

Notes 4-1.

If I have a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ particle, in, say, $|\Psi\rangle = |+\rangle$, I say "the Z-component of spin is known". I can predict future outcomes of S_z S-G exp's perfectly. But, S_x - and S_y exp's are (in this case) NOT predictable. I do NOT "know" the x + y components of spin.

What if you objected "well, you don't know. But nature does". After all, a measurement of S_x will give one (+ only!) outcome.

Can't we say the particle knows? (like a hidden coin "knows" if it is heads or tails even if I haven't looked at it yet)

This would be a "hidden variable" theory.

Einstein thought this was reasonable! He felt QM is an incomplete theory - it shows human ignorance of "the elements of reality" (like the value of $S_x + S_y$) that he thought must be there.

But Einstein was wrong! His theory leads to exp'tal predictions which have been falsified. To see this, we need more complex setups than mere "chained S-G's". Those alone can neither prove nor disprove Einstein. (So, till the 1960's, most people thought this was all just a philosophical debate!)

Notes 4-a.

To show the problem with "local hidden variables", we need to add one new notational element to describe quantum states of two particles. We do this with a "tensor product"

$$|\Psi\rangle = |\alpha\rangle_1 \otimes |\beta\rangle_2$$

state of 2-particle system particle #1 is in state $|\alpha\rangle$ particle 2 is in state $|\beta\rangle$

TENSOR PRODUCT

Some people (including McInyre) drop the \otimes and write

$$|\Psi\rangle = |\alpha\rangle_1 |\beta\rangle_2$$

It's just notation, I'll use whichever seems convenient...

Example: Suppose particle #1 is "spin up in z", $|+\rangle$ while #2 has been prepared "spindown", $|-\rangle$.

I write $|\Psi\rangle = |+\rangle_1 |-\rangle_2$. These are not added, they are tensor multiplied

We are in a larger Hilbert space, denoted $\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$.

This example is 4-D, there must be 4 basis states.

• Adding is done within a space.

Tensor multiplication grows you to a larger space.

Notes 4-5

Back to the example, $|\Psi\rangle = |+\rangle_1 |-\rangle_2$.

If I measure S_z for particle #1, the operator is \hat{S}_{z1}

Since I'm in an eigenstate of S_z for particle #1 there is a definite outcome

$$\hat{S}_{z1} |\Psi\rangle = \hat{S}_{z1} |+\rangle_1 \otimes |-\rangle_2 = +\frac{\hbar}{2} |+\rangle_1 \otimes |-\rangle_2 = +\frac{\hbar}{2} |\Psi\rangle$$

so $|\Psi\rangle$ is an eigenstate of S_{z1} , I know the spin of #1 is up!

Similarly,

$$\hat{S}_{z2} |\Psi\rangle = -\frac{\hbar}{2} |\Psi\rangle, \quad \text{this 2 particle state is an eigenstate of } \hat{S}_{z1} \text{ and } \hat{S}_{z2}.$$

We might further simplify our notation here, e.g.

Some people say $|\Psi\rangle = |+\rangle_1 |-\rangle_2$ or $|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$
↑ ↓
state of #1 state of #2

In "quantum computing", spin up is denoted $|0\rangle$
spin down $|1\rangle$, so
This state would be $|\Psi\rangle = |01\rangle$
(Could be spin, or could be any 2-valued system, like photon polarization, energy, etc.)

Inner products behave as you expect:

$$\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = \langle + | \langle - | | + \rangle_1 | - \rangle_2 \rangle = (\langle + | + \rangle_1) (\langle - | - \rangle_2) = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$$

Some basic tensor product rules, just to be formal about it:

If \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 are Hilbert spaces with dimensions n, m

Then $\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$ is a combined " " " " " " $n \times m$.

Basis states are $|b_i\rangle \otimes |c_j\rangle$ with $|b_i\rangle$ any basis in \mathcal{H}_1
 $|c_j\rangle$ " " " " \mathcal{H}_2 .

Constants: $c (|\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle) = (c |\psi_1\rangle) \otimes |\psi_2\rangle$
 $= |\psi_1\rangle \otimes (c |\psi_2\rangle)$

Superpositions: if $|\psi_1\rangle, |\phi_1\rangle$ live in \mathcal{H}_1
 $|\psi_2\rangle, |\phi_2\rangle$ " " \mathcal{H}_2 , then

$$(|\psi_1\rangle + |\phi_1\rangle) \otimes (|\psi_2\rangle) = |\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle + |\phi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle$$

still in \mathcal{H}_1 !

$$\text{and } |\psi_1\rangle \otimes (|\psi_2\rangle + |\phi_2\rangle) = |\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle + |\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\phi_2\rangle$$

It makes no sense to write $|\psi_1\rangle + |\psi_2\rangle$, they live in different spaces!

$|\psi_1\rangle |\phi_1\rangle + |\psi_2\rangle |\phi_2\rangle$ is fine, each lives in $\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$!

Matrices: $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} c \\ d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \begin{pmatrix} c \\ d \end{pmatrix} \\ b \begin{pmatrix} c \\ d \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ac \\ ad \\ bc \\ bd \end{pmatrix} \quad (4-d!)$

Here's the cool part. There are 2-particle states that can not be written as $|\psi\rangle_1 \otimes |\psi\rangle_2$. They are "entangled"

Example: Consider $|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (|-\rangle_1 |-\rangle_2 + |-\rangle_1 |+\rangle_2 + |+\rangle_1 |-\rangle_2)$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

Just to simplify / clean up notation.

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (|-, -\rangle + |-, +\rangle + |+, -\rangle)$$

or in quantum computing $= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (|11\rangle + |10\rangle + |01\rangle)$

Q1) What is the probability in ~~the~~ state $|\psi\rangle$ that #1 is spin up?

A1) It's $\frac{1}{3}$. (only the last term contributes)

Q2) What's the prob. that #2 is spin up?

A2) Also $\frac{1}{3}$ (only the middle term contributes)

Q3) Prob #1 is \downarrow and #2 is \uparrow ? A3) $\frac{1}{3}$

Q4) Prob both are \uparrow ?

A4) 0

Q5) Prob they are same spin state?

A5) $\frac{1}{3}$

Q6) " " " opposite?

A6) $\frac{2}{3}$.

To think about: What is the state of #1?

It's not easy; it's not $\frac{1}{3} |\uparrow\rangle_1 + \frac{2}{3} |\downarrow\rangle_1$!!

$$|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

If you thought #1 is in state $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}|\uparrow\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}|\downarrow\rangle$

then you'd surely think #2 is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}|\uparrow\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}|\downarrow\rangle$ also

$$\text{then } |1\rangle \otimes |2\rangle \stackrel{?}{=} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}|\uparrow\rangle_1 + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}|\downarrow\rangle_1 \right) \otimes \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}|\uparrow\rangle_2 + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}|\downarrow\rangle_2 \right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{3}|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{2}{9}}|\downarrow\uparrow\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{2}{9}}|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + \frac{2}{3}|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle \right)$$

Nope! That's not right!

Here's another counter argument:

If you think the above "single particle" states are right,

then you'd think $\text{Prob}(\#1 \text{ is up and } \#2 \text{ is down}) = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{2}{9}$

(But look @ Q3 on the previous page, it's $\frac{1}{3}$!)

The 2 objects are entangled. The states are connected, they cannot be considered separate independent particles.

Entangled states are highly correlated, in ways that are fundamentally Not classical, as we shall see next!

— you can not write the state of #1 as a single "ket" in \mathcal{H}_1 .

Consider $|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$

This is a "maximally entangled" 2-state system, a "Bell-state"

Other MAXIMALLY entangled states are $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle + |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle)$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle - |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle)$$

$$\text{and } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\downarrow\uparrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

Our $|\Psi\rangle$ can be produced in many ways. E.g.

spin 0 particle, at rest

$$\pi^0 \rightarrow e^+ e^-$$

By conservation of \vec{p} , these fly off back to back.

Conservation of \vec{L} says total spin = 0, so must have $|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$ or $|\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$ only. The relative - sign is not obvious, (if it was a + sign, we'd have $\vec{L}_{\text{tot}} = 1$) but is provable after ch. 6...

Given a pair $|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$

Q1) If you measure \hat{S}_{z1} , what's Prob (up)? A1) $\frac{1}{2}$

Does that mean #1 is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\uparrow\rangle_1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\downarrow\rangle_1$? No!

If it were, then so is #2, + so I would expect by change to get #1 up and #2 up one quarter of the time.

But no, our state is entangled, Prob (both up) = 0!

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$$|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$

If #1 measures \uparrow , then I guarantee #2 measures \downarrow .
Apparently, measurement of #1 alone collapses this superposition state, fixing the spin of #2. This is "spooky action at a distance"! #1 & #2 could be very far apart when the measurements are made! But this collapse is apparently instantaneous, because if #1 is up, #2 is 100% guaranteed down + vice versa!

Note: I would not say observer #1 "causes" result #2.
observer #1 cannot make result #2 be what she wants.
#1 sees a random outcome. Only after the fact when #1 + 2 get together to compare results do they notice the perfect anti-correlation.

("FTL")

There is no "Faster than Light causation" going on.

There is no mechanism for #1 to send a message (instantly) to #2.

Still, there is FTL correlation, or collapse, going on.

Einstein thought this up in 1935, + published with Podolsky + Rosen

Einstein's "EPR" paper basically said "See! I was right!"
This anticorrelation proves that #1 + #2 must each "know" in
advance what their S_z measurements will be. They must each
contain a secret "hidden S_z variable" to tell them what results
they will have, like a coin.... otherwise, this instantaneous collapse/
correlation would happen (FTL... no way!?)

He rejected spooky action at a distance, + said there must be
hidden ^(local) elements of reality in the spins, made when they first formed
+ preserved till the measurement.

Others (like Bohr followers) rejected hidden elements of reality
and accepted FTL correlations. (It's not causality, so it may
be spooky but does not violate special relativity!)

Einstein believed in "locality": no experiment "far away" can
have any relevance "over here".

For years, this seemed to be a philosophical debate....

Until 1964, when along comes Bell....

Let's investigate Einstein's stance a bit more, because what
he's claiming really is hard to reconcile with a quantum perspective...

Given our $|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$, we've seen S_z measurements are perfectly (100%) anti-correlated. What about S_x ?

Claim: These are also 100% " - " !

Proof: $|\uparrow\rangle_x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle)$ and $|\downarrow\rangle_x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle - |\downarrow\rangle)$

This means $|\uparrow\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle_x + |\downarrow\rangle_x)$ and $|\downarrow\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle_x - |\downarrow\rangle_x)$

(convince yourself!) Let's write $|\Psi\rangle$ out carefully now...

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } |\Psi\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\underbrace{|\uparrow\rangle_1}_{\otimes} \otimes \underbrace{|\downarrow\rangle_2}_{\otimes} - \underbrace{|\downarrow\rangle_1}_{\otimes} \otimes \underbrace{|\uparrow\rangle_2}_{\otimes} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle_{x1} + |\downarrow\rangle_{x1}) \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle_{x2} - |\downarrow\rangle_{x2}) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\downarrow\rangle_{x1} - |\uparrow\rangle_{x1}) \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle_{x2} + |\downarrow\rangle_{x2}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

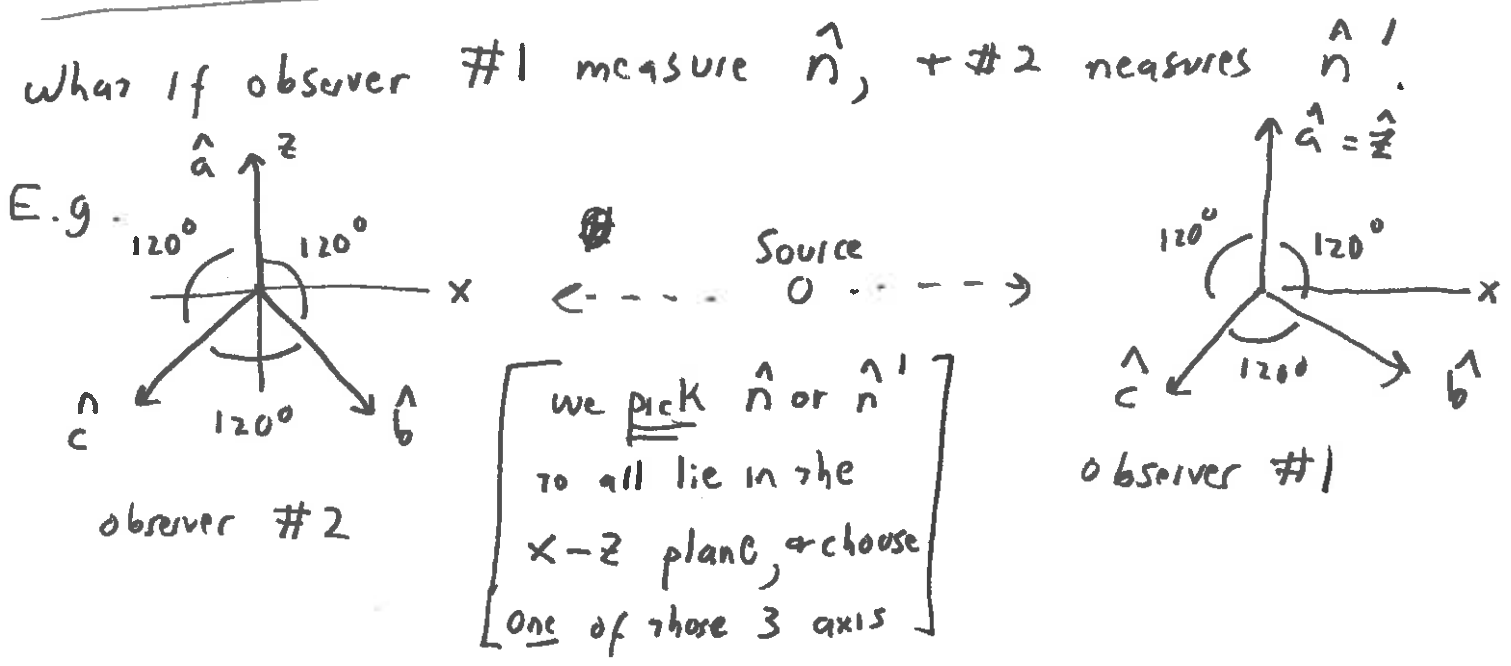
$$= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\begin{aligned} &|\uparrow_x \uparrow_x\rangle + |\downarrow_x \uparrow_x\rangle - |\uparrow_x \downarrow_x\rangle - |\downarrow_x \downarrow_x\rangle \\ &\left(\begin{aligned} &\xrightarrow{\text{cancels}} |\uparrow_x \uparrow_x\rangle - |\downarrow_x \uparrow_x\rangle + |\uparrow_x \downarrow_x\rangle - |\downarrow_x \downarrow_x\rangle \end{aligned} \right) \end{aligned} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\downarrow_x \uparrow_x\rangle - |\uparrow_x \downarrow_x\rangle)$$

Ooh! I see, this still is 50/50 "up & down" anti-correlated in X.

Makes sense, we started with $S_{\text{spin}} = 0$, so no matter what direction you measure spin, they better give opposite results.

So Einstein is forced to say that not only is S_z "outcome" hidden in each particle, but S_x & S_y as well!! How else can measuring S_x far away instantly collapse the outcome of S_x here? So Einstein says sure... particles have all elements of reality, there is a pre-determined value for $S_x, S_y, + S_z$ measurements. Maybe we don't know all 3, + maybe there's a clever reason we can't know them... but they must be there, hidden, to avoid spooky actions at a distance. And along comes Bell...



So each observer chooses for herself, at the last second, to measure S_a , or S_b , or S_c . Each individual result is of course $\pm \hbar/2$!

↑ ↑

this is S_z this is S_c (in the b direction)

So if #1 chooses ("whatever") + #2 chooses ("whatever")
 they will later get together, + simply write down
 + \equiv we got the same result (both $+\frac{1}{2}$, or both $-\frac{1}{2}$)
 - \equiv " " opposite "s (one got $+\frac{1}{2}$, other $-\frac{1}{2}$)

So we have a string of events, all + (same) or - (different).
If we had not switched up the axes, if e.g. both always chose
 axis 0a, then we know all outcomes will be "-"; "opposite".
True if both choose b, or both choose c. But if #1 picks
 a + #2 pick b, then we might start seeing some "+" = "same"...

Question: After many trials, what fraction of these outcomes
 will be "same"?

We will compute this fraction! First assuming rules of QM,
 but then assuming Einstein is right + there are "hidden variables"
 telling what ~~the~~ ^{a, b, + c} measurements would give in advance.
 we will find the answers are irreconcilable, + QM is
experimentally correct (these exp's have been done).
 + there is
 cracks.

Quantum analysis.

Recall $|+\rangle_n = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} |+\rangle + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} e^{i\phi} |-\rangle$

we have $\theta = 0$, or $120^\circ \rightarrow$ with $\phi = 0$ or π .
 (Actually, $\theta = -120^\circ$ with $\phi = 0$ is same state)

our starting state is $|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$

#1 measures in some direction, which I will use to define the z-axis
 then #2 will randomly measure in that ($\theta=0$), or $\theta = \pm 120^\circ \dots$

Prob (#1 measures $+\frac{1}{2}$ and #2 measures $+\frac{1}{2}$ in their (θ) direction)

$$= |\langle + | \otimes \langle + | \Psi \rangle|^2$$

$$= |\langle + | \otimes (\langle + | \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \langle - | \sin \frac{\theta}{2}) | \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|+\rangle_1 |-\rangle_2 - |-\rangle_1 |+\rangle_2) |^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left| \langle + | + \rangle_1 (\langle + | \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \langle - | \sin \frac{\theta}{2}) | - \rangle_2 - \underbrace{\langle + | - \rangle_1}_{\text{zero}} (\dots) \right|^2$$

who cares

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left| \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \right|^2 \quad \text{Simple enough!}$$

Prob (#1 gets $-\frac{1}{2}$ and #2 gets $-\frac{1}{2}$)

I need to recall
 $|-\rangle_n = \sin \frac{\theta}{2} |+\rangle - \cos \frac{\theta}{2} |-\rangle$

$$= |\langle - | \otimes \langle - | \Psi \rangle|^2 = |\langle - | \otimes (\langle + | \sin \frac{\theta}{2} - \langle - | \cos \frac{\theta}{2}) | \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|+\rangle_1 |-\rangle_2 + |-\rangle_1 |+\rangle_2) |^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left| \langle - | + \rangle_1 (\dots) - \langle - | - \rangle_1 (\langle + | \sin \frac{\theta}{2} - \langle - | \cos \frac{\theta}{2}) | + \rangle_2 \right|^2$$

who cares

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \theta \quad \text{also}$$

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$$\text{so Prob (both are same outcome)} = \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \bullet \bullet$$
$$= \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}.$$

Now, $1/3$ of the time, on average, $\theta = 0$ giving $\text{Prob(same)} = 0$

$$1/3 \text{ of the time } \theta = 120^\circ, \sin^2 60 = 3/4 = \text{Prob (same)}$$

$$1/3 \text{ " " " } \theta = -120^\circ, \sin^2 -60 = 3/4 = \text{" "}$$

$$\text{So total Prob (same)} = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 0 = \frac{1}{2}$$

Ah! QM predicts that $\text{Prob (same)} = \text{Prob (opposite)} = 1/2$.

This is a crisp + unambiguous statistical prediction.

Now, let's do the "Einstein / Hidden ^{local} variable" analysis

I'm assuming when each pair is made, the outcome for any future measurement is a "secret instruction" to the particles.

E.g., particle #1 might be encoded with the hidden instructions (a+, b+, c-) which means if we measure "a" the answer will be $+\frac{1}{2}$
• if we measure "b" we get $+\frac{1}{2}$, if we measure "c" we get $-\frac{1}{2}$.

you and I may not know all 3 outcomes results simultaneously,
(the particle doesn't share this instruction set with us, we only

This is Einstein's position. It's the only way he knows to guarantee that #1 + #2 can be perfectly anti-correlated, 100% guaranteed, whenever both measurements happen to "match" (Both a, or b, or c.)

There are only 8 possible hidden instruction sets!

For particle #1 they are

For particle #2 they must match, to ensure anti-correlation

1st possibility: $(a+, b+, c+) \longleftrightarrow (a-, b-, c-)$

2nd : $(a+, b+, c-) \longleftrightarrow (a-, b-, c+)$

3rd : $(a+, b-, c+) \longleftrightarrow (a-, b+, c-)$

#4 : $(a+, b-, c-) \longleftrightarrow (a-, b+, c+)$

#5 : $(a-, b+, c+)$ \longleftrightarrow \vdots

#6 : $(a-, b+, c-)$ \vdots

#7 : $(a-, b-, c+)$

#8 : $(a-, b-, c-)$

etc. Whatever #1's set is, it must be that #2's is opposite for each outcome.

If the above was not true, there's no way without instantaneous, non-local communication, that I could guarantee that if #1 measures, say, \hat{a} + #2 does also, that they must be opposite.

- These 8 possibilities may not be equally likely

- But, there are no other possibilities!

For set #1 $(a^+, b^+, c^+) \leftrightarrow (a^-, b^-, c^-)$

an interesting thing happens. Whatever orientation #1 chooses to measure, and whatever orientation #2 choose, they get + and -, i.e. any combo of measurements gives "opposite" as the outcome.

Same for set #8, now #1 gets "-" + #2 gets "+", \Rightarrow opposite.

So for "#1" + "#8" situations, Prob (opp) = 1
 Prob (same) = 0.

For set #2 (a^+, b^+, c^-) and (a^-, b^-, c^+)

There are 9 equally likely (randomly selected) detector combinations.

#1 measures	#2 measures	\Rightarrow outcome
a	a	\Rightarrow + and - = <u>opposite</u>
a	b	\Rightarrow + and - = <u>opposite</u>
a	c	\Rightarrow + and + = <u>same</u>
b	a	\Rightarrow + and - = <u>opposite</u>
b	b	\Rightarrow + and - = <u>opposite</u>
b	c	\Rightarrow + and + = <u>same</u>
c	a	\Rightarrow - and - = <u>same</u>
c	b	\Rightarrow - and - = <u>same</u>
c	c	\Rightarrow - and + = <u>opposite</u>

The * cases are where both measure same thing, so of course they are opp

of the 9 equally likely setups, 5 come out opposite, 4 are same

That's it. Orientation of S-G is not "particle property", it's our

Do this for "instruction sets" 3, 4, 5, + 6.

you will find All of them also give $\text{Prob}(\text{opp}) = 5/9$.

(List 'em out) Nobody says instruction sets are equally likely.

That's unknown physics. Still, there are exactly 8 instruction sets

If you run many times, let's say that N_1 times the

instruction set was #1, N_2 times it was #2, etc.

$$\text{Then } \underline{\text{Prob}(\text{Same})} = \frac{N_1 \cdot 0 + N_8 \cdot 0 + (N_2 + N_3 + \dots + N_7) \cdot \frac{4}{9}}{(N_1 + N_2 + N_3 + N_4 + \dots + N_8)}$$

$$\leq 4/9 \quad \text{No matter } \underline{\text{what}} \ N_1 - N_8 \text{ are!}$$

$$\text{and } \text{Prob}(\text{Diff}) = \frac{N_1 \cdot 1 + N_8 \cdot 1 + (N_2 + \dots + N_7) \cdot 5/9}{(N_1 + N_2 + \dots)}$$

$$\geq 5/9.$$

This is a "Bell inequality". We do not need to know the

"hidden physics", we don't need to know the various likelihoods

the mere existence of instruction sets ("hidden variables")

is all we needed, along with the requirement of perfect

anticorrelation whenever measurement axes happen to align,

that gives us $\text{Prob}(\text{Same}) \leq 4/9$.

Aside:

Somehow this outcome is not weird, it makes sense.

Suppose e.g. that those instruction sets 1-8 were all equally likely.

then

① +++ / ---

② ++- / -+-

③ +-+ / -+-

⋮

opposite is always more likely than same.

The anticorrelation forces this on us,

there are always either 9/9 opposites
or 5/9 opposites.

Note If we only measured two orientations, a and b,

++ / -- all are opposite

+- / -+ half the possible pairings are opposite

-+ / +- " " " " " "

-- / ++ all are opposite.

so if nature created instruction sets that weren't "all possible",
but only those middle situations occurred... then we'd have

no disagreement with the 50/50 prediction of QM

So we need this funky "3-options" measurement setup

of Bell to show that there's NO possible distribution

of instruction sets that yields anything except

$$\text{Prob}(\text{same}) \leq 4/9.$$

Bottom line: Running these exp'ts and computing Prob(Same)

- Quantum predicts $\text{Prob(Same)} = .5000$
- Hidden local variables / EPR predict $\text{Prob(Same)} \leq 4/9 = .4444\dots$
- Exp'ts give ... drum roll ... $.50$.

This is not $\leq 4/9$, so local hidden variables are excluded.

Entangled states show that particles in QM do not "know" what the outcome of a future measurement will be (or least, not for more than one axis) It is not "hidden", the measurement is truly random + unpredictable. At the same time, perfect anti-correlation of matching measurements confirms that wave function collapse is instantaneous across arbitrary distances.

Measuring #1 does "collapse" #2.

It is spooky action at a distance

It does not violate relativity - no information is sent from #1 to #2, no event @ location #2 is (or can be) caused by #1's actions.

- This hurts my brain, but it's how nature is.

Schrödinger's Cat:

We put a cat in a chamber, + allow a quantum system with 50% chance of occurrence to determine whether a container of cyanide is opened, after 1 hr.

$$|\Psi(1 \text{ hr})\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\text{alive}\rangle + |\text{dead}\rangle)$$

It is not "alive or dead", it is alive and dead.

This is not a mixed state, it's a superposition. (or so it appears)

If you measure the state, it chooses one or the other, 50/50 odds. (Did you kill it by looking, then?)

This seems to be pure nonsense. Macro systems in superpositions violate our sense of physics...

The resolution is that "looking" is not what constitutes a measurement! Interaction with the universe (air in the room bounces differently off live + dead cats, countless irreversible consequences to the env't when a cat dies) is what is "measuring" the state, continuously. The buzzword here is "decoherence": a quantum superposition state requires a delicate + definite

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phase relationship between orthogonal states. The more interactions you have, the harder it is to maintain unambiguous phase coherence. In a macroscopic / thermal environment, all phase coherence is rapidly lost, & the system is indeed a MIXED state:

50% chance of finding a live cat, 50% chance it's dead, but there was a state (one or the other) before you opened the box.

What exactly constitutes "measurements", & how "macro" the system can get & still maintain coherence are open & interesting questions in modern research labs.