

The Impact of Vector Meson Production on Multiplicities and Azimuthal Asymmetries in Unpolarised SIDIS

Vendula Benešová

vendula.benesova@cern.ch

Faculty of Mathematics and Physics

Charles University, Prague, Czechia

15. 06. 2026

EMMI-RRTF, CERN



FACULTY
OF MATHEMATICS
AND PHYSICS
Charles University



(Un)polarised SIDIS: x-section, structure functions and TMDs

- SIDIS x-section at leading twist:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dx dy dz d\phi_S d\phi_h dP_T^2} \propto (F_{UU,T} + \varepsilon F_{UU,T})$$

$$\left\{ 1 + \varepsilon A_{UU}^{\cos 2\phi_h} \cos 2\phi_h \right.$$

$$+ S_L \varepsilon A_{UL}^{\sin 2\phi_h} \sin 2\phi_h + S_L \lambda \sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2} A_{LL}$$

$$+ S_T \left[A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_h - \phi_S)} \sin(\phi_h - \phi_S) \right.$$

$$+ \varepsilon A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_h + \phi_S)} \sin(\phi_h + \phi_S)$$

$$+ \varepsilon A_{UT}^{\sin(3\phi_h - \phi_S)} \sin(3\phi_h - \phi_S) \left. \right]$$

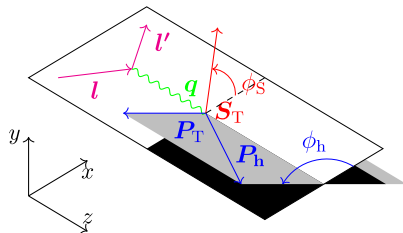
$$+ S_T \lambda \left[\sqrt{1 - \varepsilon^2} A_{LT}^{\cos(\phi_h - \phi_S)} \cos(\phi_h - \phi_S) \right] \left. \right\}$$

- Interpretation of $F_{XU}^{f(\phi_h)}$:

$$A_{XY}^{f(\phi_h)} \propto F_{XY}^{f(\phi_h)} = \mathcal{C}[w \textcolor{red}{f} \textcolor{blue}{D}] =$$

$$x \sum_q e_q^2 \int d^2 k_T d^2 P_\perp \delta^{(2)}(z k_T + P_\perp - P_T)$$

$$w(k_T, P_\perp) \textcolor{red}{f}^q(x, k_T, Q^2) \textcolor{blue}{D}^{q \rightarrow h}(z, P_\perp, Q^2)$$



(Un)polarised SIDIS: x-section, structure functions and TMDs

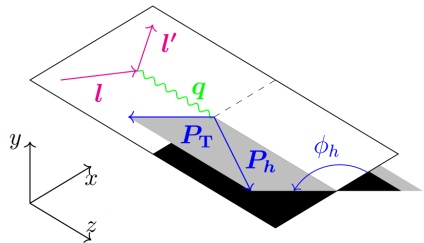
- Unpolarised SIDIS x-section at sub-leading twist:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dx dy dz d\phi_h dP_T^2} \propto (F_{UU,T} + \varepsilon F_{UU,T}) \left\{ 1 + \varepsilon_1 A_{UU}^{\cos \phi_h} \cos \phi_h + \varepsilon_2 A_{UU}^{\cos 2\phi_h} \cos 2\phi_h + \lambda \varepsilon_3 A_{LU}^{\sin \phi_h} \sin \phi_h \right\}$$

- Absence of cancellation of polarisation-independent effects, requiring dedicated corrections
- EMMI-RRTF focus: impact of background from DVMs

- Interpretation of $F_{XU}^{f(\phi_h)}$:

$$A_{XY}^{f(\phi_h)} \propto F_{XY}^{f(\phi_h)} = \mathcal{C}[w \textcolor{red}{f} \textcolor{blue}{D}] = x \sum_q e_q^2 \int d^2 k_T d^2 P_\perp \delta^{(2)}(z k_T + P_\perp - P_T) w(k_T, P_\perp) \textcolor{red}{f}^q(x, k_T, Q^2) \textcolor{blue}{D}^{q \rightarrow h}(z, P_\perp, Q^2)$$



(Un)polarised SIDIS: x-section, structure functions and TMDs

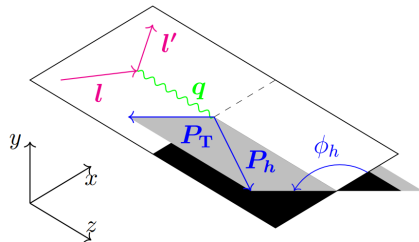
- Unpolarised SIDIS x-section integrated over ϕ_h and normalised to the σ^{DIS} :

$$\begin{aligned} M^{h\pm}(x, Q^2, z, P_T^2) &\equiv \frac{d\sigma^h}{dx dQ^2 dz dP_T^2} \bigg/ \frac{d\sigma^{\text{DIS}}}{dx dQ^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{\Delta P_T^2 \Delta z} \frac{N^{h\pm}(x, Q^2, z, P_T^2)}{N^{\text{DIS}}(x, Q^2)} \\ &\propto F_{\text{UU}} = (F_{\text{UU,T}} + \varepsilon F_{\text{UU,L}}) \end{aligned}$$

- Absence of cancellation of polarisation-independent effects, requiring dedicated corrections
- EMMI-RRTF focus: impact of background from DVMs

- Interpretation of $F_{\text{XU}}^{f(\phi_h)}$:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\text{XY}}^{f(\phi_h)} &= \mathcal{C}[w f D] = \\ &x \sum_q e_q^2 \int d^2 k_T d^2 P_\perp \delta^{(2)}(z k_T + P_\perp - P_T) \\ &w(k_T, P_\perp) f^q(x, k_T, Q^2) D^{q \rightarrow h}(z, P_\perp, Q^2) \end{aligned}$$



SIDIS event selection

- Kinematical requirements:

$$0.2 < y < 0.9$$

$$0.003 < x < 0.130$$

$$0.1 \text{ GeV}/c < P_T < 1.0 \text{ GeV}/c$$

$$W > 5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$$

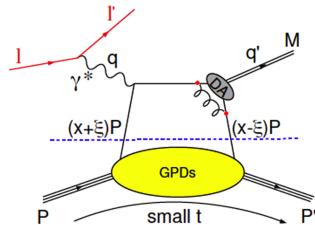
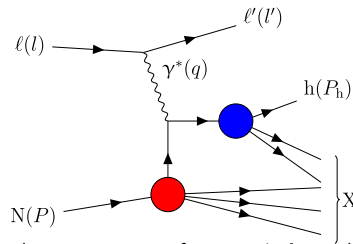
$$0.2 < z < 0.85$$

$$Q^2 > 1 \text{ GeV}^2/c^2$$

- BUT Exclusive processes may satisfy those requirements as well
- Problem: mesons produced in exclusive processes decaying into charged hadrons

$$\mu N \rightarrow \mu' V N' \quad \text{followed by} \quad V \rightarrow h^+ h^-$$

- Non-negligible contributors: $\rho \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ and $\phi \rightarrow K^+ K^-$

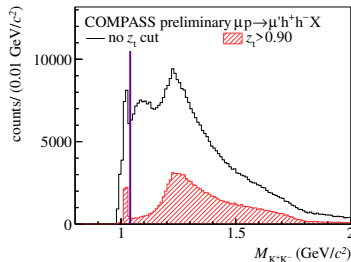
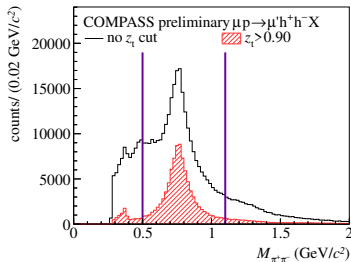
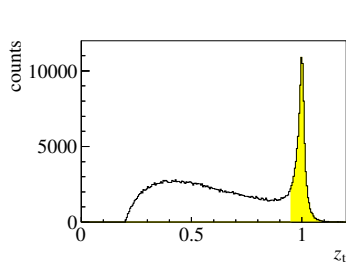


Looking for hadrons from DVMs in the visible pairs

- ρ and ϕ mesons visible in invariant mass distributions of candidates for exclusive processes:
 - hadrons from an event with only 2 oppositely charged hadrons in the final state
 - additional requirement on exclusivity of the process: $z_t = z_{h^+} + z_{h^-} > 0.9$
 - Peaks for ρ and ϕ nicely visible in the measured data, limits used for further analyses:

$$\rho \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- : M_{K^+ K^-} \in [1.04, \infty] \text{ GeV}/c^2$$
$$\text{and } M_{\pi^+ \pi^-} \in [0.5, 1.1] \text{ GeV}/c^2$$

$$\phi \rightarrow K^+ K^- : M_{K^+ K^-} \in [0, 1.04] \text{ GeV}/c^2$$

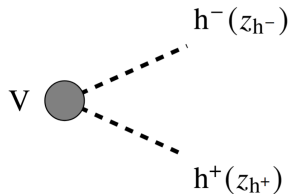


Visible and invisible hadrons from decays of DVMs

- Current approach used for analysis of **2016 data**
→ excluding hadrons from DVMs from analysis in 2 steps:

- **visible hadron pairs**
 - both hadrons reconstructed
 - rejected using:

$$z_t = z_{h^+} + z_{h^-} < 0.9$$



Visible and invisible hadrons from decays of DVMs

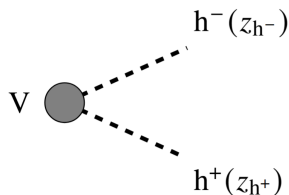
- Current approach used for analysis of **2016 data**

→ excluding hadrons from DVMs from analysis in 2 steps:

- **visible hadron pairs**

- both hadrons reconstructed
- rejected using:

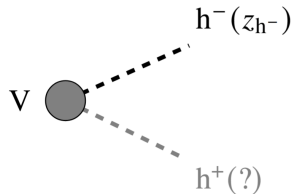
$$z_t = z_{h^+} + z_{h^-} < 0.9$$



- **invisible hadrons**

- 1 hadron reconstructed
- determination of z_t not possible

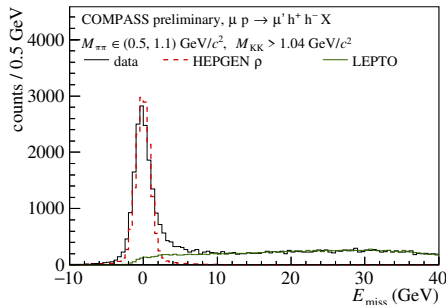
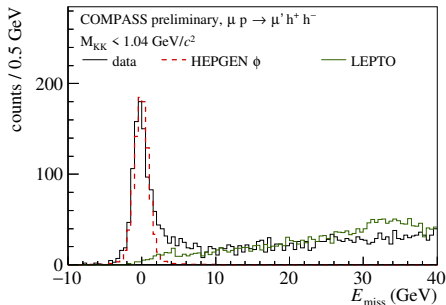
subtracted using HEPGEN MC



HEPGEN normalisation: how much to subtract?

- Normalization of HEPGEN is estimated using E_{miss} distributions of **visible hadron pairs**

$$E_{\text{miss}} = \frac{M_X^2 - M_p^2}{2M_p} \quad M_X^2 = (p + q - P_{h^+} - P_{h^-})^2$$



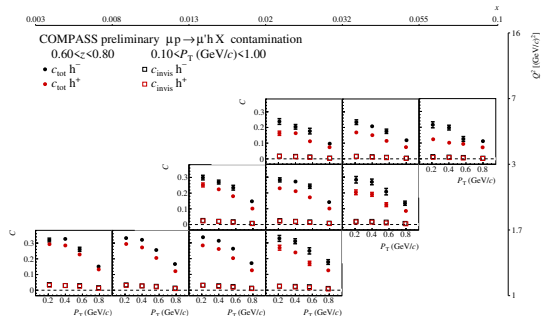
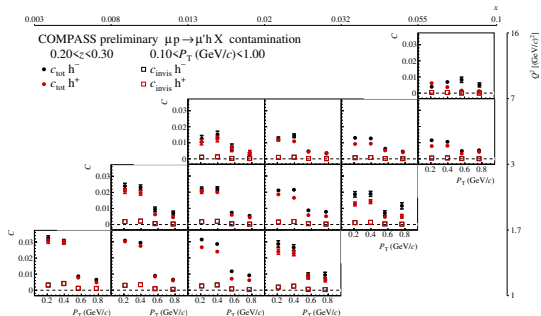
- HEPGEN is normalised to the size of the peak in E_{miss} for measured data minus LEPTO

Affected kinematical regions

- Determined mainly by contamination:

$$c_{\text{tot}} = \frac{N_{\text{h}}^{\text{visible}} + N_{\text{h}}^{\text{invisible}}}{N_{\text{h}}^{\text{total}}} \quad \text{and} \quad c_{\text{invis}} = \frac{N_{\text{h}}^{\text{invisible}}}{N_{\text{h}}^{\text{total}}},$$

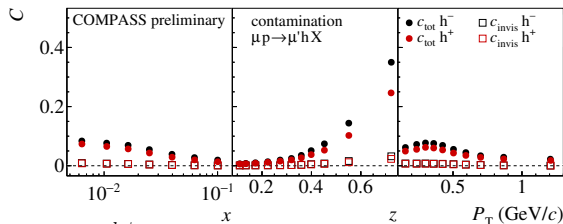
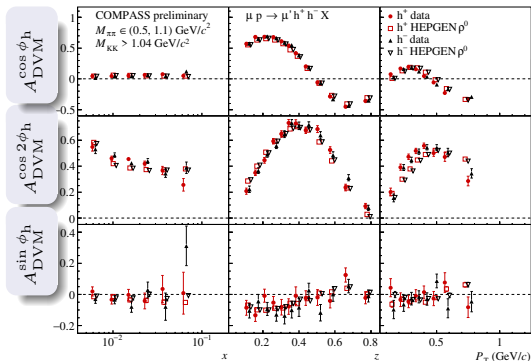
where $N_{\text{h}}^{\text{total}} = N_{\text{h}}^{\text{visible}} + N_{\text{h}}^{\text{invisible}} + N_{\text{h}}^{\text{true SIDIS}}$



Affected kinematical regions

- In case of azimuthal asymmetries, also the size of the modulations of hadrons from decay of DVMS plays key role (obtained by assuming SIDIS x-section)

$$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{hDVM}}}{dx dy dz d\phi_h dP_T^2} \propto \sigma_0 \left\{ 1 + \varepsilon_1 A_{\text{DVM}}^{\cos \phi_h} \cos \phi_h + \varepsilon_2 A_{\text{DVM}}^{\cos 2\phi_h} \cos 2\phi_h + \lambda \varepsilon_3 A_{\text{DVM}}^{\sin \phi_h} \sin \phi_h \right\}$$

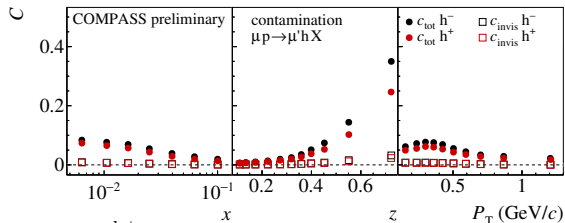
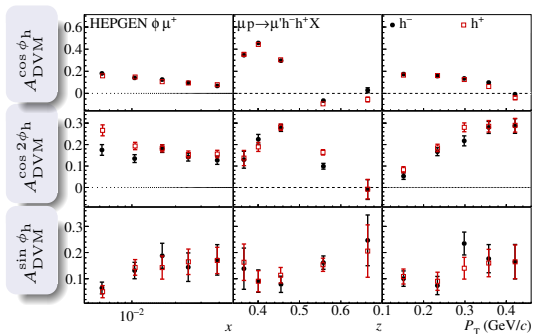


- $A_{\text{DVM}}^{\cos k\phi_h}$ are large, well represented by HEPGEN MC
- Large contamination cannot be avoided only by $z < 0.8$

Affected kinematical regions

- In case of azimuthal asymmetries, also the size of the modulations of hadrons from decay of DVMs plays key role (obtained by assuming SIDIS x-section)

$$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{hDVM}}}{dx dy dz d\phi_h dP_T^2} \propto \sigma_0 \left\{ 1 + \varepsilon_1 A_{\text{DVM}}^{\cos \phi_h} \cos \phi_h + \varepsilon_2 A_{\text{DVM}}^{\cos 2\phi_h} \cos 2\phi_h + \lambda \varepsilon_3 A_{\text{DVM}}^{\sin \phi_h} \sin \phi_h \right\}$$

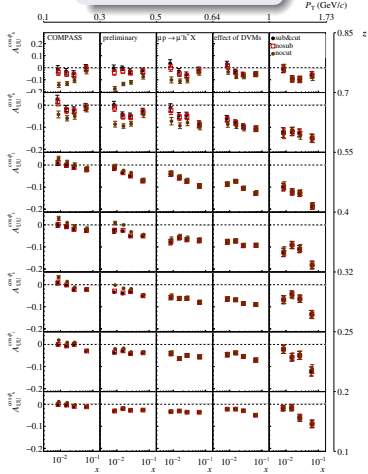


→ $A_{\text{DVM}}^{\cos k\phi_h}$ are large, well represented by HEPGEN MC

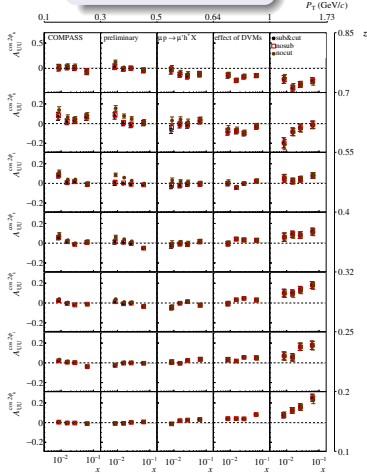
→ Large contamination cannot be avoided only by $z < 0.8$

Effect of background treatment on 3D $A_{XY}^{f(\phi_h)}$: h^+

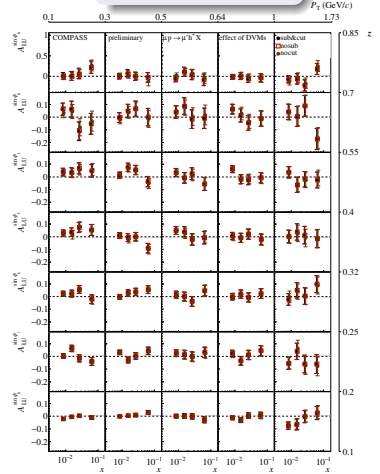
$$A_{UU}^{\cos \phi_h}$$



$$A_{UU}^{\cos 2\phi_h}$$

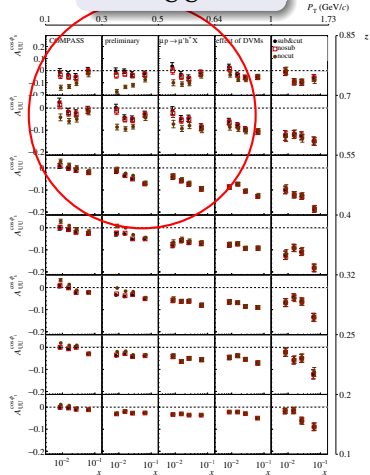


$$A_{LU}^{\sin \phi_h}$$

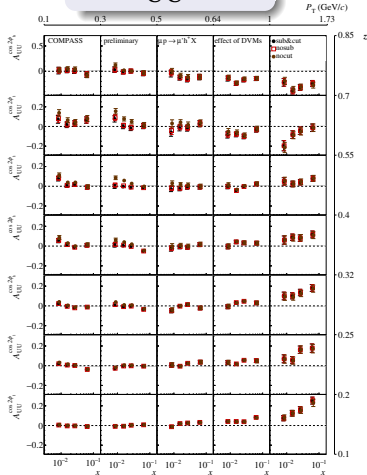


Effect of background treatment on 3D $A_{XY}^{f(\phi_h)}$: h^+

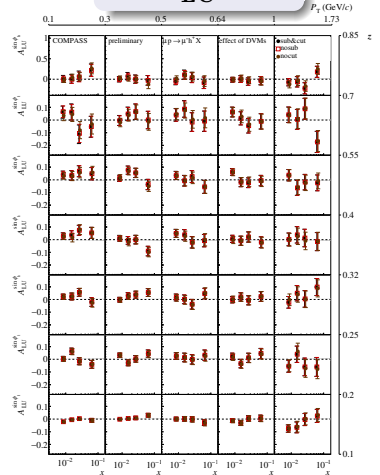
$$A_{UU}^{\cos \phi_h}$$



$$A_{UU}^{\cos 2\phi_h}$$

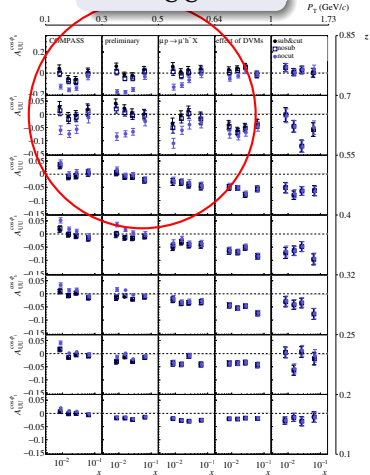


$$A_{LU}^{\sin \phi_h}$$

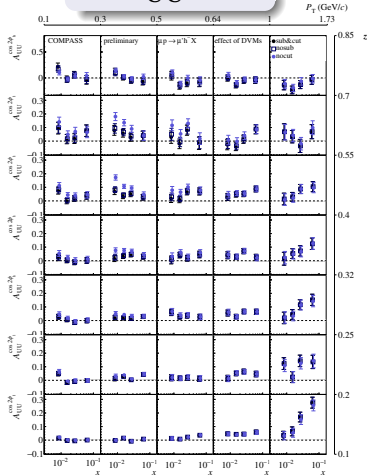


Effect of background treatment on 3D $A_{XY}^{f(\phi_h)}$: h^-

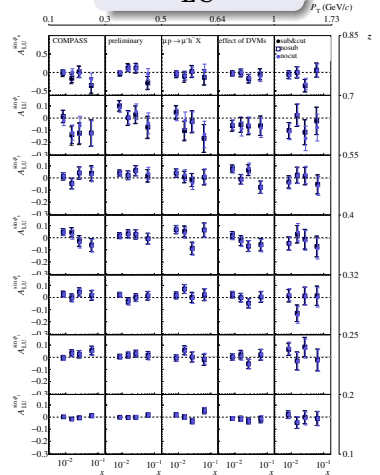
$$A_{UU}^{\cos \phi_h}$$



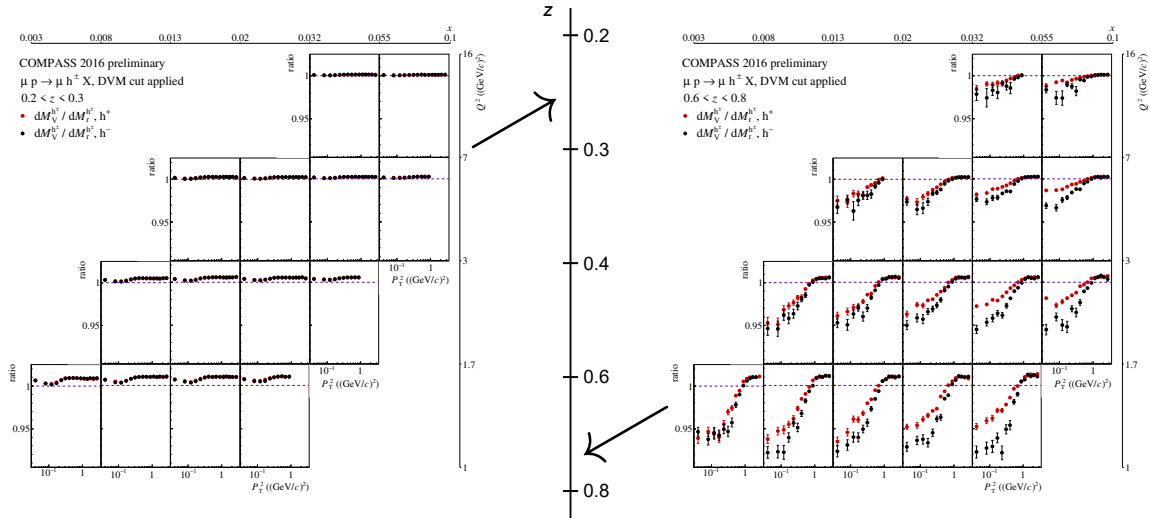
$$A_{UU}^{\cos 2\phi_h}$$



$$A_{LU}^{\sin \phi_h}$$



Effect of background subtraction on $M^{h^\pm}$ (1st and last z bin)



History of treatment of DVMs as background to SIDIS

- First unpolarised measurements published without **any treatment of DVMs**:
 - **Azimuthal asymmetries from 2006 data** [NPB 886 (2014) 1046-1077]
 - **P_T^2 -dependent multiplicities from 2004 data** [EPJC 73 (2013) 8, 2531]
- Around 2017, the impact of DVMs was found to be bigger than initially expected
- **P_T^2 -dependent multiplicities from 2006 data** [PRD 97 (2018) 032006] already account for contamination of DVMs by employing **HEPGEN-based multiplicative correction**:

$$\frac{C_h}{C_{\text{DIS}}} \propto \frac{1 - c_{\text{tot}}}{1 - c_{\text{tot,DIS}}} \quad (\text{simplified expression})$$

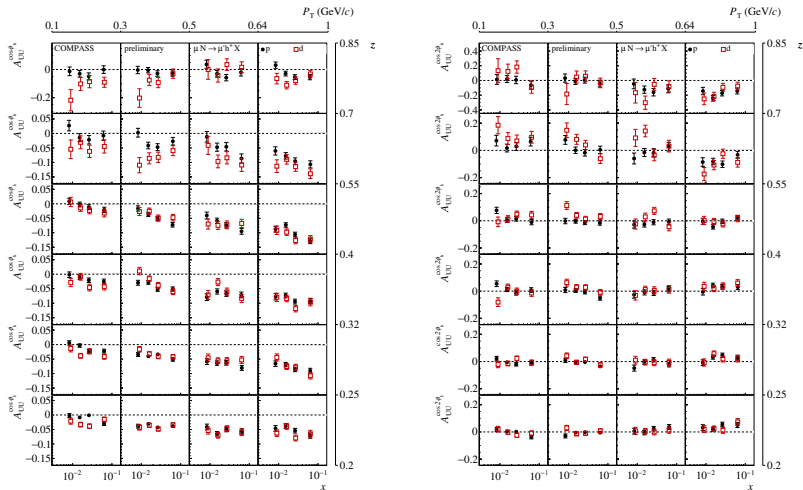
- **Ad-hoc HEPGEN-based correction** of azimuthal asymmetries evaluated using contamination and $A_{\text{DVM}}^{\cos k\phi_h}$

$$A_{\text{UU}}^{\cos k\phi_h} = \frac{1}{1 - c_{\text{tot}}} \left(A_{\text{UU,uncor}}^{\cos k\phi_h} - \frac{c_{\text{tot}}}{\varepsilon_k} A^{\cos k\phi_h} \right) \quad k \in \{1, 2\}$$

- Updated paper with corrected results for 2004 azimuthal asymmetries off isoscalar target [NPB 956 (2020) 115039]

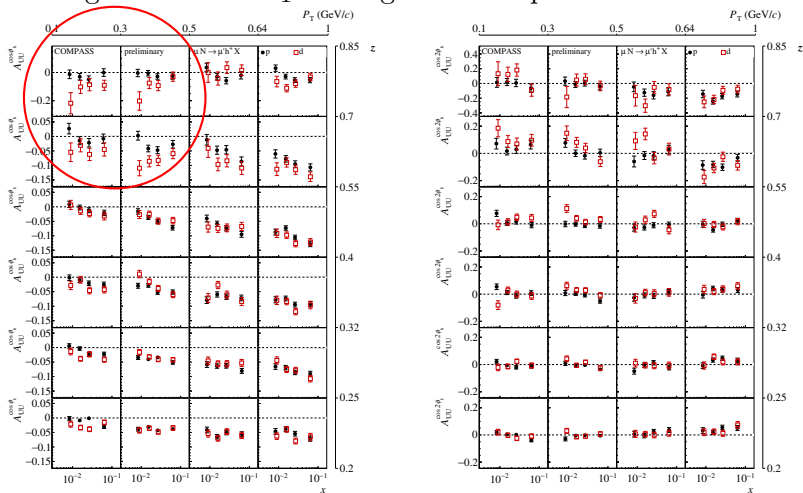
Comparison of proton and isoscalar target in 3D h^+

- Comparison with COMPASS results on isoscalar target [NPB201407 019] (both no RC)



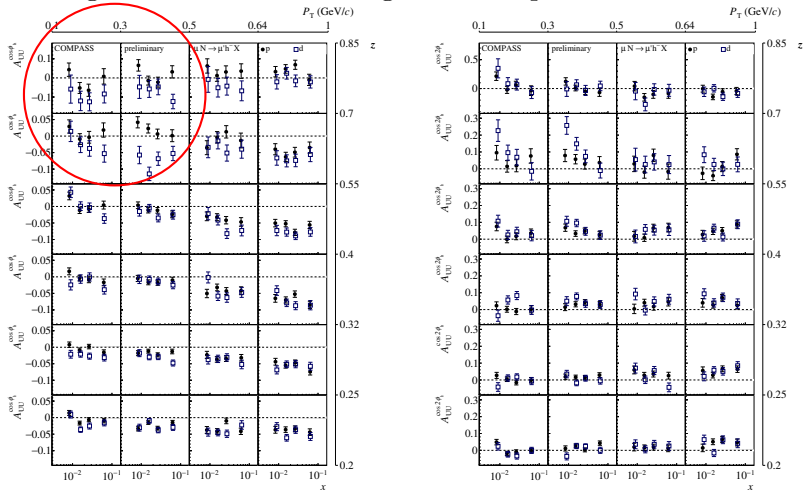
Comparison of proton and isoscalar target in 3D h^+

- Comparison with COMPASS results on isoscalar target [NPB201407 019] (both no RC)
- Difference at high z and low P_T hinting flavour dependence



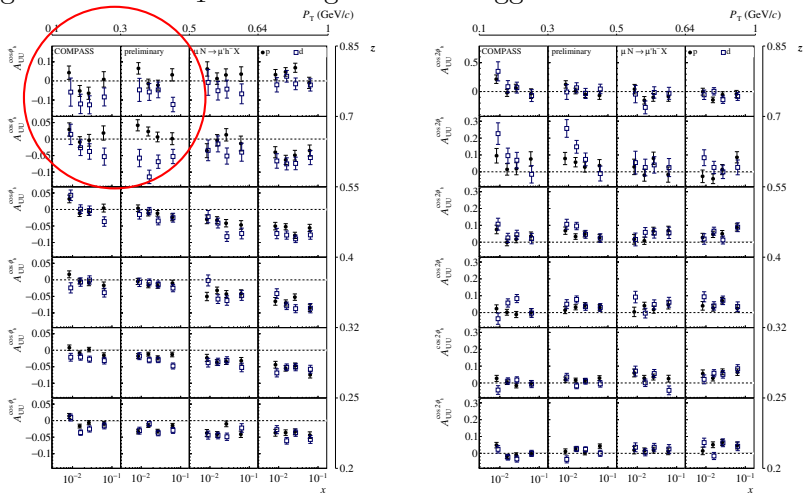
Comparison of proton and isoscalar target in 3D h^-

- Comparison with COMPASS results on isoscalar target [NPB201407 019] (both no RC)
- Difference at high z and low P_T hinting flavour dependence



Comparison of proton and isoscalar target in 3D h^-

- Comparison with COMPASS results on isoscalar target [NPB201407 019] (both no RC)
- BUT: High z and low P_T is the region of the biggest effect of the correction



The impact of DVMs on current analyses

- Most of the background removed by cutting off the exclusive peak ($z_{h+} + z_{h-} < 0.9$)
- Agreement between data and HEPGEN MC, which has SDMEs measured on COMPASS plugged in
- Only a small correction is done by subtraction of HEPGEN MC
- Q^2 dependence of SDMEs included in systematics
- Analyses with this approach have not been published yet (will be soon!)

The impact on older results

- First results accounted for DVMs only by employing upper limit on z
- Ad-hoc corrections are large and carry large systematics

The impact of DVMs on current analyses

- Most of the background removed by cutting off the exclusive peak ($z_{h^+} + z_{h^-} < 0.9$)
- Agreement between data and HEPGEN MC, which has SDMEs measured on COMPASS plugged in
- Only a small correction is done by subtraction of HEPGEN MC
- Q^2 dependence of SDMEs included in systematics
- Analyses with this approach have not been published yet (will be soon!)

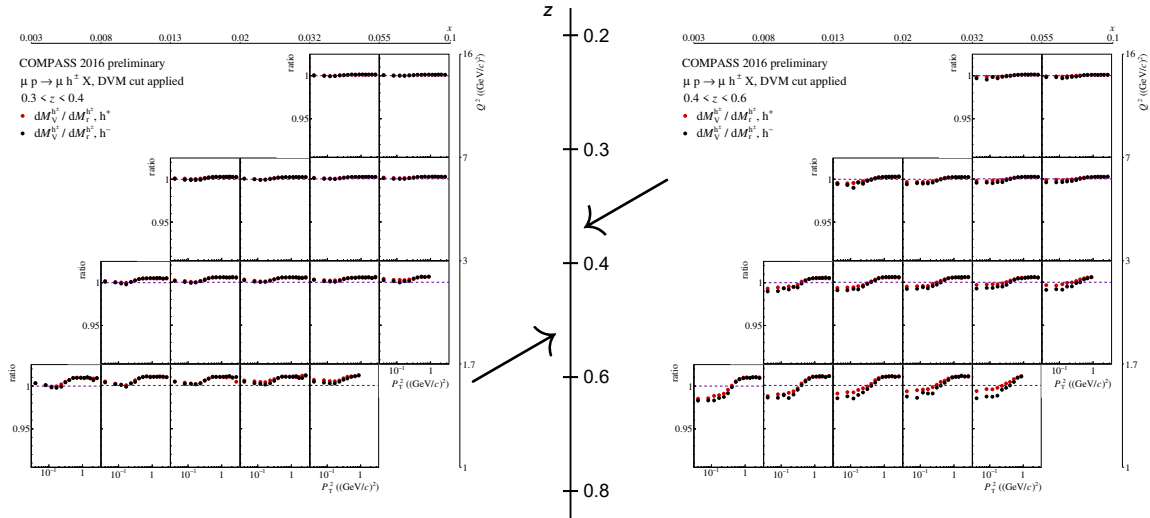
The impact on older results

- First results accounted for DVMs only by employing upper limit on z
- Ad-hoc corrections are large and carry large systematics

Thank you for your attention!

Backup

Effect of background subtraction on $M^{h^\pm}$ (2nd and 3rd z bin)



Systematics from the ρ polarization

- Contribution arise from the difference in z -range used in the analysis and for the normalisation $f(z)$ and from $R_{\text{HEPGEN}}(Q^2) = 1 \neq R_{\text{DATA}}$:

$$\sigma = |A_{\text{DVM}}^{f(\phi_h)} - A_{\text{XU}}^{f(\phi_h)}| \cdot c_{\text{inv}} \cdot |a - 1| \quad a = \frac{\int_{z_a}^{z_b} f_{\text{DATA}}(z) \, dz}{\int_{z_m}^{z_M} f_{\text{DATA}}(z) \, dz} \cdot \frac{\int_{z_m}^{z_M} f_{\text{HEPGEN}}(z) \, dz}{\int_{z_a}^{z_b} f_{\text{HEPGEN}}(z) \, dz}$$

$$f(z) = 1 + (2R - 1)(2z - 1)^2$$

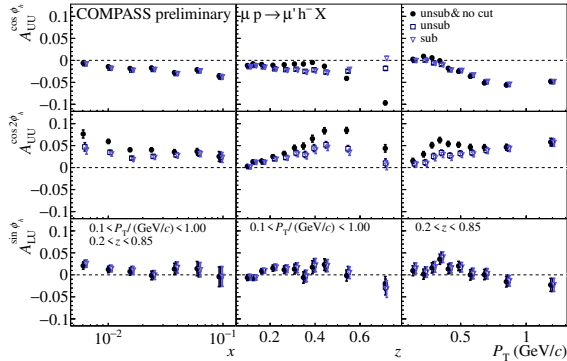
$$R \approx \frac{r_{00}^{04}}{1 - r_{00}^{04}} \quad R_{\text{DATA}} \approx 0.62 \cdot \langle Q^2 \rangle^{0.76} \quad R_{\text{HEPGEN}} = 1$$

- z_a z_b given by kinematical bin limits, if no z binning $z_a = 0.2$ $z_b = 0.85$
- z_m z_M – given by range for normalization: $z_m = 0.1$ $z_M = 1$
- Contribution from ρ polarisation is mostly small in comparison to other sources

Effect of background treatment on 1D $A_{XY}^{f(\phi_h)}: h^\pm$

- The background of hadrons from DVM decays has a significant impact on the results
- Most of the correction is due to the cut on z_t

negative hadrons



positive hadrons

