

Interactive Visualisation for Teaching the Quantum Double Slit Experiment

Jana Legerská

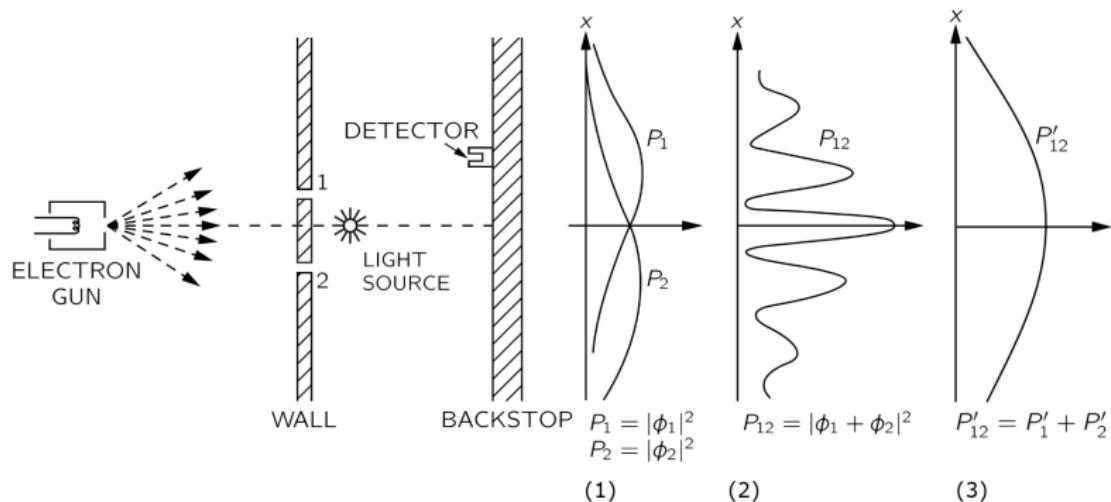
MFF UK

MPTL 2023

Introduction

- 1) What is a double slit experiment?
- 2) Existing visualizations
- 3) A new visualization for high school level

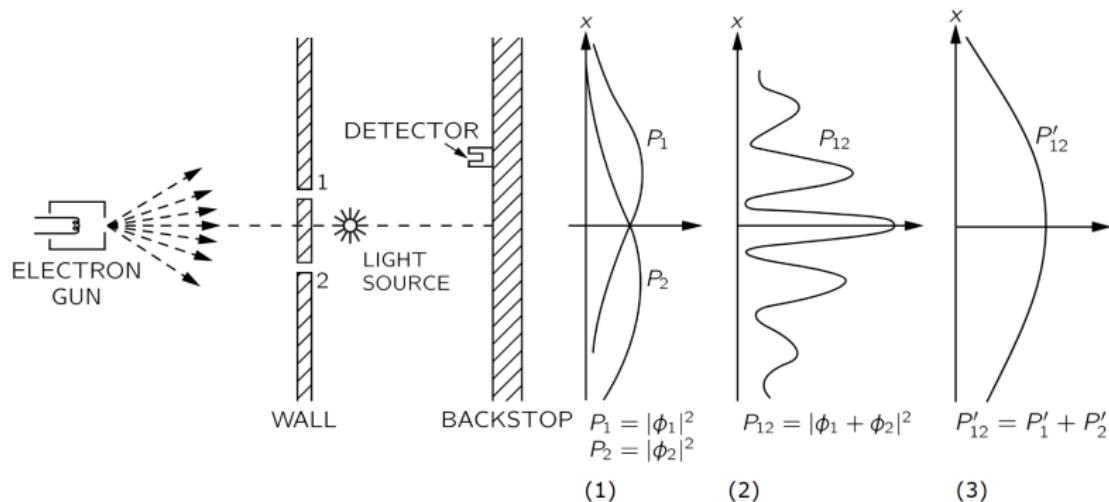
The Double Slit Experiment



“It has in it the heart of quantum mechanics. In reality, it contains the *only* mystery.”

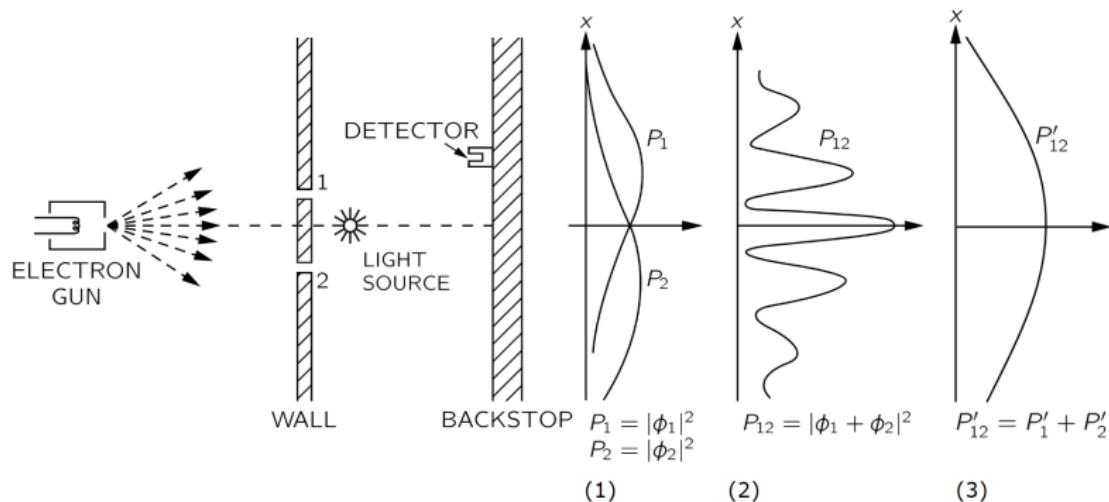
Richard Feynman

The Double Slit Experiment



- Wave-particle duality
- Superposition
- Measurement

The Double Slit Experiment



- (1) Slit 1 **OR** slit 2 open
- (2) Both slits open
- (3) Both slits open + detector (light source) active

The Double Slit Experiment

The real experiment: 2013, USA (R. Bach, D. Pope, S. Liou)



Left slit open (P_1)



Right slit open (P_2)



Both slits open (P_{12})

What are the existing tools for teaching the (quantum) double slit experiment?

- Database (Scopus) and Google search
- Key words: {quantum physics, teaching, visualization, simulation, double slit experiment}
- Annual report of multimedia materials from MPTL 2014

Existing Visualizations for Teaching DSE

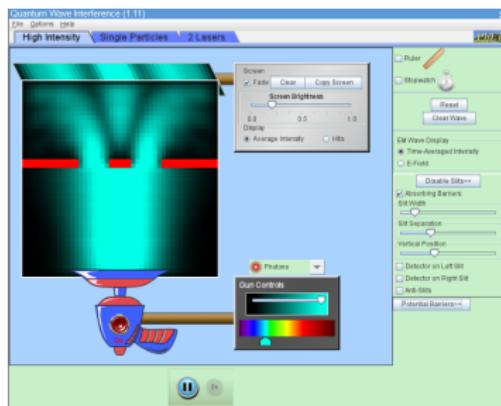
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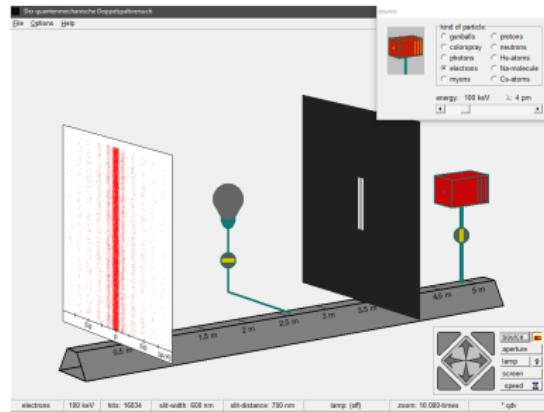
Results

- PhET: *Quantum Wave Interference* (University of Colorado)
- QuILT: *Double Slit Experiment* (Singh, Muthsam *et al.*)
- Dualism (Vícha)

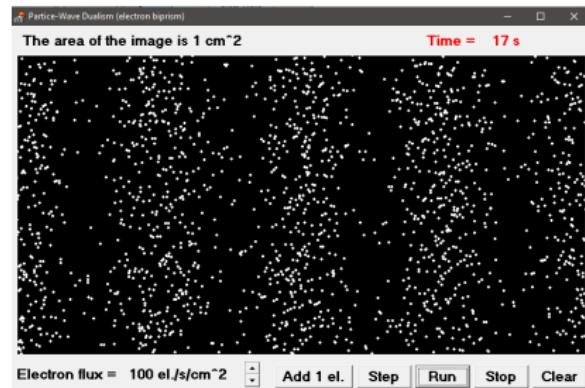
Existing Visualizations for Teaching DSE



PhET: Quantum Wave Interference



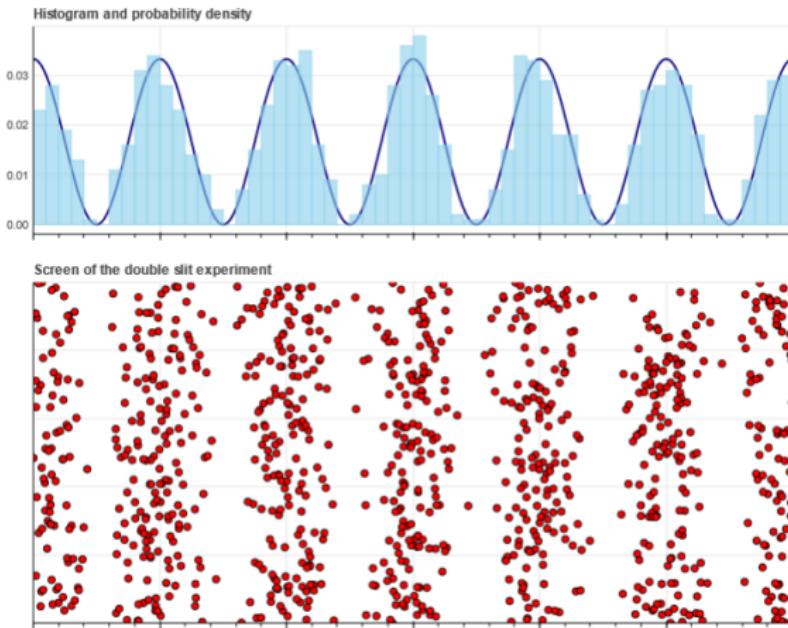
QuILT: DSE



Dualism

New Visualization Tool for Teaching DSE

Double slit experiment with electrons



Send 1 particle

Send 100 particles

Reset

Send continuous stream

Slit 1 Slit 2

Detector

Slit distance: 200 [nm]

Wavelength: 50 [pm]

Energy: 604 [keV]

Red

Blue

Green

Show histogram panel

Show theoretical probability density

Keep previous measurements

New Visualization Tool for Teaching DSE

- Web based (html5)
- Python library Bokeh, javascript callbacks
- Inspired by design principles by PhET
- Interactive parameters (slits set-up, detector, wavelength, ...)



[http://fyzweb.cz/materialy/kvantovka/
Double_slit_experiment.html](http://fyzweb.cz/materialy/kvantovka/Double_slit_experiment.html)

Further Plans

- Development of a teaching sequence on DSE
- Further testing and development within the teaching sequence
- Now: visualization for **electrons** only
- In future: Mode for **classical particles** and **water waves**

Thank you for your attention

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