



Recent results from the STAR cold QCD program

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Supported in part by:



Polarized proton beam with Vs = 200 and 500/510 GeV



- Longitudinal
 - Jets & π → Gluon polarization
 - W & Z $\rightarrow \Delta d \bar{d}$ and $\Delta \bar{u}$
- Transverse
 - W & Z, EM-jet \rightarrow Sivers effect
 - π⁰ in pp, pAl and pAu → Nuclear dependence of A_N
 - \circ π^{\pm} in jet \rightarrow Collins effect
 - \circ $\pi^+\pi^-$ pair \rightarrow Interference FF
- Unpolarized
 □ W & Z → d
 d
 and u

 Di- π⁰ → Gluon saturation

PROSPECTS FOR SPIN PHYSICS AT RHIC

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■ Abstract Colliding beams of 70% polarized protons at up to $\sqrt{s} = 500 \text{ GeV}$, with high luminosity, $L = 2 \times 10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$, will represent a new and unique laboratory for studying the proton. RHIC-Spin will be the first polarized-proton collider and will be capable of copious production of jets, directly produced photons, and W and Z bosons. Features will include direct and precise measurements of the polarization of the gluons and of \overline{u} , \overline{d} , u, and d quarks in a polarized proton. Parity violation searches for physics beyond the standard model will be competitive with unpolarized searches at the Fermilab Tevatron. Transverse spin will explore transversity for the first time, as well as quark-gluon correlations in the proton. Spin dependence of the total cross section and in the Coulomb nuclear interference region will be measured at collider energies for the first time. These qualitatively new measurements can be expected to deepen our understanding of the structure of matter and of the strong interaction.

Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider



Polarized proton runs at RHIC



STAR detector

The main tracking device is a Time Projection Chamber (TPC) at $|\eta| \le 1$.

Electromagnetic calorimeters (-1 $\leq \eta \leq$ 2) are used to trigger high momentum jet via EM energy deposit.

Forward Meson Spectrometer (FMS) is a lead-glass EM calorimeter used to detect π^0 at 2.5 $\leq \eta \leq 4.2$.

Luminosity is measured with the Vertex Position Detector (VPD) and the Zero Degree Calorimeter (ZDC).



Constraining Polarized PDF



Proton Spin Puzzle





Measure the individual contributions of quarks, antiquarks and gluons, to the spin of the proton.

The proton spin sum rule (Jaffe-Manohar 1990):

$$\langle S_p \rangle = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + \Delta G + L_q + L_g$$

Polarized DIS results ΔΣ ≈ 0.3
Flavor separation from STAR, Phys. Rev. D 99 (2019) 051102

Gluon polarization

Quark and gluon orbital angular momentum contribution poorly constrained 7/24

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Gluon helicity distribution



 $\langle S_p \rangle = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + \Delta G + L_q + L_g$

- Gluon polarization can be measured using $A_{LL}\, of$ jets in proton collisions.

- Dominating processes at RHIC gg and qg scattering.

√s	Run	Central Jets (ŋ <1)	Central Dijets (η <1)	Inter. Dijets (0.8 < η < 1.8)
200	2009	Published x > 0.05	Published x > 0.05	Published x > 0.01
200	2015	Published x > 0.05	Published x > 0.05	
510	2012	Published x > 0.015	Published x > 0.015	Preliminary x > 0.004
510	2013	In preparation x > 0.015	for publication x > 0.015	In Progress x > 0.004

- Collection of longitudinally polarized data concluded in 2015.

- Aslo neutral pions A_{LL} measurement at \sqrt{s} = 200 & 510 GeV.

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$$A_{LL} = \frac{\sigma^{++} - \sigma^{+-}}{\sigma^{++} + \sigma^{+-}} \propto \frac{\Delta f_a \Delta f_b}{f_a f_b} \hat{a}_{LL}$$







Inclusive jets

STAR, PRD 103 (2021) L091103



- Inclusive jet A_{LL} results from 2015 data, consistent with previous STAR result and global fits.
- Twice larger figure of merit with improved systematics.
- This result will reduce uncertainty of gluon polarization for x > 0.05.
- Inclusive jet at 510 GeV provides constraints for x > 0.015 STAR, PRD 100 (2019), 052005.

Dijets



STAR, PRD 103 (2021) L091103





- Dijet A_{LL} results from 2015 data, consistent with previous STAR result and global fits.
- Dijet production constrains the gluon polarization in narrower x regions than inclusive jets..



Transverse Single-Spin Asymmetries (TSSA)



 $\frac{\sigma_L - \sigma_R}{\sigma_L + \sigma_R}$ A_N



New A_N preliminary for W and Z

Sivers effect: correlation between transverse momentum of a parton and transverse spin of the proton.



$$\left\langle \vec{S}_{proton} \cdot (\vec{p}_{proton} \times \vec{k}_T) \right\rangle \neq \mathbf{0}$$



- Sensitive to Sivers sign-change and TMD evolution effects.
- New STAR preliminary results improve significantly statistical uncertainty on previous data from 2011.

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Forward A_N

STAR, Phys. Rev. D 103 (2021) 92009



- Larger asymmetry for isolated π^0 than non-isolated π^0 .
- Forward inclusive EM-jet result shows small but non-zero signal at 200 GeV.
- Significantly reduces the uncertainty of the quark Sivers function in a recent global fit M.Boglione et.al., PLB 815, 136135 (2021).



Nuclear dependance of A_N

STAR, PRD103 (2021) 072005



- Forward $\pi^0 A_N$ (2.6 < η < 4.0) for pp, pAl and pAu. - Suppression of A_N in nuclei but no strong A dependance.

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Transversity





Transversity \otimes Collins FF

Transversity: transversely polarized quark in transversely polarized nucleon, which is chiral-odd so requires coupling to another chiral-odd object.

Collins FF: correlation between spin of transversely polarized quark and transverse momentum of the fragmented hadron.



- Preliminary results for STAR 2012 and 2015 data.
- Significant non-zero asymmetries
- Provide insight on TMD evolution.





Transversity 🛇 IFF



Interference FF: Correlation of transverse spin of fragmenting quark and momentum cross-product of di-hadron pair.



- Preliminary results with STAR 2015 data.

- Measurement carried out in five p_T bins.
- Signal enhanced arroun ρ -meson mass, but small in the backward region.
- Data agree with theoretical predictions.

Unpolarized results





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W and Z cross section

- Preliminary results on W+/W- ratio at 510 GeV from 2017 data, together with published results from 2011-2013 data.
- W+/W- is sensitive to \overline{d} and \overline{u} distribution.
- Z cross section can constrain unpolarized TMD PDFs.





Di-hadron correlations





- Di- π^0 azimuth correlation with 2015 pp, pAl, and pAu data. - Clear suppression of back-toback yields.
- Suppression follows A^{1/3} nuclear dependence.
- Consistent with predictions
 from gluon saturation model
 Nucl. Phys. A748 (2005) 627-640.



Future upgrades





STAR Forward Upgrade







Hcal View from Back





https://www.bnl.gov/newsroom/news.php?a=217681

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Gluon spin contributes significantly to the proton spin (~50%)

Several channels sensitive to TMDs





Constraining unpolarized PDFs



Forward STAR upgrade enables unique QCD physics before EIC

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Backup

Observables



*From Yuri Kovchegov

Quark Helicity Distributions











- All RHIC results are consistent with each other.
- New data reduced uncertainty by 40%.
- First clear evidence of the flavor asymmetry in the polarized quark sea.



Intermediate Dijets

0.06











Preliminary result using 2012 data
 Expecting ~2.5x higher statistics for 2013 data





Hyperon spin transfer

- Preliminary results from 2015 data



- Sensitive to strange quark helicity

- Sensitive to strange quark transversity



Forward EM-jet A_N

STAR, Phys. Rev. D 103 (2021) 92009



- Forward inclusive EM-jet result shows small but non-zero signal at 200 GeV.

- Significantly reduces the uncertainty of the quark Sivers function on a recent global fit.



Inclusive jet cross section

Preliminary inclusive jet cross sections at 200 and 510 GeV using 2012 data
Will help to constrain unpolarized gluon PDF at high x



