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The Case for a Muon Collider Higgs Factory

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Introduction

We propose the construction of a compact Muon Collider Higgs Factory. Such a machine can produce up to $\sim 14,000$ at $8 \times 10^{31} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ clean Higgs events per year, enabling the most precise possible measurement of the mass, width and Higgs-Yukawa coupling constants (*e.g.*, that of the muon).

A Muon Collider Higgs Factory is part of an evolutionary program beginning with aggressive R&D on muon cooling, a possible neutrino factory such as ν STORM, and the construction of Project-X with a rich program of precision physics addressing the ~ 100 TeV scale. This is followed by the Muon Collider Higgs factory. This program is upwardly scalable in energy and can lead ultimately to the construction of an energy frontier Muon Collider, reaching energy scales in excess of ~ 10 TeV. The Muon Collider Higgs Factory would utilize the intense proton beam from Project-X to produce, collect and cool muons, and by clever staging also use Project-X to accelerate the μ^+ and μ^- bunches to ~ 62.5 GeV. These would be placed in a ~ 100 m diameter storage ring (about the size of the Fermilab Booster) and collide at single IP inside of dedicated detector.

The machine and detector issues at a Muon Collider have matured rapidly. Complex timing can be deployed to suppress backgrounds. A complete matrix for the machine now exists. Cooling has reached a conceptual stage at which an R&D program is required to establish proof of principle of this component of the Muon Collider strategy. We are confident that this could be accomplished, with sufficient funding, on a five-year time scale, leading directly to a design and preparation for construction of a Muon Collider Higgs Factory by the middle of the next decade.

For the 2013 Snowmass study we convened a workshop at UCLA. This included a detailed overview of the status of the Muon Collider and its physics justification. We did not focus on 6D cooling or many other machine issues that are the subject of the MAP white paper [1]. Key conclusions of the UCLA Workshop were as follows [2]:

- The study of the Muon Collider Higgs Factory lattice indicates an attainable resolution of a few MeV, adequate to scan and measure the Higgs boson mass with a precision of ~ 0.1 MeV.
- Precision measurement of the Higgs boson mass, width, Higgs-Yukawa coupling constants, etc., can reveal the nature of the Higgs boson and discriminate between various theoretical options.

- Preliminary studies to reduce the machine induced backgrounds using e.g. sophisticated timing and requiring tracks to emanate from the IP look very promising but will require further detailed studies including full simulation and reconstruction of physics events on top of background.
- The Muon Collider Higgs Factory is the only proposed machine that can be upgraded to the multi-TeV scale with reasonable luminosity; a lack of significant beamstrahlung and therefore a narrow luminosity spectrum; and power and cost effectiveness.
- The Muon Collider Higgs Factory is part of an evolutionary process, from Project-X to the multi-TeV scale energy frontier, offering a diverse and rich physics program along the way at both the intensity and energy frontiers.

The concept of a Muon Collider was invented in the USSR in 1970's [3]. Neuffer proposed a 90 GeV Muon Collider "Z-factory" [4] in 1979 and the muon storage ring for neutrino experiments [5]. Work in the USA ramped up in 1992 with the first dedicated workshop organized by UCLA [6], and the Muon Collider Higgs Factory concept emerged from this meeting [7]. During the 1990's, five workshops were organized by UCLA and two by BNL that served to establish the feasibility of the Muon Collider concept. In 1995 a Muon collider collaboration was formed with FNAL, BNL, LBNL and several universities and regular annual collaboration meetings were held. The muon storage ring neutrino factory concept became increasingly popular with the discovery of Neutrino Oscillations. D. Cline and G. Hanson co-organized the muon collider working groups at the 2001 Snowmass meeting. In 2010 the MAP program was formed and is now coordinating all Muon Collider activity, directed by M. Palmer of Fermilab.

There has been considerable recent progress on the physics studies of the Higgs boson at a Muon Collider and other Higgs factories. The Higgs boson can be located and scanned within a year at luminosities of order $\sim 10^{32}$, as detailed in the 2013 Snowmass Muon Collider Higgs Factory white paper [8].

Today there are only three realistic options for a lepton based Higgs factory:

1. An ILC type machine to produce the Higgs boson in associated production with a Z^0 requiring $10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ luminosity.
2. A compact circular Muon Collider Higgs Factory that produces the Higgs boson directly as an s -channel resonance requiring $\sim 10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$.

3. A large circular e^+e^- collider, *i.e.*, “TLEP,” of ~ 80 km circumference, also producing the Higgs boson in associated production with a Z^0 requiring $\sim 10^{34}$ cm^{-2} sec^{-1} luminosity.

In case (2) the collider could be evolved up in energy to a multi-TeV Muon Collider while the core muon production, accumulation and cooling systems would remain almost the same. Likewise, a large circumference circular e^+e^- collider as in case (3) could provide the tunnel for a (VLHC) at ~ 100 TeV proton-(anti)proton center-of-mass energy addressing multi-TeV partonic energy scales. Such an evolution to the multi-TeV energy scales is not possible for option (1).

We quote some comments on the Muon Collider and its physics potential from a recent presentation of C. Rubbia [9]:

- “In a $\mu^+\mu^-$ collider, when compared to an e^+e^- collider, the direct Higgs boson production cross section is greatly enhanced since the s -channel coupling to a scalar is proportional to the lepton mass.”
- “Therefore the properties of the Higgs boson can be detailed over a larger fraction of model parameter space than at any other proposed accelerator method.”
- “A high energy $\mu^+\mu^-$ collider is the only possible circular high energy lepton collider that can be situated within the CERN or FNAL sites.”
- “The unique feature of the direct production of a Higgs boson in the s -state is that the mass, total width and all partial widths can be directly measured with remarkable accuracy.”

Many more details are presented in the 2013 Snowmass Muon Collider and Muon Collider Higgs Factory white papers [1, 8].

References

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- [9] Direct quotes from Carlo Rubbia’s talk: ”A millimole of muons for a Higgs factory?” talk delivered at GSSI, L’Aquila, Italy, and Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam, Germany, (March, 2013).