Transverse Spin Dependent Azimuthal Correlations of Charged hadron(s) in

 $p^{\uparrow}p$ Collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 200$ GeV

Babu Pokhrel for the STAR Collaboration Temple University, Philadelphia, PA, USA

Abstract

3

10

11

12

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

The transversity distribution function, $h_1^q(x)$, a leading twist parton distribution function, is a fundamental component of the spin structure of the nucleon. $h_1^q(x)$ describes the distributions of transversely polarized quarks inside a transversely polarized nucleon where x is the longitudinal momentum fraction of the proton carried by quark q, which is loosely constrained by global fits. Being chiral odd, $h_1^q(x)$ can be accessed only when it is coupled with another chiral-odd partner, such as the spin-dependent Collins fragmentation function (FF) or the interference fragmentation function (IFF), which serves as a quark polarimeter. In transversely polarized proton-proton $(p^{\uparrow}p)$ collisions, the resulting azimuthal correlation between the polarization of the struck quarks and the final state single charged hadron (involving Collins FF) or di-hadron (involving IFF) can be measured, which are sensitive to quark transversity. The STAR experiment at RHIC has previously measured IFF asymmetries for $\pi^+\pi^-$ pairs using $p^{\uparrow}p$ collisions data from 2006 at $\sqrt{s}=200$ GeV and from 2011 at $\sqrt{s} = 500$ GeV and Collins asymmetries for charged pions within jets from 2011 at $\sqrt{s} = 500$ GeV. Non-zero IFF and Collins asymmetries were reported which are consistent with predictions based on global analyses of e^+e^- and SIDIS data. In 2012 and 2015, STAR collected $\sim 14~pb^{-1}$ and $\sim 48~pb^{-1}$ of $p^{\uparrow}p$ data at $\sqrt{s} = 200$ GeV, respectively. These datasets provide the most precise measurement of the Collins and IFF asymmetries in $p^{\uparrow}p$ collisions, especially at the quark momentum fractions 0.1 < x < 0.4. We will present preliminary results for Collins asymmetries of identified pions, kaons, and protons in jets based on 2012 and 2015 $p^{\uparrow}p$ collisions datasets and IFF asymmetries based on 2015 $p^{\uparrow}p$ collisions dataset at $\sqrt{s} = 200$ GeV.