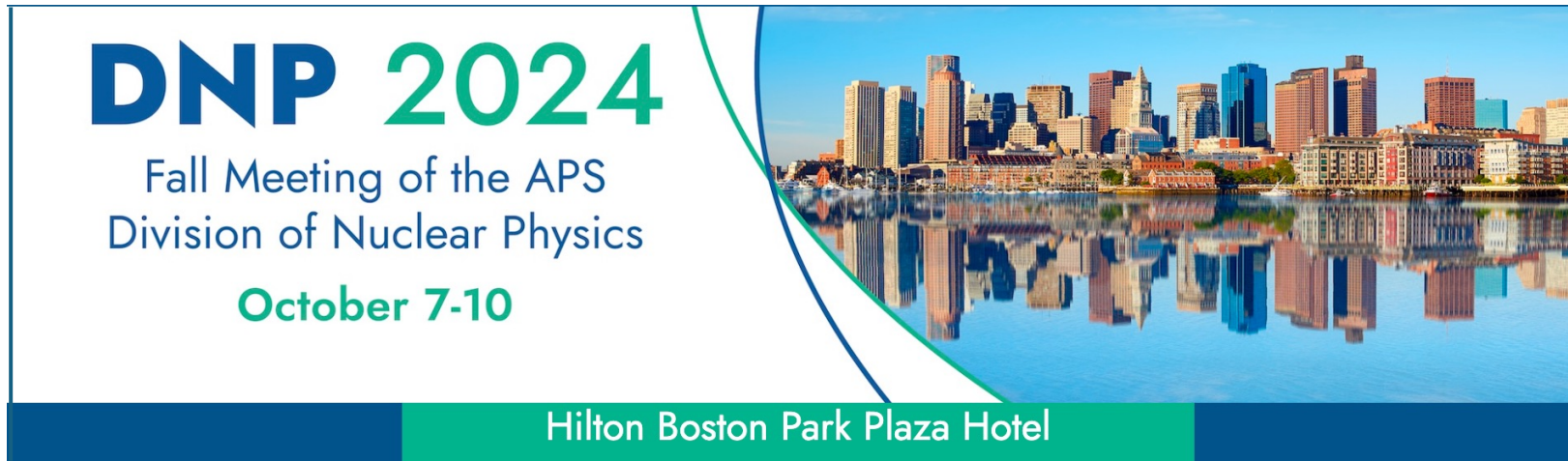


# Measurement of Transverse Spin Dependent Azimuthal Correlations of Charged hadron Pairs in $p^\uparrow p$ Collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 200$ GeV at STAR



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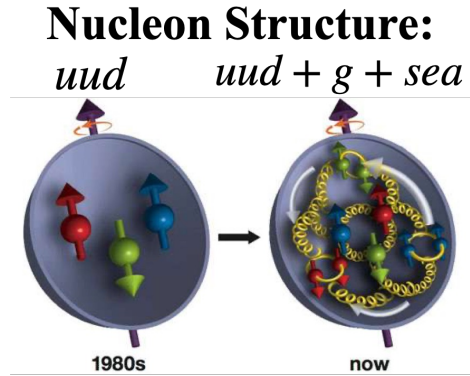
# Outline

- Motivation
- Observable for Transversity
- Asymmetry Extraction
- Di-Pion Asymmetry STAR Result
- Di-Kaon Analysis
- Summary

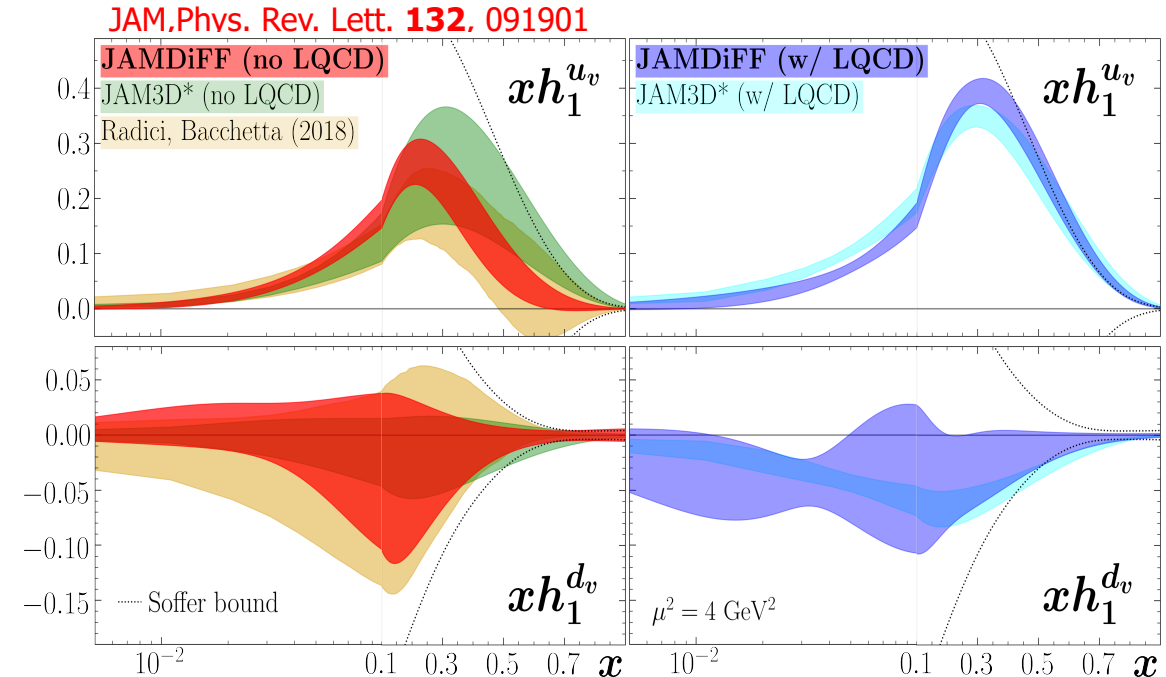
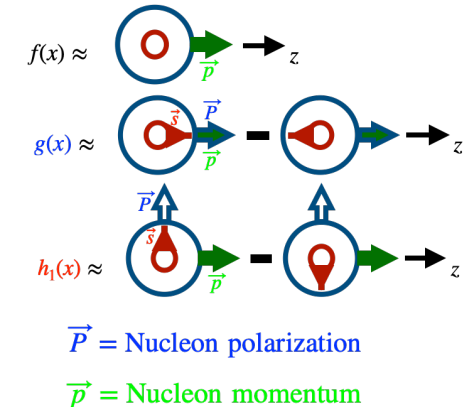
# Motivation

Transversity,  $h_1^q(x)$  :

- Three leading twist PDFs: Unpolarized PDF( $f_1(x)$ ), helicity PDF( $g_1(x)$ ), and transversity PDF( $h_1^q(x)$ ).
- $h_1^q(x)$  is least known from the experiments due to its chiral odd nature.
- In  $p^\uparrow p$  collision,  $h_1^q(x)$  can be coupled with interference fragmentation function(IFF) which is extracted from  $e^+e^-$  data.
- $h_1^q(x)$  is mostly constrained by SIDIS and pp data to date.

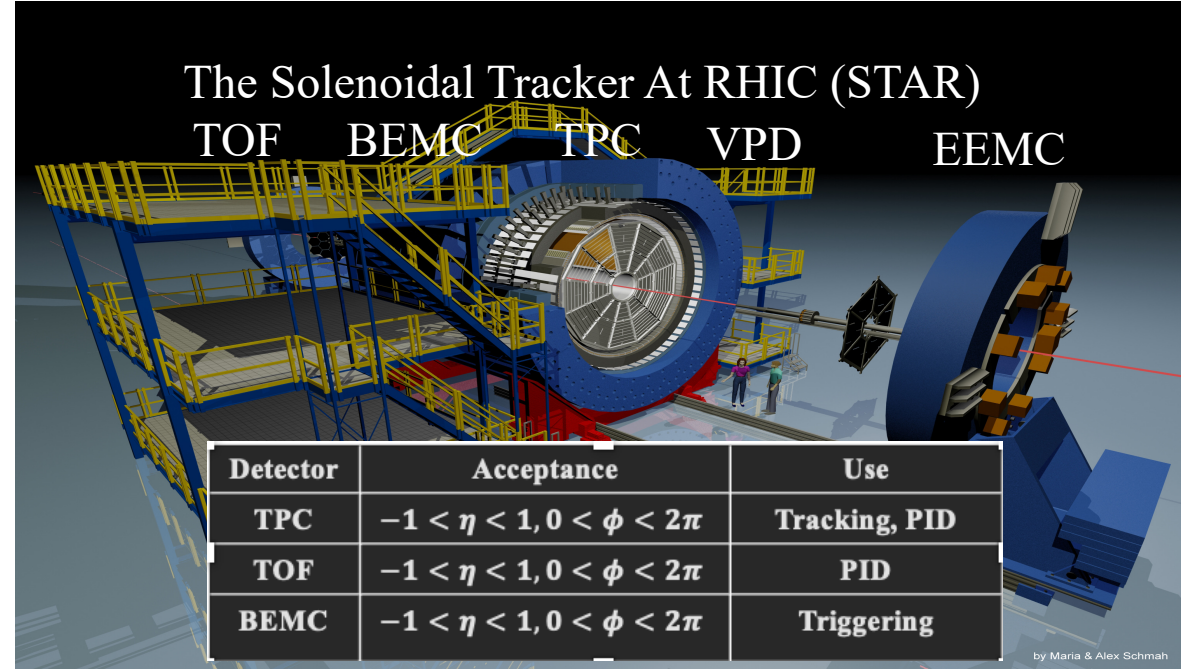
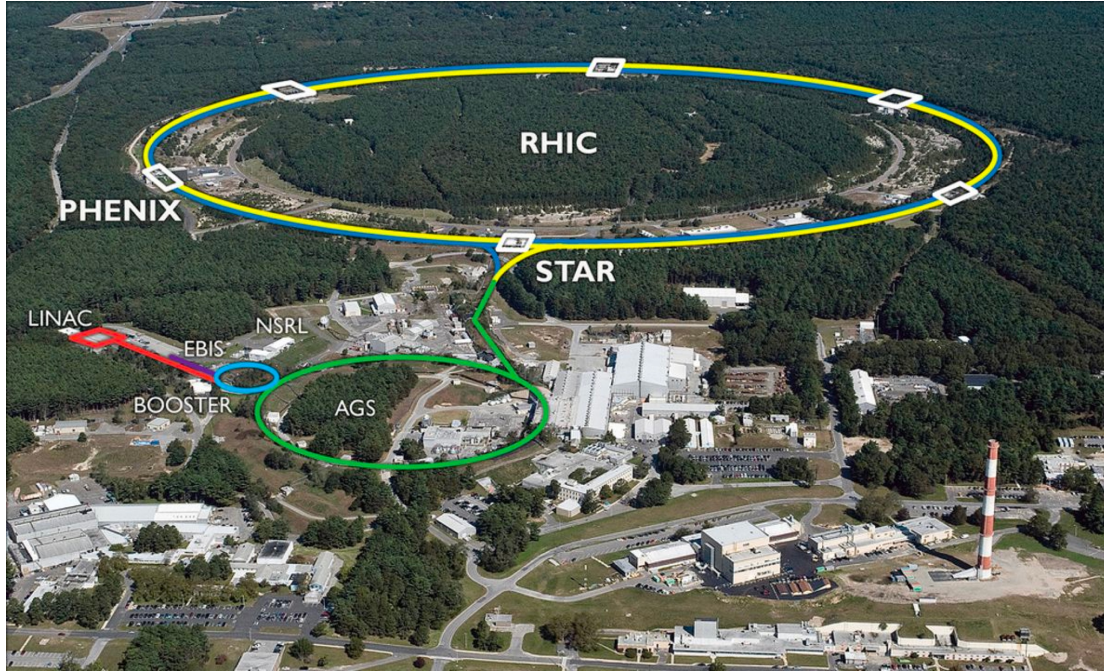


**Leading order parton distribution**





# STAR Experiment at RHIC



- Only polarized proton-proton collider.
- Center-of-mass energy up to 510 GeV.
- Transverse and longitudinal beam polarization.

- Time Projection Chamber (TPC) helps in charge determination and particle momentum reconstruction
- Time of flight (TOF) acts as stopwatch for particles.
- Particle identification (PID) is done via measuring ionization energy loss ( $dE/dx$ ) in TPC.
- TOF gives velocity of particle and combining velocity with momentum (from TPC), TOF helps in PID by identifying mass of a particle.



# Asymmetry Extraction

## ➤ Cross Ratio Formula

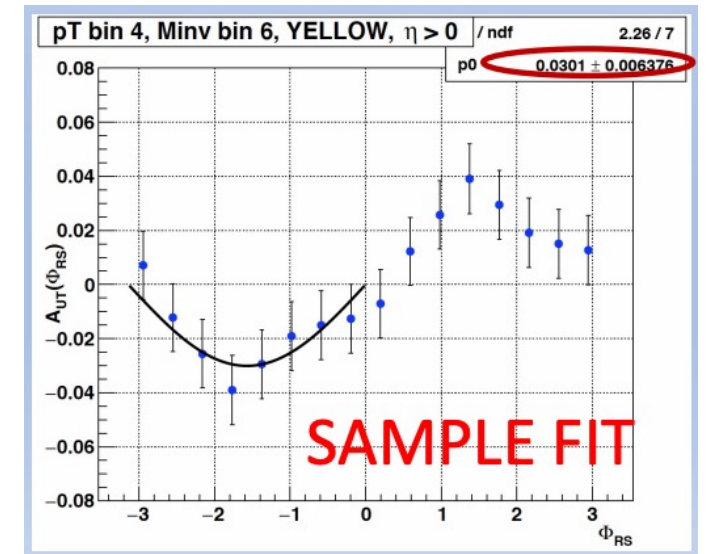
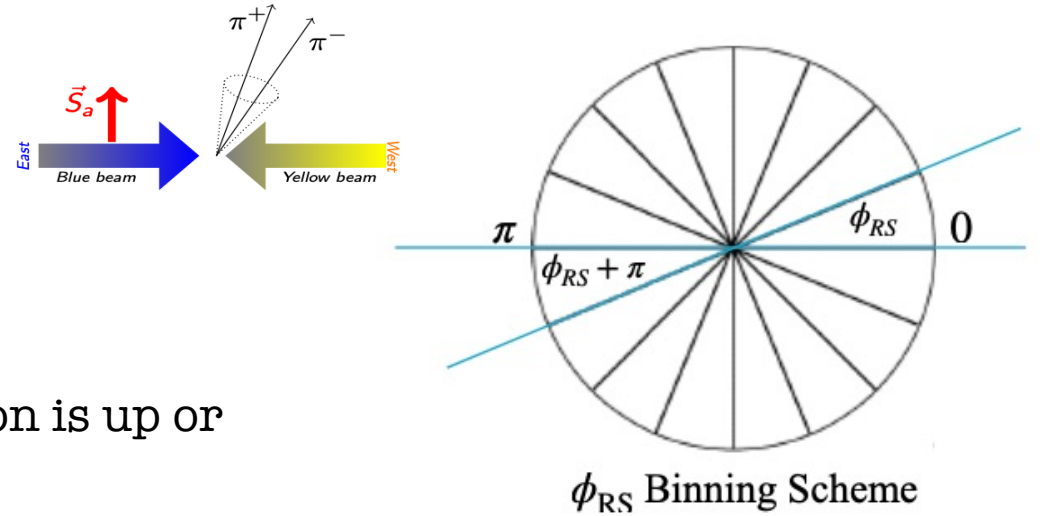
$$A_{UT} \cdot \sin(\phi_{RS}) = \frac{1}{P} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{N \uparrow(\phi_{RS}) N \downarrow(\phi_{RS} + \pi)} - \sqrt{N \downarrow(\phi_{RS}) N \uparrow(\phi_{RS} + \pi)}}{\sqrt{N \uparrow(\phi_{RS}) N \downarrow(\phi_{RS} + \pi)} + \sqrt{N \downarrow(\phi_{RS}) N \uparrow(\phi_{RS} + \pi)}}$$

where, N is number of  $h^+ h^-$  pairs when beam polarization is up or down.

$\phi_{RS} = \phi_R - \phi_S$      $\phi_S$  = angle between quark spin vector,  $s_a$ , and scattering plane  
 $\phi_R$  = angle between scattering plane and di-hadron plane

- ❖ Free from uncertainty arising from detector effect and spin-dependent luminosities.
- ❖ No jet reconstruction required.

➤  $A_{UT}$  is extracted from the amplitude of cross ratio fit.





# STAR $\pi^+\pi^-$ Asymmetry Result

| Year                           | 2006       | 2011      | 2015      | 2017       | 2022       | 2024                    |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------------------|
| $\sqrt{s}$ GeV                 | 200        | 500       | 200       | 510        | 508        | 200                     |
| $L_{int}$ ( $\text{pb}^{-1}$ ) | $\sim 1.8$ | $\sim 25$ | $\sim 52$ | $\sim 350$ | $\sim 350$ | $\sim 160$ [projection] |

**1<sup>st</sup> Proof-of-Principal measurements**

**Published**

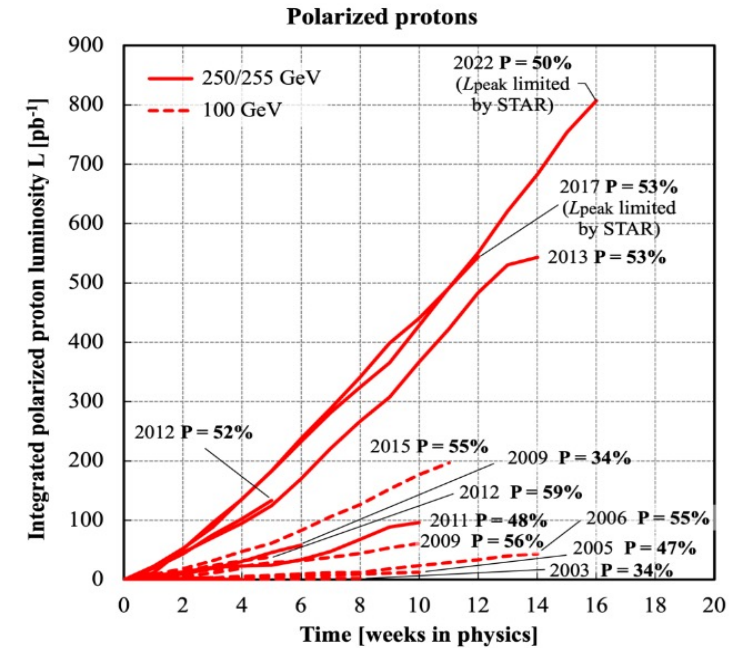
**Preliminary  $\pi^+\pi^-$  results with improved precision**

**Further improvement**

STAR,PoS, SPIN2023(2024), 052

STAR,PoS, SPIN2023(2024), 063

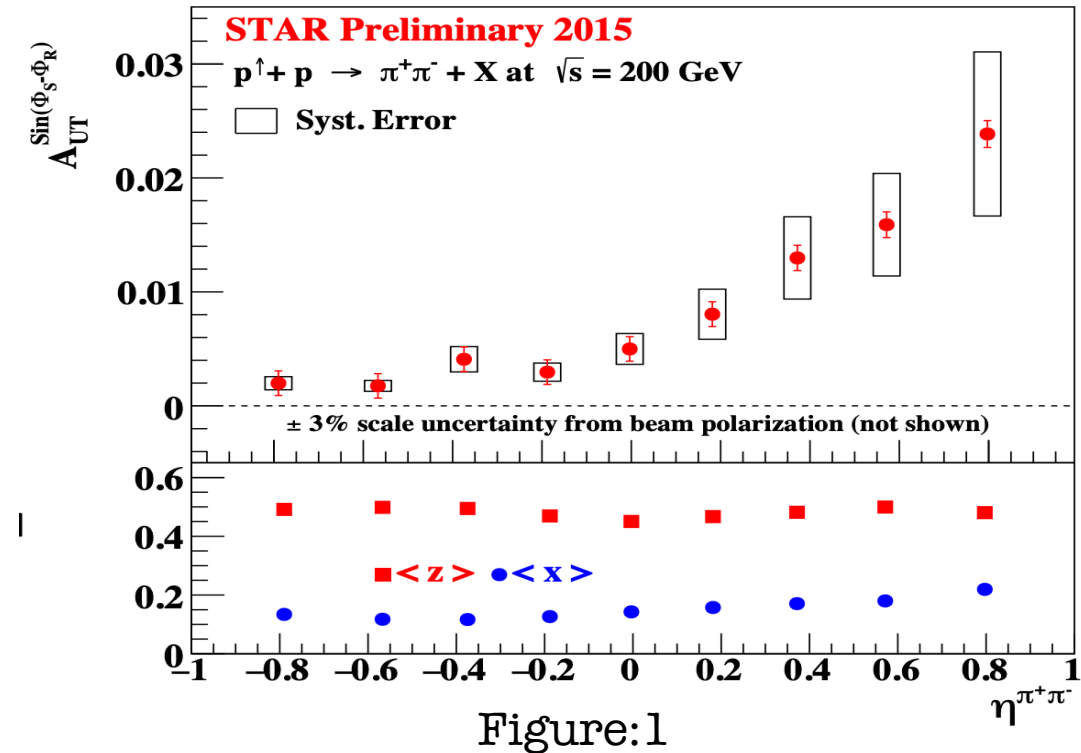
- [1] STAR,Phys.Rev.Lett.115(2015) 242501
- [2] STAR,Physics Letters B 780 (2018) 332-339



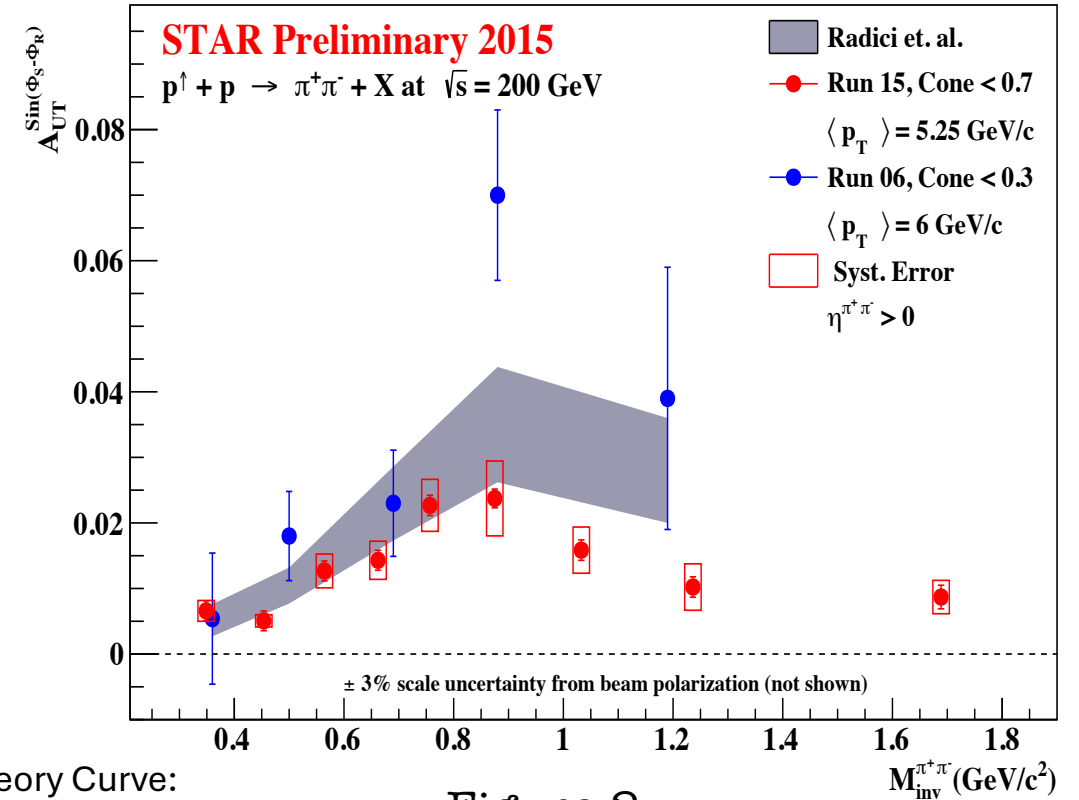
# STAR $\pi^+\pi^-$ Asymmetry Result

- $A_{UT}$  as a function of  $\eta_{pair}$  integrated over  $pT_{pair}$  and  $M_{inv}$  is shown in Figure:1.
- For  $\eta > 0$ , where partonic  $x$  is greater, a larger  $A_{UT}$  is seen.

- $A_{UT}$  is enhanced around  $M_\rho \sim 0.8 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ , consistent with theory.



STAR, PoS, SPIN2023(2024), 052

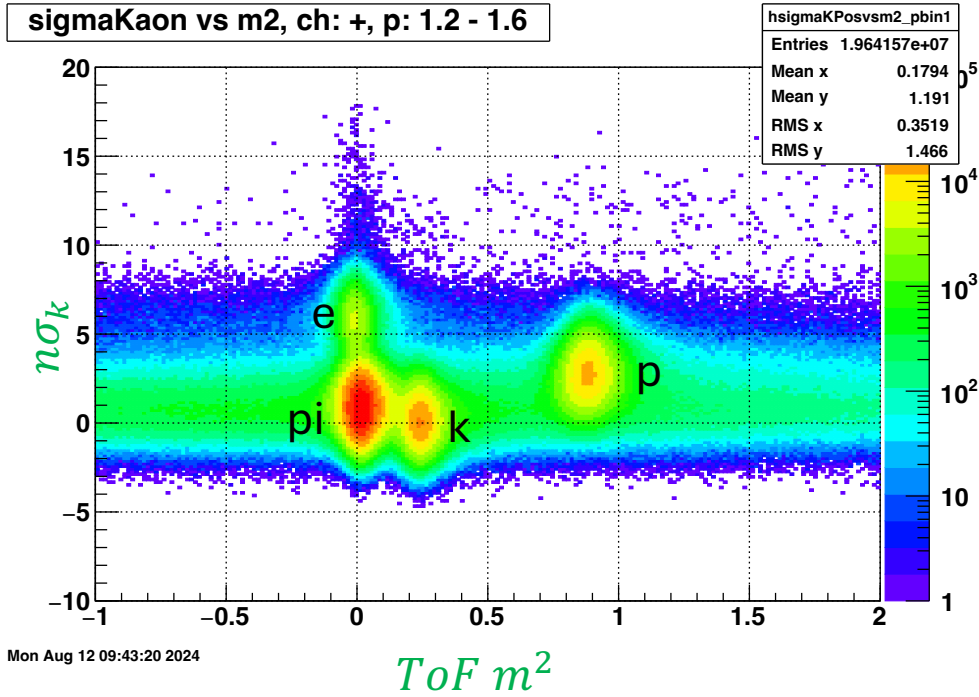




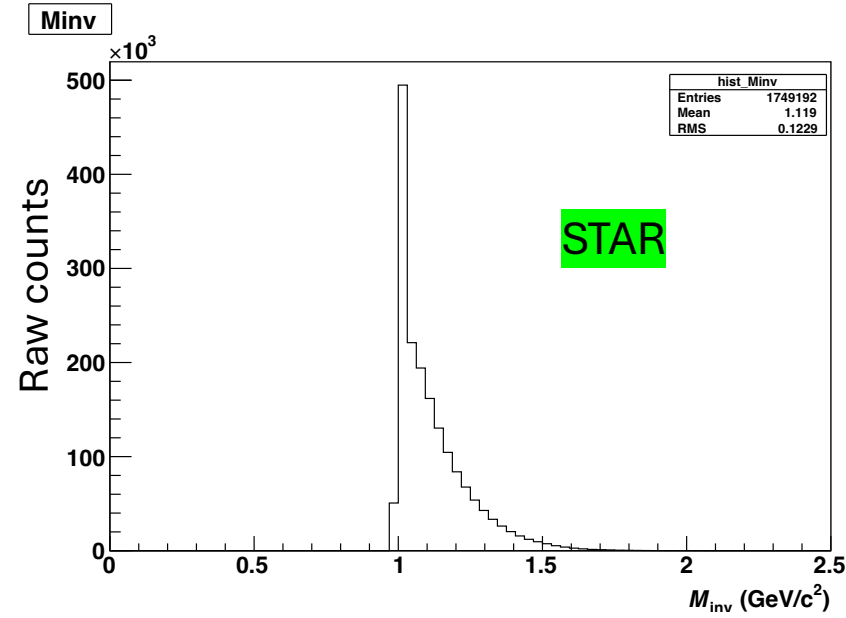
# Transition to $K^+K^-$ Asymmetry

- Extending to  $K^+K^-$  pairs enhances transversity studies by revealing insights into strange quarks beyond  $\pi^+\pi^-$  results.
- Di-Kaon Analysis will be done by using 2015 data set with  $\sqrt{s} = 200\text{GeV}$  and  $L_{int} 52 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ .

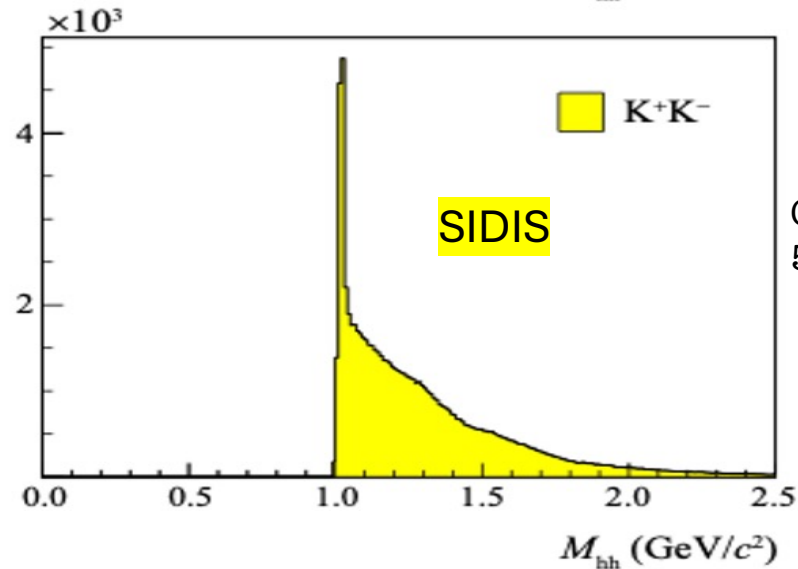
# Particle Identification



# Comparison of $M_{inv}$ of $K^+ K^-$ from SIDIS and STAR



$M_{inv}$  from reconstructed Kaon Pairs looks similar to  $M_{inv}$  from SIDIS.

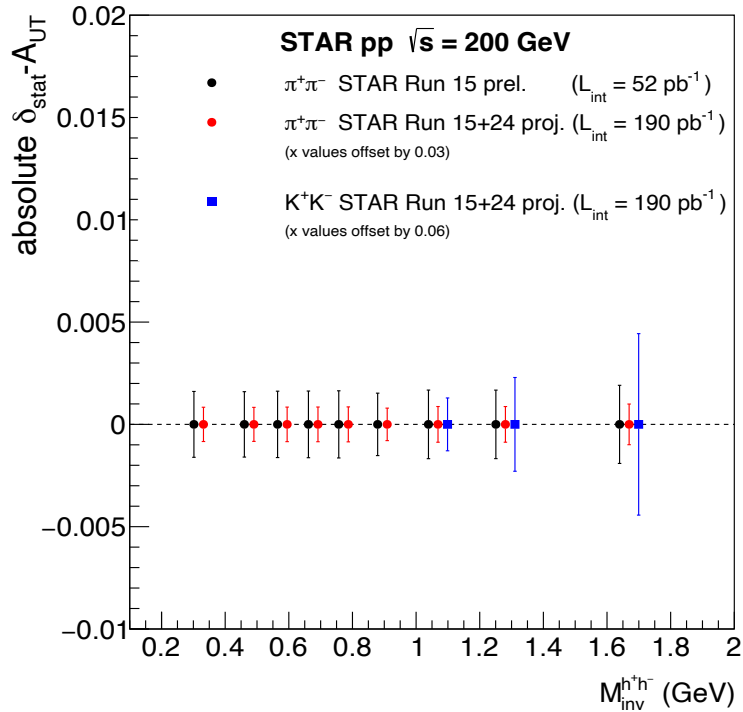


COMPASS, Phys.Lett.B 84 5 (2023) 138155

➤ Kaon identification will be done from 2D histogram of nSigmaKaon and ToF mass square.

➤ 
$$n\sigma_k = \frac{1}{\sigma} \ln \left( \frac{dE/dx_{obs}}{dE/dx_{calc}} \right)$$

# $K^+K^-$ Projection Plot



- Precision measurement of  $\pi^+\pi^- A_{UT}$ 
  - \* By combining Run24 data, statistical uncertainty will be improved by more than 50% compared to Run15.
- First projection of  $K^+K^- A_{UT}$ 
  - \* The  $K^+K^- A_{UT}$  probes the strange quark transversity.

# Summary

- STAR has measured  $A_{UT}$ , sensitive to transversity, as a function of various kinematic observables for the final state pion pairs.
- This result contributes to global analyses aimed at constraining transversity, for up and down quarks.
- Kaons, being sensitive to **strange quarks**, will provide additional insights into transversity beyond the pion results.
- $K^+K^-$  analysis will be performed with Run 15 data set at  $\sqrt{s} = 200$  GeV, corresponding to  $L_{\text{int}} \sim 52 \text{ pb}^{-1}$  for asymmetry in different mass, momentum and eta bins.
- PID will be done based on both TPC and ToF information.