

RHIC Spin Physics[†]

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The physics potential of colliding beams of protons, polarized either longitudinally or transversely, at RHIC is remarkable. A luminosity of $L = 2 \times 10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ with 70% polarized beams will be available with up to 250 GeV energy in each beam. The proposal to collide polarized protons in RHIC was submitted in August 1992 and approved in October 1993, just after this workshop. We have been encouraged to complete R&D on Siberian Snakes, so that RHIC will be able to accelerate polarized protons early in its program. The expected date of the first heavy ion collisions is 1999.

The spin physics program includes measurement of gluon and sea quark polarization in the longitudinally polarized proton, measurement and then application of parity violation in W and Z production, measurement of hard scattering parton-parton asymmetries, and quark polarization or transversity in transversely polarized protons. Single spin asymmetries allow sensitive searches for parity violation (longitudinal polarization), and correlations between quark spin and gluons (transverse). Probes include direct photons (to $p_T = 20 \text{ GeV}/c$), jets (to $p_T > 50 \text{ GeV}/c$), Drell-Yan pairs (to $m_{\ell\ell} = 9 \text{ GeV}$), W^\pm , Z . This program is described in our Particle World paper.^[1] Here, we will emphasize the new information included in our Update, given to the Brookhaven PAC this September.

New Physics.

1. The transversity parameter measures the correlation between left and right handed quarks or antiquarks in a transversely polarized proton. By choosing a process where gluons do not contribute to lowest order to the unpolarized cross section, the sensitivity (or asymmetry) is maximized, since gluons do not contribute to a transverse asymmetry, but can contribute to the unpolarized cross section. Therefore, Drell-Yan pairs are an excellent probe. We have recently added the Z as a probe of transversity^[2] with the advantage of its relatively large cross section. The asymmetry then measures

$$A_{TT} / \hat{a}_{TT} = \frac{\Sigma e_q^2 h_1^q h_1^{\bar{q}}}{\Sigma e_q^2 f^q f^{\bar{q}}}$$

where h_1 is the transversity, and f the unpolarized structure function. \hat{a}_{TT} is the subprocess analyzing power and is expected to be of order one. If the transversity h_1 equals the longitudinal spin structure function g_1 (which would be the case for a nonrelativistic model), then

$$A_{TT} / a_{TT} = -A_{LL}$$

[†] Work performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy, Contract No. DE-AC02-76CH00016.

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A_{LL} is the parity conserving longitudinal asymmetry for Z production, and is expected to be about 10% as seen in Fig. 1. STAR/Spin estimates that they will collect about 4000 Zs in 1000 hours at RHIC, giving an error in A_{LL} of 0.03.

2. Doncheski *et al.*^[3] have pointed out that parity-conserving W production gives additional information on antiquark polarization in the proton. The longitudinal asymmetries are sensitive to the following quark asymmetries:

$$\text{Parity Conserving: } A_{LL}(W^+) \sim \frac{\Delta u \Delta \bar{d}}{ud} \quad A_{LL}(W^-) \sim \frac{\Delta d \Delta \bar{u}}{d \bar{u}} ;$$

$$\text{Parity Violating: } A_L(W^+) \sim \frac{\Delta u \bar{d} - \Delta \bar{d} u}{u \bar{d} + d \bar{u}} \quad A_L(W^-) \sim \frac{\Delta d \bar{u} - \Delta \bar{u} d}{d \bar{u} + \bar{u} d} .$$

At rapidity $y=0$, $u\bar{d} = \bar{d}u$ and $d\bar{u} = \bar{u}d$, so $A_L(W^+)_{y=0} = \frac{1}{2}(\frac{\Delta u}{u} - \frac{\Delta \bar{d}}{\bar{d}})$ and $A_L(W^-)_{y=0} = \frac{1}{2}(\frac{\Delta d}{d} - \frac{\Delta \bar{u}}{\bar{u}})$. Since we expect (from Deep Inelastic Scattering) $\Delta u >> \Delta \bar{d}$, $A_{LL}(W^+)$ is sensitive to Δd (Fig. 1). At RHIC, Ws are produced at large x, so we expect $d >> \bar{u}$. Therefore, $A_L(W^-)$ is sensitive to $\Delta \bar{u}$ (see Fig. 2). STAR/Spin should collect 70000 W^+ , and 15000 W^- in 1000 hours. PHENIX/Spin will collect 12000 W^+ and 4000 W^- .

3. RHIC will also be an excellent place to measure the asymmetry of the sea (is $\bar{d} > \bar{u}$?), with unpolarized protons.^[4] A significant effect was seen in muon scattering data from NMC.^[5] RHIC offers pp production of W^\pm with high luminosity, and W^+ measures \bar{d} and W^- measures \bar{u} . The sea asymmetry in the NMC data would imply a 40% effect on the ratio W^+/W^- at zero rapidity for one model of sea asymmetry where the asymmetry persists to larger x.

4. Important work has been done to connect measured asymmetry to parton polarizations. As much as half of the cross section for QCD processes is higher order (K factors). The issue is whether these corrections change the lowest order prediction for spin. A. Contogouris presented a study for direct photon production^[6] and there has also been work on Drell-Yan.^[7] For both cases, the studies have found that the relationship between hadron asymmetry and parton polarization, based on lowest order diagrams, is preserved when the next order diagrams are included. This is very important work.

Accelerator Conceptual Design and Review.

It is not easy to accelerate polarized protons to high energy. Many spin resonances must be crossed where the spin precession period matches either the betatron tune or the periodicity of the accelerator lattice. In 1978 Derbenev and Kondratenko^[8] proposed a series of magnets which rotate the spin 180° and leave the orbit undisturbed. E. Courant dubbed the magnets Siberian Snakes, and their inventors and followers Serpentologists. The snakes remove spin resonances from the acceleration process. Krisch described here some beautiful tests of snakes done at Indiana.^[9] RHIC requires 4 Siberian Snakes, and also polarimeters, and spin flippers. Experiments needing longitudinal polarization also need spin rotators (these are much the same

as snakes). The RHIC management arranged a review of all this proposed hardware, which took place in June. The members of the Review Committee were A. Chao (SSCL), S. Peggs (RHIC), R. Pollock (IUCF), L. Teng (ANL, Chair), and W. Weng (AGS). A Conceptual Design Report was the basis of the review, and the committee concluded that

"... the feasibility of producing, storing, and colliding 250 GeV polarized proton beams in RHIC is established with reasonable confidence."

"The proposal has the flavor of the application of an ingenious technological invention (Siberian snakes) to make possible exciting physics research (polarization physics), reminiscent of the application of stochastic cooling to obtain $\bar{p} p$ beams for W and Z in the CERN SPS. We are indeed very enthusiastic about this total program."

The Conceptual Design Report includes an inclusive π^- polarimeter that uses the A_N results from the ZGS and Fermilab. A 5% polarization measurement can be made in a few seconds using π^- production at $x = .5$, $p_T = .8$ GeV/c from a carbon fiber target.

One important concern is to find the best design for the snakes and spin rotators. We are quite encouraged by the new design based on helical snakes, present here by Y. Shatunov.^[10]

Plans.

The proposal is approved. It is necessary to find funding, and to develop a complete design report for the acceleration requirements. Our goals are to complete the Design Report for a review next June, to begin immediately R&D on snakes to be able to begin construction in 1995, with installation in time for the initial RHIC run in 1999. PHENIX/Spin does not require changes for spin, beyond the spin rotators. STAR/Spin plans a 6 year construction of the barrel EM calorimeter and shower maximum detector, assuming funding of \$1M/year.

The international contributions and interest in spin have already been crucial for our present progress. We have a large and exciting job ahead, and we welcome additional international (and national) collaboration.

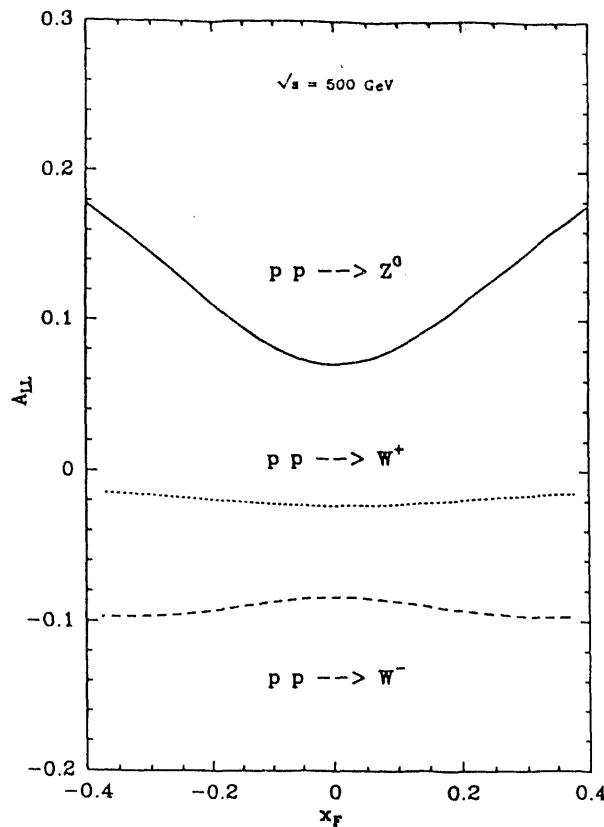


Figure 1. Parity-conserving asymmetry A_{LL} for Z and W production at RHIC. A non-zero signal requires sea-quark polarization. The polarization assumed here is
 $\Delta \bar{u}(x) = \bar{u}(x) - \bar{d}(x)$ and
 $\Delta \bar{d}(x) = .04 d_v(x)$, from ref. 4.

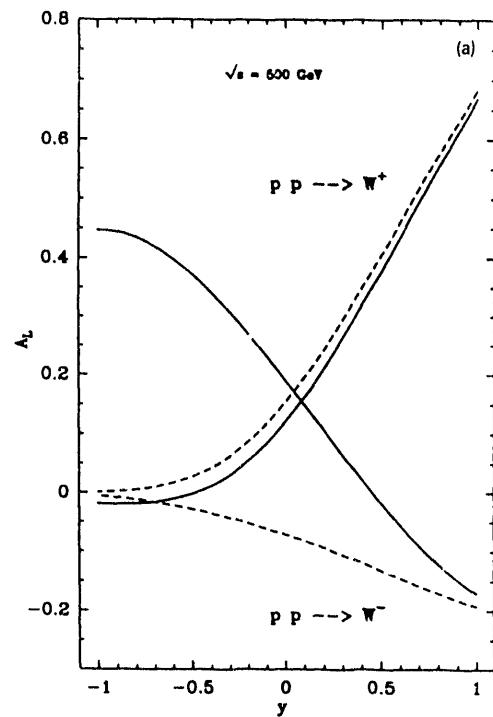


Figure 2. Parity-violating asymmetry A_L for W production at RHIC. The solid lines are for sea quark polarization as in Fig. 1, and the dashed lines are for zero sea polarization.[4]

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3/21/94



