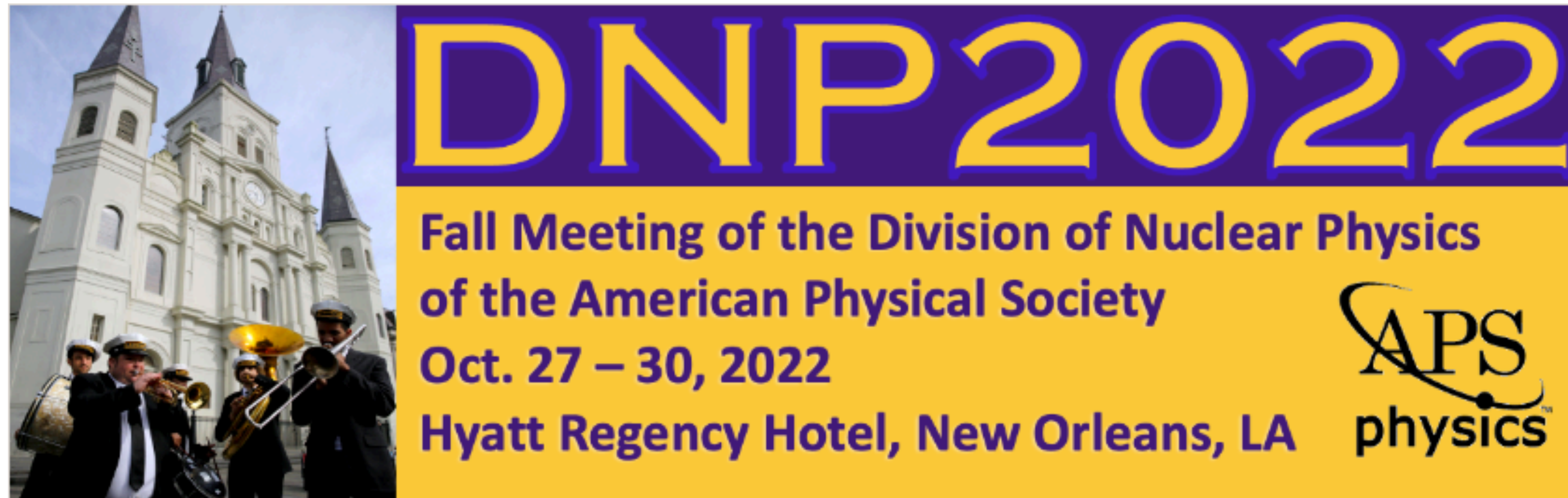
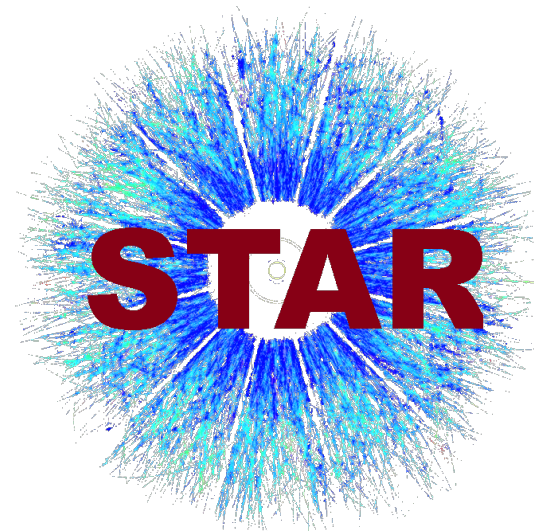


# Measurements of Transverse Spin Dependent $\pi^+\pi^-$ Azimuthal Correlation Asymmetry and Unpolarized $\pi^+\pi^-$ Cross Section in $pp$ Collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 200$ GeV at STAR

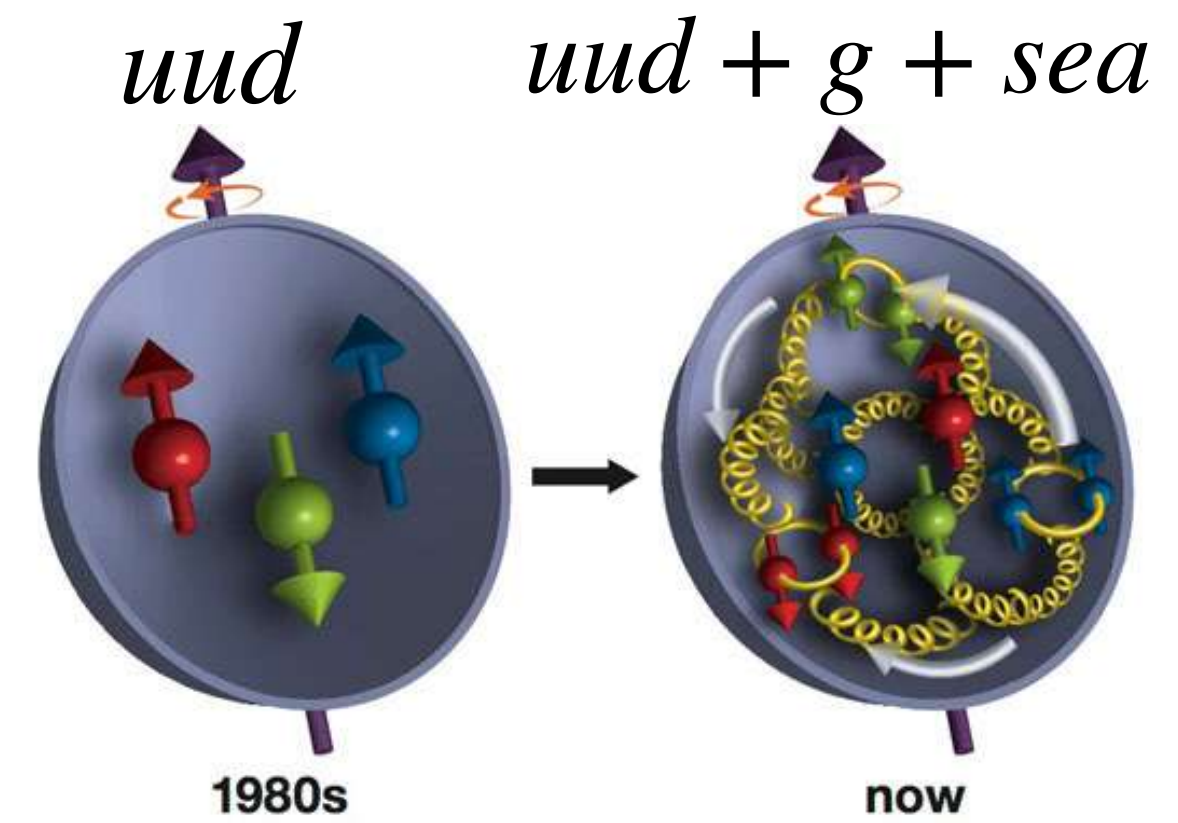


Babu Pokhrel  
(For the STAR Collaboration)  
10/30/2022



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Science

# Nucleon Structure and Transversity



## Transversity, $h_1(x)$ :

- Chiral-odd quantity, less known from experiments than  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$ .
- Its extraction requires coupling to another chiral-odd object, such as Interference Fragmentation Function (IFF).

**Nucleon tensor charge**

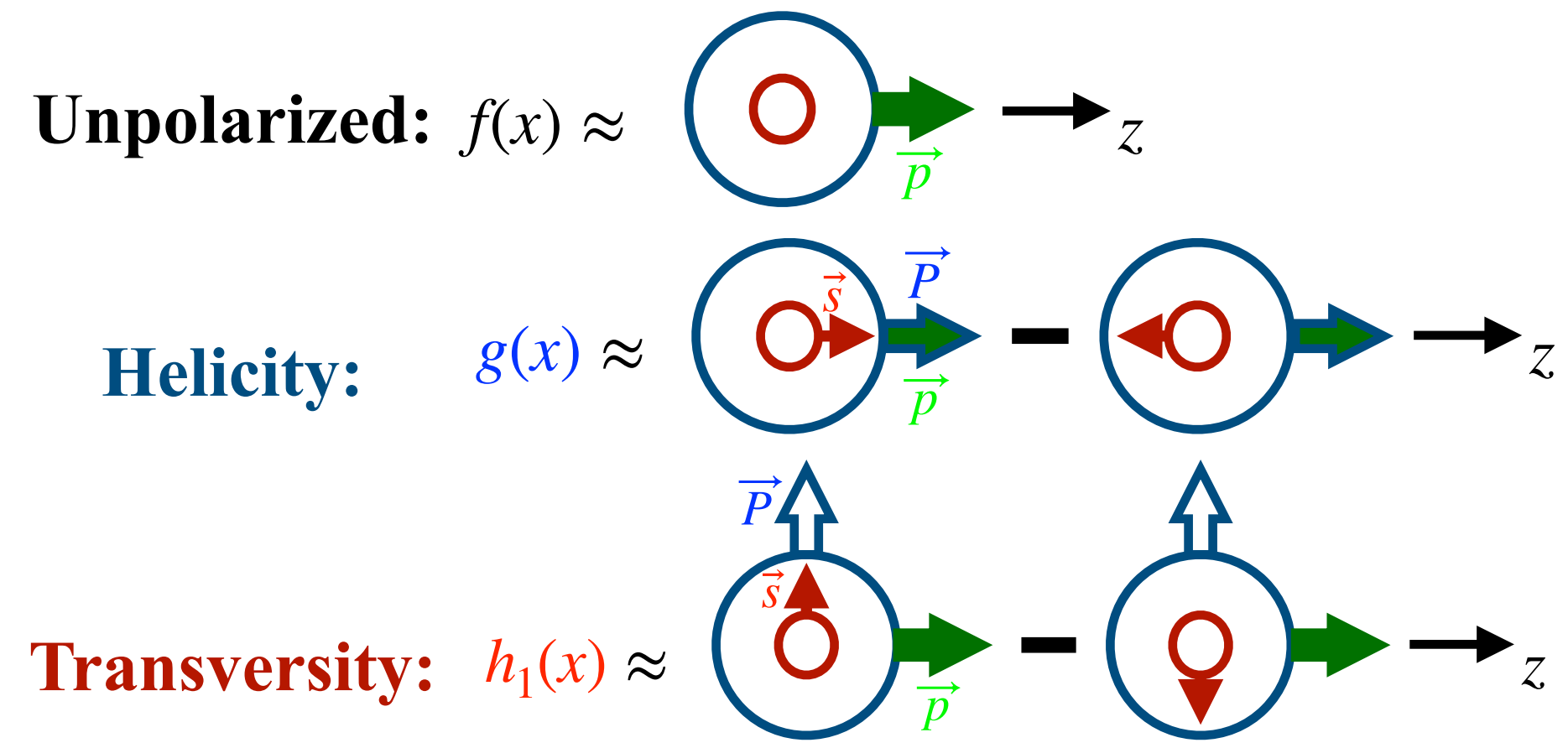
$$g_T = \delta u - \delta d,$$

$$\delta u = \int_0^1 dx (h_1^u(x) - h_1^{\bar{u}}(x)),$$

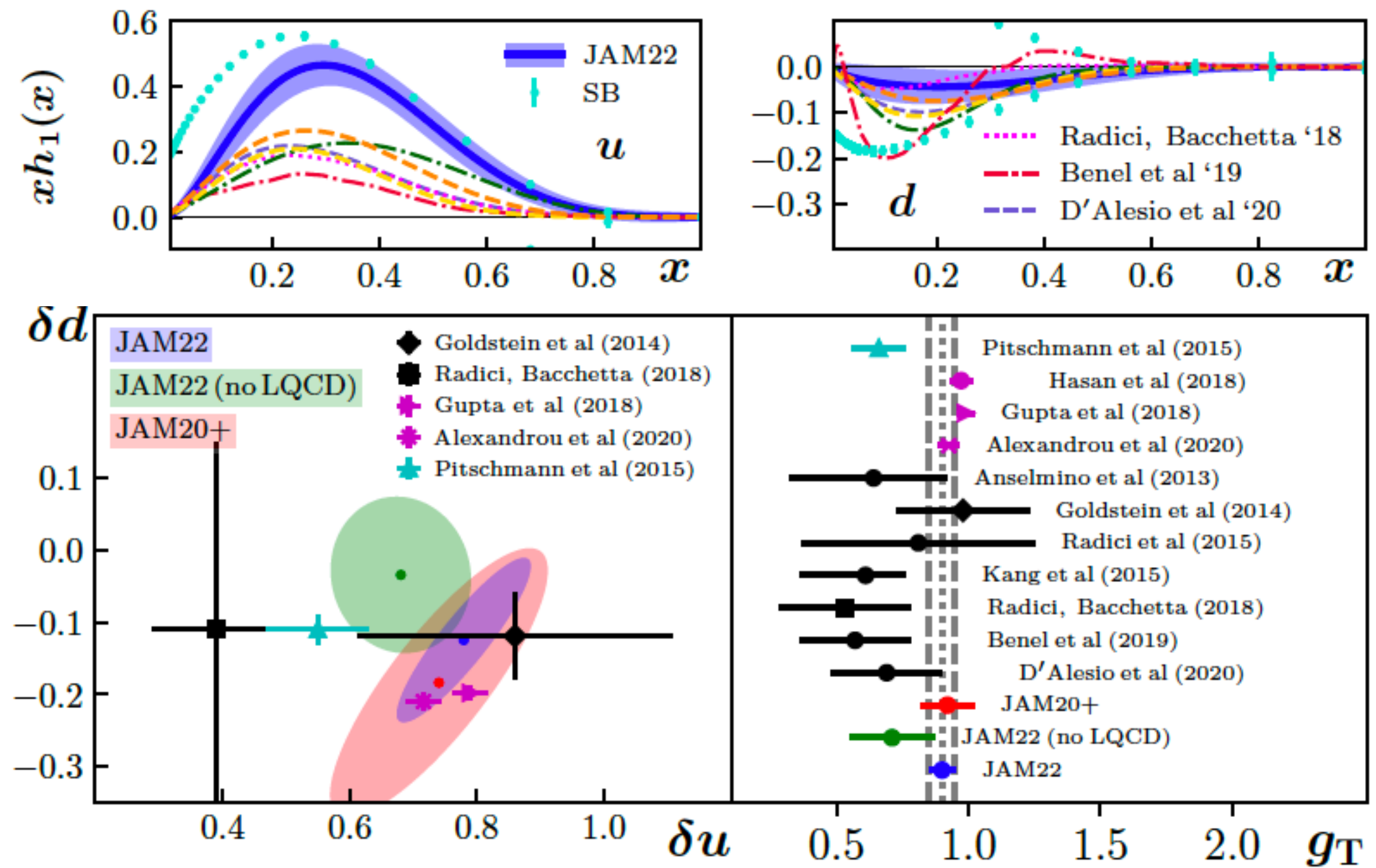
$$\delta d = \int_0^1 dx (h_1^d(x) - h_1^{\bar{d}}(x))$$

## Parton distribution functions (PDFs):

$$f(x) \otimes g(x) \otimes h_1(x)$$



$\vec{P}$  = Nucleon polarization  
 $\vec{p}$  = Nucleon momentum  
 $\vec{s}$  = Quark polarization

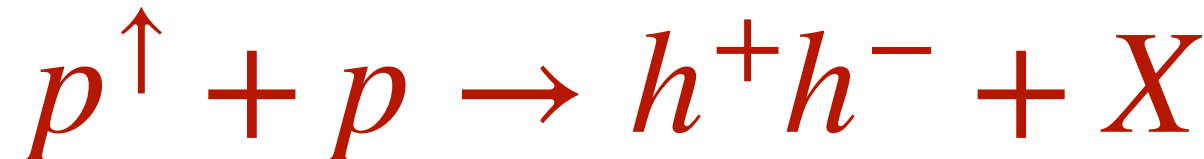


JAM, Phys.Rev.D 106 (2022) 3, 034014



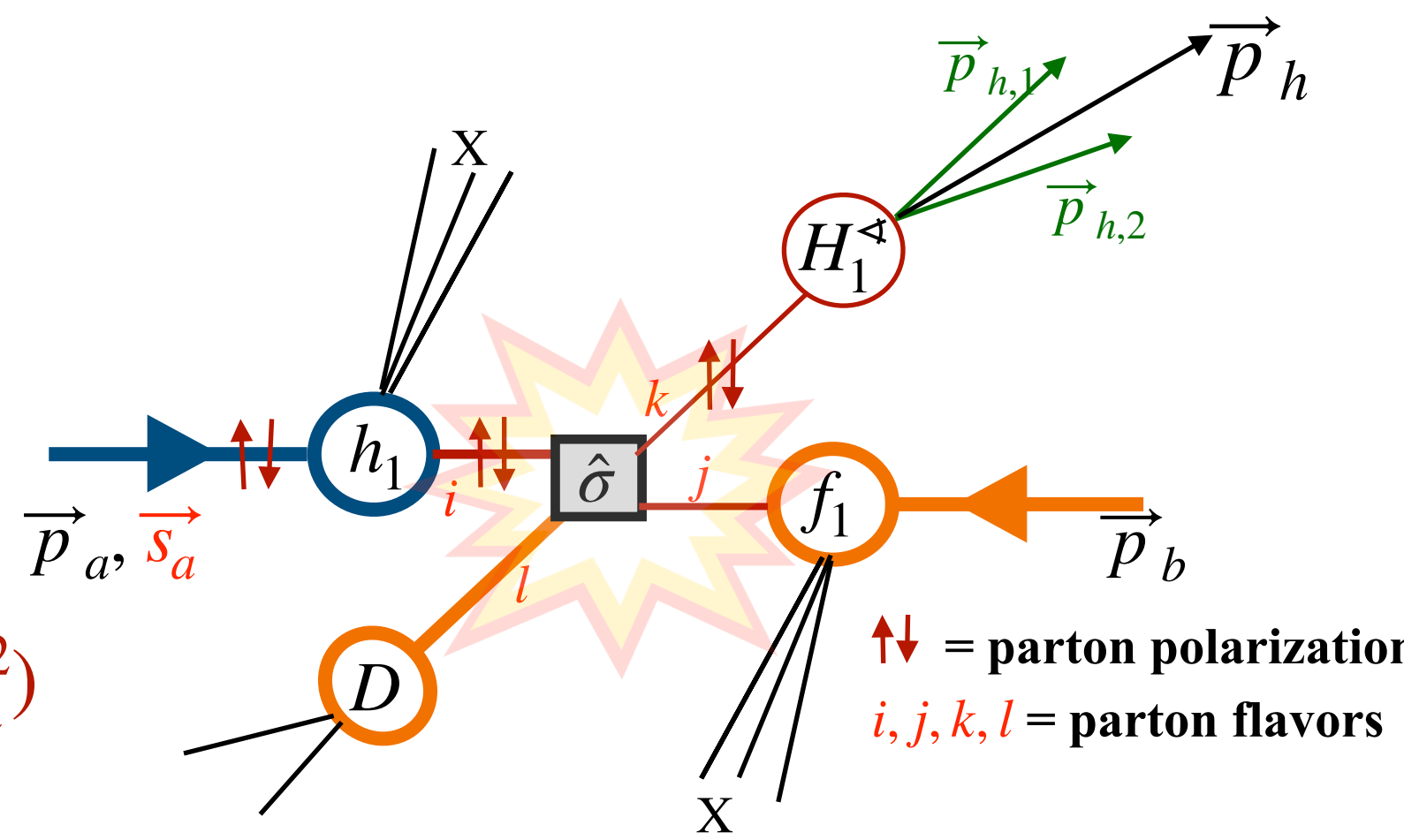
# Observables for Transversity $h_1(x)$ in $pp$

**Reaction Channel:**



**Cross Section:**

$$d\sigma_{UT}^{p_a^\uparrow p_b \rightarrow (h_1, h_2) X} \propto \sin(\phi_{S_a} - \phi_R) \sum_{i,j,k,l} \int dx_a \int dx_b \int dz h_1^{i/p_a}(x_a) f_1^{j/p_b}(x_b) \frac{d\Delta \hat{\sigma}^{ij \rightarrow kl}}{d\hat{t}} H_1^{\triangleleft h_1 h_2 / k}(z, M_h^2)$$



**Dihadron Correlation Asymmetry:**

$$A_{UT} = \frac{d\sigma^\uparrow - d\sigma^\downarrow}{d\sigma^\uparrow + d\sigma^\downarrow} \propto \frac{\sum_{i,j,k} h_1^{i/p_a}(x_a) f_1^{j/p_b}(x_b) H_1^{\triangleleft h_1 h_2 / k}(z, M_h)}{\sum_{i,j,k} f_1^{i/p_a}(x_a) f_1^{j/p_b}(x_b) D_1^{h_1 h_2 / k}(z, M_h)}$$

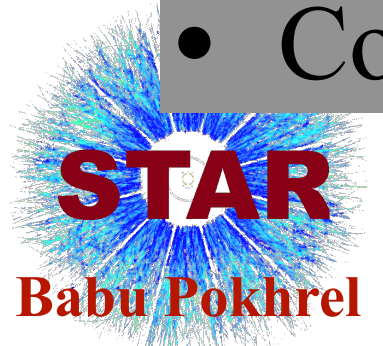
- Spin dependent IFF, needed for the extraction of transversity,  $h_1^q$ .
- Extracted from the  $e^+e^-$  data.

- Access to transversity coupled with the spin dependent interference fragmentation function (FF),  $H_1^{\triangleleft h_1 h_2}$ .
- No jet reconstruction required.
- Collinearity is preserved.

- Spin averaged FF, needed for the extraction of spin dependent FF,  $H_1^{\triangleleft h_1 h_2}$ , and transversity,  $h_1^q$ .
- Limited knowledge from the  $e^+e^-$  data.
- $pp$  channel requires the knowledge of  $D_1^{h_1 h_2 / q}$  and  $D_1^{h_1 h_2 / g}$ , for quark and gluon respectively.

- Unpolarized Dihadron Cross Section in  $pp$ :
- Channel:  $\sigma^{pp \rightarrow h_1 h_2 + X}$
  - Much needed measurement, which gives access to the unpolarized gluon FF,  $D_1^{h_1 h_2 / g}$ .

Bachetta & Radici et al. Phys.Rev.D 70 (2004) 094032



# STAR $\pi^+\pi^-$ Azimuthal Correlation Asymmetry

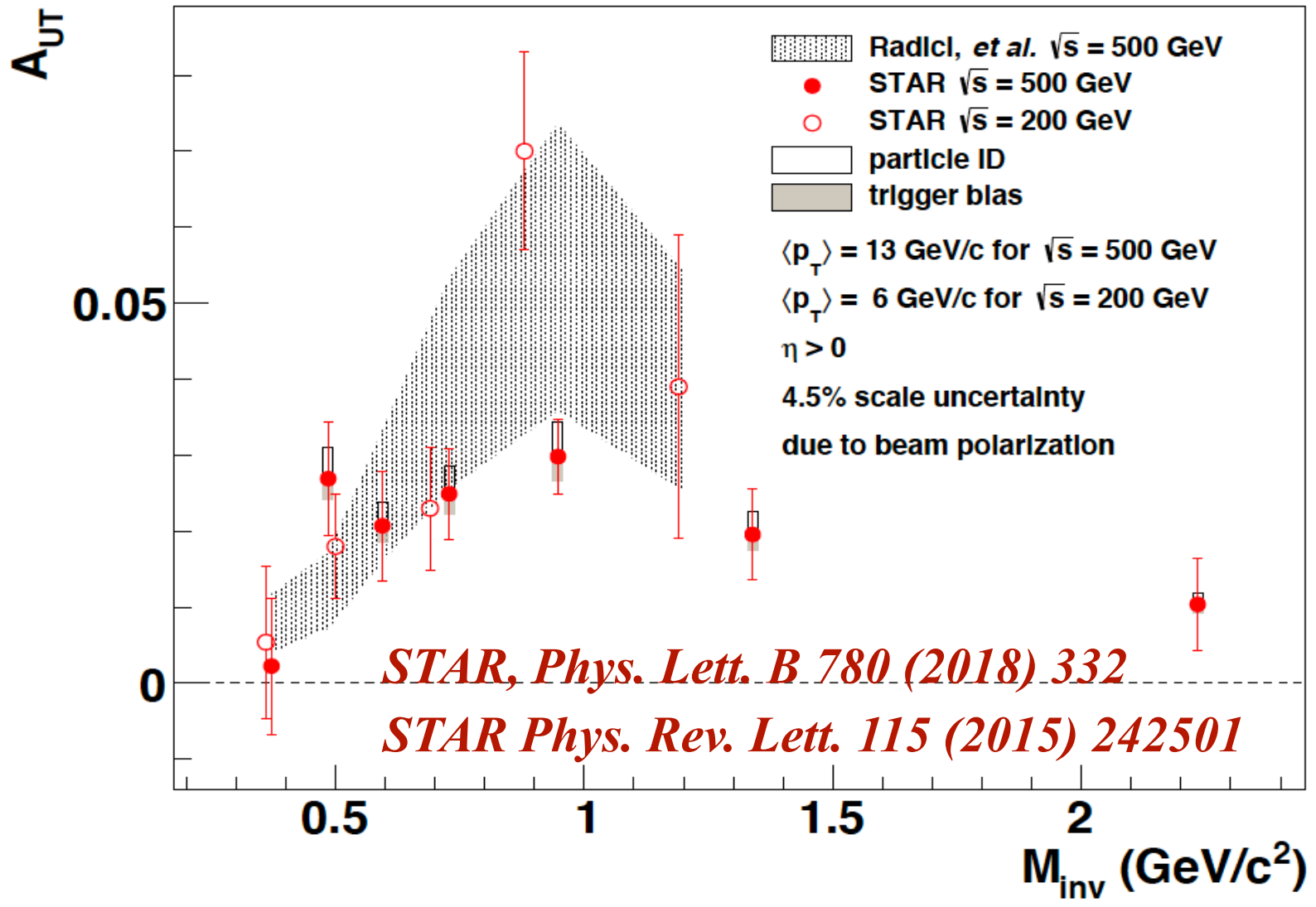
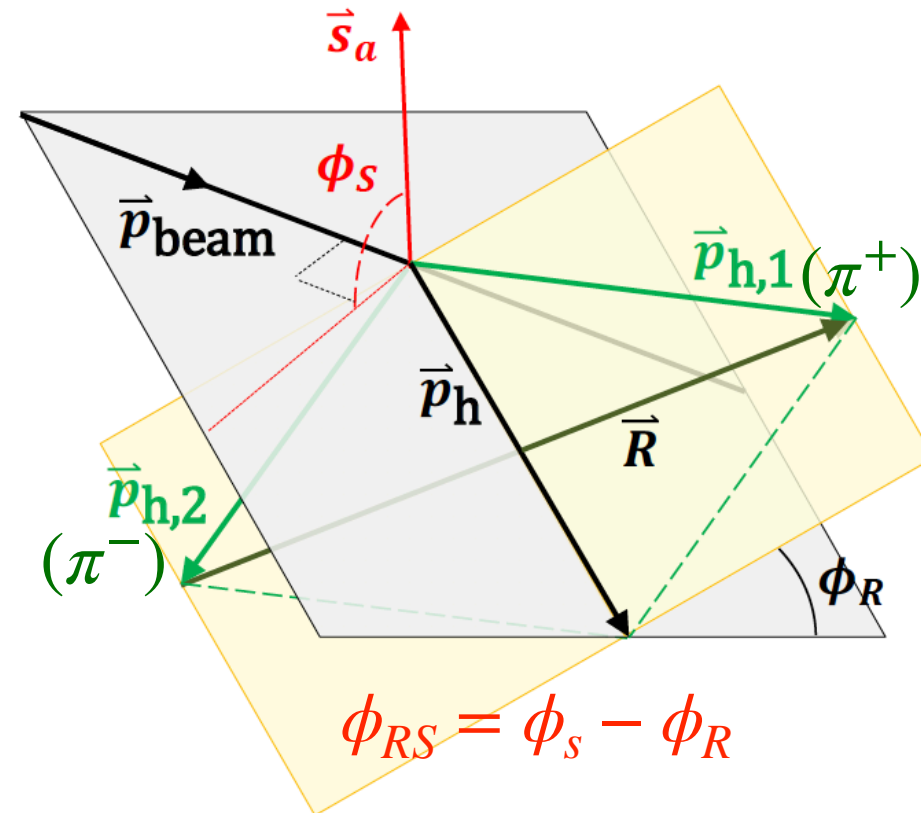
$$p^\uparrow + p \rightarrow h^+h^- + X$$

## Cross-Ratio Method

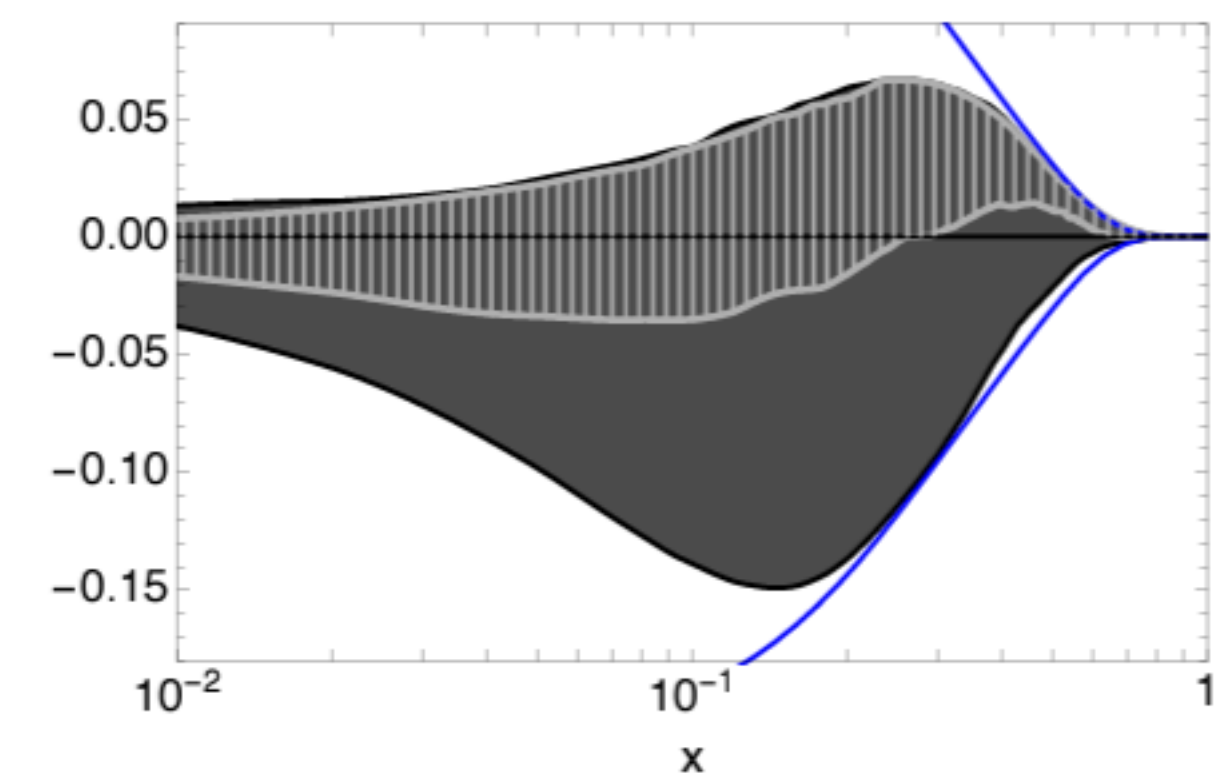
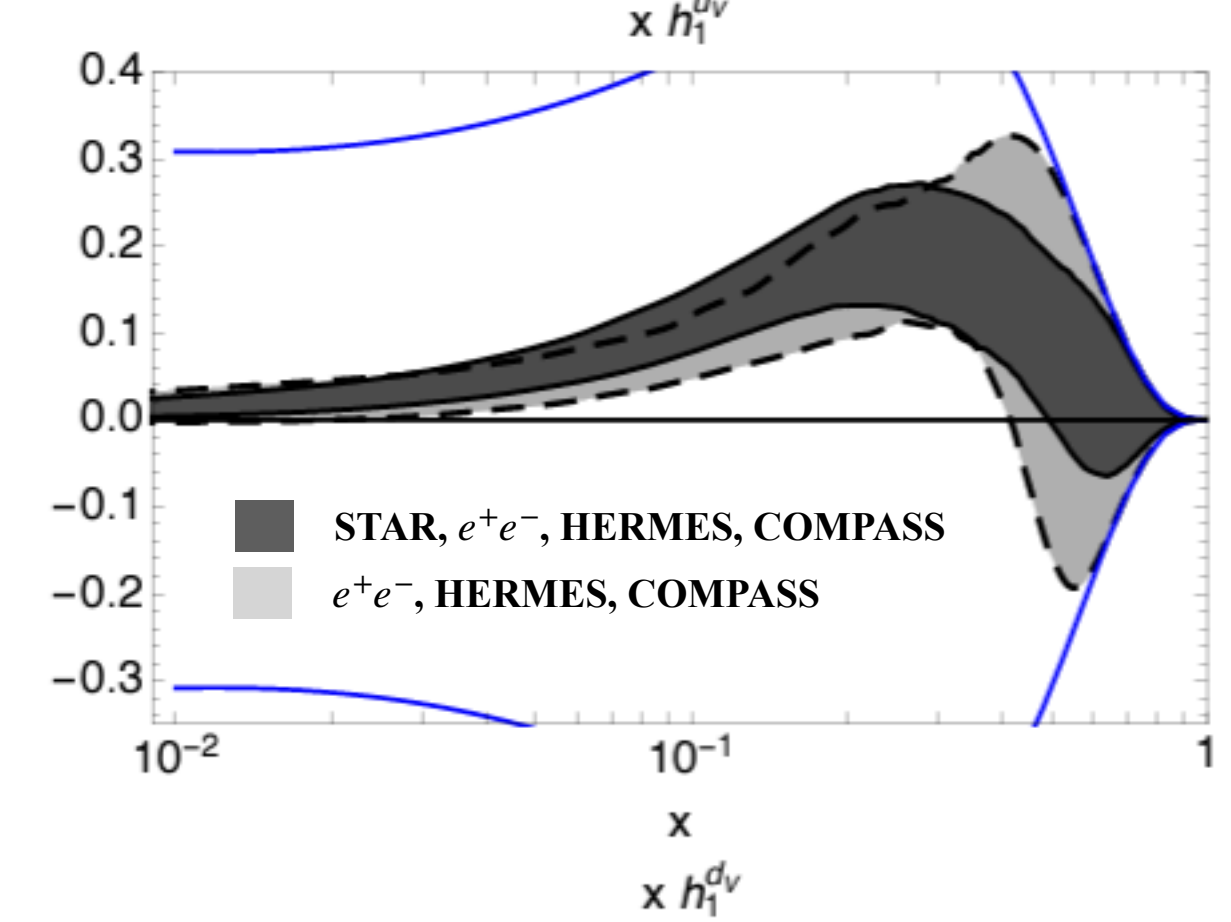
$$A_{UT}\sin(\phi_{RS}) = \frac{1}{P} \frac{\sqrt{N^\uparrow(\phi_{RS})N^\downarrow(\phi_{RS} + \pi)} - \sqrt{N^\downarrow(\phi_{RS})N^\uparrow(\phi_{RS} + \pi)}}{\sqrt{N^\uparrow(\phi_{RS})N^\downarrow(\phi_{RS} + \pi)} + \sqrt{N^\downarrow(\phi_{RS})N^\uparrow(\phi_{RS} + \pi)}}$$

- $N^{\uparrow(\downarrow)}$  → Number of  $\pi^+\pi^-$  in respective  $\phi_{RS}$  bin when the polarization is Up(  $\uparrow$  ) (Down (  $\downarrow$  )).
- $P$  is average beam polarization.

- STAR observed significant  $\pi^+\pi^-$  correlation asymmetry,  $A_{UT}$ , using 200 GeV and 500 GeV  $p^\uparrow p$  datasets.
- $A_{UT} \propto h_1 H_1^{<h_1 h_2}$
- $A_{UT}$  enhanced around  $\rho$ -mass region.



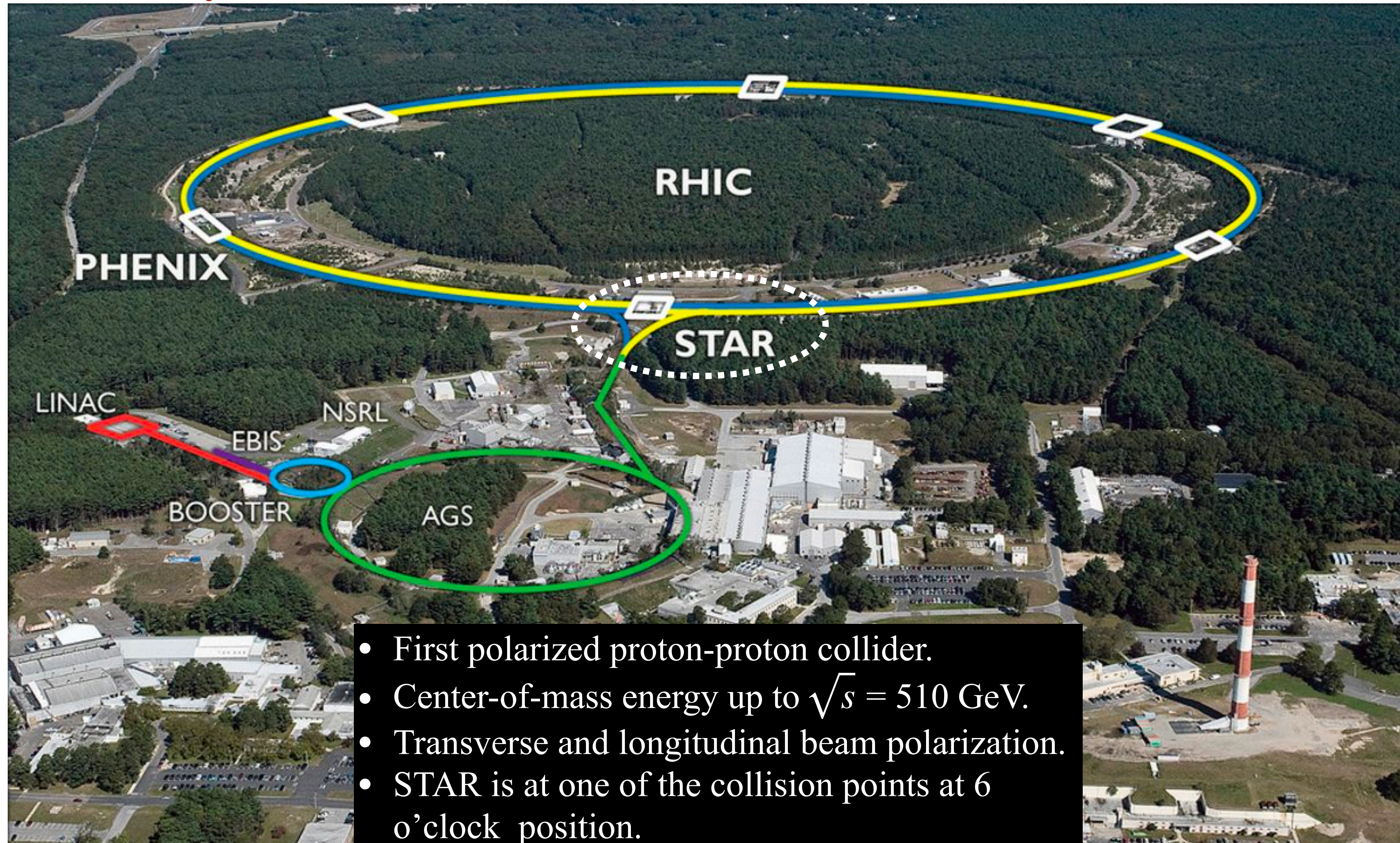
Radici et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 120 (2018), 19 192001



Significant impact on  $h_1^q$  from the STAR data at  $\sqrt{s} = 200$  GeV

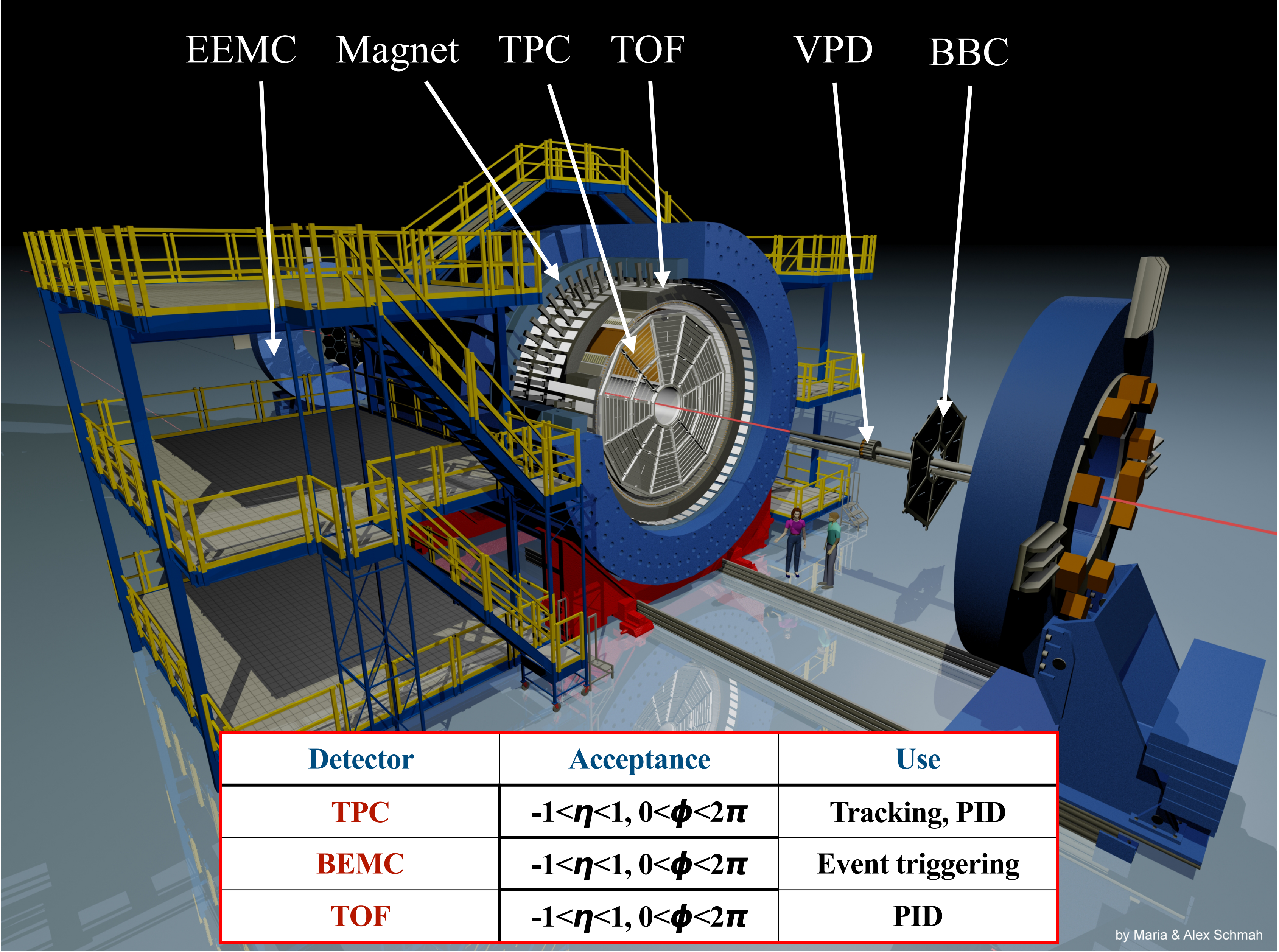


# Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC)



- First polarized proton-proton collider.
- Center-of-mass energy up to  $\sqrt{s} = 510$  GeV.
- Transverse and longitudinal beam polarization.
- STAR is at one of the collision points at 6 o'clock position.

# STAR Detector at RHIC



by Maria & Alex Schmah



# STAR Proton-Proton Collisions Dataset

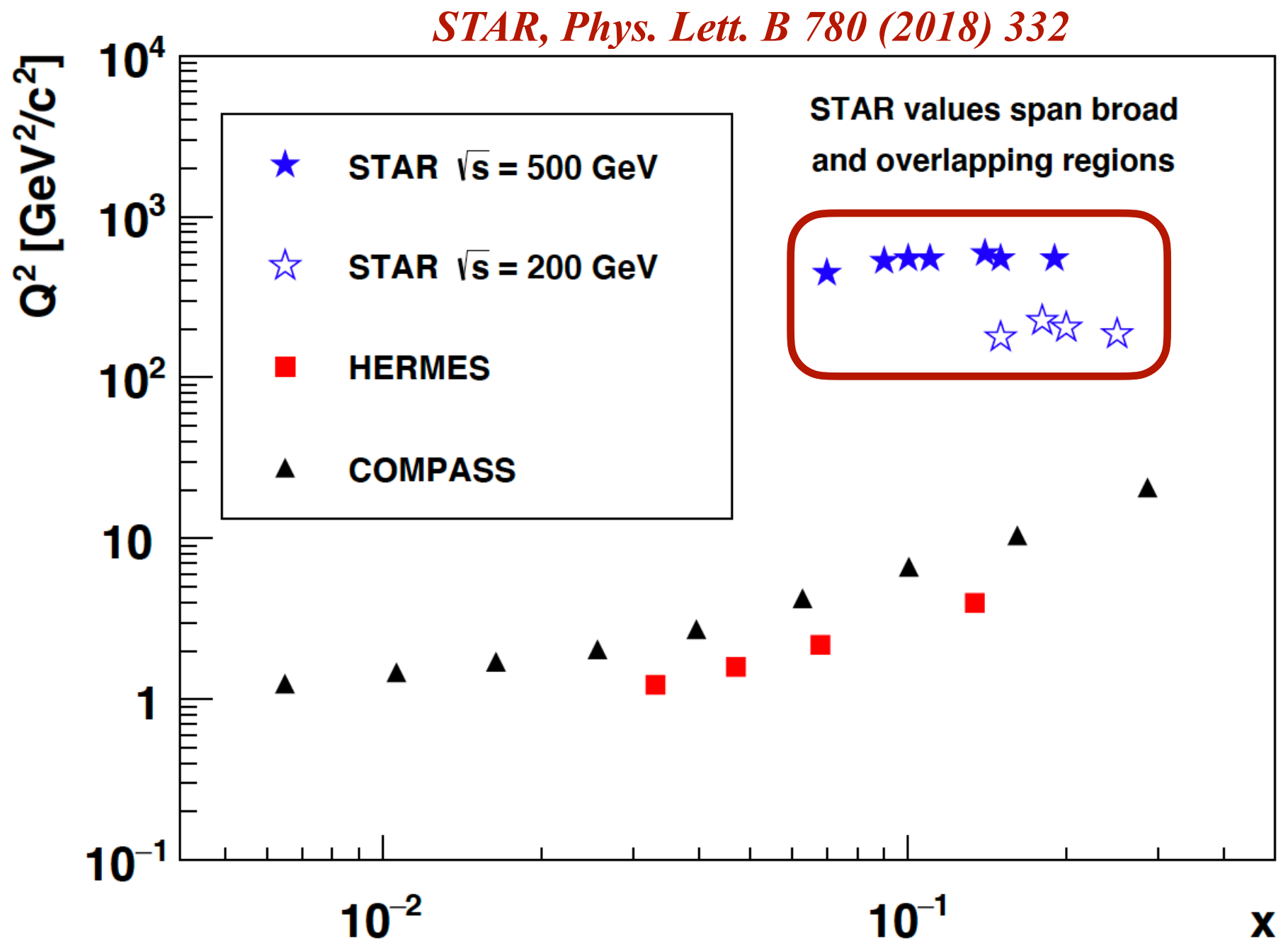
Collision	proton-proton				
Polarization	transverse				
Year	2006	2011	2012	2015	2017
$\sqrt{s}$ (GeV)	200	500	200	200	510
$L_{int}$ (pb <sup>-1</sup> )	~1.8	~25	~22	~52	~350
$\langle P_{beam} \rangle$ (%)	~60	~53	~57	~57	~58

Published IFF  $A_{UT}$   
*STAR, Phys. Lett. B 780 (2018) 332*  
*STAR, Phys. Rev. Lett. 115 (2015) 242501*

Ongoing dihadron cross-section measurement

IFF  $A_{UT}$  preliminary results released

Ongoing IFF  $A_{UT}$  analysis



## STAR Kinematic Coverage:

- Covers much higher  $Q^2$  than HERMES and COMPASS.
- Intermediate  $x$  coverage, valence quark region.



# STAR Preliminary: $A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_S - \phi_R)}$ vs $\eta^{\pi^+\pi^-}$

## Top Panel:

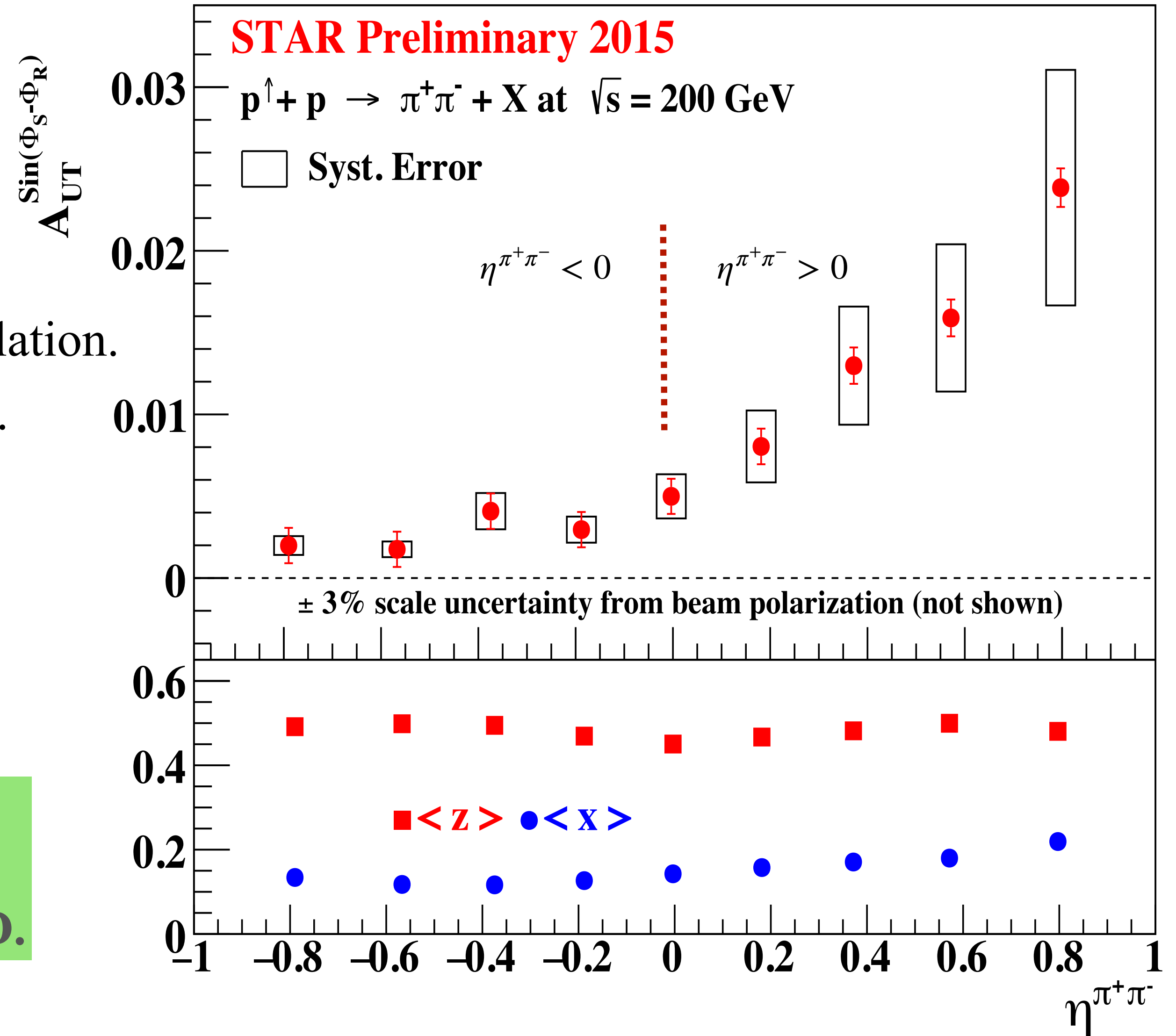
- $A_{UT}$  as a function of  $\eta^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  with  $p_T^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  and  $M_{inv}^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  integrated.

## Bottom Panel:

- Mean  $x$  and  $z$  as a function of  $\eta^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  from simulation.
- $|\eta^{\pi^+\pi^-}| < 1$ , with respect to the polarized beam.
- $0.1 < \langle x \rangle < 0.22$ ,  $\langle z \rangle \sim 0.46$

$$z \rightarrow \frac{E_{\pi^+\pi^-}}{E_{quark}}, \quad x = \frac{\vec{p}_{quark}}{\vec{p}_{proton}}$$

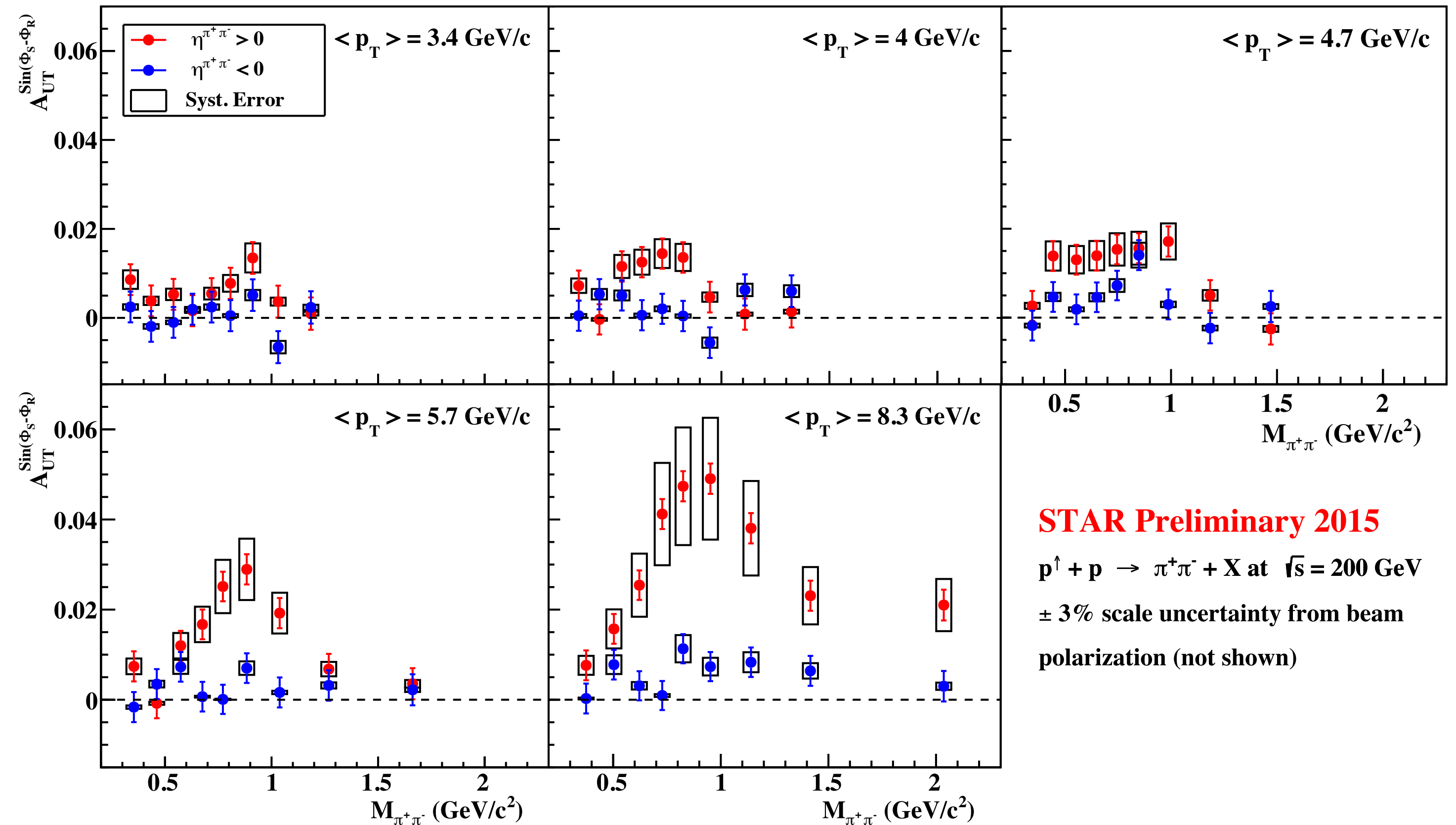
- Systematic uncertainty includes effects related to PID and trigger bias.
- **Dominant systematic uncertainty from the PID.**





# STAR Preliminary: $A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_S - \phi_R)}$ vs $M_{inv}^{\pi^+\pi^-}$

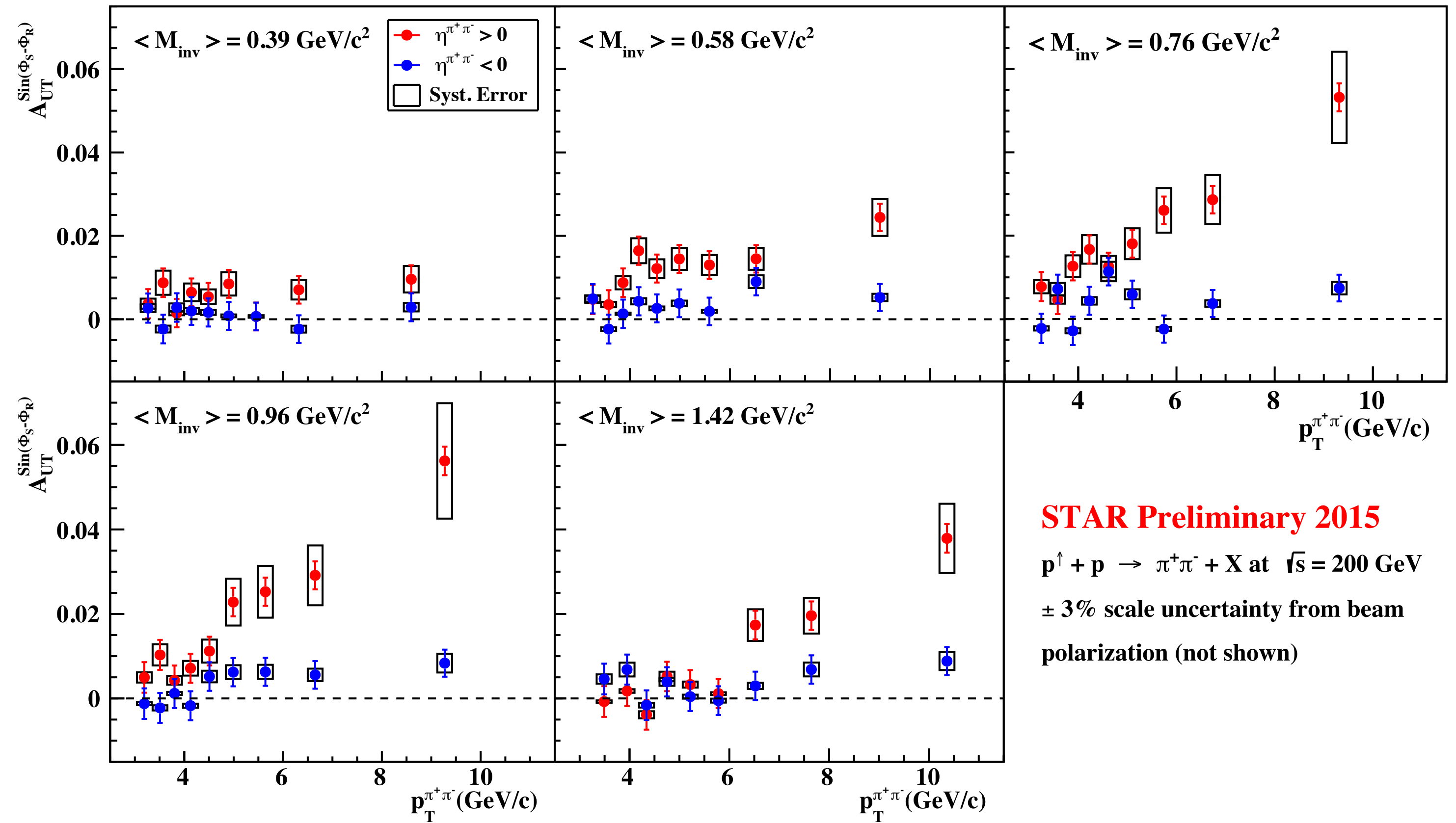
- $A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_S - \phi_R)}$  vs  $M_{inv}^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  in different  $p_T$  and  $\eta^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  bins.
- Signal grows stronger at higher  $p_T$  in forward  $\eta^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  region. Resonance peak around  $M_{inv}^{\pi^+\pi^-} \sim 0.8 \text{ GeV}/c^2 \sim M_\rho$ .
- Backward  $\eta^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  signal is small, mainly from low  $x$  quarks from polarized beam.



\*  $p_T$  refers to transverse momentum of  $\pi^+\pi^-$  pair relative to the beam direction.

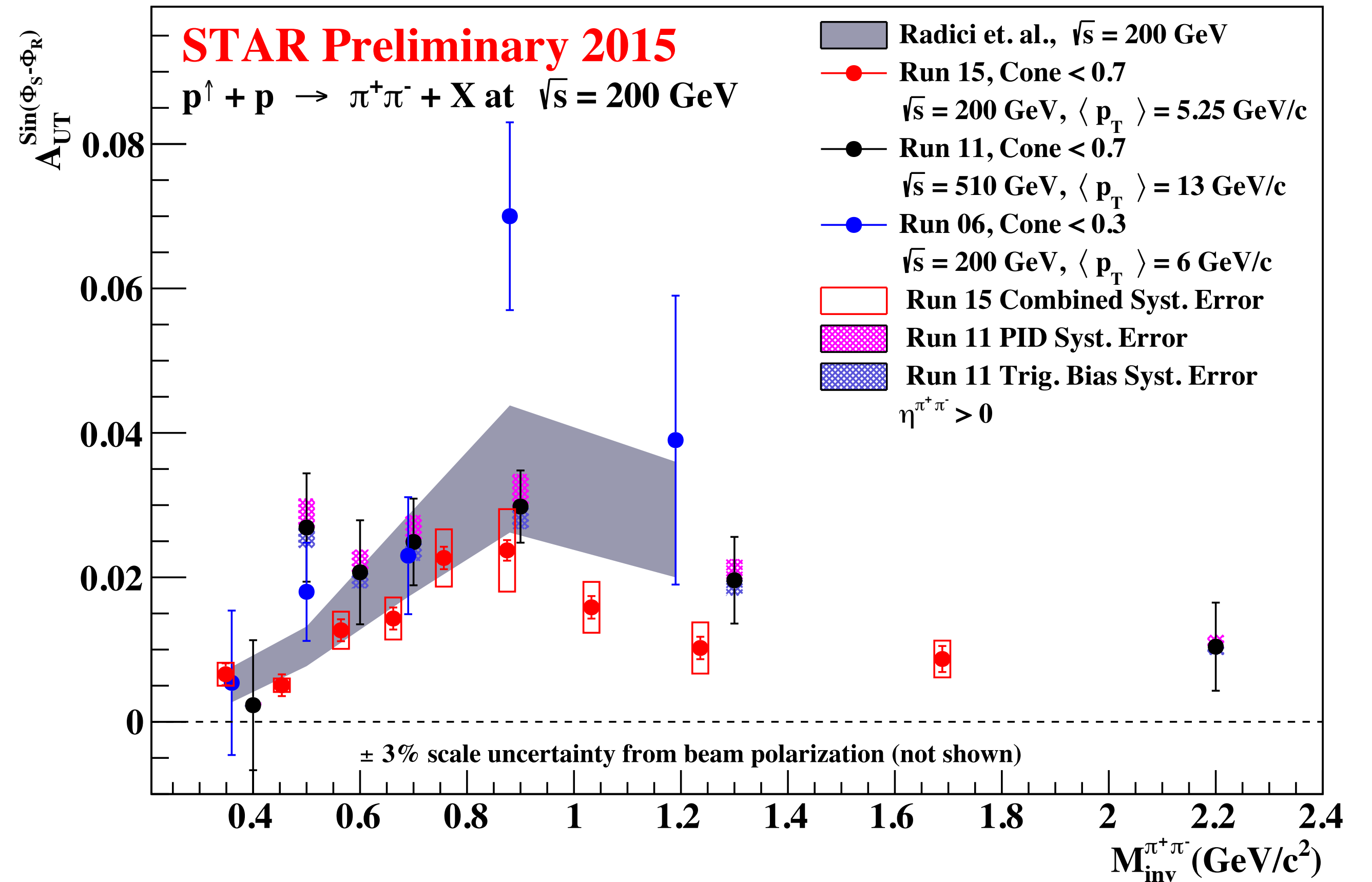
# STAR Preliminary: $A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_S - \phi_R)}$ vs $p_T^{\pi^+\pi^-}$

- Large asymmetry signal at higher  $p_T$  in forward  $\eta^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  region. Stronger signal when  $\langle M_{\text{inv}} \rangle \sim M_\rho$ .
- Backward  $\eta^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  signal is small, mainly from low  $x$  quarks from polarized beam.



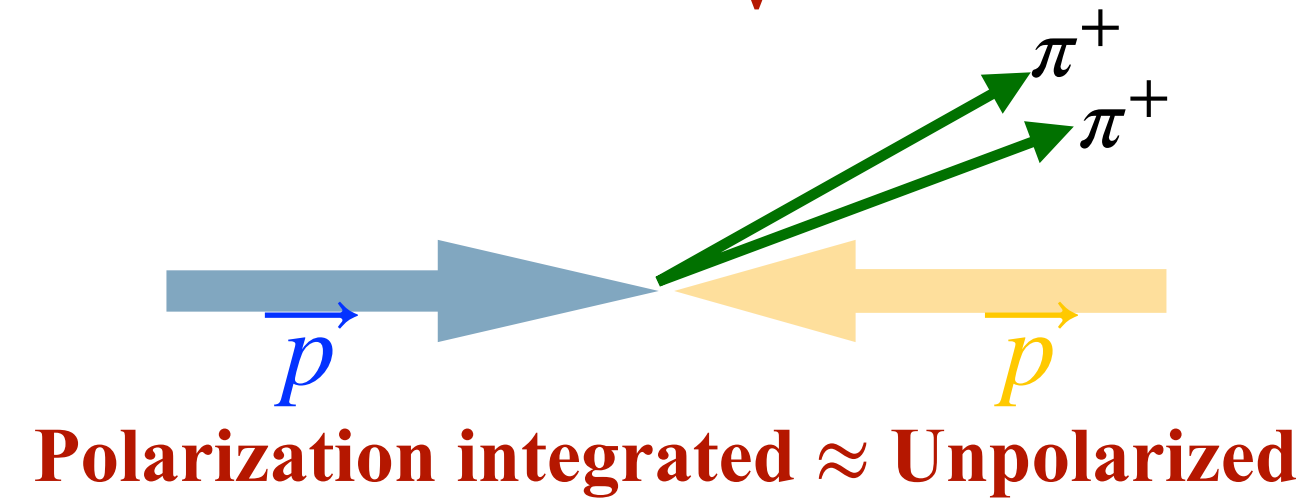
# STAR Preliminary: $A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_S - \phi_R)}$ vs $M_{inv}^{\pi^+\pi^-}$ , $p_T^{\pi^+\pi^-}$ Integrated

- STAR measurements agree within uncertainties.
- Statistical precision is significantly improved in the new result.
- Asymmetry is enhanced around  $M_{inv}^{\pi^+\pi^-} \sim 0.8$ , consistent with the previous measurement.
- Theory overshoots the new measurement starting around and beyond the resonance peak.

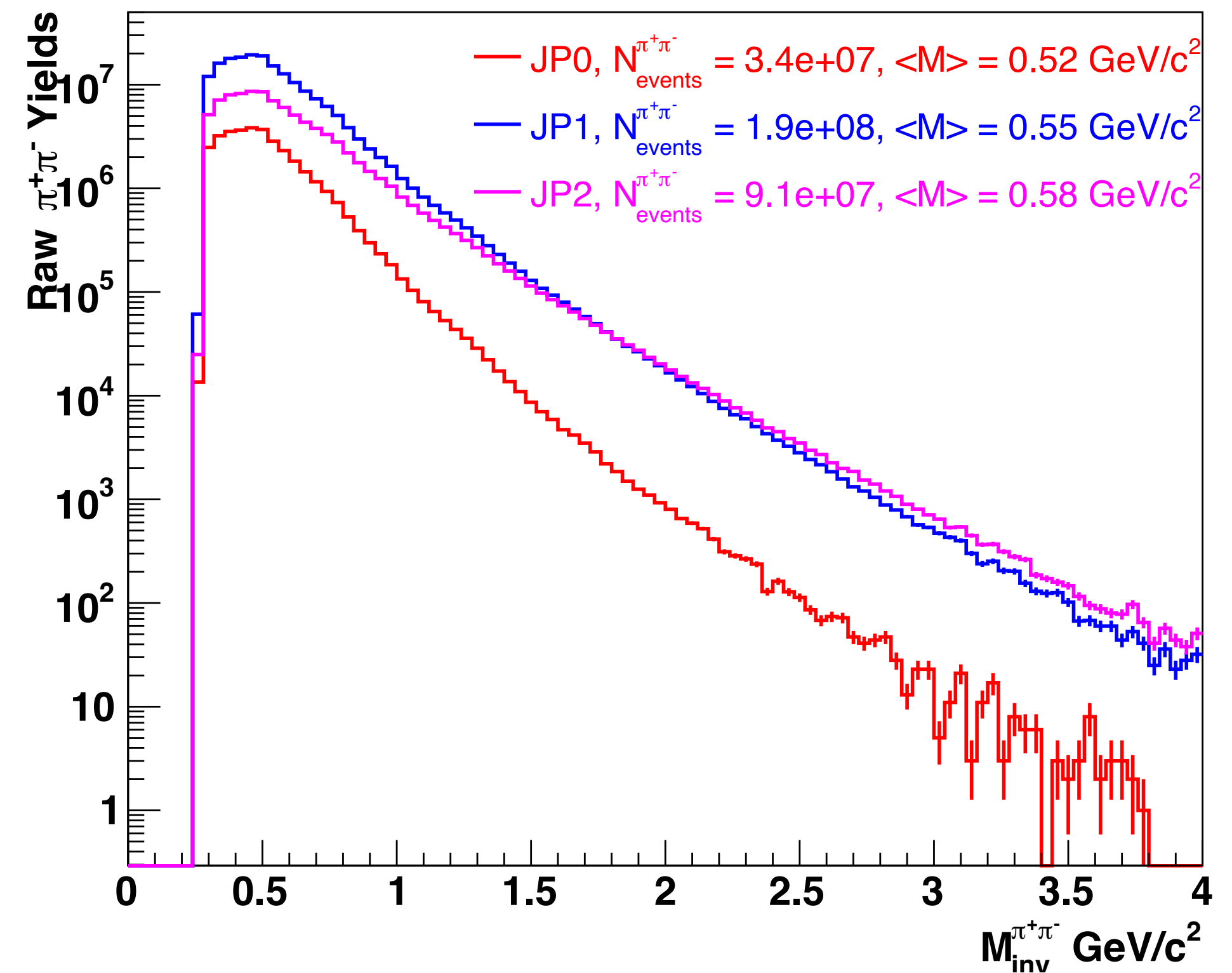


# Unpolarized Dihadron Cross Section Measurement: Status

$$p + p \rightarrow h^+ h^- + X \text{ at } \sqrt{s} = 200 \text{ GeV from run 2012.}$$



- Lower trigger threshold, better than 2015 dataset for cross-section measurement.
- Inclusive  $\pi^+ \pi^-$  differential cross section:
  - As a function of invariant mass,  $M_{inv}^{\pi^+ \pi^-}$ , in  $|\eta| < 1$ .
  - Much needed for the  $D_1^{h_1 h_2}$  extraction.
  - Access to  $D_1^{h_1 h_2/g}$ .
- Analysis is in progress.



# Summary

- $\pi^+\pi^-$  azimuthal correlation asymmetries, sensitive to the transversity, have been measured at STAR.
  - The statistical precision of the new 2015 results is significantly improved compared to the previous STAR measurements.
  - Expect to significantly improve the systematic uncertainty from the PID using Time-of-Flight detector.
- Ongoing IFF analysis using the 2017 dataset at  $\sqrt{s} = 510$  GeV ( $L_{\text{int}} \sim 350 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ ,  $\sim 14$  times larger than 2011 dataset) probes even lower  $x$  ( $> 0.05$ ) region.
- Unpolarized  $\pi^+\pi^-$  cross section measurement is in progress.
  - Differential cross section as a function of  $M_{\text{inv}}^{\pi^+\pi^-}$  in  $|\eta| < 1$ .
- These results can be used to test the universality between SIDIS,  $e^+e^-$ , and  $pp$ , and further constrain the global fits of transversity, specially at high  $x$  ( $> 0.05$ ) region.