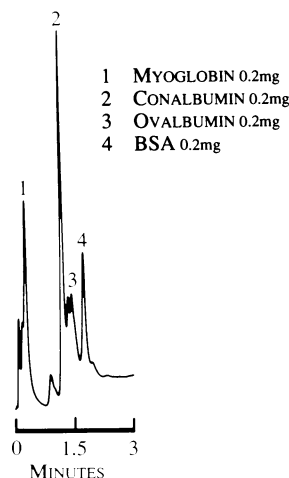


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sults imply that it will be possible to find supersymmetric particles at the Superconducting Super Collider (SSC).” We wrote, “if this minimal supersymmetric GUT [grand unified theory] describes Nature, SUSY particles, which are expected to have masses of the order of M_{SUSY} , could be [not “will be”] within reach of the present or next generation of accelerators.” The reason for our caution is that the next generation of hadron colliders [the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) and the SSC] will reach SUSY masses of a few TeV and not even 10 TeV. In our mind the relevance of the results of our fit (which is, to our knowledge, the first one performed) is not a precise value of M_{SUSY} , but rather the conclusion that the simplest SUSY model provides an amazingly and puzzlingly consistent picture for the unification of the strong and electroweak forces. In agreement with theoretical arguments, M_{SUSY} turns out to be more than 10^{11} times smaller than the unification energy, while the latter is consistent with the present limits on the proton lifetime.

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More Than One Star

Faye Flam’s Research News article “Seeing stars in a handful of dust” (26 July, p. 380) was generally accurate. However, it did not give credit to my co-workers Roy S. Lewis, Sachiko Amari, Gary Huss, and Tang Ming, who did the actual isolation and identification of interstellar grains. I only provided general planning and advice and wrote most of the papers.

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