

Foundational Quantum Tests with Higgs Bosons

Alan Barr

University of Oxford

ICHEP2024, Prague, 20th July, 2024

AJB, Phys.Lett.B [825](#) (2022) 136866 — [2106.01377](#) [hep-ph]

AJB, P. Caban, J.Rembieliński — [2204.11063](#) [quant-ph]

R.Ashby-Pickering, AJB, A.Wierzchucka — [2209.13990](#) [quant-ph]

C.Altomonte, AJB, [2312.02242](#) [hep-ph]

Review article: [AJB, M.Fabbrichesi, R.Floeanini, E.Gabrielli, L.Marzola — 2402.07972, Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys.](#)

Interesting physics \neq 'new' physics \neq beyond-SM physics



ON THE COVER

Heating of Magnetically Dominated Plasma by Alfvén-Wave Turbulence

February 14, 2022

Three-dimensional kinetic simulation of the onset of relativistic wave turbulence in the collision of two magnetic shear waves. Selected for a [Viewpoint](#) in *Physics*.

Joonas Näätäjä and Andrei M. Beloborodov

Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 075101 (2022)

[Issue 7 Table of Contents](#) | [More Covers](#)



Physics NEWS AND COMMENTARY

A Quantized Surprise from Fermi Surface Topology

February 16, 2022

The quantized conductance of a two-dimensional electron gas can reflect its Fermi surface topology.

Synopsis on:

C. L. Kane

Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 076801 (2022)

EDITORS' SUGGESTION

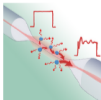


Chaotic Diffusion in Delay Systems: Giant Enhancement by Time Lag Modulation

Laminar chaotic diffusion is found in systems with delayed nonlinearity, accompanied by a reduction of the effective dimensionality.

Tony Abers, David Müller-Bandert, Lukas Hille, and Günter Radons

Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 074101 (2022)



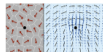
EDITORS' SUGGESTION

Collective Radiative Dynamics of an Ensemble of Cold Atoms Coupled to an Optical Waveguide

An ensemble of cold atoms is coherently coupled in a controlled way to a tapered optical fiber, demonstrating collective effects in this system.

Riccardo Fennetta et al.

Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 073601 (2022)



Physics NEWS AND COMMENTARY

Extending and Contracting Cells

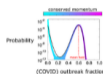
February 15, 2022

Cell-substrate interactions explain a difference in behavior between individual cells and tissues on a surface.

Synopsis on:

Andrew Killeen, Thibault Bertrand, and Chiu Fan Lee

Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 078001 (2022)



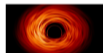
EDITORS' SUGGESTION

Outbreak Size Distribution in Stochastic Epidemic Models

An analytical approach to stochastic epidemic models shows that the statistics of extreme outbreaks depend on an infinite number of minimum-action paths, and that extreme outbreaks define a new class of rare processes for discrete-state stochastic systems.

Jason Hinder, Michael Assaf, and Ira B. Schwartz

Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 078301 (2022)



Physics NEWS AND COMMENTARY

Illuminating Black Holes through Turbulent Heating

February 14, 2022

Predictions indicate that it should be possible to directly identify how turbulence heats a given black hole's plasma from the spectrum of that plasma's radiation.

Viewpoint on:

Joonas Näätäjä and Andrei M. Beloborodov

Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 075101 (2022)



Physics NEWS AND COMMENTARY

Waves in a Solid Imitate Twisted Light

February 15, 2022

Waves of vibration moving through the walls of a pipe can carry orbital angular momentum that could be used for several purposes, according to new theoretical work.

Focus story on:

G. J. Chaplain, J. M. De Ponti, and R. V. Craster

Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 094301 (2022)

Some of the old problems are amongst the deepest...

EINSTEIN ATTACKS QUANTUM THEORY

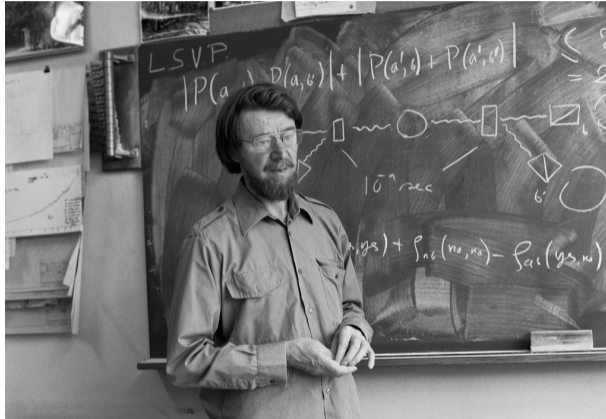
Scientist and Two Colleagues
Find It Is Not 'Complete'
Even Though 'Correct.'

SEE FULLER ONE POSSIBLE

Believe a Whole Description of
'the Physical Reality' Can Be
Provided Eventually.

New York Times, May 4 1935, reporting on Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen paper,
"Can Quantum-Mechanical Description of Physical Reality Be Considered Complete"

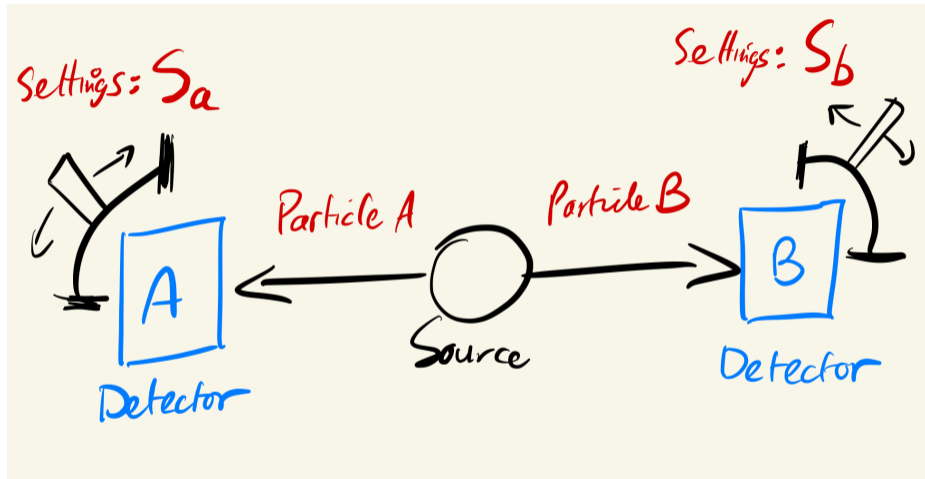
...and they are experimentally accessible



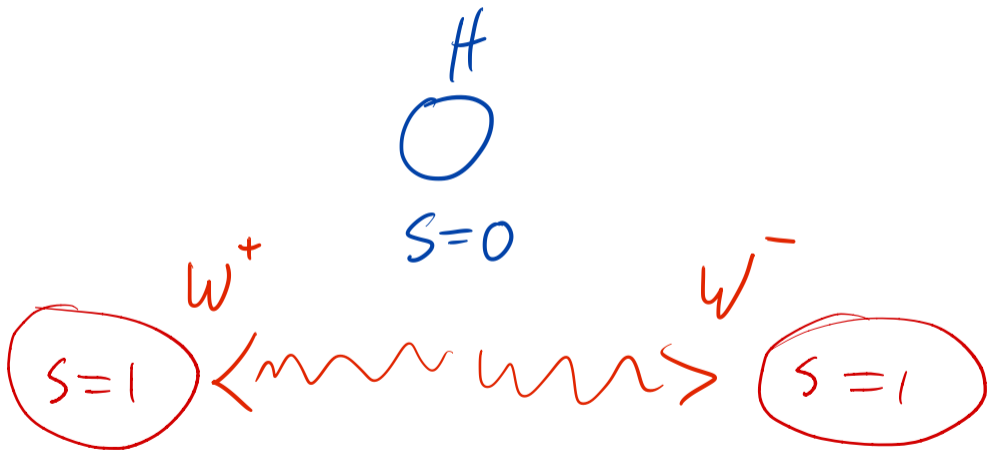
©CERN

J.S. Bell 'On the Einstein Podolsky Rosen paradox' (1964)

The textbook case – apparatus



(Ensemble of similarly-prepared systems)



Spin in the $H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$ decay

The Higgs boson is a **scalar**, while W^\pm bosons are **vector** bosons.

- $H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$ decays produce pairs of W bosons in a **singlet** spin state
- In the narrow-width and non-relativistic approximations:

$$|\psi_s\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (|+\rangle |-\rangle - |0\rangle |0\rangle + |-\rangle |+\rangle)$$

This is a **Bell state** of a pair of qutrits

W bosons are their own polarimeters

$V - A$ decays

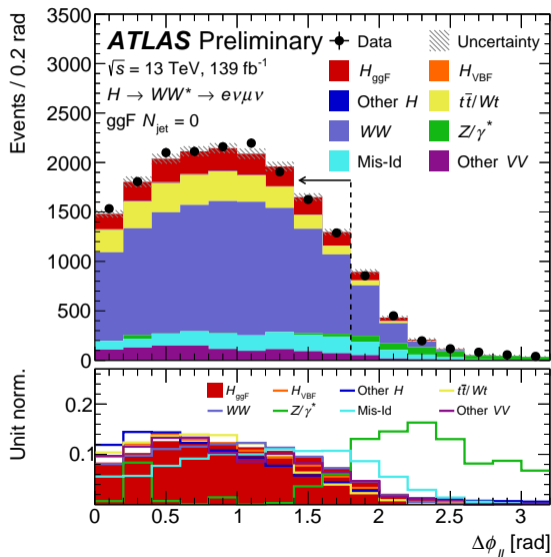
SU(2) weak force is **chiral**

$$W^+ \rightarrow \ell_R^+ + \nu_L$$

$$W^- \rightarrow \ell_L^- + \bar{\nu}_R$$

Decay of a W^\pm boson is equivalent to a **measurement** of its spin along the axis of the emitted lepton

l^+l^- azimuthal correlations in $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$



- Higgs signal concentrated at **small $\Delta\phi_{ee}$**
- Used e.g. in discovery searches

Quantum tests?

The density matrix ρ

A fully-characterised quantum system is described by a **ket** $|\psi\rangle$

A more general, not-fully-characterised, quantum system is described by a **density matrix** ρ

$$\rho = \sum_i p_i |\psi\rangle_i \langle\psi|_i$$

each p_i is a classical probability

Entanglement

For some density matrix

$$\rho = \sum_i p_i |\psi_i\rangle \langle \psi_i|$$

p_i is a classical probability

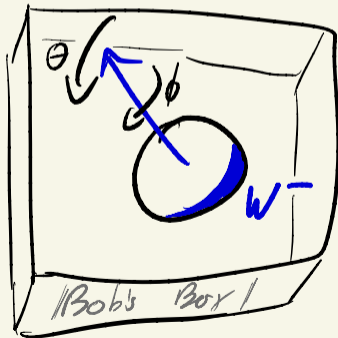
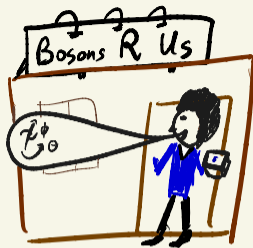
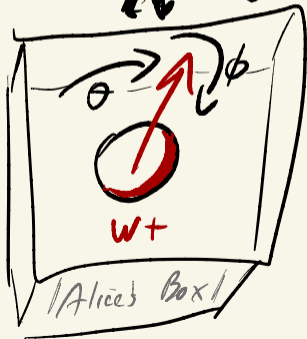
Q: Can we write:

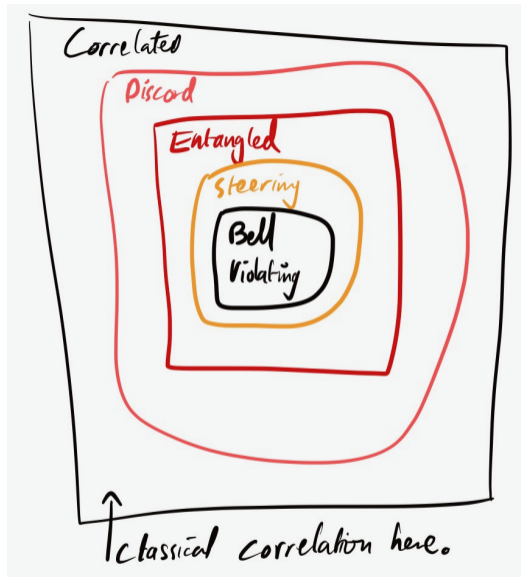
$$\rho \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_i p_i \rho_A \otimes \rho_B \quad p_i \geq 0, \sum_i p_i = 1$$

i.e. as a convex sum of product states?

- Yes \implies separable
- No \implies entangled

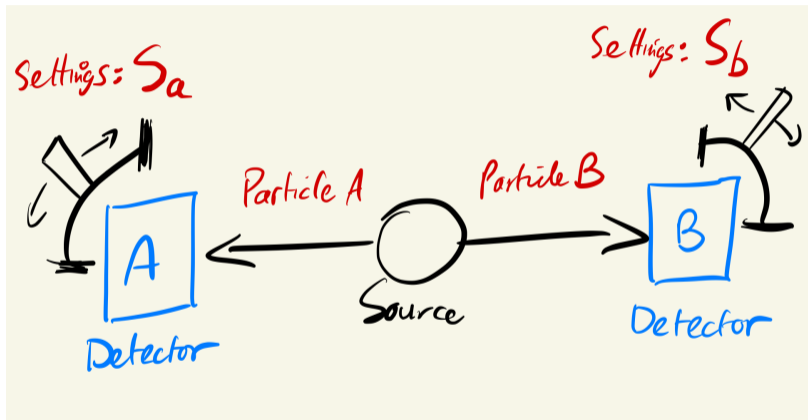
For general ρ (i.e. not pure states)
this is a very **different** statement
from just being correlated





For steering, discord see e.g. Y. Afik, J. de Nova [2209.03969](#)

Bell inequality tests



The local realism formalism

Assume that there is a well-defined correlation function for the pair of measurement outcomes:

$$P(S_A, S_B) \equiv \int d\vec{\lambda} \ a(S_A, \vec{\lambda}) \ b(S_B, \vec{\lambda}) \ P(\vec{\lambda})$$

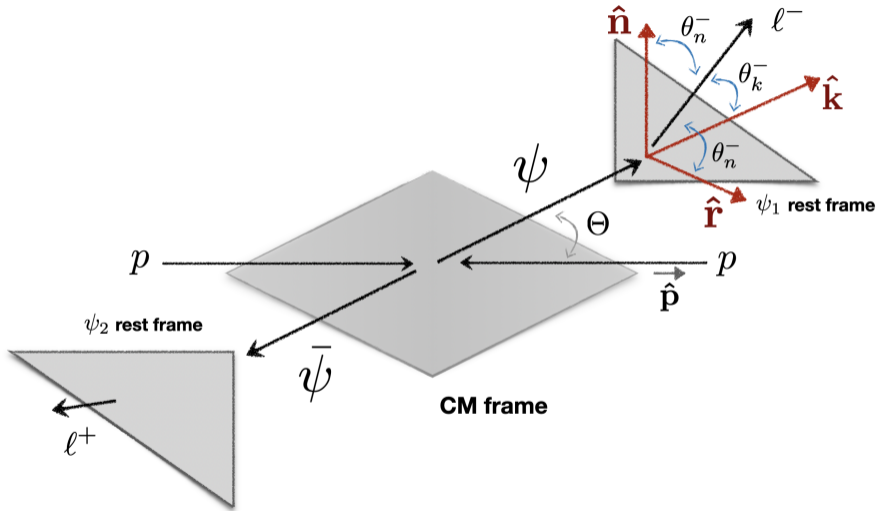
May depend on 'hidden' variables $\vec{\lambda}$ which have a PDF $P(\vec{\lambda})$

Assumptions

- $a(S_A, \vec{\lambda})$ does **not** depend on S_B
- $b(S_B, \vec{\lambda})$ does **not** depend on S_A
- $P(\vec{\lambda})$ does **not** depend on S_A nor on S_B

Demand that marginal probabilities for measurements of A and B are **non-negative**

Geometry



Parameterise ρ – bipartite system

Symmetrically for qutrits in terms of the Gell-Mann matrices λ_i

Single vector boson

$$\rho = \frac{1}{3}I_3 + \sum_{i=1}^8 a_i \lambda_i,$$

a_i : 8 real parameters ($3^2 - 1$)

Two vector bosons

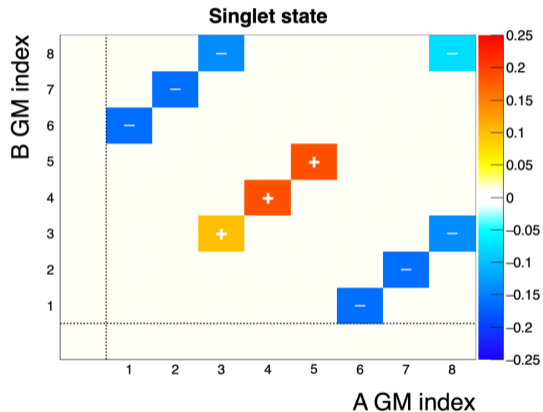
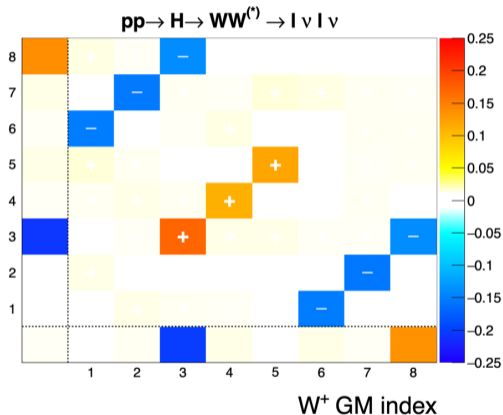
$$\rho = \frac{1}{9}I_3 \otimes I_3 + \sum_{i=1}^8 a_i \lambda_i \otimes \frac{1}{3}I_3 + \sum_{j=1}^8 b_j \frac{1}{3}I_3 \otimes \lambda_j + \sum_{i,j=1}^8 c_{ij} \lambda_i \otimes \lambda_j,$$

$8+8+64 = 80$ real parameters ($9^2 - 1$)

Quantum State Tomography

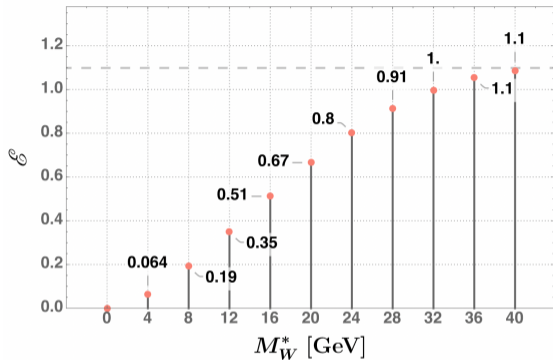
$H \rightarrow WW^*$ decays – qutrit pair

2209.13990



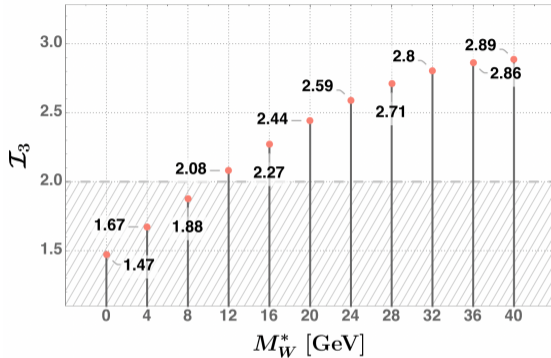
Density matrix parameters from simulated Higgs boson decays to vector bosons
(Madgraph, no background)

$$H \rightarrow WW^*$$



Entangled?

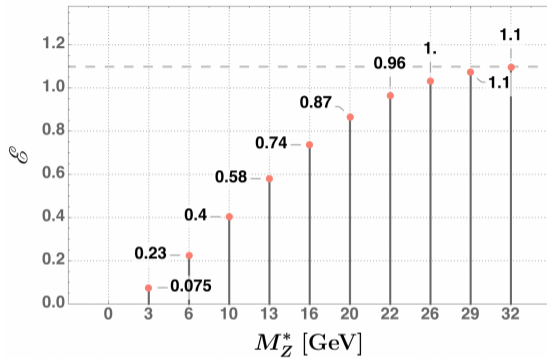
> 0



Bell Violating?

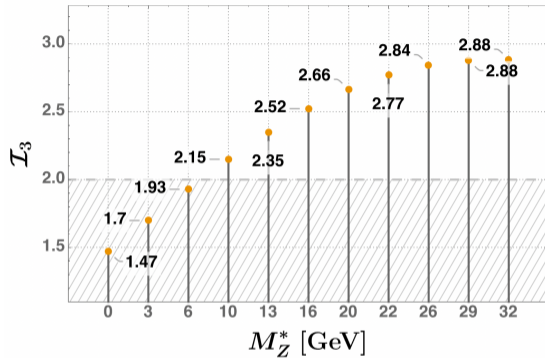
> 2

$H \rightarrow ZZ^*$



Entangled?

> 0



Bell Violating?

> 2

Many systems of interest

Qubit systems

$$\eta_c \rightarrow \Lambda + \bar{\Lambda}$$

$$pp \rightarrow t \bar{t}$$

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*/z \rightarrow z^+z^-$$

$$h \rightarrow z^+z^-$$

$$h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

Qutrit systems

$$B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \ K^*0$$

$$B_s \rightarrow \phi\phi$$

$$pp \rightarrow WW / ZZ$$

$$h \rightarrow WW^* / ZZ^*$$

Prospects at flavour factories, LHC, future e^+e^- , ...

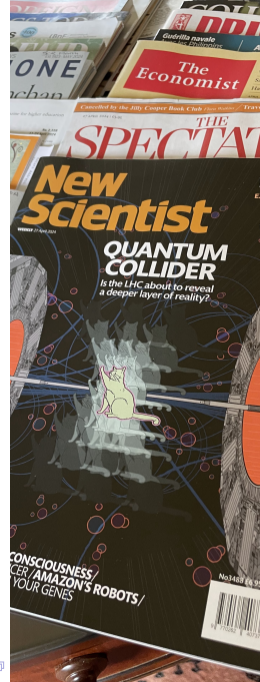
A broad new programme for collider physics

Testing the **foundations** of quantum theory (and beyond?)

- 12 orders of magnitude higher energy than existing tests (shorter time scale, shorter length scale...)
- In 'self-measuring' quantum system
- Deep in the realm of quantum field theory (virtual particles)
- in qubit and qutrit systems
- in bipartite and tripartite systems
- in systems with orbital angular momentum

[It's also a good way to find new fields]

Review: [AJB](#), [M.Fabbrichesi](#), [R.Floresanini](#), [E.Gabrielli](#), [L.Marzola](#)
[2402.07972](#) [Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys.](#)



EXTRAS



Image from ATLAS physics briefing

Parameterise ρ – bipartite system of qubits

in terms of the Pauli matrices σ_i

Single qubit

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2}I_2 + \sum_{i=1}^3 a_i \sigma_i,$$

a_i : 3 real parameters ($2^2 - 1$)

Two qubits

$$\begin{aligned} \rho = & \frac{1}{4}I_2 \otimes I_2 + \sum_{i=1}^3 a_i \sigma_i \otimes \frac{1}{2}I_2 \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^3 b_j \frac{1}{2}I_2 \otimes \sigma_j + \sum_{i,j=1}^3 c_{ij} \sigma_i \otimes \sigma_j, \end{aligned}$$

$3+3+9 = 15$ real parameters ($4^2 - 1$)

Measure the parameters (a_i, b_j, c_{ij}) and test properties of bipartite ρ

Aside on pure states

Pure states are those for which ρ can be written:

$$\rho = |\psi\rangle \langle\psi|$$

These idealised states have very particular properties. Consider, for example:

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha |\uparrow_A\rangle \otimes |\uparrow_B\rangle + \beta |\downarrow_A\rangle \otimes |\downarrow_B\rangle$$

This is both entangled **and** correlated for $(\alpha, \beta) \neq 0$

But for a **general** ρ correlated \neq entangled

Alice and Bob can make states like

$$\rho_{\text{corr}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\rho_A(\uparrow) \otimes \rho_B(\uparrow) + \rho_A(\downarrow) \otimes \rho_B(\downarrow) \right)$$

where

$$\rho_A(\uparrow) \equiv |\uparrow_A\rangle \langle \uparrow_A|$$

etc.

This is classically **correlated**, but **not entangled**
– it can be written as a sum of products (as it is above)

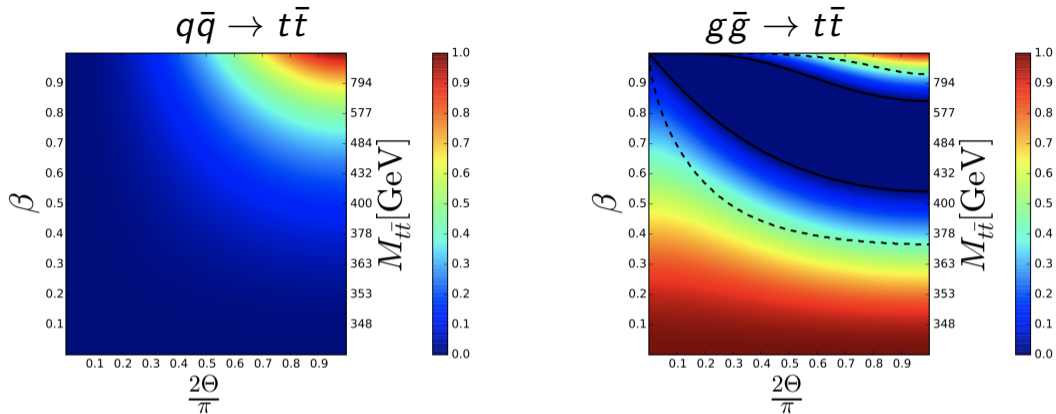
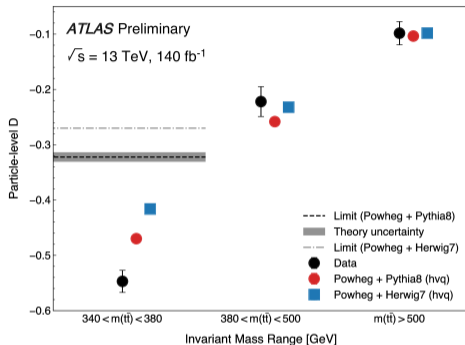


Figure 3: Concurrence of the spin density matrix $\rho^I(\beta, \hat{k})$ resulting from an initial state $I = q\bar{q}, gg$ as a function of the top velocity β and the production angle Θ in the $t\bar{t}$ c.m. frame. All plots are symmetric under the transformation $\Theta \rightarrow \pi - \Theta$. Left: $q\bar{q} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$. Right: $g\bar{g} \rightarrow t\bar{t}$. Solid black lines represent the critical boundaries between separability and entanglement $\beta_{c1,c2}^{\text{PH}}(\Theta)$, while dashed black lines represent the critical boundaries for the violation of the CHSH inequality, $\beta_{c1,c2}^{\text{CH}}(\Theta)$.

Expect $t\bar{t}$ are entangled near threshold and at high p_T

ATLAS observation of quantum entanglement

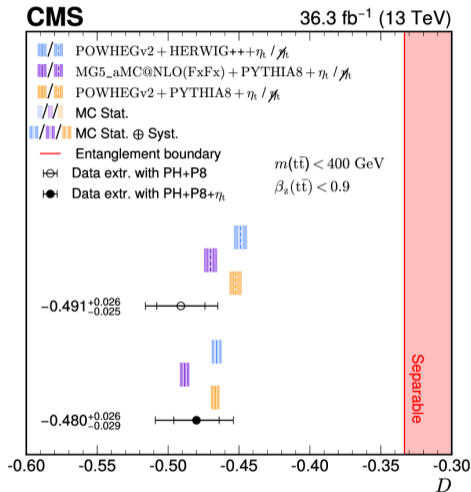
- $t\bar{t}$ spin-qubit pair
- Decay before hadronisation
- Leptons measure top spin
- $D = -\text{tr}[C]/3$
- \exists no separable states with $D < -\frac{1}{3}$



ATLAS result

$$D_{\text{obs}} = -0.547 \pm 0.002 [\text{stat.}] \pm 0.021 [\text{syst.}] \quad (> 5\sigma)$$

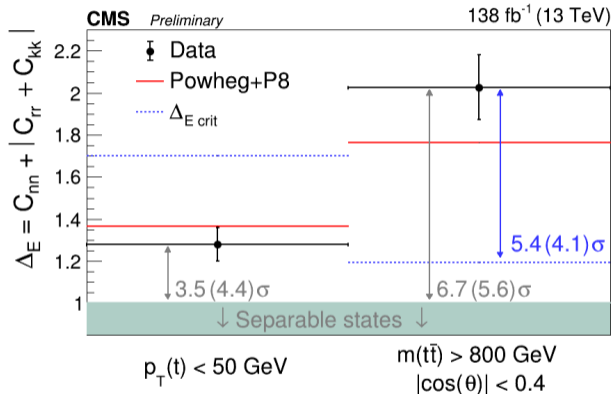
Recent CMS result



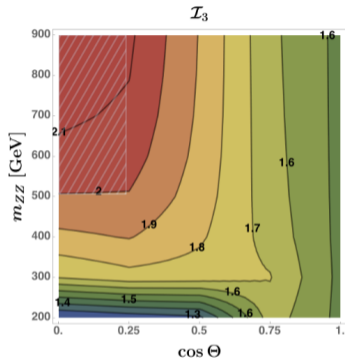
- Includes colour singlet **toponium** model
- $D = -0.478^{+0.025}_{-0.027}$
- **5.1 obs (4.7 exp) σ**

High- $m_{t\bar{t}}$ CMS result

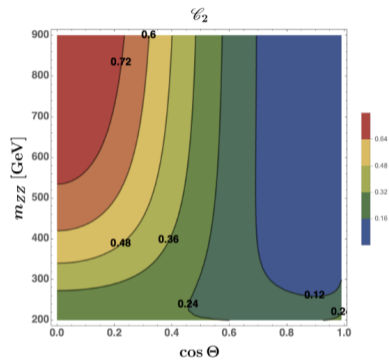
- Semi-leptonic channel
- High invariant mass region
- Space-like separated decays dominate
- $\Delta_{E \text{ crit}}$ corrected on statistical basis for time-like separated events



$pp \rightarrow ZZ$

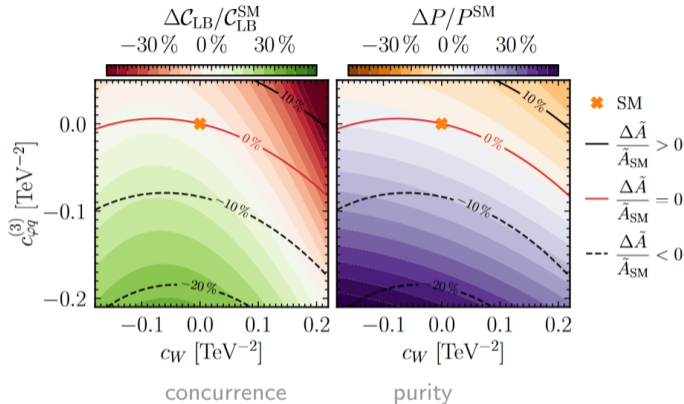


Optimised Bell Operator
 $> 2?$



Bound on the concurrence
 $> 0?$

Searching Beyond the Standard Model?



- Production of W^\pm/Z pairs at pp , e^+e^-
- Quantum spin observables complementary probes of **Wilson coefficients**/EFT
- Offer **increased sensitivity** to certain operators

The CGLMP Qutrit inequality

Collins Gisin Linden Massar Popescu (2002)

The optimal Bell inequality for pairs of **qutrits**

CGLMP function

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}_3 = & P(A_1 = B_1) + P(B_1 = A_2 + 1) \\ & + P(A_2 = B_2) + P(B_2 = A_1) \\ & - P(A_1 = B_1 - 1) - P(B_1 = A_2) \\ & - P(A_2 = B_2 - 1) - P(B_2 = A_1 - 1). \end{aligned}$$

$P(A_i = B_j + k)$ is the probability that A_i and B_j differ by $k \pmod 3$

CGLMP limits?

In a local realist theory

$$\mathcal{I}_3 \leq 2$$

In QM

$$\mathcal{I}_3^{\text{QM}} \leq 1 + \sqrt{11/3} \approx 2.9149$$

In QM for a **maximally entangled** state

$$\mathcal{I}_3^{\text{QM,singlet}} \leq 4/(6\sqrt{3} - 9) \approx 2.8729$$

Testing the CGLMP inequality

Knowing elements of ρ calculate

$$\mathcal{I}_3 = \text{tr}(\rho \mathcal{B}_{\text{CGLMP}}^{\text{xy}})$$

where the CGLMP operator is

$$\mathcal{B}_{\text{CGLMP}}^{\text{xy}} = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} (S_x \otimes S_x + S_y \otimes S_y) + \lambda_4 \otimes \lambda_4 + \lambda_5 \otimes \lambda_5$$

where

$$S_x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_6) \quad \text{and} \quad S_y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\lambda_2 + \lambda_7).$$