Overview of RHIC Spin Program

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Outline

- RHIC, polarized proton-proton collider
 - STAR and PHENIX
- Unique physics opportunities at RHIC and selected recent results
 - Helicity structure of proton: gluons and quarks
 - Studies on transverse dimensions
 - Measurement with unpolarized beam
- Outlook and Summary



RHIC – Polarized Proton-Proton Collider



STAR Detector Overview



PHENIX Detector Overview



Up through 2016, next stage – sPHENIX

Polarized p+p Data Accumulation at RHIC

				Year	√s (GeV)	L (pb ⁻¹)	<p>(%)</p>
Integrated polarized proton luminosity L [pb ⁻¹]	900	Polarized protons 0 2022 P = 50%		2006	62.4 200	 6.8	48 57
	800	100 GeV (Lpeak limited by STAR)		2009	200 500	25 10	38 55
	700	$2017 \mathbf{P} = 53\%$	Long	2011	500	12	48
	600	by STAR)		2012	510	82	56
	500	2013 P = 53%		2013	510	256	56
	400			2015	200	50	60
	300			2006	62.4 200	0.2 8.5	48 57
	200	2012 P = 52% 2015 P = 55% 2009 P = 34%		2008	200	7.8	45
	100	2012 P = 59%		2011	500	25	55
	100	$\frac{2011 \text{ P} = 48\%}{2009 \text{ P} = 56\%} = 2005 \text{ P} = 47\%$	Trans	2012	200	22	60
	0	0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20		2015	200	50	60
		Time [weeks in physics]		2017	510	356	55
				2022	510	800	50

Proton spin structure



- High-energy spin structure is much more interesting (complicated) than the quark-model
- Before RHIC, mostly relied on polarized DIS
 - Total quark spin contributions pined down pretty well
 - Flavor separation was accessible via semi-inclusive DIS but has to reply on Fragmentation Functions; additional uncertainty introduced
 - No direct access to gluon

Prospects for RHIC Spin Physics in 2000

Jet production

PROSPECTS FOR SPIN PHYSICS AT RHIC

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Key Words proton spin structure, spin asymmetries, quantum chromodynamics, beyond the standard model

■ Abstract Colliding beams of 70% polarized protons at up to $\sqrt{s} = 500$ GeV, with high luminosity, $L = 2 \times 10^{32}$ cm⁻² sec⁻¹, will represent a new and unique laboratory for studying the proton. RHIC-Spin will be the first polarized-proton collider and will be capable of copious production of jets, directly produced photons, and W and Z bosons. Features will include direct and precise measurements of the polarization of the gluons and of \overline{u} , \overline{d} , u, and d quarks in a polarized proton. Parity violation searches for physics beyond the standard model will be competitive with unpolarized searches at the Fermilab Tevatron. Transverse spin will explore transversity for the first time, as well as quark-gluon correlations in the proton. Spin dependence of the total cross section and in the Coulomb nuclear interference region will be measured at collider energies for the first time. These qualitatively new measurements can be expected to deepen our understanding of the structure of matter and of the strong interaction.

Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 2000. 50:525



 W^{\pm} production



Probe Gluon Polarization via Hadron/Jet/prompt-photon



Double-spin asymmetry:

$$A_{LL} = \frac{\sigma^{\uparrow\uparrow} - \sigma^{\uparrow\downarrow}}{\sigma^{\uparrow\uparrow} + \sigma^{\uparrow\downarrow}} \propto \frac{\Delta f_1}{f_1} \otimes \frac{\Delta f_2}{f_2} \otimes \hat{a}_{LL} \otimes D_f^h$$

- Abundant yields of π^0 and jets at RHIC
- Sub-processes directly sensitive to gluon

•
$$\mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{g},\mathrm{q}} \sim p_T^{\pi^0,\mathrm{jets}} / \sqrt{\mathrm{s}} \bullet \mathrm{e}^{-\eta}$$

• Constrain gluon helicity-dependent PDFs

Inclusive Jet A_{LL} : first non-zero ΔG







- First evidence of non-zero contributions from gluon spin at Q²~10 GeV²
 - STAR inclusive jets and PHENIX π^0
- Drive the constraints on ΔG

Inclusive-jet/di-jet/hadrons/direct-photon ALL Results



PHENIX, PRD 102, 032001 (2020)





PHENIX, arXiv:2202.08158









PHENIX preliminary



Longitudinal data taking concluded at RHIC, PHENIX and STAR released the full statistics results.

Probe sea quark polarization via W boson



- W bosons production sensitive to flavor, spin, charge simultaneously; powerful tool to probe sea quark polarization
- Both STAR and PHENIX have concluded the WA_L measurements
- First experimental observation of a flavor-asymmetry between anti-up and antidown polarizations, opposite to the unpolarized distributions.

Strange quarks polarization via Lambda spin transfer



- Lambda hyperon spin transfer can access polarized fragmentation functions (FF) and the helicity distributions (PDF) of strangeness
 - Final state polarization accessible via weak decay
 - Lambda's spin is expected to be carried mostly by its constituent strange quark

Spin transfer:

$$D_{LL}^{\Lambda} \equiv \frac{d\sigma(p^+p \to \Lambda^+X) - d\sigma(p^+p \to \Lambda^-X)}{d\sigma(p^+p \to \Lambda^+X) + d\sigma(p^+p \to \Lambda^-X)} = \frac{d\Delta\sigma^{\Lambda}}{d\sigma^{\Lambda}}$$
$$d\Delta\sigma^{\Lambda} = \sum \int dx_a dx_b dz \Delta f_a(x_a) f_b(x_b) \Delta\sigma(ab \to cd) \Delta D^{\Lambda}(z)$$
$$Polarized PDFs \qquad Polarized FFs$$

Forward A_N – remains mystery





- Surprisingly large transverse single-spin asymmetries (pQCD predicts ~0)
- Nearly independent of \sqrt{s} over a very wide range (\sqrt{s} : 4.9 GeV to 500 GeV).
- TMDs and colinear Twist-3 frameworks developed to explain $A_{\rm N}$ origin
 - Qiu-Sterman functions, Sivers effect, Collins effect, etc.

Transverse single-spin asymmetries at RHIC

Sivers effect

Collins effect





Sivers: Correlations between initial-state parton transverse momentum with proton's spin and momentum; process dependent.

Collins: Correlations between the polarization of a scattered quark and the momentum of a hadron fragment transverse to the scattered quark direction.

Transversity: transverse polarization of partons inside transversely polarized proton.

Weak bosons A_N – Sivers



- Clean access to Sivers effect without fragmentation contribution.
- STAR data prefer to Sivers function sign change between SIDIS and DY
- Theoretical (PRL126,08384): extraction includes SIDIS, DY and 2011 STAR data with N3LO and NNLO accuracy of the TMD evolution assuming sign-change.
- STAR 2022 will further improve the precision.

 π^0 , EM-jet, Di-jet A_N – Sivers

STAR, PRD 103 (2021) 9, 092009



- $A_{\rm N}$ measured with forward EM-jets and π^0 in 200/500 GeV pp collisions
- High multiplicity EM-jets ($n_{\gamma} > 2$) and non-isolated π (w/ nearby γ) tend to generate smaller $A_{\rm N}$.
- No significant collision energy dependence observed.

Provide significant constraints for the quark Sivers functions M.Boglione et.al., PLB 815, 136135 (2021)

A_N at PHENIX – Sivers



PHENIX, PRD103, 032007 (2021)



PHENIX, PRD105, 032004 (2022)



- PHENIX recently published a lot of A_N results
- Important inputs for Sivers' functions extraction

Hadron in Jet A_N – Transversity + Collins



- Transversity is probed most directly in the jet p_T dependence
- Collins TMD FF is sensitive to the (j_T,z) dependence

Lambda transverse spin transfer – Transversity + FF

Lambda transverse spin transfer can provide connection to the transversity PDF and FF of strangeness.



Yike Xu (SDU) DIS2021

Measurements with unpolarized beam



Outlook

sPHENIX

STAR w/ forward upgrade



- Successful STAR run 2022 with forward upgrade
- Last transverse spin run in 2024 before EIC

\sqrt{s} (GeV)	Species	Luminosity	Year	
510	$p^\uparrow + p^\uparrow$	400 pb^{-1}	2022	STAR on disk already
200	$p^\uparrow + p^\uparrow$	235 pb^{-1}	2024	STAR & sPHENIX
200	p [↑] +Au	1.3 pb^{-1}	2024	STAR & sPHENIX

Summary

- RHIC is unique machine for studying proton spin structure, 1D and 3D
- Featured measurements of gluon and sea quark helicity dependent PDFs (mostly) concluded; successfully.
 - Non-zero gluon polarization: $\Delta G > 0$
 - symmetry breaking in the polarized sea: $\Delta \bar{u} > \Delta \bar{d}$
- Transverse program in progress
 - Existing data being published/analyzed and more data in 2024
 - Important constraints for TMD PDFs / FFs

Thank you for your attention!