

# Beyond quantum mechanics and where to find it

Michał Eckstein

Institute of Theoretical Physics, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland  
International Center for Theory of Quantum Technologies, University of Gdańsk



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# Routes towards New Physics

Standard Model  $\subset$  QFT = Quantum Mechanics + Special Relativity

Routes towards New Physics:

- 1 Beyond Standard Model, but still in QFT
  - SUSY, composite Higgs, dark sector, inflation, ...
- 2 Beyond Special Relativity, but assuming QM
  - QFT in curved spacetimes – 'semi-classical' (Unruh effect, Hawking radiation ...)
  - quantum gravity
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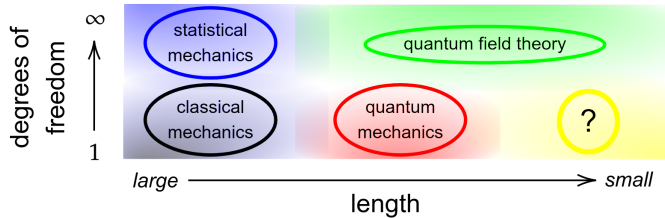
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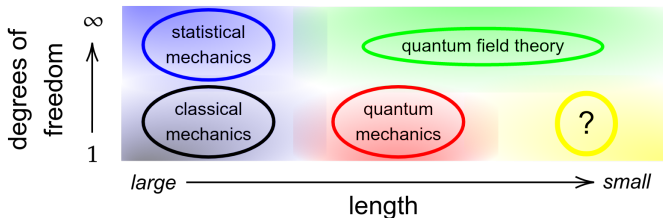
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# Classical, quantum, ...?



- Where (when, how, ...) does the measurement happen?
- Is there a gap between QM and QFT?
- Are QM & QFT only effective descriptions of Nature?
- How to seek possible deviations from QM (*and* classicality)?

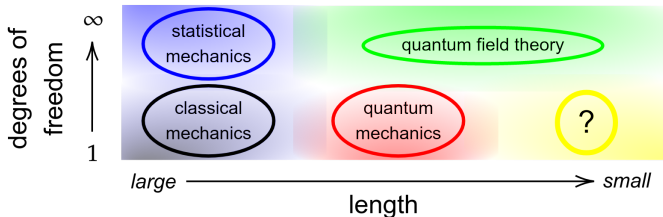
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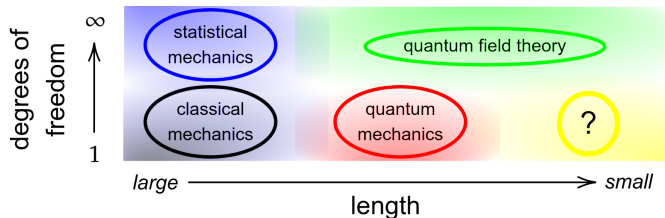


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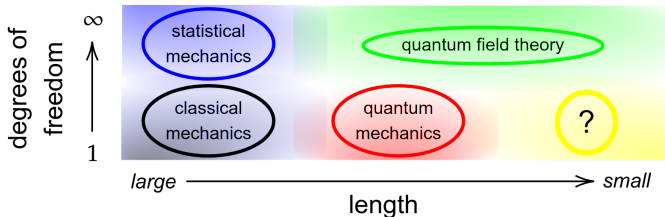
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# The “theory independent” **black box** methodology

- Physical systems are treated as information-processing devices (“**black boxes**”) and probed by free agents.
- The conclusions are drawn from the **output–input correlations**.

$$P(\text{outputs} | \text{inputs})$$

Bell test: 2 agents (Alice and Bob) — 2 inputs  $(x, y)$  — 2 outputs  $(a, b)$

The *experimental* (frequency) correlation function:

$$C_e(x, y) = P(a = b | x, y) - P(a \neq b | x, y)$$

The key assumption of *freedom of choice* (“measurement independence”):

$$P(x, y | \lambda) = P(x) \cdot P(y)$$

- No pre-correlations between the inputs  $(x, y)$  and the box  $(\lambda)$ .

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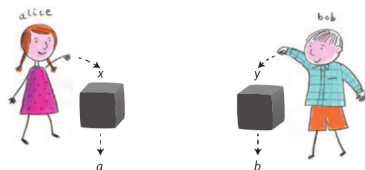
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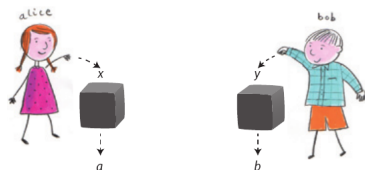
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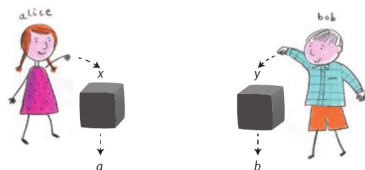
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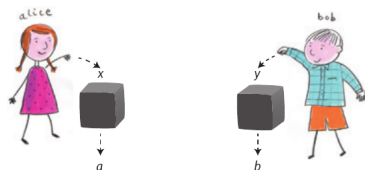


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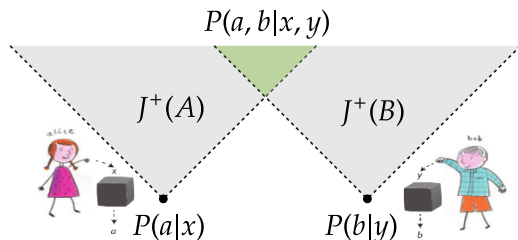
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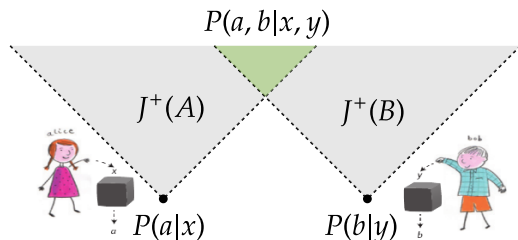
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## The no-signalling principle

A free agent in spacetime region  $\mathcal{K}$  cannot influence any detection statistics outside of  $J^+(\mathcal{K})$ .

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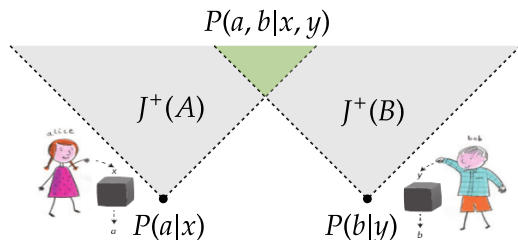
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# Nonlocal correlations beyond quantum mechanics

Bell-CHSH inequality: 2 parties – 2 inputs – 2 outcomes

$$S := C_{\text{LHV}}(x, y) + C_{\text{LHV}}(x, y') + C_{\text{LHV}}(x', y) - C_{\text{LHV}}(x', y') \leq 2 < 2\sqrt{2}$$

Could we have  $S = 4$  *assuming* free choice and no-signalling?

No-signalling boxes [Popescu, Rohrlich (1994)]

$$P(a, b | x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}, & \text{if } a \oplus b = xy, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad S_{\text{PR}} = 4.$$

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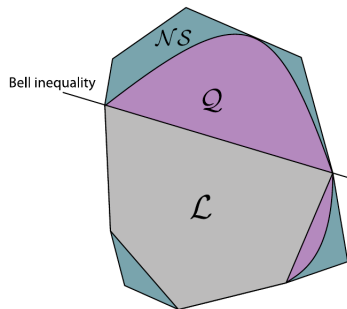
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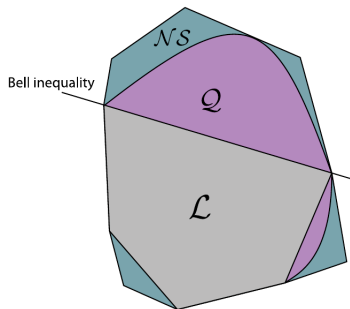
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nature  
physics

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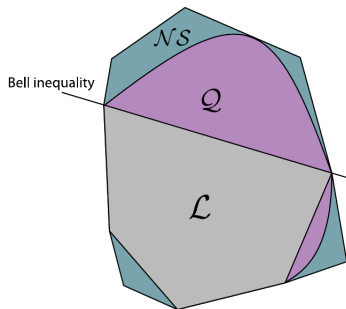
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# Nonlocal jamming of correlations

- The standard 3-party 'no-signalling' conditions

$$P(a, b | x, y) = \sum_c P(a, b, c | x, y, z).$$

are sufficient, but not necessary for no-signalling!

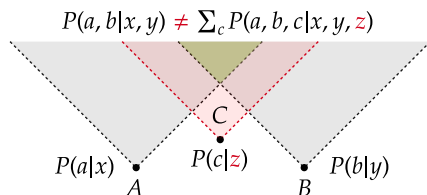
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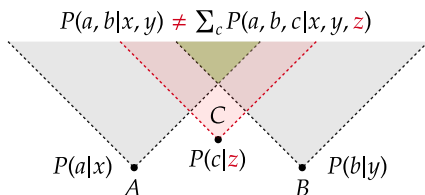
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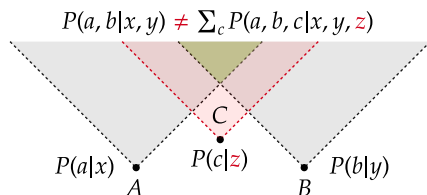


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# Commuting *versus* tensor correlations

- In QM we model spacelike separated measurements with a tensor product  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$ . *Local* observables have the form  $A \otimes \mathbb{1}, \mathbb{1} \otimes B$ .

$$P_{\otimes}(ab|xy) = \langle \psi | A_a^x \otimes B_b^y | \psi \rangle, \quad |\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B.$$

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- In (A)QFT we model spacelike separated measurements by commuting observables,  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ ,  $[A, B] = 0$ .  $C_{[\cdot, \cdot]} := \{P_{[\cdot, \cdot]}(ab|xy)\}$

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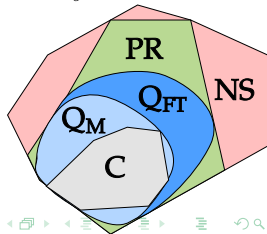
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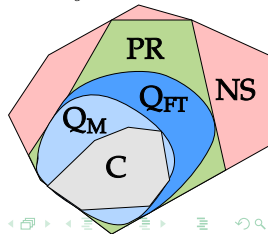
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## How to seek possible deviations from QM in particle physics?

- 1 M.E., P. Horodecki,  
Probing the limits of quantum theory with quantum information at subnuclear scales,  
*Proc. R. Soc. A.* **478**:20210806 (2022), arXiv:2103.12000.
- 2 C. Altomonte, A. Barr, M.E., P. Horodecki, K. Sakurai,  
Prospects for quantum process tomography with polarized beams,  
arXiv:24xx.xxxxx.

# Quantum-data boxes

- We treat physical systems as **Q-data boxes**, i.e. *quantum-information* processing devices.
- A Q-data box is probed *locally* with quantum information.



- $p$  are classical parameters (e.g. scattering kinematics)
- The *pure input* state is **prepared**,  $P : x \rightarrow \psi_{in}$ .
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- We assume that validity of QM *outside* the box, but not *inside* it.

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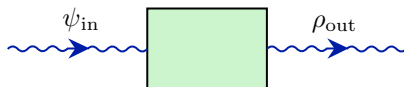
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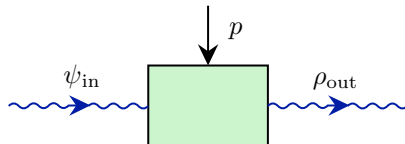
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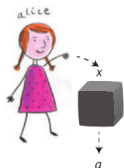


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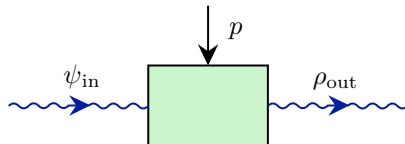


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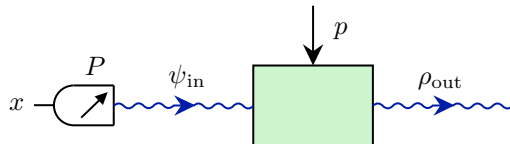
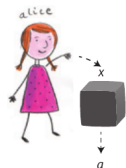
[Nat. Phys. 10, 264 (2014)]



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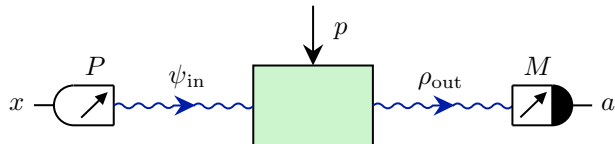
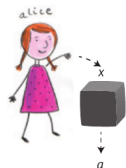


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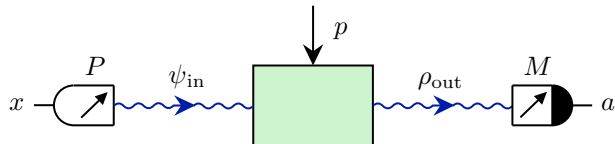
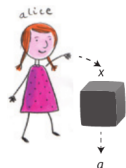


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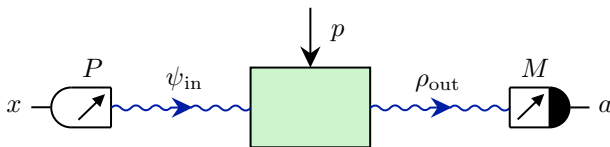
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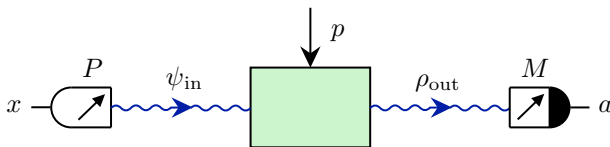
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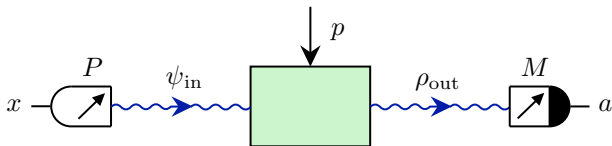
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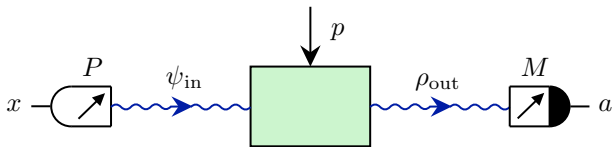
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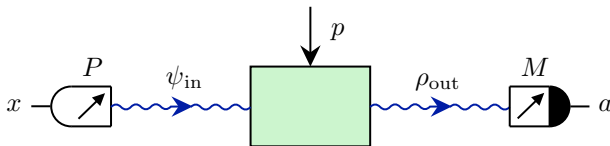


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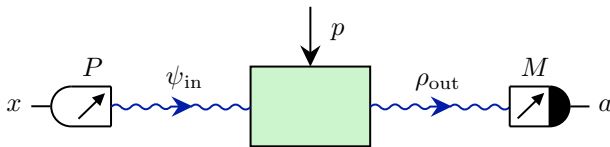
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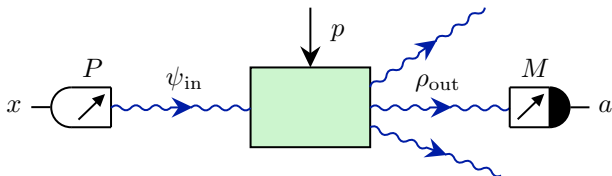
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- Suppose that we have two available inputs  $\psi_{\text{in}}^{(1)}, \psi_{\text{in}}^{(2)}$ .
- We choose randomly the input (with probability  $1/2$ ).
- The task is to guess, which of the two states was input.
- Define the **success rate**:  $P_{\text{succ}}(\psi_{\text{in}}^{(1)}, \psi_{\text{in}}^{(2)}) := \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^2 P(a = k | \psi_{\text{in}}^{(k)})$ .
- In quantum theory  $P_{\text{succ}}$  cannot exceed the **Helstrom bound**

$$P_{\text{succ}} \leq P_{\text{succ}}^{\text{QM}} := \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \sqrt{1 - |\langle \psi_{\text{in}}^{(1)} | \psi_{\text{in}}^{(2)} \rangle|^2} \right).$$

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# An example — the Helstrom test

- Suppose that we have two available inputs  $\psi_{\text{in}}^{(1)}, \psi_{\text{in}}^{(2)}$ .
- We choose randomly the input (with probability  $1/2$ ).
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- In quantum theory  $P_{\text{succ}}$  cannot exceed the **Helstrom bound**

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## Take-home messages:

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- Relativity allows for theories even weirder than quantum mechanics.
- We do not have beyond-quantum maths nor physics ...  
(..., with the exception of nonlinear QM and objective collapse models, ...)  
..., but we can still test them!
- Whenever we make an honest Bell-type test we are testing QM against both LHV **and** beyond-quantum correlations.
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