



Measuring locality vs free choice

Paweł Błasiak

Institute of Nuclear Physics Polish Academy of Sciences, Kraków, Poland

joint work with Emmanuel Pothos, James Yearsley, Christoph Gallus and Ewa Borsuk

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Violations of locality and free choice are equivalent resources in Bell experiments

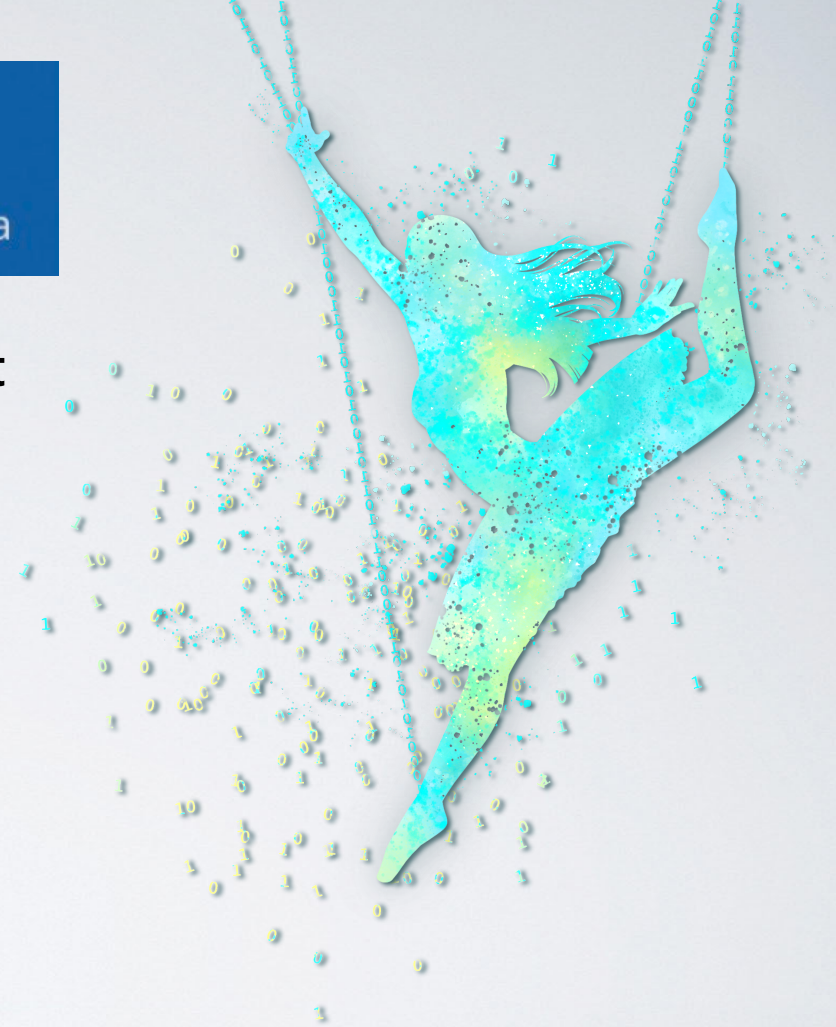
Pawel Blasiak^{a,b,1}, Emmanuel M. Pothos^b, James M. Yearsley^b, Christoph Gallus^c, and Ewa Borsuk^a

^aDivision of Theoretical Physics, Institute of Nuclear Physics Polish Academy of Sciences, PL-31342 Krakow, Poland; ^bPsychology Department, City, University of London, London EC1V 0HB, United Kingdom; and ^cTHM Business School, Technische Hochschule Mittelhessen, D-35390 Giessen, Germany

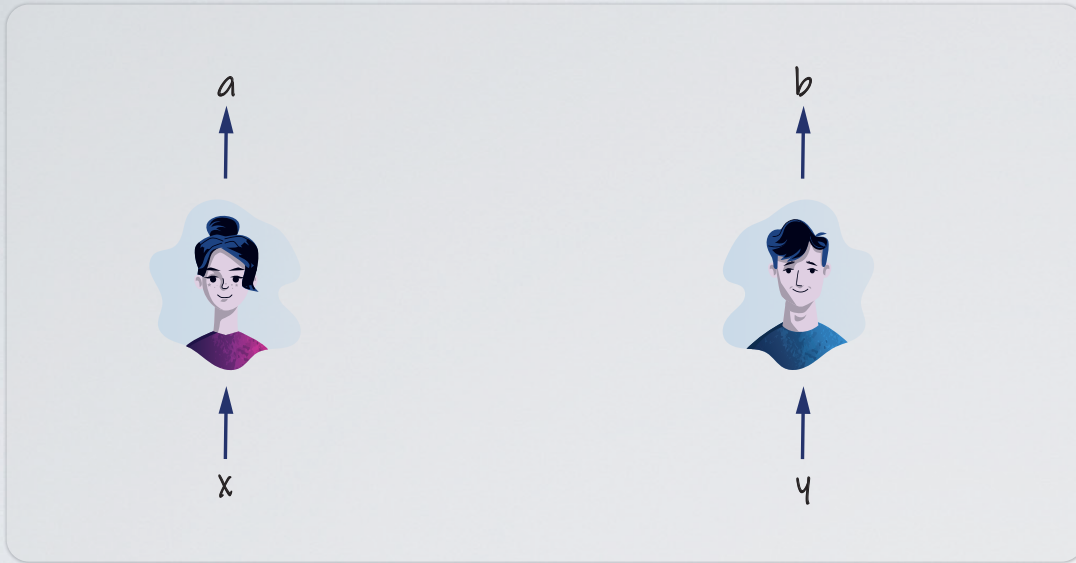
PNAS 118 (17) e2020569118 (April 27, 2021)

Goals for today

- Which is **more costly** *locality* or *free choice*?
- **Calculate** and **compare** measures of both in **QM** and **not only**.



Bell experiment — recap (I)



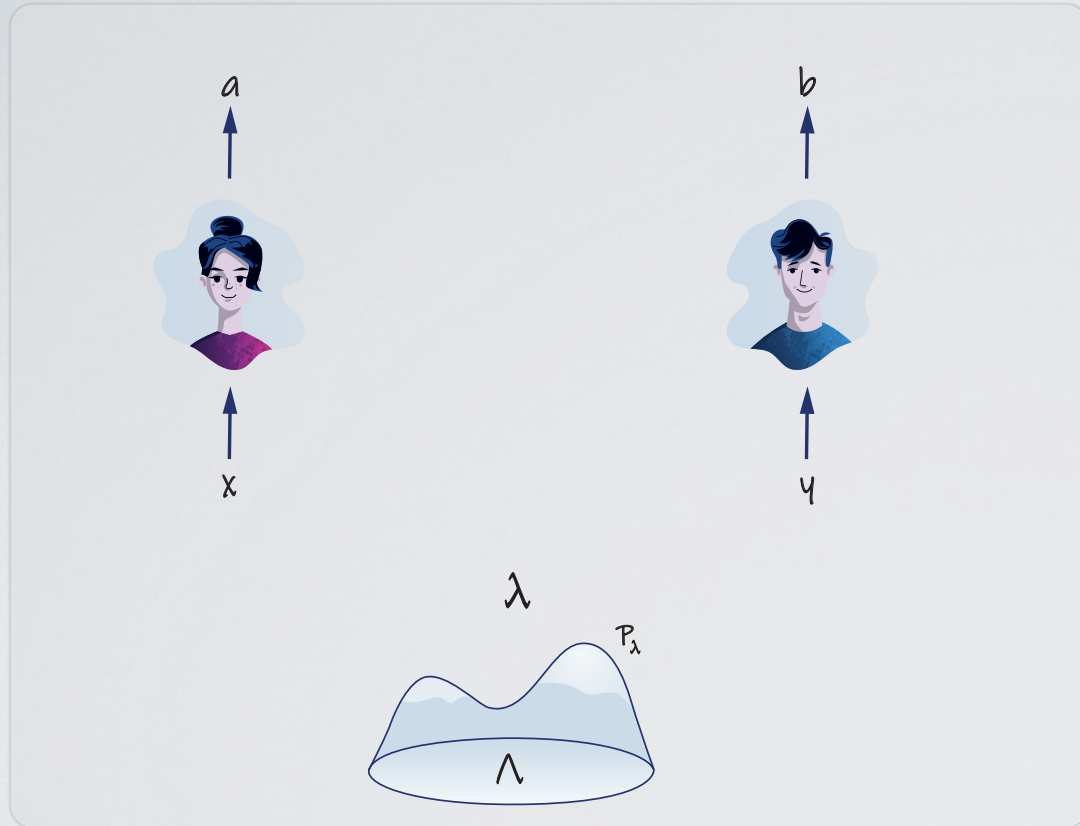
After many trials Alice and Bob collect experimental statistics for **outcomes** a, b under different **choices of settings** x, y .

• Observed

$\{P_{ab|xy}\}_{xy}$ ← Experimental behaviour

P_{xy} ← Distribution of settings

Bell experiment — recap (I)



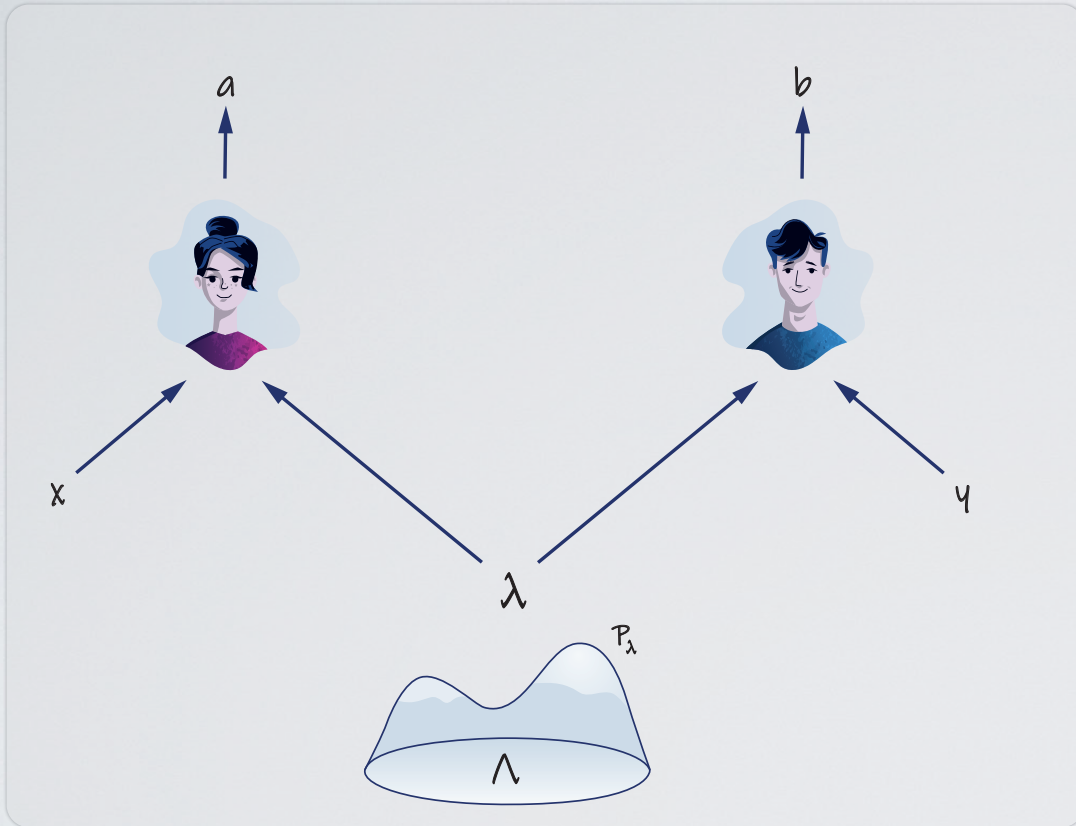
- Observed $\{P_{ab|xy}\}_{xy}$ ← Experimental behaviour
- P_{xy} ← Distribution of settings
- Realist (causal) framework

$$P_{ab|xy} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} P_{ab|xy\lambda} \cdot P_{\lambda|xy}$$

$$P_{xy} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} P_{xy|\lambda} \cdot P_{\lambda}$$

← Hidden variable model

Bell experiment — recap (I)



- **Observed** $\{P_{ab|xy}\}_{xy}$ *Experimental behaviour*
- P_{xy} *Distribution of settings*

- **Realist (causal) framework**

$$P_{ab|xy} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} P_{ab|xy\lambda} \cdot P_{\lambda|xy}$$

$$P_{xy} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} P_{xy|\lambda} \cdot P_\lambda$$

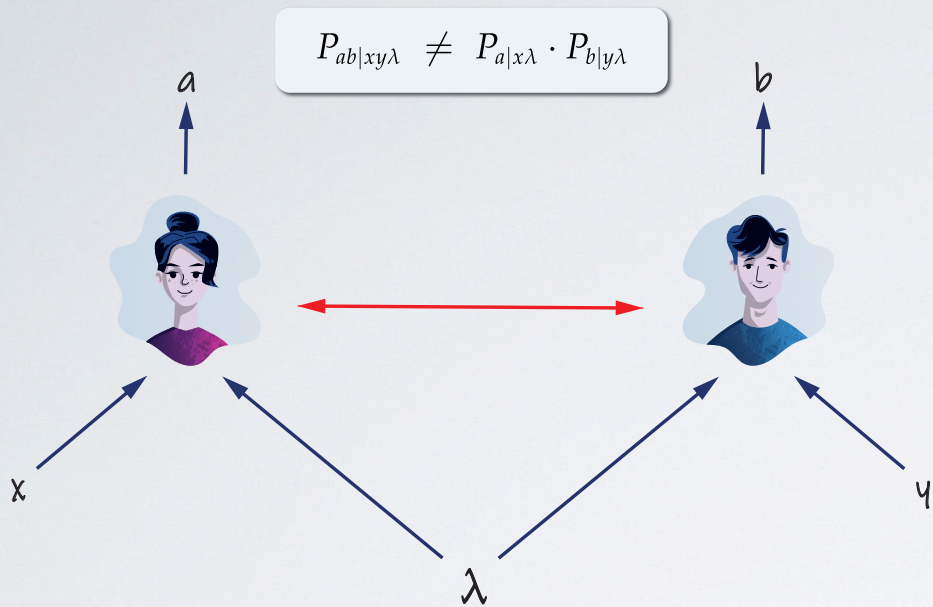
Hidden variable model

- **Locality** $P_{ab|xy\lambda} = P_{a|x\lambda} \cdot P_{b|y\lambda}$
- **Free choice** $P_{\lambda|xy} = P_\lambda$ (or equiv. $P_{xy|\lambda} = P_{xy}$)
- **Arrow of time (no retro-causality)**

Bell's theorem

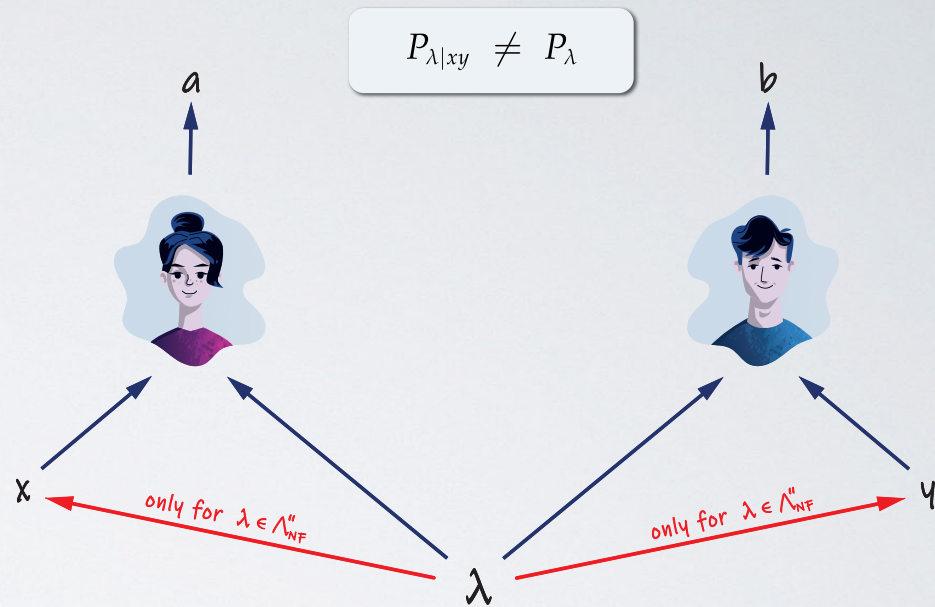
Those assumptions entail **testable constraints** on correlations called Bell inequalities (violated in QM).

Violation of *Locality*



vs.

Violation of *Free choice*



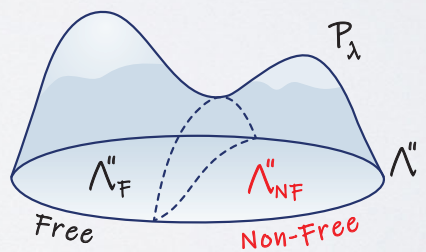
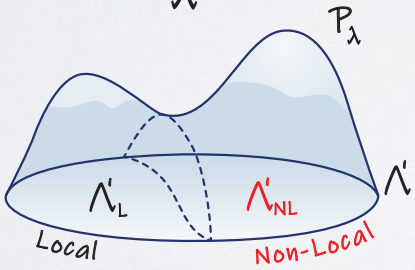
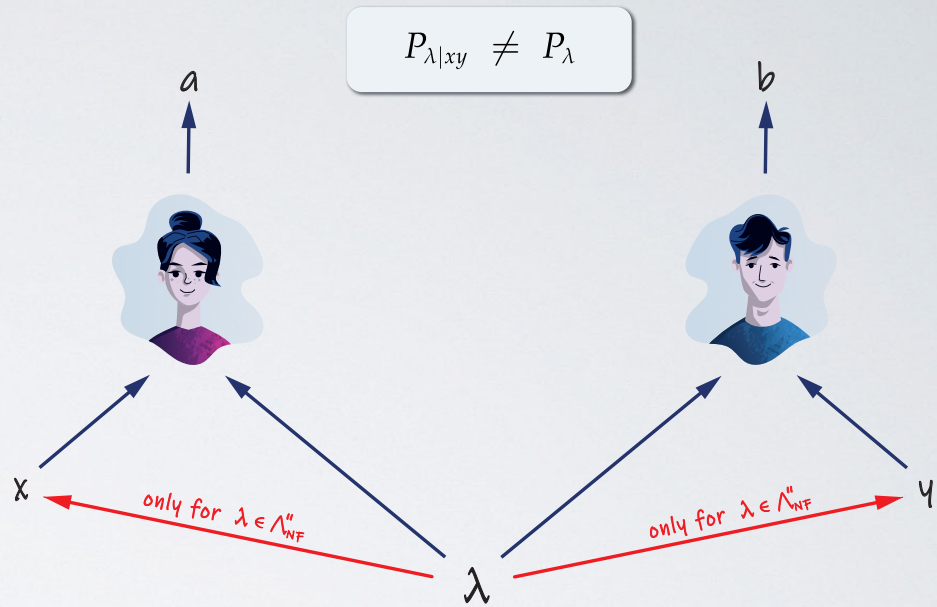
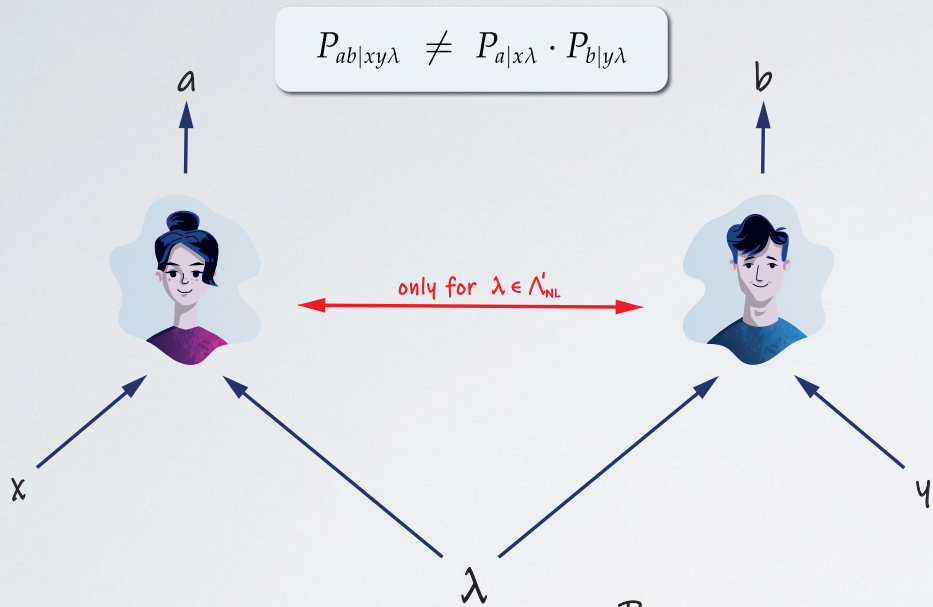
Heuristic idea

How often a given assumption, i.e. **locality** or **free choice**, can be **retained**, while **safeguarding the other assumption**, in order to fully reproduce some given experimental statistics within a standard causal (or realist) approach?

Violation of *Locality*

vs.

Violation of *Free choice*



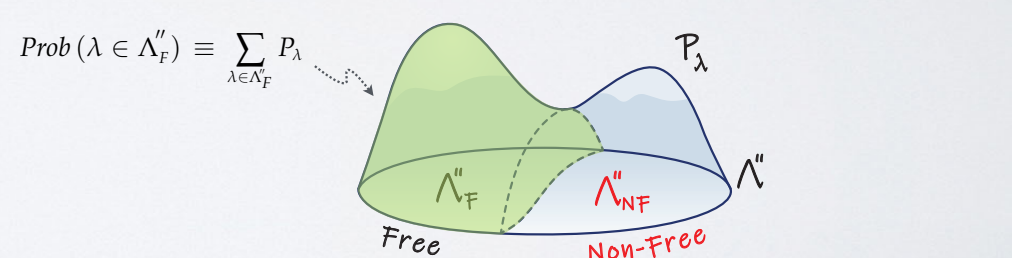
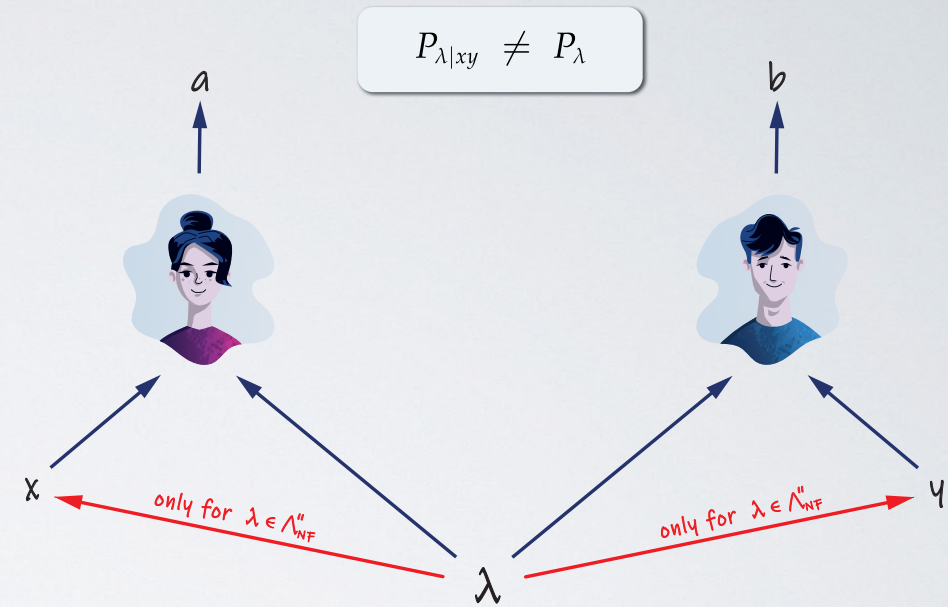
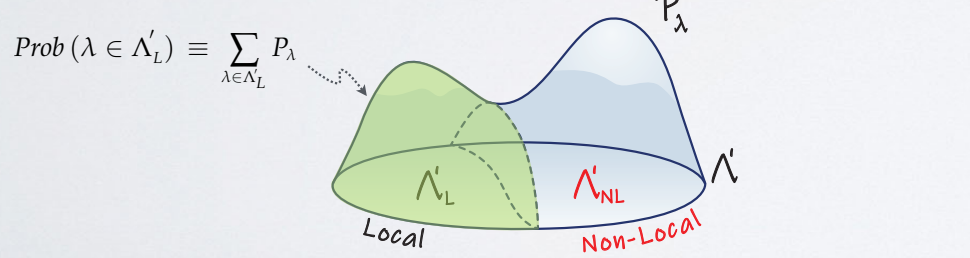
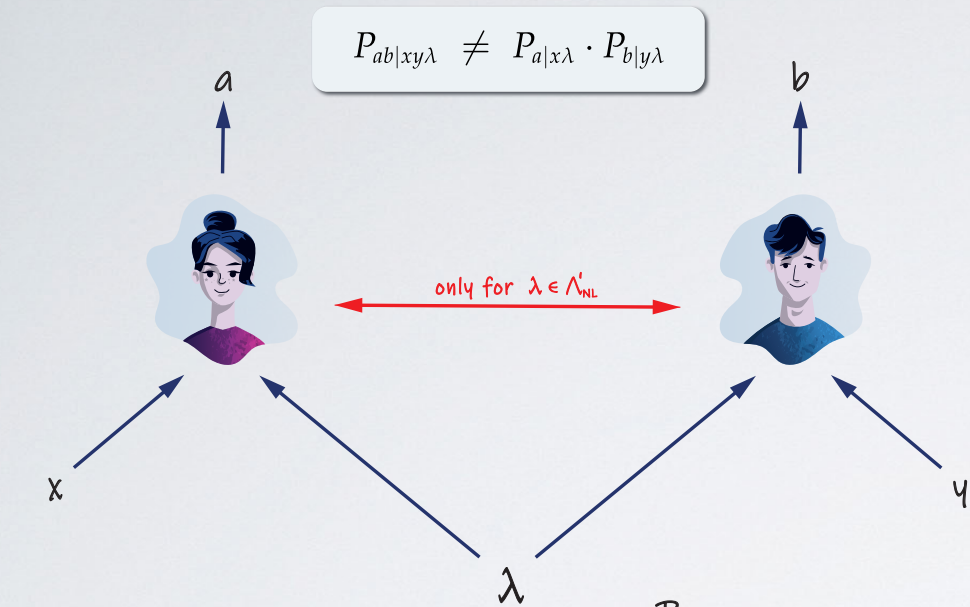
$\lambda \in \Lambda'_L \Leftrightarrow$ **locality holds** for all x, y
 $\lambda \in \Lambda'_{NL} \Leftrightarrow$ **locality fails** for some x, y

$\lambda \in \Lambda''_F \Leftrightarrow$ **free choice holds** for all x, y
 $\lambda \in \Lambda''_{NF} \Leftrightarrow$ **free choice fails** for some x, y

Violation of *Locality*

vs.

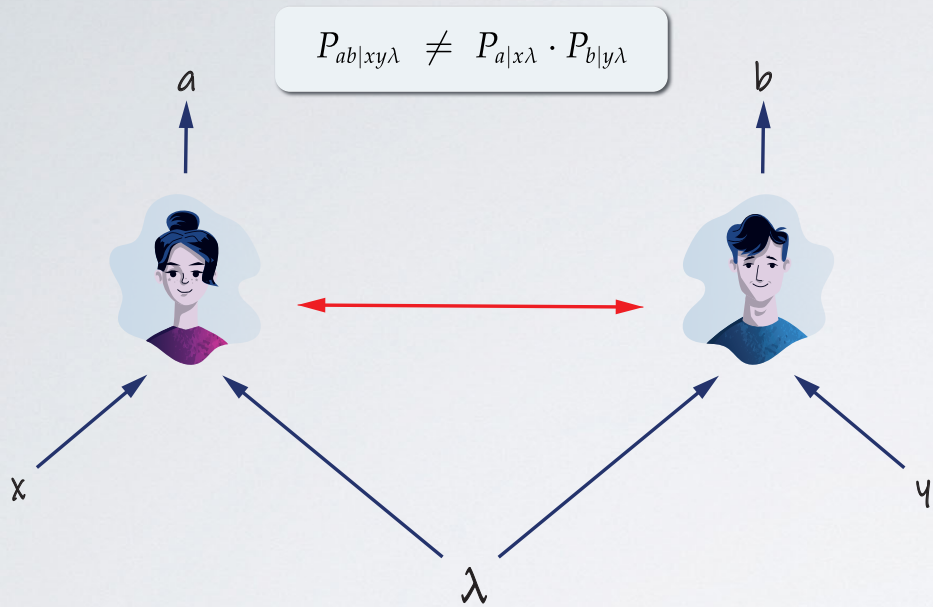
Violation of *Free choice*



$\lambda \in \Lambda'_L \Leftrightarrow$ **locality holds** for all x, y
 $\lambda \in \Lambda'_{NL} \Leftrightarrow$ **locality fails** for some x, y

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Violation of *Locality*

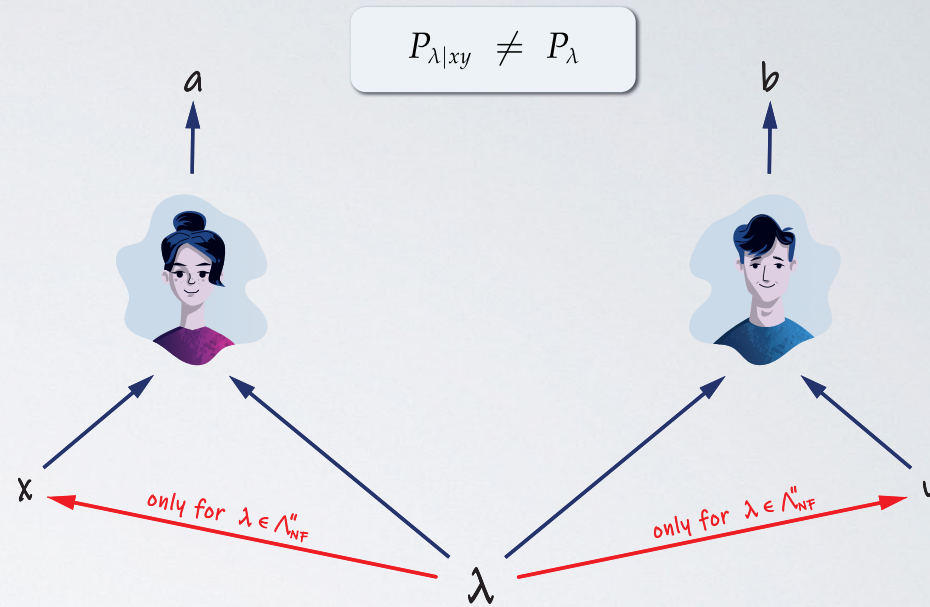


Measure of *locality*

the **maximal fraction** of trials in which Alice and Bob **do not** need to **communicate** trying to simulate a given behaviour $\{P_{ab|xy}\}_{xy}$ for any distribution of settings P_{xy} , optimised over all conceivable strategies with **freely chosen** settings.

vs.

Violation of *Free choice*



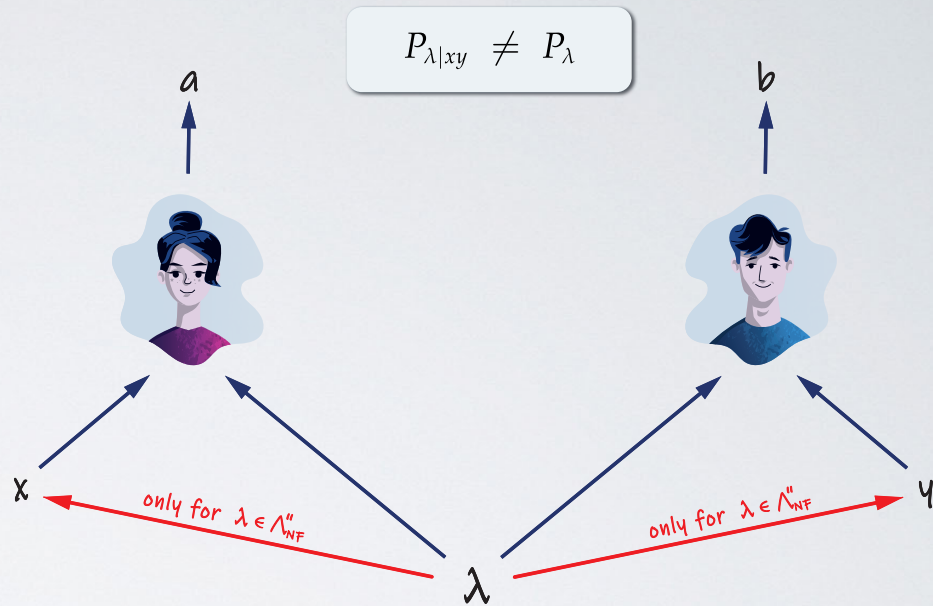
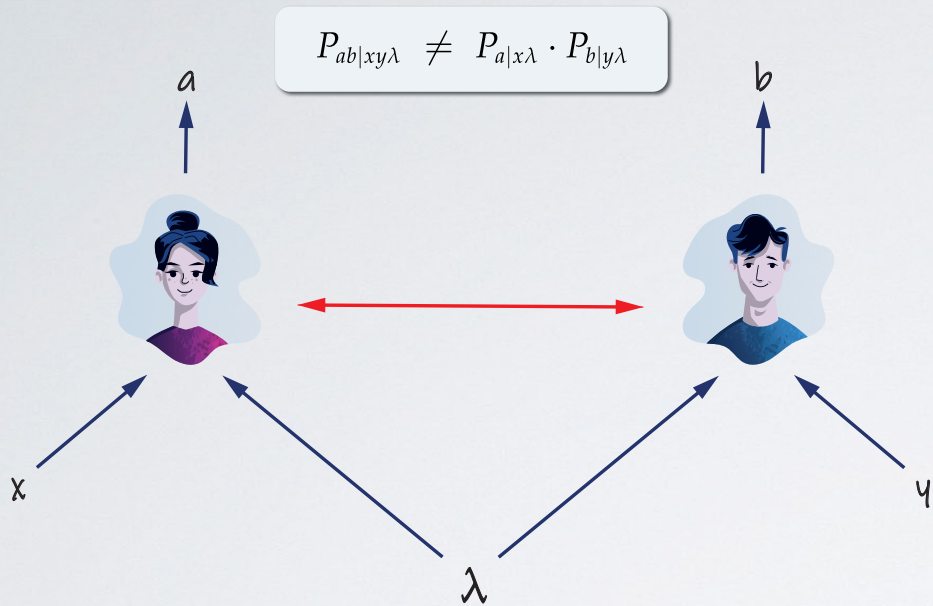
Measure of *free choice*

the **maximal fraction** of trials in which Alice and Bob **can grant freedom of choice** of settings in trying to simulate a given behaviour $\{P_{ab|xy}\}_{xy}$ for any distribution of settings P_{xy} , optimised over all conceivable **local strategies**.

Violation of *Locality*

vs.

Violation of *Free choice*



Measure of *locality*

Measure of *free choice*

$$\mu_L := \min_{P_{xy}} \max_{FHV} \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_L} P_{\lambda}$$

$$\mu_F := \min_{P_{xy}} \max_{LHV} \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_F} P_{\lambda}$$

Hidden variable model
with *free choice*

Hidden variable model
with *locality*

Comparison

Theorem:

For a given behaviour $\{P_{ab|xy}\}_{xy}$ the degree of **locality** and **free choice** are the same, i.e.

$$\mu_L = \mu_F$$

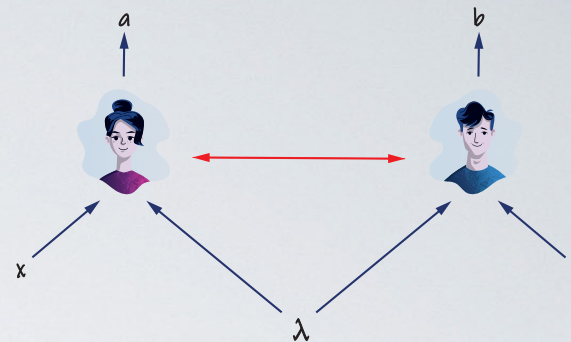
- Any number of settings and outcomes
- Readily extends to any number of parties $\{P_{abc\dots|xyz\dots}\}_{xyz\dots}$
- Sketch of proof

$$P_{ab|xy} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} P_{ab|xy\lambda} \cdot P_{\lambda|xy}$$

$$P_{xy} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} P_{xy|\lambda} \cdot P_{\lambda}$$

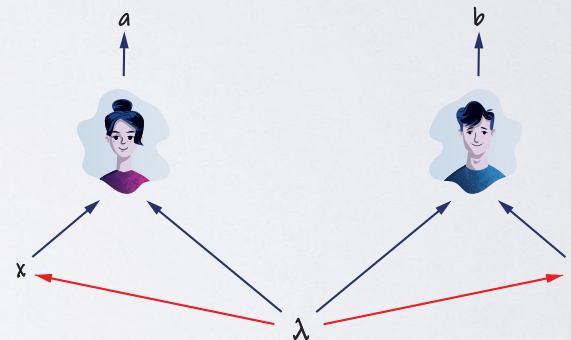
Hidden variable model

- Get rid of the mins (warning)
- Bijective construction



Measure of locality

$$\mu_L := \min_{P_{xy}} \max_{FHV} \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_L} P_{\lambda}$$



Measure of free choice

$$\mu_F := \min_{P_{xy}} \max_{LHV} \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_F} P_{\lambda}$$

Comparison

Theorem:

For a given behaviour $\{P_{ab|xy}\}_{xy}$ the degree of **locality** and **free choice** are the same, i.e.

$$\mu_L = \mu_F$$

- Any number of settings and outcomes
- Readily extends to any number of parties $\{P_{abc\dots|xyz\dots}\}_{xyz\dots}$
- Sketch of proof

$$P_{ab|xy} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} P_{ab|xy\lambda} \cdot P_{\lambda|xy}$$

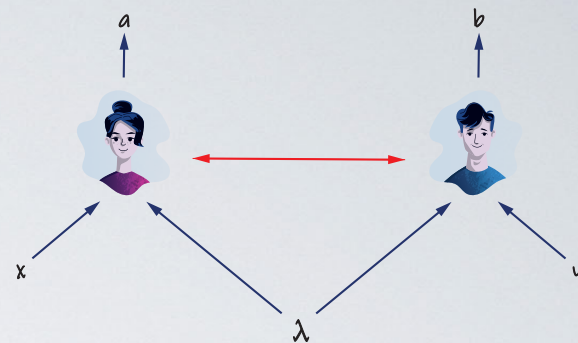
$$P_{xy} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} P_{xy|\lambda} \cdot P_{\lambda}$$



$$\tilde{P}_{xy} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \tilde{P}_{xy|\lambda} \cdot P_{\lambda}$$

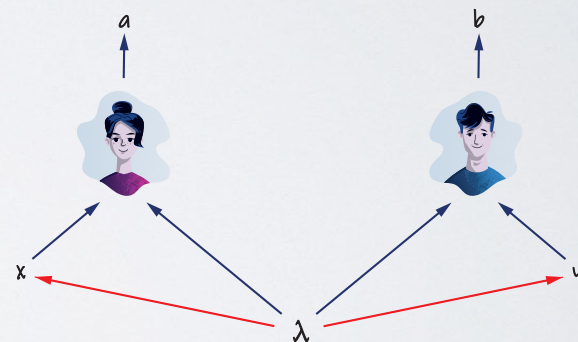
- Get rid of the mins (warning)
- Bijective construction

$$\tilde{P}_{xy|\lambda} = \frac{P_{\lambda|xy} \cdot \tilde{P}_{xy}}{P_{\lambda}} \stackrel{?}{\leq} 1$$



Measure of **locality**

$$\mu_L := \min_{P_{xy}} \max_{FHV} \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_L} P_{\lambda}$$



Measure of **free choice**

$$\mu_F := \min_{P_{xy}} \max_{LHV} \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_F} P_{\lambda}$$



Democritus
(460 - 370 BC)

*"I would rather discover one true cause
than gain the kingdom of Persia."*

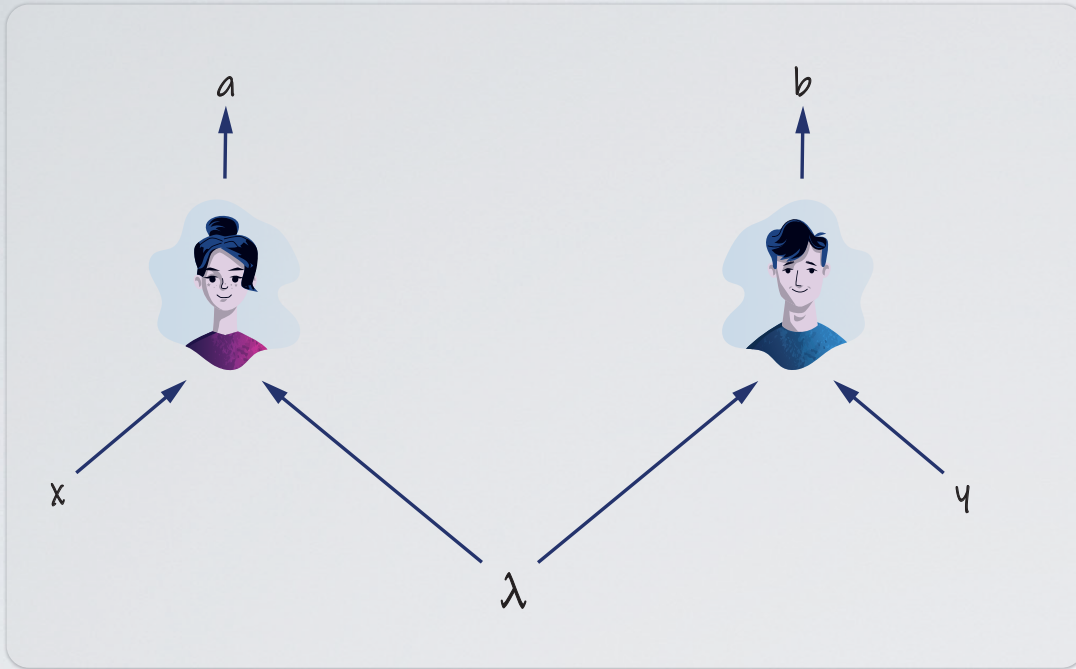
$$\mu_L = \mu_F = ?$$

*"Measure what is measurable,
and make measurable what is not so."*



Galileo GALILEI
(1564 - 1642)

Bell experiment — recap (II)



Bell's theorem

Realism + Locality + Free choice: $|S_i| \leq 2$

whereas in QM it can be: $|S_i| \leq 2\sqrt{2} \leq 4$

Tsirelson PR- box

Bell-CHSH expressions

$$S_1 = \langle ab \rangle_{00} + \langle ab \rangle_{01} + \langle ab \rangle_{10} - \langle ab \rangle_{11}$$

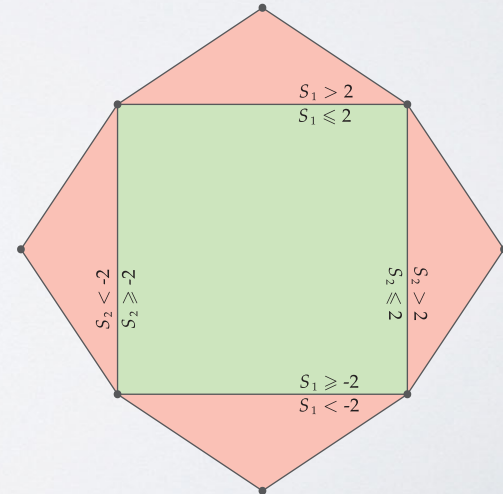
$$S_2 = \langle ab \rangle_{00} + \langle ab \rangle_{01} - \langle ab \rangle_{10} + \langle ab \rangle_{11}$$

$$S_3 = \langle ab \rangle_{00} - \langle ab \rangle_{01} + \langle ab \rangle_{10} + \langle ab \rangle_{11}$$

$$S_4 = -\langle ab \rangle_{00} + \langle ab \rangle_{01} + \langle ab \rangle_{10} + \langle ab \rangle_{11}$$

where: $\langle ab \rangle_{xy} = \sum_{a,b} ab P_{ab|xy}$

- Non-signalling $P_{b|0y} = P_{b|1y}$ for all b, y
 $P_{a|x0} = P_{a|x1}$ for all a, x
- Non-signalling polytope (free choice assumed)



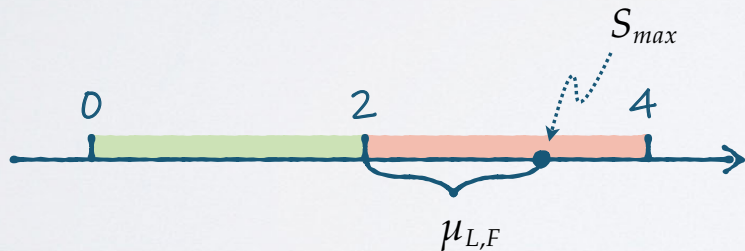
Explicit measure for Bell scenario

Theorem:

For a given **non-signalling** behaviour $\{P_{ab|xy}\}_{xy}$ with **binary settings** both measures of locality μ_L and free choice μ_F are equal to

$$\mu_L = \mu_F = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(4 - S_{max}), & \text{if } S_{max} > 2, \\ 1, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where $S_{max} = \max \{|S_i| : i = 1, \dots, 4\}$ is the maximum absolute value of the four CHSH expressions.



- Convex decomposition

$$P_{ab|xy} = p_L \cdot P_{ab|xy}^L + (1 - p_L) \cdot P_{ab|xy}^{NL}$$

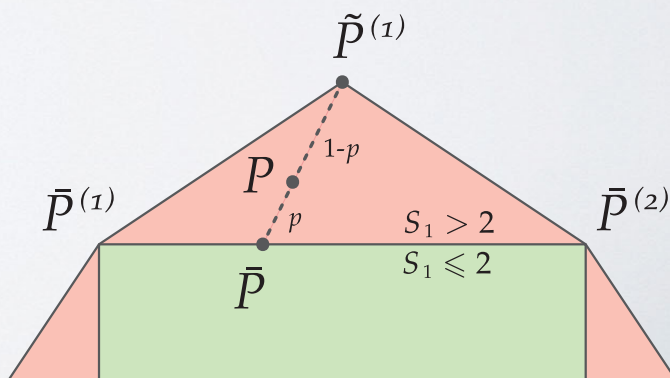
$$\mu_L = \max_{\text{decomp.}} p_L$$

- Upper bound

$$p_L \leq \frac{1}{2}(4 - |S_i|) \Rightarrow \mu_L \leq \frac{1}{2}(4 - S_{max})$$

- Saturation of the bound

$$P_{ab|xy} = \sum_{j=1}^{16} p_j \cdot \bar{P}_{ab|xy}^{(j)} + \sum_{k=1}^8 q_k \cdot \tilde{P}_{ab|xy}^{(k)}$$



Quantum statistics

- **Binary settings**

Tsirelson's bound



$$\mu_L = \mu_F = 2 - \sqrt{2} \approx 0.59$$

- **Bell state & infinite number of settings**

A. Elitzur et al., Phys. Lett. A 162, 25 (1992)

J. Barrett et al., PRL 97, 170409 (2006)



$$\mu_L = \mu_F \xrightarrow{M \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

- **Two-qubit state & arbitrary settings**

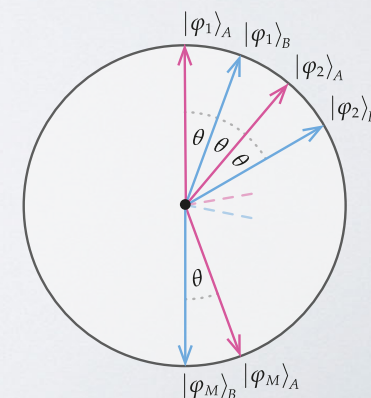
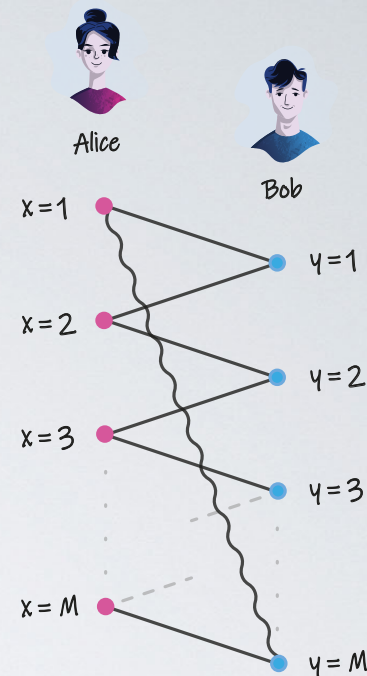
$$|\psi\rangle = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} |00\rangle + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} |11\rangle$$

$$\theta \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$$



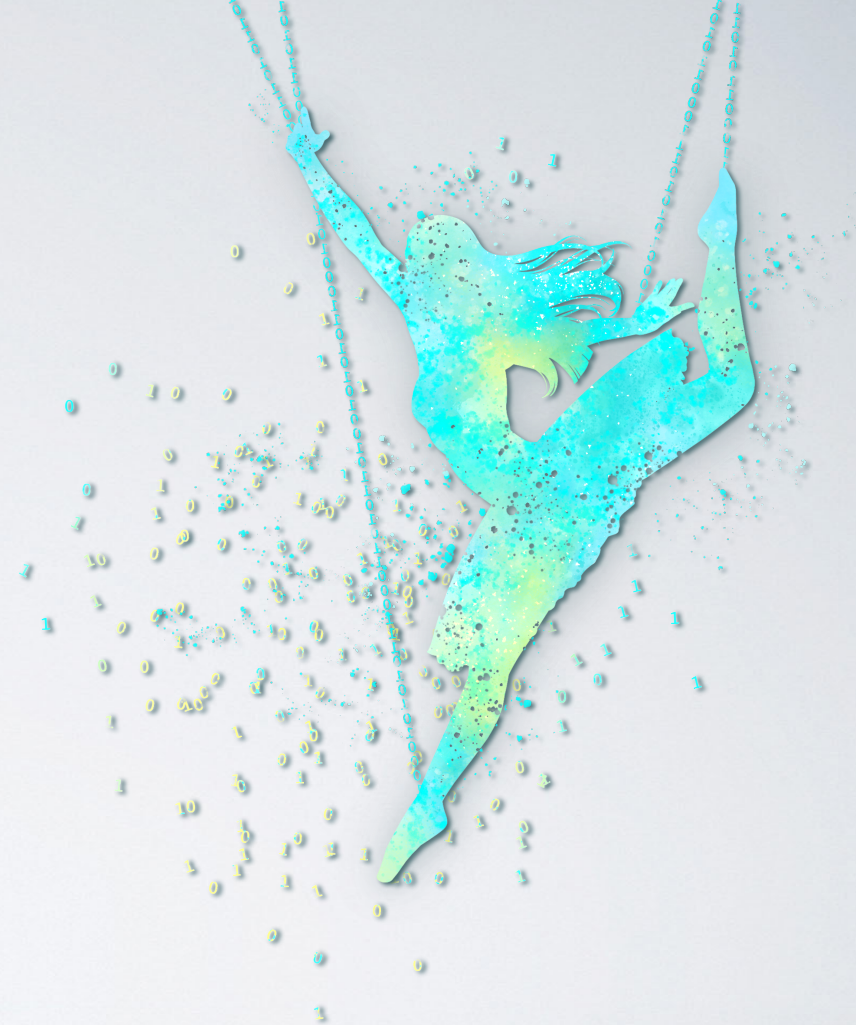
$$\mu_L = \mu_F = \cos \theta$$

S. Portman et al., PRA 86, 012104 (2012)



Summary of results

		Locality	Free choice
Quantum statistics	Any statistics	$\mu_L = \mu_F$	
	any no. settings		
	non-signalling two settings	$\mu_L = \frac{1}{2}(4 - S_{max})$	$\mu_F = \frac{1}{2}(4 - S_{max})$
	Bell state infinite no. settings	$\mu_L \xrightarrow{M \rightarrow \infty} 0^{(*)}$	$\mu_F \xrightarrow{M \rightarrow \infty} 0$
two-qubit state any no. settings	$\mu_L = \cos \theta^{(*)}$	$\mu_F = \cos \theta$	





Thank you for your attention