

# Quantum clocks, mirrors and Alice and Bob in Gravity

Časlav Brukner



Olomouc, May 10th, 2012

# Motivation

## Quantum Mechanics

- entanglement
- single particle interference
- Bohr's complementarity principle
- Born's rule



**Passed**

Newtonian gravity sufficient  
(if any gravity effects seen at all!)

## General Relativity

- Einstein's equations
- gravity as space-time geometry
- gravitational time dilation
- black holes



**Passed**

consistent with classical  
mechanics

# Motivation

Quantum Mechanics

General Relativity

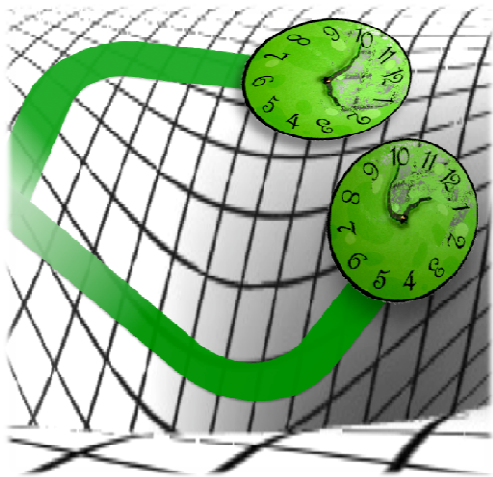
1. Effects that require both theories to be explained?
2. Effects that require an unified framework („quantum gravity“)?



# Outline

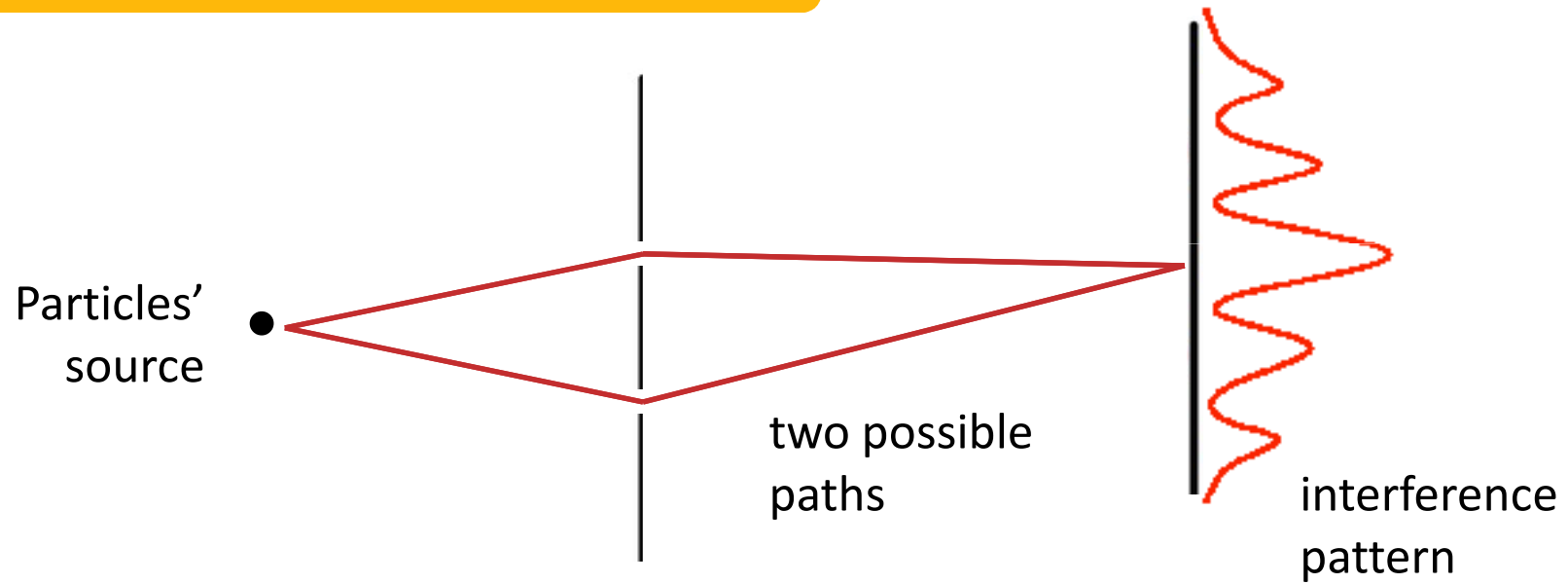
- Introduction & motivation
- [1] Gravitational redshift and quantum complementarity
- [2] Quantum correlations with no-causal order
- [3] Probing Planck-scale physics with quantum optics
- Conclusion

# [1] Gravitational redshift and quantum complementarity

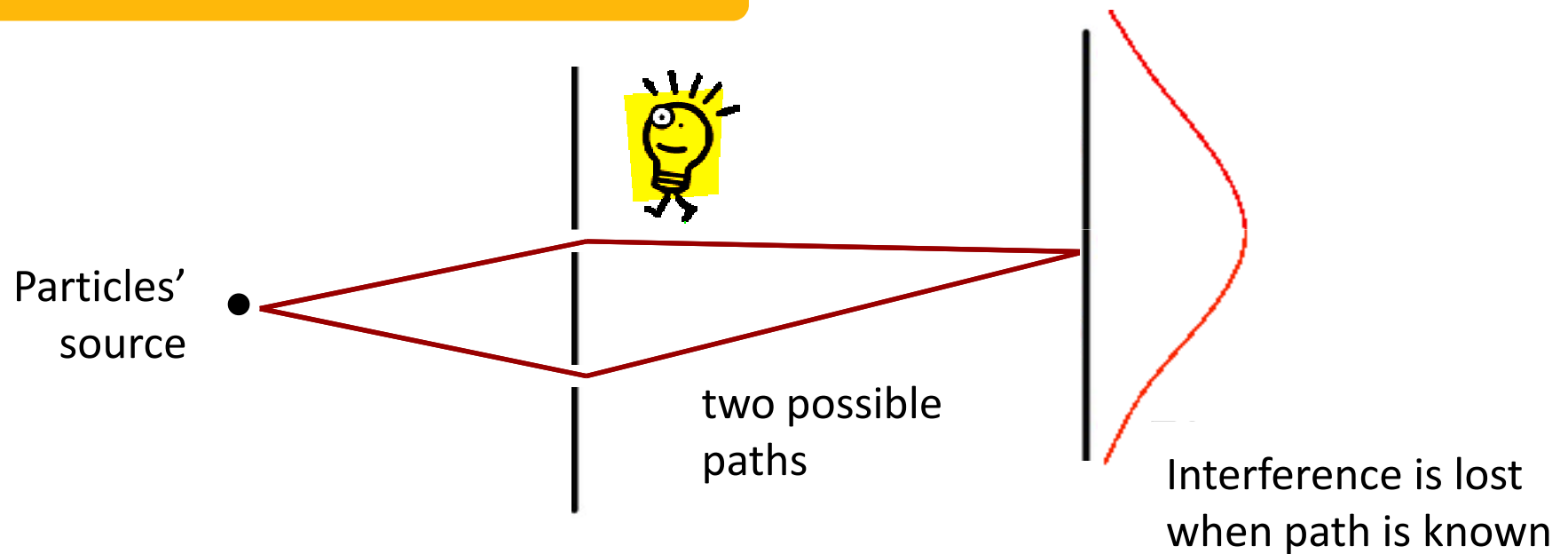


M. Zych, F. Costa, I. Pikovski, Č. Brukner:  
**Nature Communication** 2:505  
doi: 10.1038/ncomms1498 (2011)

## Quantum Complementarity Principle

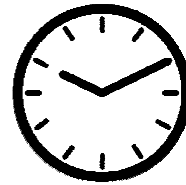


## Quantum Complementarity Principle



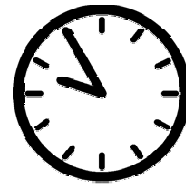
It is **not possible** to simultaneously know the path of the particle and observe its interference.

## Gravitational time dilation



Two initially synchronized clocks placed at different gravitational potentials.

Clock closer to a massive body ticks slower than the clock further away from the mass.



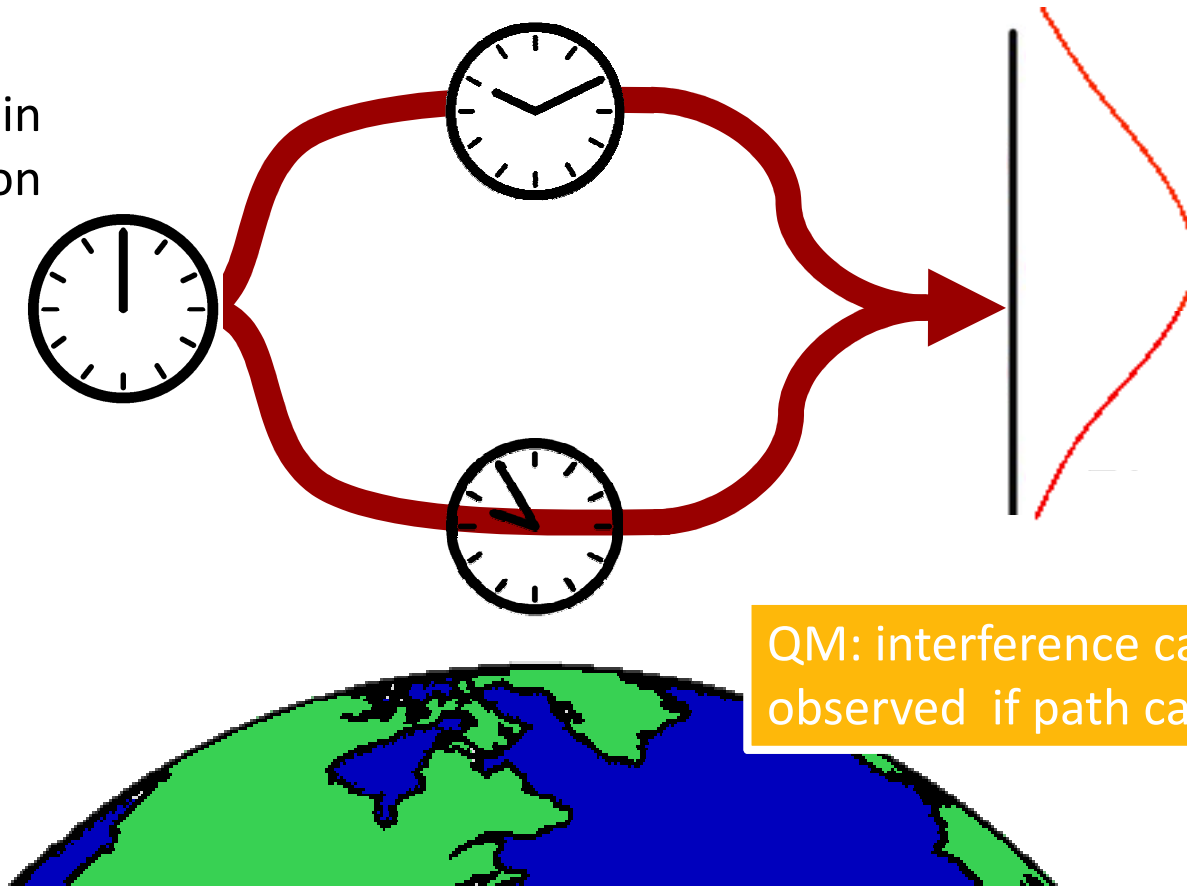
Initially synchronized clocks will eventually show **different times** when placed at different gravitational potentials.



# Interference of clocks

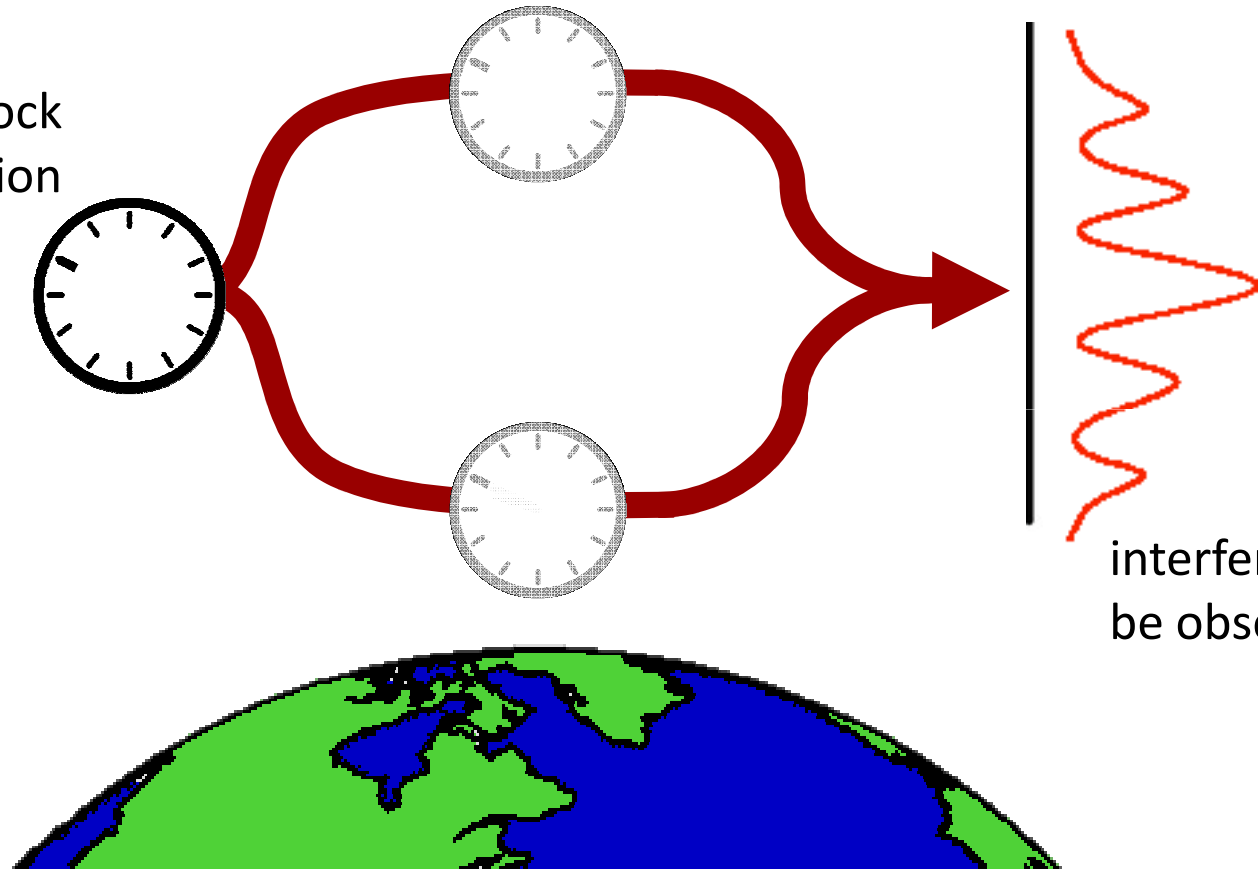
GR: time shown by the clock depends on the path taken

running clock in a superposition



QM: interference cannot be observed if path can be known

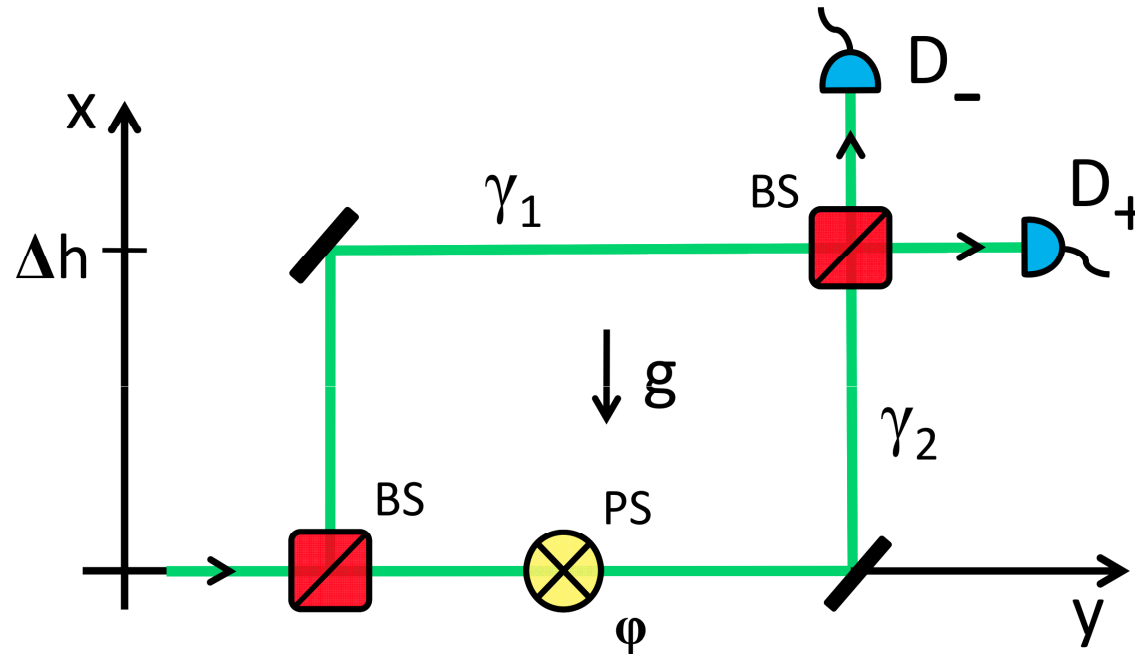
switched off clock  
in a superposition



interference can  
be observed

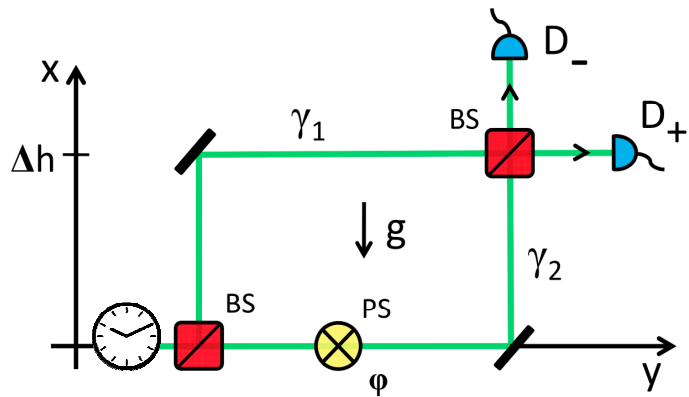
quantum complementarity + time dilation =  
= drop in the interferometric visibility

# Mach-Zehnder interferometer in a gravitational field



$\gamma_{1,2}$  : two possible paths through the setup,  
 $g$  : homogeneous gravitational field,  
 $\Delta h$  : separation between the paths

# Quantum Complementarity



“clock” - a system with an evolving in time degree of freedom

modes associated with the path  $\gamma_1$

state of the “clock”, which followed path  $\gamma_1$

$$|\Psi_{MZ}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (i|r_1\rangle|\tau_1\rangle e^{-i\phi_1} + |r_2\rangle|\tau_2\rangle e^{-i\phi_2 + i\varphi})$$

Probabilities of detection

$$P_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} |\langle\tau_1|\tau_2\rangle| \cos(\Delta\phi + \alpha + \varphi)$$

$$\langle\tau_1|\tau_2\rangle = |\langle\tau_1|\tau_2\rangle| e^{i\alpha}$$

Visibility of the interference pattern:

$$\mathcal{V} = |\langle\tau_1|\tau_2\rangle|$$

Distunguishability of the paths:

$$\mathcal{D} = \sqrt{1 - |\langle\tau_1|\tau_2\rangle|^2}$$

Interferometric visibility drops to the extent to which path information becomes available from the “clock”

# Results

$$H_{\odot} = E_0 |0\rangle\langle 0| + E_1 |1\rangle\langle 1|$$

$$|\tau^{in}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle)$$

- $\Delta E := E_1 - E_0$
- $\Delta V := g\Delta h$ , gravitational potential
- $\Delta h$ : distance between the paths
- $\Delta T$ : time for which the particle travels in superposition at constant heights

$$P_+(\varphi, m, \Delta E, \Delta V, \Delta T) =$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \cos\left(\frac{\Delta E \Delta V \Delta T}{2\hbar c^2}\right) \cos\left(\left(mc^2 - \langle H_{\odot} \rangle + \bar{E}_{GR}^{corr}\right) \frac{\Delta V \Delta T}{\hbar c^2} + \varphi\right)$$

relative phase from the Newtonian potential

GR corrections to the relative phase from the path d.o.f.

**new effects appearing with the "clock":**

change in the interferometric visibility

$$\mathcal{V} = \left| \cos\left(\frac{\Delta E \Delta V \Delta T}{2\hbar c^2}\right) \right|$$

phase shift proportional to the average internal energy

# Results

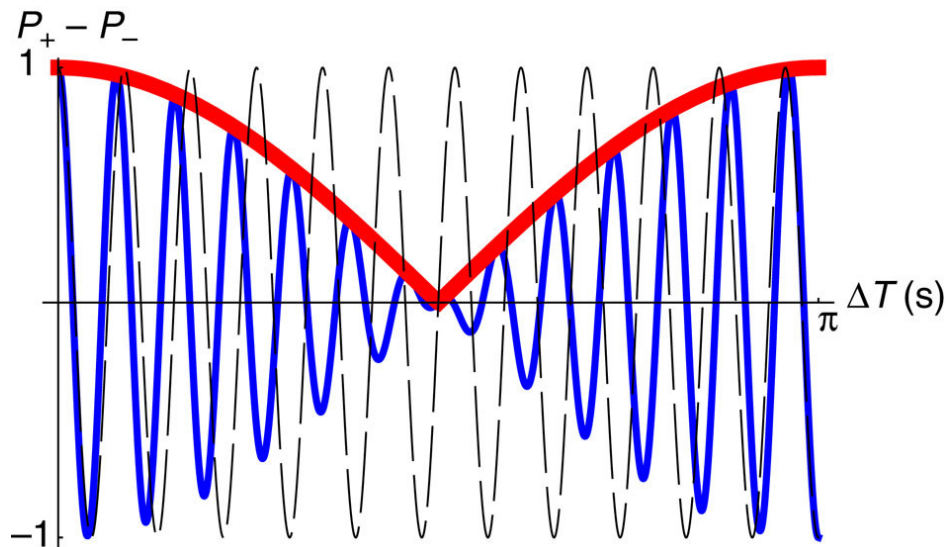
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- dashed, black line - interference with the “clock” switched off
- blue line - phase with the “clock” switched on
- thick, red line - modulation in the visibility

# Phase shift vs Drop of visibility

$$|\Psi_{MZ}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (i|r_1\rangle|\tau_1\rangle e^{-i\phi_1} + |r_2\rangle|\tau_2\rangle e^{-i\phi_2+i\varphi})$$

## Phase Shift

### Explainable by:

- a potential force in absolute time (possible non-Newtonian)
- analogue to a charged particle in EM field
- Flat space-time: no redshift
- independent of whether a particle is a „clock“ or a rock

Colella, R., Overhauser, A. W. & Werner, S. A. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 34, 1472–1474 (1975).

Müller, H., Peters, A. & Chu, S. *Nature* 463, 926–929 (2010).

## Drop in Visibility

### Not explainable without:

- gravity as metric theory,
- proper time  $\tau$  flows at different rates – redshift
- curved space-time geometry
- iff a particle is an operationally well defined „clock“

Experiment challenging (2-3 orders of magnitude)

## Snímek 15

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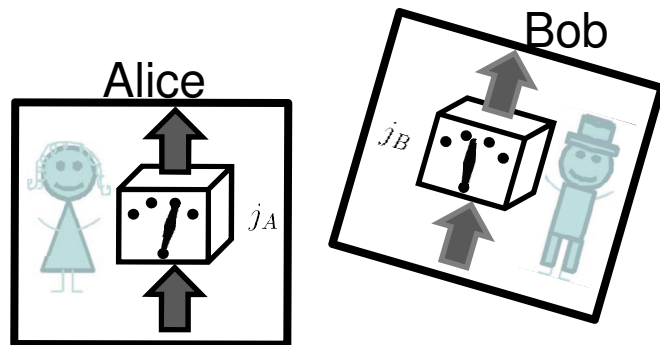
### MZ3

such an interpretation was recently proposed in: H. Müller, A. Peters, & S. Chu, A precision measurement of the gravitational redshift by the interference of matter waves. *Nature* 463, 926–929 (2010).

Magdalena Zych; 23.1.2012

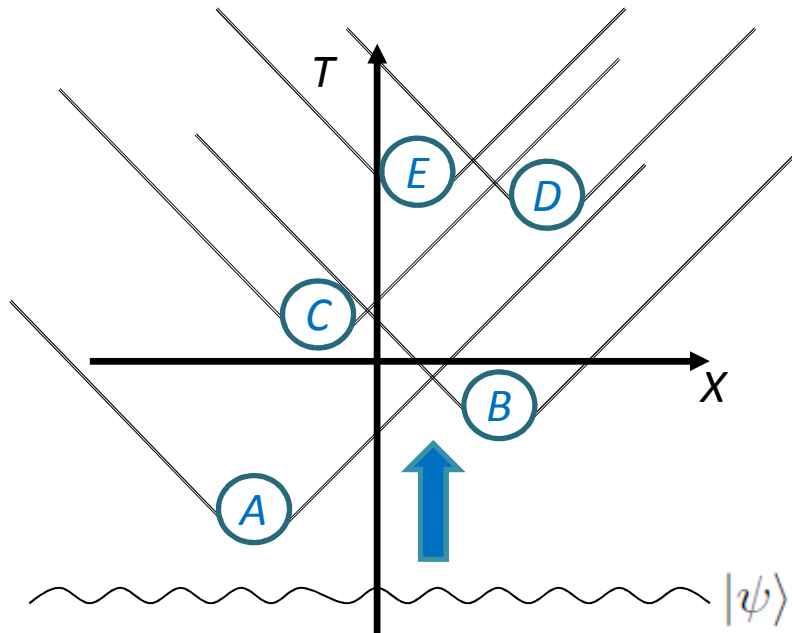


## [2] Quantum correlations with no causal order



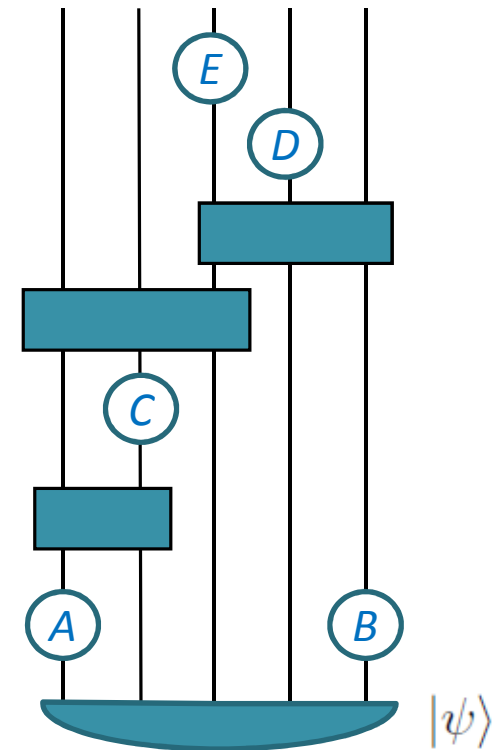
O. Oreshkov, F. Costa, Č. Brukner:  
arXiv:1105.4464

# Measurements in space-time



- Fix positions
- Define initial state
- Follow Eqs of motion
- Include causal influences
- Find joint probabilities  $P(A, B, C, D, E)$

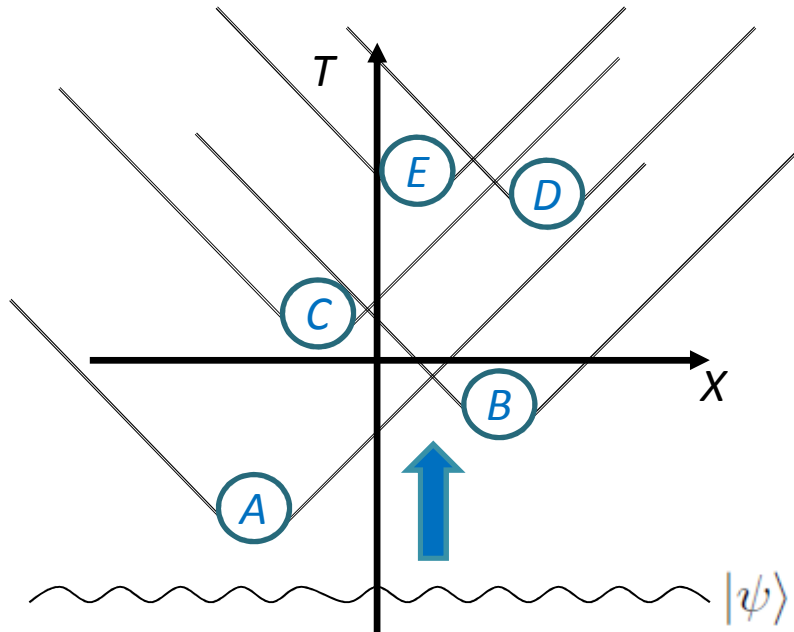
## Circuit model



Space-time & definite causal structure are pre-existing entities.

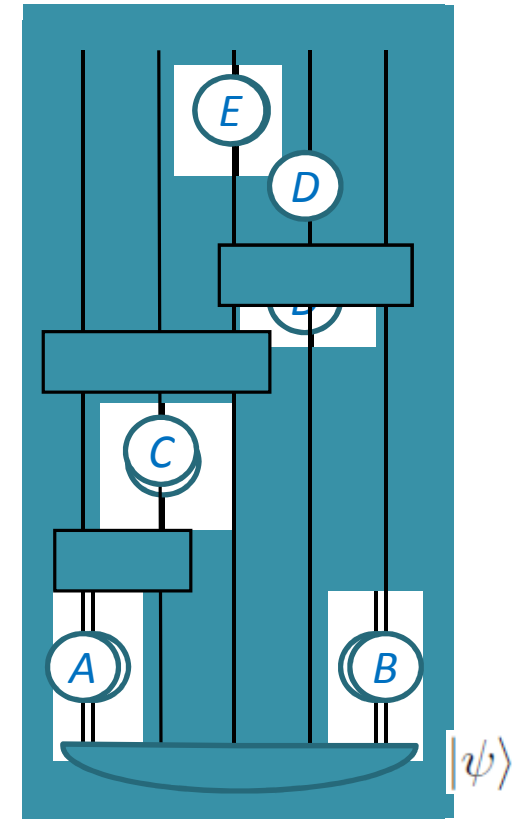
What happens if one removes global time and causal structure from quantum mechanics? What new phenomenology is implied?

# Measurements in space-time



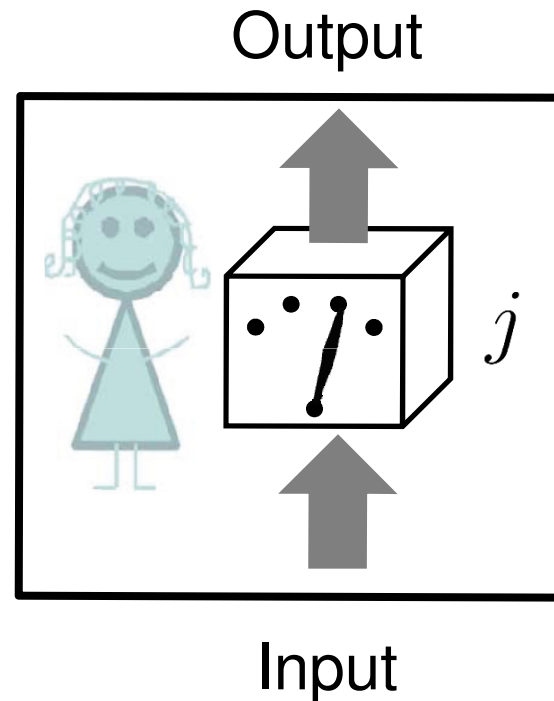
- Fix positions
- Define initial state
- Follow Eqs of motion
- Include causal influences
- Find joint probabilities  $P(A, B, C, D, E)$

**Circuit model**



**New computational model?**  
**New phenomenology?**

# Operational approach



The system exits the lab.

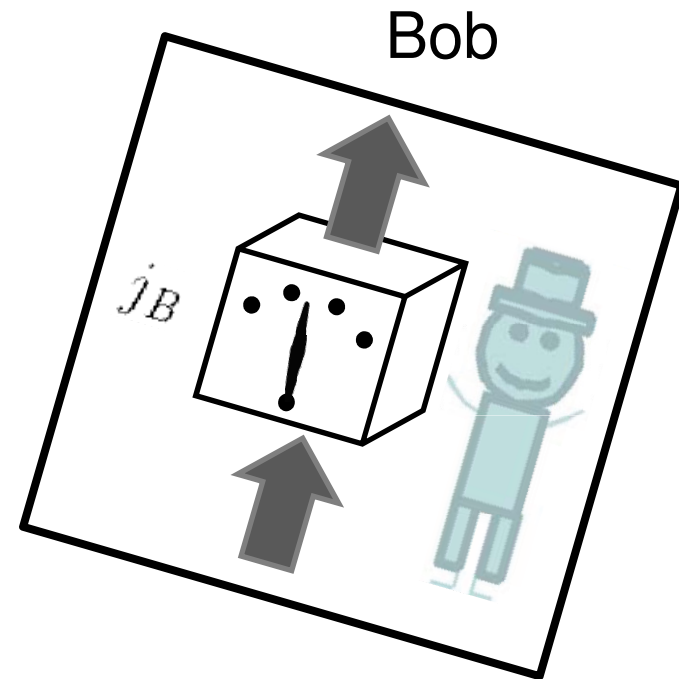
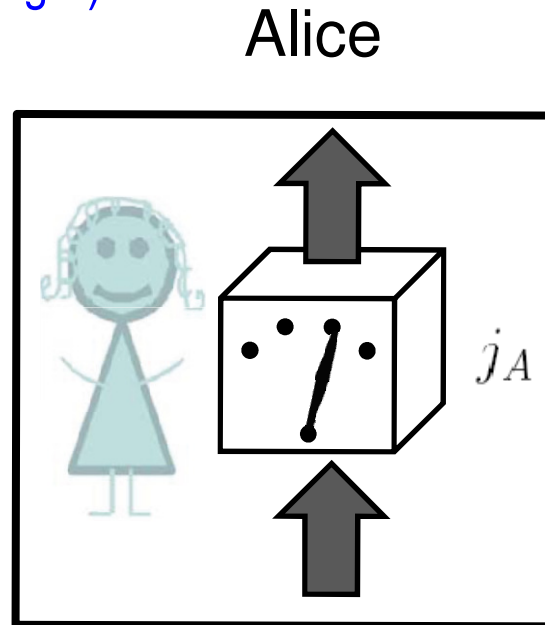
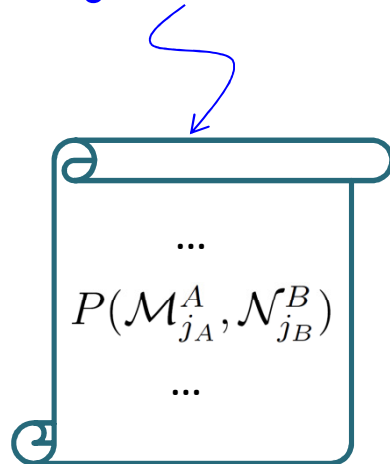
One out of a set of possible transformations (CP-maps) is performed.

A system enters the lab.

This is the **only** way how the labs interact with the “outside world”.

# Operational approach

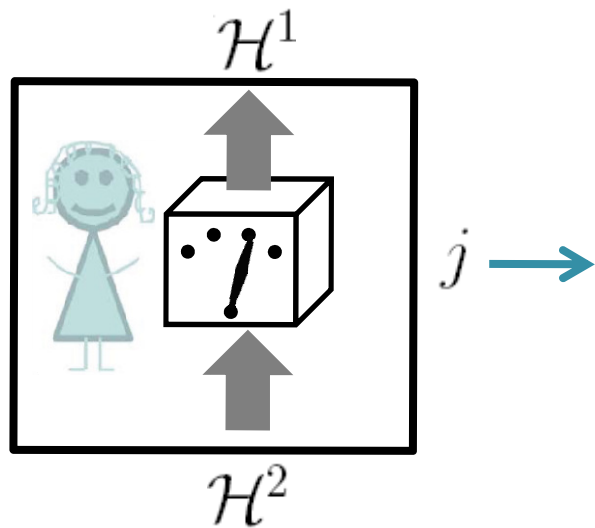
„Process“  
(„catalogue of our knowledge“)



No prior assumption of pre-existing causal structure, in particular of the pre-existing background time.

# Main premise:

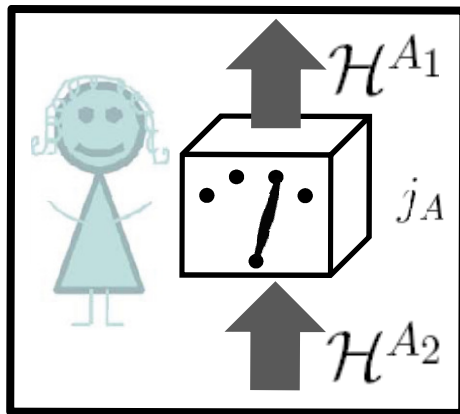
**Local quantum mechanics:** The local operations of each party are described by quantum mechanics.



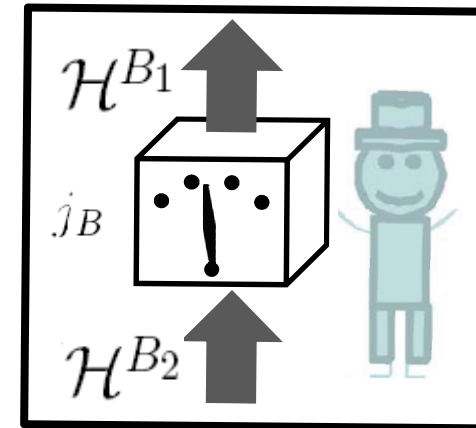
Transformations = **completely positive** (CP)  
trace non increasing maps

$$\mathcal{M}_j: \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^2) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^1)$$

# Two parties



$$\mathcal{M}_{j_A}^A : \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^{A_2}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^{A_1})$$



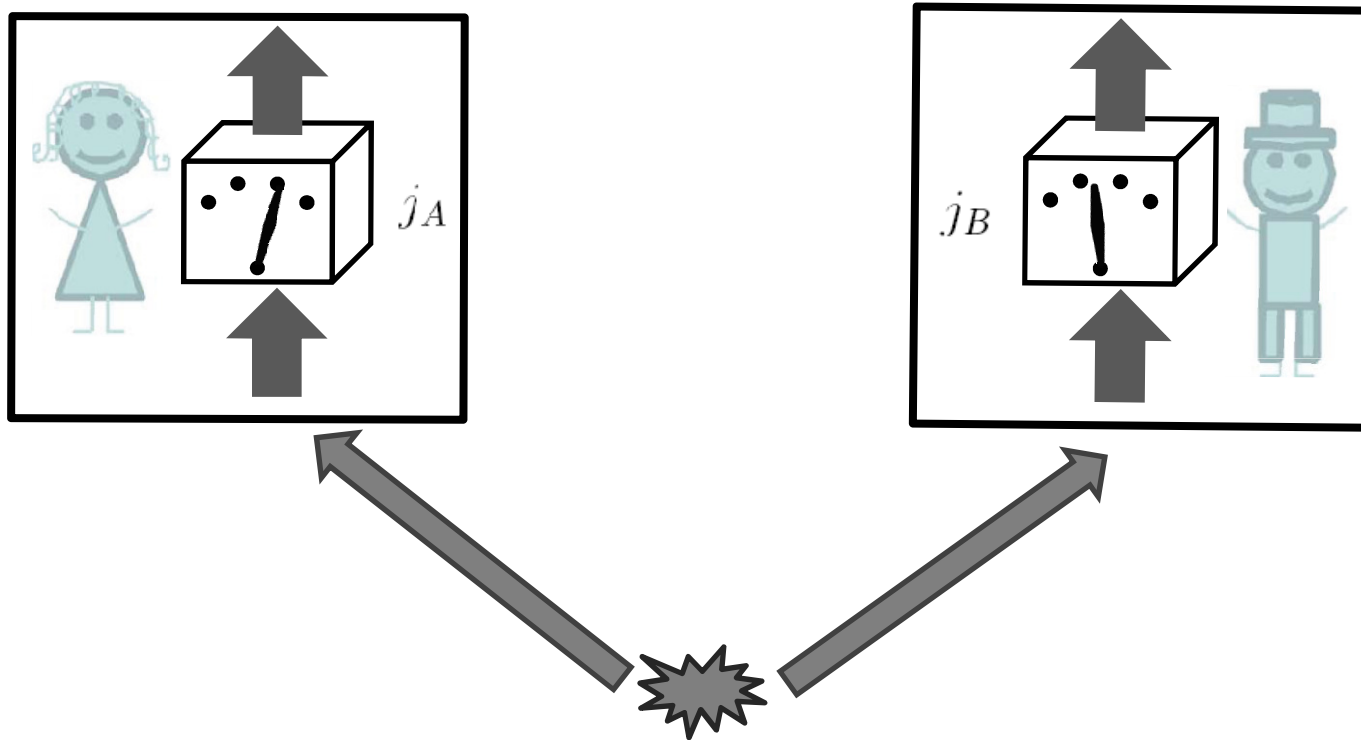
$$\mathcal{M}_{j_B}^B : \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^{B_2}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^{B_1})$$

Probabilities are **bilinear** functions of the CP maps

Choi-Jamilkowski representation of the CP maps:

$$P(\mathcal{M}^A, \mathcal{M}^B) = \text{Tr} \left[ \underbrace{W^{A_1 A_2 B_1 B_2}}_{\text{„Process Matrix“}} \left( \underbrace{\rho_{\mathcal{M}^A}^{A_1 A_2}}_{\text{CP maps}} \otimes \underbrace{\rho_{\mathcal{M}^B}^{B_1 B_2}}_{\text{CP maps}} \right) \right]$$

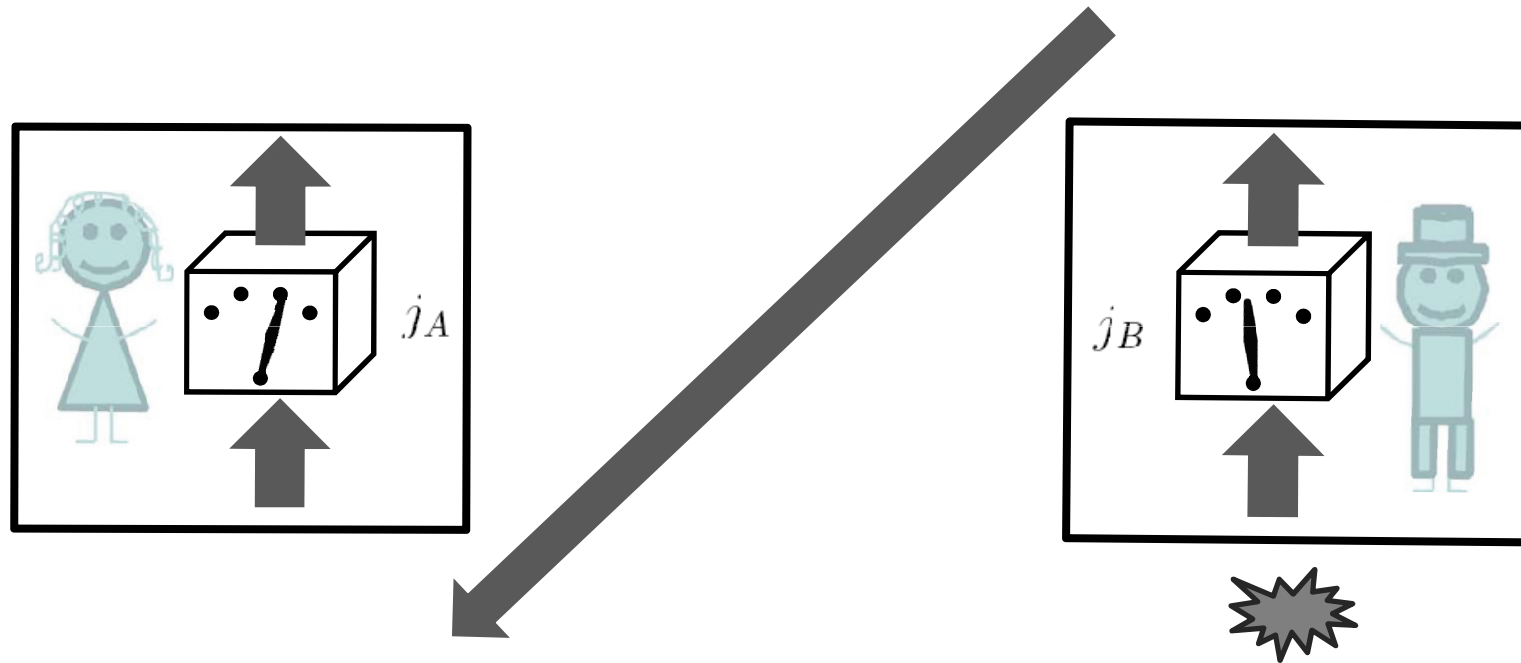
# Bipartite state



Sharing a joint state; No signalling

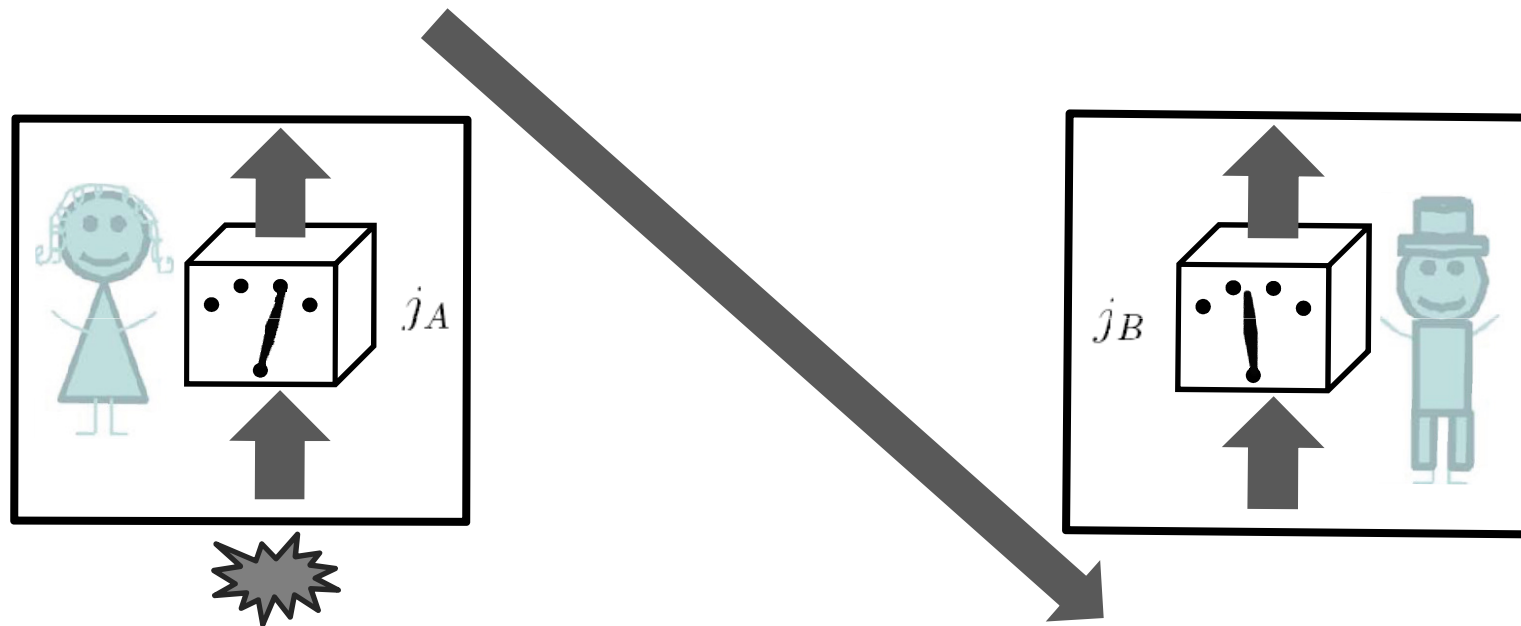


# Channel $B \rightarrow A$



Sending a state from B to A; Possibility of signalling

# Channel $A \rightarrow B$



Sending a state from A to B; Possibility of signalling

Mixtures of different orders also possible

Most general causally separable situation:  
probabilistic mixture of ordered ones:

$$W^{A_1 A_2 B_1 B_2} = q W^{B \not\prec A} + (1 - q) W^{A \not\prec B}$$

↑  
Signalling only from A  
to B or causally  
independent

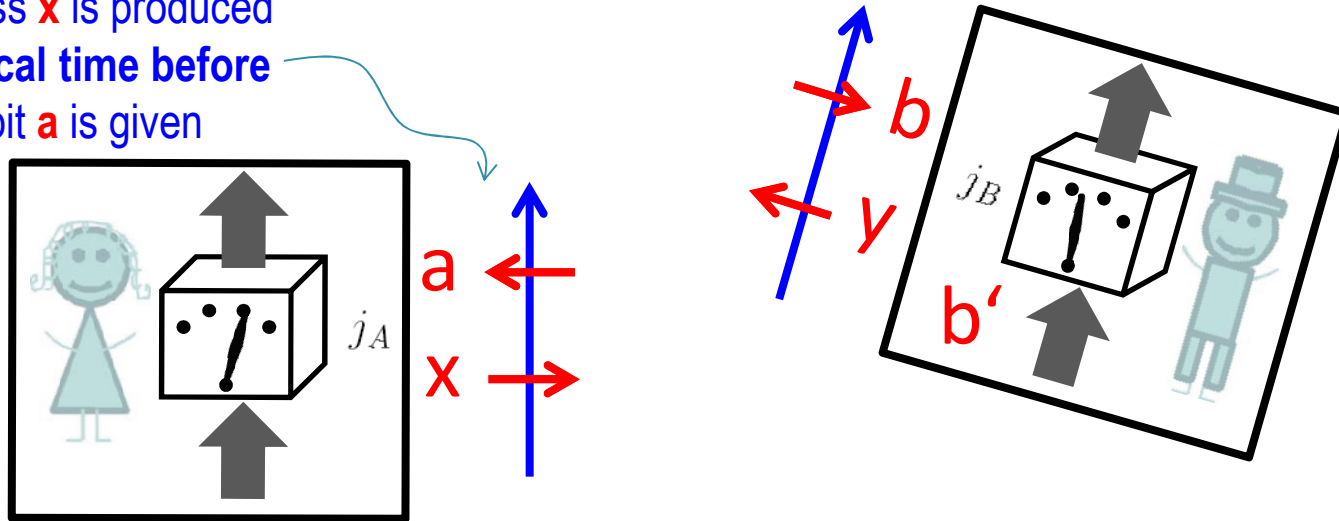
↑  
Signalling only from B  
to A or causally  
independent

Do all possible processes  $W$  respect definite  
causal order?

**NO!**

# Causal Game

Guess  $x$  is produced  
in local time before  
bit  $a$  is given



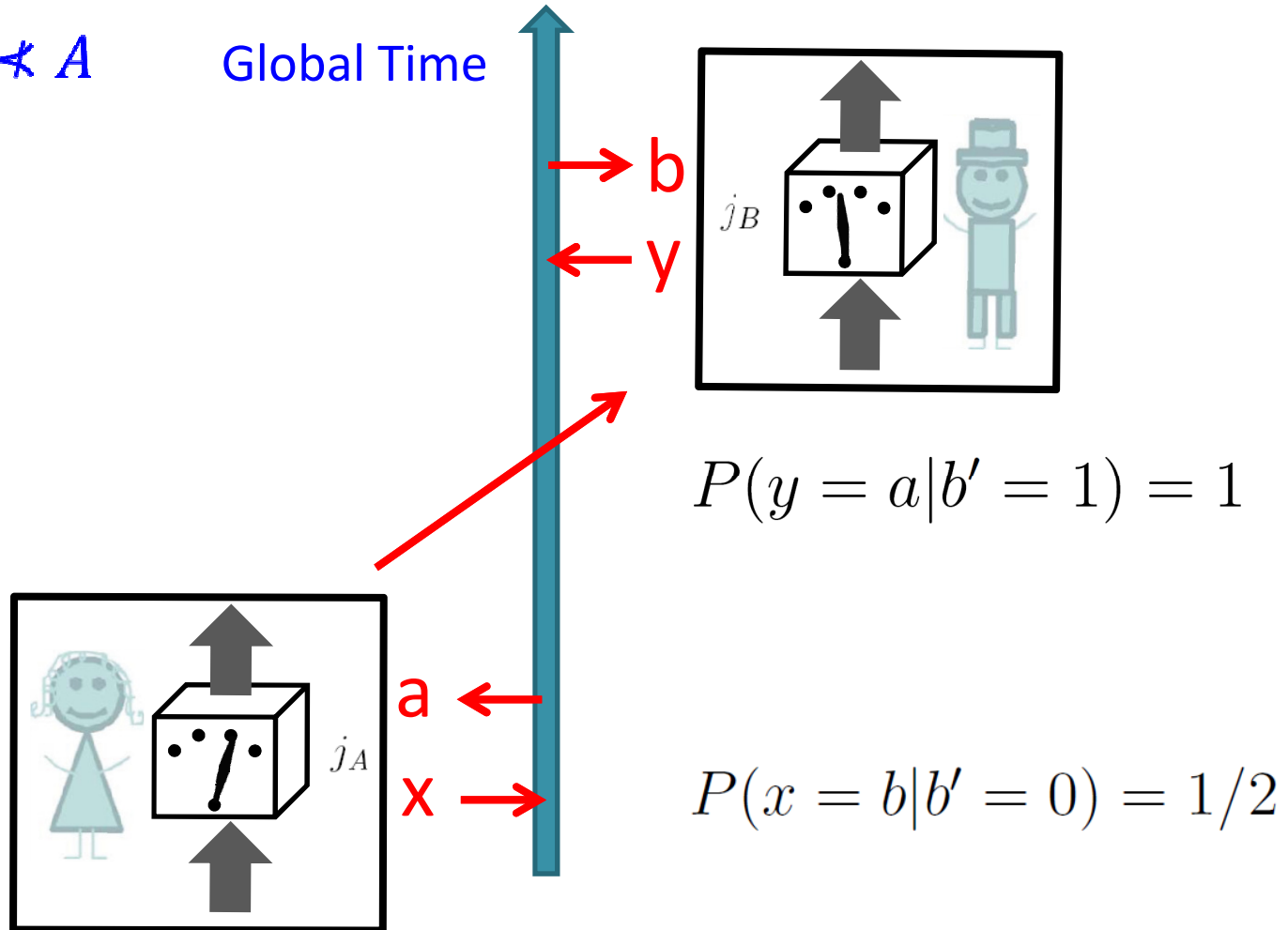
- Alice is given bit  $a$  and Bob bit  $b$ .
- Alice produces  $x$  and Bob  $y$ , which are their best guesses for the value of the bit given to the other.
- Bob is given an additional bit  $b'$  that tells him whether he should guess her bit ( $b'=1$ ) or she should guess his bit ( $b'=0$ ).
- The goal is to maximize the probability for correct guess:

$$p_{succ} := \frac{1}{2} [P(x = b|b' = 0) + P(y = a|b' = 1)]$$

# Causally ordered situation

Case:  $B \not\prec A$

Global Time



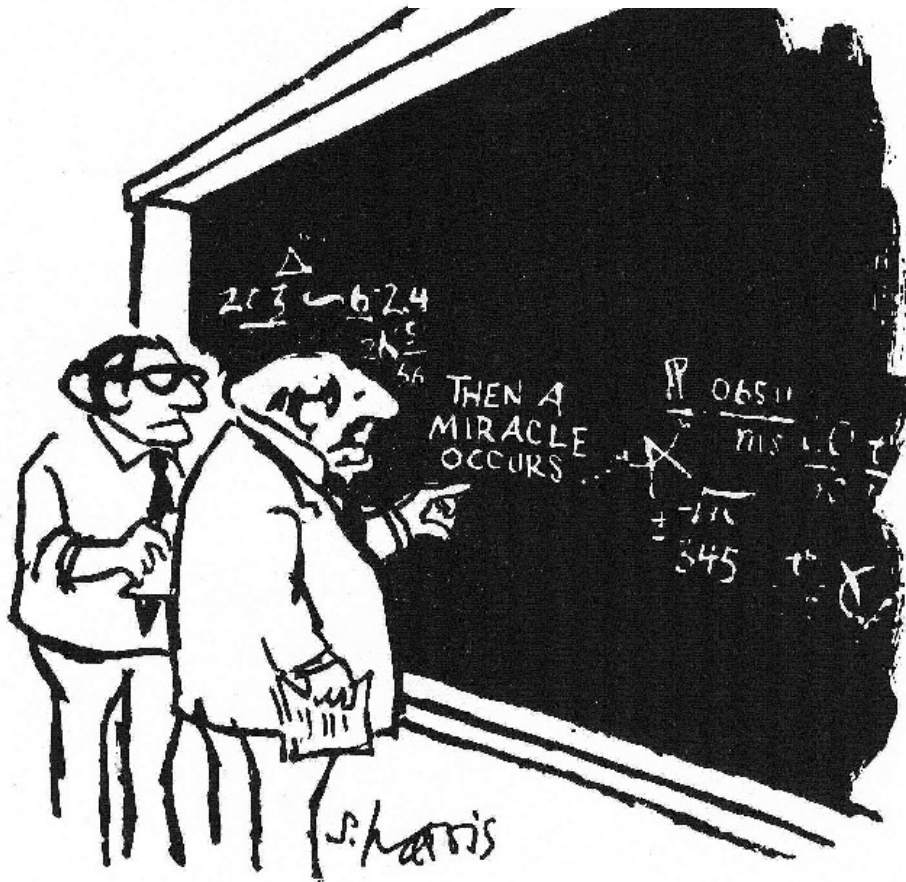
$$P(y = a | b' = 1) = 1$$

$$P(x = b | b' = 0) = 1/2$$

$$p_{succ} = P(x = b | b' = 0) + P(y = a | b' = 1) \leq \frac{3}{4}$$

# Causally non-separable situation

$$W^{A_1 A_2 B_1 B_2} = \frac{1}{4} \left[ \mathbb{1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\sigma_z^{A_1} \sigma_z^{B_2} + \sigma_z^{A_2} \sigma_z^{B_1} \sigma_x^{B_2}) \right]$$



"I think you should be more explicit here in step two."

The probability of success is

$$p_{succ} = \frac{2 + \sqrt{2}}{4} > \frac{3}{4}$$

"Tsirlason bound for non-causal correlations" ??

This process cannot be realized as a probabilistic mixture of causally ordered situations!

## [2] Probing Planck physics with quantum optics



I. Pikovski, M. R. Vanner, M. Aspelmeyer, M. S. Kim and Č. Brukner:  
**Nature Physics** (2012) doi:10.1038/nphys2262

# Experimental quantum gravity?

Effects largely believed to be relevant at the **Planck-scale**:

$$E_{Planck} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar c^5}{G}} = 1.956 \times 10^9 \text{ J}$$

$$\frac{E_{exp}}{E_{Planck}} \approx 10^{-15}$$

High-energy scattering experiments

$$L_{Planck} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar G}{c^3}} = 1.6161 \times 10^{-35} \text{ m}$$

$$\frac{x_{exp}}{L_{Planck}} \approx 10^{17}$$

High-precision quantum metrology

$$m_{Planck} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar c}{G}} = 22 \text{ } \mu\text{g}$$

Optomechanics:

Mirrors can have mass of pg – kg!



# Modified uncertainty relation

- A minimal measurable length scale  $\Delta x_{min} \sim$  Planck-length  $L_p \sim 10^{-35} m$ .
- Thus  $\Delta x \Delta p = \frac{\hbar}{2}$  cannot hold for  $\Delta p \rightarrow \infty$
- Typical modification in QGR:

$$\Delta x \Delta p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \left( 1 + \beta_0 \frac{\Delta p^2}{M_{Pl}^2 c^2} \right)$$

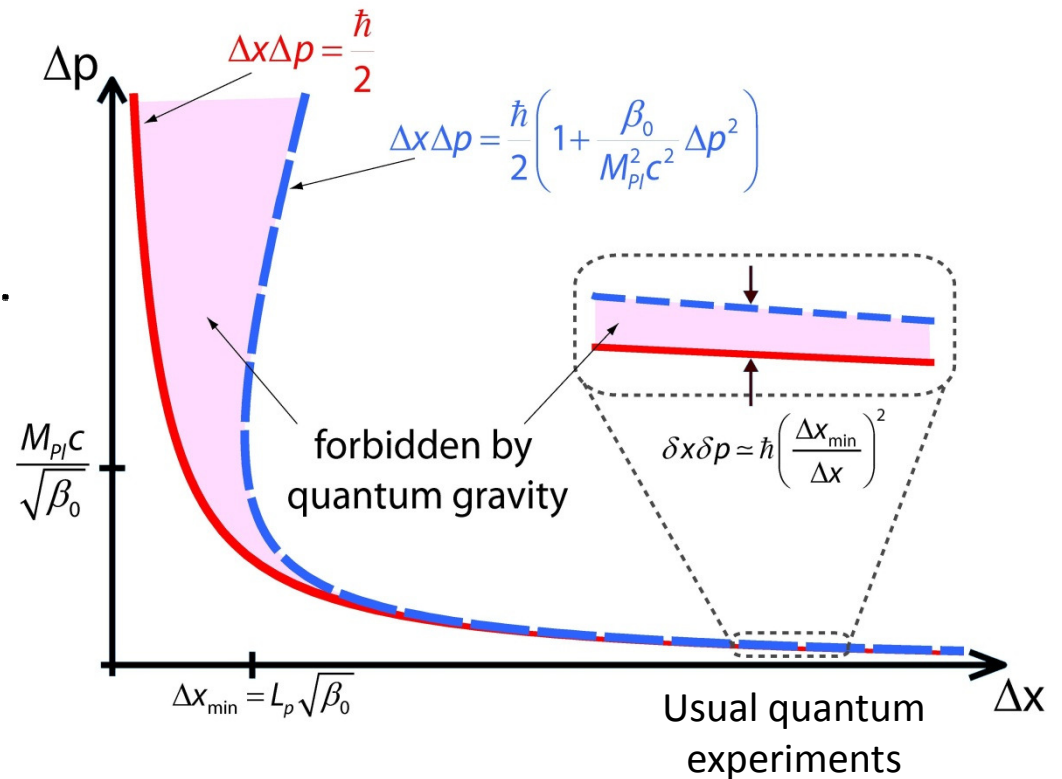
standard QM

(L. Garay, *Int. J. Mod. Phys. A10*, 145 (1995))

Modification:  $M_{Pl} \approx 22 \mu g$   
Planck-mass,  $\beta_0$  dimensionless parameter

Current experimental bound:  $\beta_0 < 10^{33}$

(S. Das & E. C. Vagenas, *PRL* 101, 221301 (2008))



# Possible commutator modifications

$\Delta x \Delta p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} (1 + \beta \Delta p^2)$  implies a modified commutator. E.g.:

- $[\hat{X}, \hat{P}]_{\beta} = i \left( 1 + \beta_0 \frac{\hat{P}^2}{M_{Pl}^2 c^2} \right)$  *(A. Kempf, G. Mangano and R. Mann, PRD, 52, 2 (1995))*
- $[\hat{X}, \hat{P}]_{\mu} = i \sqrt{1 + 2\mu_0 \frac{(\hat{P}/c)^2 + m^2}{M_{Pl}^2}}$  *(M. Maggiore, Phys. Lett. B, 319 (1993))*
- $[\hat{X}, \hat{P}]_{\gamma} = i \left( 1 - \gamma_0 \frac{\hat{P}}{M_{Pl} c} + \gamma_0^2 \frac{\hat{P}^2}{M_{Pl}^2 c^2} \right)$  *(A. F. Ali, S. Das and E. C. Vagenas, Phys. Lett. B, 678 (2009))*

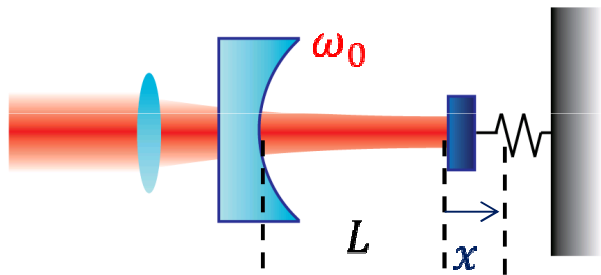
*Note: ground-state  $p_0 = \sqrt{m\omega\hbar}$ , mass-dependent*

# Opto-mechanics

Control of a massive systems with light

Opto-mechanical interaction:

$$\hat{H} = \hbar\omega_m \hat{n}_m + \hbar\omega_0 \hat{n}_L - \hbar g_0 \hat{n}_L \hat{X}_m$$

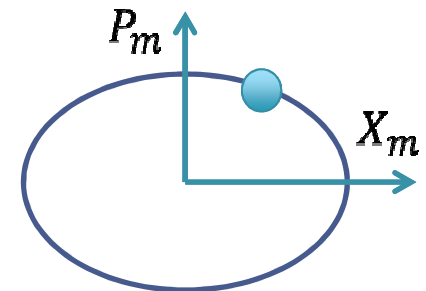


$$g_0 = \frac{\omega_0}{L} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{m\omega_m}} \text{ Opto-mechanical coupling rate}$$

- Pulsed interactions (duration  $\tau \ll \omega_m$ ): *(Vanner, et al., PNAS 108, 16182 (2011))*

$$\hat{H} \approx -\hbar g_0 \hat{n}_L \hat{X}_m$$

- Harmonic evolution:  $\hat{X}_m(t) = \hat{X}_m \cos(\omega_m t) - \hat{P}_m \sin(\omega_m t)$



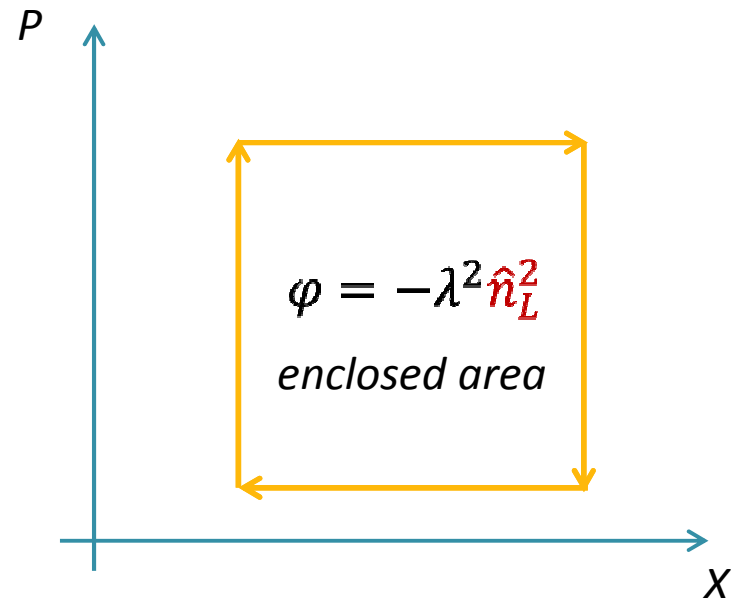
# Loop in a phase space

Displacements of a quantum system around a loop in phase space via an ancillary (light) system:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\xi} &= e^{i\lambda\hat{n}_L\hat{P}} e^{-i\lambda\hat{n}_L\hat{X}} e^{-i\lambda\hat{n}_L\hat{P}} e^{i\lambda\hat{n}_L\hat{X}} \\ &= e^{-i\lambda^2\hat{n}_L^2}\end{aligned}$$

Four pulses separated by  $\omega_m t = \pi/2$ :

- Resulting phase changes the ancilla, but is state-independent
- Mechanics remains unaffected, and is fully disentangled from the ancilla



# Phase due to QG

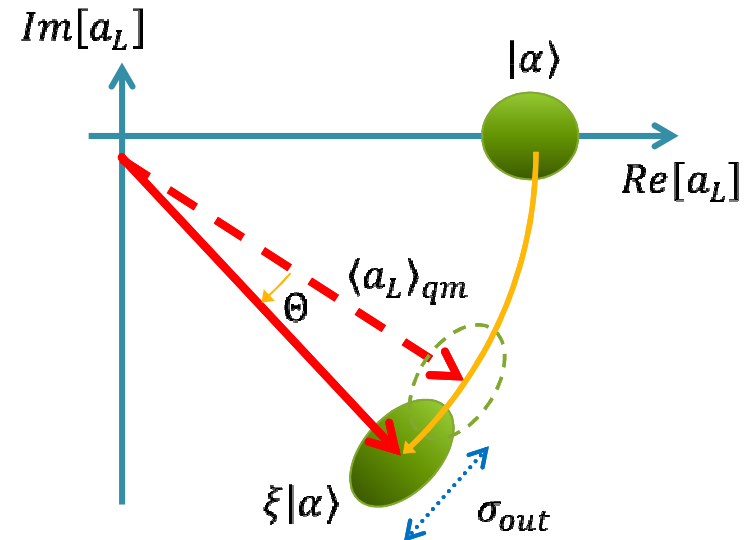
$$\hat{\xi} = e^{i\lambda\hat{n}_L\hat{P}} e^{-i\lambda\hat{n}_L\hat{X}} e^{-i\lambda\hat{n}_L\hat{P}} e^{i\lambda\hat{n}_L\hat{X}} = e^{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-i\lambda\hat{n}_L)^{k+1}}{k!} [\hat{X}, \hat{P}]_k}$$

where  $[\hat{X}, \hat{P}]_k \equiv [\hat{X}, [\hat{X}, \dots, \hat{P}]]_k$

- QM:  $[\hat{X}, \hat{P}] = i \Rightarrow \hat{\xi}_{QM} = e^{-i\lambda^2\hat{n}_L^2}$
- QG:  $[\hat{X}, \hat{P}] = i F(\hat{X}, \hat{P})$

Any arbitrary deformed algebra will show in  $\hat{\xi}$ !

By measuring the ancilla (initially in  $|\alpha\rangle$ ) one can obtain a measure of the commutator.



$$\langle \hat{a}_L \rangle = \langle \alpha | \hat{\xi}^\dagger \hat{a}_L \hat{\xi} | \alpha \rangle \cong \langle \hat{a}_L \rangle_{QM} e^{-i \Theta([\hat{X}, \hat{P}]_{mod})}$$

Example:  $\Theta(\beta) \simeq \frac{4}{3} \beta N_p^3 \lambda^4 e^{-i6\lambda^2}$

**Table 2 | Experimental parameters to measure quantum gravitational deformations of the canonical commutator.**

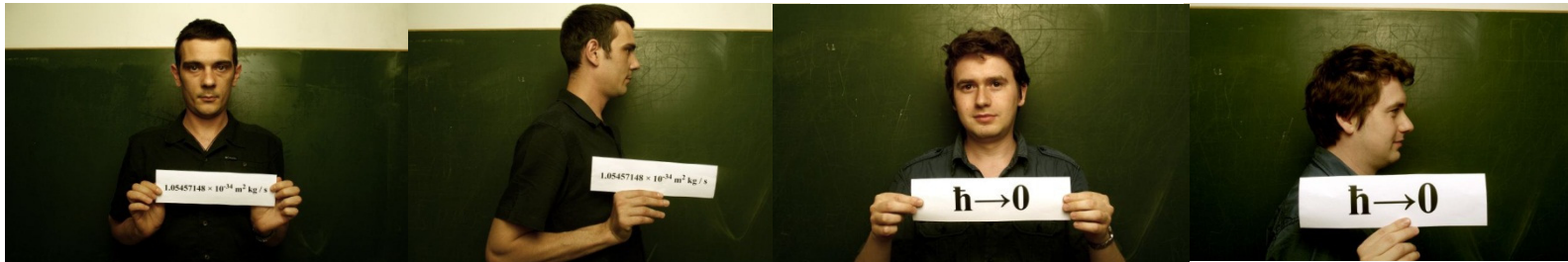
	$[X_m, P_m]$	Equation (2)	Equation (3)	Equation (1)
	$ \Theta $	$\mu_0 \frac{32\hbar \mathcal{F}^2 m N_p}{M_p^2 \lambda_L^2 \omega_m}$	$\gamma_0 \frac{96\hbar^2 \mathcal{F}^3 N_p^2}{M_p c \lambda_L^3 m \omega_m}$	$\beta_0 \frac{1024\hbar^3 \mathcal{F}^4 N_p^3}{3M_p^2 c^2 \lambda_L^4 m \omega_m}$
Finesse	$\mathcal{F}$	$10^5$	$2 \times 10^5$	$4 \times 10^5$
Mass	$m$	$10^{-11}$ kg	$10^{-9}$ kg	$10^{-7}$ kg
Mech. Frequency	$\omega_m/2\pi$	$10^5$ Hz	$10^5$ Hz	$10^5$ Hz
Optical wavelength	$\lambda_L$	1,064 nm	1,064 nm	532 nm
Photon number	$N_p$	$10^8$	$5 \times 10^{10}$	$10^{14}$
Measurement runs	$N_r$	1	$10^5$	$10^6$
Measur. precision	$\delta\langle\Phi\rangle$	$10^{-4}$	$10^{-8}$	$10^{-10}$

The parameters are chosen such that a precision of  $\delta\mu_0 \sim 1$ ,  $\delta\gamma_0 \sim 1$  and  $\delta\beta_0 \sim 1$  can be achieved, which amounts to measuring Planck-scale deformations.

# Quantum Information Meets Gravity

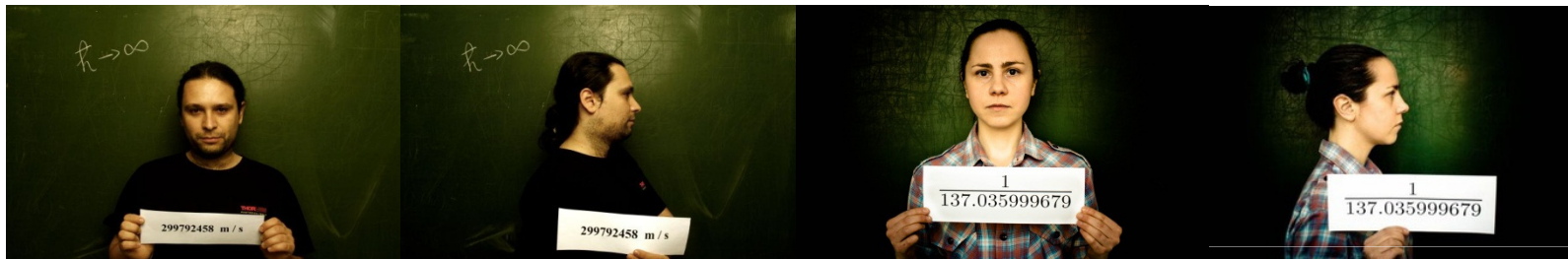
## Summary

1. New paradigm for tests of genuine general relativistic effects in quantum mechanics:
  - **Drop in the visibility of quantum interference due to gravitational time dilation**
2. Quantum formalism for indefinite causal structures
  - **Quantum correlations with no-causal order**
3. Possibility to probe phenomenological predictions of quantum gravity in massive quantum systems:
  - **Measurement of the deformation of commutation relation of the center-of-mass modes**



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Thank you for your attention

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