

**LESS REALITY MORE SECURITY**

**Artur Ekert  
Mathematical Institute  
University of Oxford**

# The story of worry...

MAY 15, 1935

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 47

## Can Quantum-Mechanical Description of Physical Reality Be Considered Complete?

A. EINSTEIN, B. PODOLSKY AND N. ROSEN, *Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey*

(Received March 25, 1935)

In a complete theory there is an element corresponding to each element of reality. A sufficient condition for the reality of a physical quantity is the possibility of predicting it with certainty, without disturbing the system. In quantum mechanics in the case of two physical quantities described by non-commuting operators, the knowledge of one precludes the knowledge of the other. Then either (1) the description of reality given by the wave function in

quantum mechanics is not complete or (2) these two quantities cannot have simultaneous reality. Consideration of the problem of making predictions concerning a system on the basis of measurements made on another system that had previously interacted with it leads to the result that if (1) is false then (2) is also false. One is thus led to conclude that the description of reality as given by a wave function is not complete.

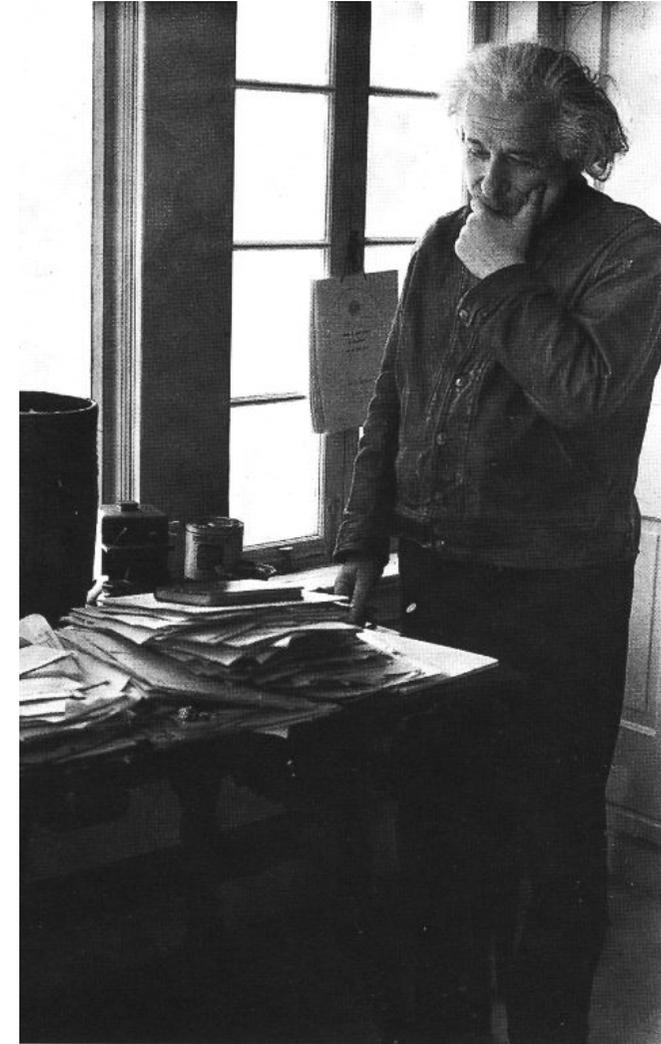
### I.

ANY serious consideration of a physical theory must take into account the distinction between the objective reality, which is independent of any theory, and the physical concepts with which the theory operates. These concepts are intended to correspond with the objective reality, and by means of these concepts we picture this reality to ourselves.

In attempting to judge the success of a physical theory, we may ask ourselves two questions: (1) "Is the theory correct?" and (2) "Is the description given by the theory complete?" It is only in the case in which positive answers may be given to both of these questions, that the concepts of the theory may be said to be satisfactory. The correctness of the theory is judged by the degree of agreement between the conclusions of the theory and human experience. This experience, which alone enables us to make inferences about reality, in physics takes the form of experiment and measurement. It is the second question that we wish to consider here, as applied to quantum mechanics.

Whatever the meaning assigned to the term *complete*, the following requirement for a complete theory seems to be a necessary one: *every element of the physical reality must have a counterpart in the physical theory*. We shall call this the condition of completeness. The second question is thus easily answered, as soon as we are able to decide what are the elements of the physical reality.

The elements of the physical reality cannot be determined by *a priori* philosophical considerations, but must be found by an appeal to results of experiments and measurements. A comprehensive definition of reality is, however, unnecessary for our purpose. We shall be satisfied with the following criterion, which we regard as reasonable. *If, without in any way disturbing a system, we can predict with certainty (i.e., with probability equal to unity) the value of a physical quantity, then there exists an element of physical reality corresponding to this physical quantity*. It seems to us that this criterion, while far from exhausting all possible ways of recognizing a physical reality, at least provides us with one



# The story of secrecy...

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**Alice**



**Bob**



**Eavesdropper**

# Is there a perfect cipher ?

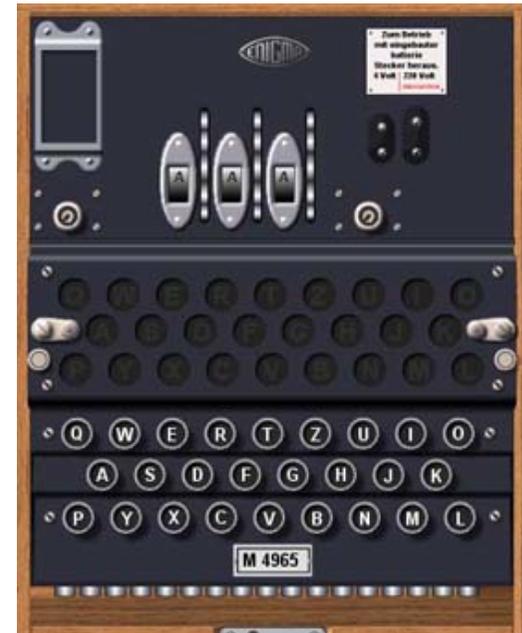
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**SCYTALE 400BC**

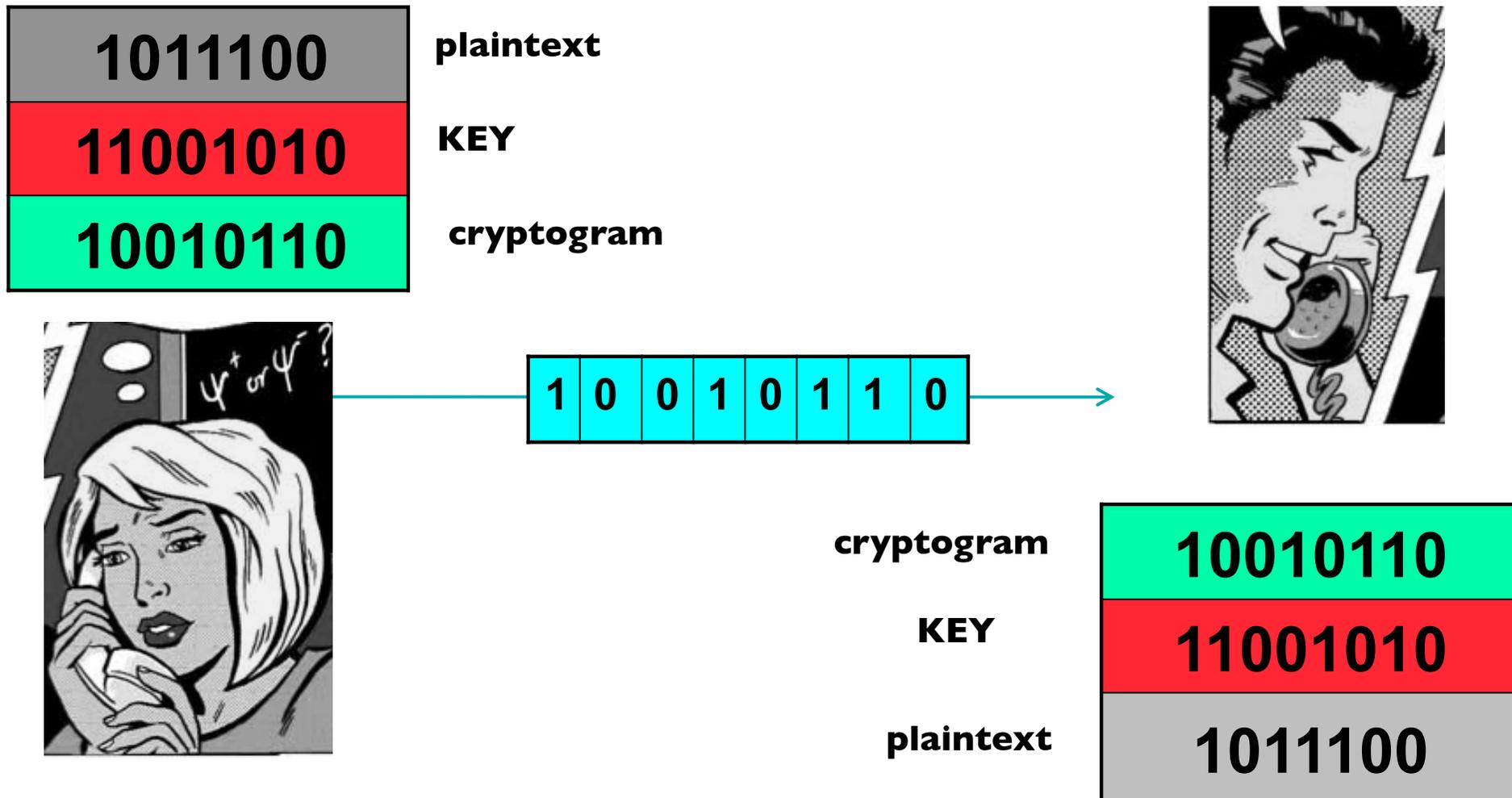


**ALBERTI'S DISC 1450**



**ENIGMA 1940**

# One-time pad



# Key distribution problem

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KEY	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
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KEY	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

# Possible solutions

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**PUBLIC KEY CRYPTOGRAPHY**

**SECURITY BASED ON COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY  
CAN BE BROKEN BY QUANTUM COMPUTERS**

**QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY**

**SECURITY BASED ON QUANTUM PHENOMENA**

**POST-QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY**

**SECURITY BASED ON NON-LOCALITY**

# Origins of quantum cryptography

**PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS**

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**Quantum Cryptography Based on Bell's Theorem**

Artur K. Ekert  
*Merton College and Physics Department, Oxford OX1 3PU, United Kingdom*  
 (Received 18 April 1991)

Practical application of the generalized Bell's theorem in the so-called key distribution process in cryptography is reported. The proposed scheme is based on the Bohm's version of the Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen experiment and Bell's theorem is used to test for eavesdropping.

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QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY: PUBLIC KEY DISTRIBUTION AND COIN TOSsing

Charles H. Bennett (IBM Research, Yorktown Heights NY 10598 USA)  
 Gilles Brassard (Dept. 180, Univ. de Montreal, 93C 3J7 Canada)

When elementary quantum systems, such as polarized photons, are used to transmit digital information, the uncertainty principle gives rise to novel cryptographic phenomena unachievable with traditional transmission media, e.g., a communication channel. It is impossible to counterfeit, and multiplying two or three messages in such a way that reading one destroys the others. More recently (1989), quantum coding has been used in conjunction with conjugate coding.

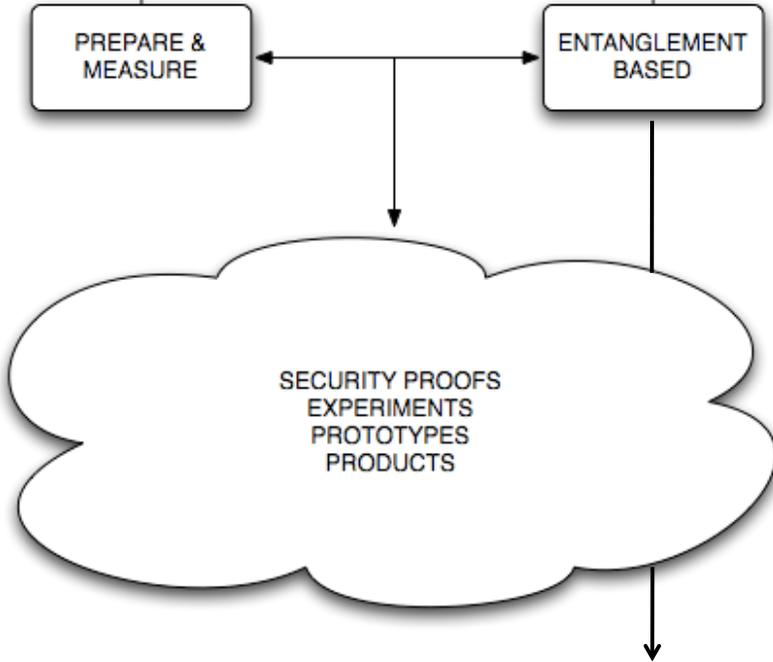
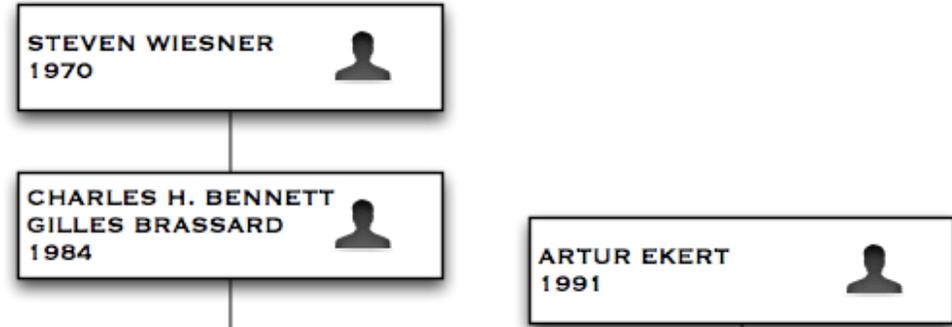
Submitted to IEEE, Information Theory ca 1970. Later published in Sigact News 15:1, 79-88 (1988)

This paper treats a class of codes made possible by restrictions on measurement related to the uncertainty principle. Two concrete examples and some general results are given.

conjugate Coding  
 Stephen Wiesner  
 Columbia University, New York, N.Y.  
 Department of Physics

The uncertainty principle imposes restrictions on the capacity of certain types of communication channels. This paper will show that in compensation for this "quantum noise", quantum mechanics allows us novel forms of coding without analogue in communication channels adequately described by classical physics.

\* Research supported in part by the National Science Foundation.



Device independence etc

# Connections

MAY 15, 1935

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### 1.

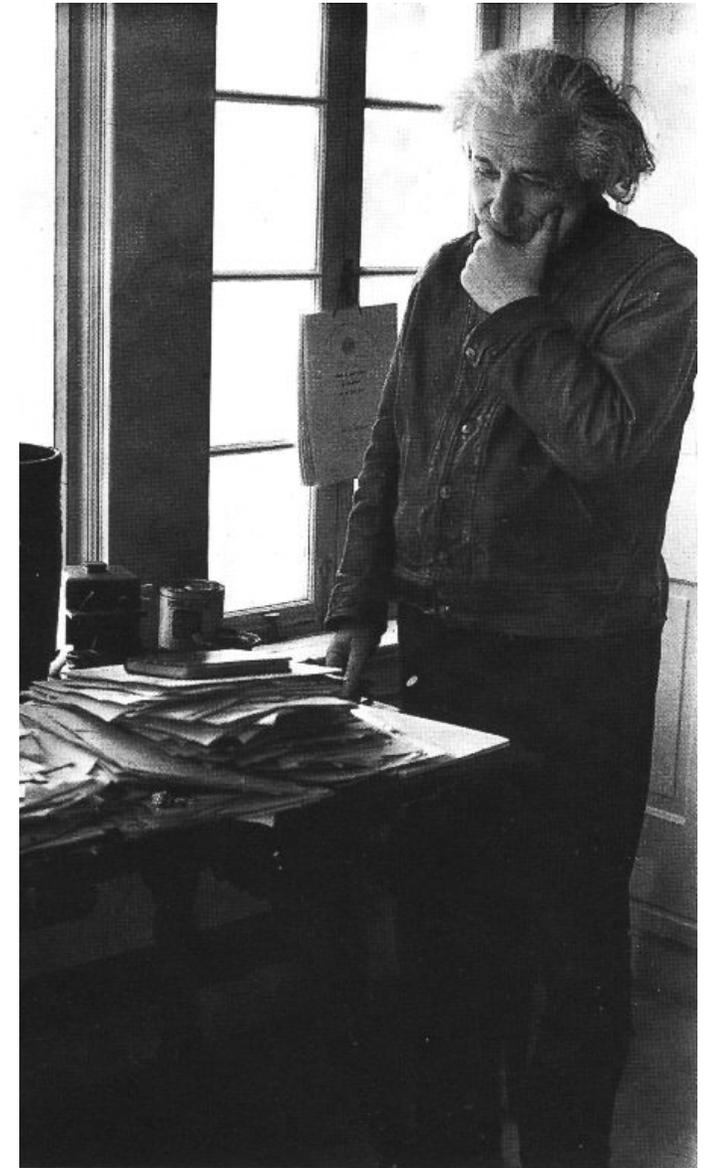
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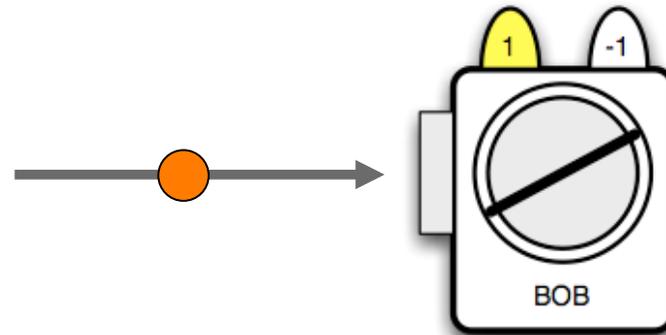
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## DEFINITION OF EAVESDROPPING

# Polarization

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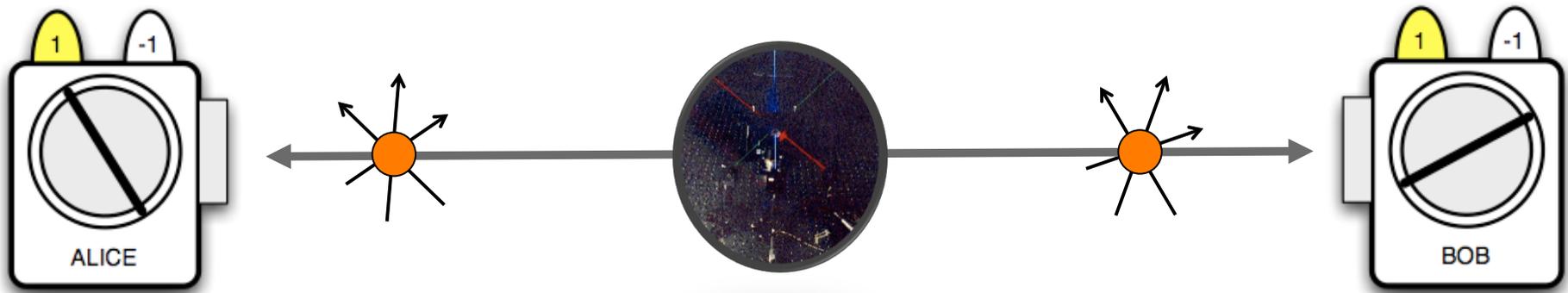
**POLARIZATION IS AN INTRINSIC PROPERTY OF A PHOTON**

**WE CANNOT JUST “MEASURE POLARIZATION” - WE CAN ONLY MEASURE POLARIZATION WITH RESPECT TO SOME SPECIFIED DIRECTION**

**IN ANY MEASUREMENT WE CAN GET ONLY TWO RESULTS: +1 OR -1**

# Local realism

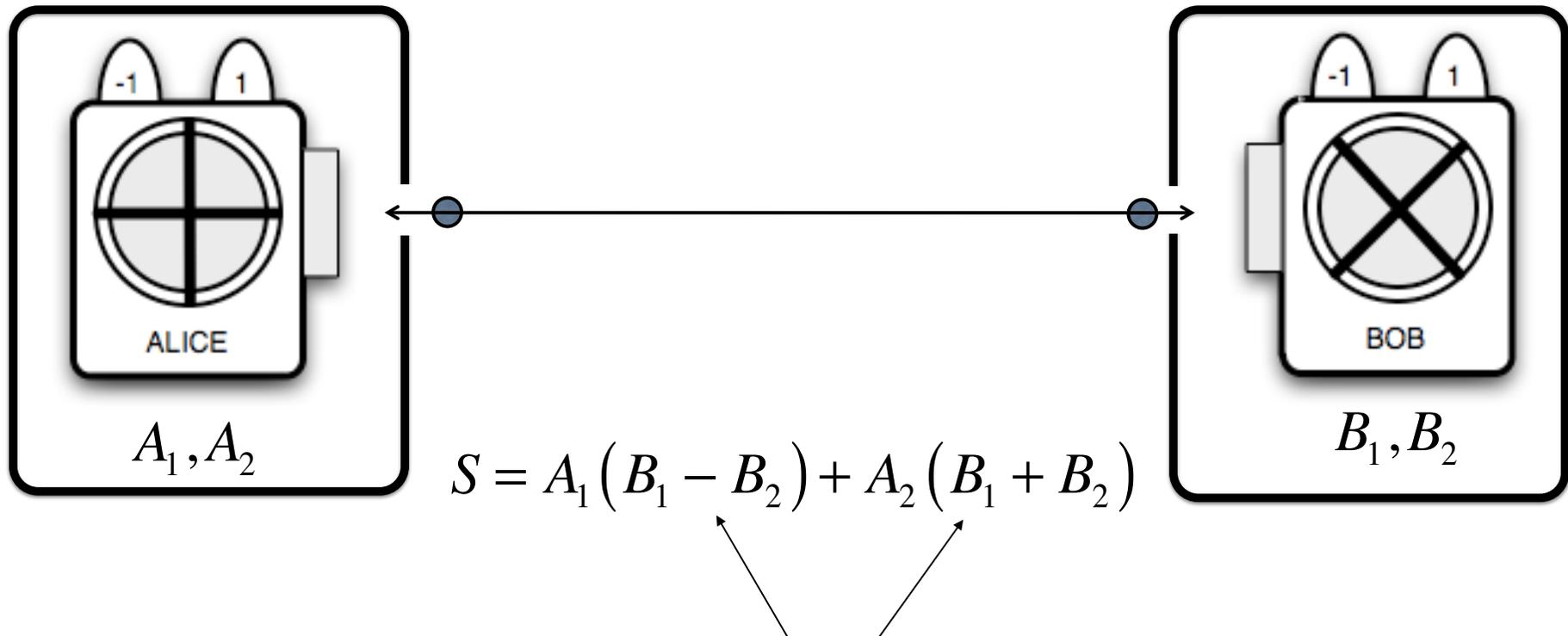
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**Do photons have predetermined values of polarizations?**

# Local realism is testable

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One of these terms is 0 and the other is  $\pm 2$

$$S = \pm 2 \quad \text{hence} \quad -2 \leq \langle S \rangle \leq 2$$

# Quantum theory versus local realism

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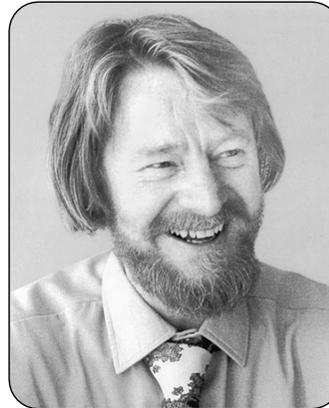
Physics Vol. 1, No. 3, pp. 195–200, 1964 Physics Publishing Co. Printed in the United States

## ON THE EINSTEIN PODOLSKY ROSEN PARADOX\*

J. S. BELL†

*Department of Physics, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin*

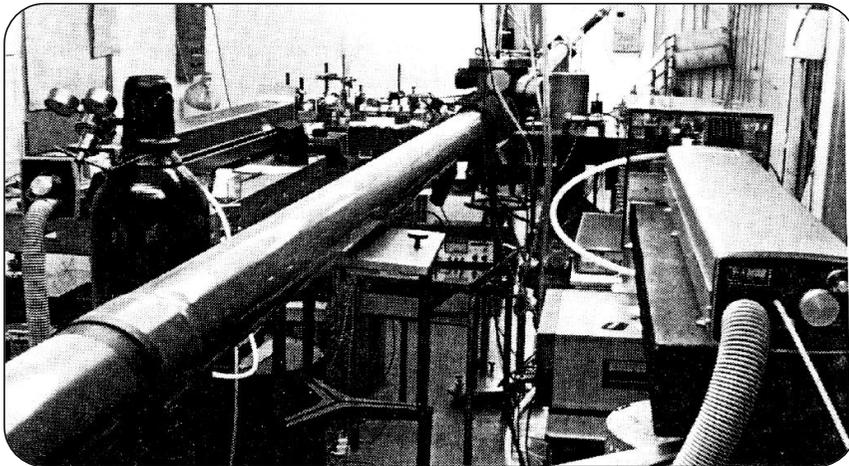
*(Received 4 November 1964)*



**John S. Bell**

**LOCAL REALISM IS TESTABLE**

**1964**



**Institut d'Optique d'Orsay (1982)**



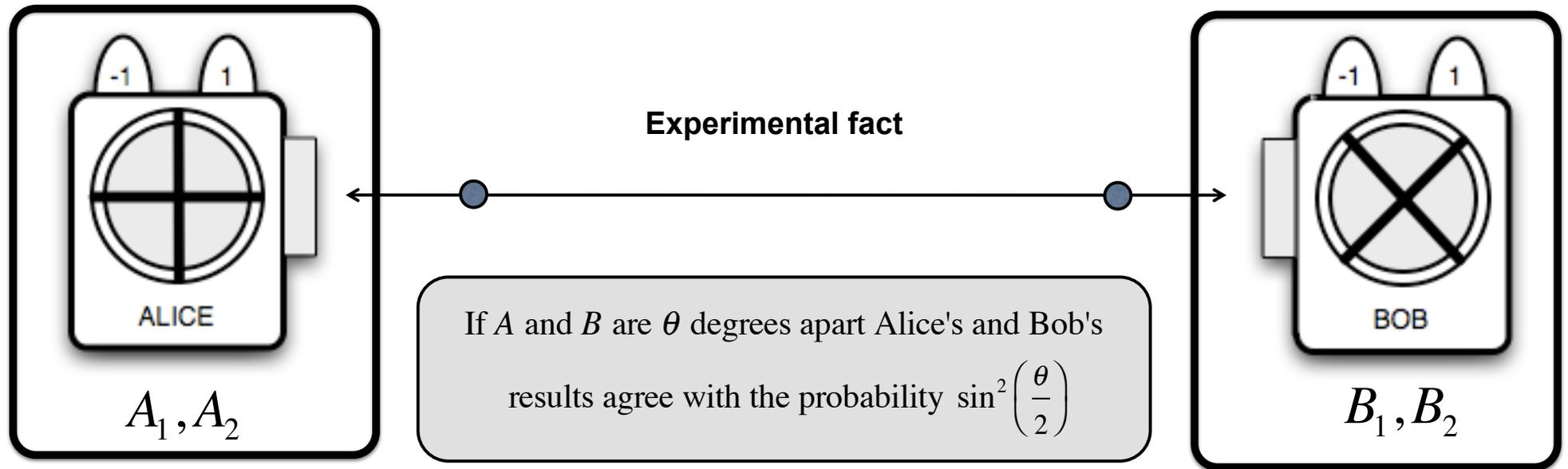
**Alain Aspect**

**LOCAL REALISM IS REFUTED**

**J.F. Clauser, S.J. Freedman,  
E.S. Fry, A. Aspect, P. Grangier,  
G. Roger...**

**1972-1982**

# Local realism is refuted



Results agree:

$$AB = 1$$

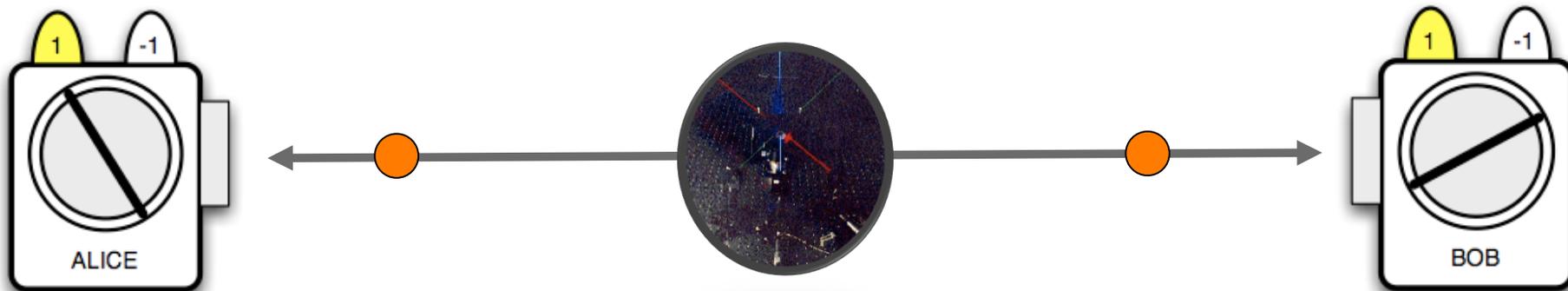
Results disagree:

$$AB = -1$$

$$\langle AB \rangle = \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) - \cos^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) = -\cos\theta$$

$$-2\sqrt{2} \leq \langle A_1 B_1 \rangle - \langle A_1 B_2 \rangle + \langle A_2 B_1 \rangle + \langle A_2 B_2 \rangle \leq 2\sqrt{2}$$

# Less reality more security



**PHOTONS DO NOT CARRY PREDETERMINED VALUES OF POLARIZATIONS**

**IF THE VALUES DID NOT EXIST PRIOR TO MEASUREMENTS THEY WERE NOT AVAILABLE TO ANYBODY INCLUDING EAVESDROPPERS**

**TESTING FOR THE VIOLATION OF BELL'S INEQUALITIES = TESTING FOR EAVESDROPPING**

# Quantum Key Distribution

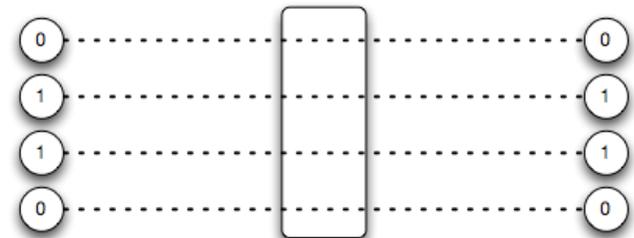
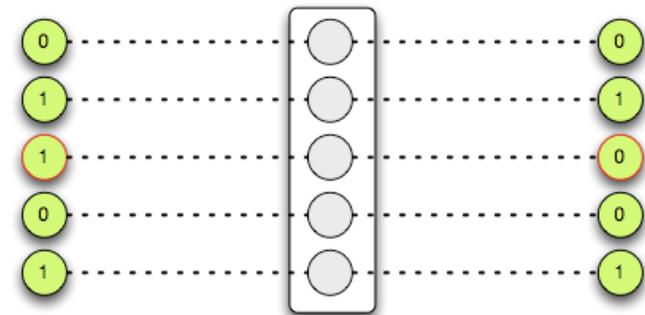
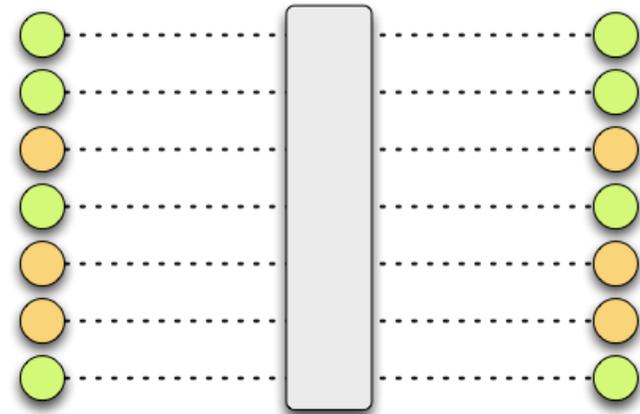
Alice and Bob hold  $N$  bipartite quantum subsystems e.g. pairs of entangled qubits that can be provided by Eve

Parameter estimation bounds Eve's information

Alice and Bob measure qubits in a prescribed basis and obtain two partially correlated strings  $X$  and  $Y$

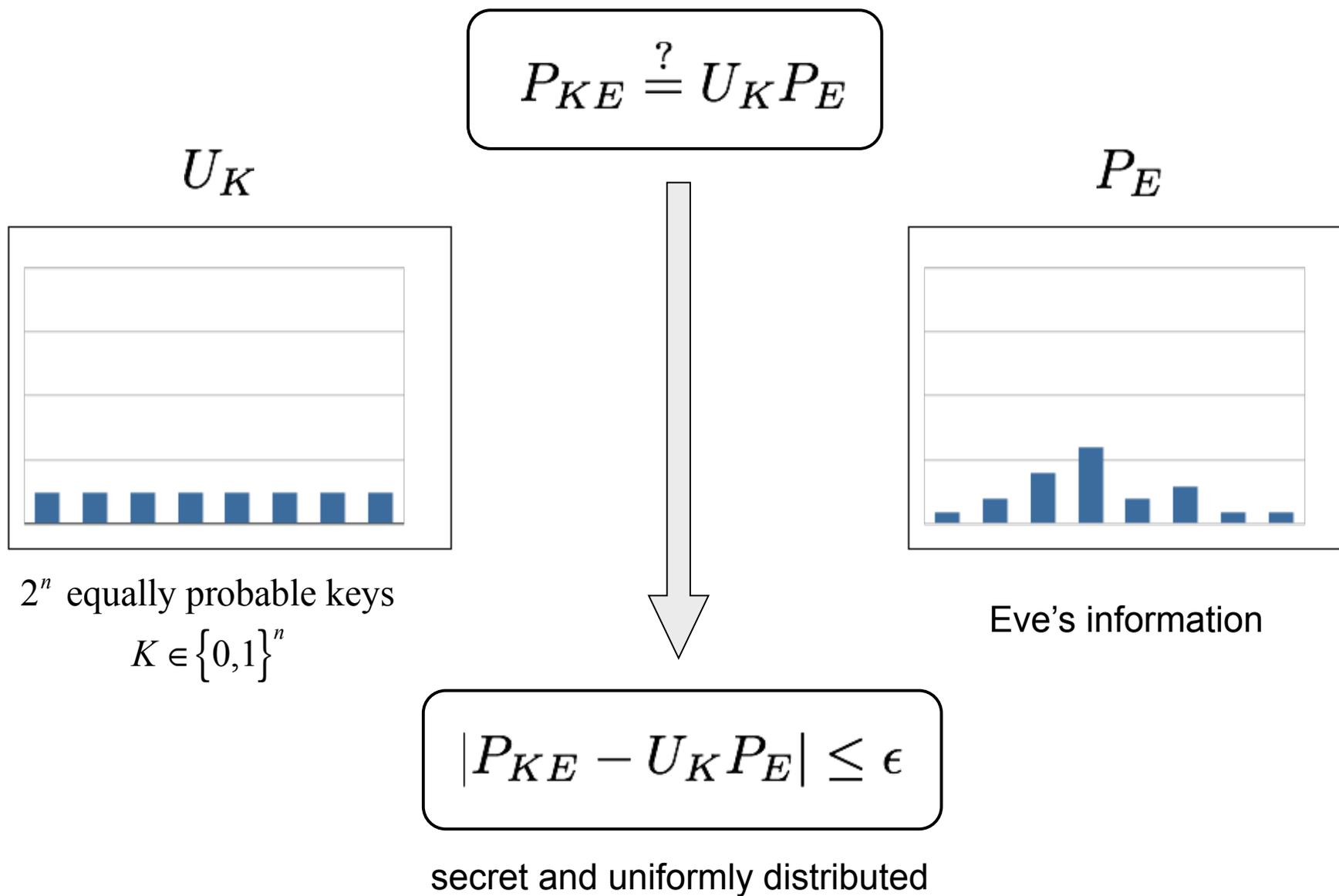
Error correction and privacy amplification

THE KEY

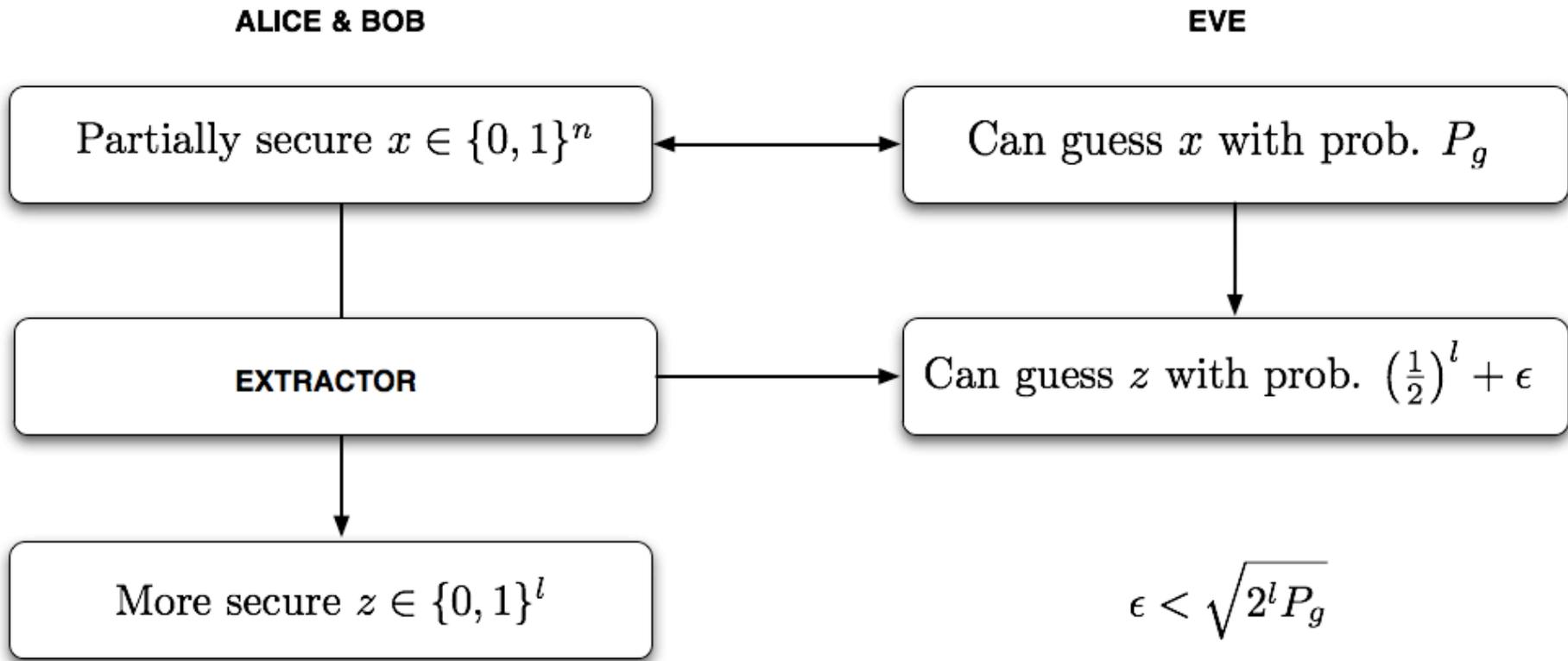


# Security defined

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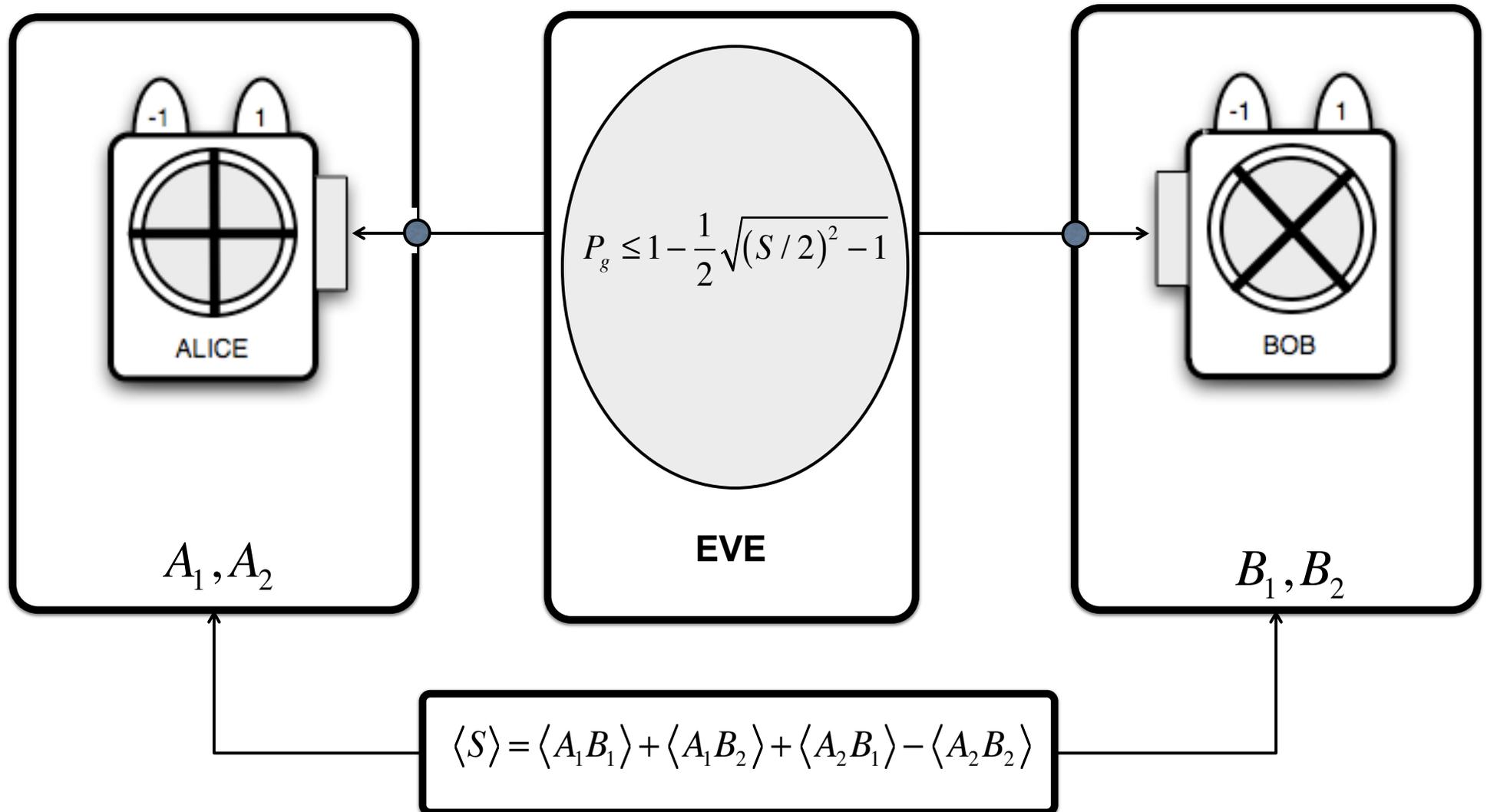


# Intuition quantified



$$\epsilon \leq \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k-l}} \quad P_g = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k$$

# Bell inequalities and security



# Bell's inequality & security revisited



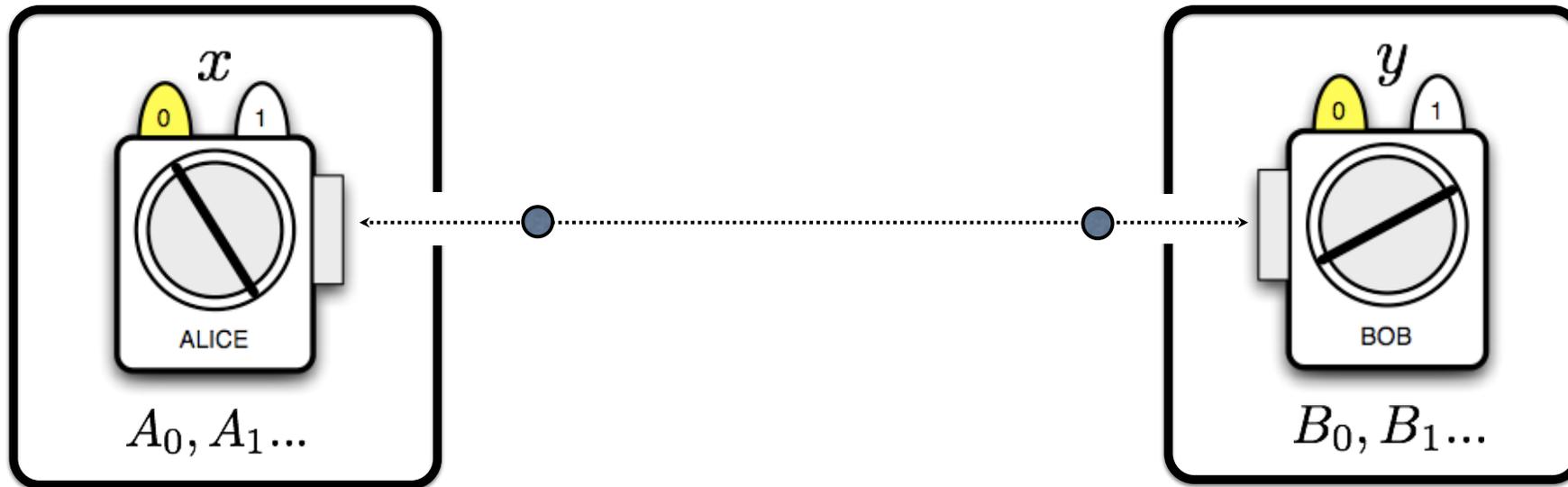
$$\langle S \rangle = \langle A_1 B_1 \rangle + \langle A_1 B_2 \rangle + \langle A_2 B_1 \rangle - \langle A_2 B_2 \rangle$$

+1            +1            +1            -1

Does nature allow such correlations?

# No spooky action at a distance

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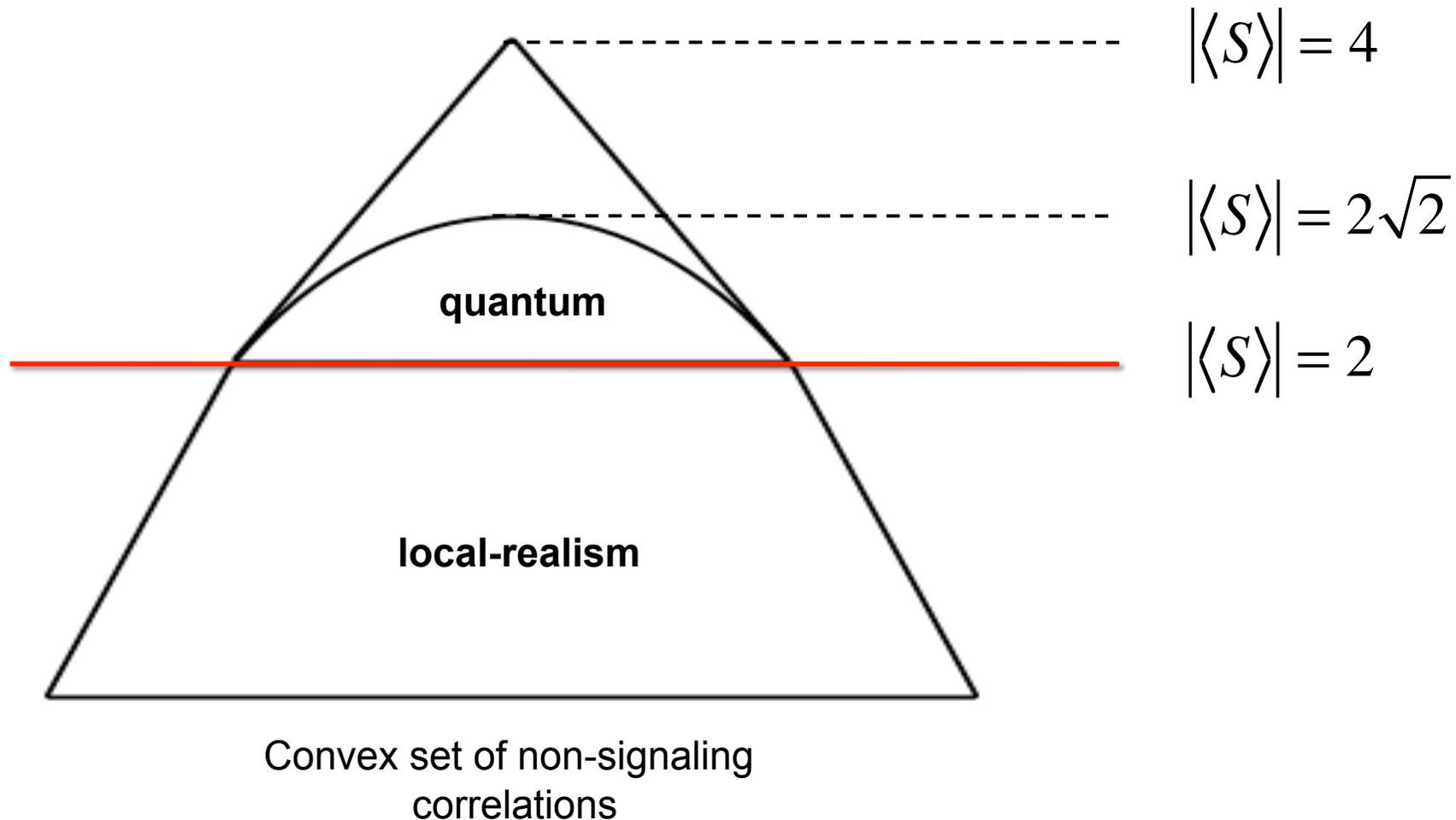


$$\sum_y P(x, y | A, B) = P(x | A, \cancel{B})$$

$$\sum_x P(x, y | A, B) = P(y | \cancel{A}, B)$$

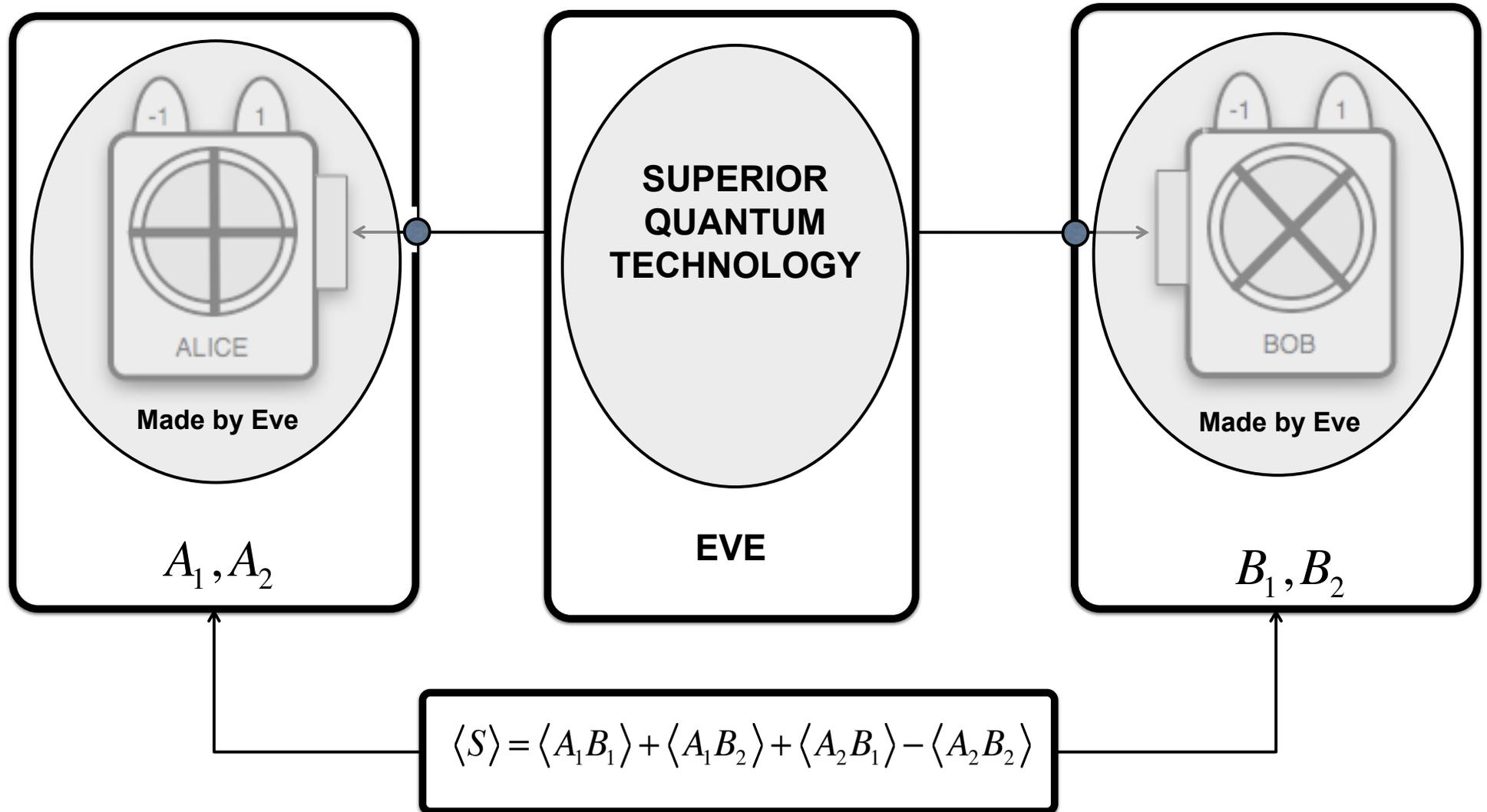
# Correlations galore

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$$S = \langle A_1 B_1 \rangle + \langle A_1 B_2 \rangle + \langle A_2 B_1 \rangle - \langle A_2 B_2 \rangle$$

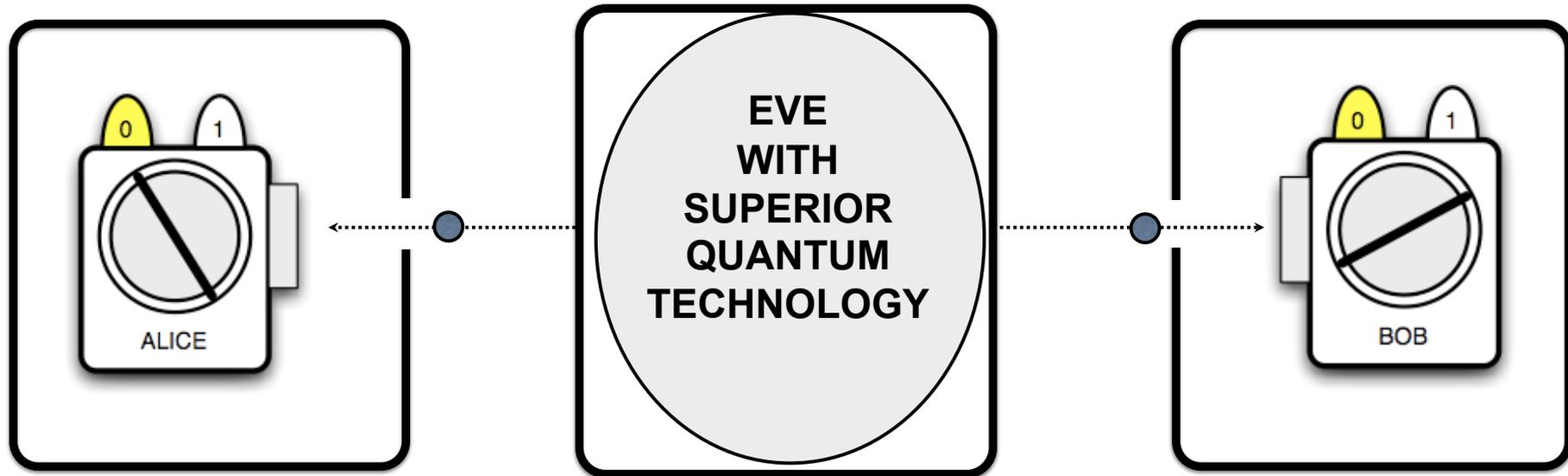
# Device independent



LOOPHOLE FREE VIOLATION OF BELL'S INEQUALITY ESSENTIAL

# Assumptions

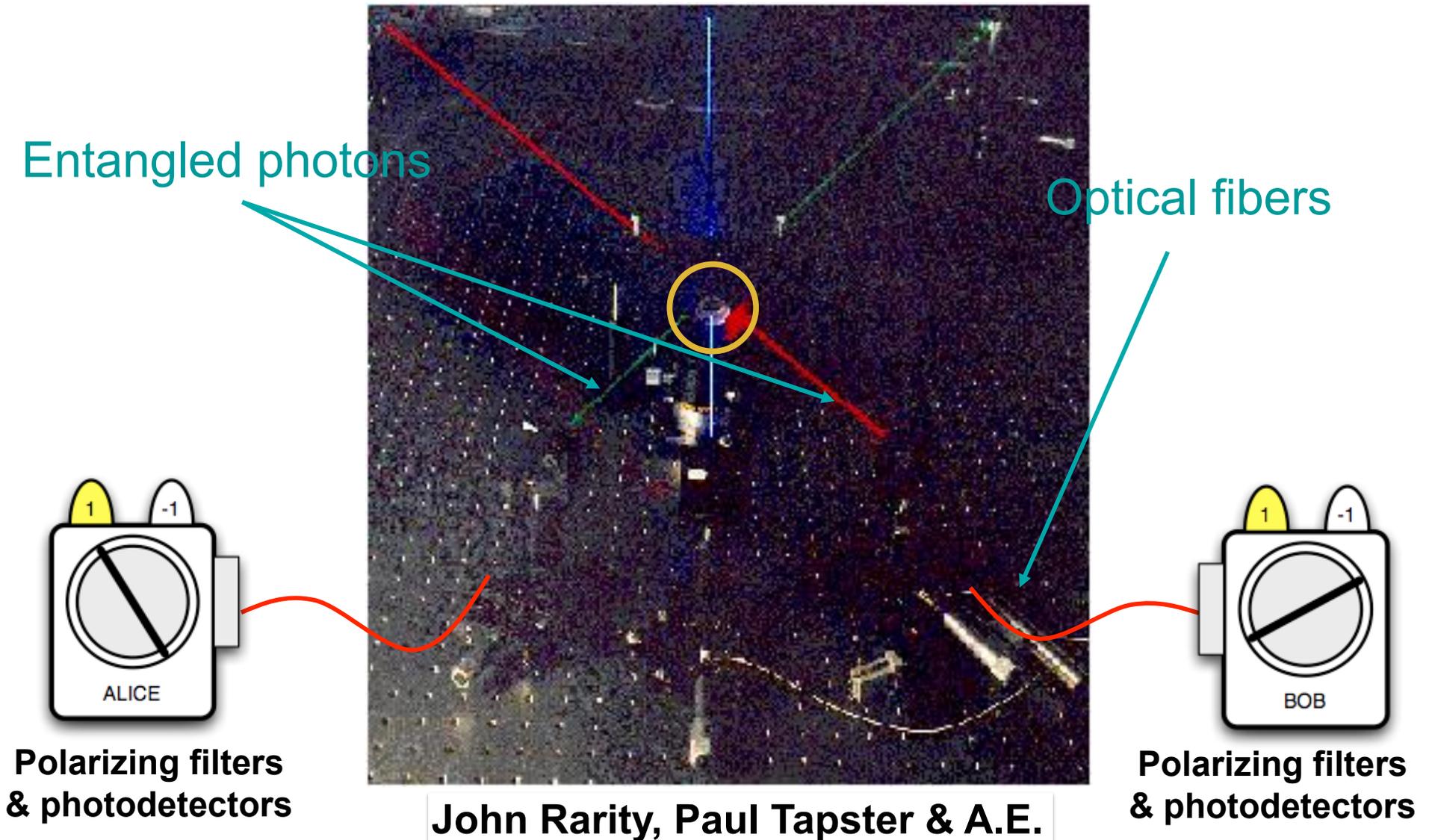
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- Alice's and Bob's labs are secure - no information leaks
- Alice and Bob have free will and can **choose** their observables
- Alice and Bob control and trust devices in their labs
- Alice and Bob know the carriers, e.g. dimensionality of associated Hilbert space

# Early days: DRA Malvern – Oxford 1990

## Parametric down conversion



# Quantum cryptography today...



Presenting the first commercial quantum cryptography solutions.

MagiQ QPN QPN datasheet

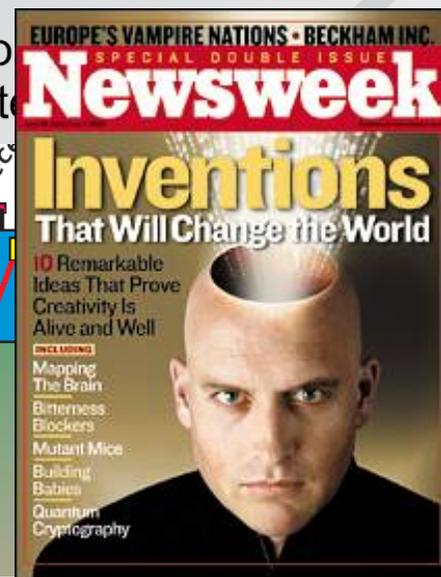
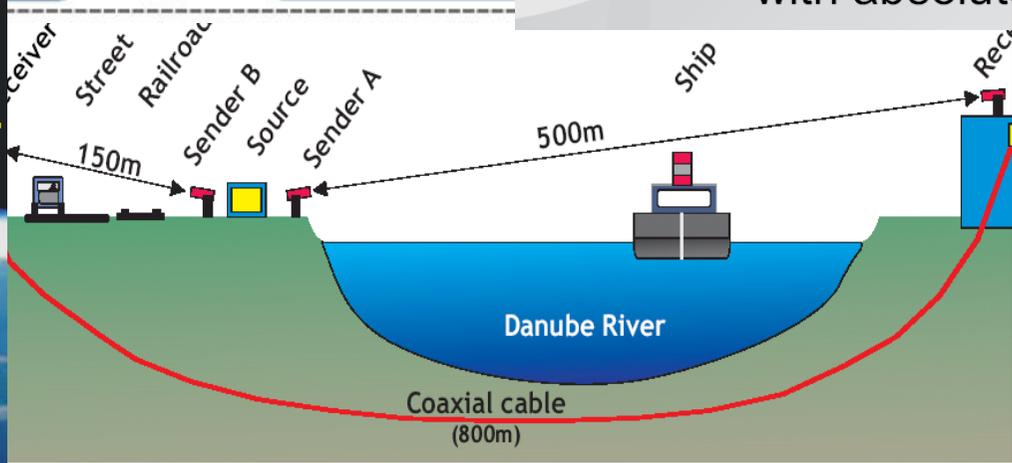
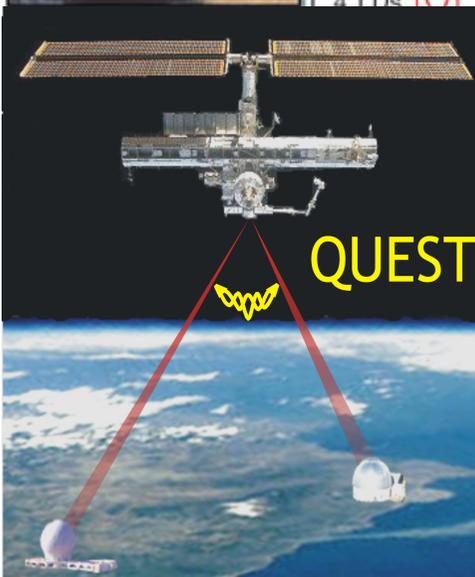
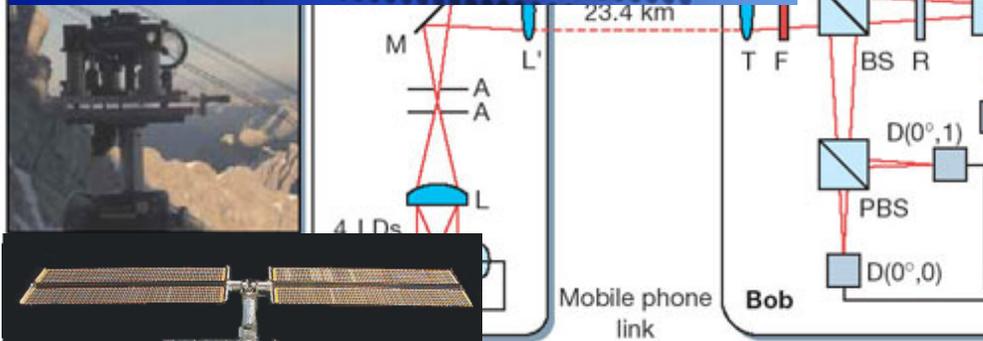
Q-Box Q-box datasheet



Quantum Security...  
at last  
Quantum Cryptography System

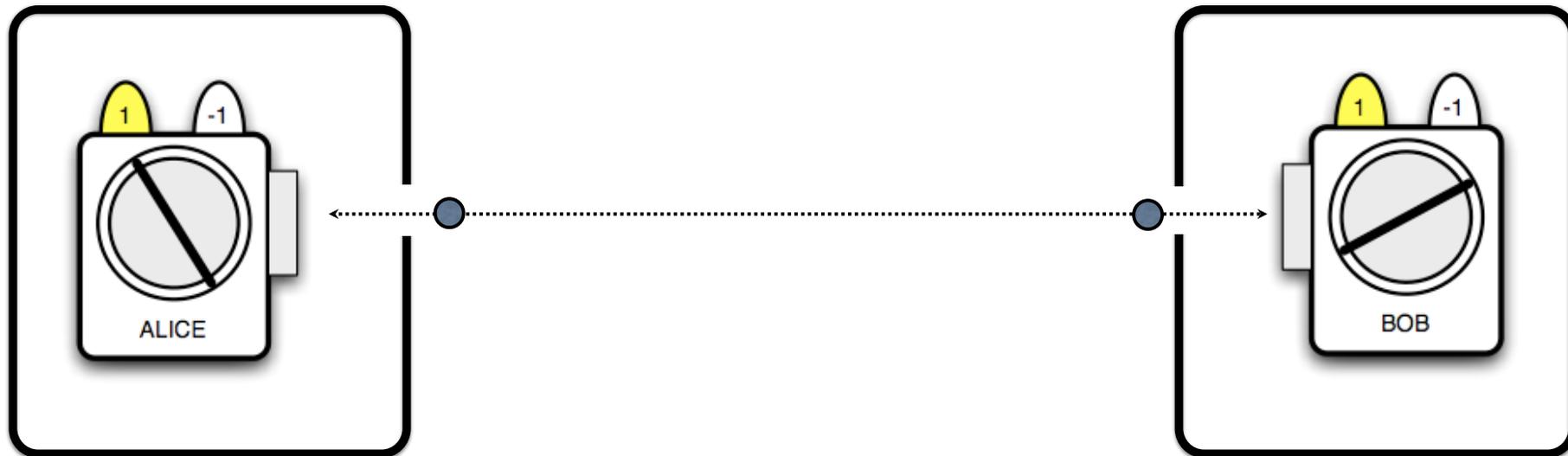


Communicating over o  
with absolute



# Post-quantum crypto tomorrow

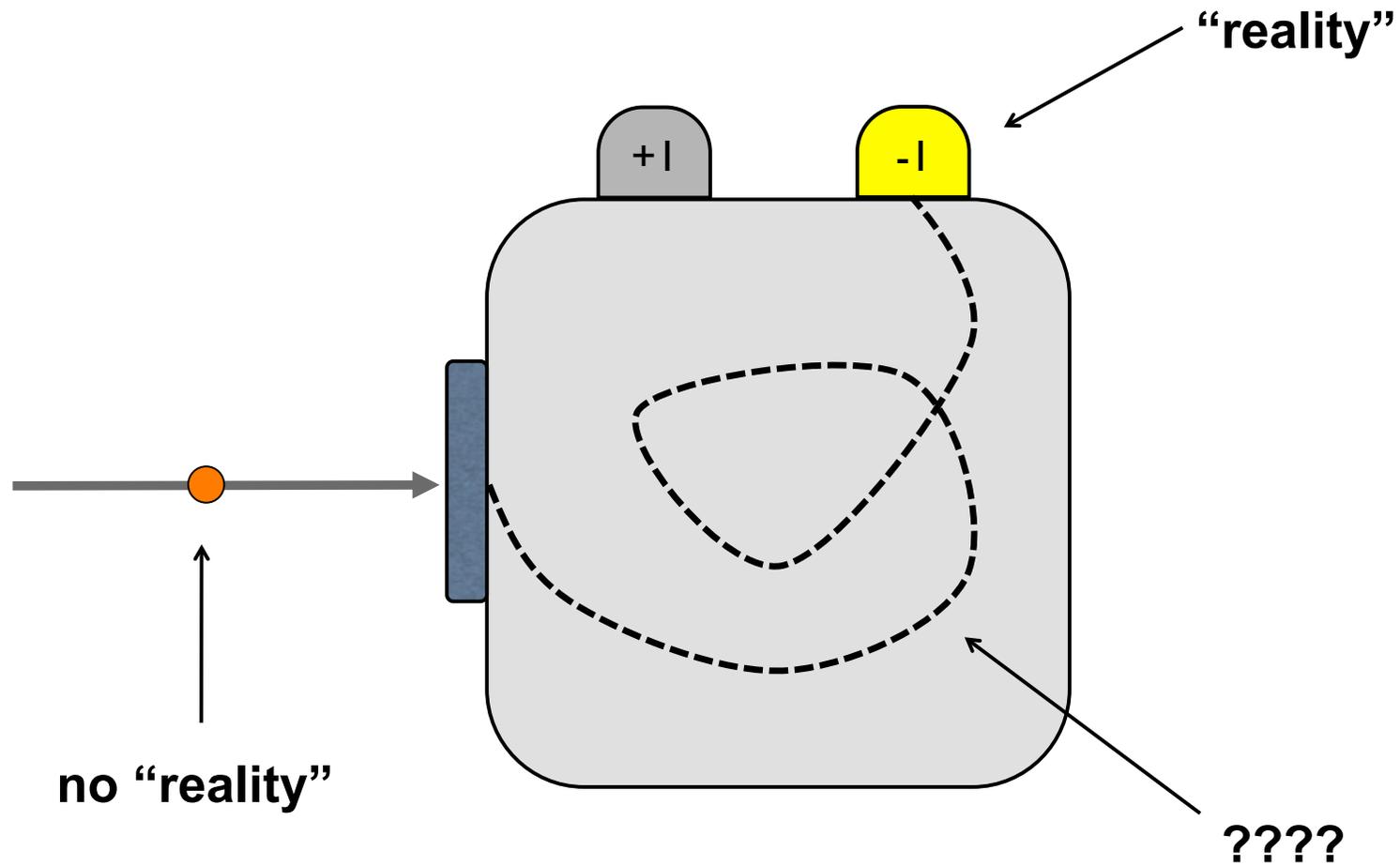
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loop-hole free violation of Bell inequalities

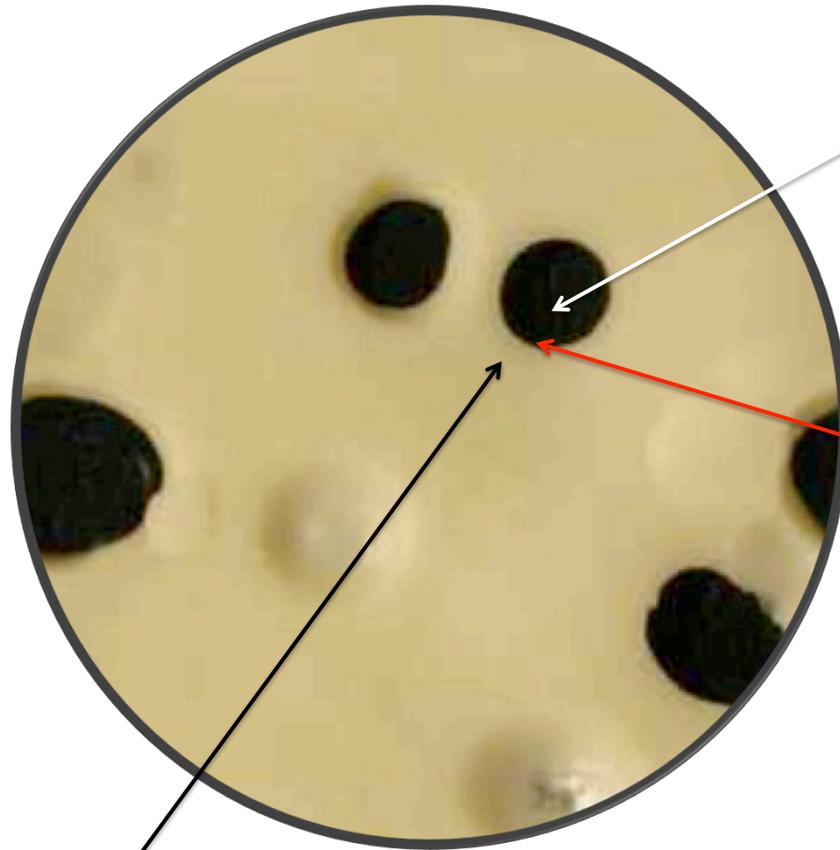
# When “reality” happens and how?

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# Swiss cheese reality

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**QUANTUM**

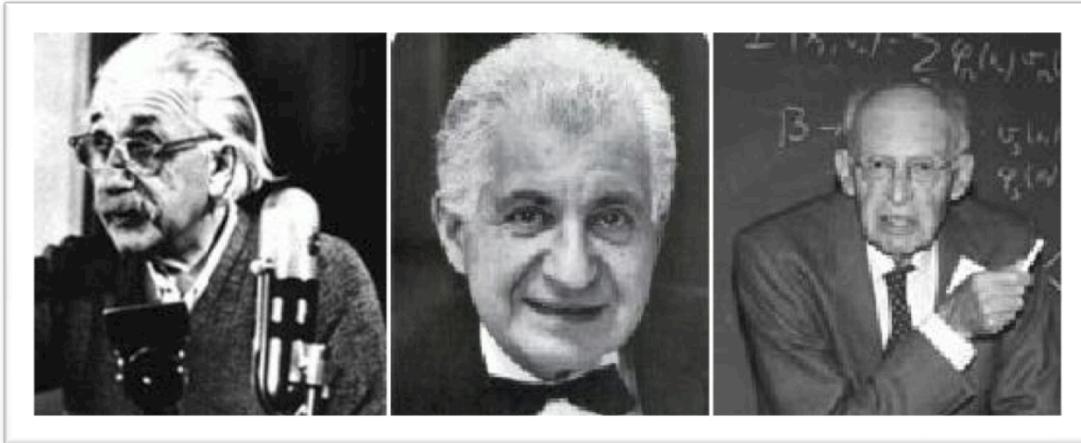
**WEIRD THINGS  
HAPPEN HERE**

**CLASSICAL**

**CRITERIA FOR THE BOUNDARIES ?**

# So what is the story with this reality?

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**EPR VISION OF REALITY  
IS TOO SIMPLISTIC**



**IS EVERETT'S MULTIVERSE  
A GOOD SUBSTITUTE?**

**IMPACT ON SECURITY?**

# To boldly go where no man has gone before...

— 4 —

WILDERNESS

—  $2\sqrt{2}$  —

QUANTUM  
WORLD

— 2 —

CLASSICAL  
WORLD

$|S| = 0$

