

TARGET SYSTEMS AT THE FRONT END OF THE INTERNATIONAL MUON COLLIDER



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Introduction

- Muon colliders offer enormous potential for research of the particle physics frontier. Leptons can be accelerated without suffering large synchrotron radiation losses.
- In the core of the Muon Collider facility lays a MW class production target, which will absorb a high power (1 to 3 MW) proton beam to produce muons via pion decay.
- The target must withstand high dynamic thermal loads induced by 2 ns pulses at 5-50 Hz. Also, operational reliability must be guaranteed to reduce target exchanges to a minimum.
- **Different target technologies** with different levels of technological maturity are being explored.
- An overview of the different target technologies is presented, as well as details about the target-systems engineering design for a C-Target option.



- **Cooling** outside vacuum chamber.
- Radioisotopes mostly retained.
- **No degradation** of target material.
- Synergies between different projects at CERN such as **FCCee**.

Challenges

- Liquid-Pb containment vessel and windows (material, temperatures, DPA).
- **MHD** interaction.
- Cavitation-induced erosion.
- **Temperature and dynamic effects.**
- Dynamic multi-phase flow simulation complexity.

Conceptual designs

- Pipe flow.
- Vertical curtain.
- Jet stream.

0.400 0.300 0.200 0.100

CFD modelling of the Pb curtain concept.

Fluka Monte Carlo & Thermodynamic **Parametric Analysis**

Parametric study on beam sigma and pulse **frequency**.



C-Target

Target Concept

- Based on the CNGS target, which operated up to 520 kW but could operate up to 750 kW.
- 80 cm isostatic graphite rod (1.79 nuclear

inelastic scattering lengths).

- Internal **Titanium vessel filled with static helium** (1 bar) to enhance natural convection and minimize graphite sublimation.
- Cooling water flowing between internal and external vessel.
- Water cooled tungsten shielding.

- - High thermal-shock resistance.
 - Heat removal.

Challenges

- **Erosion** management & powder handling.
- Reduced **experience** in operational facilities

Offline tests at RAL & HiRadMat beam test

Response of various size spherical tungsten particles to 2x10¹¹ p+ at HiRadMat (CERN)





Dynamic response

- Case assessed: **sigma = 5 mm** / 5Hz.
- Maximum energy density: 173 J/cm³/pulse.
- Natural convection and radiation cooling considered. Dynamic stress waves assessed through the explicit thermo-mechanical solver LS-Dyna. Acceptable response due to large beam sigma and reduced interaction length.

- Rod radius kept proportional to three times the beam sigma.
- Considered the **worst-case scenario**: only radiation cooling (No natural convection around the target).

Proton driver beam parameters								
Parameter	Symbol	Unit	Baseline	Range				
Beam power	P	MW	2	1.5 - 3.0				
Beam energy	E_{target}	GeV	5	2 - 10				
Pulse frequency	-	Hz	5	5 - 50				
Pulse intensity	n_p	10^{14} protons	5	3.7 - 7.5				
Bunches per pulse	-	Number	1	1				
Pulse length	σ_z	ns	2	1 - 2				
Beam size	σ_x	mm	5	1 - 15				
Impinging angle	-	degree	0.0	0.0 - 10				

The whole assembly will be surrounded by a superconductive solenoid.

T peak (°C)	Transient				Steady state	Power deposited
σ_{beam} (mm)	5 Hz	10 Hz	20 Hz	50 Hz	Average	(W)
1	4301	3908	3735	3641	3583	44832
2	3318	3221	3177	3152	3135	59000
5	2740	2721	2713	2708	2704	90632
10	2305	2297	2293	2290	2288	129207
15	1947	1943	1940	1938	1938	163214

Maximum temperature and power deposition for 1.5 MW as function of the beam sigma. Thermal simulations run in ANSYS Mechanical for a radiation-only cooled target (No natural convection around the target).





Shielding design

Tungsten shielding (23 tonnes). Most of the **thermal energy** is deposited on the shielding (34 %). The energy deposited on the target is 5.6 %. Donut + Pie blocks due to manufacturing limitations & to ease assembling. Longitudinal slots for locking & alignment pins. Helium cooled. Inner holes for bulk cooling. Inlet plenum for flow distribution. Outer layer with Boron carbide and H₂O moderator. Routing and integration challenging inside SC Solenoid cryostat.

Cooling assessment via CFD

- Cooling & design optimization via CFD.
- Target vessel cooled by Helium at 3 m/s.
- Heat from graphite diffused by radiation +natural convection.

[m s^-1]

Principal stresses over time, which result following a single beam impact from a steady state initial condition. (At the most stressed point).

CFD computation of the static helium natural convection inside the target vessel.

0.0020.00180.00160.00140.00120.0010.0008 0.0006 0.0004

C-Target systems

DPA (with 1 cm boron carbide), power = 1.5 MW



Shielding cooling assessment

Shielding optimization

- With neutron absorber, DPA reaches values of 8×10⁻⁴ DPA after 1 year.
- However, due to less W the Ionizing dose increases: >70 MGy after 10 years (3 cm H2O).

Boron

Beam windows

- Location: p+ window outside cryostat assembly for better accessibility (maintenance, replacement, etc).
- Fatigue: extensive load cycles to be experienced by the target & windows $(10^{8}/y)$ at very high temperature.
- **DPA**: radiation damage may reach high values (>1 dpa) depending on material
 - High power deposition: e.g. 50-650

- Numerical analytical code to run across different parameters (flow, pressure, dimensions) to choose optimum operational point.
- Subsequent CFD calculation.





W (0.1 - 1 mm) for Titanium.

Possible strategies: windowless, blown-up beam somewhere upstream, dual bunch, rotating window "dilution", frequent window exchange.



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Conclusions

Contact:

- Three different target concepts being explored. C-Target is baseline option and being used for the Front-hand target systems conceptual design and physics optimization.
- Heavy liquid metal target and a W fluidized target concepts are also being explored. Presenting a promising technological prospect for a 3-4 MW Muon Collider facility.
- In parallel to the target developments, the surrounding systems (shielding, beam windows and other) are being studied.

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