

# PHENIX Spin Measurements: from pp to pA

- ✓ Nucleon helicity structure
- ✓ Transverse spin phenomena in p+p
- ✓ **Polarized p + A**

A.Bazilevsky (BNL)

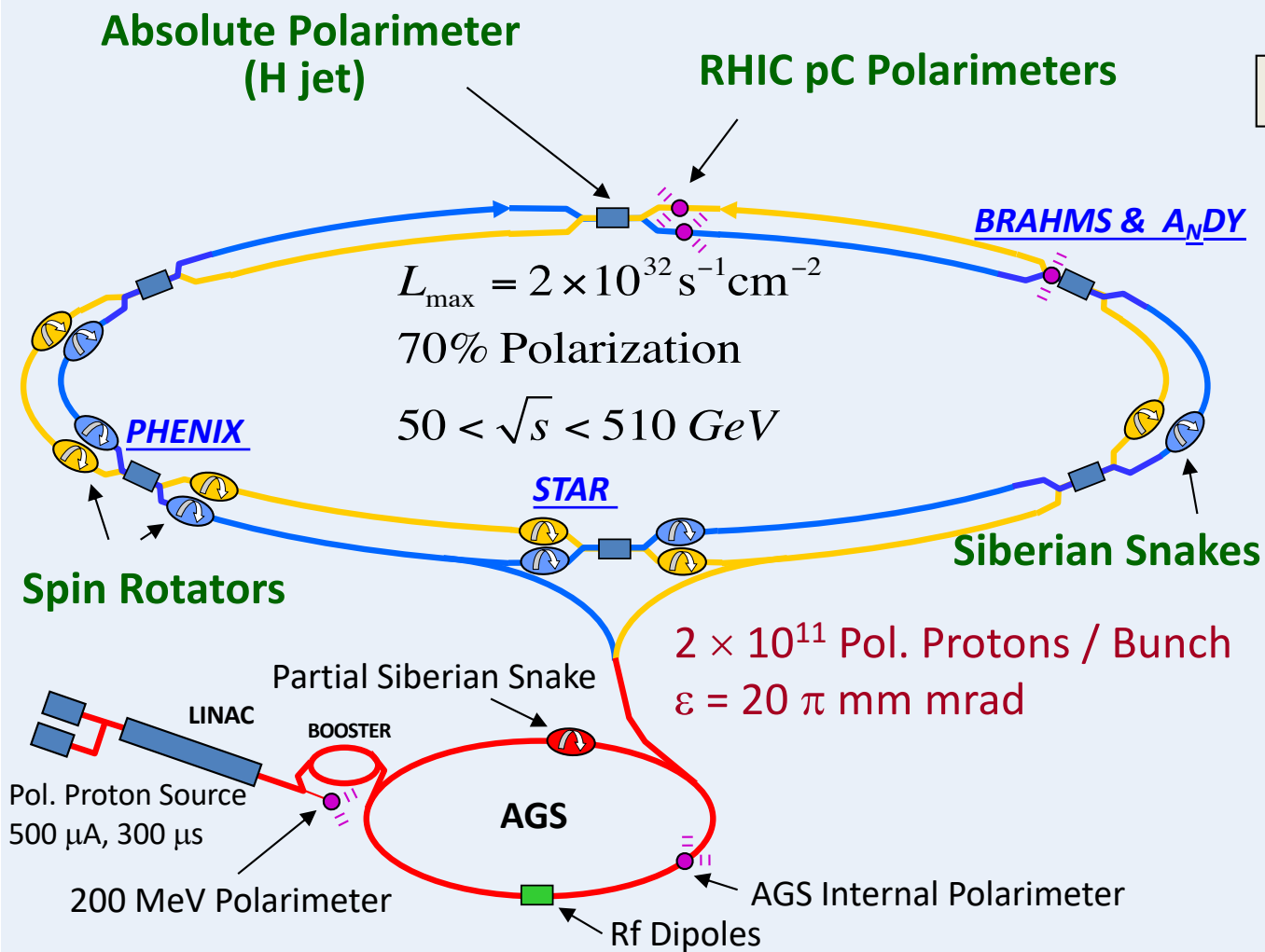
For PHENIX Collaboration



XII International Conference  
on New Frontiers in Physics  
10-23 July 2023, OAC, Kolymbari, Crete, Greece



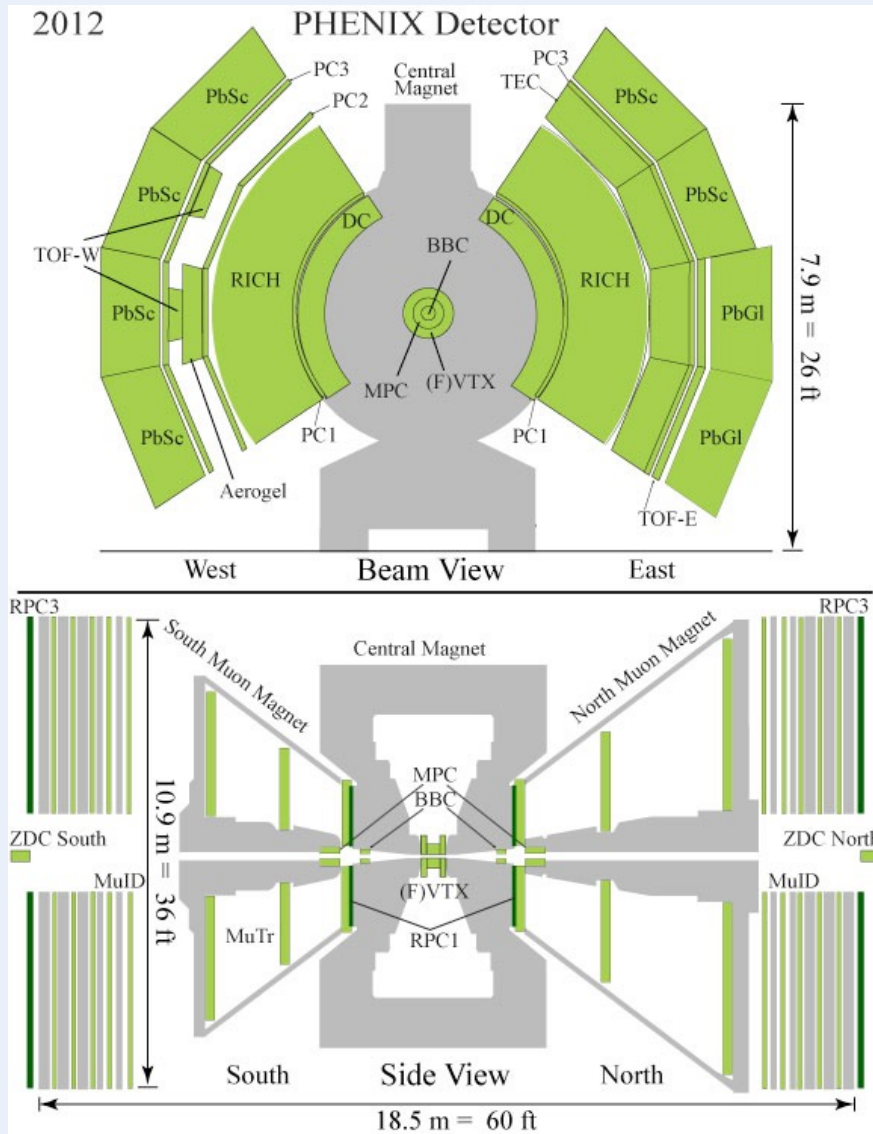
# PHENIX Spin @ RHIC



Spin Running in PHENIX, long./trans.

Year	$\sqrt{s}$ [GeV]	L [ $\text{pb}^{-1}$ ] (recorded)	Pol. [%]
2002	200	- / 0.15	15
2003	200	0.35 / -	27
2004	200	0.12 / -	40
2005	200	3.4 / 0.2	49
2006	200	7.5 / 2.7	57
<b>2006</b>	<b>62.4</b>	<b>0.08 / 0.02</b>	<b>48</b>
2008	200	- / 5.2	45
2009	200	16 / -	55
<b>2009</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>14 / -</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>18 / -</b>	<b>48</b>
2012	200	- / 10	56
<b>2012</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>32 / -</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>155 / -</b>	<b>56</b>
2015	200	- / 60	58
2015	pAu@200	- / 0.2	61
2015	pAl@200	- / 0.5	58

# PHENIX Detector



$\pi^0, \gamma, \eta$

Electromagnetic Calorimeter:  $|\eta| < 0.35$

Muon Piston Calorimeter:  $3.1 < |\eta| < 3.9$

$\pi^\pm, e, J/\psi \rightarrow e^+e^-, W \rightarrow e: |\eta| < 0.35$

Drift, Pad Chambers, VTX ( $|\eta| < 1$ )

Ring Imaging Cherenkov Counter, ToF

Electromagnetic Calorimeter

VTX

$\mu, h^\pm, J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-, W \rightarrow \mu: 1.2 < |\eta| < 2.4$

Muon Id/Muon Tracker

FVTX

Relative Luminosity

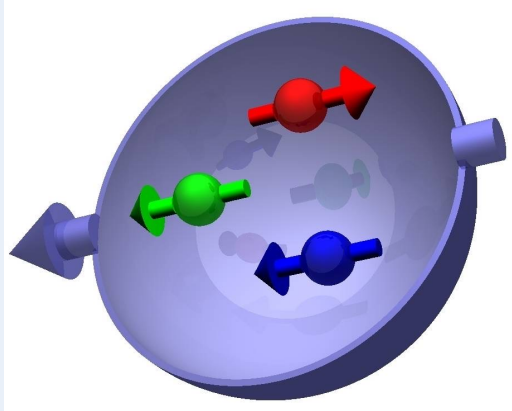
Beam Beam Counter (BBC)

Zero Degree Calorimeter (ZDC)

Local Polarimetry – ZDC & SMD

Spin direction control

# Proton Spin Decomposition



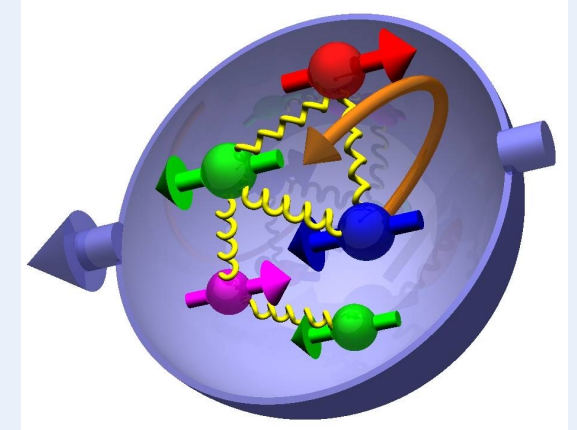
Naïve parton model:

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta u_v + \Delta d_v)$$

⇒ Gluons are polarized ( $\Delta G$ )

⇒ Sea quarks are polarized:

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q}) + \Delta G$$

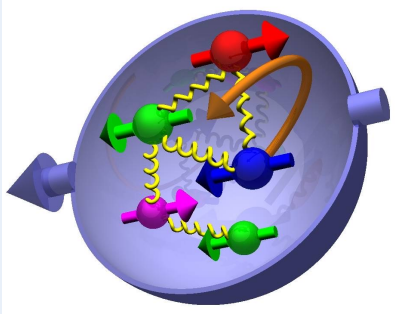


For complete description include parton orbital angular momentum  $L_z$ :

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q}) + \Delta G + L_z$$

1989 EMC (CERN):  
 $\Delta\Sigma = 0.12 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.14$   
 $\Delta\Sigma = \Delta u + \Delta d + \Delta s + \Delta \bar{u} + \Delta \bar{d} + \Delta \bar{s}$   
 ⇒ Spin Crisis

Determination of  $\Delta G$  and  $\Delta \bar{q}$  has been the main goal of longitudinal spin program at RHIC



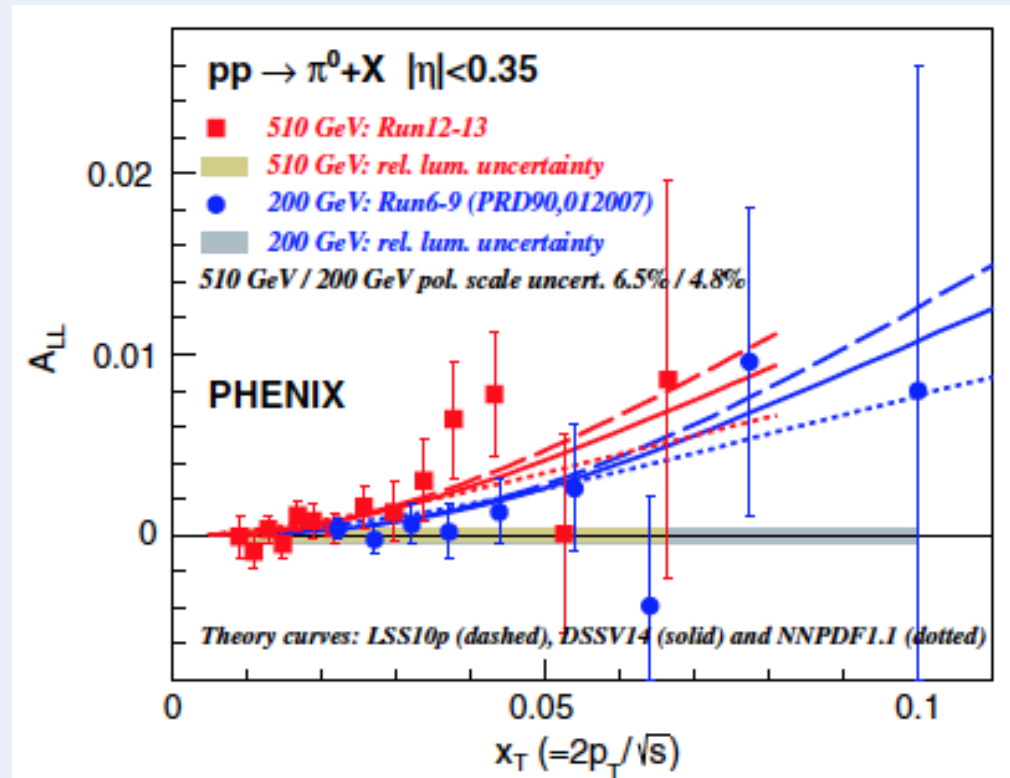
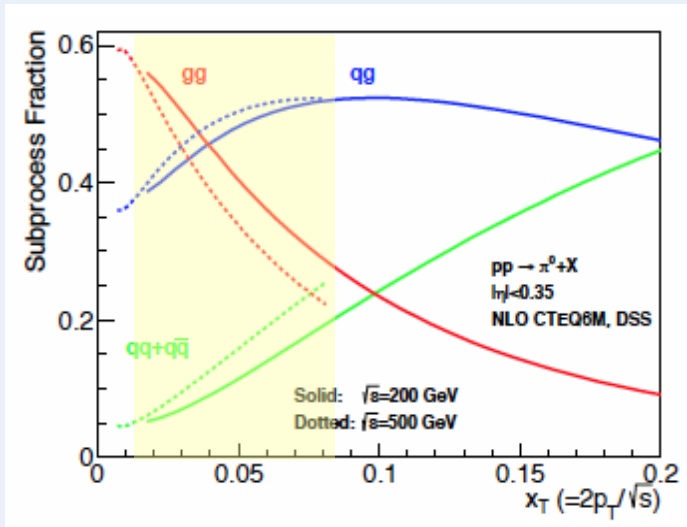
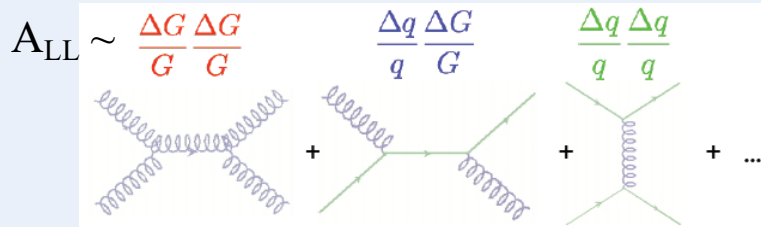
# $\Delta G: \pi^0 A_{LL}$

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q}) + \Delta G + L_z$$

The most abundant probe in PHENIX  
(triggering + identification capability)

$$A_{LL} = \frac{d\sigma_{++} - d\sigma_{+-}}{d\sigma_{++} + d\sigma_{+-}}$$

PRD93, 011501 (2016)

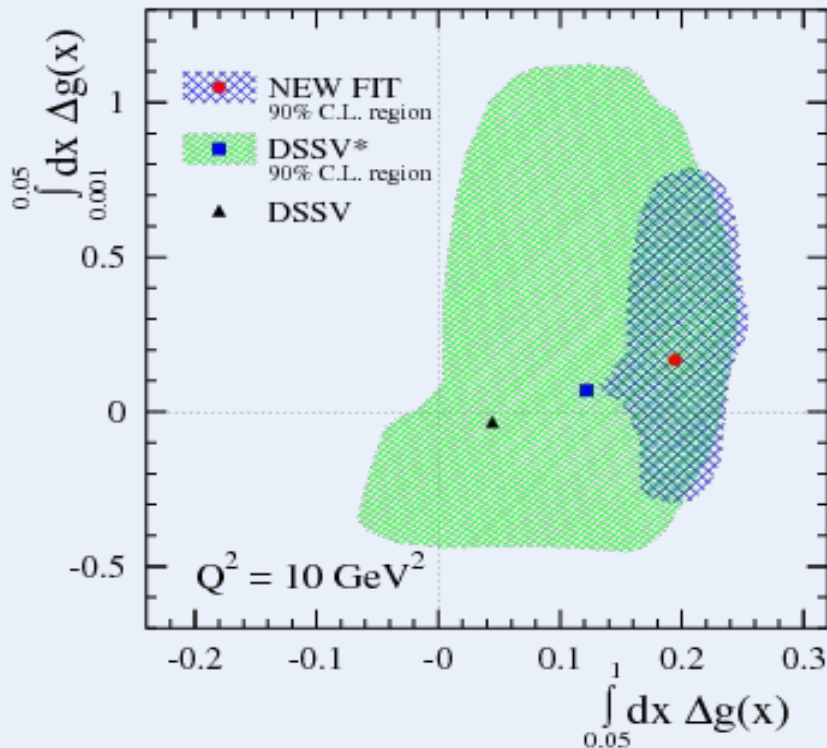


Non-zero  $A_{LL}$  associated with non-zero  $\Delta G$  !

# $\Delta G$ : DIS+pp global QCD fit

DSSV:

D. de Florian  
R. Sassot  
M. Stratmann  
W. Vogelsang



pp: PHENIX  $\pi^0$ + STAR jet

DSSV: *Phys Rev Lett*, 101, 072001 (2008)

Data from up to 2006

New DSSV: *Phys Rev Lett*, 113, 012001 (2014)

Data from up to 2009

$$\int_{0.05}^1 dx \Delta g(x) = 0.2^{+0.06}_{-0.07} \quad (90\% \text{ CL})$$

Significant non-zero  $\Delta g(x)$  in the kin. region probed by RHIC

Similar result from another global fit NNPDF

Sign is not yet reliably defined

=> Need cleaner prob, e.g. direct photons

Still huge uncertainty in unmeasured region ( $x < 0.05$ )

=> Measurements at higher  $\sqrt{s}$  and forward rapidity

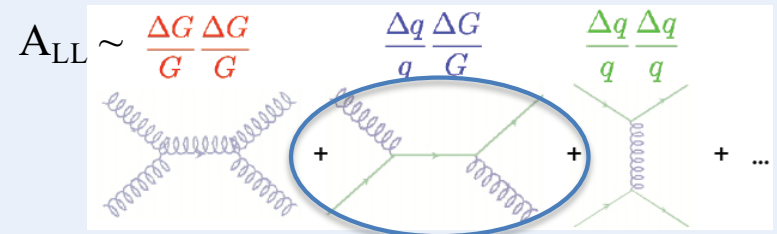
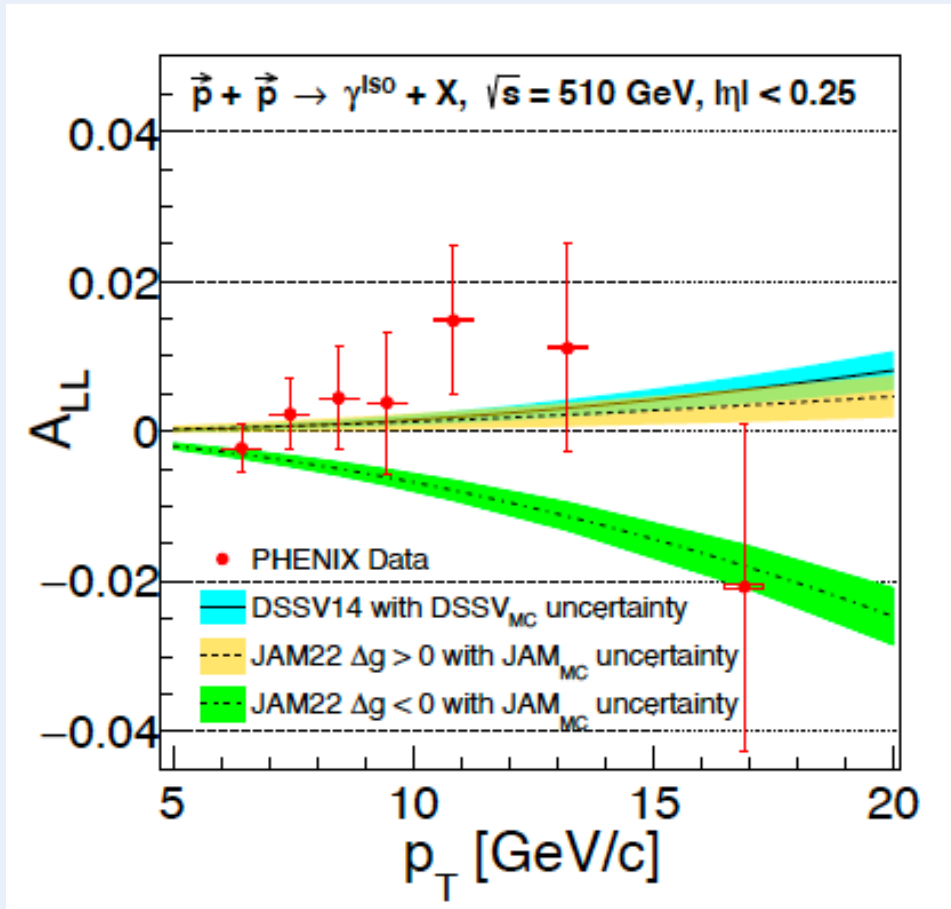
# $\Delta G$ : Confirm the Sign

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q}) + \Delta G + L_z$$

Direct photon - a golden channel to probe gluons

PRL130, 251901 (2023)

See Zhongling Ji talk on July 14



JAM collaboration:  
Sign is not defined

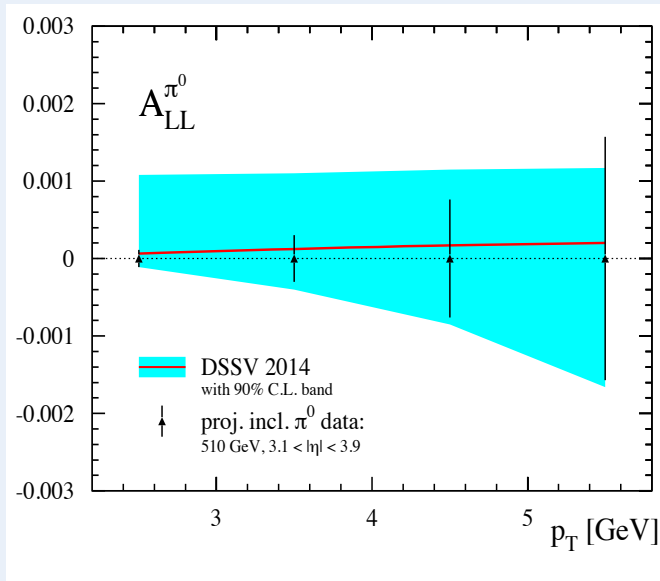
PHENIX:  
Clear preference for positive  $\Delta G$

# $\Delta G$ : Towards lower x

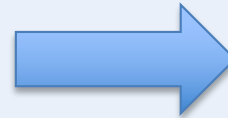
$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q}) + \Delta G + L_z$$

## Projection

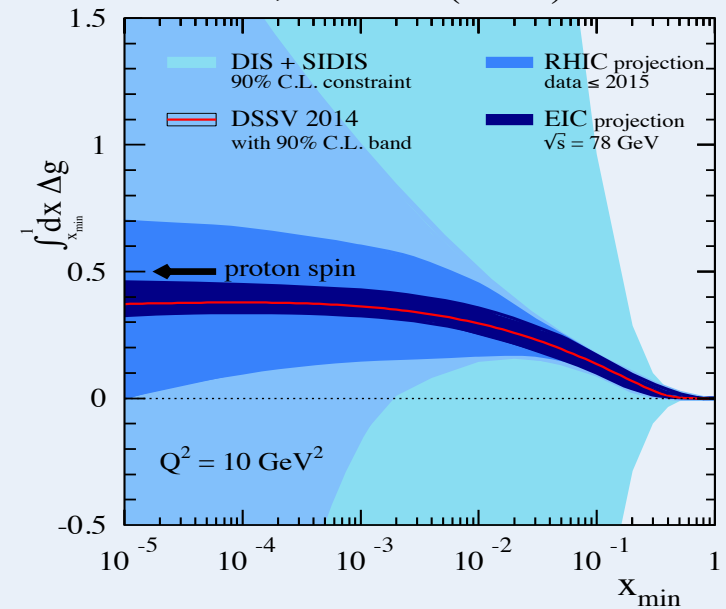
$\pi^0$ :  $3.1 < |\eta| < 3.9$



From available PHENIX+STAR data from 2011-15



Aschenauer, Stratmann, Sassot  
PRD 92, 094030 (2015)



$\pi^0$  in forward region at  $\sqrt{s}=510$  GeV:  
Based on collected 2013 data  
Probes lower x down to  $\sim 10^{-3}$

Other channels also being measured  
(but with weaker stat. power)  
 $\gamma, \eta, \pi^\pm, h^\pm$ , heavy flavor through  
e and  $\mu, h-h, \gamma-h$



$$d_L \bar{u}_R \rightarrow W^-$$

$$u_L \bar{d}_R \rightarrow W^+$$

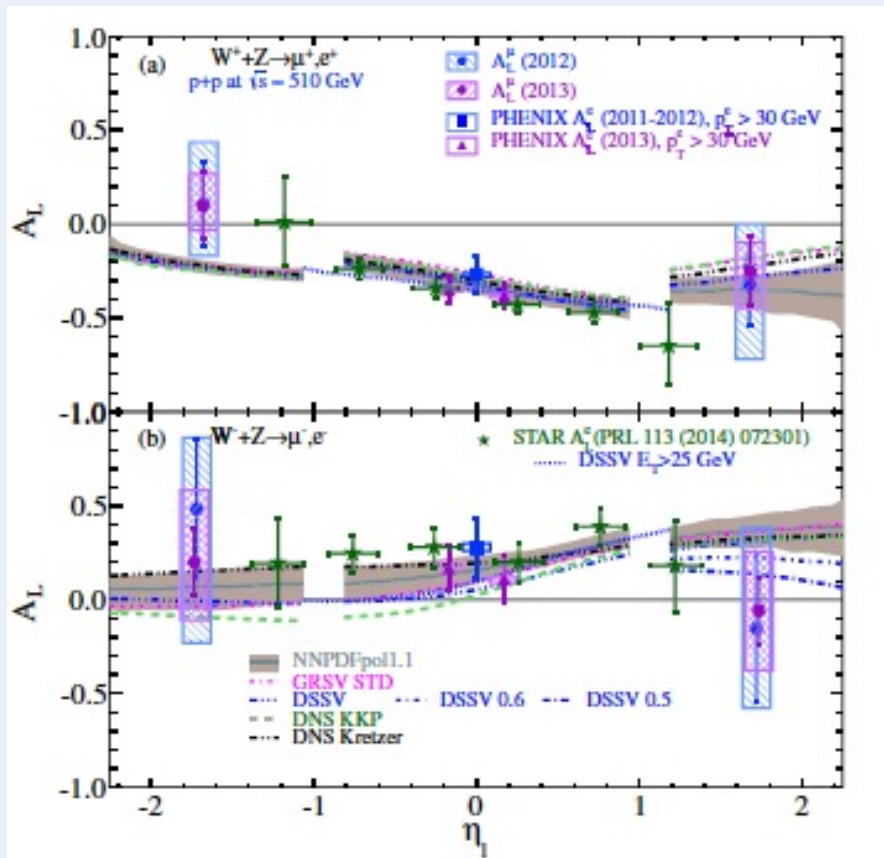
$$\Delta q\text{-bar}: W^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm, \mu^\pm$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q}) + \Delta G + L_z$$

$$e^\pm: |\eta| < 0.35 \quad \mu^\pm: 1.2 < |\eta| < 2.4$$

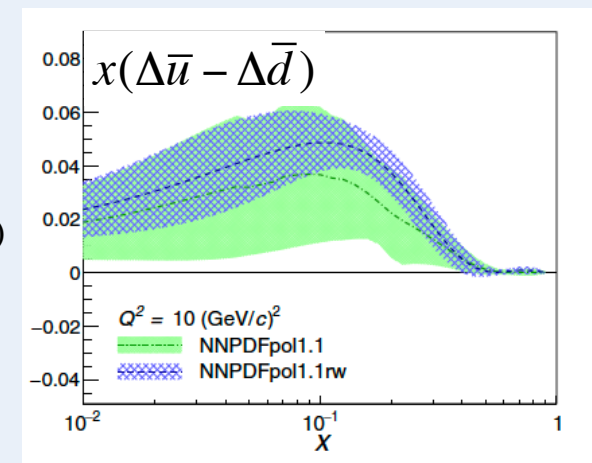
Constrains flavor separated (anti-)quark polarization at high  $Q \sim M_W$  at  $x > 0.05$ , with no fragmentation involved (as in SIDIS)

PRD 98, 032007 (2018)



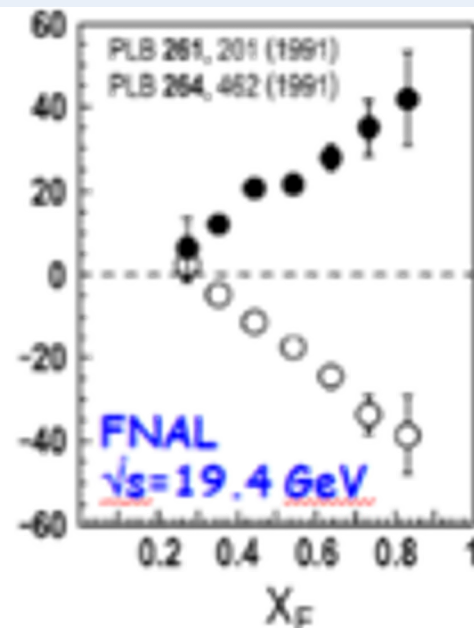
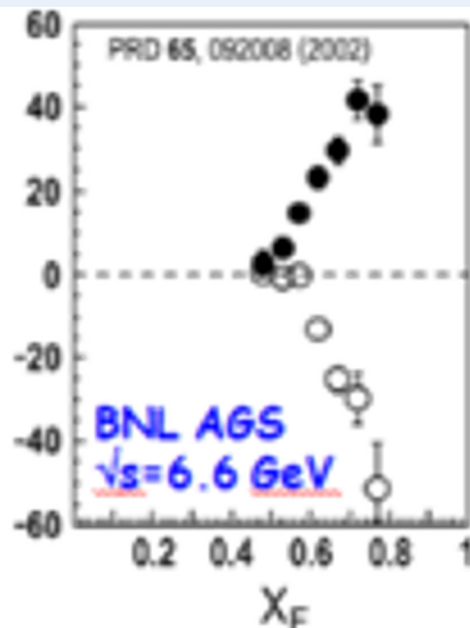
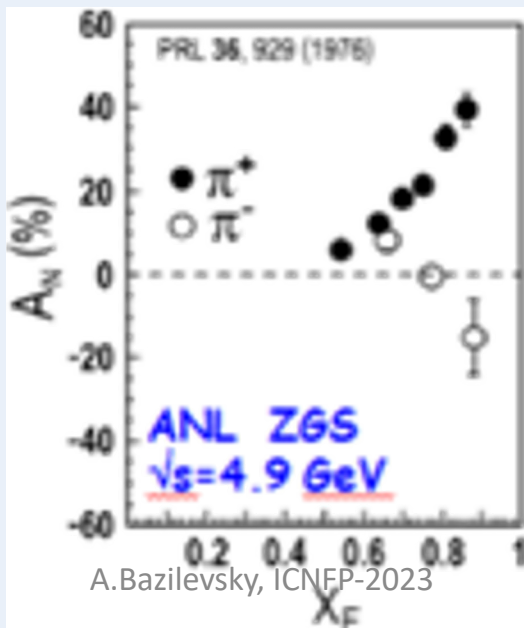
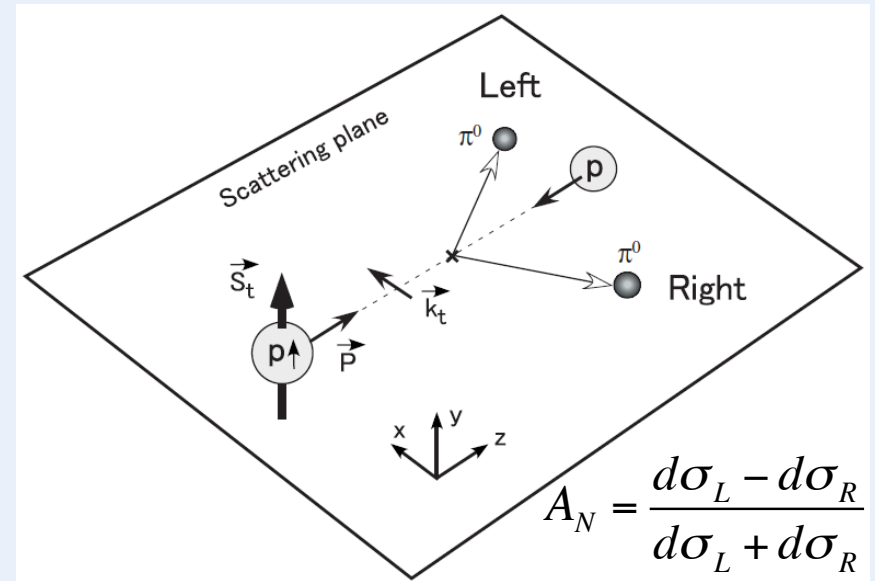
Data generally agree with current theory constraint, with some tension in backward region, leading to a preference of **ubar** polarization to be **more positive** and **dbar** polarization to be **more negative**

STAR:  
PRD99, 051102 (2019)



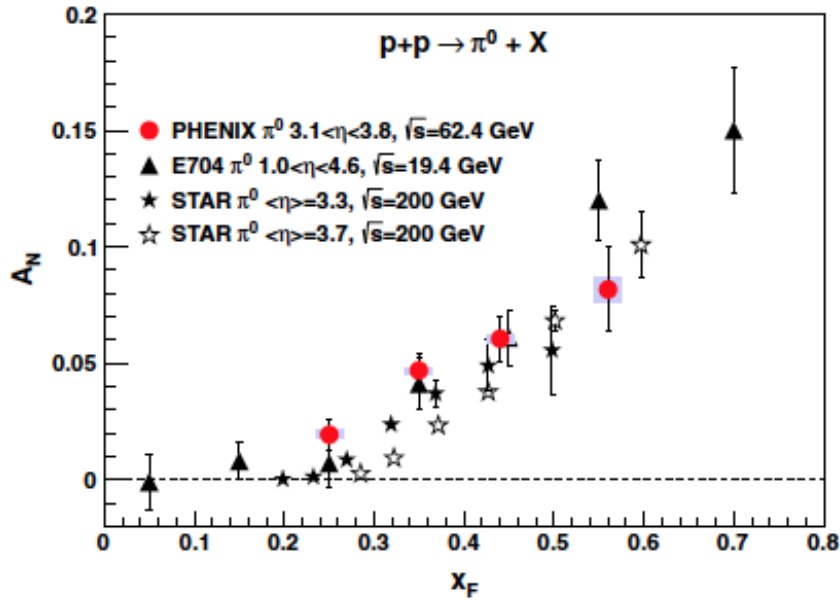
# Transverse Spin Asymmetries

Large Transverse Spin Asymmetries  
have been observed in  $p \uparrow p$



# Forward-rapidity $\pi^0$ $A_N$

PRD90, 012006 (2014)



Naïve collinear pQCD predicts

$$A_N \sim \alpha_s m_q / p_T \sim 0$$

Asymmetries survive at highest  $\sqrt{s}$

Non-perturbative regime!

Asymmetries of the  $\sim$ same size at all  $\sqrt{s}$

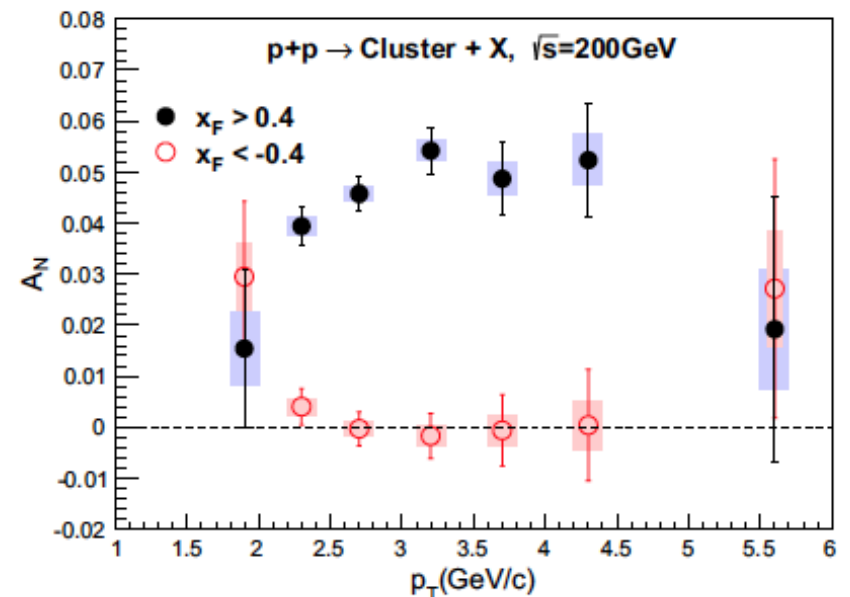
Asymmetries scale with  $x_F$

Collinear (higher twist) pQCD predicts

$$A_N \sim 1/p_T ?$$

No fall off is observed out to  $p_T \sim 5$  GeV/c

STAR showed no fall off up to  $\sim 7$  GeV/c



# Transverse Spin Physics

## Initial State:

### Sivers/Twist3 mechanism

- $A_N$  for jets, direct photons
- $A_N$  for heavy flavor → gluon
- $A_N$  for W, Z, DY

Sensitive to correlations

**proton spin – parton transverse motion**

Not universal between SIDIS & pp

- Parton dynamics
- 3D imaging

## Final State:

### Collins mechanism

- Hadron azimuthal asymmetry in jet
- Hadron pair azimuthal asymmetry  
(Interference fragmentation function)

Sensitive to

**transversity x spin-dependent FF**

Universal between SIDIS & pp & e+e-

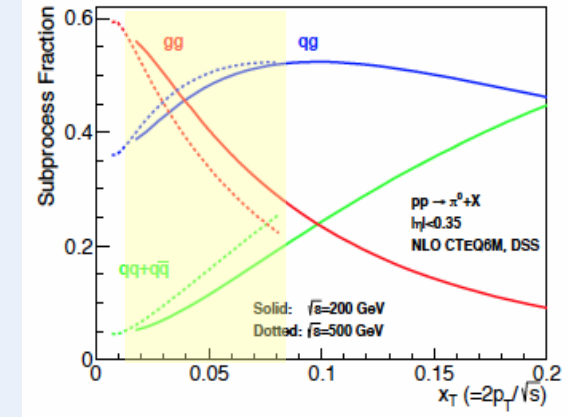
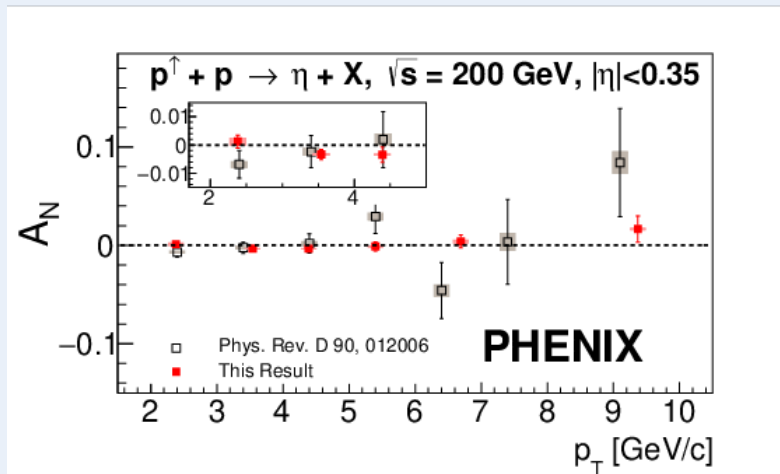
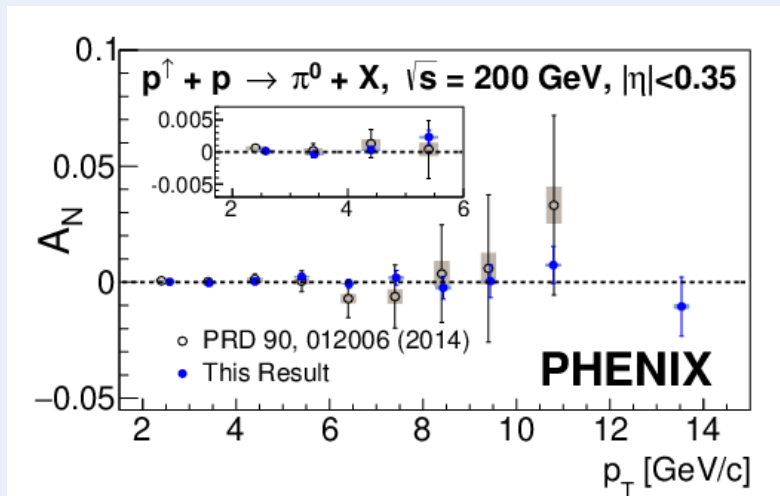
- Quark transversity
- Tensor charge

## Other mechanisms

- Diffraction

# Mid-rapidity $\pi^0$ and $\eta$ $A_N$

PRD103, 052009 (2021)



Consistent with 0

To  $\sim 3 \times 10^{-4}$  precision level at  $\pi^0$  low  $p_T$

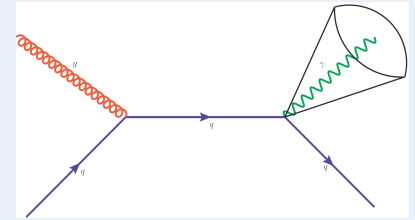
Sensitive to gluon dynamics

Used to constrain gluon Sivers effect:

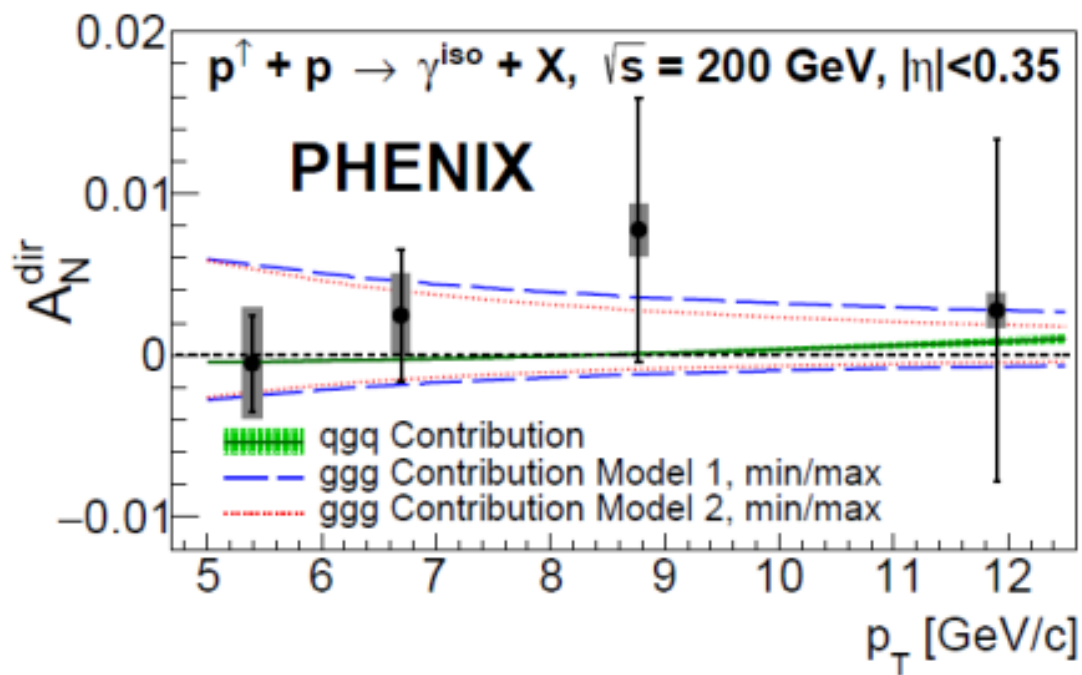
Anselmino et al, PRD 74 (2006), 094011

D'Alesio et al, JHEP 1509 (2015), 119

# Direct Photon $A_N$

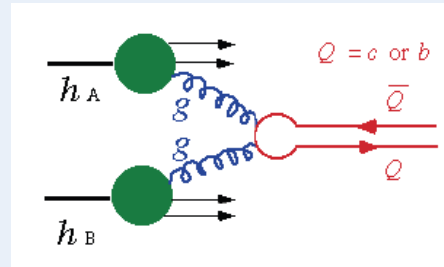


PRL127, 162001 (2021)

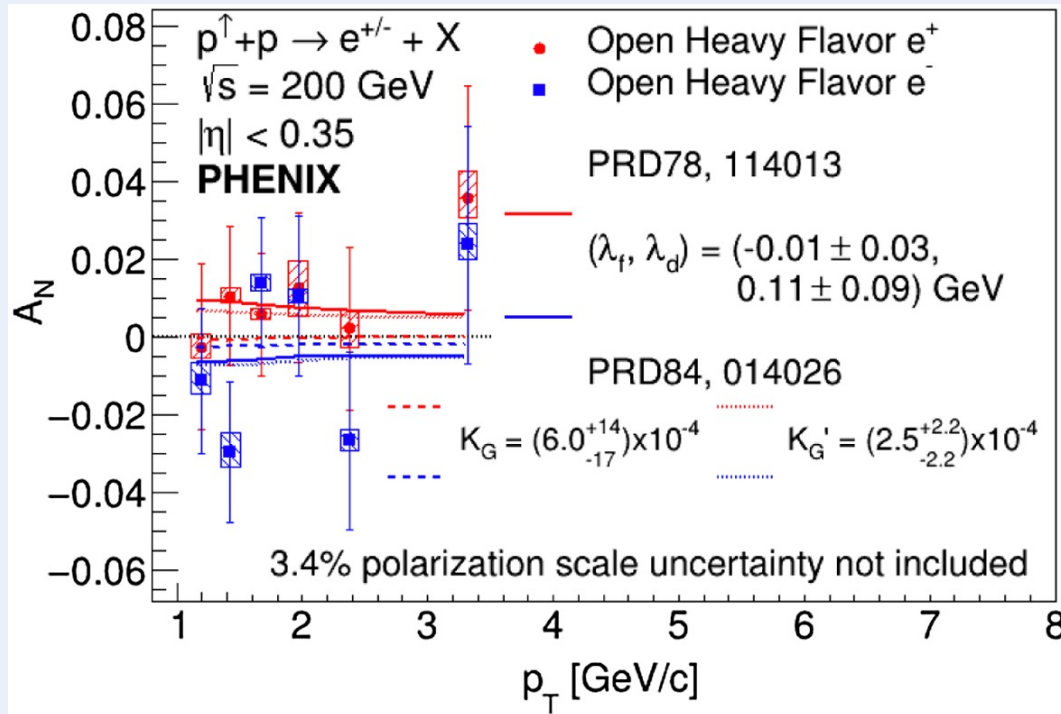


- ✓ First direct  $\gamma A_N$  from RHIC
- ✓  $\times 50$  times reduced uncertainty compared to the only prior measurement at E704 (Fermilab)
- ✓ Clean prob of initial state effect (no fragmentation)
- ✓ Constraints gluon dynamics within proton (through gluon-gluon correlation function)

# Heavy Flavor $A_N$



PRD107, 052012 (2023)



Dominated by gluon-gluon fusion

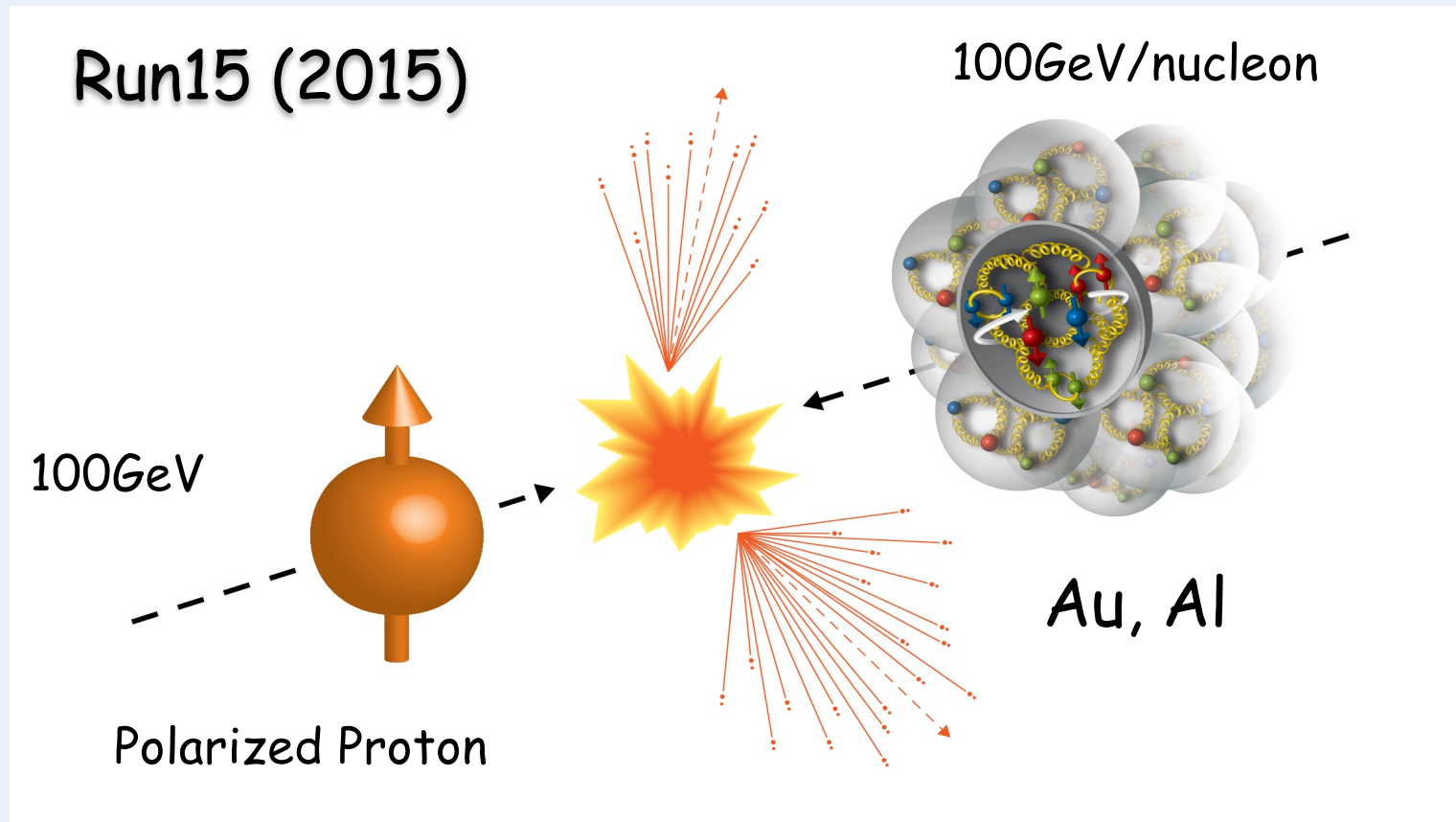
Used to constrain tri-gluon correlation in the Twist-3 collinear framework

Z.Kang, J.Qiu, W.Vogelsang, F.Yuan, PRD78,114013

Y.Koike, S.Yoshida, PRD84,014026

Comparison of charges provides further sensitivities

# First $p^\uparrow + A$ data !!!



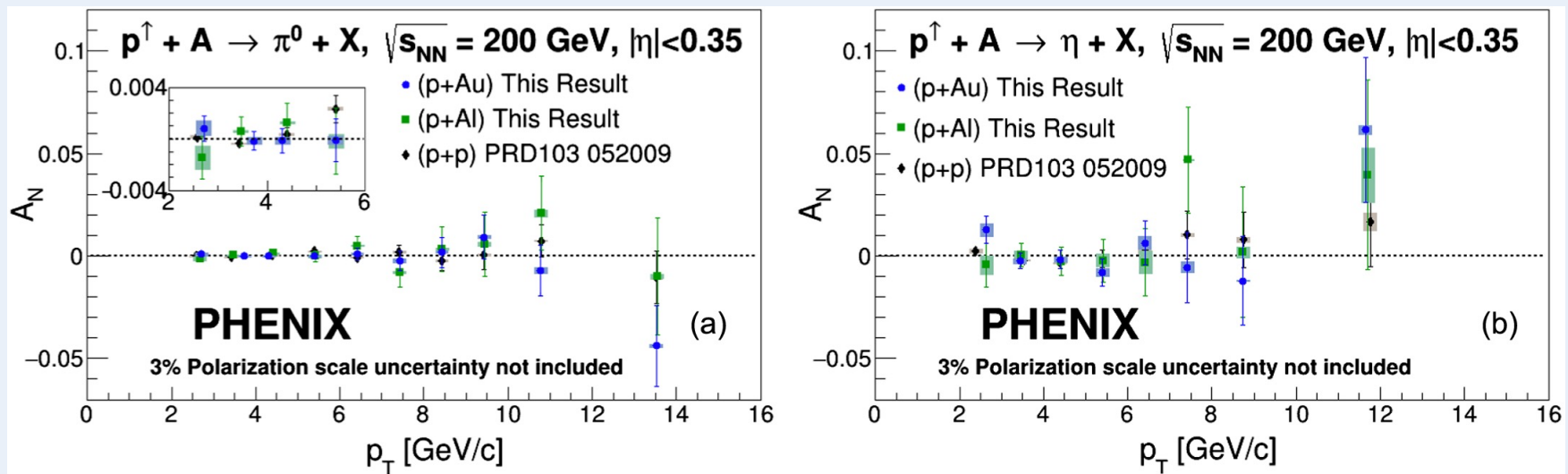
- Pin down the origin of  $A_N$
- Study nuclear effect with a polarized probe!



# $A_N$ : Central rapidity

$\pi^0$  at  $|\eta| < 0.35$

PRD107, 112004 (2023)



Very high precision data

$\sigma_A \sim 3 \times 10^{-4}$  ( $10^{-3}$ ) at lowest  $p_T$  in pp (pA)

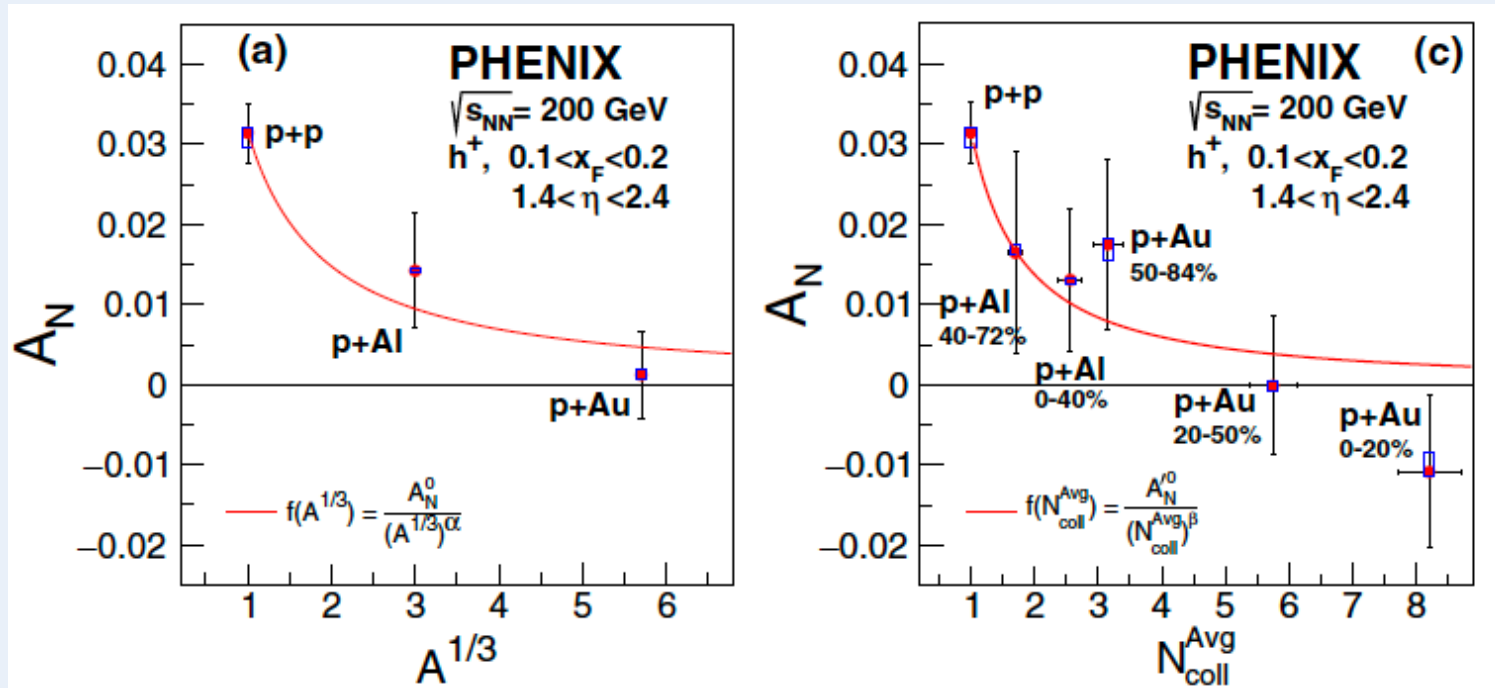
$A_N$  consistent with 0 for all systems

To be used to constrain gluon Sivers fct.

# $A_N$ : Forward rapidity

$h^+$  at  $1.2 < |\eta| < 2.4$

PRL123, 122001 (2019)



Theory expects  $A_N \sim 1/A^{1/3}$  due to gluon saturation

Z.Kang and F.Yuan, PRD 84, 034019 (2011)

Supported by our data

However:

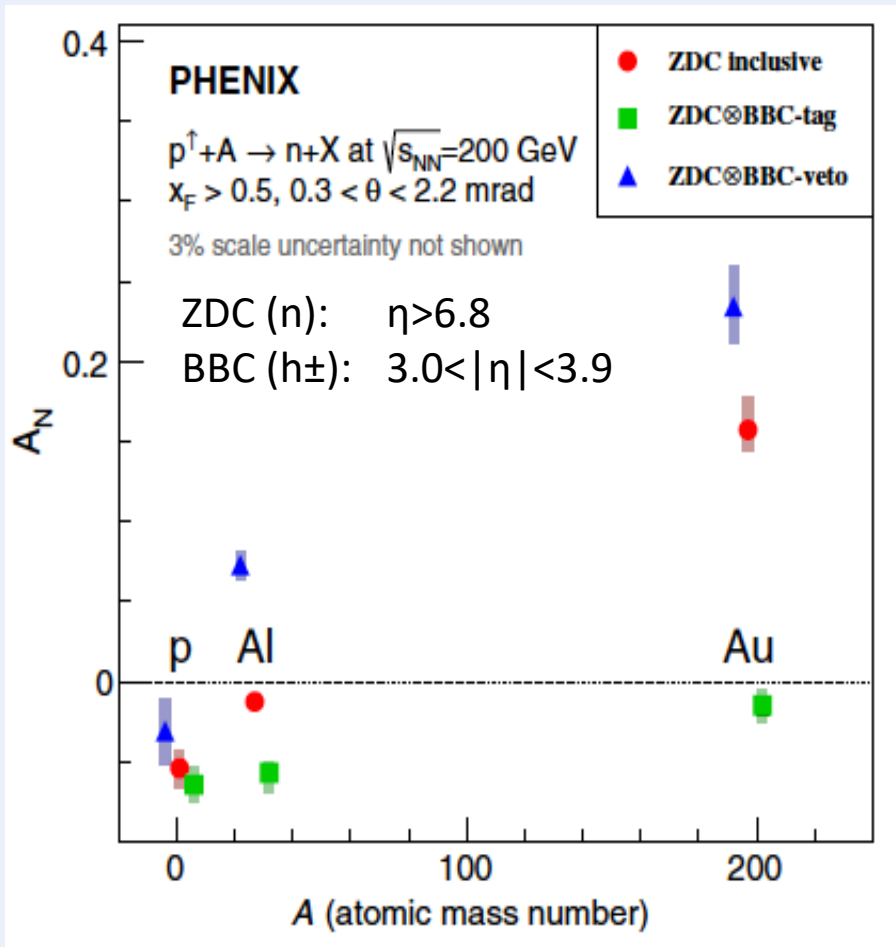
In this kin. region no sensitivity to gluon saturation is expected

Different source of asymmetry? Other nuclear effects?

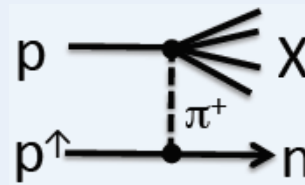
# $A_N$ : Very forward rapidity

n at  $|\eta| > 6.8$

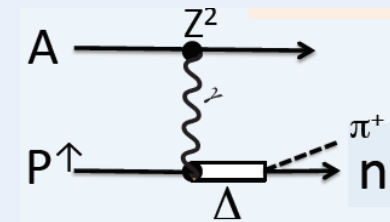
PRL 120, 022001 (2018)



- Strong dependence on A and particle production in other rapidity regions
- Likely multiple mechanisms contribute



One pion exchange:  
 B.Kopeliovich et al  
 PRD 84, 114012



Electromagnetic interaction:  
 G.Mitsuka, PRC95 044908

- Correlation with particle production in other rapidities, and different A and  $\sqrt{s}$  will help to isolate different channels

# Summary

- How do gluon contribute to the proton Spin  
Non-zero positive (in the limited x-range) and comparable to (or larger than) quark contribution  
Data at lower x coming
- What is the flavor structure of polarized sea in the proton  
 $A_L(W)$  will contribute to  $\Delta\bar{u}$  and  $\Delta\bar{d}$
- What are the origins of transverse spin phenomena in QCD  
 $A_N(\pi^0, \eta)$ , central and forw;  $A_N(\text{Heavy Flavor}, J/\psi) \Rightarrow$  gluon Sivers
- First  $p^\uparrow A$  data !  
A wealth of exciting results awaiting for theoretical interpretation

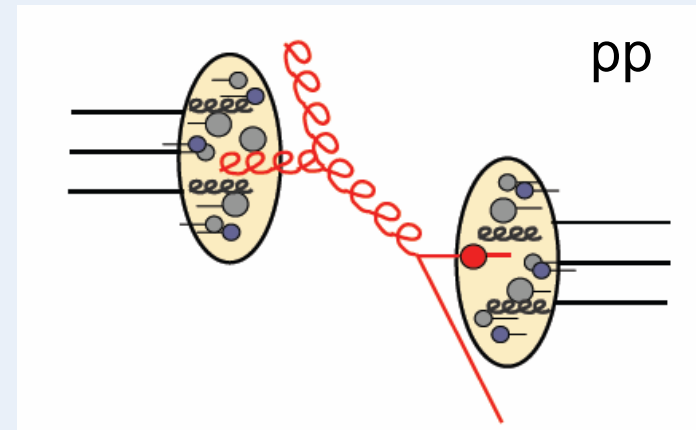
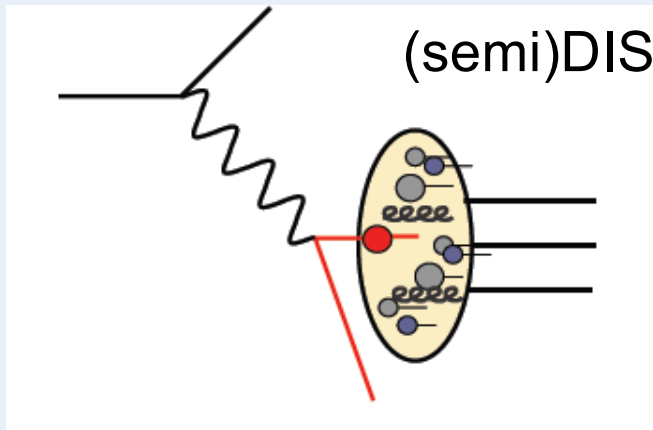
Proton spin  
decomposition

Parton dynamics  
3D imaging

Probing nuclear  
matter effects

# Backup

# From DIS to pp:



## Probes $\Delta G$ :

$Q^2$  dependence of structure fct  
Photon-gluon fusion

## (Anti-)quark flavor separation:

Through fragmentation processes

## Probes $\Delta G$ :

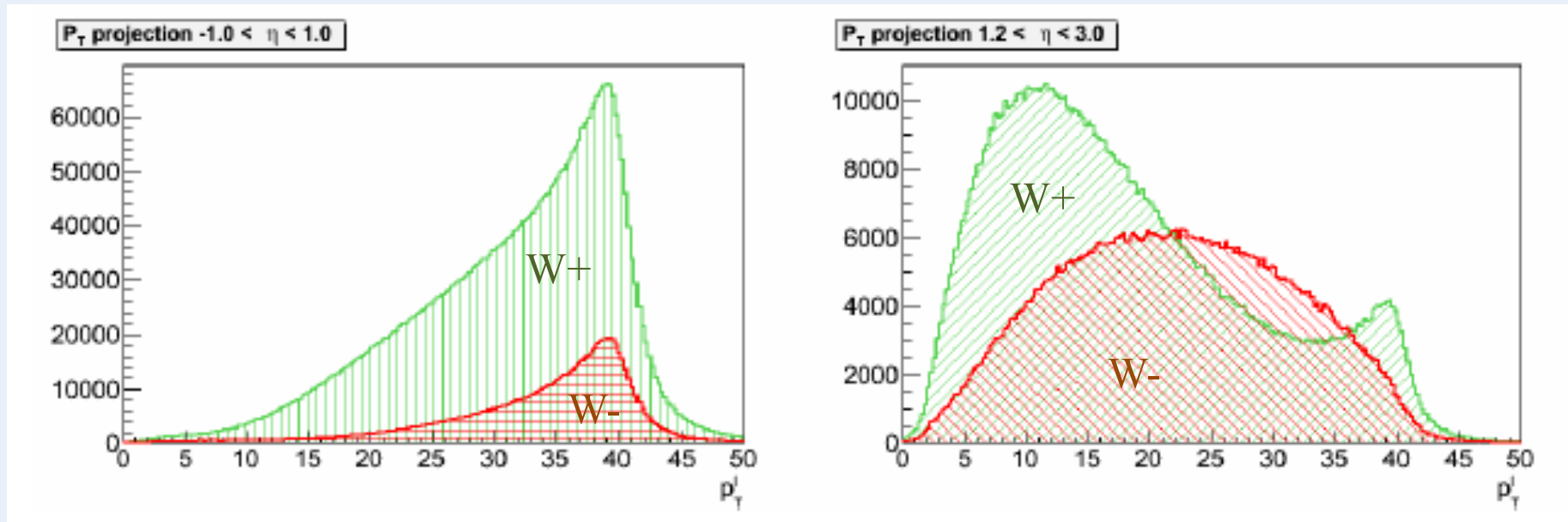
Directly from  $gg$  and  $qg$  scattering

## (Anti-)quark flavor separation:

Through  $u\bar{d} \rightarrow W^+$  and  $\bar{u}d \rightarrow W^-$

Complementary approaches

# W: Central vs Forward region



Clear Jacobian peak  
at central rapidities

Suppressed/No Jacobean peak  
at forward rapidities

$$d_L \bar{u}_R \rightarrow W^-$$

$$u_L \bar{d}_R \rightarrow W^+$$

$$\Delta q\text{-bar: } W^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm$$

$$|\eta| < 0.35$$

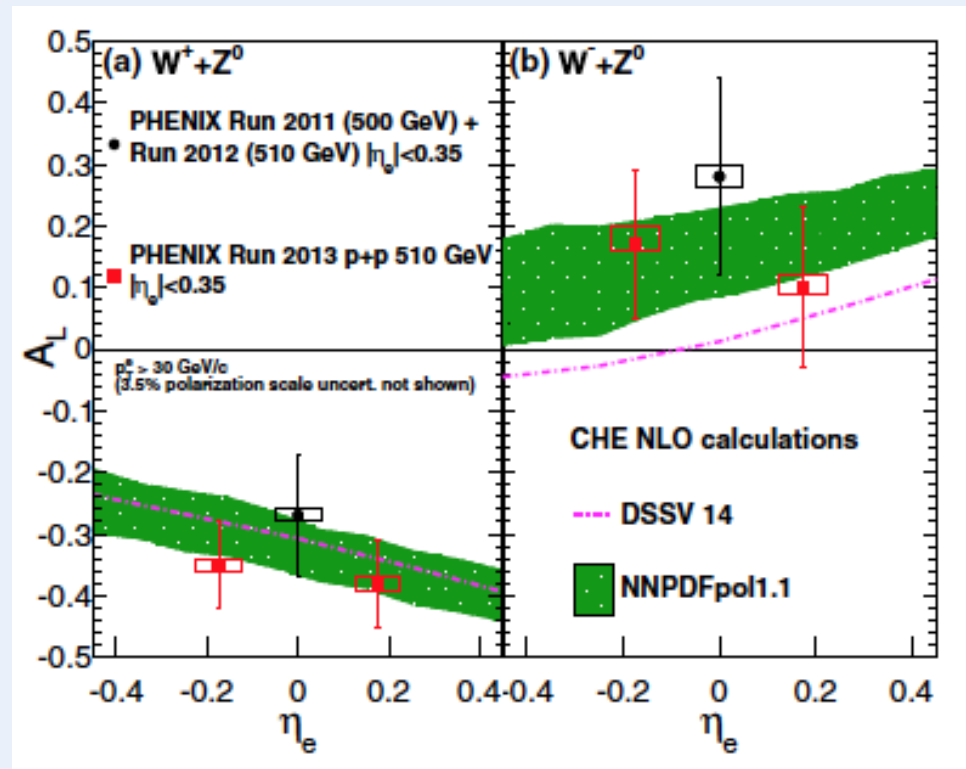
$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q}) + \Delta G + L_Z$$

Constrains flavor separated (anti-)quark polarization at high  $Q \sim M_W$  at  $x > 0.05$ , with no fragmentation involved (as in SIDIS)

PRD93, 051103 (2016)

$$A_L = \frac{d\sigma_+ - d\sigma_-}{d\sigma_+ + d\sigma_-}$$

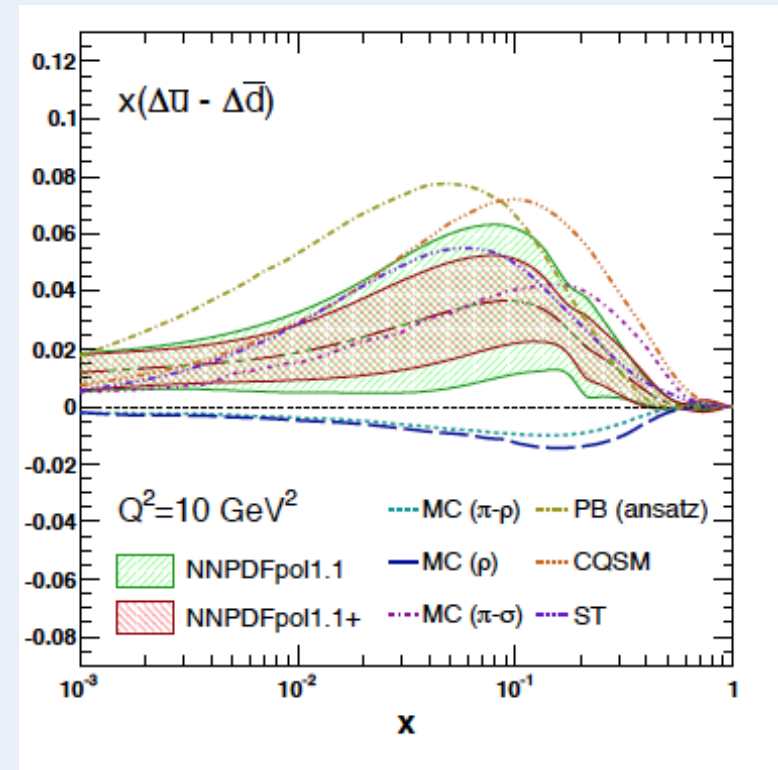
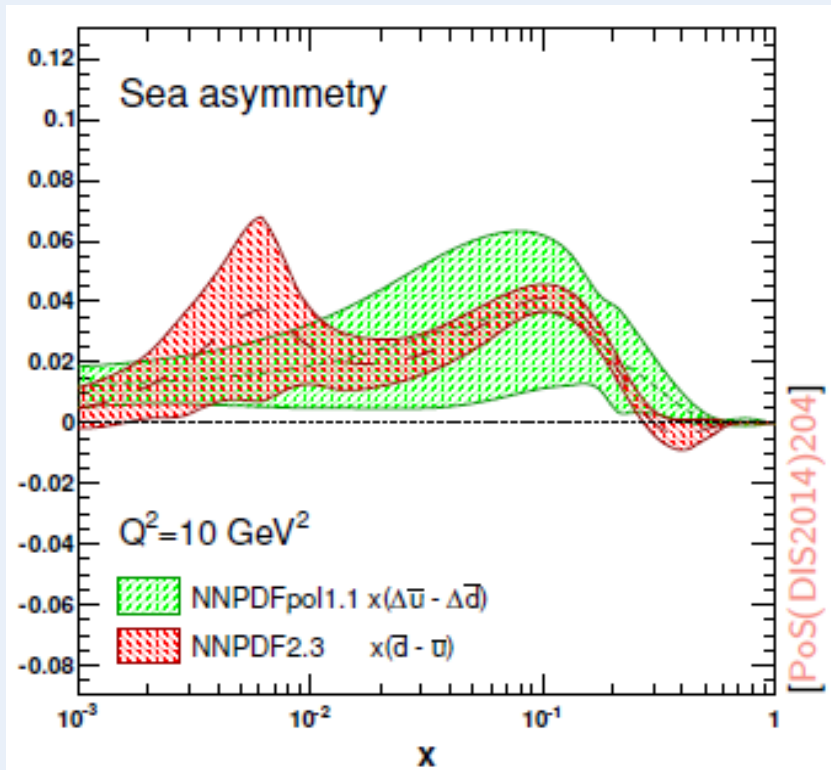
$$A_L^{W^+} = \frac{-\Delta u(x_1)\bar{d}(x_2) + \Delta\bar{d}(x_1)u(x_2)}{u(x_1)\bar{d}(x_2) + \bar{d}(x_1)u(x_2)}$$





# Symmetry breaking in polarized sea?

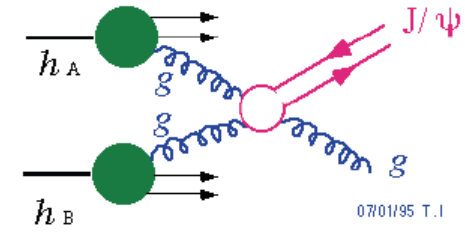
Unpolarized sea is not symmetric



Polarized sea symmetric may be broken too!

Already available data (Run13) will improve the measurement further

# $A_N$ : Forward rapidity



$J/\psi$  at  $1.2 < |\eta| < 2.4$

PRD 98, 012006 (2018)

$J/\psi$  production sensitive to gluon distribution

$A_N$  sensitive to  $J/\psi$  production mechanism

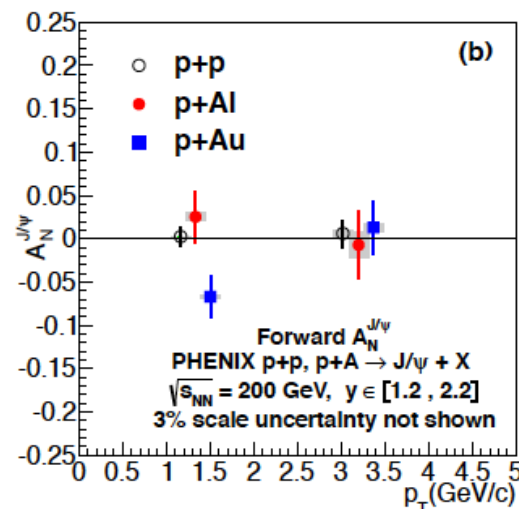
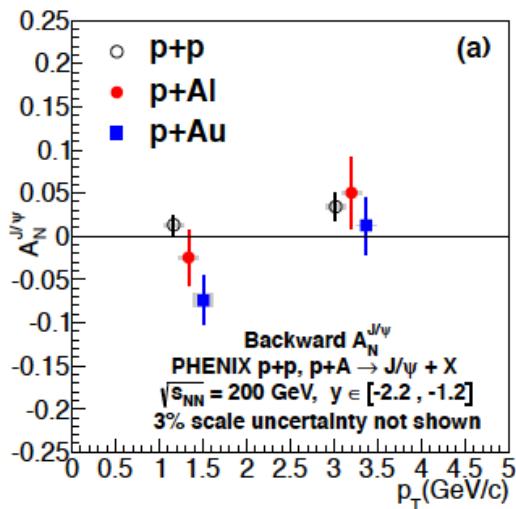
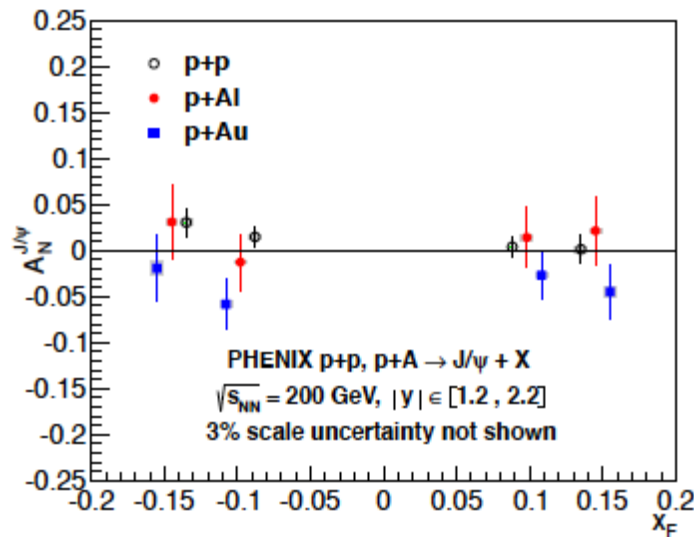
F.Yuan, PRD78, 014024:

For non-zero gluon Sivers,  $A_N$  vanishes in color octet model, but survives in color singlet model

In p+p and p+Al:  $A_N \sim 0$

In p+Au: trends to  $A_N < 0$

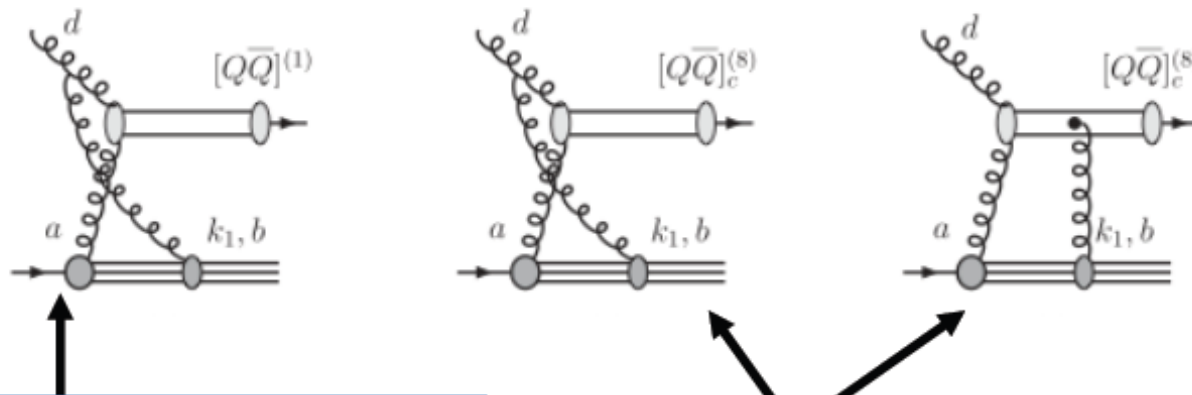
??



# $J/\psi A_N$

□  $J/\psi A_N$  is sensitive to the production mechanisms

- Assuming a non-zero gluon Sivers function, in pp scattering,  $J/\psi A_N$  vanishes if the pair are produced in a color-octet model but survives in the color-singlet model
- *Feng Yuan, Phys. Rev D78, 014024(2008)*



One color-singlet diagram  
— no cancellation, asymmetry  
generated by the initial state  
interaction,  $A_N \neq 0$

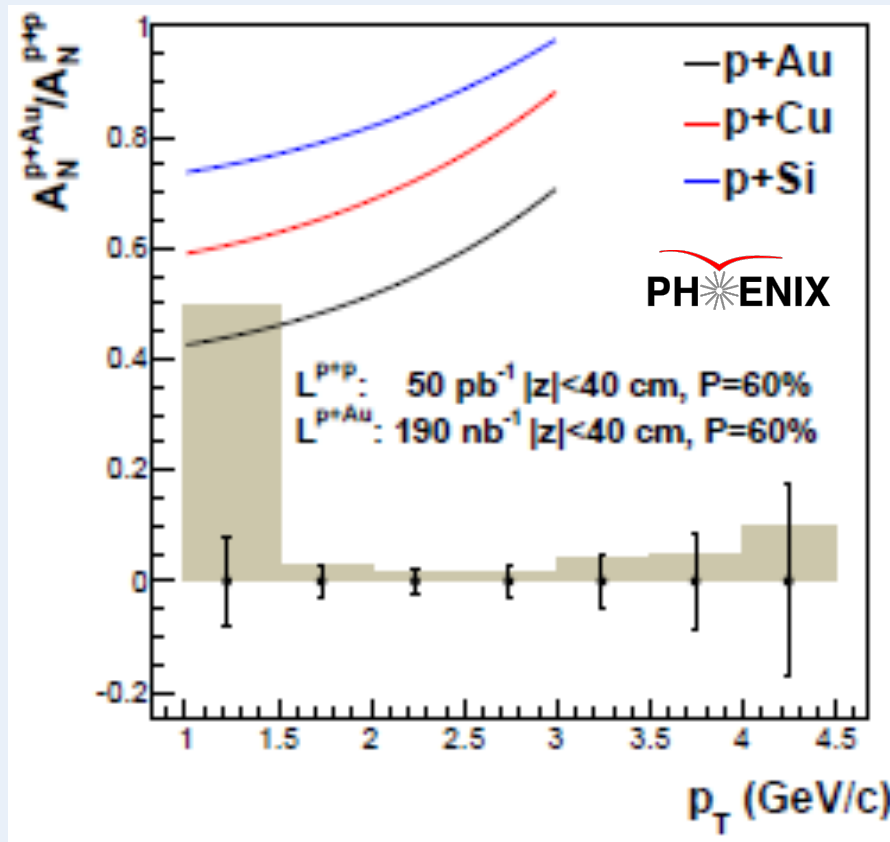
Two color-octet diagrams  
— cancellation between initial and final  
state interactions, no asymmetry  $A_N = 0$

# $\pi^0 A_N$ in pA

Probing gluon saturated matter, Color Glass Condensate (CGC) with polarized protons

Kang, Yuan: PRD84, 034019

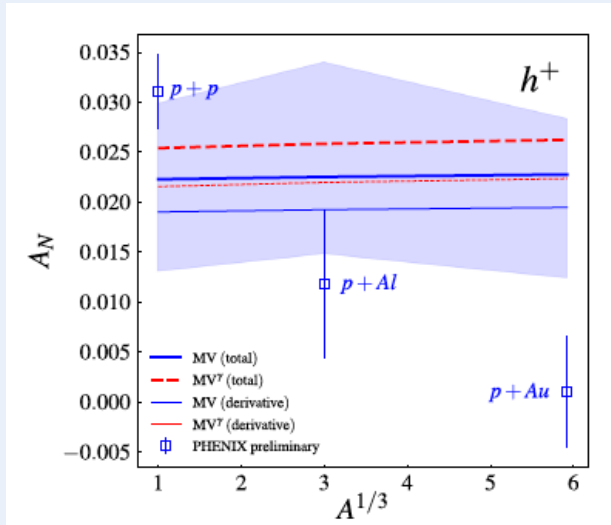
Kovchegov, Sievert: PRD86, 034028



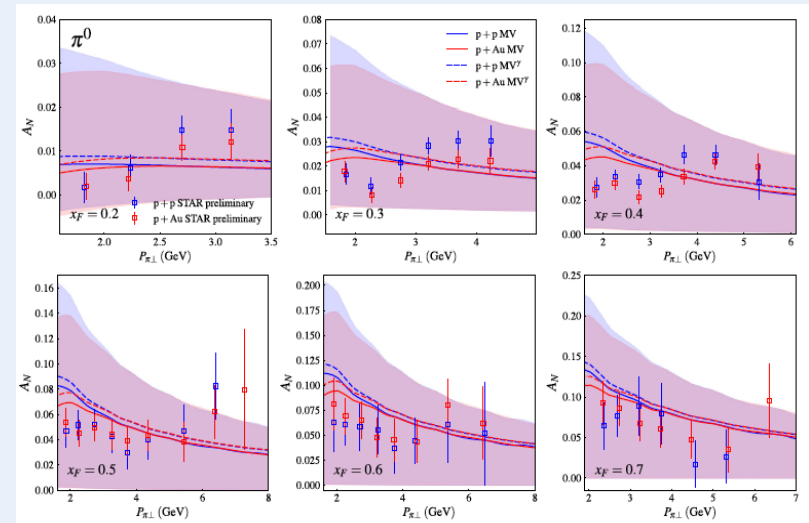
- Unique RHIC possibility  $p \uparrow A$
- Synergy between CGC based theory and transverse spin physics
- Suppression of  $A_N$  in  $p \uparrow A$  provides sensitivity to  $Q_s$
- **Data already collected in Run-2015!**

# $A_N$ : Forward rapidity

S.Benic and Y.Hatta, PRD99, 094012  
(Twist-3 fragmentation + gluon saturation)



PHENIX (Preliminary)	STAR (Preliminary)
$h^+$	$\pi^0$
$1.4 < \eta < 2.4$	$2.6 < \eta < 4.0$
$0.1 < x_F < 0.2$	$0.2 < x_F < 0.7$
$1.8 < p_T < 7$	$1.5 < p_T < 7$
$A_N$ suppressed	$A_N$ (almost) not modified



*“ $\langle p_T \rangle \sim 2.9 \text{ GeV}/c$  is too hard to be sensitive to the saturation scale  $Q_S^{Au} \sim 0.9 \text{ GeV}$ .  
... This makes the PHENIX result even more striking.”*

Different source of hadron  $A_N$ ?

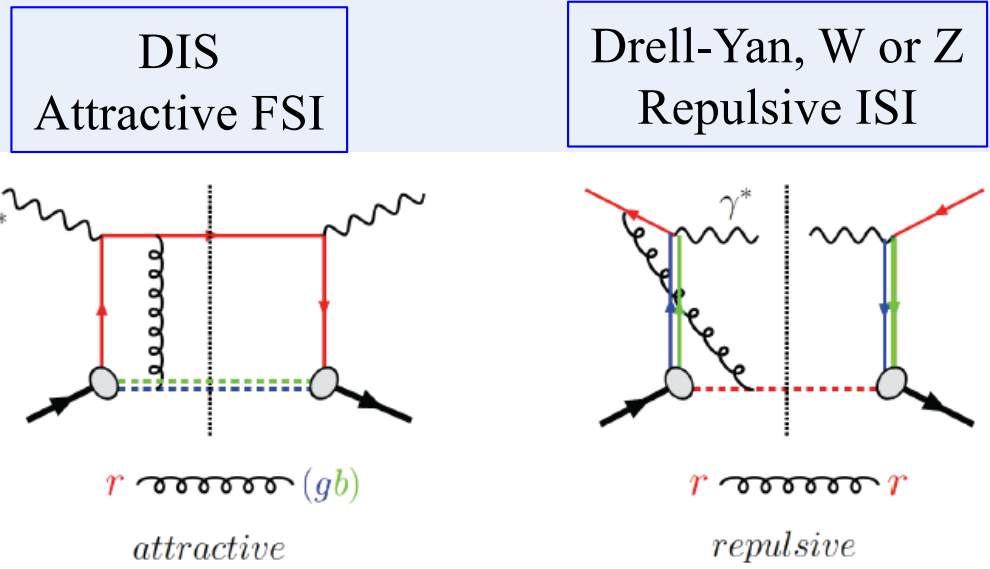
Other nuclear effects?

Any connection with QGP formation in pA?

# Color Interaction in QCD

Controlled non-universality of Sivers function

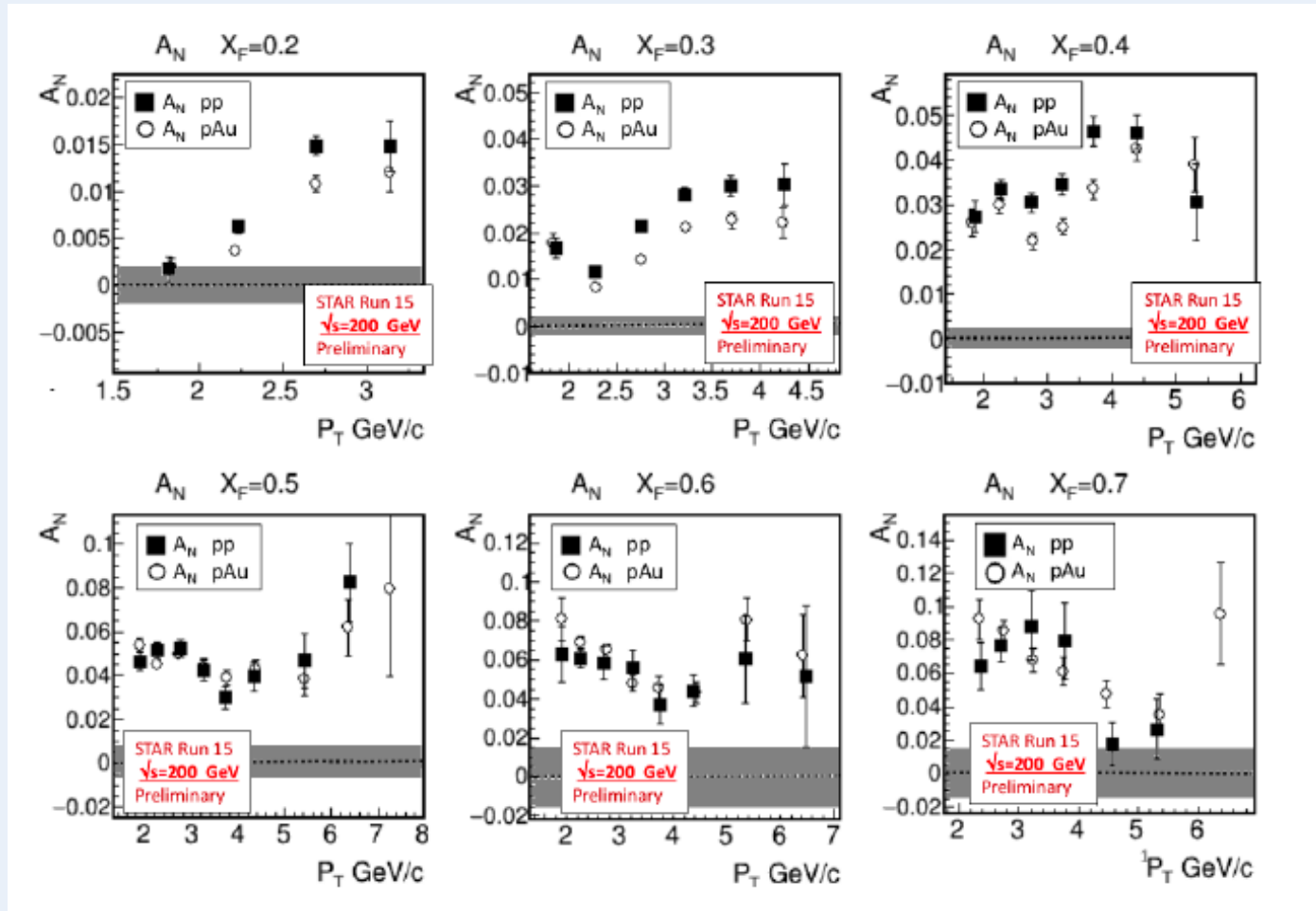
**QCD:**



$$\text{Sivers}_{\text{DIS}} = -(\text{Sivers}_{\text{DY}} \text{ or } \text{Sivers}_{\text{W}} \text{ or } \text{Sivers}_{\text{Z}})$$

$A_N(\text{dir. } \gamma)$  has related sign change in Twist-3

Critical test of TMD factorization  
All observables can be explored at RHIC

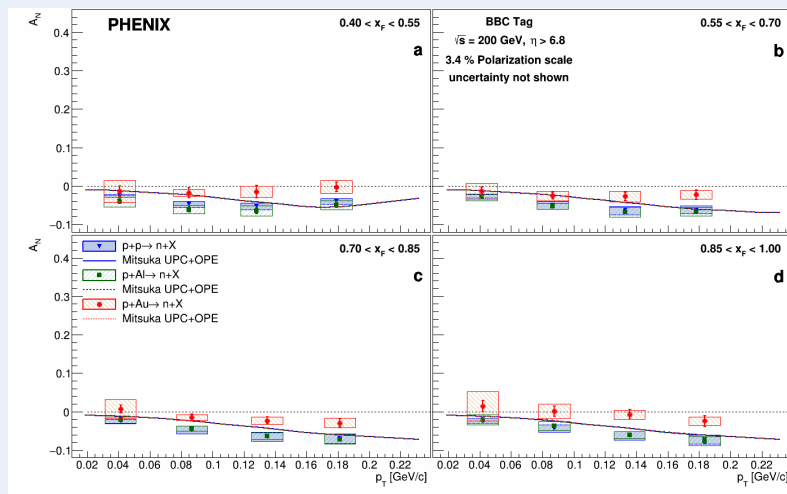


# $A_N$ : Very forward rapidity

n at  $|\eta| > 6.8$

PRD 105, 032004 (2022)

BBC correlated



BBC veto

