Highlights I : Polarized Photon-Gluon Collisions

Interference shows rich structure vs. P_T Significant $\cos 4\Delta\phi$ modulation in $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ Two source interference in VM production \rightarrow process: Experimental demonstration of linear $\cos 2\Delta\phi$ modulation in $\rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^$ polarization of quasi-real photons **STAR Preliminary** $0.65 < M^{\pi\pi} < 0.90 \text{ GeV/c}^2$ $\widehat{}$ Z 0.45 < M_{ee} < 0.76 GeV STAR cos(A_1 <u></u>
<sup>
と</sup>
120 ₩ Au+Au 60-80% × 0.65 Au+Au UPC st 1000 $C \times (1 + A_{\Delta +} \cos 2\Delta \phi + A_{\Delta +} \cos 4\Delta \phi)$ ±1σ N 800 600 400 $\phi[(\pi]$ olarized vv ____ __ QED STARLight SuperChic $\frac{\pi}{2}$ $\Delta \phi = \phi_{ee} - \phi_{e}$

New Interference pattern observed in diffractive photo-nuclear interactions

- Experimental demonstration of sensitivity to gluon distribution and that incoherent does not contribute to interference pattern
- New measurement possibilities: •
 - J/ψ , which provides hard scale for theoretical calculations,
 - Measurements in non-UPC, comparison of $\rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ vs. $I/\psi \rightarrow l^+l^-$ to see if interference exists in both
 - Differential measurements w.r.t. mass, rapidity to test interference characteristics
 - Observation of Coulomb-Nuclear Interference May 25, 2021

p^{ππ}_I (GeV/c)







Continue to pursue theory – gain quantitative agreement





