

# 6.S979 Lecture 6

Fill out O.H. pdl on Piazza  
This week Friday 1-2 pm

Today: "contextuality"

## Bell-Kochen-Specker Thm:

Recall if observables  $A, B$   
that don't commute  
 $\Rightarrow$  not compatible  
not simultaneously  
measurable

$$A = X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, B = Z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$XZ = -ZX \quad \text{anticommuting}$$

$$|0\rangle \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} Z \\ \boxed{X} \\ X \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} X \\ \boxed{Z} \\ Z \end{array}$$



Let's suppose outcomes determined  
by hidden var  $\lambda$

### 1. Value definiteness

Outcome of measuring  $A$

$$v(A, \lambda) \in \{\pm 1\}$$

### 2. Functional consistency for compatible observables

If  $A, B$  commute

$$C = AB$$

$$v(C, \lambda) = v(A, \lambda) \cdot v(B, \lambda)$$

This is true w/ certainty  
in QM.

PF:  $A, B$  commute.  
 $\Rightarrow$  simul. diagonalizable

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \lambda_2 & \\ 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 & & 0 \\ & \mu_2 & \\ 0 & \dots & \mu_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \mu_1 & & 0 \\ & \lambda_2 \mu_2 & \\ 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \mu_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Thm [Bell-Kochen - Specker]:

If dimension  $\geq 3$ , then  
 $\exists$  observables s.t. no HVT  
obeying 1 & 2 is consistent w/ them

Historical aside:

von Neumann showed this  
w/ (2) assumed even for  
non-compatible observables

$$x, z \quad \frac{x+z}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{x+z}{\sqrt{2}}} = \sqrt{x} + \sqrt{z}$$

Bell [early 60s]

show thru  
KS [later 60s] independently

Merrin Peres 80s  
Much simpler proof  
 $d \geq 4$

Merrin-Peres Magic Square

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad Z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X^2 = Z^2 = I$$

$$XZ = -ZX$$

We'll work over  $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$

$I \otimes X$	$X \otimes I$	$X \otimes X$	$= I \otimes I$
$Z \otimes I$	$I \otimes Z$	$Z \otimes Z$	$= I \otimes I$
$Z \otimes X$	$X \otimes Z$	$ZX \otimes XZ$	$= I \otimes I$

$\begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{matrix}$ 
  
 $\begin{matrix} = \text{even} \\ + \\ = \text{even} \\ + \\ = \text{even} \\ = \text{even} \\ = \text{odd} \end{matrix}$

$\begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix}$ 
  
 $-I \otimes I$ 
  
 $(XZ/X) \otimes (XZ/Z)$

every row & col is compatible

E.g. col 3

$\begin{matrix} X \otimes X \\ Z \otimes Z \\ ZX \otimes XZ \end{matrix}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (X \otimes X)(Z \otimes Z) \\
 &= XZ \otimes XZ \\
 &= Z \otimes XZ \\
 &= + Z \otimes XZ \\
 &= (Z \otimes Z)(X \otimes X)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& (X \otimes X)(Z \otimes X \otimes Z) \\
&= XZ \otimes XZ \\
&= -ZX \otimes XXZ \\
&= -ZX \otimes -XZ \\
&= + (Z \otimes X \otimes Z)(X \otimes X)
\end{aligned}$$

$I \otimes X$	$X \otimes I$	$X \otimes X = I \otimes I$
$Z \otimes I$	$I \otimes Z$	$Z \otimes Z = I \otimes I$
$Z \otimes X$	$X \otimes Z$	$Z \otimes X \otimes X \otimes Z = I \otimes I$
$I \otimes I$	$I \otimes I$	$- I \otimes I$

Suppose HVT  $\Rightarrow$

$v_0$	$v_1$	$v_2$
$v_3$	$v_4$	$v_5$
$v_6$	$v_7$	$v_8$

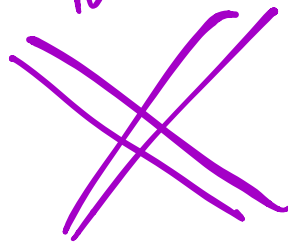
(2)  $\Rightarrow$

$$A_2 = A_0 A_1$$

$A_0$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$= I$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$= I$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$= I$

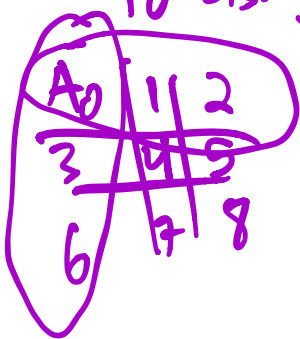
$\parallel$   
 $I \quad I \quad -I$

There is no possible choice of  $v_i$ 's to make this work



## "Contextuality"

To assign a value to  $A_0$  need to know whether it's being measured with  $A_1, A_2$  or  $A_3, A_6$  } "contexts"



# State-independent contextuality

## Contextuality & Non-locality

Bell-KS

Assume  
some measurements  
are compatible



non-contextual  
HVM



Bell, CHSH

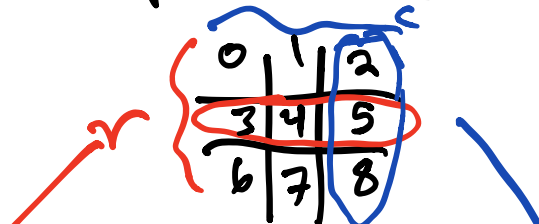
Use spatial nonlocality  
to enforce

Alice measurements are  
compatible w/ Bob measurements

MS game [Aravind late 90s  
early '00s]

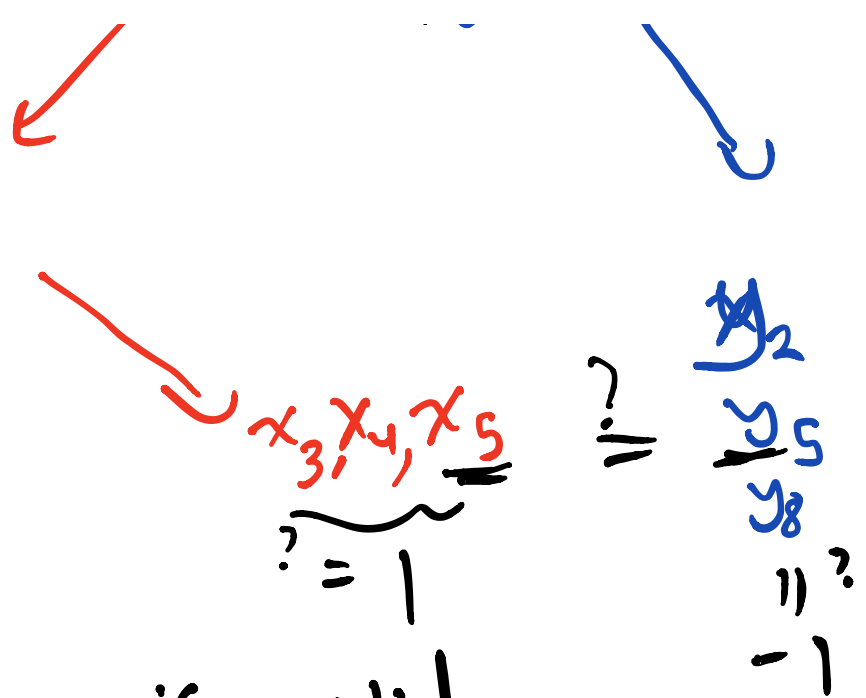
Referee

Alice



Bob





Win if valid  
 grow & val assignment  
 and consistent

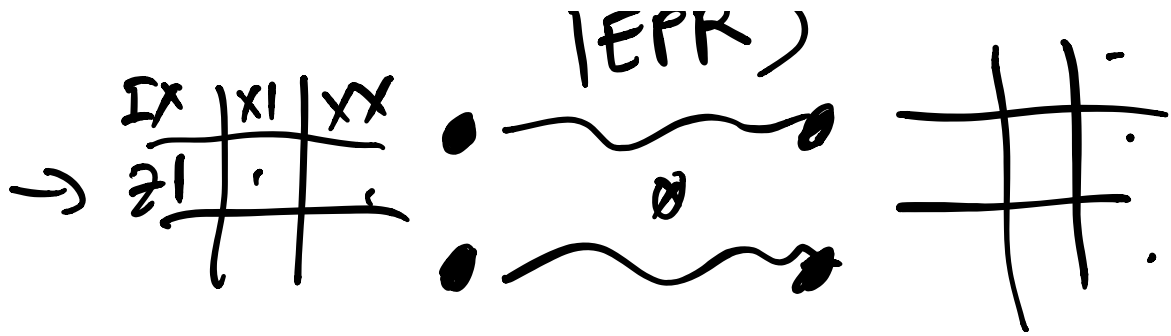
Classical value:

$$\omega_{\text{classical}} < 1$$

$$= 8/9$$

Quantum value:

$$\omega^* = 1$$



Regardless of  $|\psi\rangle$ ,  $A$  &  $B$  satisfy  
row & col conditions

$|\psi\rangle = |EPR\rangle^{\otimes 2} \Rightarrow A$  &  $B$  satisfy  
consistency conditions

$\Rightarrow$  MS game has "perfect completeness"  
"pseudo-telepathy"  
( $\omega^* = 1$ )

Moreover, MS is a self-test  
for  $|EPR\rangle^{\otimes 2}$

$$\omega^*(S) \geq 1 - \epsilon$$

$\exists$  local isometries  $V_A, V_B$  s.t.

$$V_A \otimes V_B |\psi\rangle \approx_{\epsilon^{1/4}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |EPR\rangle^{\otimes 2} \otimes |\text{aux}\rangle$$

$$(V_A \otimes V_B)(A_0 \otimes I)|\psi\rangle$$

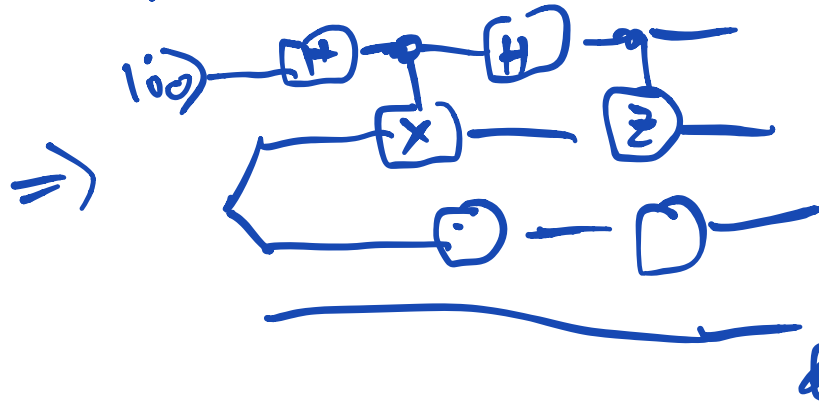
$$\approx_{\epsilon^{1/4}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (IX \otimes II) |EPR\rangle^{\otimes 2} \otimes |\text{aux}\rangle$$

Pf:  $\omega^\dagger(s) \geq 1 - \epsilon$



$$\Rightarrow A_0 A_4 \otimes I |\psi\rangle$$

$$\approx A_4 A_0 \otimes I |\psi\rangle$$



# Generalizations:

- Robert Spekkens et al.  
operational, noise-robust versions  
"measurement contextuality"  
"preparation contextuality"

- Graph-based contextuality  
Cabello Severini Winter  
'10

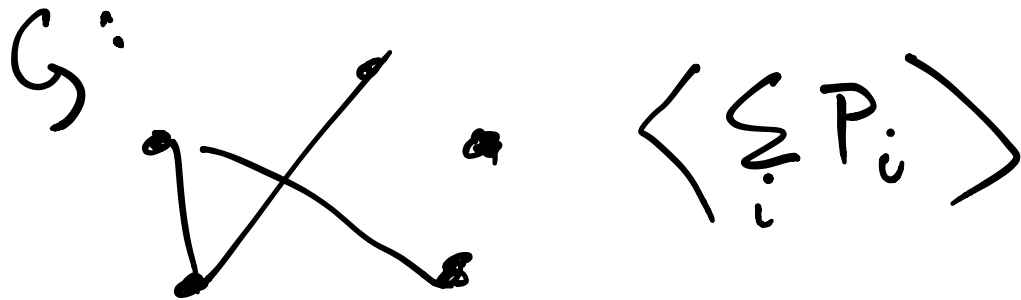
Say you have "events"  
represented by projectors  $\{P_i\}_i$

$$P_i \sim P_j \text{ if } P_i + P_j \leq I$$

$$\Rightarrow P_i P_j = 0$$

$$= P_j P_i = 0$$

compatible, mutually exclusive



Classical, non-contextual model

$$\langle \sum_i P_i \rangle \leq \alpha(G)$$

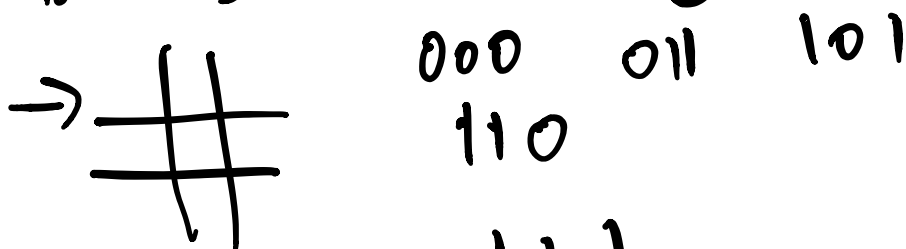
independent set  ~~$\neq$~~

Contextuality inequality if

$\exists |\psi\rangle$  st.

$$\langle \psi | \sum_i P_i | \psi \rangle > \alpha(G)$$

E.g. For each row or col,  $P_i$   
for every "valid" assignment



24  $P_i$ 's in total

Connections to relaxations of  $\mathcal{L}$   
Lovász theta function

Next time:

Show that this doesn't work  
mod  $p$ ,  $p \neq 2$   
 $\exists$  non-contextual HVN for mod  $p$   
versions of  $X$  and  $Z$