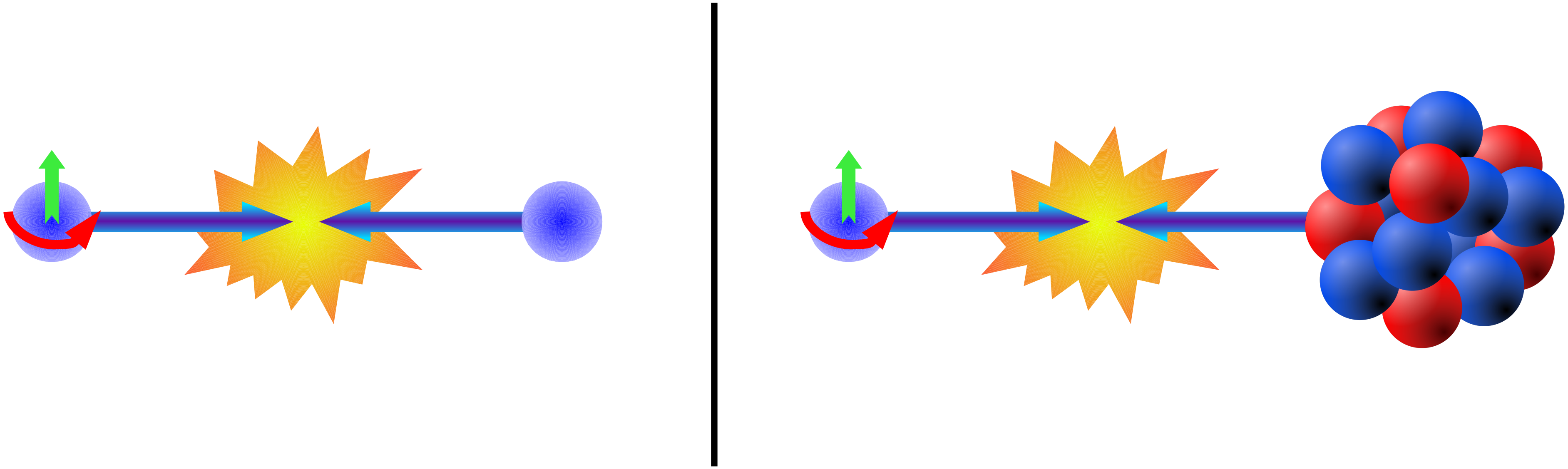
Measurement of Transverse Single Spin Asymmetries in π^0 Production from $p^\uparrow + p$ and $\mathrm{p}^\uparrow + A$ Collisions at STAR



PENNSTATE

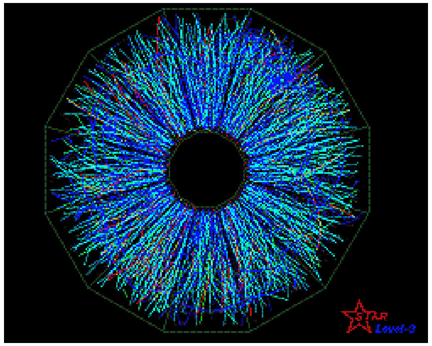
1855

Christopher Dilks

for the STAR Collaboration

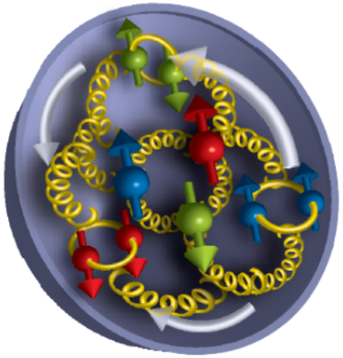
DIS 2016

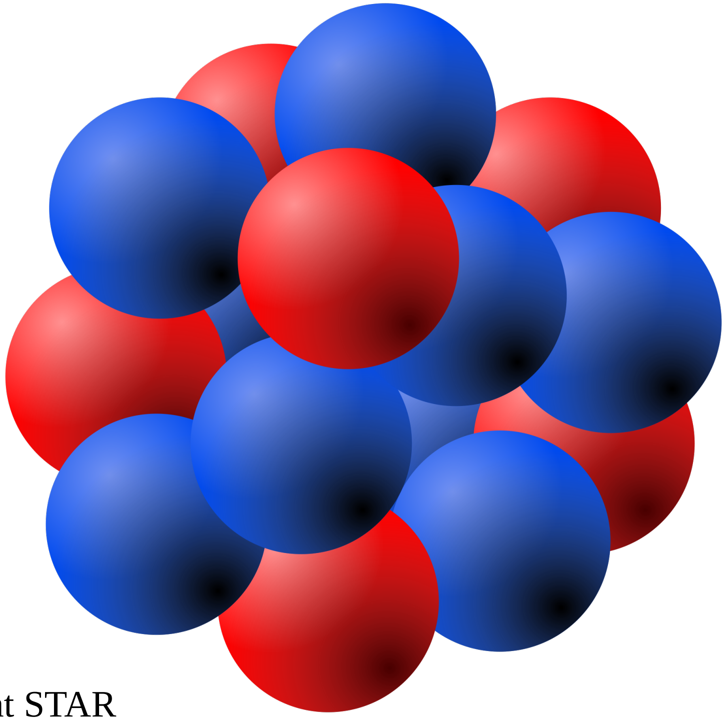
12 April 2016



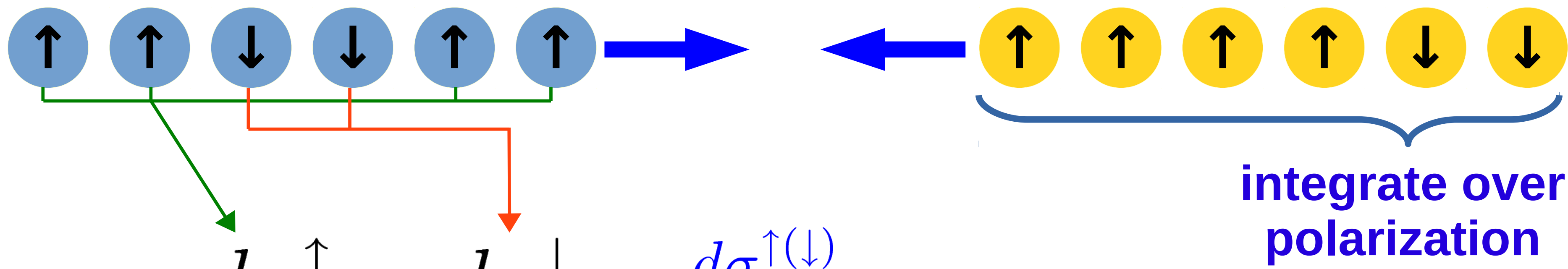
Outline

- **Transverse Single Spin Asymmetry A_N**
- STAR at RHIC and Forward Calorimetry
- Preliminary Results from forward π^0 A_N in p+Au





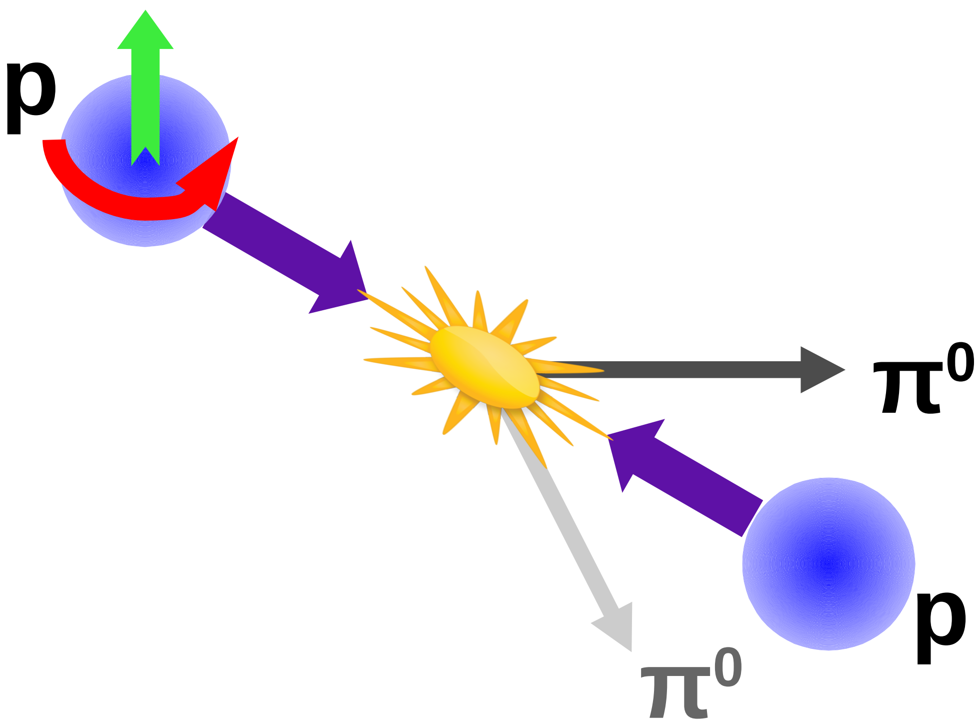
Transverse Single Spin Asymmetry



$$A_N = \frac{d\sigma^{\uparrow} - d\sigma^{\downarrow}}{d\sigma^{\uparrow} + d\sigma^{\downarrow}}$$

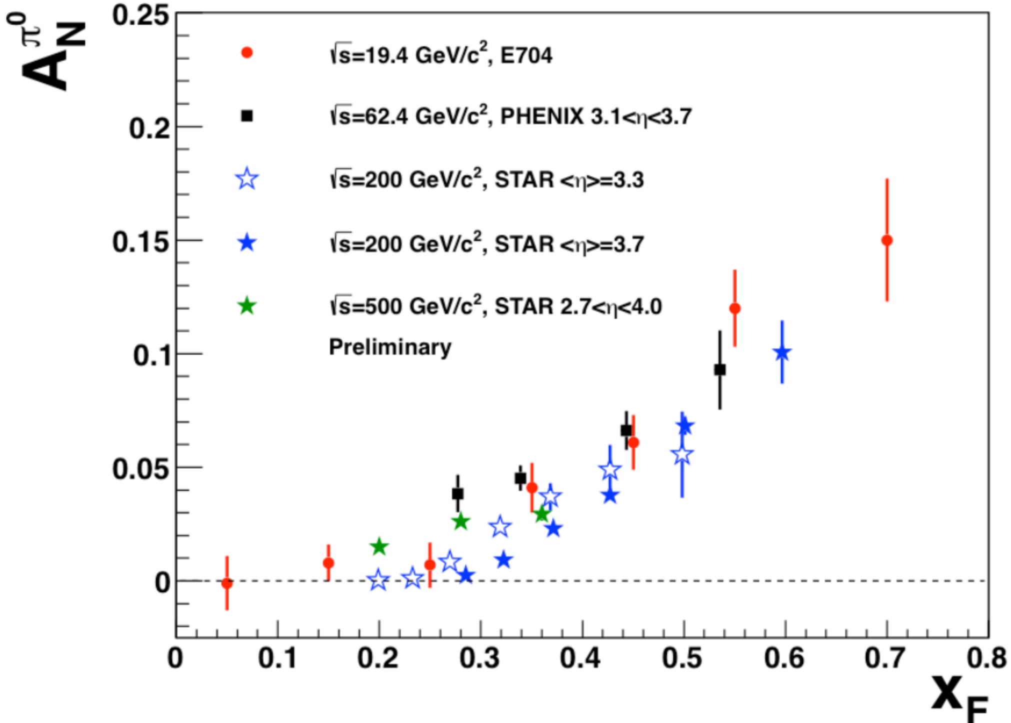
$d\sigma^{\uparrow(\downarrow)}$

cross-section for leftward scattering when proton beam polarization is up (down)

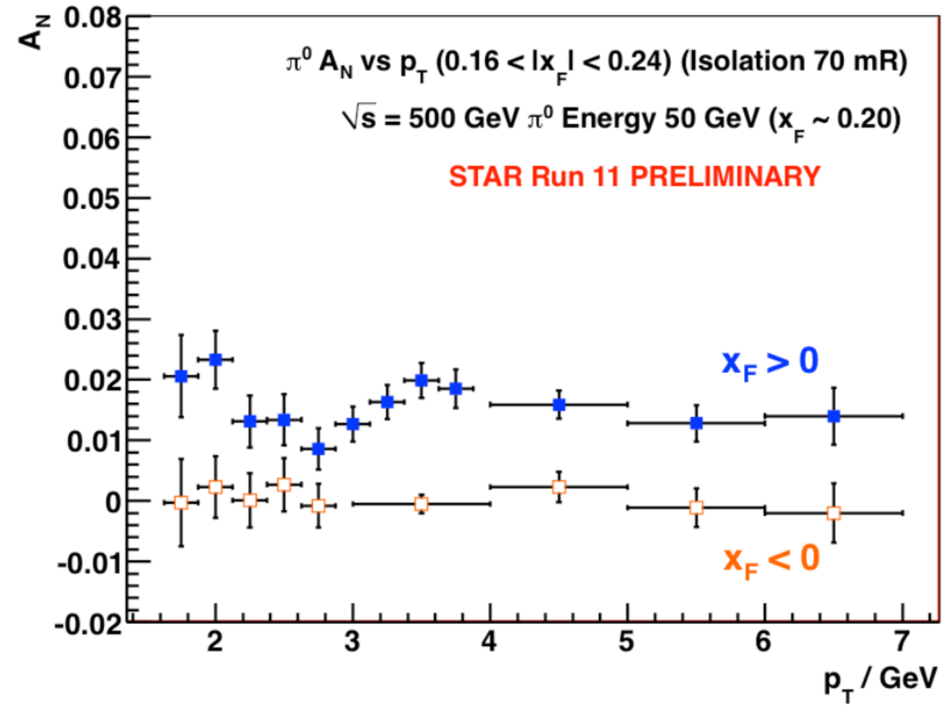


Large π^0 A_N, independent of $s^{1/2}$ and rising with $x_F=2p_L s^{-1/2}$, observed since 1976

x_F and p_T dependence of A_N



PLB,261,201(1991)
PRL,101,222001(2008)
PRD,90,012006(2014)

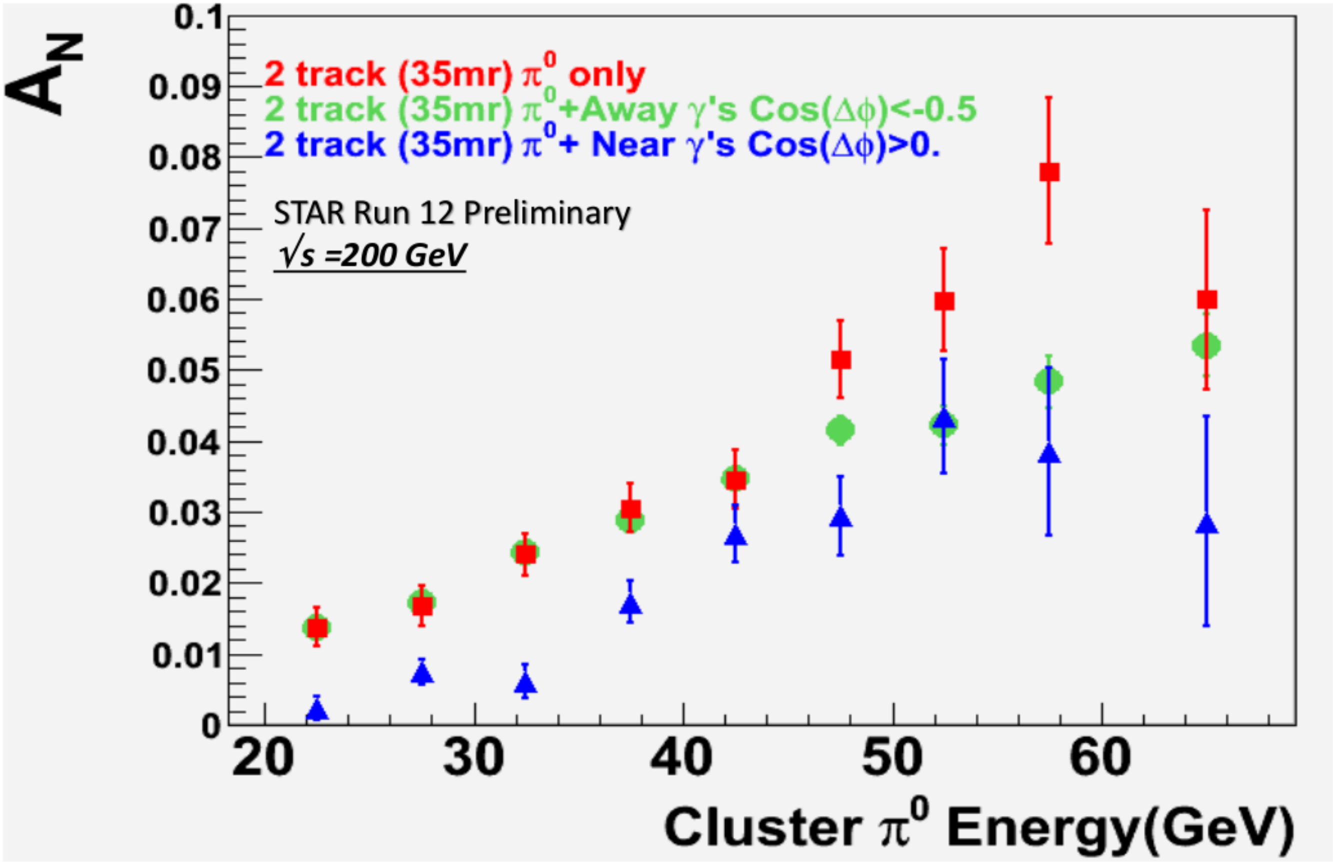


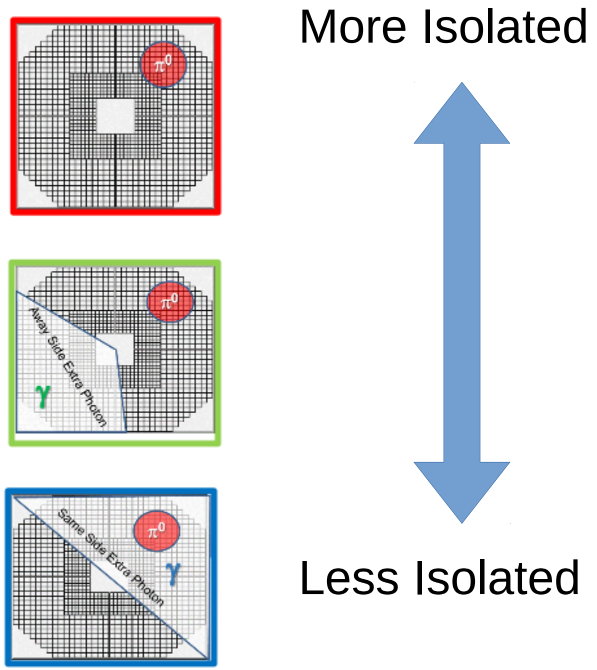
Steve Heppelmann – CIPANP 2012

$s^{1/2}$=200 GeV and 500 GeV show same rise of A_N vs. x_F as lower $s^{1/2}$ measurements

- Collins, Sivers, Twist-3 suggest $A_N \sim 1/p_T$
- Flat P_T-dependence observed and raises the question as to what causes it

π^0 Isolation-Dependence of A_N





Steve Heppelmann – DIS 2013

- More isolated pions have greater A_N than those with nearby EM energy deposits (presence of E>6 GeV photon(s) outside 35mrad cone)
- Pion A_N is therefore event topology-dependent

Implications from Polarized pA Collisions

- **Correlations of A_N with other observables, e.g.:**
  - Possible probe of nuclear saturation scale
    – Color glass condensate predicts p+A A_N decreases as A increases
  - Nuclear modification factor R_{pA}
    (production in pA / production in pp)
  - Fragmentation universality
    – e.g., A_N dependence on event topology / exclusiveness
  - Collision centrality

- **What about p_T and x_F dependences of A_N?**
  Do these characteristics persist in pA production, or are they “filtered” away by the nucleus?

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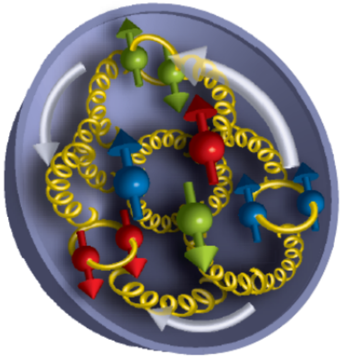
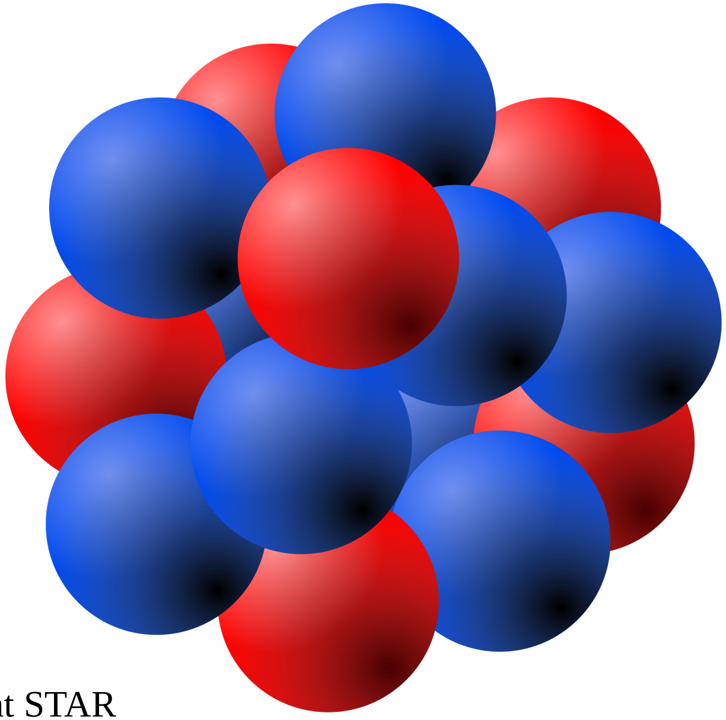
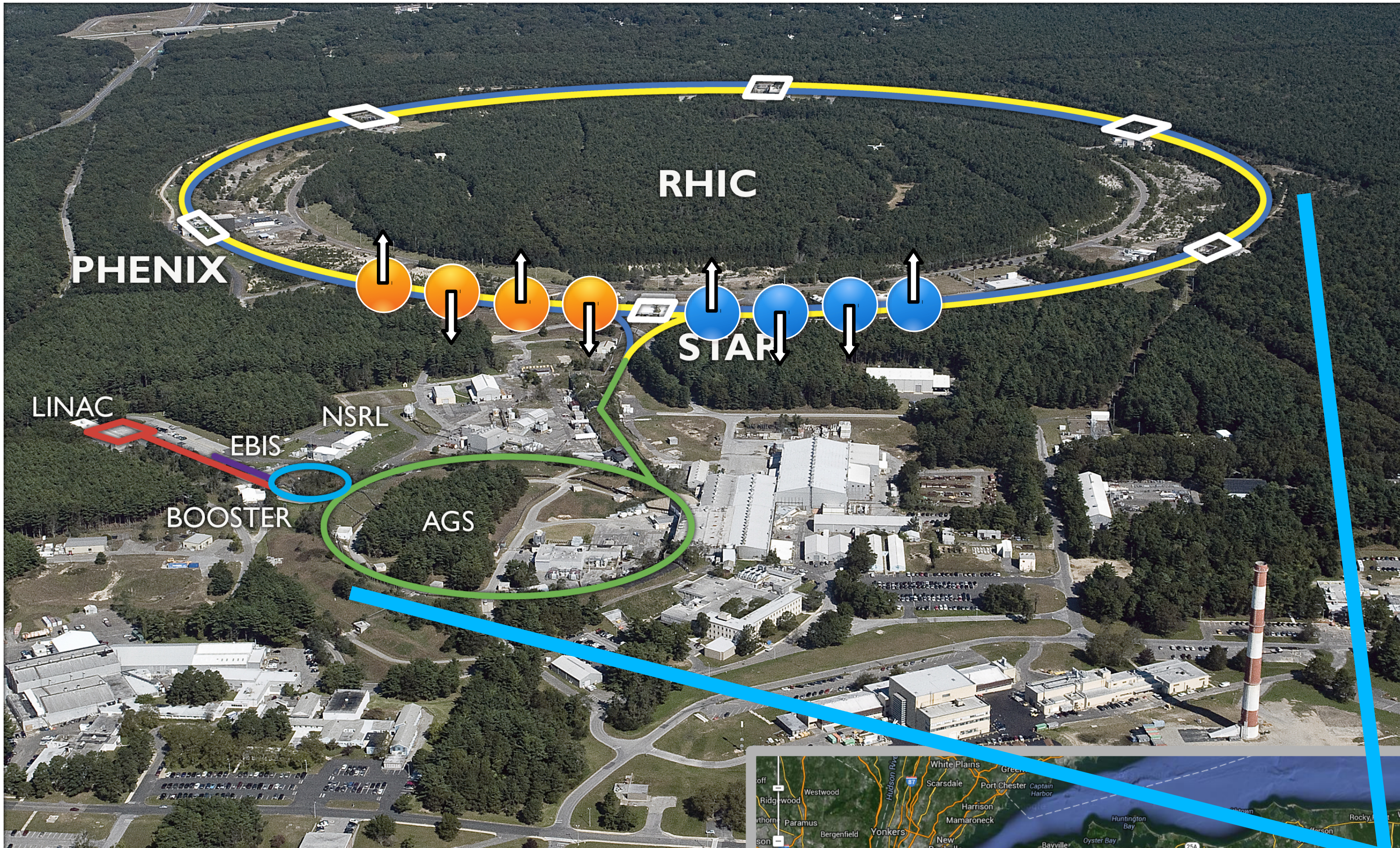
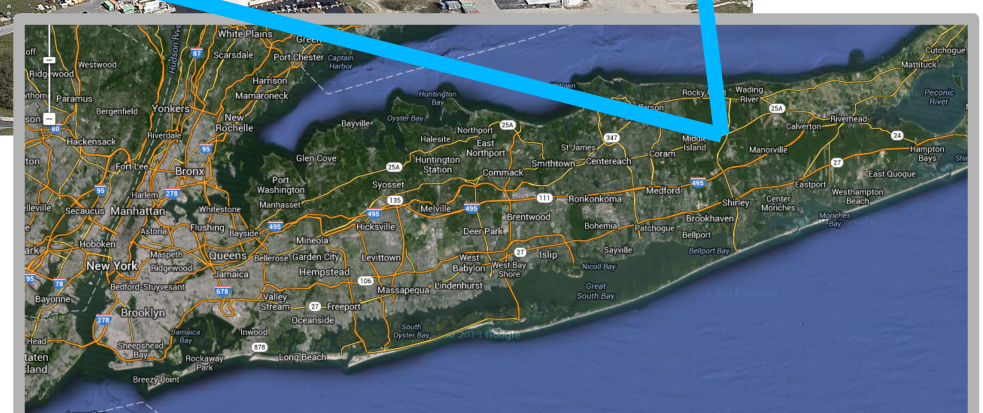




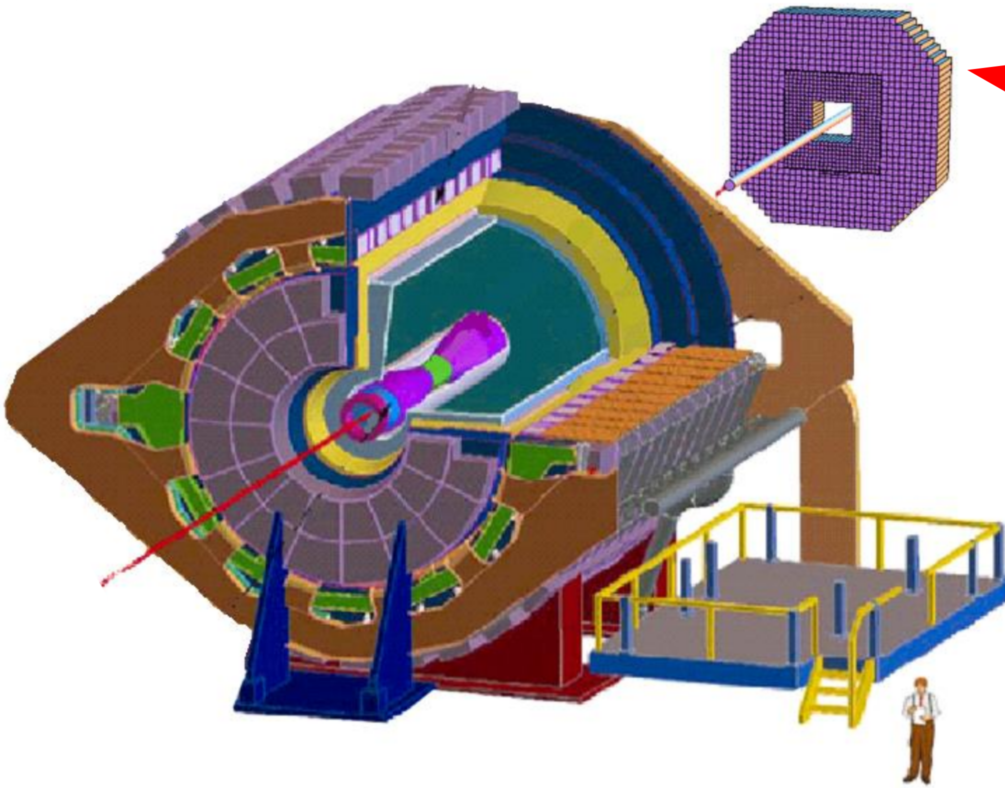
Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider





Brookhaven National Laboratory
Long Island, NY

STAR Calorimetry

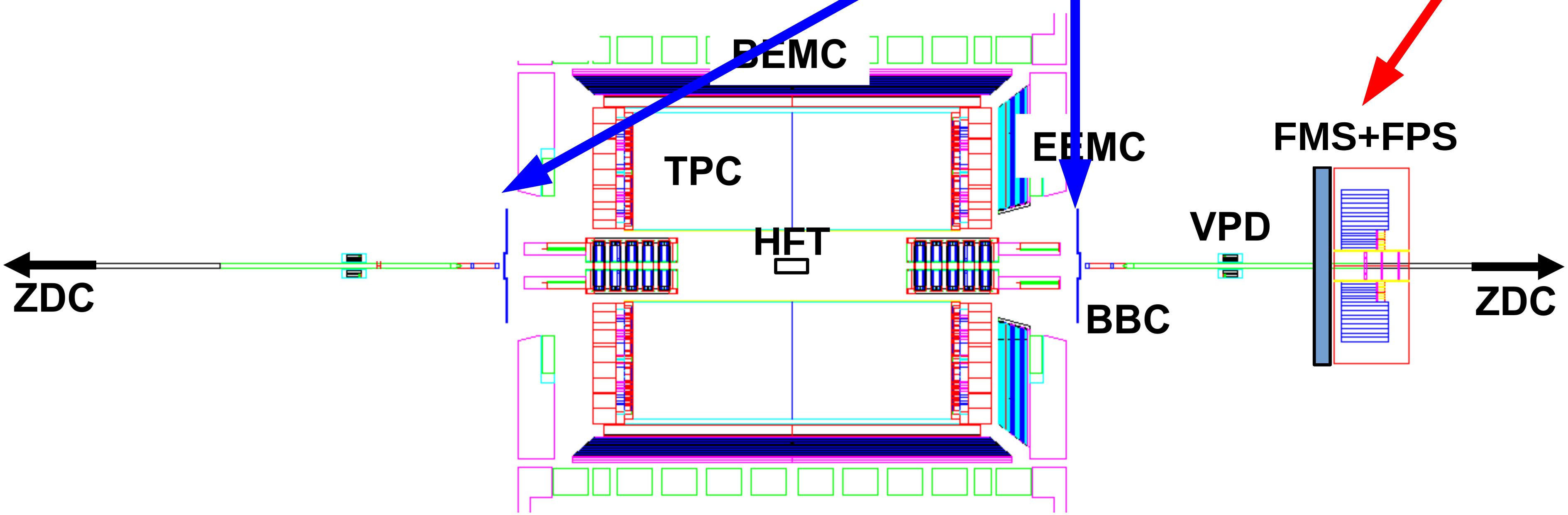


Forward Meson Spectrometer (FMS)

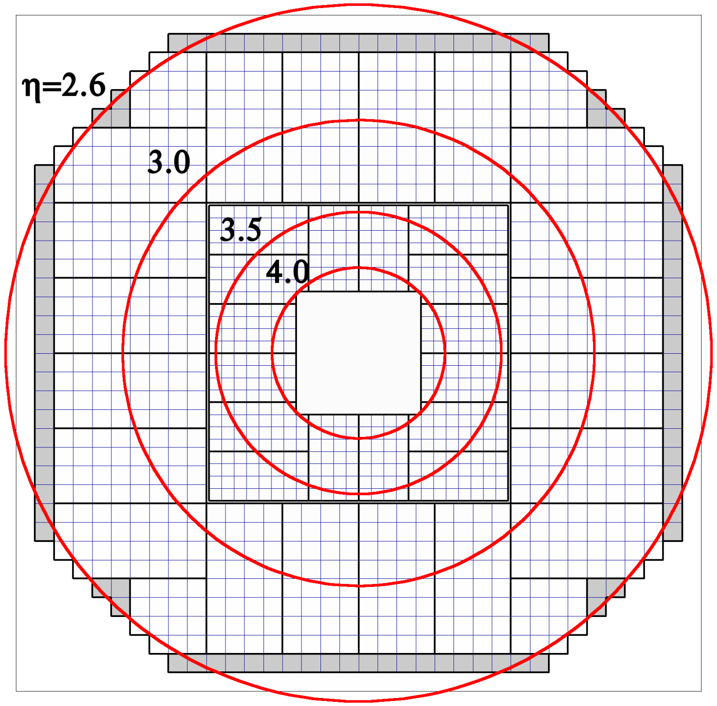
– EM calorimeter
– primarily detects *forward* π^0s

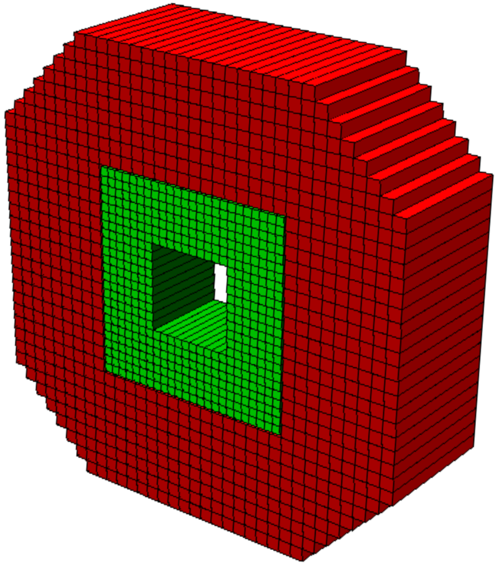
Beam Beam Counters (BBC)

– nuclear break-up in p+A
(discussed later)



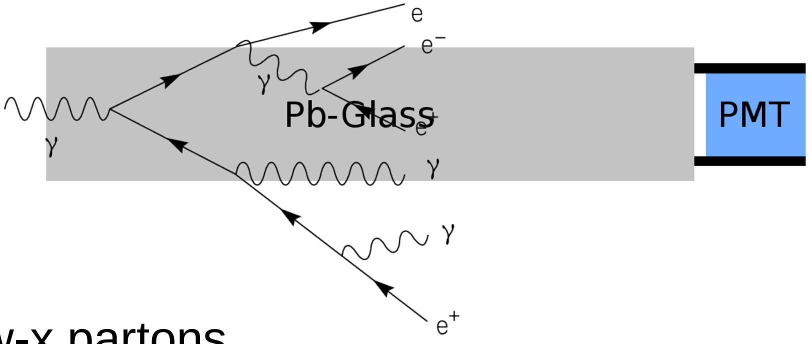
Forward Meson Spectrometer (FMS)





- Forward pseudorapdity: **2.5 < η < 4.2**
- 1,264 **Lead-glass cells** coupled to photomultiplier tubes
  - Large (5.8 x 5.8 cm) outer cells (red)
  - Small (3.8 x 3.8 cm) inner cells (green)
- Observes **π^0 → γ+γ** as 2 cluster events (M=135 MeV)
  - Can also observe η → **γ+γ**

  - Forward mid-to-high-x partons collide with a disk of low-x partons



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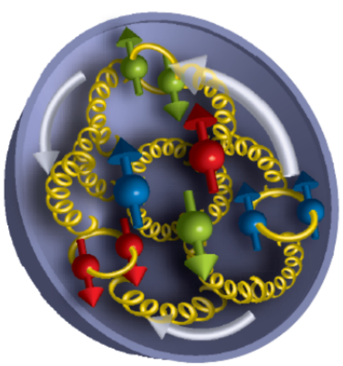
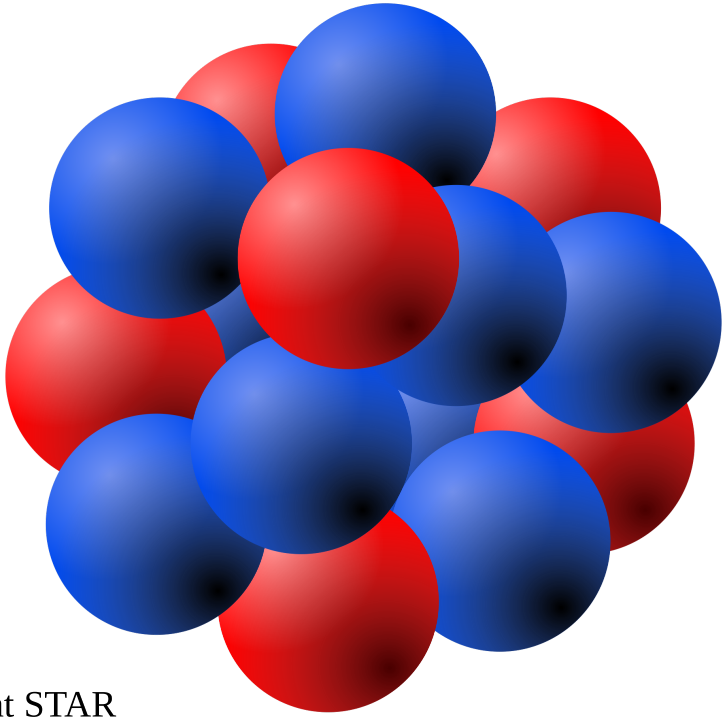




Analysis of 2015 p+p and p+Au Dataset

- In 2015, RHIC collided polarized p+Au and p+Al (along with transversely polarized p+p) at $s^{1/2}$=200 GeV

– A(Au)=197
– A(Al)=27

- This analysis is of the p+Au data set, compared p+p

Event Selection for 2015 Analysis (inclusive: π^0 + X)

1) Collect photons within 35 mR cones.
2) π^0 mass $|M-.135| < 0.12$ GeV/c^2
3) Organize into P_T and E Bins
4) For photon pair, $|E_1-E_2|/(E_1+E_2) < 0.7$
5) Beam Beam Counter (BBC) cuts
   (gold or away side proton breakup cut)
6) Require P_T above trigger threshold.

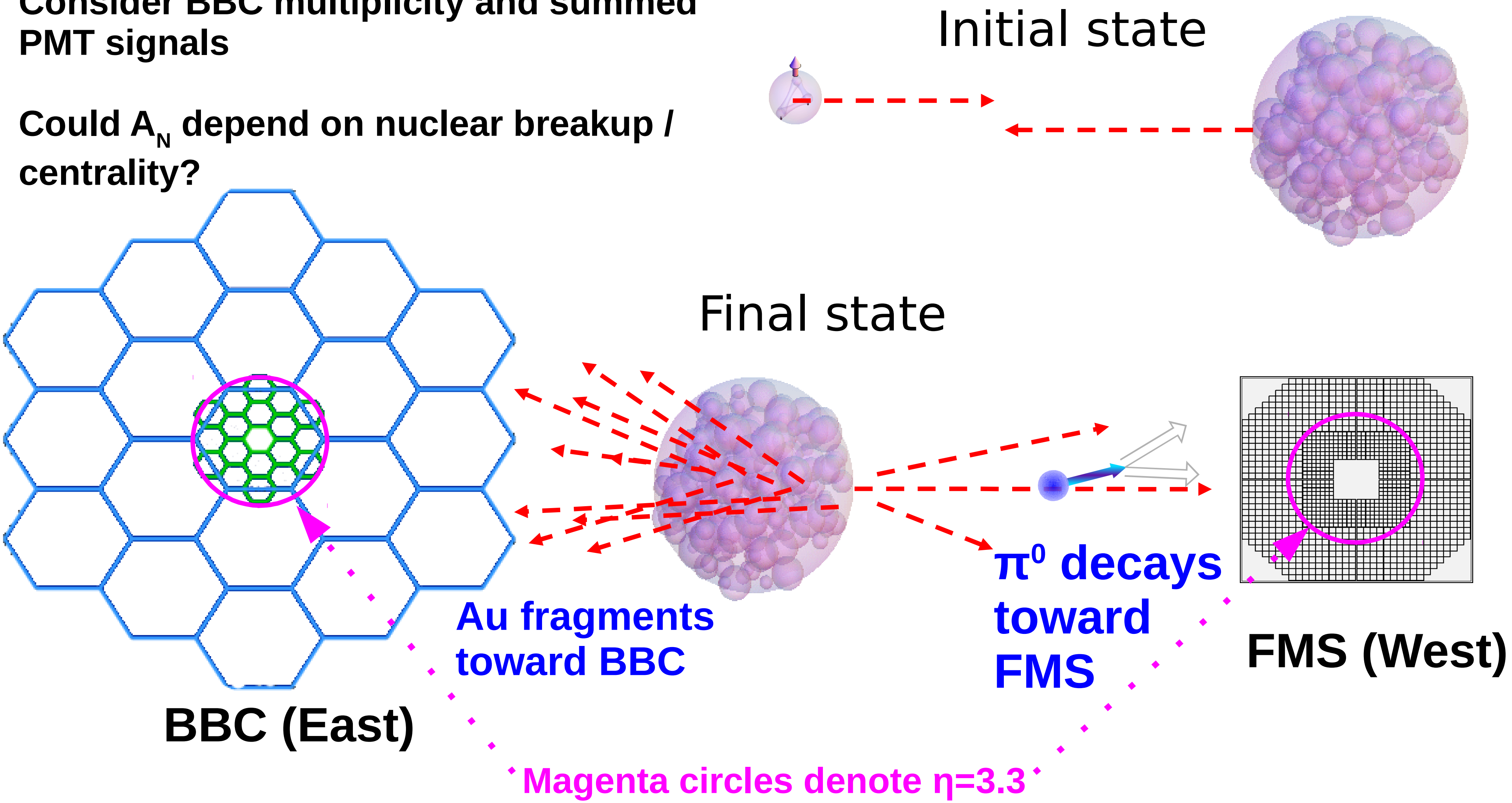
A_N depenence on pAu Break-up Multiplicity

(possibly related to centrality)

BBC – composed of scintillator panels

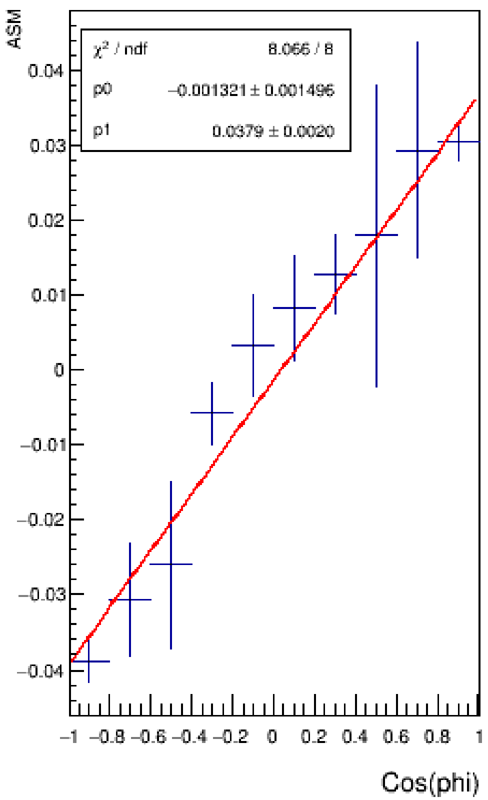
Consider BBC multiplicity and summed PMT signals

Could A_N depend on nuclear breakup / centrality?



Extracting asymmetries in p+Au – Example

This Example with π^0 within ($0.55<X_F<0.65$) and ($2.55\text{GeV} < p_T[\text{GeV/c}] < 3.05$)



$$\text{Raw } A_N = \frac{N^{\uparrow} - N^{\downarrow}}{N^{\uparrow} + N^{\downarrow}}$$

in 10 $\cos\phi$ bins

$$\text{Raw } A_N(\phi) = P_0 + P_1 \cos\phi$$

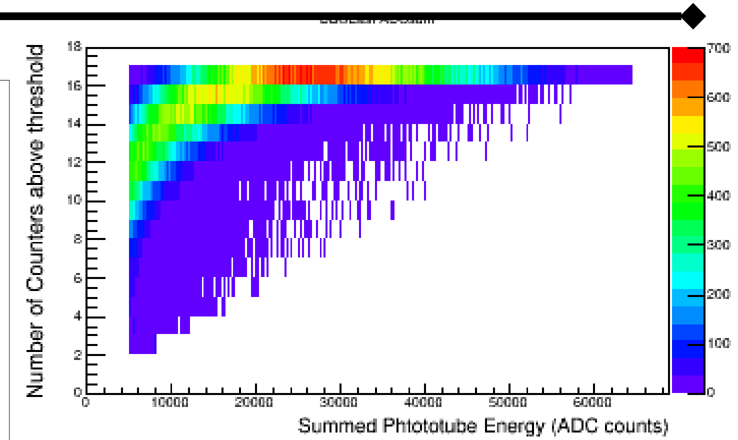
$$A_N = P_1 \ / \ \text{beam polarization}$$

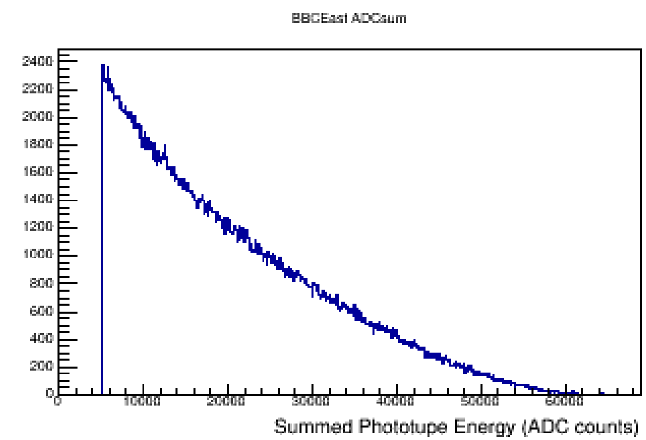
The p+Au Asymmetry depends on BBC charged particle distribution from gold breakup in the East BBC (and to lesser extent similar away side proton breakup in pp collisions)

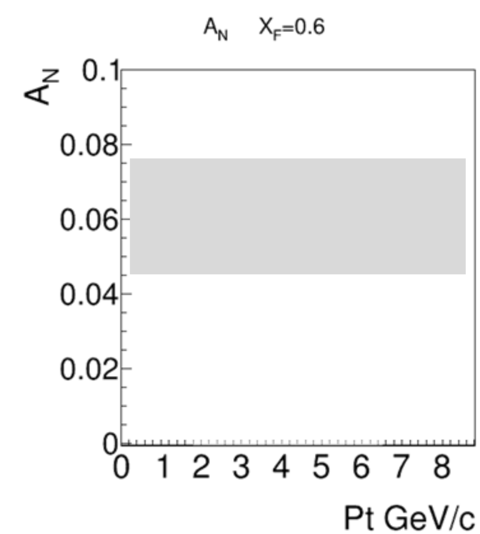
For now, that will be included as a **systematic uncertainty** in the measured A_N and is the dominant systematic uncertainty.

This dependence will be fully characterized in the future.

Steve Heppelmann
MPI 2015







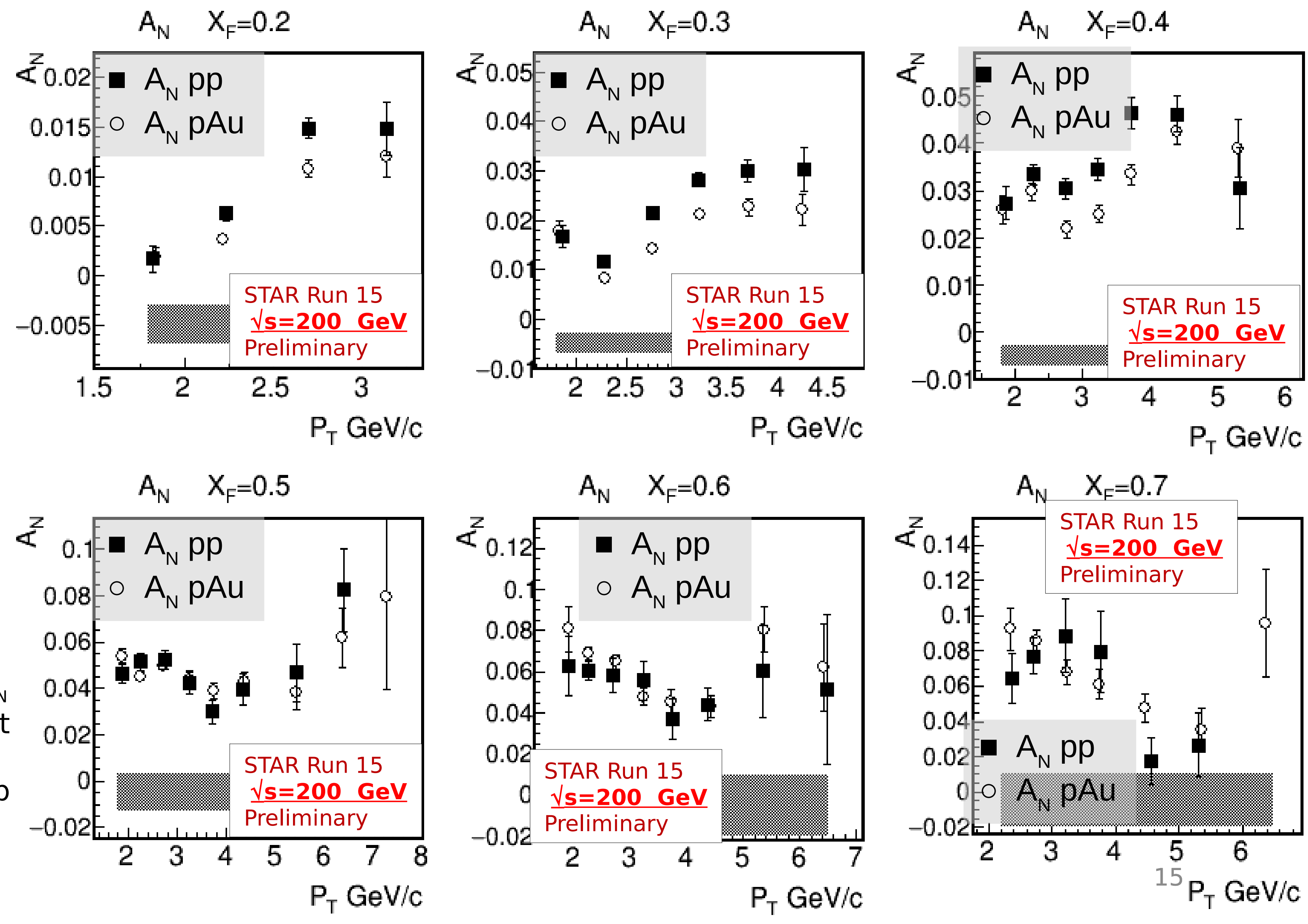
$s^{1/2}$=200 GeV π^0 A_N for pp vs. pAu

Error bars represent statistical errors only.

Luminosity:
pAu=204.6 nb^{-1}
pp=34.8 pb^{-1}

Average Polarization:
pp 55.6 ± 2 %
pAu 60.4 ± 2%

Shaded bands represent systematic uncertainty, dominated by dependence of A_N on observed East BBC energy (gold or proton breakup charge multiplicity)



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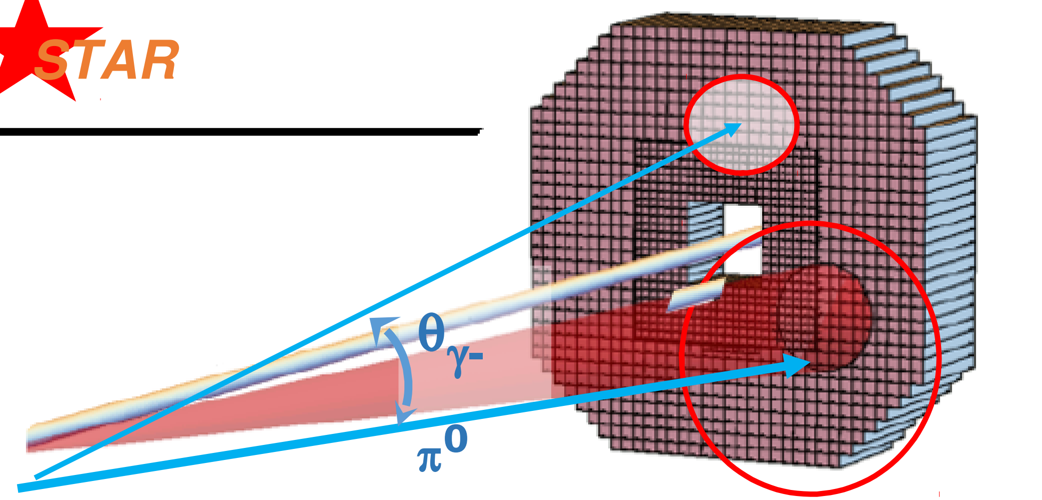
MPI 2015

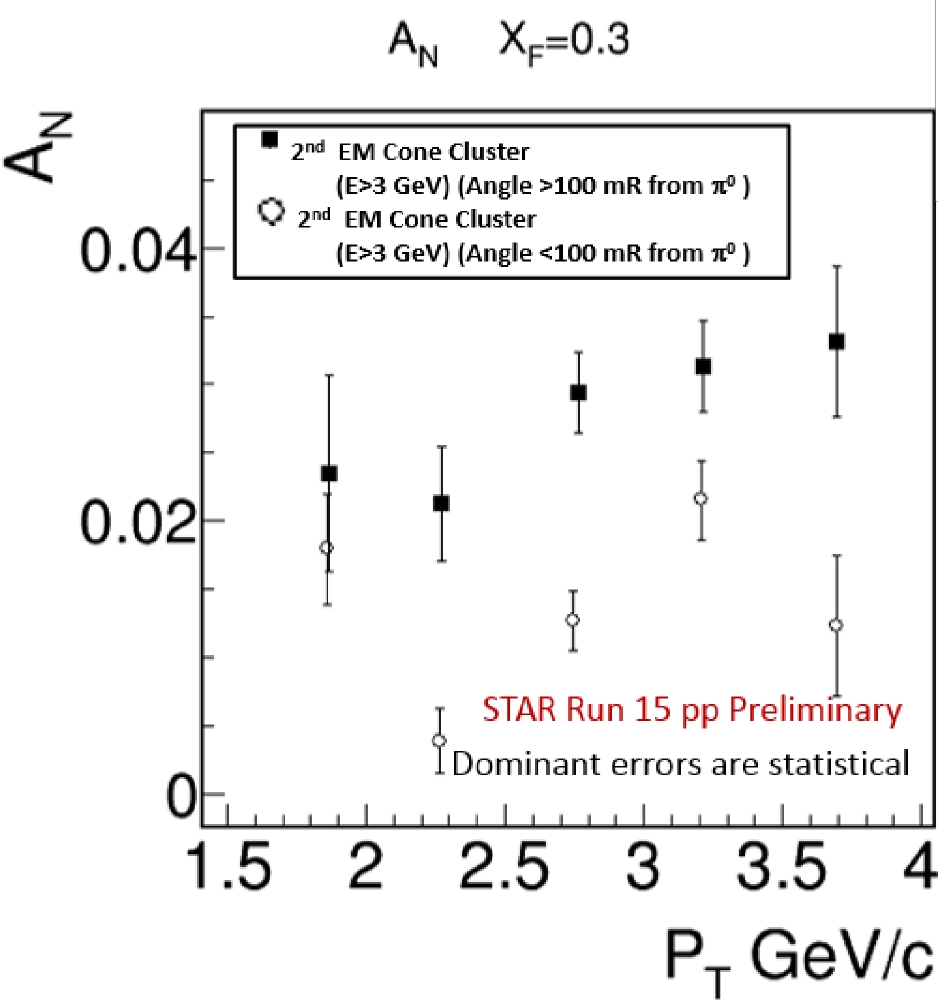
Topology Dependence

Run 15 2015 pp √s=200 GeV Data

Example showing suppression of π^0 A_N for jet–like events. This shows **2 photon cluster FMS events**, with a π^0 ($0.25<X_F<0.35$)

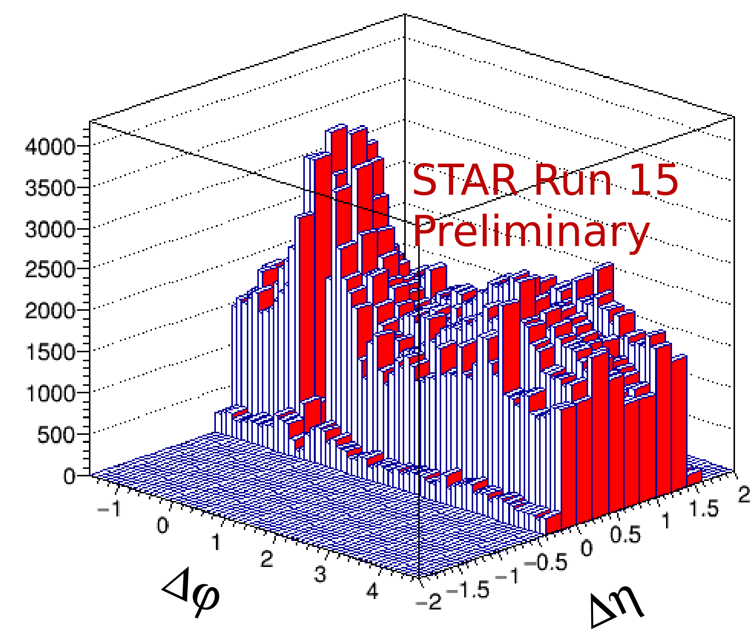
Second E&M photon cluster (E>3 GeV), outside the primary 35 mR π^0 cone.





FMS π^0 + 1 EM Cluster (Cluster Energy>3 GeV)

2nd EM Cluster Distribution in Δη (pseudo-rapidity) vs. Δφ (azimuthal angle) Relative to π^0 Direction



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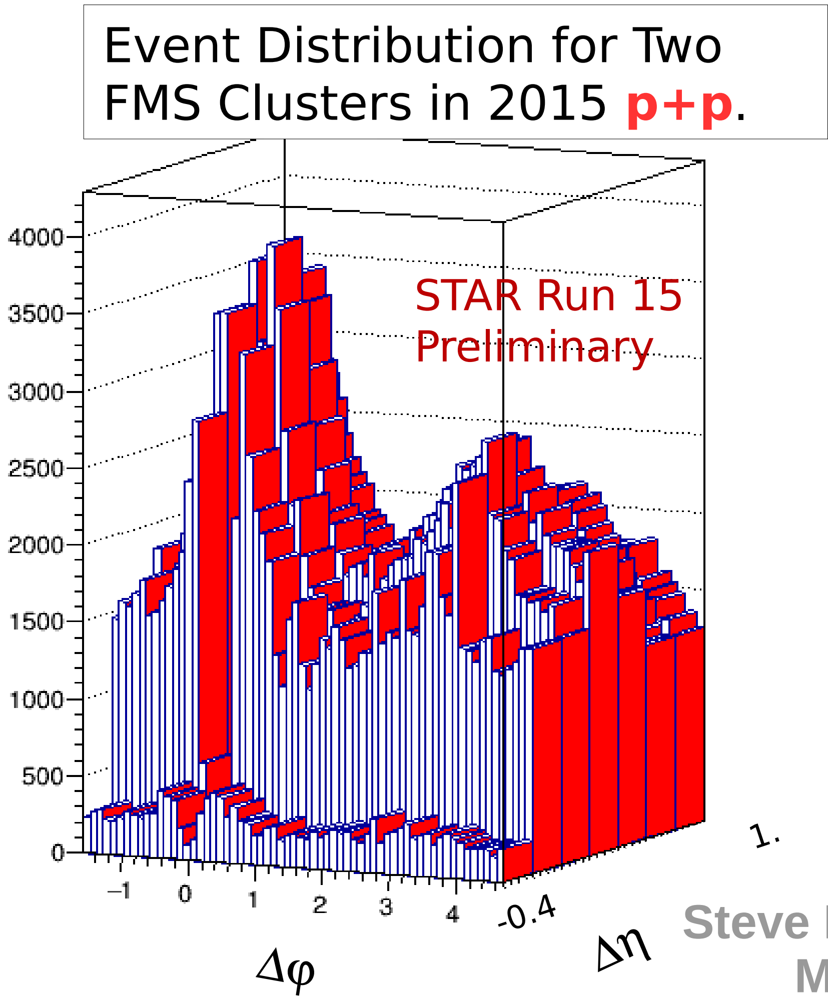
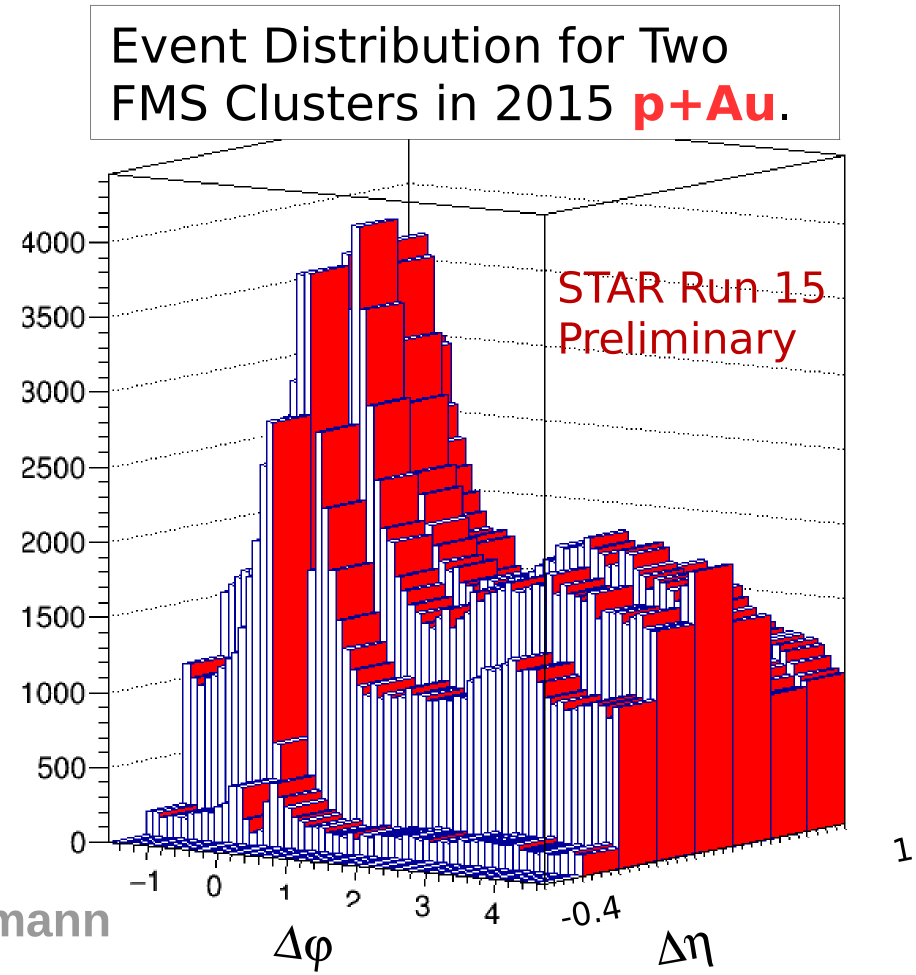
MPI 2015

2-Cluster Distributions in pp vs. pA





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MPI 2015

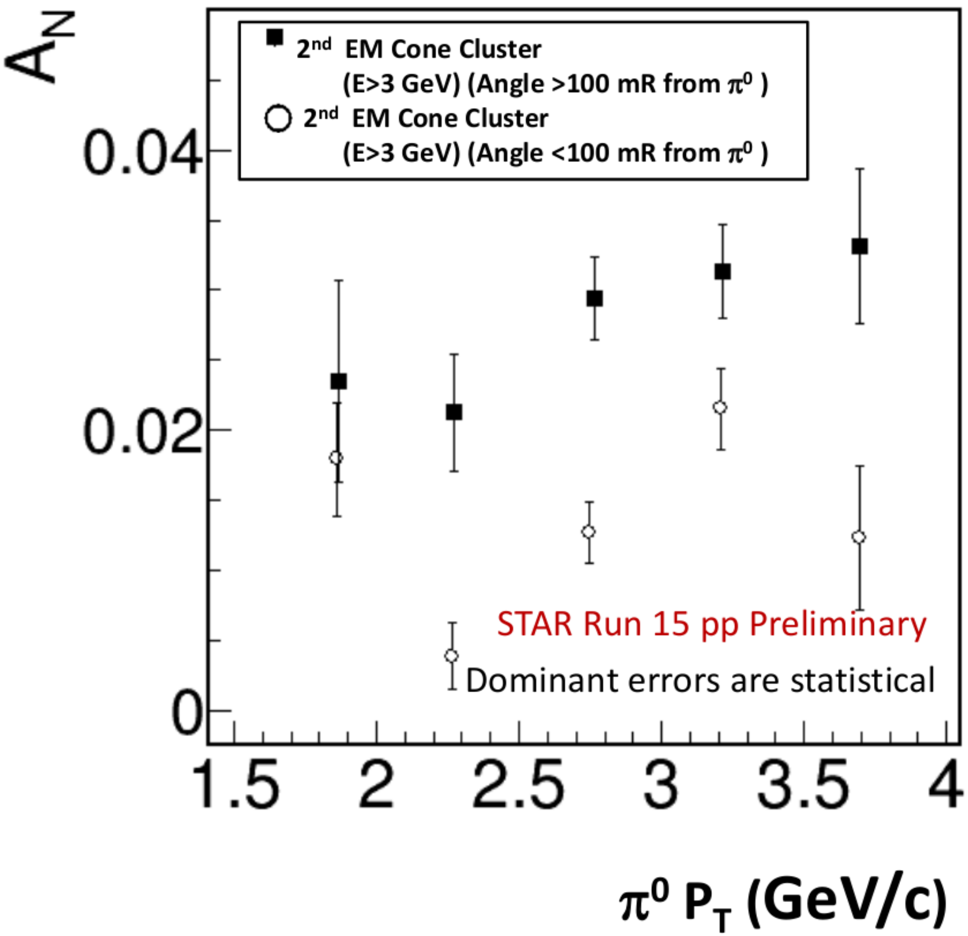
First cluster contains π^0

$0.25 < x_F(\pi^0) < 0.35$
$3.55 < p_T(\pi^0) < 4.05$ GeV/c

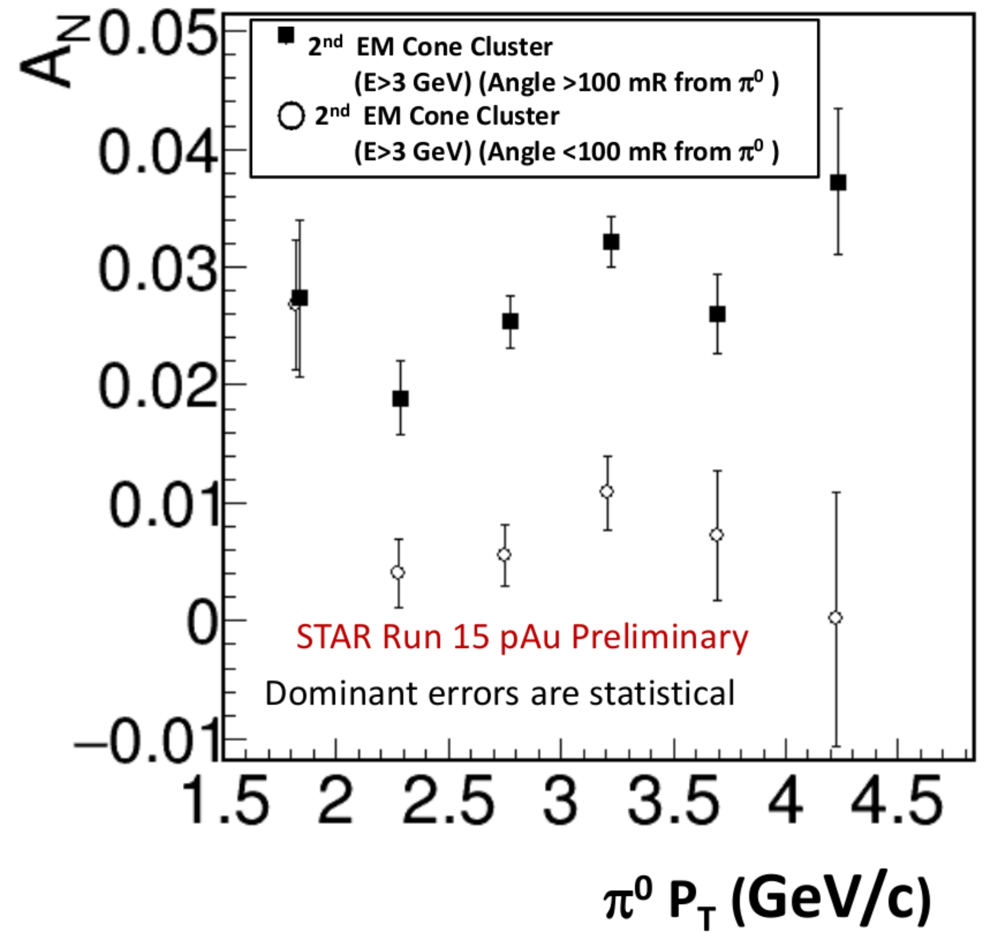
E>3 GeV for 2^{nd} cluster in momentum direction relative to π^0 direction

Topology-dependent A_N in pp vs. pA

STAR Run 15 p-p $x_F = 0.3$. $\sqrt{s}$=200 GeV
Dependence of π^0 A_N on the location of second forward EM particle in pp collisions at $x_F = 0.3$.



STAR Run 15 p-Au $x_F = 0.3$. $\sqrt{s}$=200 GeV
Dependence of π^0 A_N on the location of second forward EM particle



Steve Heppelmann
MPI 2015

Summary

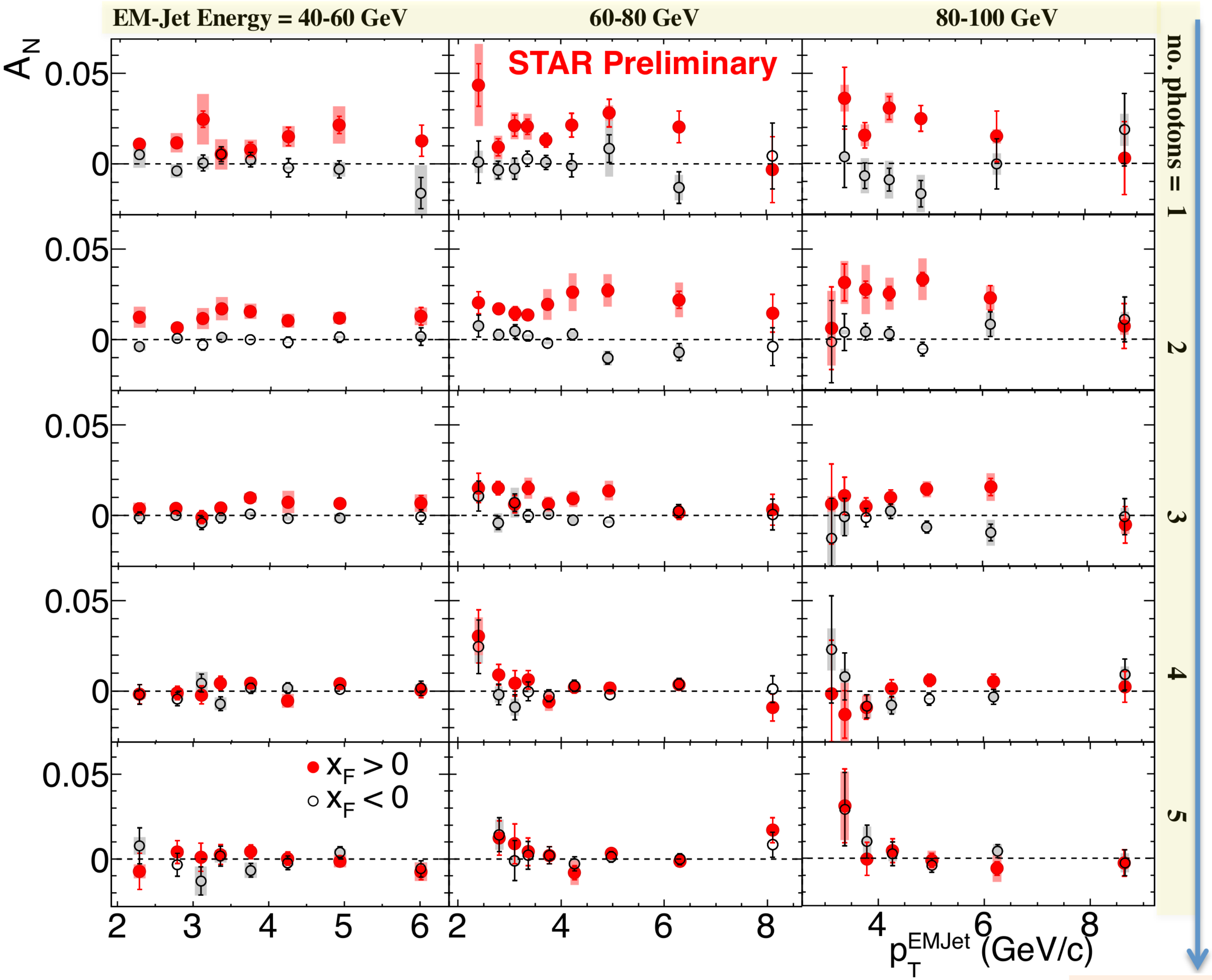
- Large A_N has been observed since 1976
  - Rising with x_F
  - A_N tends to increase w.r.t p_T
  - Dependent on event topology for π^0s
    - – Isolated π^0s have higher asymmetries
    - – Asymmetries suppressed in multi-photon EM jets

- 2015 – first data recorded for polarized p+A collisions
  - How does A_N in p+A production compare to A_N in p+p?
  - Similar dependence on topology, though A_N for non-isolated π^0s in p+A seems to be slightly smaller than that in p+p
  - Dependence on centrality – to be characterized
  - Can also look at nuclear modification factors

- Roman Pots were installed in 2015
  - Possible to tag outgoing proton(s) as a signature for diffractive events
  - Do the asymmetries depend on diffraction?

backup

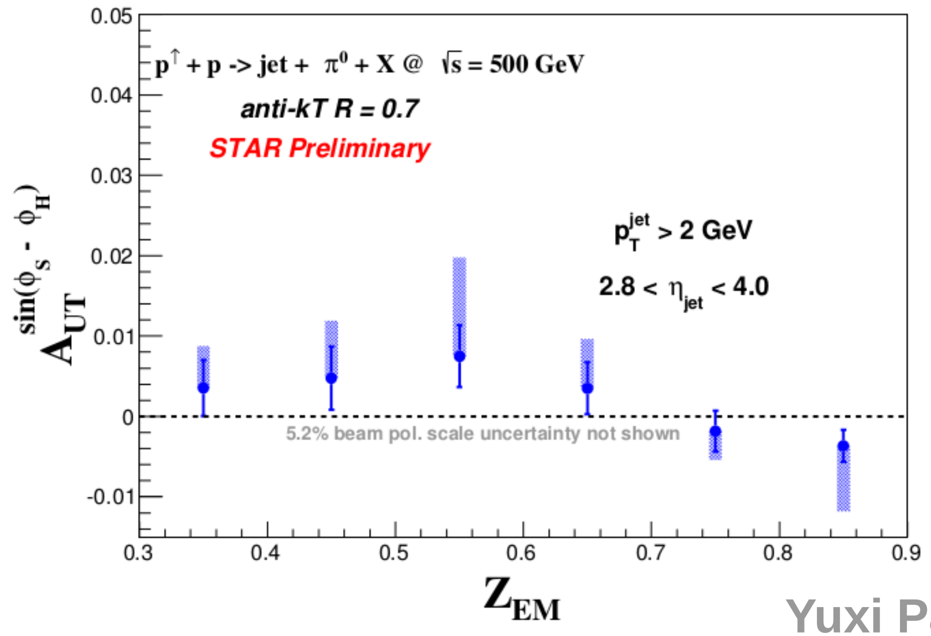
EM-jet A_N

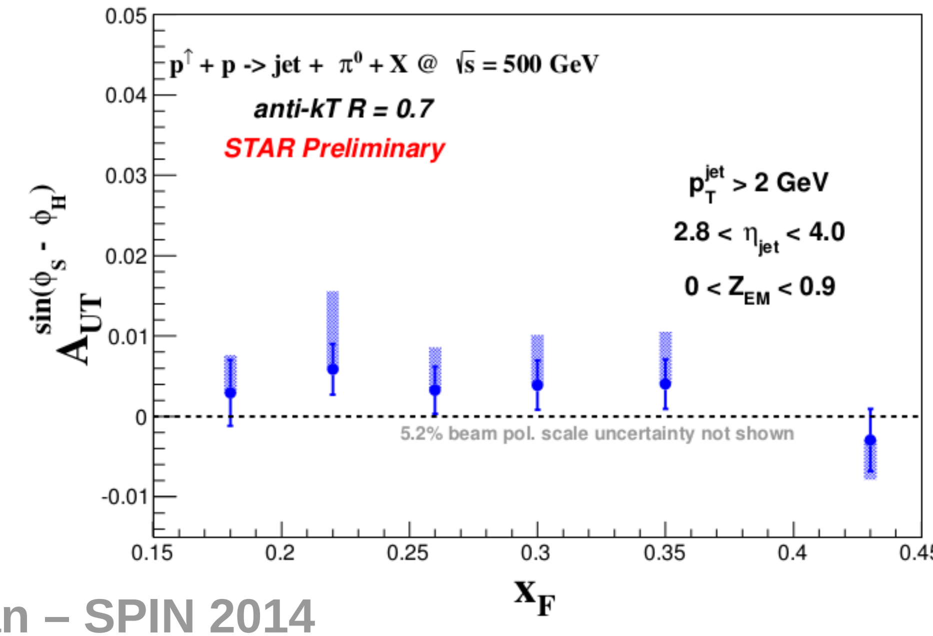


- $s^{1/2}$=500 GeV
- EM-jet A_N decreases as number of photons increase
- 1-photon events have pion contamination, so A_N is similar to that of 2-photon events, which are mostly pions
- Pion A_N is also reduced when there are correlated central EM-jets (see backup)
- Sivers-type asymmetry in the jets is too small to explain high pion A_N

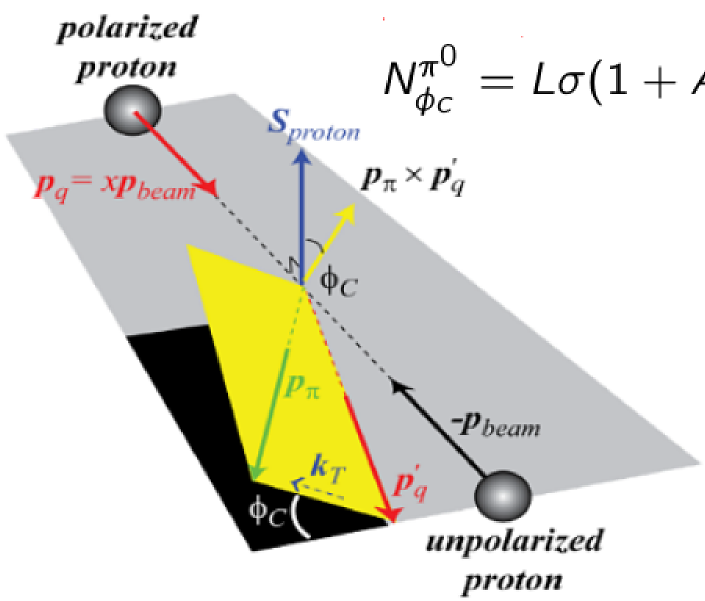
Mriganka Mondal
DIS 2014

Collins Asymmetry (“A_N within a Jet”)





Yuxi Pan – SPIN 2014



$$N_{\phi_C}^{\pi^0} = L\sigma(1 + A_{UT}\sin(\phi_s - \phi_h))$$

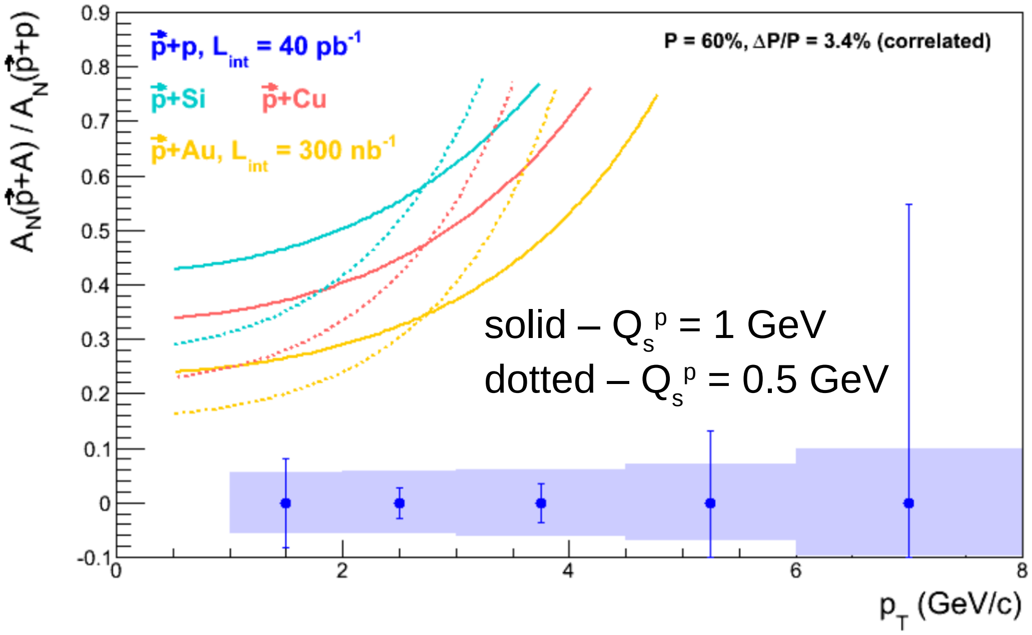
Φ_s = angle btwn proton spin & reaction plane

Φ_h = angle btwn pion jet-transverse momentum and reaction plane

- The Collins asymmetry A_{UT} is an asymmetry of a hadron within a jet
- Z_{EM} = longitudinal momentum fraction of pion in EM-jet
- Hints of possible non-zero π^0 A_{UT}

A_N for pp vs. pA Predictions

A_N^{pA} / A_N^{pp} vs. p_T for FMS π^0s



- Color glass condensate model predicts pA A_N decreases as A increases
- pQCD & factorization predicts same A_N for any size of nuclear target

A_N in pA vs. in pp as a possible probe to nuclear saturation scale Q_s^A

In 2015, RHIC collided p↑+Au and p↑+Al
- A(Au)=197
- A(Al)=27

$$\left.\frac{A_N^{pA\to h}}{A_N^{pp\to h}}\right|_{P_{h\perp}^2 \ll Q_s^2} \approx \frac{Q_{sp}^2}{Q_{sA}^2} e^{\frac{P_{h\perp}^2 \delta^2}{Q_{sp}^4}}$$

$$\left.\frac{A_N^{pA\to h}}{A_N^{pp\to h}}\right|_{P_{h\perp}^2 \gg Q_s^2} \approx 1$$

$$Q_s^A \propto A^{1/3} Q_s^p$$

Kang and Yuan
arXiv:1106.1375

Roman Pots

RPs are vessels which house Silicon trackers within beam-pipe vacuum, and are moved close to the beam during optimal running conditions

They are designed to track protons which were only slightly deflected after a collision