

# Malignant and non-malignant nonlinearity in QM

*or*

Russian roulette with a cheating player and EPR  
correlations in nonlinear QM

*or*

Is there any no-go theorem about nonlinear QM?

Marek Czachor



Białystok, 20.06.2022

*prof. Bogdan Mielnik memorial session*

In memory of prof. Bogdan Mielnik, a man to whom I owe exceptionally much



Prehistory of the problem  
(1978)

## Comments on Mielnik's Generalized (Non Linear) Quantum Mechanics\*

Rudolf Haag and Ulrich Bannier

II. Institut für Theoretische Physik der Universität Hamburg, D-2000 Hamburg 50,  
Federal Republic of Germany

**Abstract.** We discuss a model of non linear quantum mechanics in which the wave equation satisfies the homogeneity condition (2.1). It is argued that in this model the set of (mixed) states is a simplex.

Thus the fact that we can influence the motion by the non linear  $A$ -term in this model makes mixtures of different sets of pure states distinguishable. As far as only single particle systems are considered one might claim that  $|\varphi(\mathbf{x})|$  and  $\nabla S(\mathbf{x})$  describe the “objective state” of an individual particle. However it is not our intention to maintain that thereby one achieves a classical theory (where  $|\varphi|$  and  $\nabla S$  are hidden variables of the particle) because problems with such an interpretation would immediately arise as soon as one considers 2-particle systems.

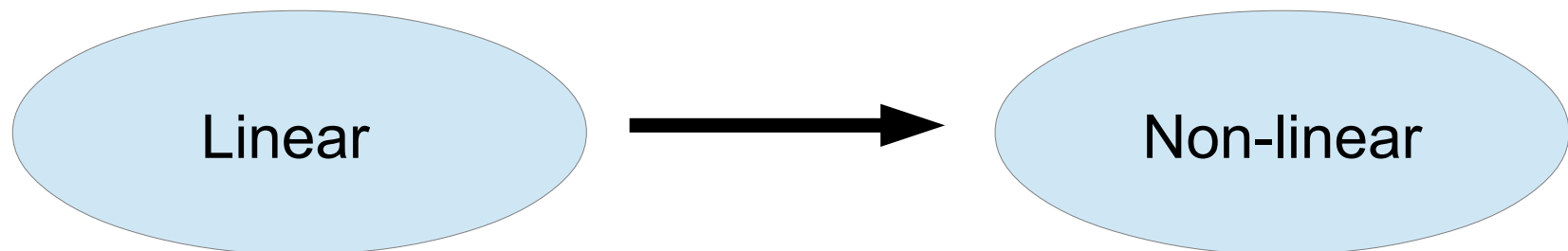
# More recent prehistory

- N. Gisin - 1989 (in fact the first version of the paper was rejected in PRL several years earlier)

Similar idea as in Haag-Bannier (distinguishability of local **non-linearly** evolving mixtures via their entanglement with a **linearly** evolving system)

N. Gisin, Helv.Phys.Acta **62**, 363 (1989)

Faster than light telegraph acting by creation at-a-distance of initial conditions for a nonlinear evolution



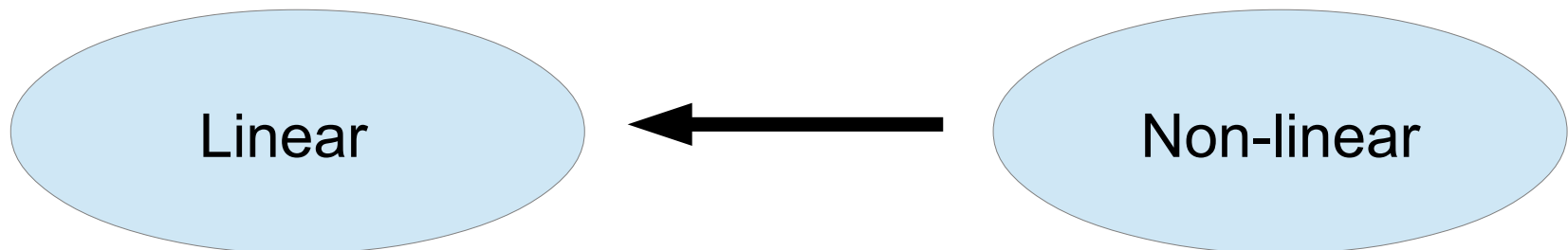
**Occurs only in non-equal-time correlations!**

# More recent prehistory

- M. Czachor - 1989 (unpublished talk at „Problems in Quantum Physics II, Gdańsk'89”)

Modification of a reduced density matrix in a **linear** system by „mobility of states” induced by a **non-linear** evolution in a correlated system

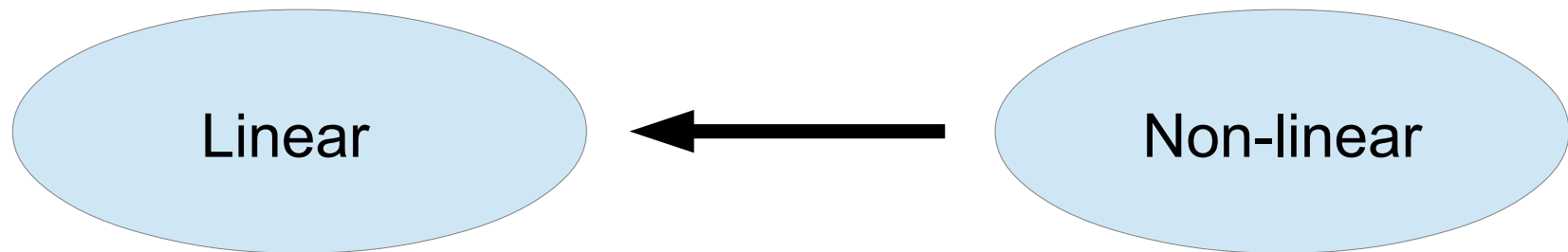
Faster than light telegraph acting by noninvariance of partial trace under nonlinear evolution + entanglement (works in the opposite direction than the Gisin telegraph)



# More recent prehistory

- J. Polchinski - 1989 (unpublished comments on Weinberg's nonlinear QM)

Non-commutativity of observables in separated systems described a la Wienberg.



- J. Polchinski – 1991. The first paper where a partial solution was proposed: It eliminated effects based on noncommutativity and mobility, but not on projection-at-a-distance. The Gisin problem remained.

J. Polchinski, Phys. Rev. Lett. **66**, 397 (1991)

# A solution

- M. Czachor, H.-D. Doebner - 2002 (generalization of the Polchinski trick to non-equal-time correlations)

M. Czachor, H.-D. Doebner, Phys. Lett. A **301**, 139-152 (2002)

- It eliminates **all** the telegraphs (Gisin's included)
- It shows that the difficulty is **not related to QM**, but occurs in all theories where nonlinear evolutions of probability are combined with reductions of probability at-a-distance (via correlations)
- It shows how to modify the projection postulate in nonlinear QM (it reduces to the usual one if the dynamics is linear)
- Russian roulette with a cheating player is an example of a classical probabilistic game where all these subtleties occur

## Example: 1-particle „Nonlinear Schrödinger equation”

$$\begin{aligned}i \frac{\partial \psi_t(x)}{\partial t} &= -\frac{\partial^2 \psi_t(x)}{\partial x^2} + \epsilon |\psi_t(x)|^2 \psi_t(x) \\ &= \left( -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + u[\psi_t(x)] \right) \psi_t(x) \\ &= \left( -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + u_t(\psi_0, x) \right) \psi_t(x)\end{aligned}$$

Essentially this is a S. eq. with time-dependent potential

So  $\frac{\partial \langle \psi_t | \psi_t \rangle}{\partial t} = 0$  but  $\frac{\partial \langle \psi_t | \tilde{\psi}_t \rangle}{\partial t} \neq 0$

The „mobility effect”

for two different solutions  $\psi_t(x)$  and  $\tilde{\psi}_t(x)$



## 2-particle extensions

Naive extension (Weinberg'89; Białyński-Birula-Mycielski'76)

$$i \frac{\partial \Psi_t(x, y)}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial^2 \Psi_t(x, y)}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 \Psi_t(x, y)}{\partial y^2} + (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2) |\Psi_t(x, y)|^2 \Psi_t(x, y)$$

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Generates malignant nonlocality

Polchinski extension (Polchinski, 1991)

$$i \frac{\partial \Psi_t(x, y)}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial^2 \Psi_t(x, y)}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 \Psi_t(x, y)}{\partial y^2} + \left( \epsilon_1 \rho_t(x) + \epsilon_2 \rho_t(y) \right) \Psi_t(x, y)$$

M.Czachor, Nonlocal-looking equations can make nonlinear quantum dynamics local, PRA 57, 4122 (1998)

$$\rho_t(x) = \int |\Psi_t(x, y)|^2 dy, \quad \rho_t(y) = \int |\Psi_t(x, y)|^2 dx$$

Reduced density matrices of the subsystems depend only on parameters and initial conditions of **these** subsystems. Although mobility effect is still present, it becomes nonmalignant. **But what about the Gisin argument?**

# Gisin's argument: A problem with non-equal-time correlations

## 2-qubit example

$$i|\dot{\psi}_1\rangle = A\langle\psi_1|\sigma_z|\psi_1\rangle\sigma_z|\psi_1\rangle$$

$$i|\dot{\psi}_2\rangle = B\langle\psi_2|\sigma_z|\psi_2\rangle\sigma_z|\psi_2\rangle$$

- At  $t = t_1$  the state is

$$|\Psi(t_1)\rangle = \underbrace{e^{-iA\langle\sigma_z(0)\rangle_1\sigma_z t_1}}_{V_1(\Psi_0, t_1)} \otimes \underbrace{e^{-iB\langle\sigma_z(0)\rangle_2\sigma_z t_1}}_{V_2(\Psi_0, t_1)} |\Psi_0\rangle.$$

- At  $t = t_1$  project with  $E_1^\pm \otimes I_2$  and normalize

$$|\Psi(t_1)\rangle \mapsto \frac{E_1^\pm \otimes I_2 |\Psi(t_1)\rangle}{\|E_1^\pm \otimes I_2 |\Psi(t_1)\rangle\|} =: |\Psi_\pm(t_1)\rangle.$$

- Evolve the resulting state for  $t_1 < t < t_2$  but starting at  $t_1$  with

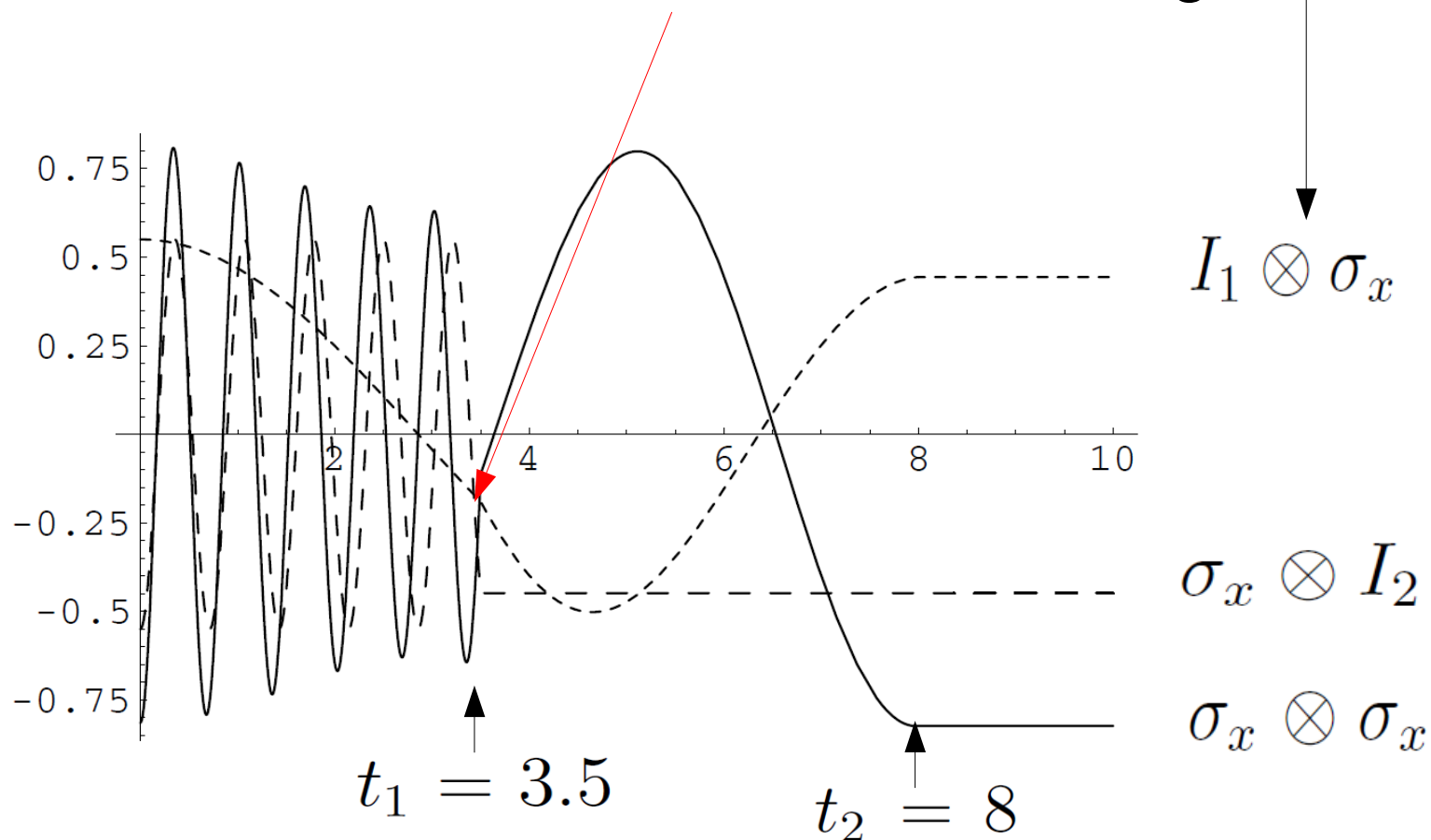
$$|\Psi_\pm(t_2)\rangle = I_1 \otimes \underbrace{e^{-iB\langle\Psi_\pm(t_1)|I_1 \otimes \sigma_z|\Psi_\pm(t_1)\rangle\sigma_z(t_2-t_1)}}_{V_2(\Psi_\pm(t_1), t_2-t_1)} |\Psi_\pm(t_1)\rangle$$

## Concrete initial state

$$|\Psi_0\rangle = \frac{1}{3}|1\rangle|2\rangle - \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3}|2\rangle|1\rangle$$

$$|1\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\pi/8) \\ \sin(\pi/8) \end{pmatrix}, \quad |2\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin(\pi/8) \\ \cos(\pi/8) \end{pmatrix}$$

Gisin effect is seen **here** in the average of



## The whole reasoning revisited

Joint probabilities in 2-particle systems  
(Heisenberg picture in linear QM)

# Directly measurable probabilities (2-time correlation functions)

- Probability of the result “yes” for  $E_1$  on particle #1

$$P[E_1(t_1)] = \langle \Psi_0 | E_1(t_1) \otimes I_2 | \Psi_0 \rangle,$$

- Probability of the result “yes” for  $E_2$  on particle #2

$$P[E_2(t_2)] = \langle \Psi_0 | I_1 \otimes E_2(t_2) | \Psi_0 \rangle,$$

- Joint probability of results “yes” for both particles

$$P[E_1(t_1) \cap E_2(t_2)] = \langle \Psi_0 | E_1(t_1) \otimes E_2(t_2) | \Psi_0 \rangle.$$

Conditional probabilities can be deduced directly from the Bayes rule without any state-vector reduction (but are consistent with it)

$$P[E_2(t_2) | E_1(t_1)] = \frac{P[E_1(t_1) \cap E_2(t_2)]}{P[E_1(t_1)]}$$

Can we do the same in nonlinear QM?

**No! There is no Heisenberg picture in nonlinear QM!**

So reverse the question: Can we perform the same calculation directly in the Schroedinger picture?

# So reverse the question: Can we perform the same calculation directly in the Schroedinger picture?

Yes. Solve Schroedinger equation with the time-dependent Hamiltonian parametrized by moments of „freezing the dynamics” (open system with detectors in environment)  $\theta(t)=0$  for  $t>0$

$$H_{t_1, t_2}(t) = \theta(t - t_1)H_1 \otimes I_2 + \theta(t - t_2)I_1 \otimes H_2$$

The Schroedinger dynamics becomes

$$|\Psi_{t_1, t_2}(t)\rangle = e^{-iH_1 \otimes I_2 \int_0^t \theta(\tau - t_1) d\tau - iI_1 \otimes H_2 \int_0^t \theta(\tau - t_2) d\tau} |\Psi_0\rangle$$

For  $t$  later than the moments of detection we get the same probabilities as in the Heisenberg picture

$$P[E_1(t_1) \cap E_2(t_2)] = \langle \Psi_{t_1, t_2}(t) | E_1 \otimes E_2 | \Psi_{t_1, t_2}(t) \rangle$$

This trick can be employed also in nonlinear QM.

Combined with the Polchinski 2-particle extension it solves the Gisin problem.



# Again the Gisin problem for 2 qubits

2-qubit example

$$i|\dot{\psi}_1\rangle = A\langle\psi_1|\sigma_z|\psi_1\rangle\sigma_z|\psi_1\rangle$$

$$i|\dot{\psi}_2\rangle = B\langle\psi_2|\sigma_z|\psi_2\rangle\sigma_z|\psi_2\rangle$$

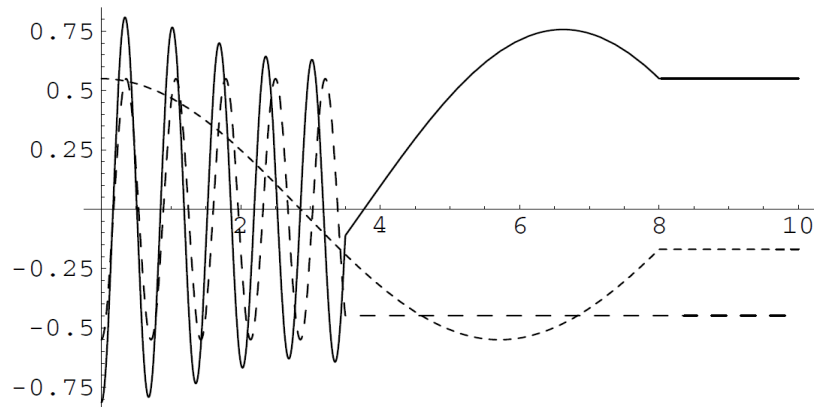
Polchinski 2-particle extension parametrized by the moments of detection

$$i|\dot{\Psi}\rangle = \left(\theta(t - t_1)A\langle\Psi|\sigma_z \otimes I|\Psi\rangle\sigma_z \otimes I + \theta(t - t_2)B\langle\Psi|I \otimes \sigma_z|\Psi\rangle I \otimes \sigma_z\right)|\Psi\rangle$$

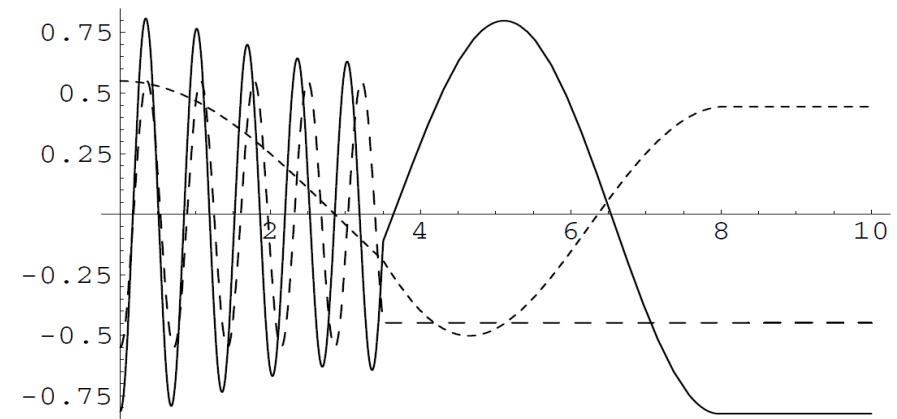
The solution

$$|\Psi_{t_1,t_2}(t)\rangle = e^{-iA\langle\Psi_0|\sigma_z \otimes I|\Psi_0\rangle\sigma_z \otimes I \int_0^t \theta(\tau-t_1)d\tau - iB\langle\Psi_0|I \otimes \sigma_z|\Psi_0\rangle I \otimes \sigma_z \int_0^t \theta(\tau-t_2)d\tau} |\Psi_0\rangle$$

Parametrized Polchinski (local)



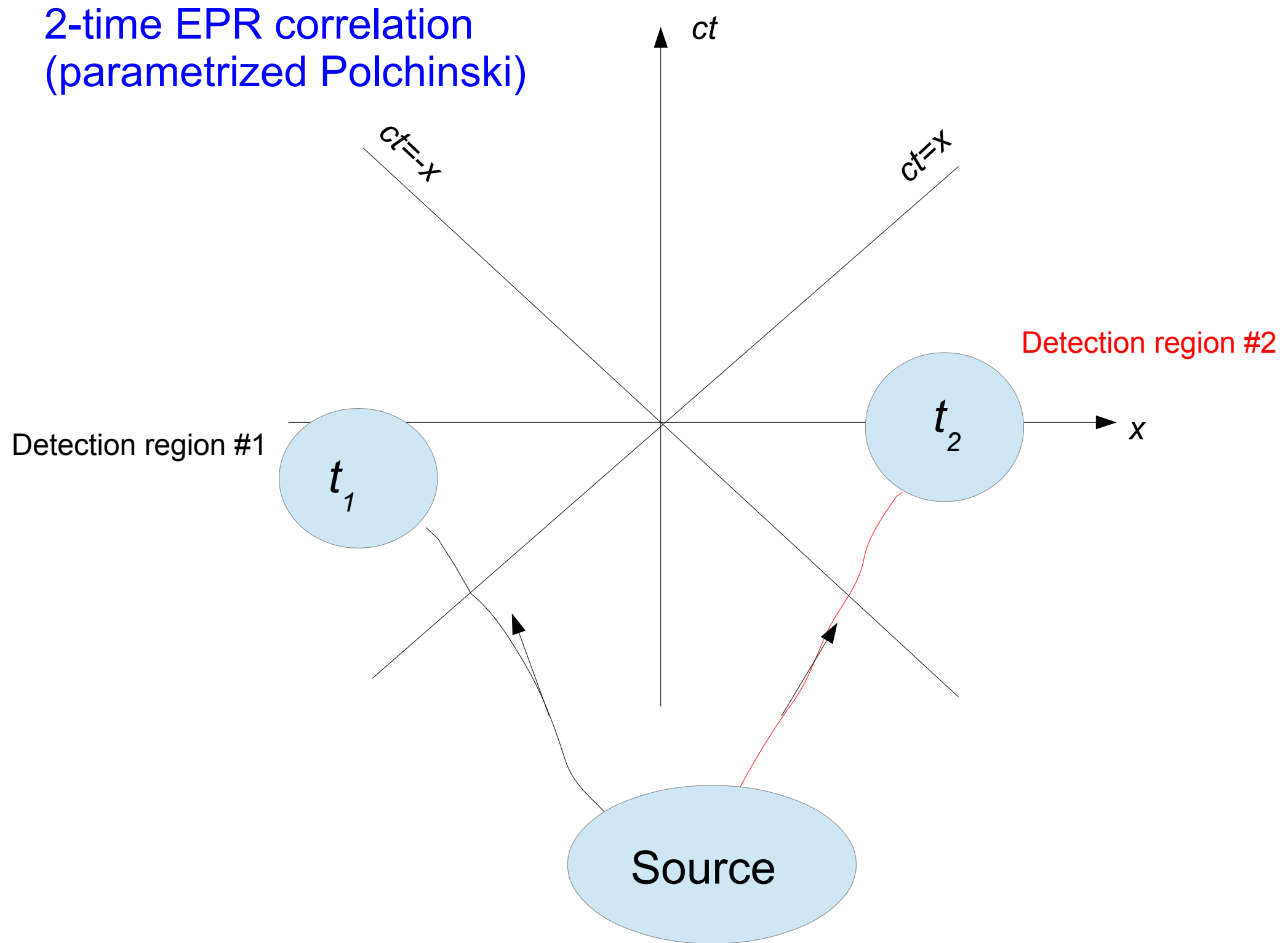
Gisin (nonlocal)



This is not yet the end of the story

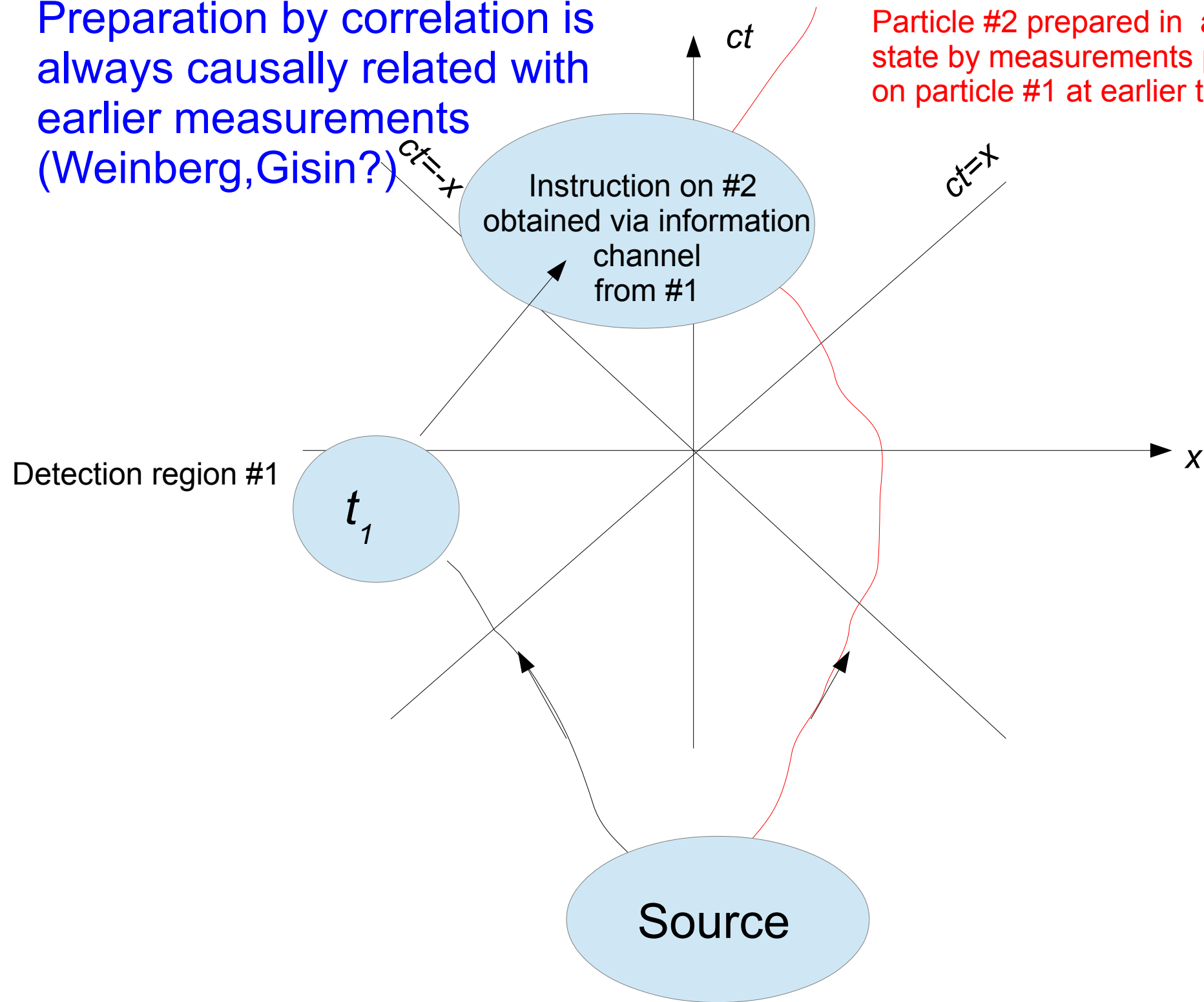
What about preparation at a distance?  
(e.g. in teleportation)

# 2-time EPR correlation (parametrized Polchinski)



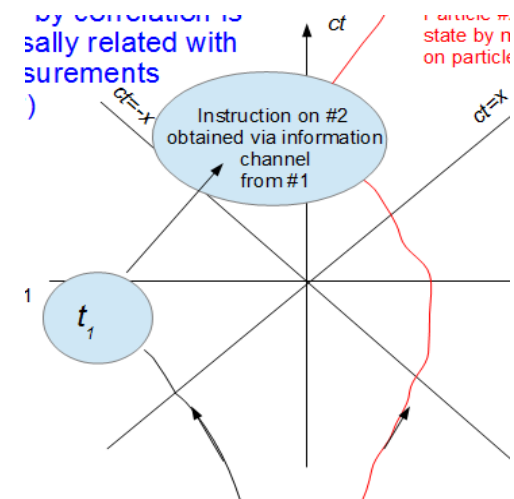
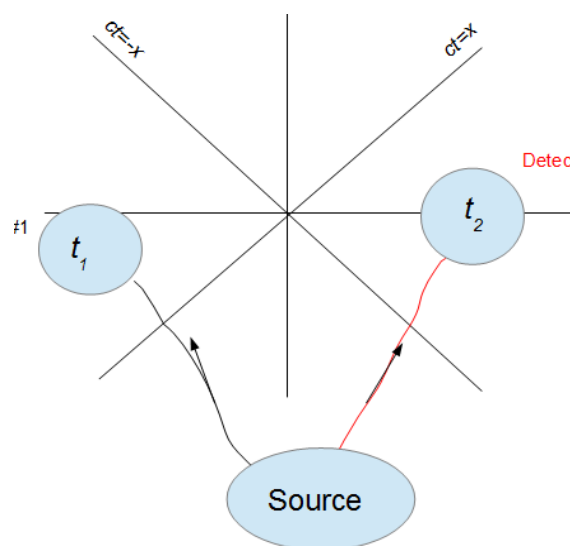
Preparation by correlation is always causally related with earlier measurements (Weinberg, Gisin?)

Particle #2 prepared in a given state by measurements performed on particle #1 at earlier times



# Russian roulette as classical system where identical subtleties occur

- We need a system where evolution of probability is probability-dependent
- There must be two parties
- We need an analogue of causally dependent or causally independent evolutions



# The game



- Two players (Anna and Boris)
- Correlated by a gun where every second chamber is loaded (or a less deterministic rule)
- Boris begins – if he shoots himself then Anna can pull the trigger without risk of being killed
- If Boris survives then Anna will shoot herself unless she cheats and rotates the cylinder by one position

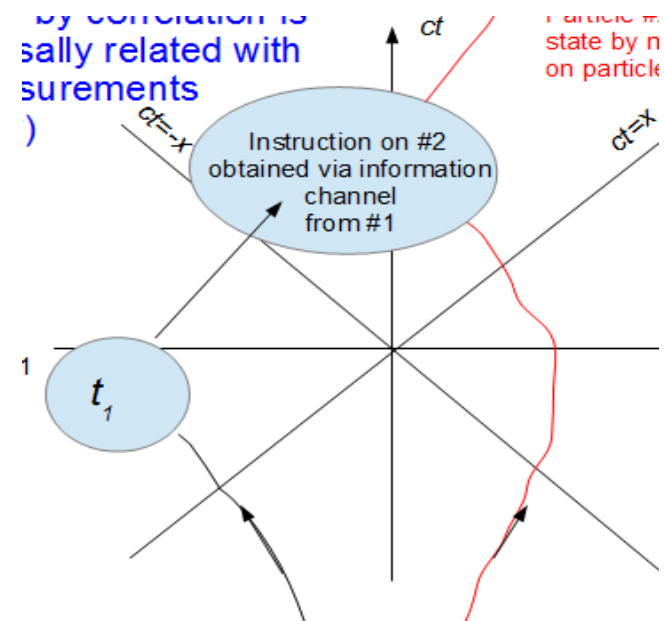
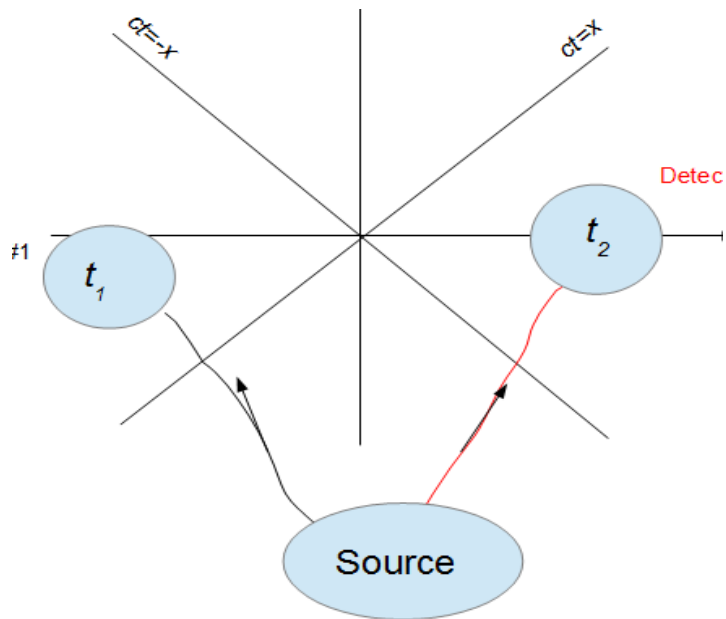
Now two variants

- Anna is informed about the result of Boris
- Anna is **not** informed about the result of Boris

- Let Anna be informed about the result of Boris  
If she cheats then the population of Annas will survive the game
- Let Anna be **not** informed about the result of Boris  
Now cheating and non-cheating are statistically indistinguishable – in both cases  $1/2$  of the population of Annas will not survive
- The behavior of Anna depends on reduction of her conditional probability of getting shot
- But the reduction does not take place at the very moment Boris „makes his measurement” but only **when this information reaches Anna**

# The moral

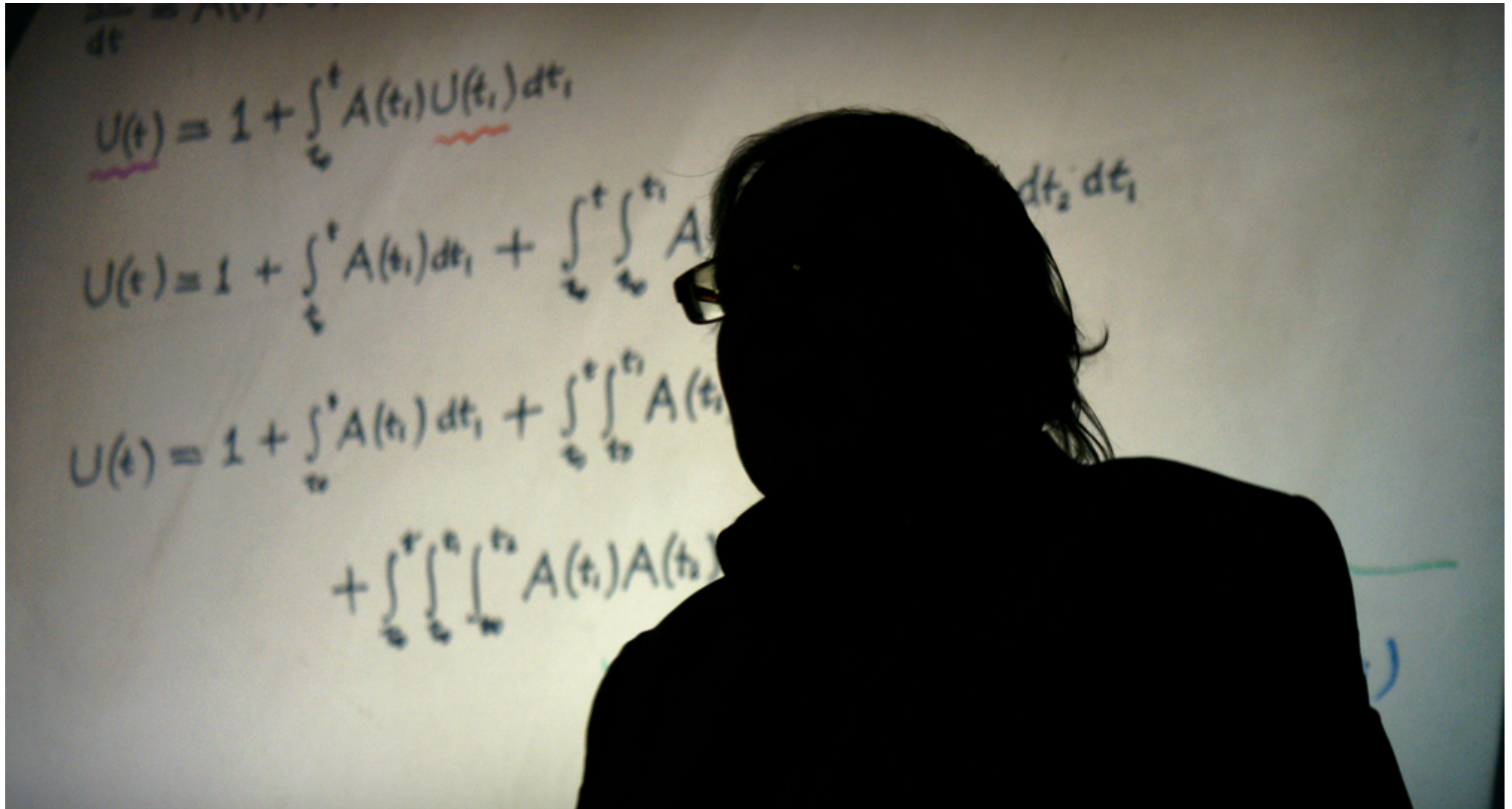
Here reduction of probability at the side of Boris **does not influence** „the generator” of Anna's evolution (parametrized Polchinski)



Here reduction of probability at the side of Boris **does influence** „the generator” of Anna's evolution (Weinberg, Gisin)



In memory of prof. Bogdan Mielnik, a man to whom I owe exceptionally much



# A no-go theorem based on linearity of the Liouville equation (essentially, Mielnik's convexity argument)

*Mixed states should evolve in a linear way since the Liouville equation is always linear, even for nonlinear Hamiltonian systems. There is no consistent way of combining nonlinearity of S with linearity of vN.*

## Comments

- A nonlinear vN equation is a classical Hamiltonian system (formally similar to a rigid body, “Arnold top”). Any solution of a nonlinear vN equation is, in a dynamical sense, a *pure* state. Liouville equation must be treated in nonlinear QM in the same way as in other nonlinear Hamiltonian theories.
- Nonlinear vN equation is **not** an analog of the Liouville equation, but is a nonlinear Hamiltonian system whose solutions are Hamiltonian pure states.
- On the manifold of such states one can define a Liouville equation, which will be linear.
- Reduced density matrices obtained by reduction from pure entangled states are also **pure in the Hamiltonian sense** even if

$$\rho^2 \neq \rho$$

- In nonlinear QM vN equation is **more fundamental** than S equation!

# No-go theorem based on the 0-homogeneity trick

M. Czachor, M. Kuna, "Complete positivity of nonlinear evolution: A case study", PRA 58, 128 (1998)

## Step #1 (linear case)

Consider two systems 1 and 2 evolving by

$$\phi_1^t(a) = U_t a U_t^{-1} \qquad \phi_2^t(b) = b$$

with the initial state

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{1+2}(0) &= \sum_{ss'kl} \rho_{1+2}(0)_{ss'kl} |s\rangle\langle s'| \otimes |k\rangle\langle l| \\ &= \sum_{k,l=1}^m a_{kl} \otimes |k\rangle\langle l| \end{aligned}$$

The state evolves into

$$\sum_{k,l=1}^m a_{kl} \otimes |k\rangle\langle l| \rightarrow U_t \otimes 1_2 \left( \sum_{k,l=1}^m a_{kl} \otimes |k\rangle\langle l| \right) U_t^{-1} \otimes 1_2$$

The same in matrix notation

$$\rho_{1+2}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mm} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\phi_{1+2}^t} \rho_{1+2}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1^t(a_{11}) & \dots & \phi_1^t(a_{1m}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \phi_1^t(a_{m1}) & \dots & \phi_1^t(a_{mm}) \end{pmatrix}$$

The map  $\phi_{1+2}^t$  is completely positive

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**Step #2 (nonlinear case)**

Theorem (Ando-Choi 1986)

*A completely positive and 1-homogeneous  $\phi_{1+2}^t$  is linear*

**Very strange!**

WA Majewski, J.Phys.A, **23**, L359 (1990)

R Alicki, WA Majewski, Phys.Lett.A **148**, 69 (1990)

**Any nonlinear S or vN equation can be modified according to  $\hat{H}(\rho) \rightarrow \hat{H}\left(\frac{\rho}{\text{Tr } \rho}\right)$**

**The resulting dynamics will be 1-homogeneous but unaffected on the orbit of normalized states.**

Does it mean that any nonlinear S or vN dynamics will lead to negative probabilities when we trivially extend the system by adding a non-interacting time-independent “environment”?

If true it would exclude any reasonable nonlinear QM.

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The difficulty is at such a general level that it must be visible even in toy models.

Does it mean that any nonlinear S or vN dynamics will lead to negative probabilities when we trivially extend the system by adding a non-interacting time-independent “environment”?

If true it would exclude any reasonable nonlinear QM.

The difficulty is at such a general level that it must be visible even in toy models.

But the problem of faster-than-light communication in nonlinear QM has taught us how to combine non-interacting systems, and no problem with positivity has ever been observed...

So, where's the catch?



## Toy model

$$i\dot{\rho}_1 = 2 \frac{\text{Tr}_1 h \rho_1}{\text{Tr}_1 \rho_1} [h, \rho_1]$$
$$\dot{\rho}_2 = 0$$

## Correct 2-particle Polchinski-type extension (no faster-than-light effect)

$$i\dot{\rho}_{1+2} = 2 \frac{\text{Tr}_{1+2} h \otimes 1_2 \rho_{1+2}}{\text{Tr}_{1+2} \rho_{1+2}} [h \otimes 1_2, \rho_{1+2}]$$

## Initial condition

$$\rho_{1+2}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} a & a & a & a \\ a & a+b & a+b & a \\ a & a+b & a+b & a \\ a & a & a & a \end{pmatrix}$$

## Reduced density matrix

$$\rho_1(0) = \text{Tr}_2 \rho_{1+2}(0) = 4a + 2b$$

1-homogeneous map  $\rightarrow$   $\rho_1(t) = U_t(\rho_1(0)) \rho_1(0) U_t(\rho_1(0))^{-1}$

## 0-homogeneous map $\rightarrow$

$$U_t(\rho_1(0)) = \exp \left[ -2i \text{Tr}_1 (h \rho_1(0)) ht / \text{Tr}_1 \rho_1(0) \right]$$

One expects

$$\rho_{1+2}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1^t(a) & \phi_1^t(a) & \phi_1^t(a) & \phi_1^t(a) \\ \phi_1^t(a) & \phi_1^t(a+b) & \phi_1^t(a+b) & \phi_1^t(a) \\ \phi_1^t(a) & \phi_1^t(a+b) & \phi_1^t(a+b) & \phi_1^t(a) \\ \phi_1^t(a) & \phi_1^t(a) & \phi_1^t(a) & \phi_1^t(a) \end{pmatrix}$$

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instead we get  $U_t(4a + 2b)aU_t(4a + 2b)^{-1}$  etc.

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instead we get  $U_t(4a + 2b)aU_t(4a + 2b)^{-1}$  etc.

The dynamics is **not completely positive** in mathematical sense, but satisfies all the **physical** requirements of a completely positive dynamics.

The definition of nonlinear CP maps is **unphysical**.

The Ando-Choi theorem is irrelevant.

## Two basic facts about nonlinear S or vN dynamics

**Fact #1** *For any solution of a nonlinear S or vN equation there exists a linear S or vN equation with time-dependent Hamiltonian which has the same solution.*

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi_t\rangle = \hat{H}(\psi_t) |\psi_t\rangle$$

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi_t\rangle = \hat{H}(t, \psi_0) |\psi_t\rangle$$

$$i \frac{d}{dt} |\psi_t\rangle = \hat{H}(t) |\psi_t\rangle$$

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Orbit-dependent  
Hamiltonian



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Time-dependent  
Hamiltonian  
(varying from orbit to  
orbit)

## Two basic facts about nonlinear S or vN dynamics

**Fact #2** *If all measurements are reducible to those of position (Feynman), then linearity is a gauge-dependent property (Doebner-Goldin 1992). Two theories that yield the same  $\rho_t(x)$  are indistinguishable*



## Two basic facts about nonlinear S or vN dynamics

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Doebner-Goldin nonlinear gauge transformation

$$\begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \gamma & \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} =: \begin{pmatrix} A' \\ B' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\psi = \exp[A + iB] \mapsto \exp[A' + iB'] =: \psi'$$

$$\psi(x) \mapsto$$

$$N_{\lambda, \gamma}[\psi](x) = |\psi(x)| \exp [i\lambda \arg \psi(x) + i\gamma \ln |\psi(x)|]$$

Example:  $\psi' = N_{1,\gamma}[\psi]$

$$\rho_\psi = |\psi|^2 = |\psi'|^2 = \rho_{\psi'}$$

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Białynicki-Birula—Mycielski  
logarithmic term

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Doebner-Goldin gauge terms

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**But this is linear  
SE in nonlinear  
disguise!**

Doebner-Goldin gauge terms

# Proposed neutron interferometer test of some nonlinear variants of wave mechanics

Abner Shimony

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi(\vec{r}, t)}{\partial t} = \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta + U(\vec{r}, t) \right) \psi + F(|\psi|^2) \psi, \quad (1)$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi(\vec{r}, t)}{\partial t} = \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta + U(\vec{r}, t) \right) \psi + b \ln(\alpha^n |\psi|^2) \psi. \quad (2)$$

the phase shift:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &\simeq \int_P^{P'} ds \left( \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} [E - F(|\alpha\psi_I|^2)]^{1/2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} [E - F(|\psi_I|^2)]^{1/2} \right) \\ &\simeq (d/\hbar)(m/2E)^{1/2} [F(|\psi_I|^2) - F(|\alpha\psi_I|^2)] \\ &\simeq (\tau/\hbar) [F(|\psi_I|^2) - F(|\alpha\psi_I|^2)], \end{aligned}$$

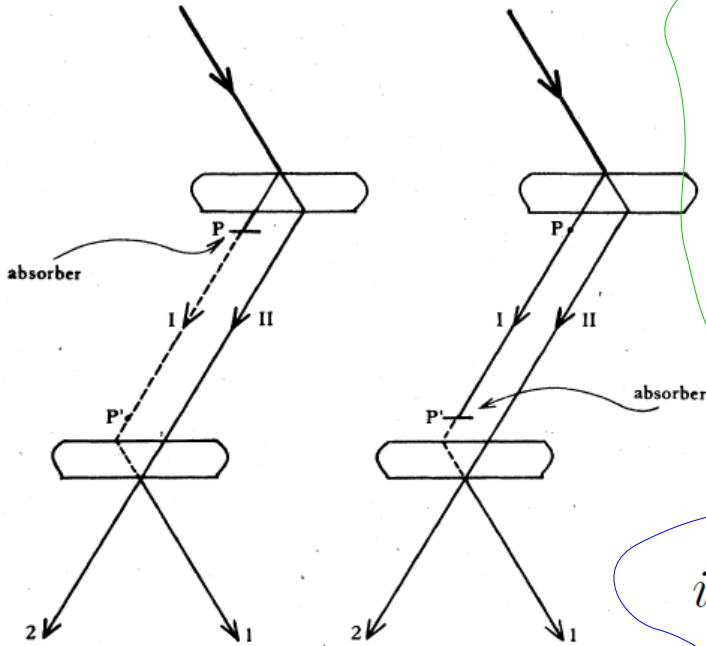


FIG. 1. Dashed line indicates the attenuation of the amplitude of a beam by a factor  $\alpha$ . Output beams I and II are directed towards the neutron counters.

$$\begin{aligned} i\hbar \partial_t \psi' &= \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta + V \right) \psi' + \frac{\hbar^2 \gamma}{4m} (iR_2 + 2R_1 - 2R_4) \psi' \\ &\quad - \frac{\hbar^2 \gamma^2}{8m} (2R_2 - R_5) \psi' - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\gamma} \ln \rho_{\psi'} \psi' \end{aligned}$$

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Phase

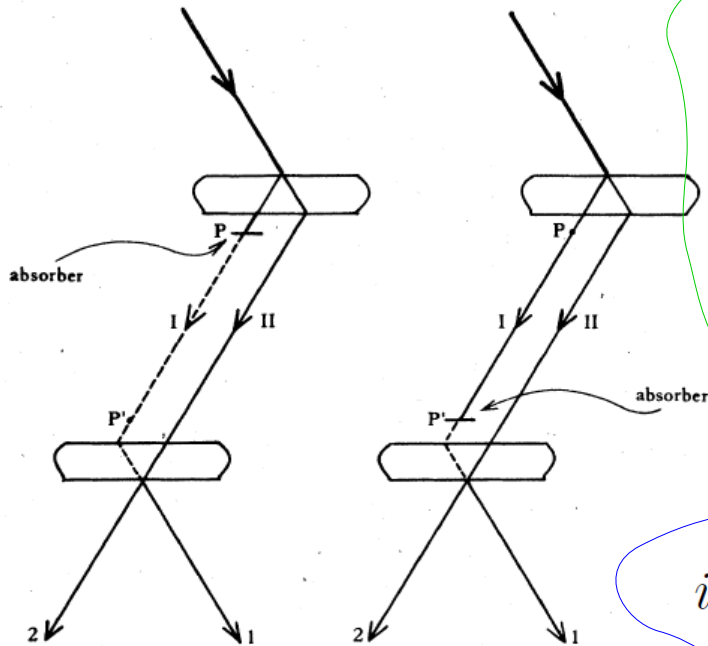


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## Argumentation based on homogeneity of $F$ is dangerous

$$\dots + F(|\psi(x)|^2)\psi(x) \longrightarrow \dots + F\left(\frac{|\psi(x)|^2}{\langle\psi|\psi\rangle}\right)\psi(x)$$

does not change the dynamics of normalized states, but turns the Shimony phase shift into

$$F\left(\frac{|\psi(x)|^2}{\langle\psi|\psi\rangle}\right) - F\left(\frac{|\alpha\psi(x)|^2}{\langle\alpha\psi|\alpha\psi\rangle}\right) = 0$$

for any  $F$  !!!!

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Homework:

Extend the argument to nonlinear von Neumann equations...