

# Elliptic flow of strange and multi-strange hadrons in isobar collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV from RHIC-STAR

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## Abstract

Strange and multi-strange hadrons have a small hadronic cross-section compared to light hadrons, making them an excellent probe for understanding the initial stages of relativistic heavy-ion collisions and dynamics of QCD matter. Isobar collisions,  $^{96}_{44}\text{Ru}+^{96}_{44}\text{Ru}$  and  $^{96}_{40}\text{Zr}+^{96}_{40}\text{Zr}$ , at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV have been performed at RHIC. These collisions are considered to be an effective way to minimize the flow-driven background contribution to search for the possibly small CME signal. The deformation parameters are different between the two species and flow measurements are highly sensitive to them. Elliptic flow measurements for these collisions also give direct information about the initial-state spatial anisotropies. The collected datasets include approximately two billion events for each of the isobar species and provide a unique opportunity for statistics hungry measurements such as flow coefficients of multi-strange hadrons.

In this talk, we will present the elliptic flow ( $v_2$ ) of  $K_s^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\Xi^-$ ,  $\bar{\Xi}^+$ ,  $\Omega^-$ , and  $\bar{\Omega}^+$  at mid-rapidity ( $|y| < 1.0$ ) for Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV. The dependence of  $v_2$  on centrality and transverse momentum ( $p_T$ ) will be shown. The results will be compared with data from other collision systems like Cu+Cu, Au+Au, and U+U. The physics implications of such measurements in the context of nuclear deformation in isobars will be also discussed.