Measurement of transverse polarization for $\Lambda/\bar{\Lambda}$ production in pp collisions at STAR

Taoya Gao for the STAR Collaboration Shandong University

3

Spontaneous polarization of $\Lambda/\bar{\Lambda}$ has been observed over four decades ago, but still eludes a definitive explanation. One possible origin is the effect arising from polarizing fragmentation functions (PFFs), which describe the production of polarized hadrons from the fragmentation of an unpolarized parton. In 2019, the Belle experiment observed significant transverse polarization of $\Lambda/\bar{\Lambda}$ in unpolarized e^+e^- annihilations, indicating significant non-zero PFFs. In pp collisions, measurements of transverse polarization of $\Lambda/\bar{\Lambda}$ inside a jet could provide important constraints for the PFFs. In 2015, the STAR experiment at RHIC collected a dataset of pp collisions at \sqrt{s} = 200 GeV with an integrated luminosity of 104 pb⁻¹, which is the largest data sample STAR has collected so far for such collision system and energy. In this talk, the analysis status of transverse polarization measurement of $\Lambda/\bar{\Lambda}$ in jets utilizing the 2015 dataset will be presented.