

# Recent STAR Cold QCD Results and Forward Upgrade

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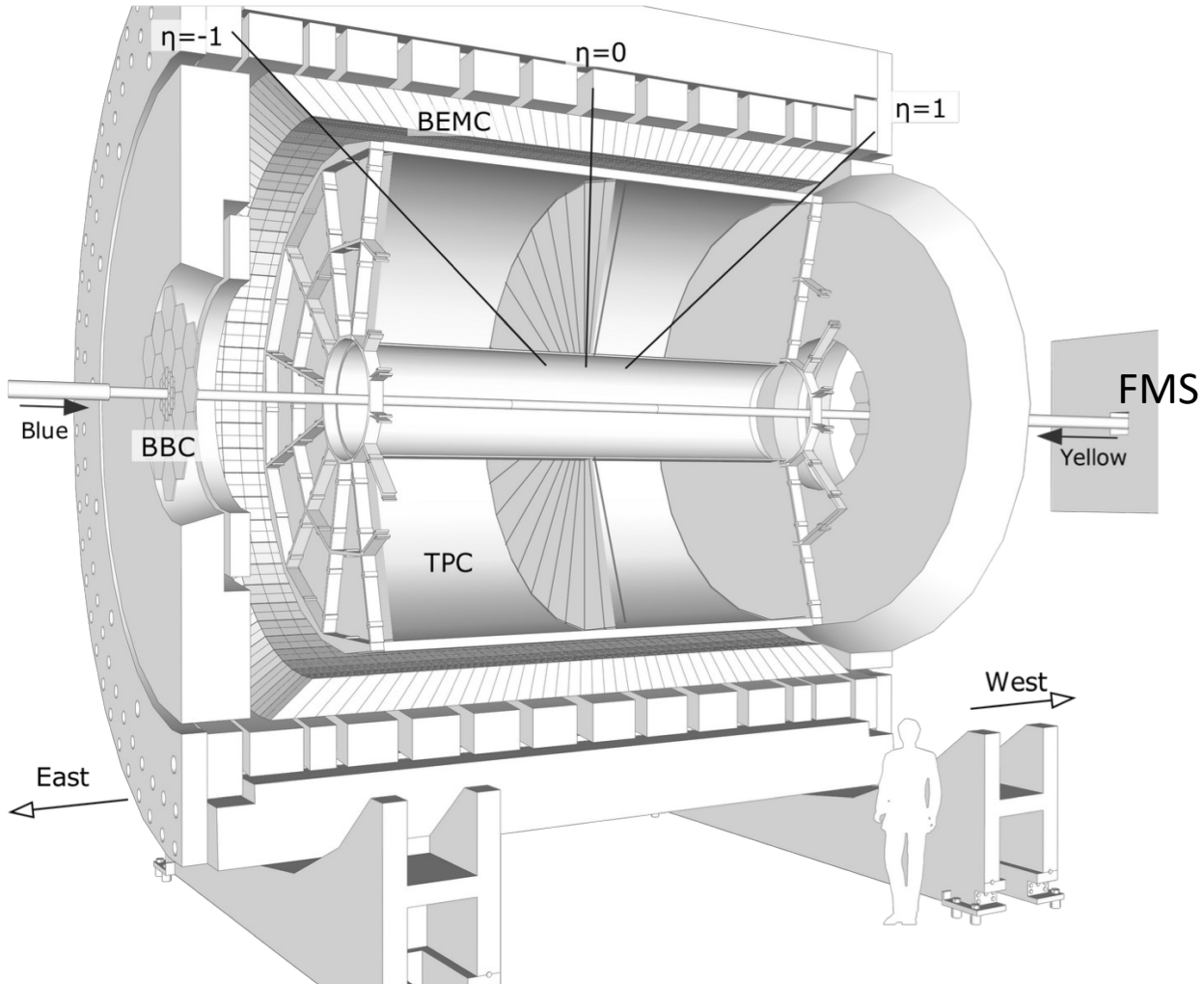


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## Outline:

- Results on longitudinally polarized program
- Results and Forward Upgrade on
  - Transversely polarized program
  - Unpolarized program

# The STAR detector



**Time Projection Chamber:**  $|\eta| < 1, \Delta\phi = 2\pi$

- Tracking, PID, vertex reconstruction

**Electromagnetic Calorimeter:**  $-1 < \eta < 2, \Delta\phi = 2\pi$

- Energy measurement

**Time-of-Flight:**  $|\eta| < 1, \Delta\phi = 2\pi$

- Particle identification

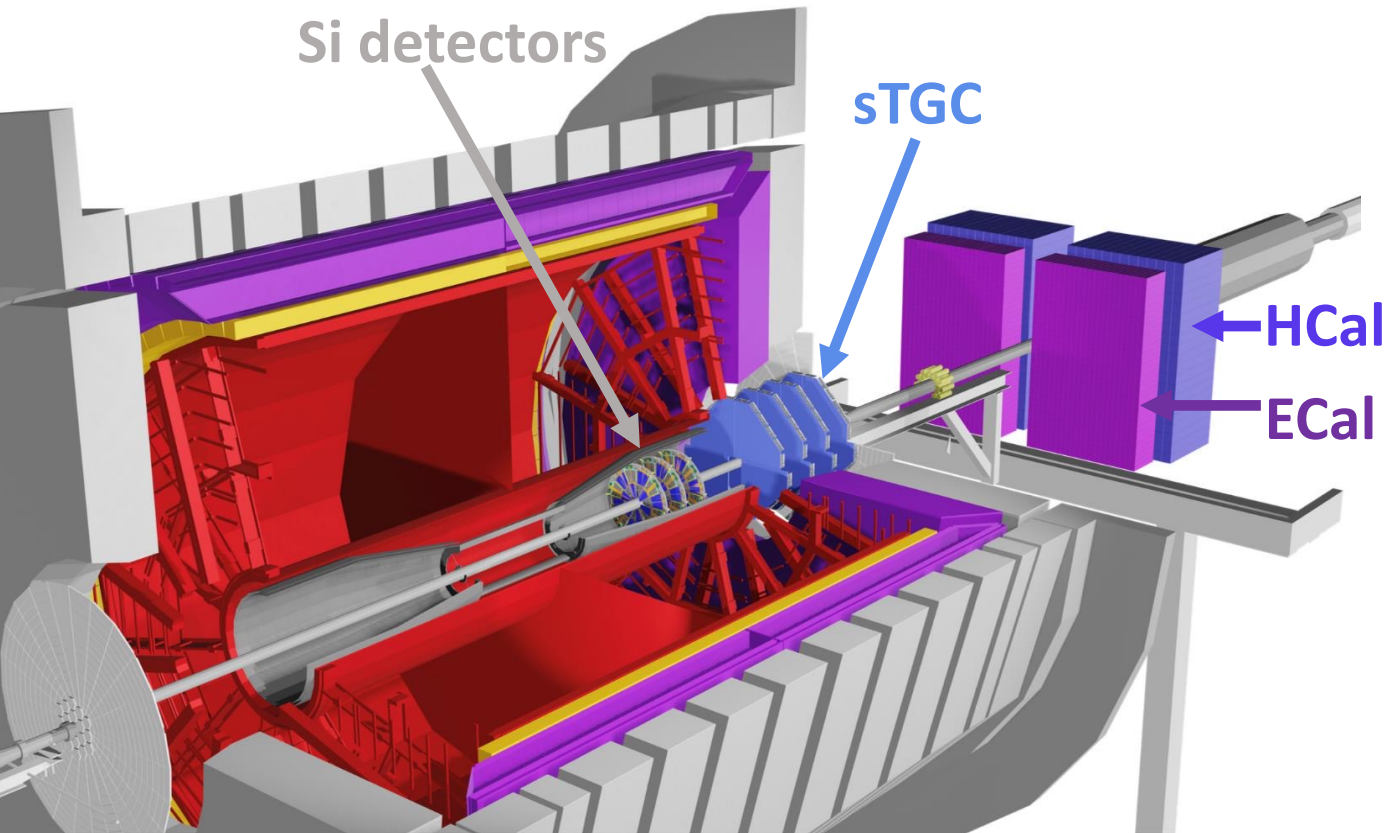
**Forward Meson Spectrometer:**  $2.6 < \eta < 4, \Delta\phi = 2\pi$

- Energy measurement

Complemented by many ancillary subsystems:

- Beam-Beam Counter
- Vertex Position Detector
- Zero Degree Calorimeter
- Roman Pots

# STAR Forward Upgrade



STAR Forward Upgrade:  $2.5 < \eta < 4$

## Four new systems:

- Electromagnetic and Hadronic Calorimetry
- Tracking: Si detectors and small-strip Thin Gap Chambers (sTGC)

## What we can measure:

- $h^{+/-}$ ,  $e^{+/-}$  (with good  $e/h$  discrimination)
- Photons,  $\pi^0$
- Jets,  $h$  in jets
- Lambda's
- Drell-Yan and  $J/\psi$  di-electrons
- Mid-forward and forward-forward correlations

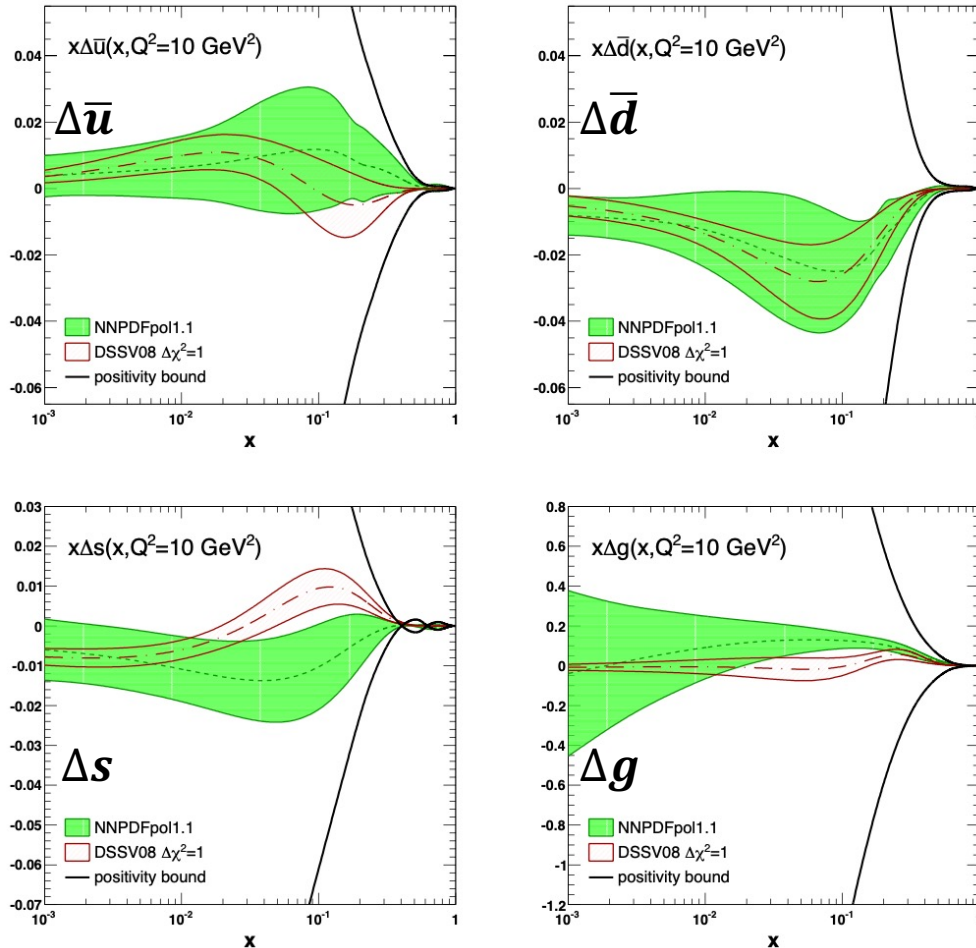
## Run period:

- STAR alone (**NOW**): 2022  $\rightarrow$  510 GeV polarized p+p
- STAR in parallel with sPHENIX:
  - 2023 and 2025  $\rightarrow$  200 GeV Au+Au
  - 2024  $\rightarrow$  200 GeV polarized p+p and p+Au

Detector	pp and pA	AA
ECal	$\sim 10\%/VE$	$\sim 20\%/VE$
HCal	$\sim 50\%/VE + 10\%$	---
Tracking	charge separation photon suppression	$0.2 < p_T < 2$ GeV/c with 20-30% $1/p_T$

# Longitudinally polarized program

NNPDFpol1.1, NPB887,276 (2014)



**Longitudinally polarized p+p  $\rightarrow \Delta f(x, Q^2)$**

**Polarized gluon distribution  $\Delta g$**

- $\vec{p}+\vec{p} \rightarrow \text{jet/dijet/hadron} + X: A_{LL} = \frac{\sigma_{++}-\sigma_{+-}}{\sigma_{++}+\sigma_{+-}} \propto \frac{\Delta f_a \otimes \Delta f_b}{f_a \otimes f_b}$

**Polarized sea quark distributions**

- $\Delta \bar{u}$  and  $\Delta \bar{d}$

- $\vec{p}+p \rightarrow W + X: A_L = \frac{\sigma_+ - \sigma_-}{\sigma_+ + \sigma_-}$

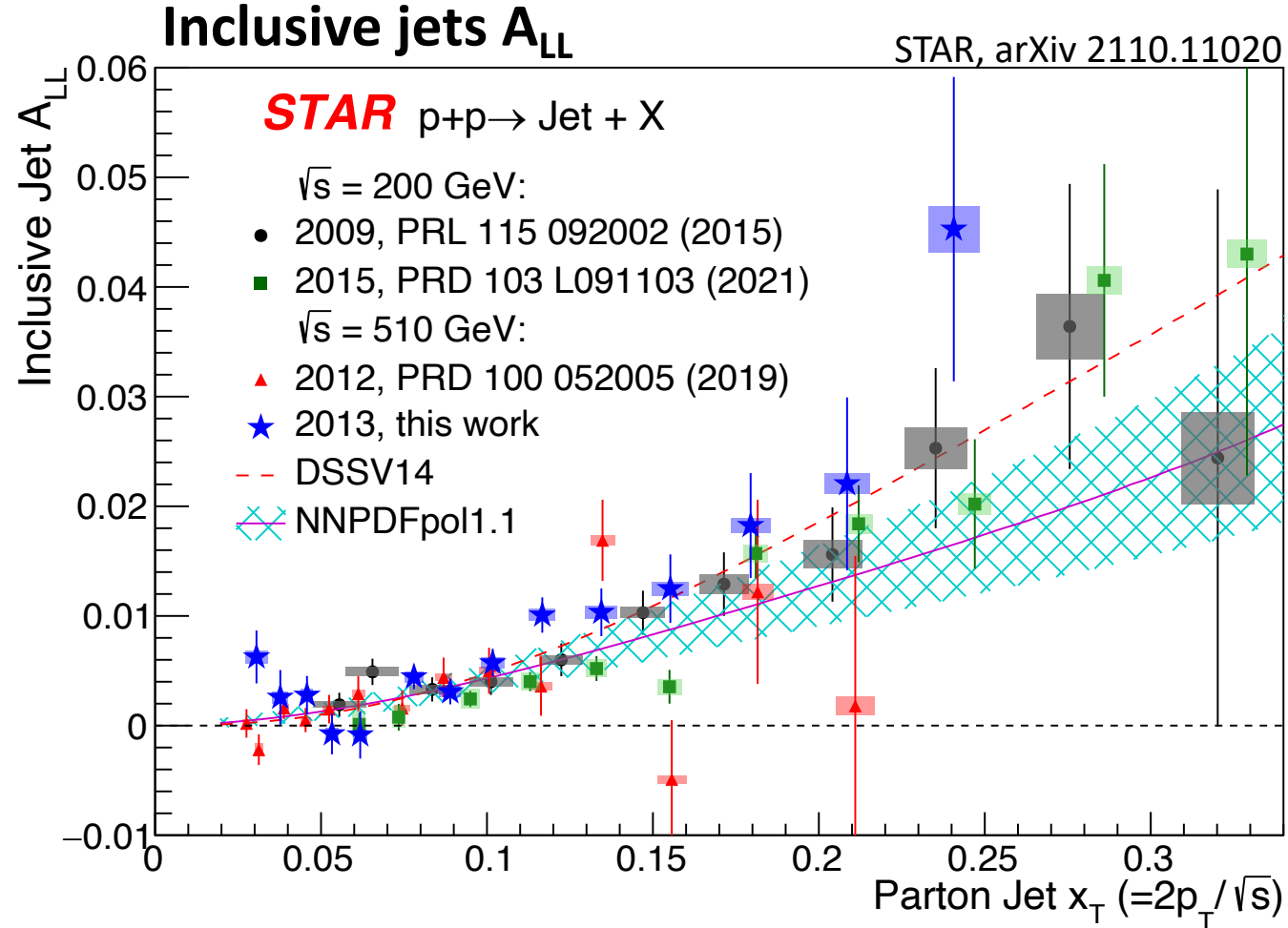
- $W^{+/-} \rightarrow$  natural flavor separation

- $\Delta s$

- $\Lambda (\bar{\Lambda})$  production:  $D_{LL} = \frac{\sigma_{p+p \rightarrow \Lambda^+ X^-} - \sigma_{p+p \rightarrow \Lambda^- X^+}}{\sigma_{p+p \rightarrow \Lambda^+ X^+} + \sigma_{p+p \rightarrow \Lambda^- X^-}}$

- Sensitive to polarized fragmentation functions (FF) and the helicity distributions of  $s (\bar{s})$

# Helicity $\Delta g$

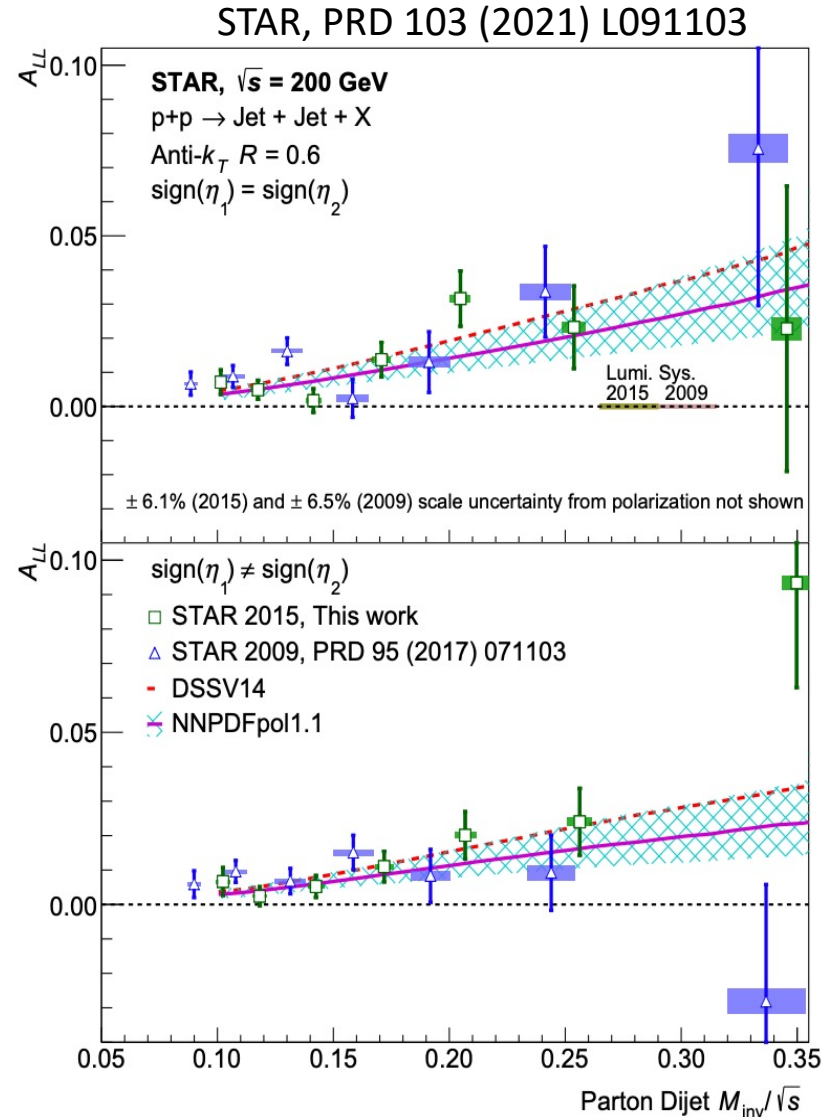
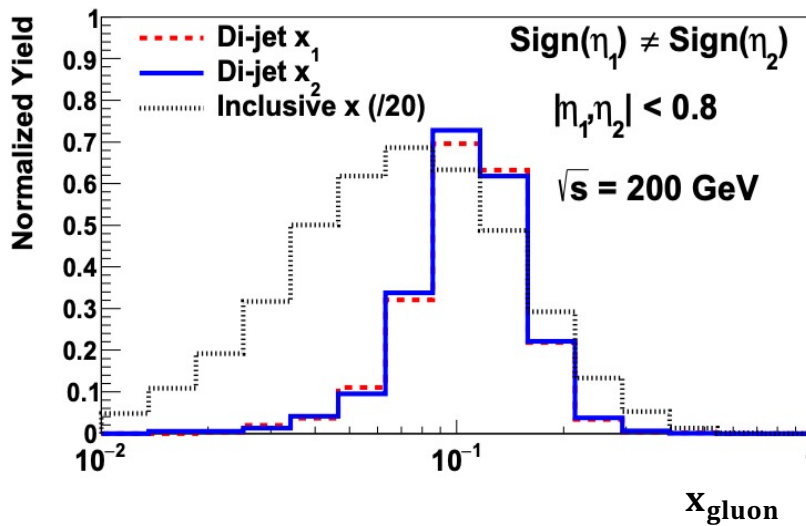
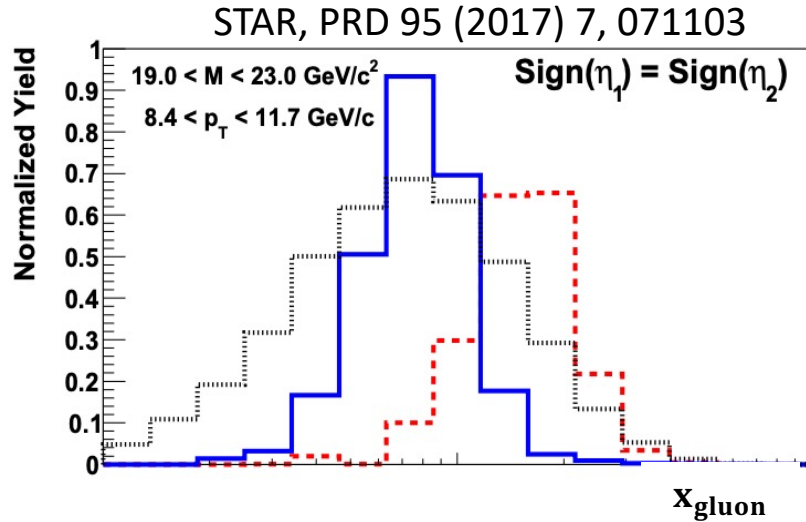


STAR inclusive jets  $A_{LL}$  at 200 and 510 GeV from 2009 to 2015:

- Consistent results from both energies
- 200 GeV data constrain  $\Delta g(x)$  for  $x > 0.05$ ; 510 GeV data push sensitivity to lower  $x \rightarrow 0.02$

# Helicity $\Delta g$

## Dijets $A_{LL}$

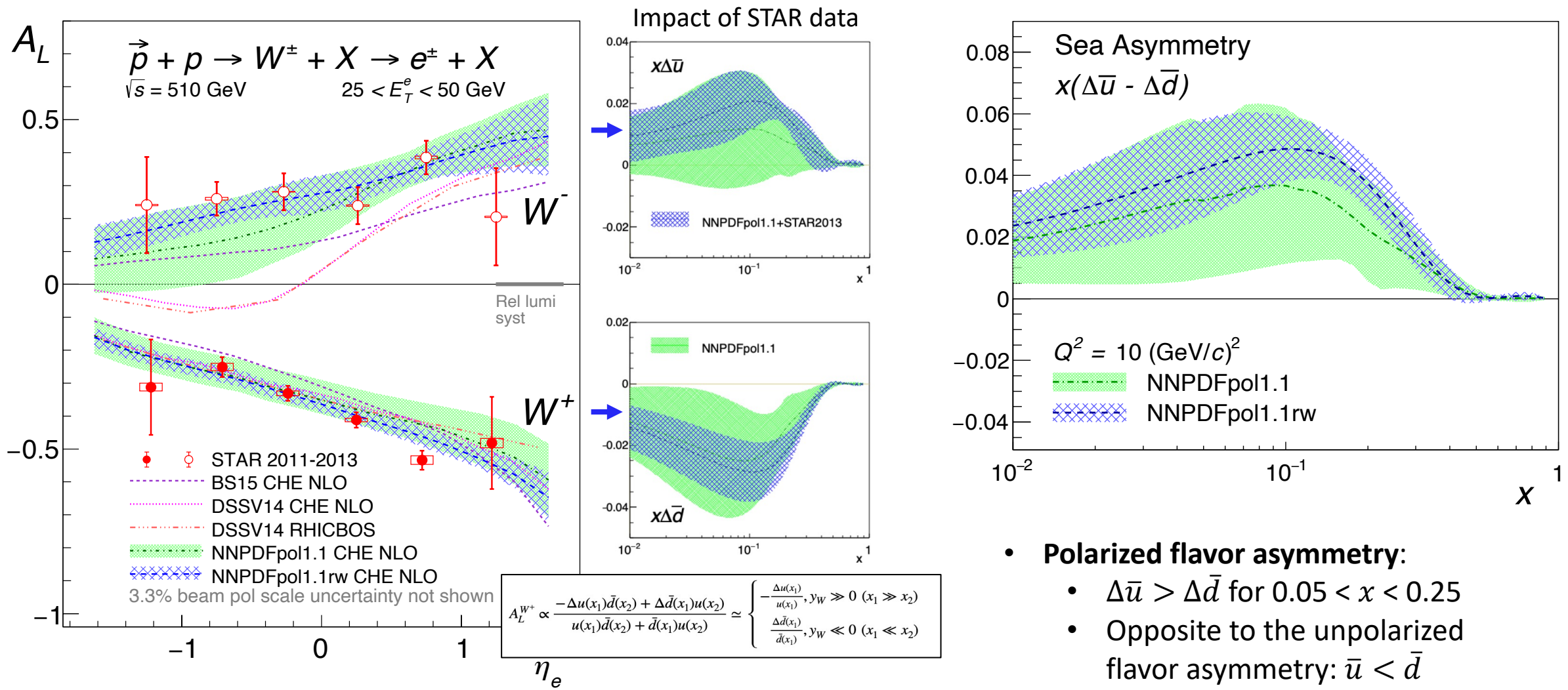


Dijets provide stricter constraints to underlying **partonic kinematics**:

- Narrow ranges of initial state partonic momentum fraction probed
- More-forward production: lower  $x \rightarrow 0.01$  (PRD 98 (2018), 032011)

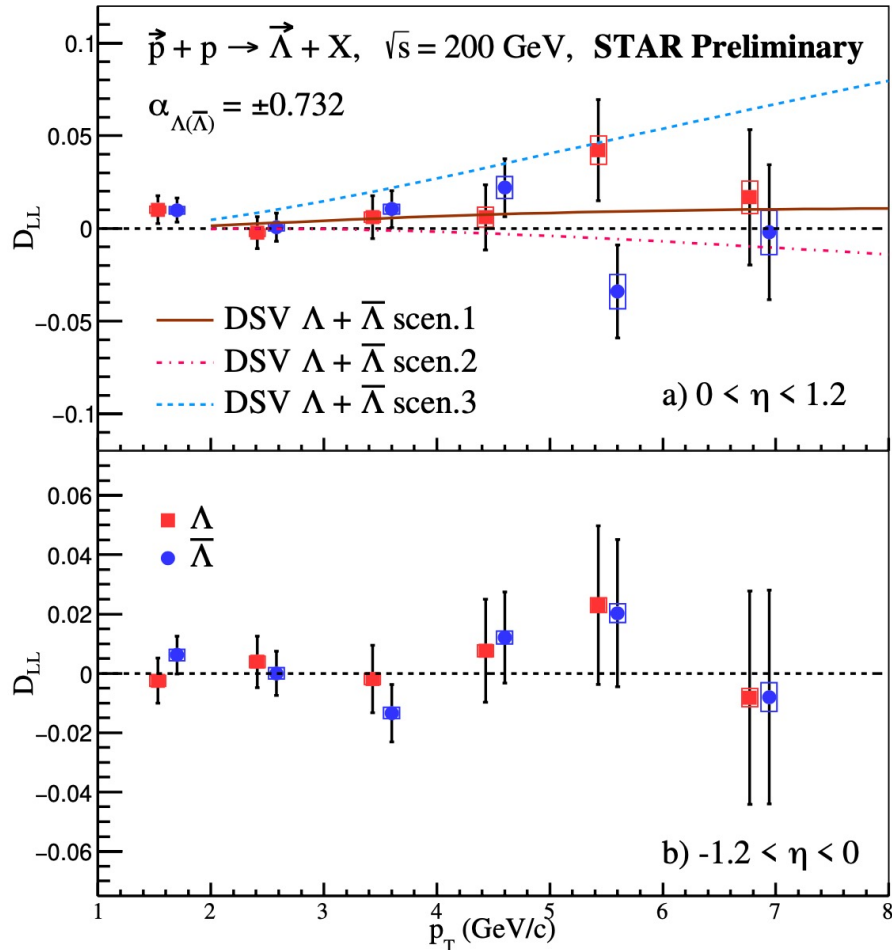


# Helicity PDFs: $\Delta\bar{u}$ and $\Delta\bar{d}$

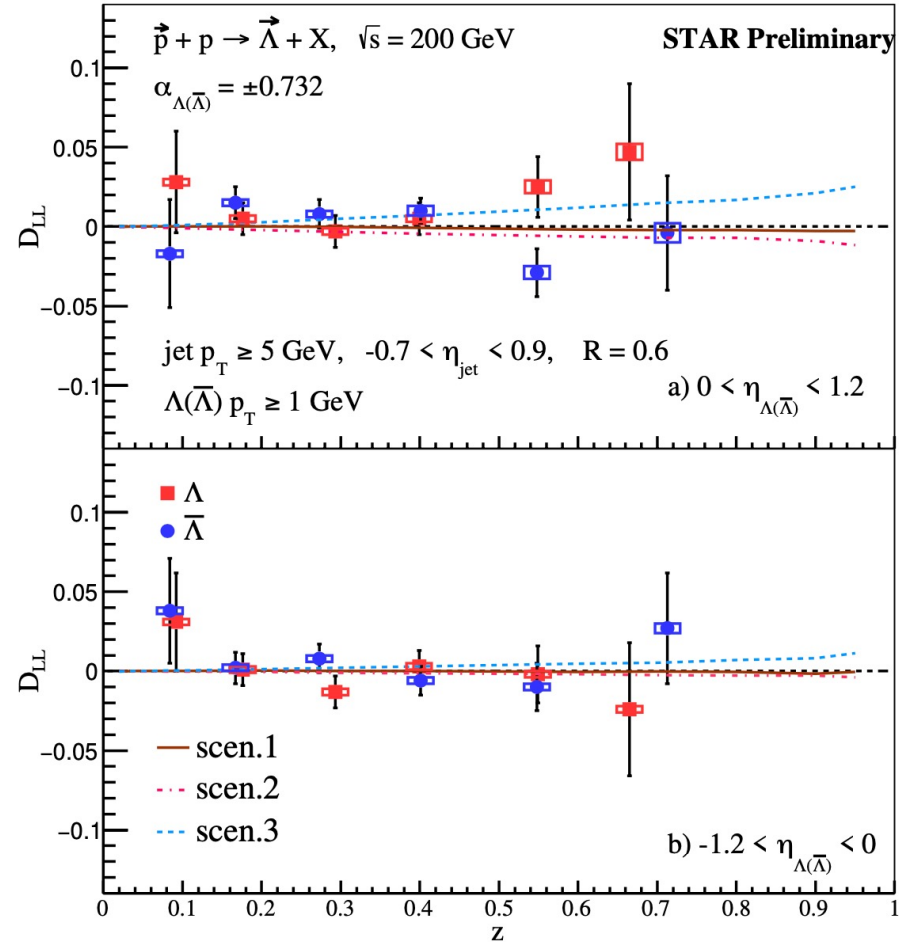


- **Polarized flavor asymmetry:**
  - $\Delta\bar{u} > \Delta\bar{d}$  for  $0.05 < x < 0.25$
  - Opposite to the unpolarized flavor asymmetry:  $\bar{u} < \bar{d}$

# Helicity PDFs: $\Delta s$



Theory curves: D. de Florian et al, PRL 81, 530 (1998)



Theory curves: Z.B. Kang et al, PLB 809, 135756 (2020)

$$z = \frac{\vec{p}_{\Lambda} \cdot \vec{p}_{jet}}{\vec{p}_{jet} \cdot \vec{p}_{jet}}$$

- Results show consistency between  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$
- Data agree with various models within uncertainties
- Most precise measurements to date with twice the statistics of the 2009 dataset (STAR, PRD 98 (2018) 112009)

**STAR has concluded the collection of longitudinally polarized data**

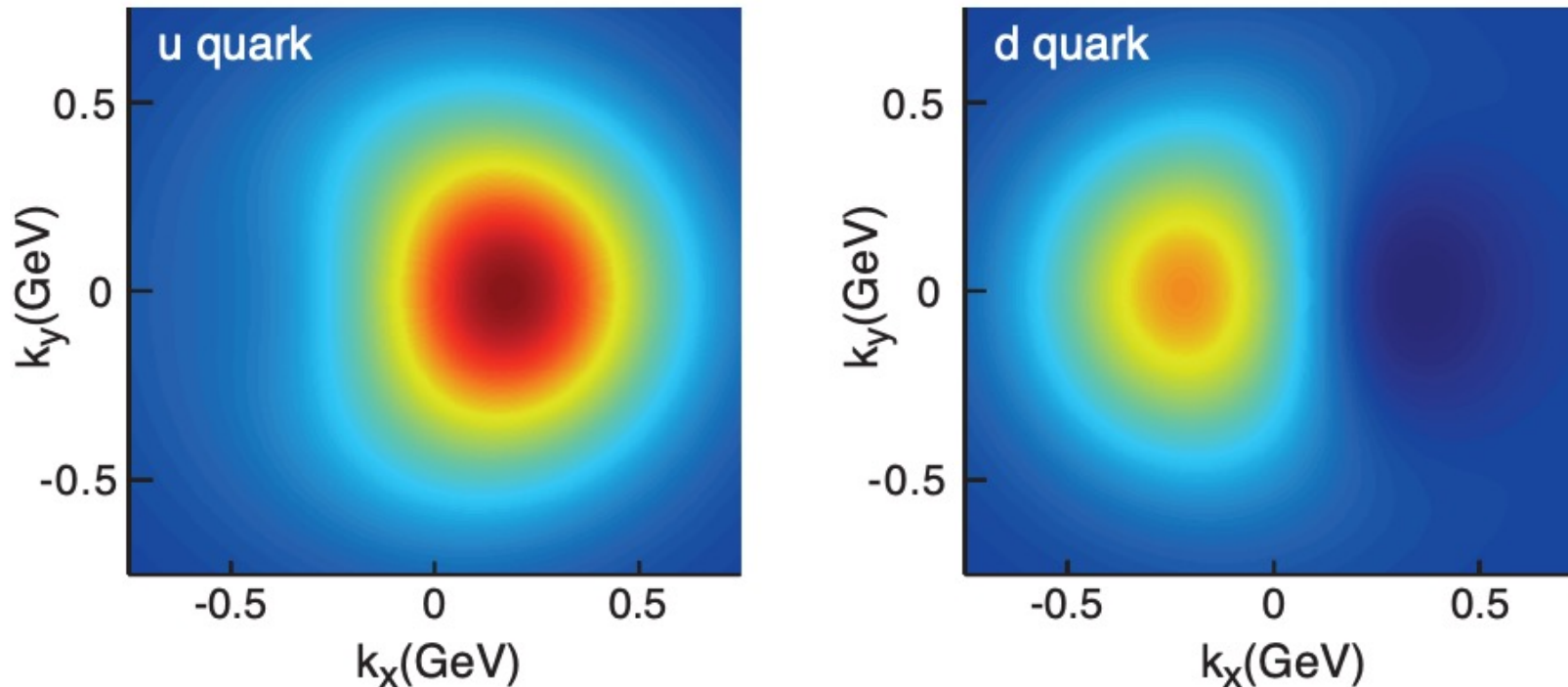


# Transversely polarized program

## Transversely polarized p+p $\rightarrow f(x, k_T, S_T)$

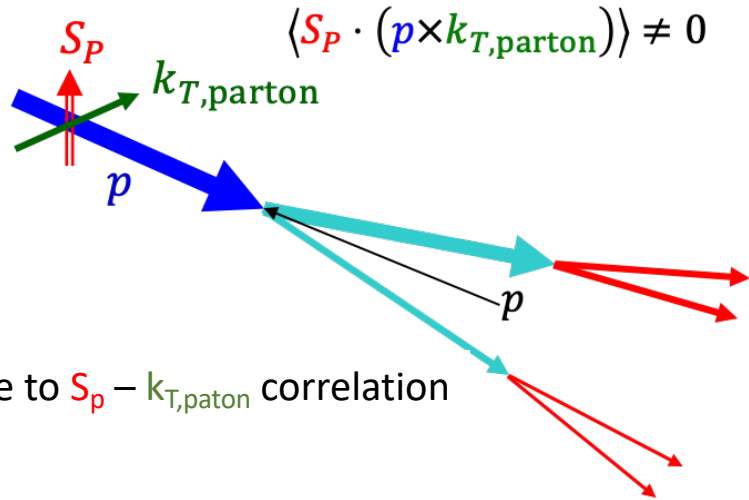
- Transverse Momentum Dependent parton distribution functions (TMDs):
  - Sivers effect
  - Collins fragmentation functions (FF)
- What measurements will Forward Upgrade enable?

arXiv:1212.1701

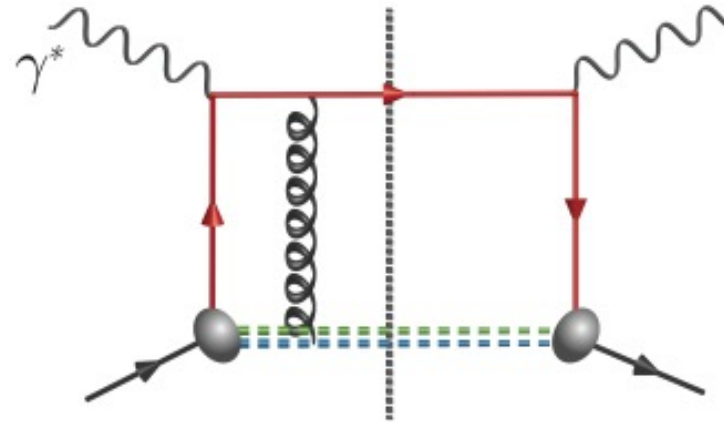


# Sivers

## Initial state TMD

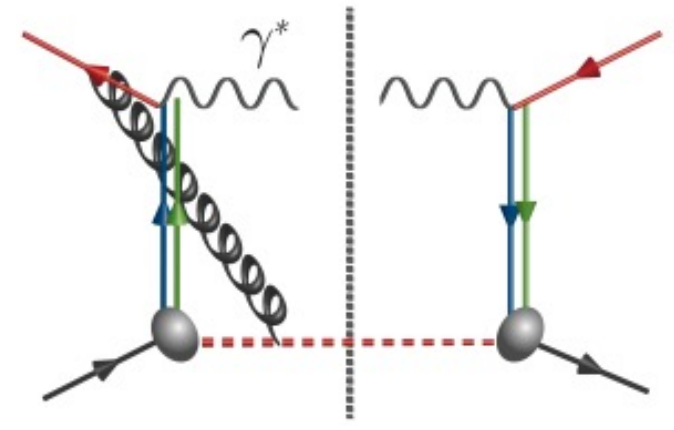


## DIS



Final-state interaction  
Color attractive

## DY, W, Z<sup>0</sup>



Initial-state interaction  
Color repulsive

One of the 8 TMDs known as **Sivers function**:

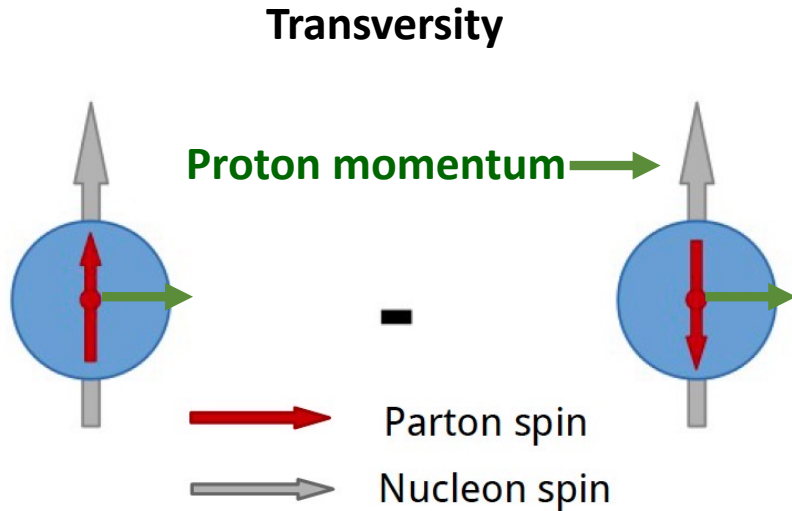
- **Observables**: transverse single spin asymmetry (TSSA) for jets,  $W^{+/-}$ ,  $Z^0$ , Drell-Yan

$$A_N = \frac{d\sigma(\phi) - d\sigma(\phi + \pi)}{d\sigma(\phi) + d\sigma(\phi + \pi)}$$

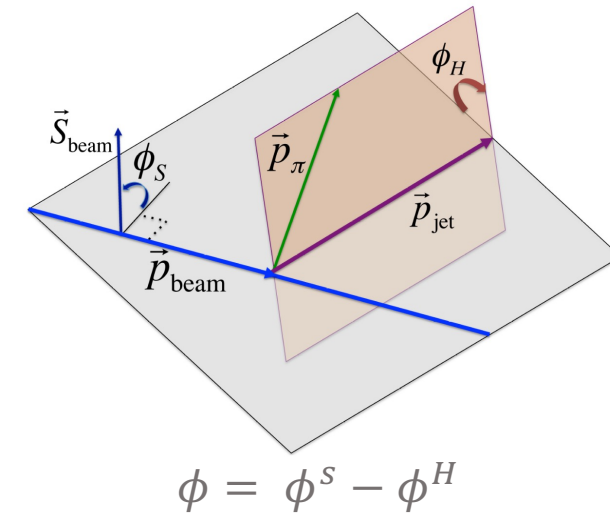
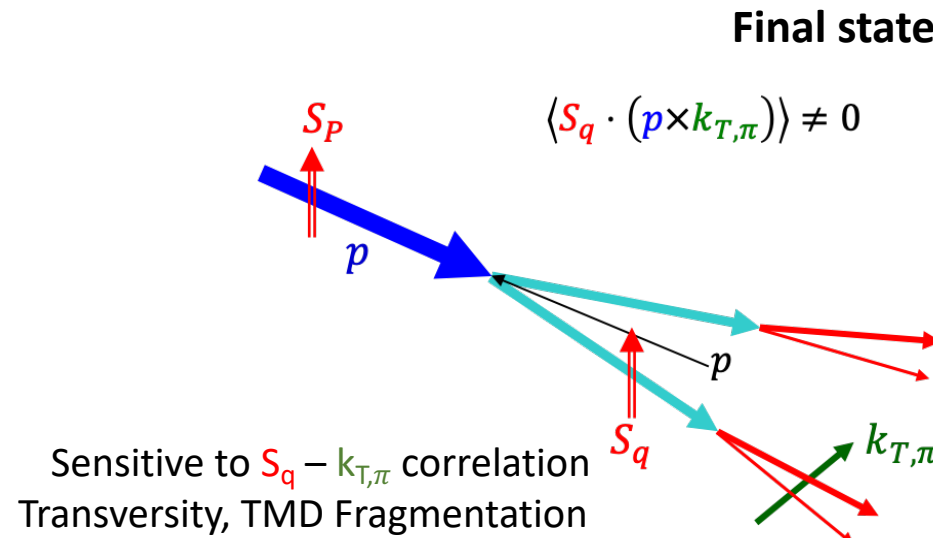
Sivers effect:

- Not universal  $\rightarrow$   $\text{Sivers}_{\text{DIS}} = - (\text{Sivers}_{\text{DY}} \text{ or } \text{Sivers}_{\text{W,Z}^0})$

# Transversity and Collins fragmentation functions

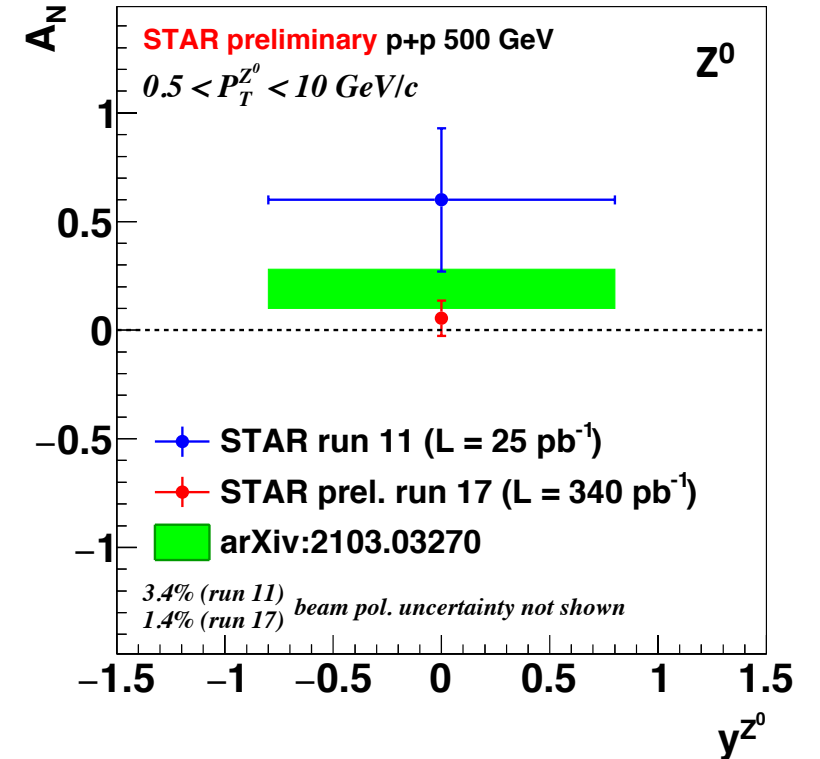
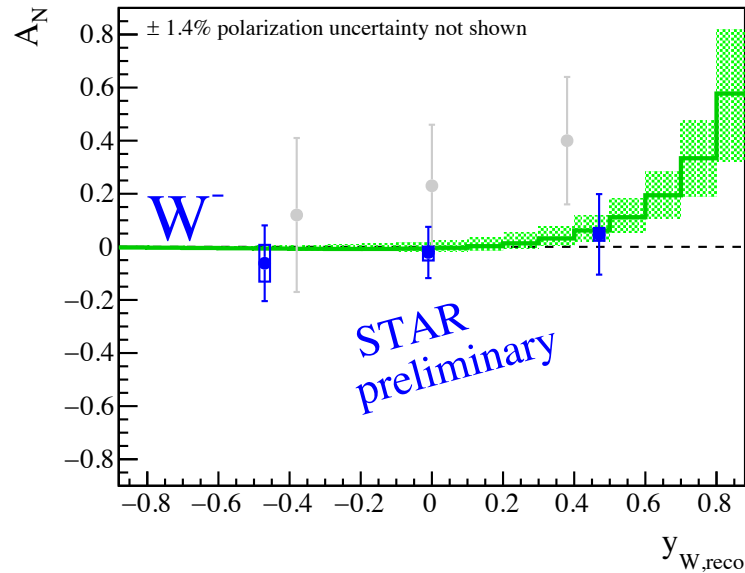
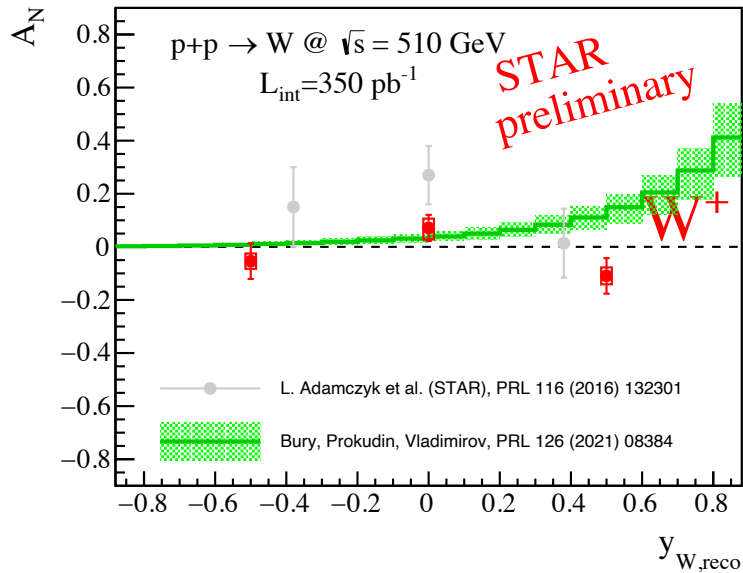


Quark polarization along the spin of a transversely polarized proton



- **Observables:**  $A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi)}$  for pions
- Collins function predicted to be universal

# $A_N$ for $W^{+/-}$ and $Z^0$

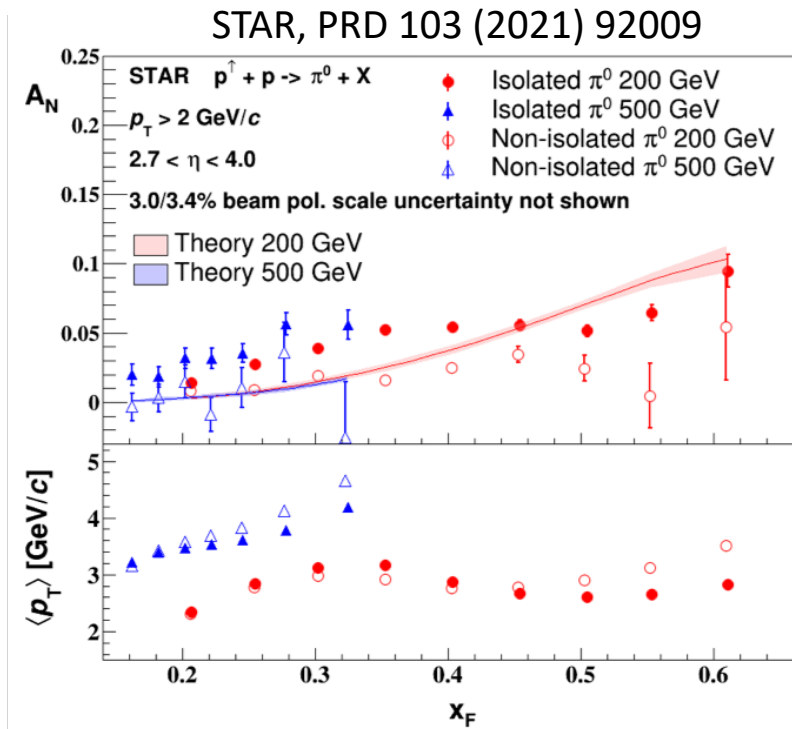


## Mid-rapidity $W^{+/-}$ and $Z^0$ $A_N$ :

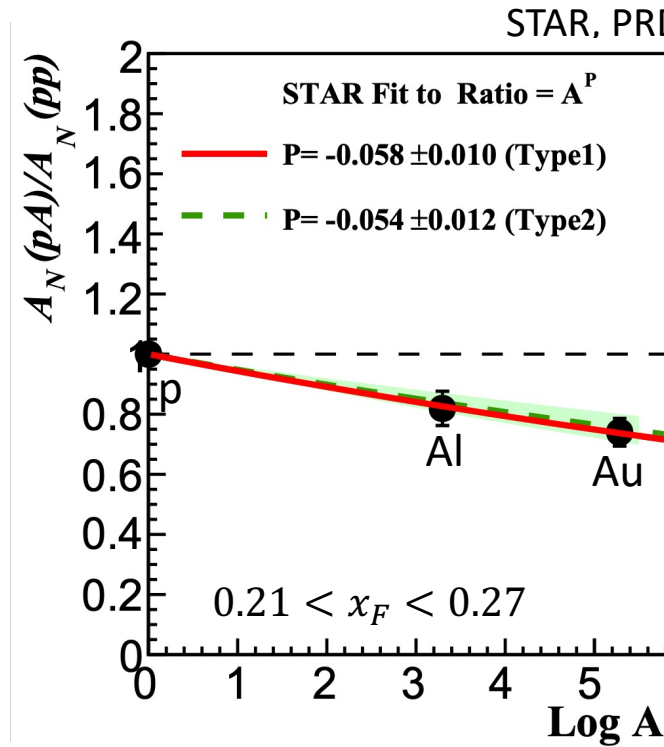
- Statistics much improved with run 2017 ( $350 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ ) compared to run 2011 ( $25 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ )
- Predictions from PRL 126, 112002 (2021)
  - Extraction includes SIDIS, DY and STAR run 2011 results
  - N<sup>3</sup>LO accuracy of the TMD evolution assuming sign-change

**Expect  $\sim 350 \text{ pb}^{-1}$  more data from run 2022 with Forward Upgrade and  $\eta$  coverage extended by STAR iTPC**

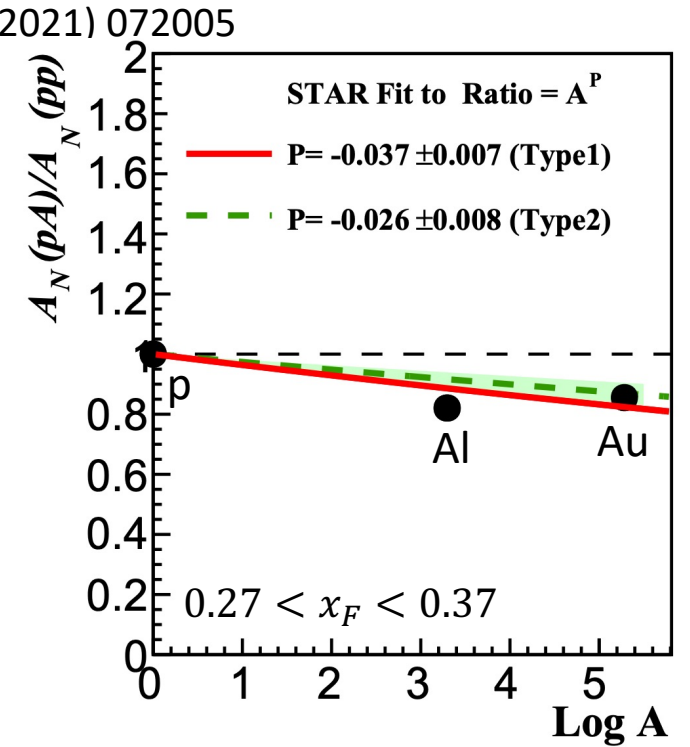
# $A_N$ for $\pi^0$



Theory curves: J. Cammarota et al, PRD 102, 054002 (2020)



Type1: correlated uncertainties in the ratio; Type2: without correlated uncertainties



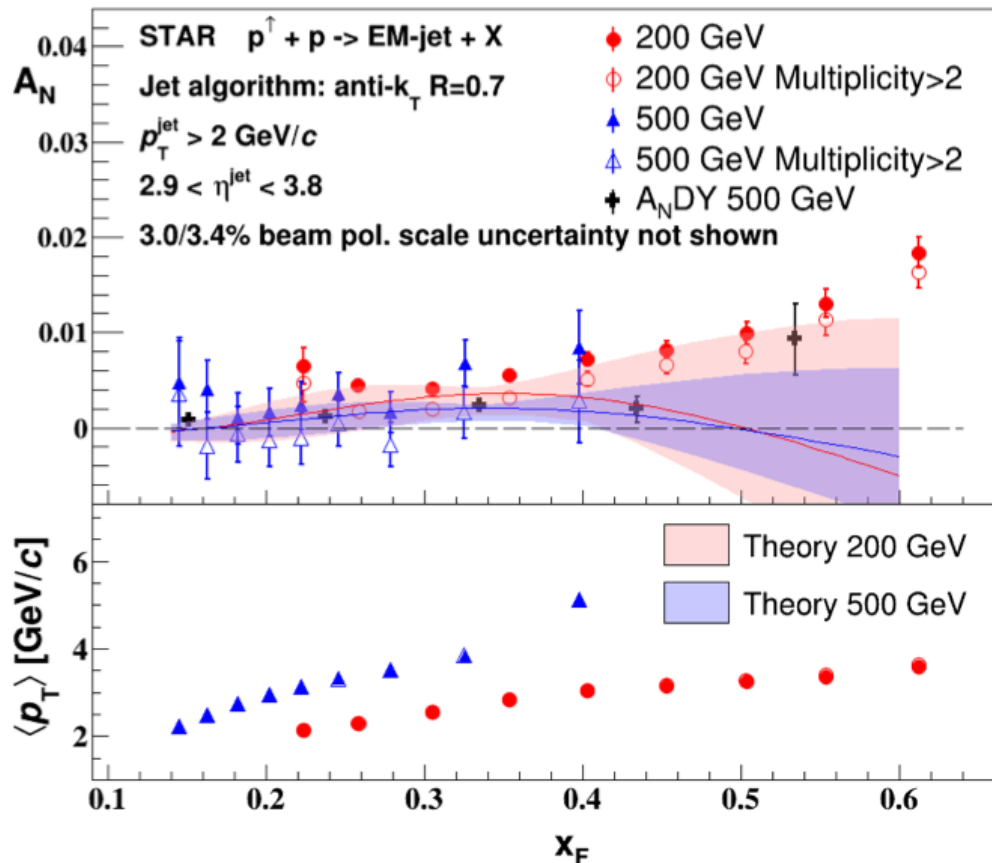
## Forward $\pi^0$ $A_N$ :

- Weak dependence on the center-of-mass energy
- Larger  $A_N$  for isolated  $\pi^0$ : additional mechanism needed to explain asymmetries  $\rightarrow$  diffractive processes?
- Suppression of  $A_N$  in  $p+A$  to  $A_N$  in  $p+p$  collisions is observed  $\rightarrow$  nuclear dependence of TMDs?



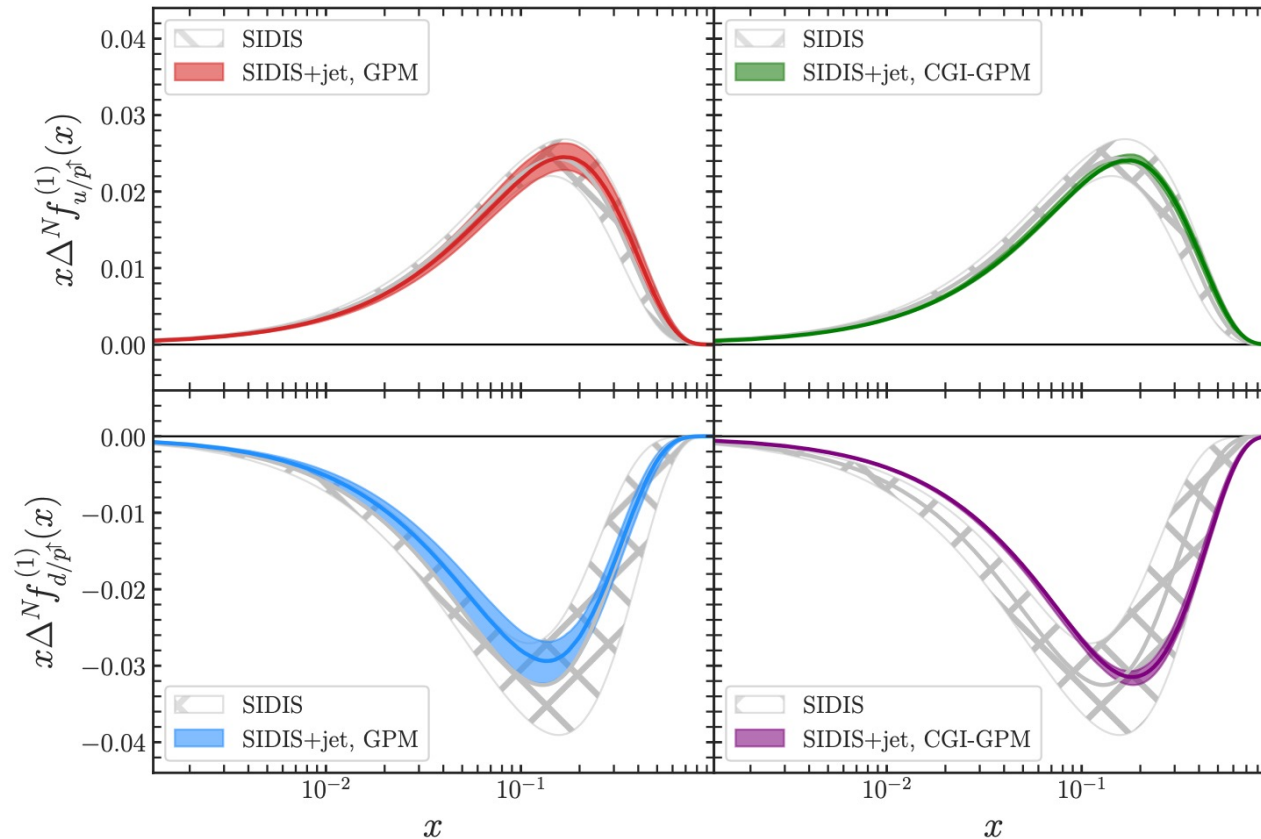
# $A_N$ for EM-jet

STAR, PRD 103 (2021) 92009



EM-jet reconstructed only using photons

M. Boglione et al, PLB 815 (2021), 136135

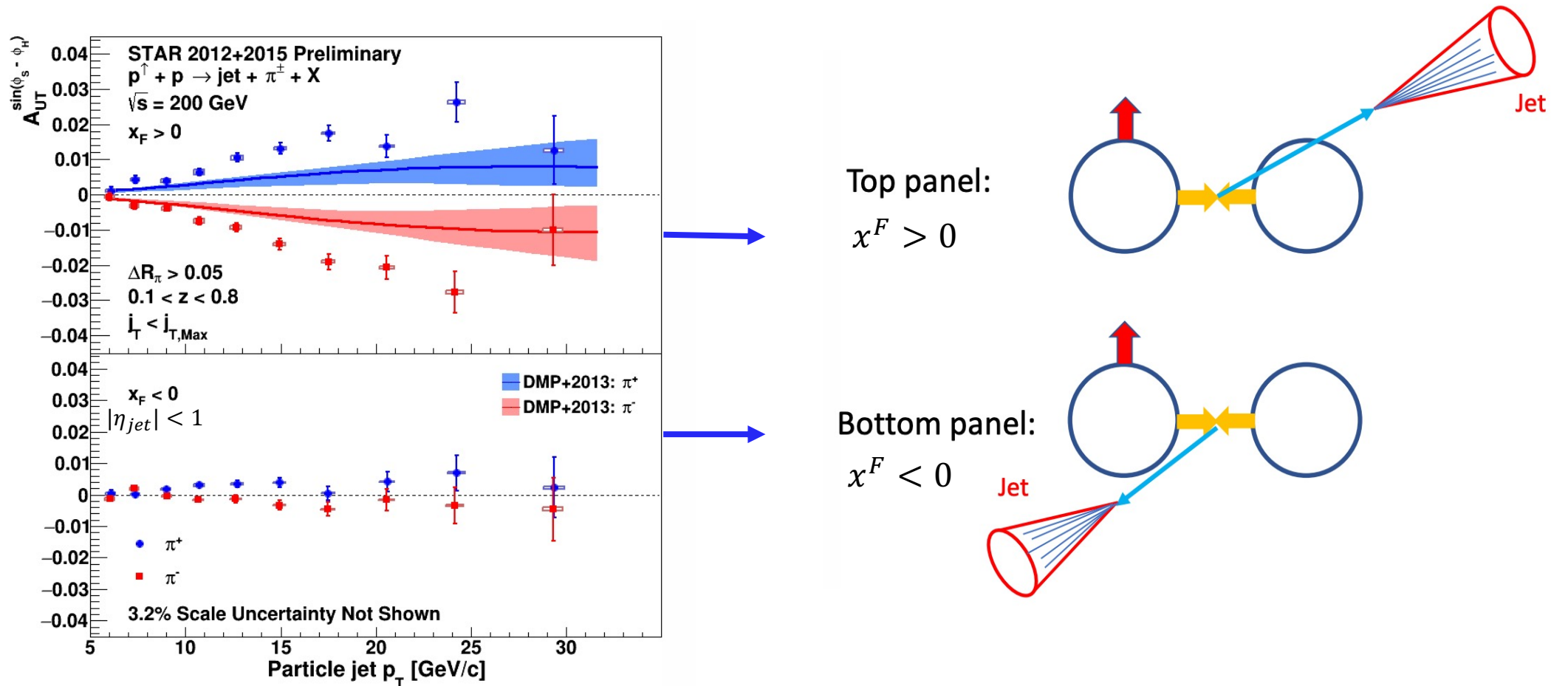


Impact of EM-jet  $A_N$

## Forward EM-jet $A_N$ :

- Decreases with increasing photon multiplicity
- Provides substantial constraints on the Sivers effect at high  $x$

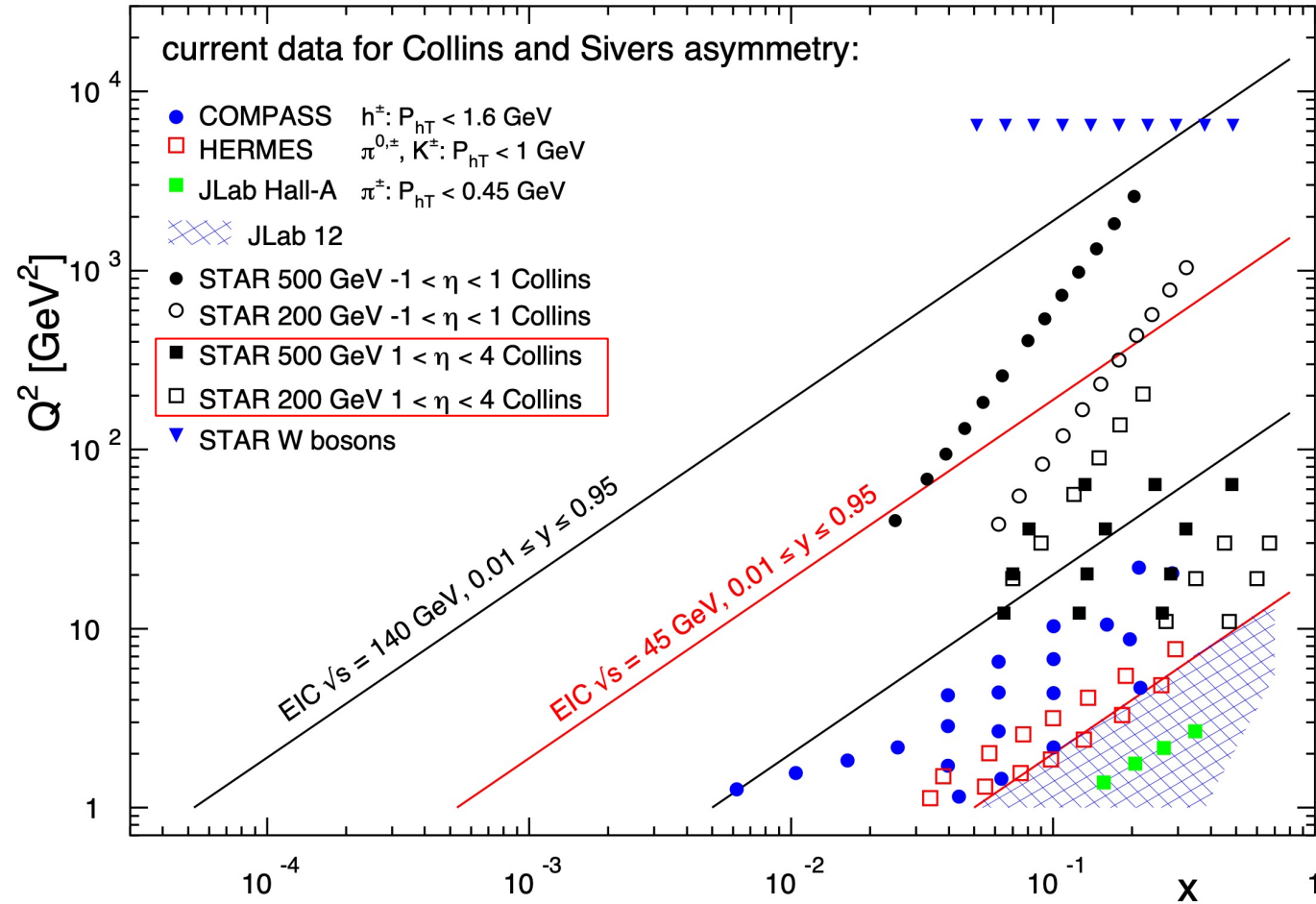
# Collins asymmetry for $\pi^\pm$ in jets



**Spin-dependent modulation of  $\pi^\pm$  in jets at mid-rapidity ( $|\eta_{\text{jet}}| < 1$ ):**

- Significant Collins asymmetries for  $\pi^\pm$  measured with high precision
- Stringent constraints on theoretical calculations of transversity and Collins FF

# Transverse physics with Forward Upgrade

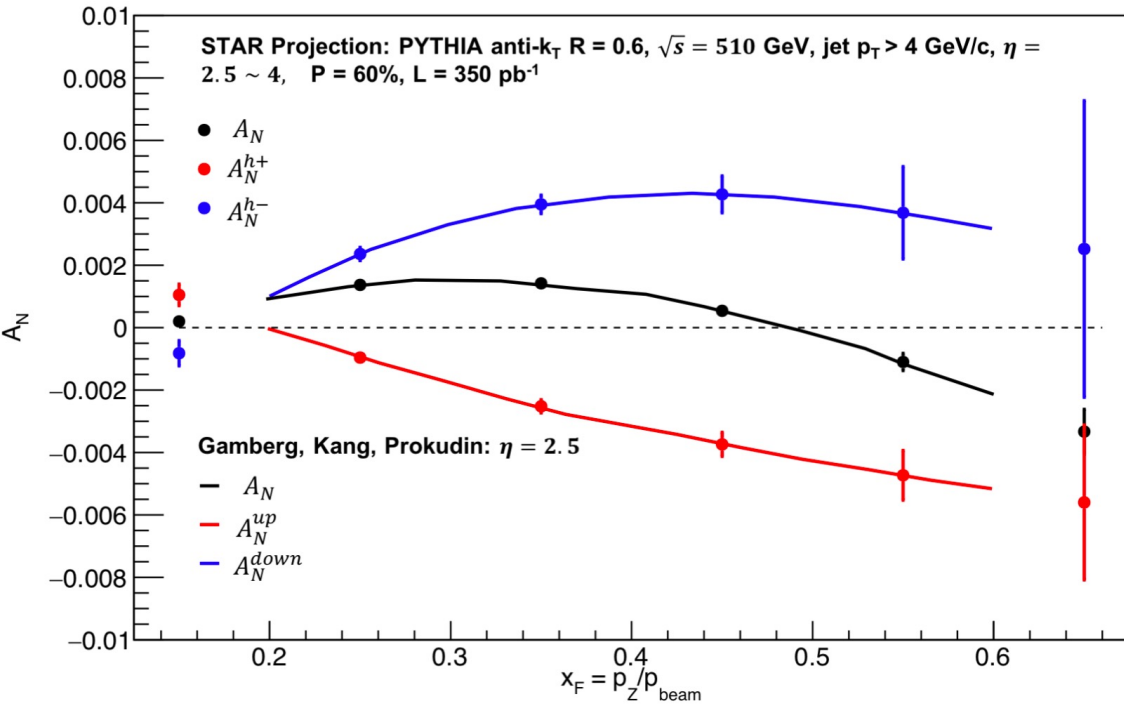


## STAR Forward Upgrade capabilities with jets and hadrons for transverse asymmetries:

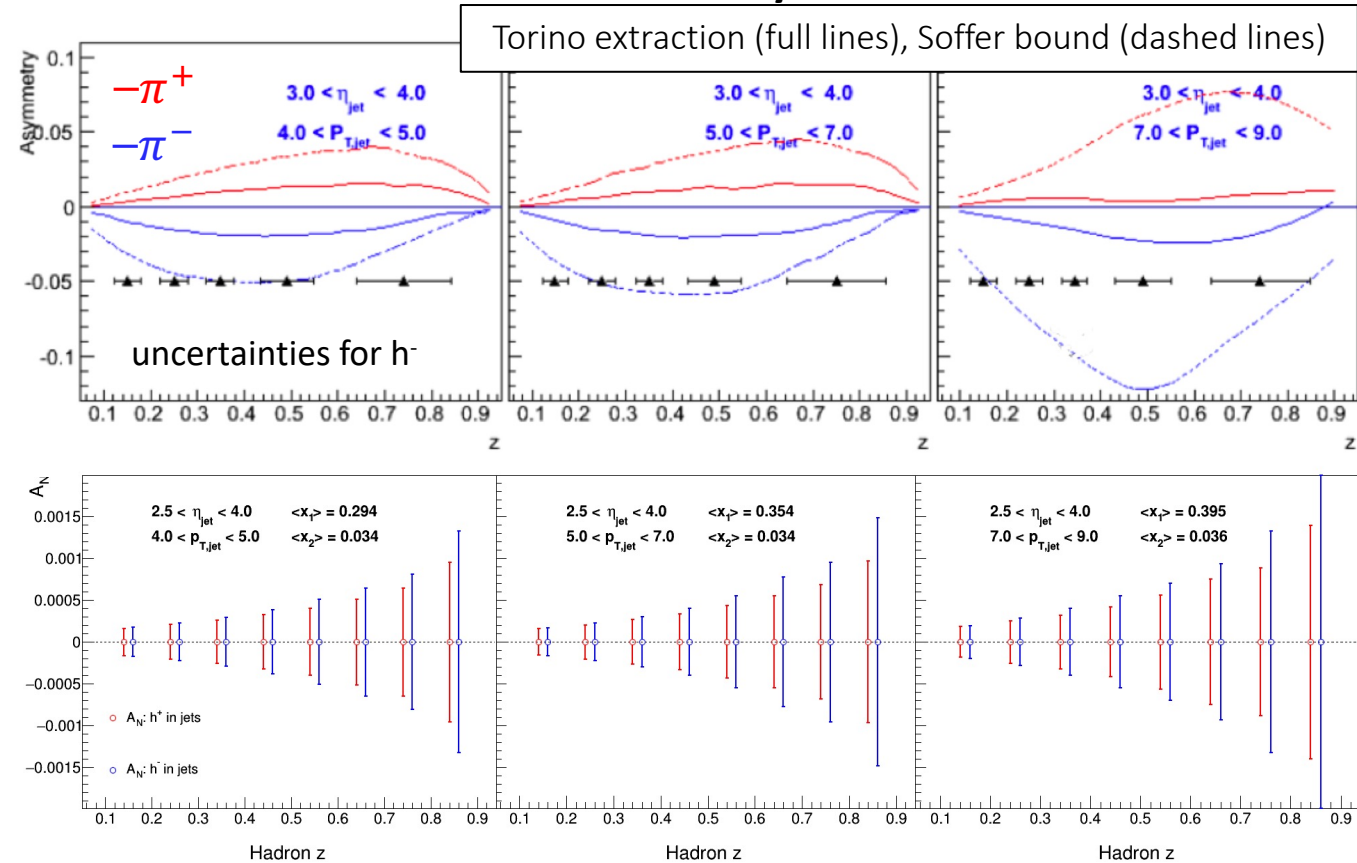
- Study forward Sivers, Collins and diffractive processes → charge-tagged jets and di-jets, hadron in jets, and diffractive processes with rapidity gaps
- Before STAR: TMDs only came from fixed target e+p data with low  $Q^2$
- STAR's unique kinematics with Forward Upgrade: low to high  $x$  at moderate and high  $Q^2$  → TMD evolution:
  - $x$  up to  $\sim 0.5$  → sensitive to valence quark

# How well Forward Upgrade will do?

## Sivers



## Transversity and Collins



All Plots: STAR Beam Use Request for Run 2022

Projected uncertainty of the data from 2022

Forward Upgrade enables full jet reconstruction with charge-sign tagging (no PID) of a hadron fragment:

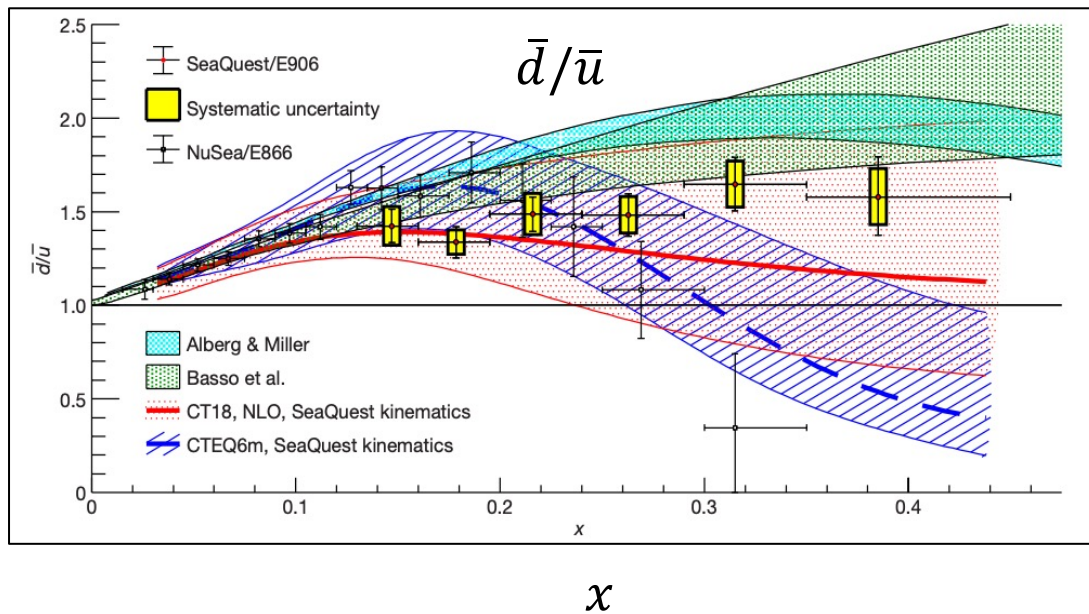
- Sivers: projected statistical uncertainties drawn on twist-3 predictions from Gamberg et al; up to  $10\sigma$  separation between plus-tagged and minus-tagged jet  $A_N$
- Transversity: precise measurements at high  $x$  with uncertainties  $\sim < 10^{-3}$

# Unpolarized program

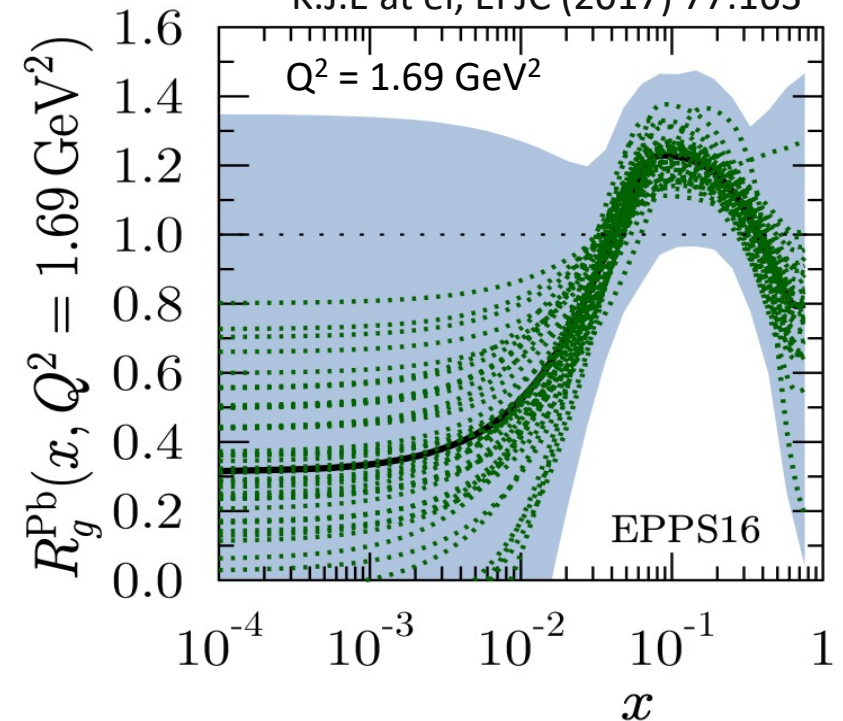
## Unpolarized p+p and p+A $\rightarrow f(x, Q^2)$

- Sea quark distributions and nuclear parton distributions
- What measurements will Forward Upgrade enable?

SeaQuest, Nature 590, 561–565 (2021)



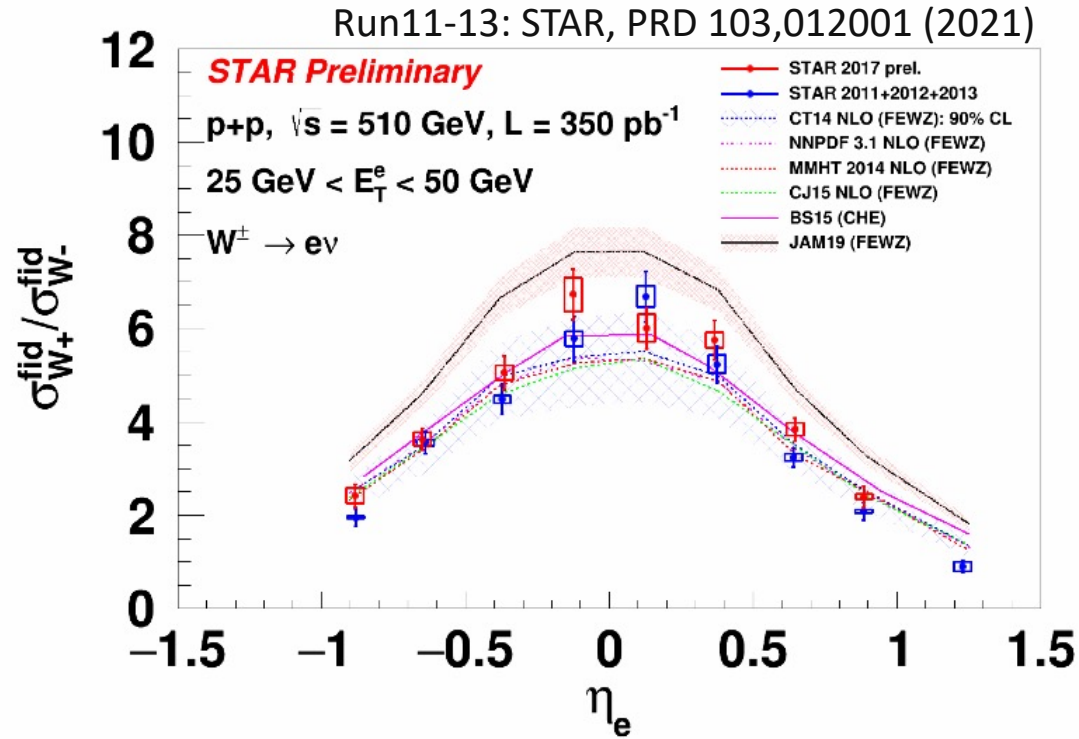
K.J.E at el, EPJC (2017) 77:163





# W and Z<sup>0</sup> cross section

Z<sup>0</sup>/γ\* → e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup>

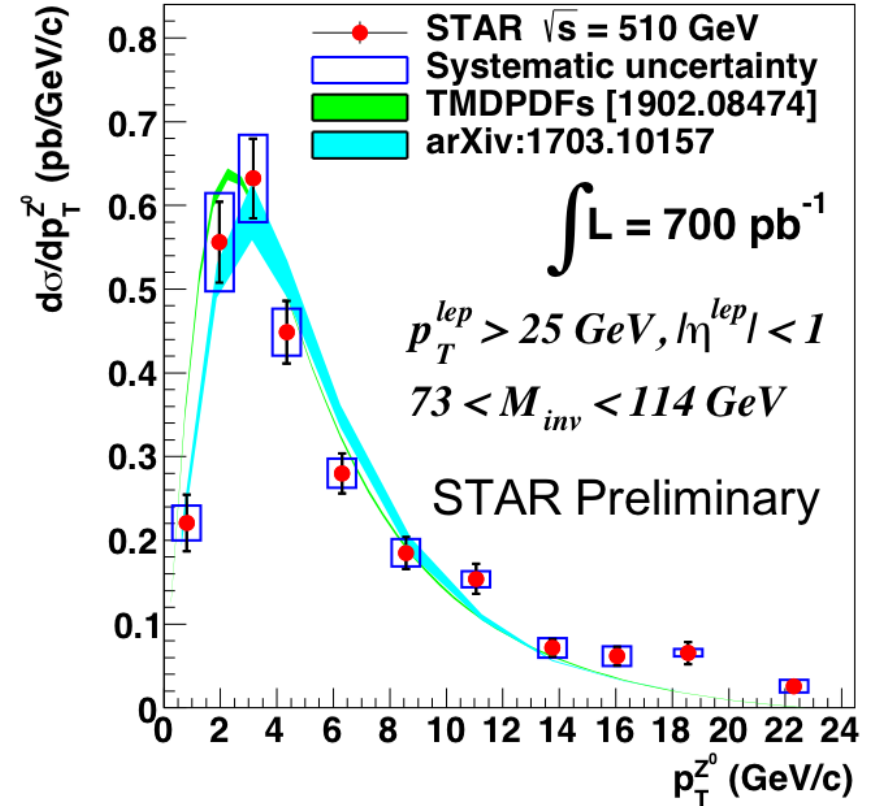


W<sup>+</sup>/W<sup>-</sup> → d̄/ū:

- Sensitive to the region 0.1 < x < 0.3 in STAR mid-rapidity (|η| < 1) at Q<sup>2</sup> = M<sub>W</sub><sup>2</sup>
- Clean theoretical and experimental observable

$$\sigma_{W^+}/\sigma_{W^-} \approx \frac{u(x_1) \bar{d}(x_2) + u(x_2) \bar{d}(x_1)}{\bar{u}(x_1) d(x_2) + \bar{u}(x_2) d(x_1)}$$

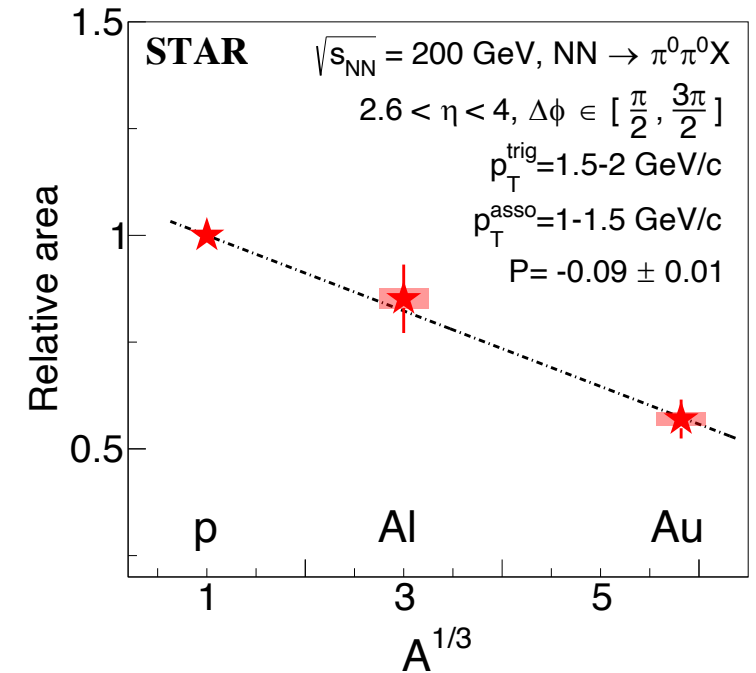
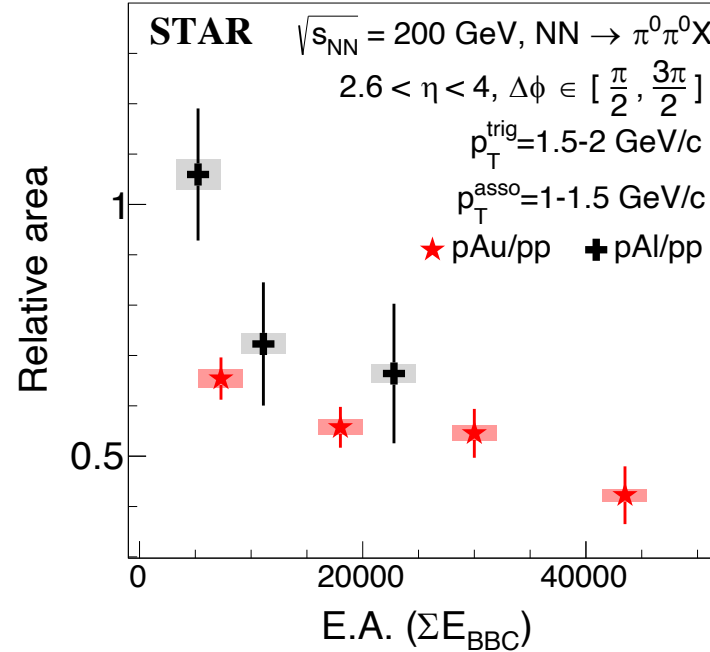
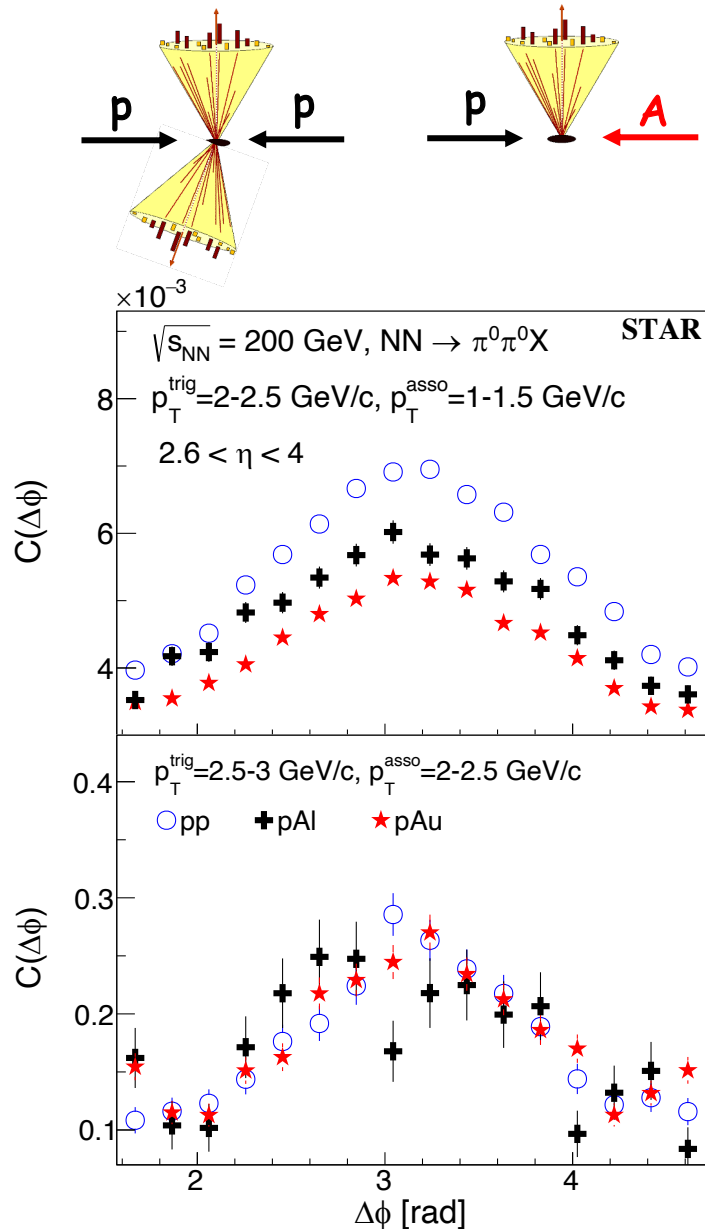
Expect ~350 pb<sup>-1</sup> more data from run 2022 with Forward Upgrade



The differential Z<sup>0</sup> cross section:

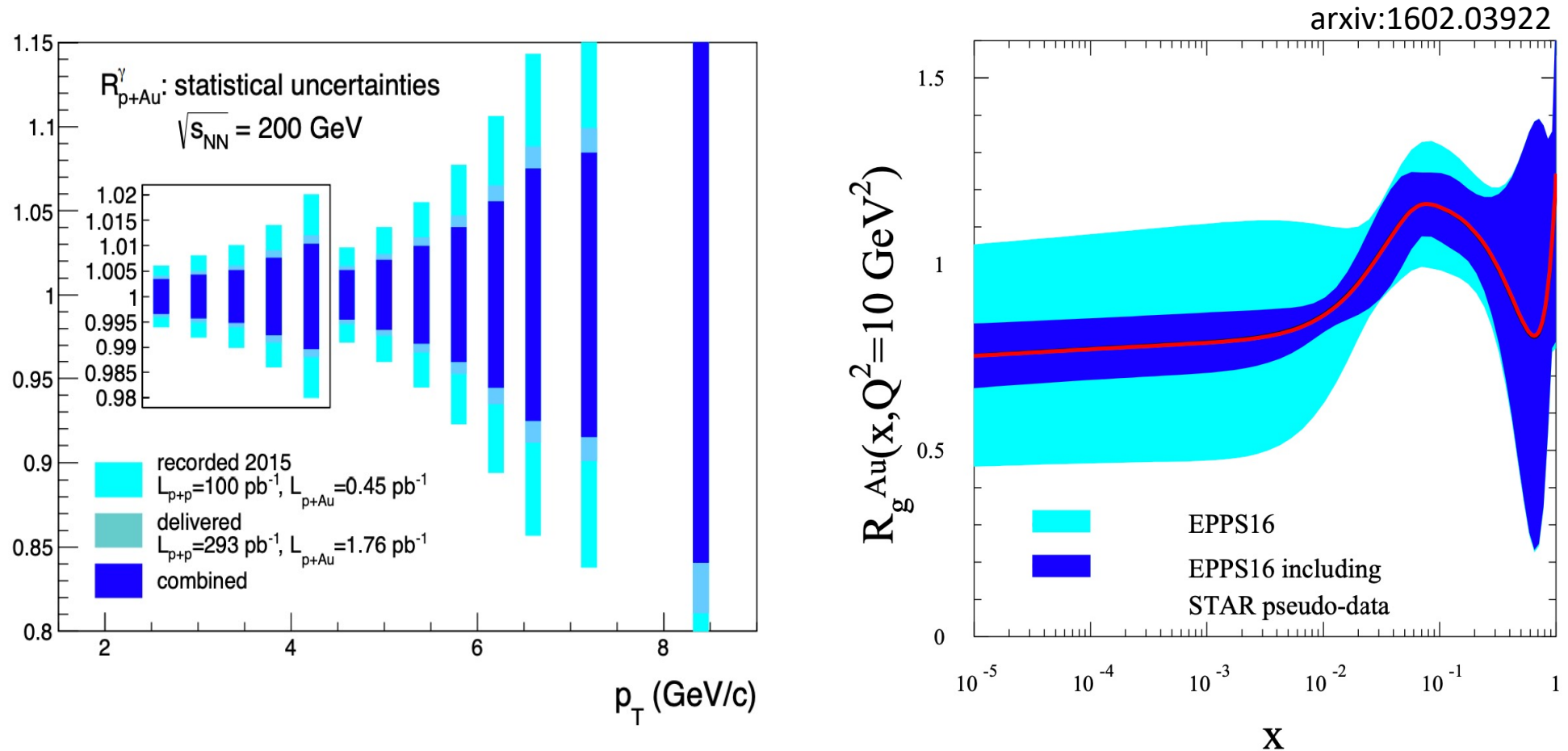
- Constrain on the energy scale dependence of TMDs

# Nonlinear gluon dynamics in QCD



- Forward rapidities  $\rightarrow$  high gluon densities
- STAR  $\pi^0$ -  $\pi^0$  correlations:  $p_T$ , E.A. and A dependence
- This measurement is essential to explore the universality of nonlinear effects along with the future EIC

# Future measurements with Forward Upgrade



Expanded observables by Forward Upgrade: di-hadron, di-jet,  $\gamma$ -hadron/jet, inclusive  $\gamma$ ...

- $R_{pAu}^{\gamma}$  of direct photon: free from the final state effects; precise measurements of nuclear gluon distribution

# Summary

## High impact of STAR Cold QCD program:

Longitudinally polarized: insights in  $\Delta g$ ;  $\Delta\bar{u} > \Delta\bar{d}$  and  $\Delta s \sim 0$

Transversely polarized:

- $A_N$  for W and Z boson  $\rightarrow$  precise measurement to investigate Sivers effect
- Non-zero Collins asymmetry for  $\pi^\pm$

Unpolarized:

- $W^+ / W^-$  ratio  $\rightarrow$  constrain sea quark distributions
- Forward  $\pi^0 - \pi^0$  correlation  $\rightarrow$  evidence of nonlinear gluon dynamics

**STAR is taking data with the Forward Upgrade.** The upgrade will provide insights in:

- Understanding the origin of large forward  $A_N$
- Testing TMD evolution and universality
- Constraining transversity at high  $x$
- Understanding the nature of the initial state in nucleon and nucleus