercial applications.
- Real-time AI/ML at the edge (FPGA/ASIC) is crucial for efficient data reduction and meeting challenging latency constraints.
- Machine learning, including deep learning, is revolutionizing data analysis, from jet tagging to anomaly detection and simulation-based inference.



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- Success of the field is reliant on recruiting and retaining the very best students and postdocs from across the nation and around the world to the U.S. particle physics effort.
- These researchers form an important part of the trained technical and entrepreneurial talent that helps the United States maintain its influence in advanced technology innovation, as well as in science.
- Non-traditional funding sources such as philanthropic organizations and industry present new opportunities to support early-career scientists.

# Caltech Thank You

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<https://www.youtube.com/hashtag/mylinearcollider>