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Cold QCD Physics with sPHENIX and Potential Forward Upgrades

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The sPHENIX detector at RHIC, together with the accelerator's unique capabilities, will enable a spectrum of new or improved measurements enhancing our understanding of the initial state for nuclear collisions. Specifically, sPHENIX measurements in spin polarized proton-proton and proton-nucleus collisions will reveal more about how partons behave in a nuclear environment, explore spin-spin and spin-momentum correlations in the nucleon, and provide data to investigate effects of non-universality. A potential upgrade to sPHENIX with forward instrumentation could significantly enhance these physics capabilities. The cold QCD nuclear physics program for the proposed sPHENIX midrapidity detector as well as the enhanced program enabled with forward upgrades will be presented.

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