

Testing Bell Inequalities at the LHC

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High Energy Particle Physics Seminar,
University of Geneva

4th October 2023

AJB, Phys.Lett.B 825 (2022) 136866 — 2106.01377 [hep-ph]

AJB, P. Caban, J.Rembieliński — 2204.11063 [quant-ph]

R.Ashby-Pickering, AJB, A.Wierzchucka — 2209.13990 [quant-ph]

C.Altomonte, AJB, ORA-2022

Outline

- Motivation
- Bell inequalities
- $H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$ as a Bell experiment

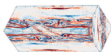
[interlude]

- Some tools from quantum information theory
- Bell inequalities & particle decays
- The LHC as a laboratory for testing quantum foundations

[conclusion]

Motivation

Interesting physics \neq 'new' physics \neq beyond-SM physics



ON THE COVER

Heating of Magnetically Dominated Plasma by Alfvén-Wave Turbulence

February 14, 2022

Three-dimensional kinetic simulation of the onset of relativistic wave turbulence in the collision of two magnetic shear waves. Selected for a Viewpoint in *Physics*.

Jonas Nättli and Andrei M. Beloborodov
Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 075101 (2022)

[Issue 7 Table of Contents](#) | [More Covers](#)



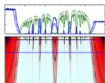
PHYSICS NEWS AND COMMENTARY

A Quantized Surprise from Fermi Surface Topology

February 16, 2022

The quantized conductance of a two-dimensional electron gas can reflect its Fermi surface topology.

Synopsis on:
C. L. Kane
Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 076801 (2022)

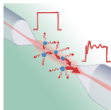


EDITORS' SUGGESTION

Chaotic Diffusion in Delay Systems: Giant Enhancement by Time Lag Modulation

Laminar chaotic diffusion is found in systems with delayed nonlinearity, accompanied by a reduction of the effective dimensionality.

Tony Albers, David Müller-Bender, Lukas Hille, and Günter Radons
Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 074101 (2022)

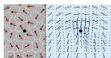


EDITORS' SUGGESTION

Collective Radiative Dynamics of an Ensemble of Cold Atoms Coupled to an Optical Waveguide

An ensemble of cold atoms is coherently coupled in a controlled way to a tapered optical fiber, demonstrating collective effects in this system.

Riccardo Fenneta et al.
Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 073801 (2022)



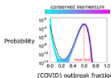
PHYSICS NEWS AND COMMENTARY

Extending and Contracting Cells

February 15, 2022

Cell-substrate interactions explain a difference in behavior between individual cells and tissues on a surface.

Synopsis on:
Andrew Kilean, Thibault Bertrand, and Chiu Fan Lee
Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 078001 (2022)

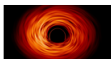


EDITORS' SUGGESTION

Outbreak Size Distribution in Stochastic Epidemic Models

An analytical approach to stochastic epidemic models shows that the statistics of extreme outbreaks depend on an infinite number of minimum-action paths, and that extreme outbreaks define a new class of rare processes for discrete-state stochastic systems.

Jason Hinde, Michael Assaf, and Ira B. Schwartz
Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 078301 (2022)



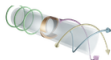
PHYSICS NEWS AND COMMENTARY

Illuminating Black Holes through Turbulent Heating

February 14, 2022

Predictions indicate that it should be possible to directly identify how turbulence heats a given black hole's plasma from the spectrum of that plasma's radiation.

Viewpoint on:
Jonas Nättli and Andrei M. Beloborodov
Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 075101 (2022)



PHYSICS NEWS AND COMMENTARY

Waves in a Solid Imitate Twisted Light

February 11, 2022

Waves of vibration moving through the walls of a pipe can carry orbital angular momentum that could be used for several purposes, according to new theoretical work.

Focus story on:
G. J. Chaplain, J. M. De Ponti, and R. V. Craster
Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 064301 (2022)

Some of the old problems are amongst the deepest. . .

EINSTEIN ATTACKS QUANTUM THEORY

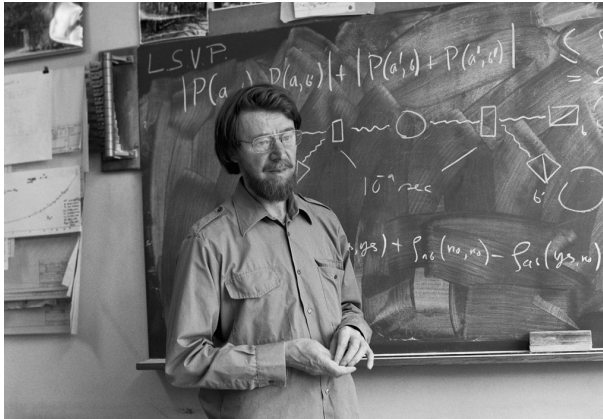
Scientist and Two Colleagues
Find It Is Not 'Complete'
Even Though 'Correct.'

SEE FULLER ONE POSSIBLE

Believe a Whole Description of
'the Physical Reality' Can Be
Provided Eventually.

New York Times, May 4 1935, reporting on Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen paper,
"Can Quantum-Mechanical Description of Physical Reality Be Considered Complete"

...and they are experimentally accessible



©CERN

J.S. Bell 'On the Einstein Podolsky Rosen paradox' (1964)

Bell inequalities

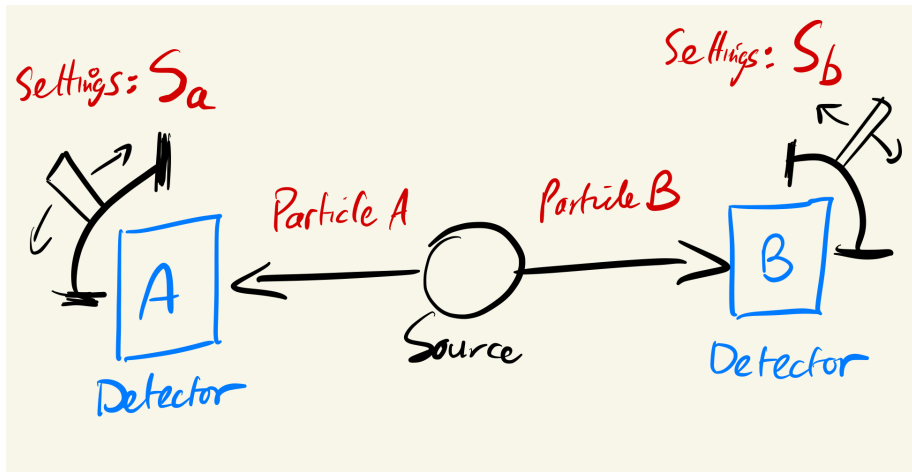
J.S. Bell showed that if we assume:

- **locality**: that there are no **physical influences** traveling faster than the speed of light and
- **realism**: objects have **physical properties** independent of **measurement**

then **correlations** in **measurement outcomes** from two distant observers must necessarily obey an inequality

Rephrasing of Giustina et al 2015

The textbook case – apparatus



(Ensemble of similarly-prepared systems)

Quantum systems – initial thoughts

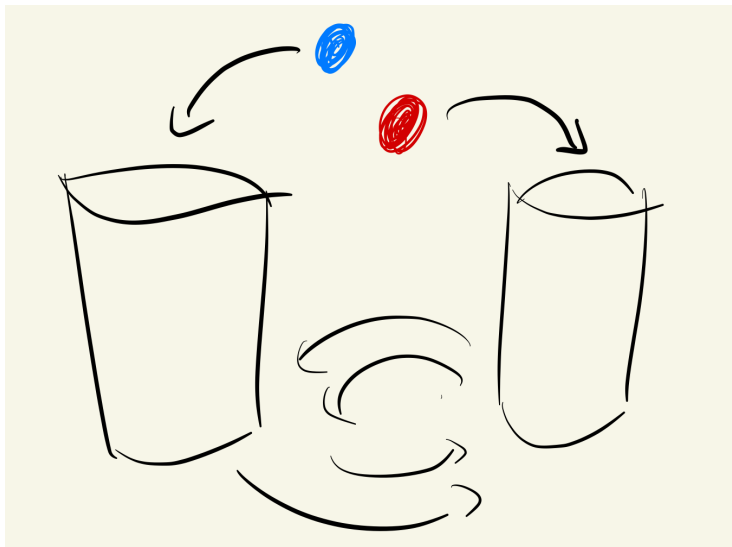
Take a perfectly entangled **Bell state** of two spin-half particles:

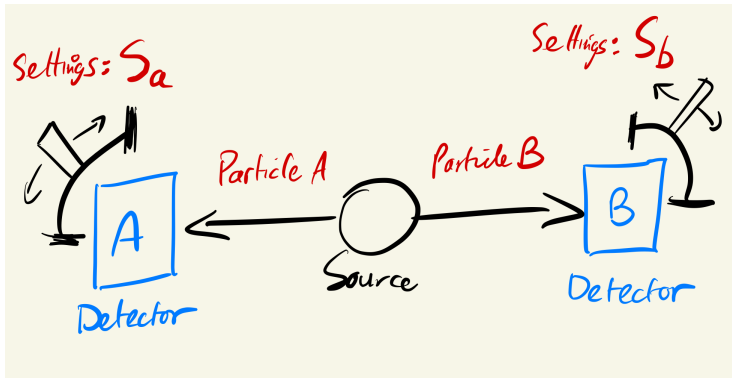
$$|\psi_+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle_A |\downarrow\rangle_B + |\downarrow\rangle_A |\uparrow\rangle_B)$$

The measurements of spin for each system **separately** are uncertain, nevertheless:

- After measuring S_z system A we can tell **with certainty** about outcome of measuring S_z on system B
- **even though** A and B may be widely separated

Q: Is this property 'spooky action at a distance'?





We can also change our measurement settings: S_A and S_B

We might expect the probabilities of outcomes at A to depend on:

- the measurement settings S_A at A
- some properties $\vec{\lambda}$ of the AB system

The CHSH Bell inequality

Clauser, Horne, Shimony & Holt (1969)

- The two experiments, A and B, each have two possible **outcomes**:
 $\{ +1 \text{ or } -1 \}$
 $E(a, b)$ is the expectation value of the product
- Each experiment has two possible **settings** :
 $\{ \text{primed or unprimed} \}$
- Calculate the following function of the correlated expectations:

$$\mathcal{I}_2 = E(a, b) - E(a, b') + E(a', b) + E(a', b')$$

The local realism formalism

Assume that there is a well-defined correlation function for the pair of measurement outcomes:

$$P(S_A, S_B) \equiv \int d\vec{\lambda} \ a(S_A, \vec{\lambda}) \ b(S_B, \vec{\lambda}) \ P(\vec{\lambda})$$

May depend on 'hidden' variables $\vec{\lambda}$ which have a PDF $P(\vec{\lambda})$

Assumptions

- $a(S_A, \vec{\lambda})$ does **not** depend on S_B
- $b(S_B, \vec{\lambda})$ does **not** depend on S_A
- $P(\vec{\lambda})$ does **not** depend on S_A nor on S_B

Demand that marginal probabilities for measurements of A and B are **non-negative**

The CHSH Bell inequality

$$\mathcal{I}_2 = E(a, b) - E(a, b') + E(a', b) + E(a', b')$$

$$\text{Local realism} \implies |\mathcal{I}_2| \leq 2$$

Quantum Mechanics violates the CHSH inequality

Find CHSH expectation values for the Bell state

$$|\Psi_+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle_A |\downarrow\rangle_B + |\downarrow\rangle_A |\uparrow\rangle_B)$$

Quantum mechanics:

- allows values of \mathcal{I}_2 **larger than two**
- up to the Cirel'son bound of $2\sqrt{2}$
- in **conflict** with local realism

Maximum violation for e.g. $a = 0^\circ$, $a' = 45^\circ$, $b = 22.5^\circ$ and $b' = 67.5^\circ$

Empirical tests of Bell Inequalities

Physical systems

- photons
- ions
- superconducting systems
- nitrogen vacancy centres

Also in pairs of three-outcome measurements using photons

Classic experiments

- Freedman and Clauser (1972)
- Aspect et al.'s experiments (1981 & 1982)
- Zeilinger et al. (1998)
- Three '**loophole-free**' tests of 2015:
Hensen et al., Shalm et al., Giustina (et Zeilinger) et al.

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The Nobel Prize in Physics 2022



III. Niklas Elmehed © Nobel Prize Outreach

Alain Aspect

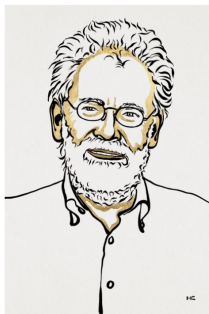
Prize share: 1/3



III. Niklas Elmehed © Nobel Prize Outreach

John F. Clauser

Prize share: 1/3



III. Niklas Elmehed © Nobel Prize Outreach

Anton Zeilinger

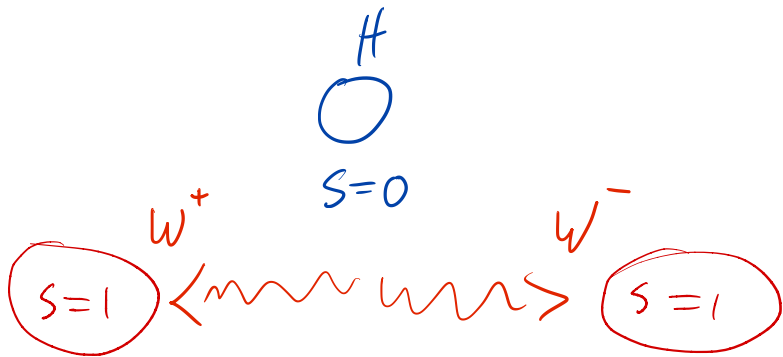
Prize share: 1/3

Results?

Violation of Bell inequalities in each case

In the tested systems and at the tested energies

$H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$ as a Bell experiment



Spin in the $H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$ decay

The Higgs boson is a **scalar**, while W^\pm bosons are **vector** bosons.

- $H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$ decays produce pairs of W bosons in a **singlet** spin state
- In the narrow-width and non-relativistic approximations:

$$|\psi_s\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (|+\rangle |-\rangle - |0\rangle |0\rangle + |-\rangle |+\rangle)$$

This is also a **Bell state**

- Bell inequality tests deep in the realm of QFT
- Many **orders of magnitude** different in energy, length, timescale from existing measurements

W bosons are their own polarimeters

$V - A$ decays

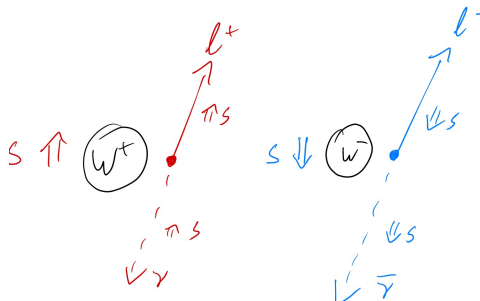
$SU(2)$ weak force is **chiral**

$$W^+ \rightarrow \ell_R^+ + \nu_L$$

$$W^- \rightarrow \ell_L^- + \bar{\nu}_R$$

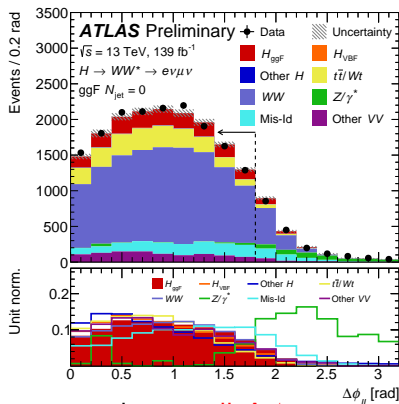
Decay of a W^\pm boson is equivalent to a **measurement** of its spin along the axis of the emitted lepton

Getting the directions right



- ℓ^+ is emitted preferentially **along** spin direction (of W^+)
 ℓ^- is emitted preferentially **against** spin direction (of W^-)
- The W^\pm spins are in **different** directions
- So the two leptons prefer to go in the same direction as each other

$\ell^+\ell^-$ azimuthal correlations in $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$



- Higgs signal concentrated at **small $\Delta\phi_{\ell\ell}$**
- Used e.g. in discovery searches

Q: Can we measure **Bell inequality** in this system?

`\begin{interlude}`



discovernorthernireland.com

Belfast City Council has declined to name a street after one of Northern Ireland's most eminent scientists.

Belfast-born, John Stewart Bell who died in 1990, is regarded as one of the 20th Century's greatest physicists.

The council received an application to name a street in Titanic Quarter after Mr Bell.

However, the council rejected the proposal as it has "traditionally avoided using the names of people" when deciding on street names.

Only two streets in the city have been named after individuals since the 1960s: Prince Edward Park in 1962 and Prince Andrew Park in 1987.

Titanic Quarter Ltd had applied to name a currently unnamed street beside Belfast Metropolitan College as John Bell Crescent.

Bell was born in Belfast in 1928 to a family from a poor background.

He was the only one of his siblings to stay at school over the age of 14, and his family could not afford to send him to one of the city's grammar schools.

Instead he attended Belfast Technical High School, now Belfast Metropolitan College, and then entered Queen's University.



BBC news 19 February 2015

`\end{interlude}`

Some tools from quantum information theory

The density matrix ρ

- A fully-characterised quantum system is described by a **ket** $|\psi\rangle$
- Expectation values of measurement operator \mathcal{A} are given by

$$\langle\psi|\mathcal{A}|\psi\rangle$$

- A more general, not-fully-characterised, quantum system is described by a **density matrix** ρ

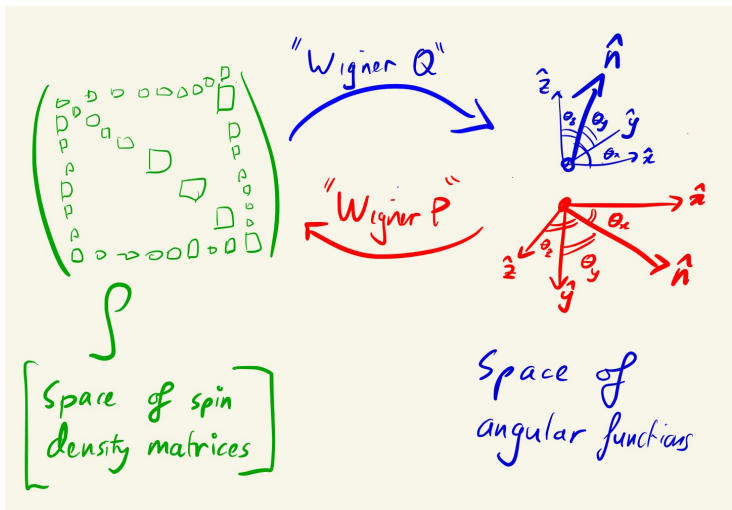
$$\rho = \sum_i p_i |\psi\rangle_i \langle\psi|_i$$

p_i is classical probability

ρ is a non-negative hermitian operator with unit trace

- **Expectation values** for operator \mathcal{A} for ρ are given by:

$$\langle\mathcal{A}\rangle = \text{tr}(\rho\mathcal{A})$$



Also true for e.g. W^\pm , Z^0 , t , τ

Transforming between the spaces

The Wigner-Weyl formalism for spin

Operator \rightarrow function

$$\Phi_A^Q(\hat{n}) = \langle \hat{n} | A | \hat{n} \rangle$$

Wigner Q symbols

Function \rightarrow operator

$$A = \frac{2j+1}{4\pi} \int d\Omega_{\hat{n}} |\hat{n}\rangle \Phi_A^P(\hat{n}) \langle \hat{n}|,$$

Wigner P symbols

Parameterise ρ

Symmetrically for qutrits in terms of the Gell-Mann matrices λ_i

Single vector boson

$$\rho = \frac{1}{3}I_3 + \sum_{i=1}^8 a_i \lambda_i,$$

a_i : 8 real parameters ($3^2 - 1$)

- Generalised Gell-Mann matrices $\lambda_i^{(d)}$ exist for any spin
- For spin-half ($d = 2$) they are the Pauli matrices and we get the Bloch sphere
- For $d = 3$ they are the eight generators of $SU(3)$

Other parameterisations, e.g. Cartesian Tensors are good alternatives

Parameterise ρ – bipartite system

Symmetrically for qutrits in terms of the Gell-Mann matrices λ_i

Single vector boson

$$\rho = \frac{1}{3}I_3 + \sum_{i=1}^8 a_i \lambda_i,$$

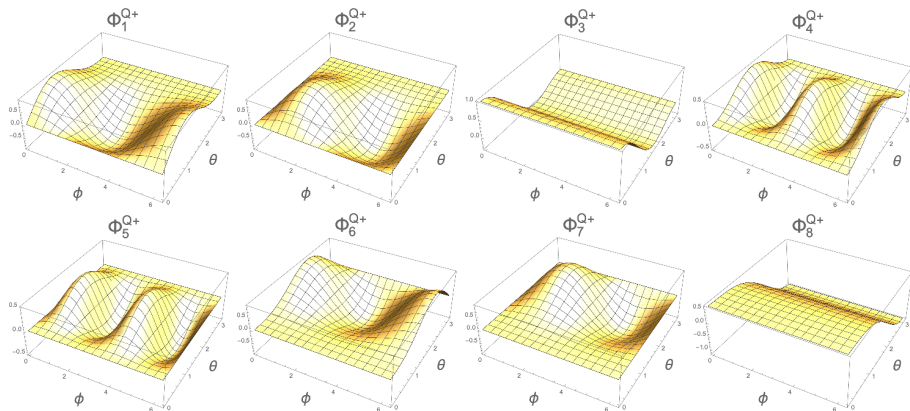
a_i : 8 real parameters ($3^2 - 1$)

Two vector bosons

$$\rho = \frac{1}{9}I_3 \otimes I_3 + \sum_{i=1}^8 a_i \lambda_i \otimes \frac{1}{3}I_3 + \sum_{j=1}^8 b_j \frac{1}{3}I_3 \otimes \lambda_j + \sum_{i,j=1}^8 c_{ij} \lambda_i \otimes \lambda_j,$$

$8+8+64 = 80$ real parameters ($9^2 - 1$)

Angular distributions for each parameter



Wigner Q functions for the eight Gell-Mann matrices

Extracting the parameters experimentally

Parameters of ρ are the experimentally-measurable classical averages of the Wigner P functions

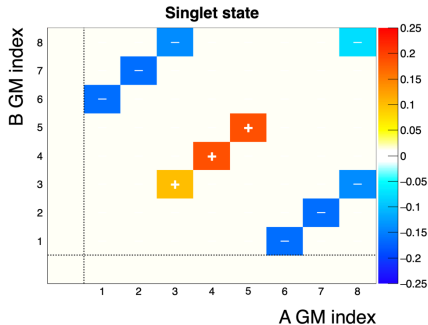
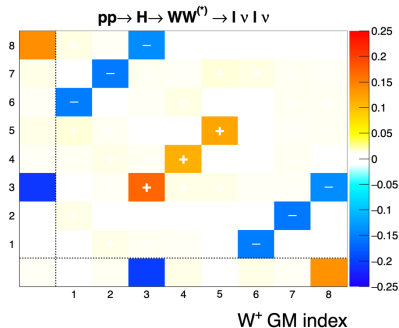
$$\hat{a}_i = \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \Phi_i^P(\hat{n}_1) \right\rangle_{\text{av}}$$

$$\hat{b}_i = \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \Phi_i^P(\hat{n}_2) \right\rangle_{\text{av}}$$

$$\hat{c}_{ij} = \frac{1}{4} \left\langle \Phi_i^P(\hat{n}_1) \Phi_j^P(\hat{n}_2) \right\rangle_{\text{av}}$$

Quantum State Tomography example

Higgs boson decays



Density matrix parameters from simulated Higgs boson decays to vector bosons (Madgraph, no background)

Testing a Bell Inequality

The CGLMP Qutrit inequality

Collins Gisin Linden Massar Popescu (2002)

The optimal Bell inequality for pairs of **qutrits**

CGLMP function

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{I}_3 = & P(A_1 = B_1) + P(B_1 = A_2 + 1) \\ & + P(A_2 = B_2) + P(B_2 = A_1) \\ & - P(A_1 = B_1 - 1) - P(B_1 = A_2) \\ & - P(A_2 = B_2 - 1) - P(B_2 = A_1 - 1).\end{aligned}$$

$P(A_i = B_j + k)$ is the probability that A_i and B_j differ by $k \bmod 3$

CGLMP limits?

In a local realist theory

$$\mathcal{I}_3 \leq 2$$

In QM

$$\mathcal{I}_3^{\text{QM}} \leq 1 + \sqrt{11/3} \approx 2.9149$$

In QM for a **maximally entangled** state

$$\mathcal{I}_3^{\text{QM,singlet}} \leq 4/(6\sqrt{3} - 9) \approx 2.8729$$

Testing the CGLMP inequality

Knowing elements of ρ calculate

$$\mathcal{I}_3 = \text{tr}(\rho \mathcal{B}_{\text{CGLMP}}^{\text{xy}})$$

where the CGLMP operator is

$$\mathcal{B}_{\text{CGLMP}}^{\text{xy}} = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} (S_x \otimes S_x + S_y \otimes S_y) + \lambda_4 \otimes \lambda_4 + \lambda_5 \otimes \lambda_5$$

where

$$S_x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_6) \quad \text{and} \quad S_y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\lambda_2 + \lambda_7).$$

$H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$ simulated results

In idealised, numerical **simulation** of $H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$, with finite width effects and relativistic effects:

$$\mathcal{I}_3 \approx 2.6$$

Doing for real & doing better?

Bell operator optimisation

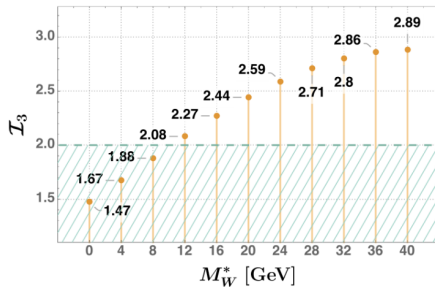
- Optimal Bell operator not known in the general case.
- Use freedom in measurement observables to perform independent unitary transformations on each side of the experiment

$$\mathcal{B} \longrightarrow (U \otimes V)^\dagger \cdot \mathcal{B} \cdot (U \otimes V)$$

- U, V independent 3×3 unitary matrices, optimised for each kinematic process

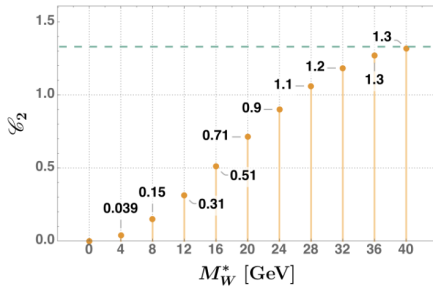
Fabbrichesesi et al. 2302.00683

$$H \longrightarrow WW^*$$



Optimised Bell Operator

$> 2?$

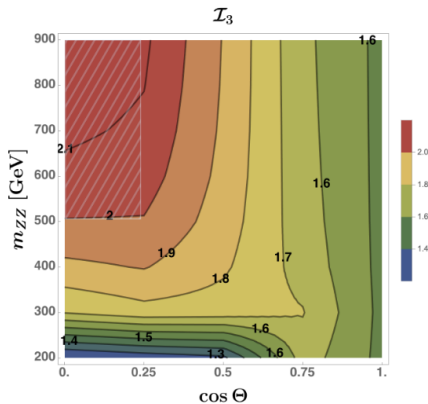


Bound on the concurrence

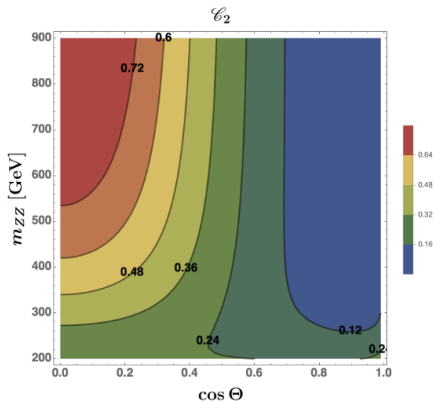
$> 0?$

Fabbrichesi et al. 2302.00683

$pp \rightarrow ZZ$

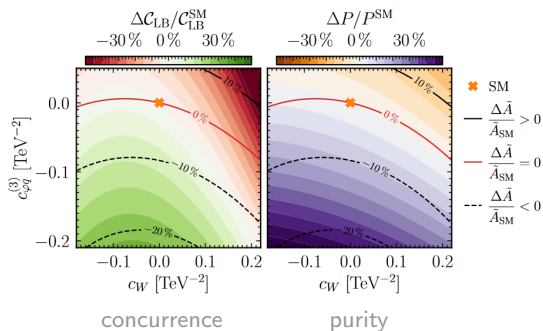


Optimised Bell Operator
 $> 2?$



Bound on the concurrence
 $> 0?$

Searching Beyond the Standard Model?



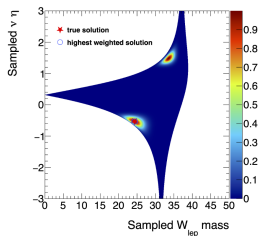
- Production of W^\pm/Z pairs at pp , e^+e^-
- Quantum spin observables complementary probes of **Wilson coefficients**/EFT
- Offer **increased sensitivity** to certain operators

Aoude, Madge, Maltoni, Mantani *Probing new physics through entanglement in diboson production* 2307.09675

Semi-leptonic $h \rightarrow WW^* \rightarrow \ell^- \bar{\nu} c \bar{s}$

Semi-leptonic channel allows neutrino weighting reconstruction

Charm tagging allows identification of spin from angular distribution of hadronic W



Lumi [fb^{-1}]	$\langle \mathcal{B}_{\text{CGLMP}}^{\text{ZX}} \rangle$	(idealised)	Signif. (idealised)
139	$2.45 \pm$	0.25 (0.18)	1.8 (2.5)
300	$2.45 \pm$	0.17 (0.12)	2.65 (3.75)
3000	$2.45 \pm$	0.05 (0.04)	9.0 (11.25)

Fabbi, Howarth, Maurin *Isolating semi-leptonic $H \rightarrow WW^*$ decays for Bell inequality tests* 2307.13783

Hot off the press!

Physics

Large Hadron Collider turned into world's biggest quantum experiment

Physicists have used the famous particle smasher to investigate the strange phenomena of quantum entanglement at far higher energies than ever before

By [Alex Wilkins](#)

📅 3 October 2023



Observation of entanglement in $t\bar{t}$

Entangled?

Addresses the question can we write:

$$\rho \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_i p_i \rho_A \otimes \rho_B \quad p_i \geq 0, \sum p_i = 1$$

as a convex sum of product states?

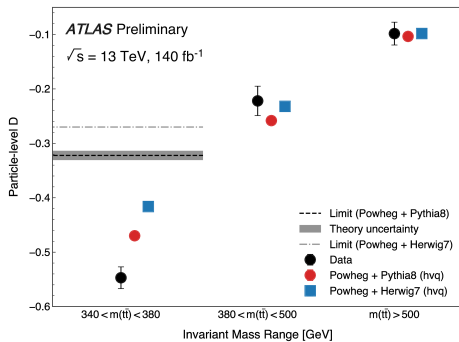
- Yes \implies separable
- No \implies entangled

Entangled states are a superset of Bell-violating states

Physics Briefing / ATLAS-CONF-2023-069 / TOP2023 presentation

Highest-energy detection of quantum entanglement

- $t\bar{t}$ spin-qubit pair
- Decay before hadronisation
- Leptons measure top spin
- Entanglement witness D
- \exists **no** separable states with $D < -\frac{1}{3}$



New result

$$D_{\text{obs}} = -0.547 \pm 0.002 [\text{stat.}] \pm 0.021 [\text{syst.}] \quad (> 5\sigma)$$

Physics Briefing / ATLAS-CONF-2023-069 / TOP2023 presentation

The LHC: a laboratory for probing quantum foundations

Weak bosons are wonderful quantum probes

- Quantum spin **self** measurement via **chiral** weak decays
- Expect **entanglement** and even **Bell inequality** violation
- Spin **density matrix** can be reconstructed from angular distributions ('tomography')

A wide-ranging quantum programme is possible @ LHC

- Local realism tests at $\sim 10^{12}$ higher energy
- Probes of quantum **measurement**
- **Exchange symmetry** and **distinguishability**
- All in an unexplored region

EXTRAS

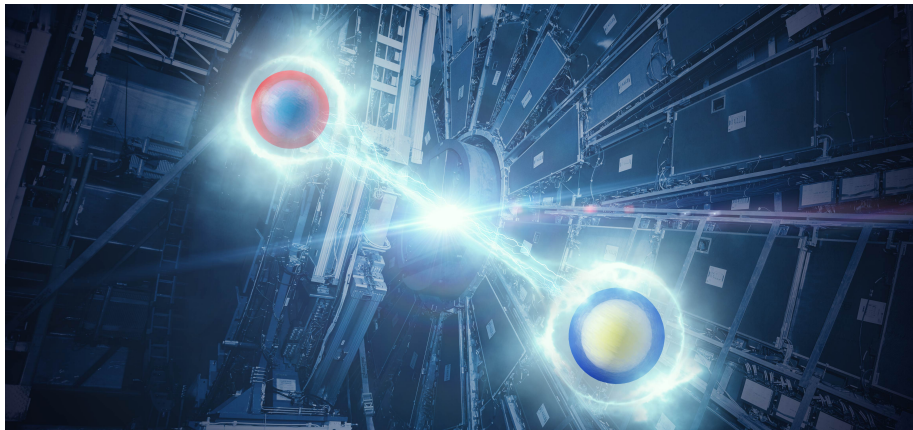


Image from ATLAS physics briefing

So what?

If we observe **Bell Inequality** violation:

A very different sort of Bell test:

- 12 orders of magnitude higher energy than existing tests (shorter time scale, shorter length scale. . .)
- In 'self-measuring' quantum system
- Deep in the realm of quantum field theory (virtual particles)
- in qutrit rather than qubit systems

If we don't observe **Bell Inequality** violation (when we expect to):

We have an even more surprising and consequential result . . .

(and yes, it's also a good way to find new fields)

Lots of other interesting work in this area, including:

- Aguilar-Saavedra, Bernal, Casas, Moreno *Testing entanglement and Bell inequalities in $H \rightarrow ZZ$* 2209.13441
- Aguilar-Saavedra, *Laboratory-frame tests of quantum entanglement in $H \rightarrow WW$* , 2209.14033
- Fabbrichesi, Floreanini, Gabrielli, Marzola *Stringent bounds on HWW and HZZ anomalous couplings with quantum tomography at the LHC* 2304.02403
- Morales *Exploring Bell inequalities and quantum entanglement in vector boson scattering* 2306.17247
- Bi, Cao, Cheng, Zhang *New observables for testing Bell inequalities in W boson pair production* 2307.14895
- Aguilar-Saavedra, *Post-decay quantum entanglement in top pair production* 2307.06991

Optimising CHSH inequality over directions

- Find d and its transpose d^T
- Find real symmetric positive matrix $M = d^T d$
- Find e-vals $\mu_1 \geq \mu_2 \geq \mu_3$ of M
- Find sum $\Sigma_{\text{CHSH}} = \mu_1 + \mu_2$ of two largest
- Finally the CHSH Bell inequality is **violated** iff

$$\Sigma_{\text{CHSH}} > 1$$

Maximally entangled qubit pair states

The states for which the Bell inequality violation is **maximal** are

$$|\Phi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle_A |0\rangle_B + |1\rangle_A |1\rangle_B)$$

$$|\Phi^-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle_A |0\rangle_B - |1\rangle_A |1\rangle_B)$$

$$|\Psi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle_A |1\rangle_B + |1\rangle_A |0\rangle_B)$$

$$|\Psi^-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle_A |1\rangle_B - |1\rangle_A |0\rangle_B)$$

These are the **Bell states**: the maximally entangled states of two qubits

- $|\psi\rangle_{AB} \in (\mathbb{C}^2)^2$
- Basis for each qubit $\{0, 1\}$

QFT calculations

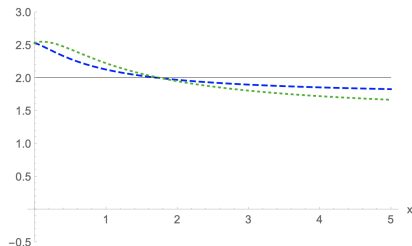


FIG. 3: Comparison of the violation of the CGLMP inequality in the state $|\xi(k, k^\pi)\rangle$ (blue, dashed line) and in the state $|\psi(k, k^\pi)\rangle$ (green, dotted line). The configuration of particles momenta and measurements directions is the following: $\mathbf{n} = (0, 0, 1)$, $\mathbf{w} = (\cos \phi_w \sin \theta_w, \sin \phi_w \sin \theta_w, \cos \theta_w)$, $\mathbf{w} \in \{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{d}\}$ and $\theta_a = 2.667$, $\phi_a = 4.109$, $\theta_b = 0.924$, $\phi_b = 0.974$, $\theta_c = 2.699$, $\phi_c = 1.005$, $\theta_d = 0$, $\phi_d = 0$.

AJB, P. Caban, J. Rembieliński — [2204.11063](#) [quant-ph]

Loopholes

Rachel Ashby-Pickering (MMathPhys project)

- **Freedom of Choice:** potential that the violation came from a sort of 'conspiracy' of a locally causal system.
- **Memory:** potential to 'remember' earlier settings of the measurement and so predict the next one, or if the experimental runs aren't independent
- **Efficiency:** potential that the measurements are not representative of the underlying reality.
- **Communication/Locality:** potential that the measurement settings of one of the systems, or the measurement itself could influence the measurement settings or outcome of the other system.

(+other more extreme ways to avoid non-locality: retrocausality, superdeterminism, denial of realism)

Text by Rachel Ashby-Pickering

Three 'loophole-free' measurements (2015)

LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature15759

Loophole-free Bell inequality violation using electron spins separated by 1.3 kilometres

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Selected for a Viewpoint in Physics

PRL 115, 250402 (2015)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
18 DECEMBER 2015

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Strong Loophole-Free Test of Local Realism*

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PRL 115, 250401 (2015)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

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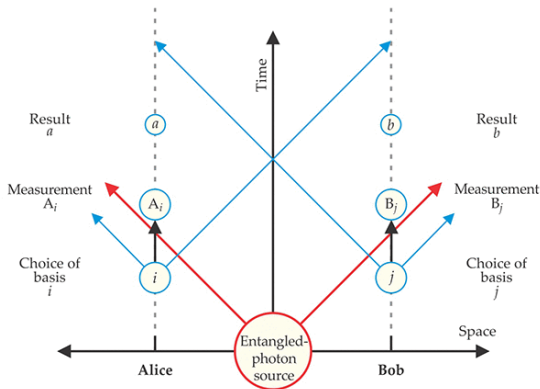
9

Significant-Loophole-Free Test of Bell's Theorem with Entangled Photons

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'Loophole free' measurements

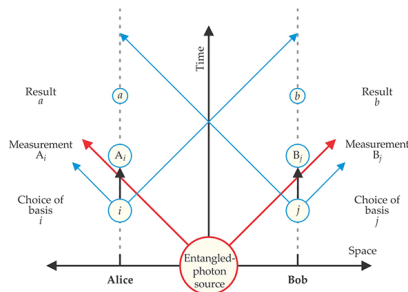


Went to particular trouble to ensure e.g.:

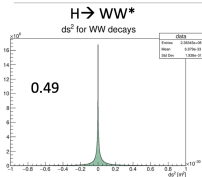
- measurements are **space-like** separated
- rapid **switching** of measurements
- basis choice space-like separated from measurement of other system
- measurement settings are '**random**'

Communication loophole

- Photon experiments aim for large distances
- Wish to have **space-like** separation of measurements (& decisions)
- $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$ based on QFT calculation
- Mixture of **space-like** and **time-like** contributions to amplitude



The Communication Loophole

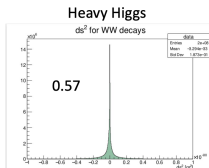


H_W : a fraction 0.49 of events have a value of $I_3 = 2$, and the remaining events (fraction 0.51) maximally violate the Bell inequality ($I_3 = 2.8729$)

$I_3 = 2.445$ I_3 measured = 2.62
(s.d of 0.05299)

→ $Z \approx -3.3$

Fraction 0.51 cannot have $I_3 > 2.8729$, so
smaller fraction than 0.49 must have a value
 $I_3 < 2$.



H_W : a fraction 0.57 of events have a value of $I_3 = 2$, and the remaining events (fraction 0.43) maximally violate the Bell inequality ($I_3 = 2.8729$)

Need to calculate the standard
deviation for the heavy Higgs -
but expect similar result

$I_3 = 2.38$ I_3 measured = 2.62

→ Very likely some of the *spacelike separated* events had a value $I_3 > 2$,
and so contributed to the violation of the Bell inequality.

→ Some violation of the Bell inequality with the loophole eliminated

Results: Can assert space-like separation at least on a **statistical** basis

Rachel Ashby-Pickering

Freedom of choice loophole

Alice and Bob each have three different sources of random bits that undergo an XOR operation together to produce their random measurement decisions (for more information see Supplemental Material [28]). The first source is based on measuring optical phase diffusion in a **gain-switched laser** that is driven above and below the lasing threshold. A new bit is produced every 5 ns by comparing adjacent laser pulses [17]. Each bit is then processed through an XOR gate with all past bits that have been produced (for more details see Supplemental Material [28]). The second source is based on sampling **the amplitude of an optical pulse** at the single-photon level in a short temporal interval. This source produces a bit on demand and is triggered by the synchronization signal. Finally, Alice and Bob each have a different predetermined **pseudorandom source** that is composed of various popular **culture movies and TV shows**, as well as the **digits of π** , processed together through an XOR gate. Suppose that a local-realistic system, with the goal of producing violation of the Bell inequality, was able to manipulate the properties of the photons emitted by the entanglement source before each trial. Provided that the randomness sources correctly extract their bits from the underlying processes of phase diffusion, optical amplitude sampling, and the production of cultural artifacts (such as the movie *Back to the Future*), this powerful local realistic system would be required to predict the outcomes of all of these processes well in advance of the beginning of each trial to achieve its goal. Such a model would have elements of superdeterminism—the fundamentally untestable idea that all events in the Universe are preordained.

Shalm et al 2015



- Many 'Loophole free' Bell tests use **quantum** randomness for \hat{n} choice (amongst other more curious choices)
- So does $H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$

Experimental dependence @ LHC?

- Simulate LHC: 140/fb pp @ 13 TeV with Madgraph Monte Carlo simulation
- No backgrounds, some basic selection cuts, Gaussian smearing of each of the W boson momentum components

Expt. Assumptions	Truth	'A'	'B'	'C'
Min $p_T(\ell)$ [GeV]	0	5	20	20
Max $ \eta(\ell) $	—	2.5	2.5	2.5
σ_{smear} [GeV]	0	5	5	10
$\mathcal{I}_3^{\text{xyz}}$	2.62	2.40	2.75	2.16
Signif. ($\mathcal{I}_3^{\text{xyz}} - 2$)	11.7 σ	5.2 σ	5.3 σ	1.0 σ

CAVEAT: **Indicative only** – more realistic version being investigated

In case you're curious

The CGLMP operator is¹

$$\mathcal{B}_{\text{CGLMP}}^{\text{xy}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

¹after a minor tweak – see [2106.01377](#)

CGLMP limits?

In a local realist theory

$$\mathcal{I}_3 \leq 2$$

In QM

$$\mathcal{I}_3^{\text{QM}} \leq 1 + \sqrt{11/3} \approx 2.9149$$

In QM for a **maximally entangled** state

$$\mathcal{I}_3^{\text{QM,singlet}} \leq 4/(6\sqrt{3} - 9) \approx 2.8729$$

This is the **tightest** Bell inequality for pairs of **three**-outcome experiments

Finding a form for ρ

Parameterise ρ

Spin matrices and their pairwise symmetric products

$$\rho_W = \frac{1}{3}I_3 + \sum_{i=1}^3 a_i S_i + \sum_{i,j=1}^3 c_{ij} S_{\{ij\}},$$

where

$$S_{\{ij\}} \equiv S_i S_j + S_j S_i$$

- a_i form a real vector
- c_{ij} form a real symmetric traceless matrix
- $3 + 5 = 8$ real parameters

Finding ρ - 'quantum state tomography'

$$\rho_W = \frac{1}{3}I_3 + \sum_{i=1}^3 a_i S_i + \sum_{i,j=1}^3 c_{ij} S_{\{ij\}},$$

Use the trace orthogonality relations

$$\text{tr}(S_i, S_j) = 2\delta_{ij} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{tr}(S_i, S_{\{jk\}}) = 0$$

For an ensemble of W^\pm decays we can get the a_i parameter of ρ_W from data

Lepton directions $\rightarrow \rho_W$

$$\langle \xi_i^\pm \rangle_{\text{av}} \equiv \langle \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{\ell^\pm} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i \rangle_{\text{av}} = \text{tr}(\rho_W S_i) = 2a_i$$