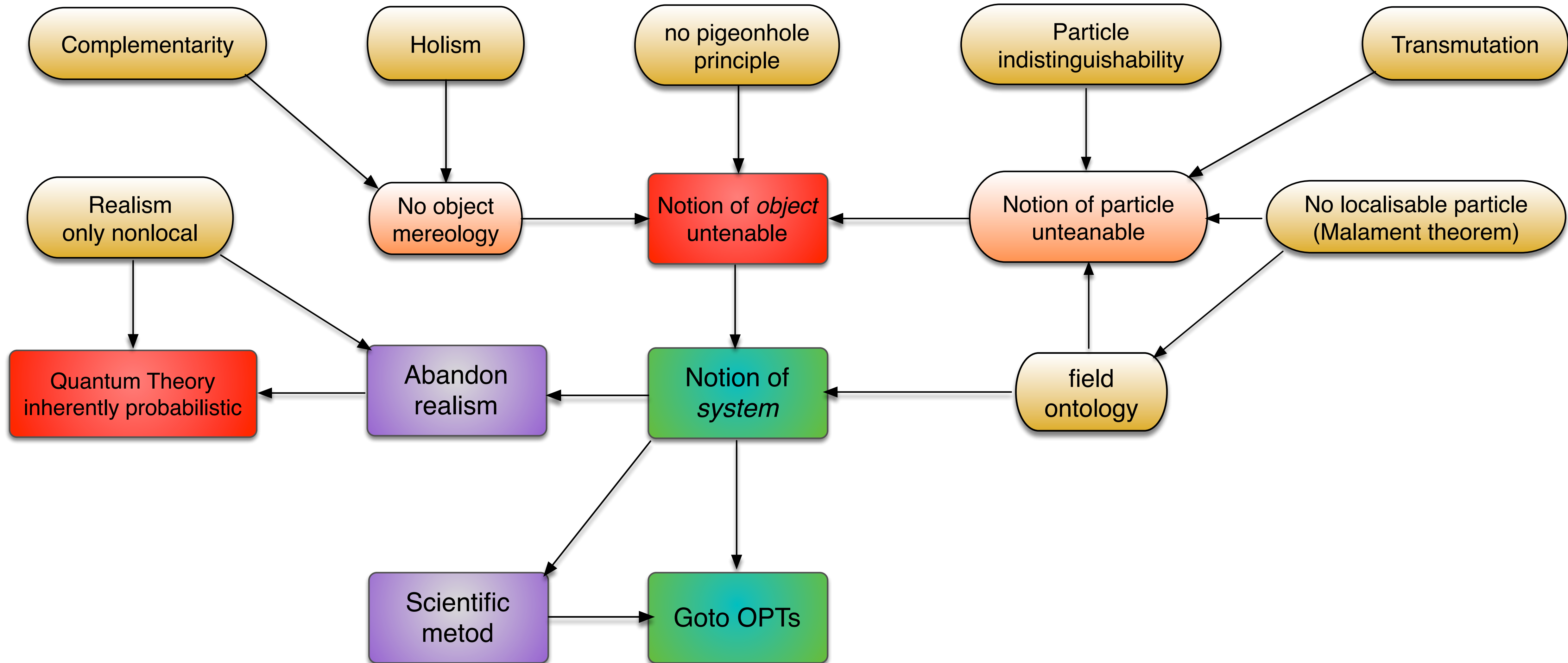


# Quantum Theory no unitary ontology, no paradoxes

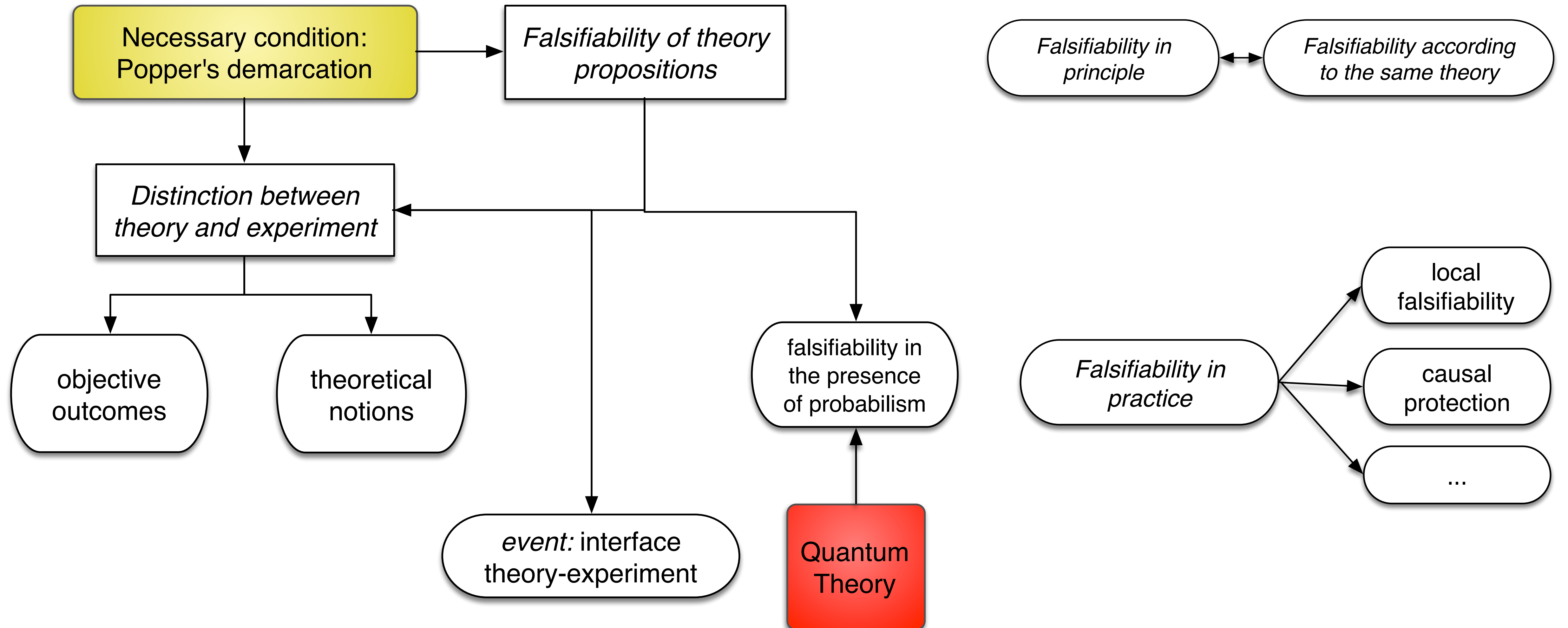
Giacomo Mauro D'Ariano  
Università degli Studi di Pavia

*New Directions in the Foundations of Physics*

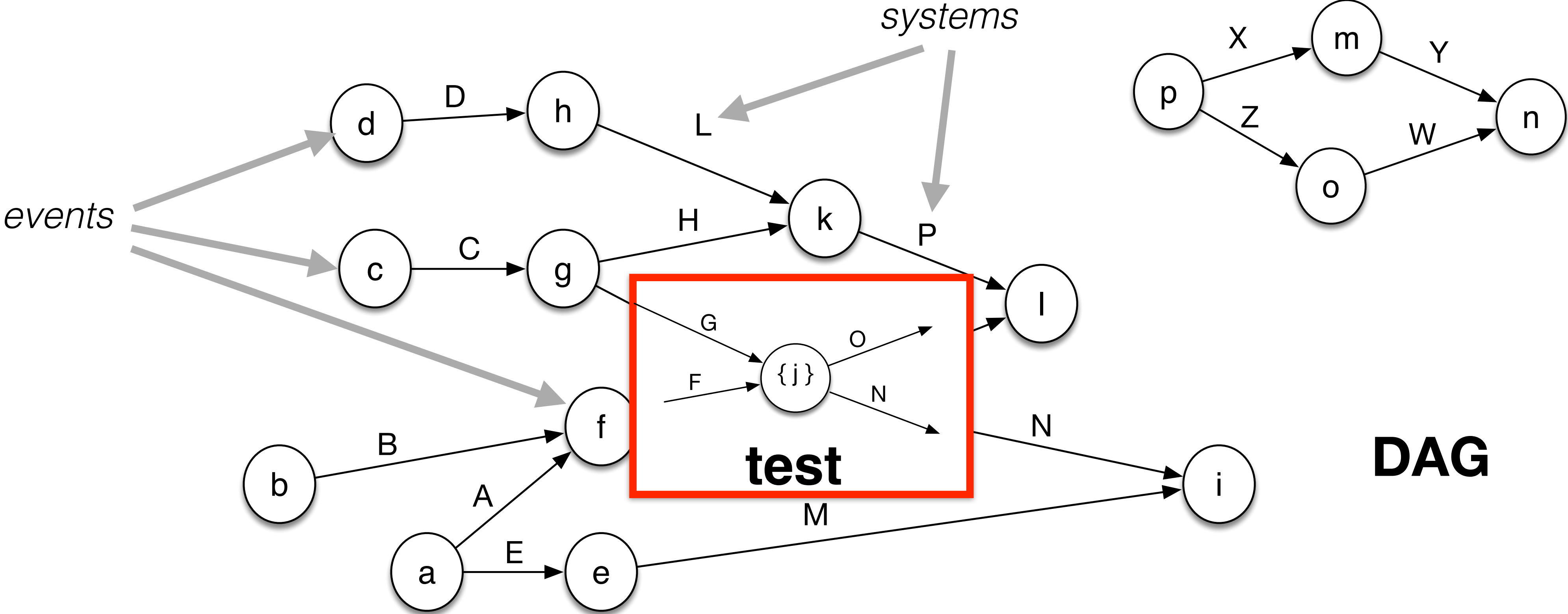
# Theoretical notion: “object” $\implies$ “system”



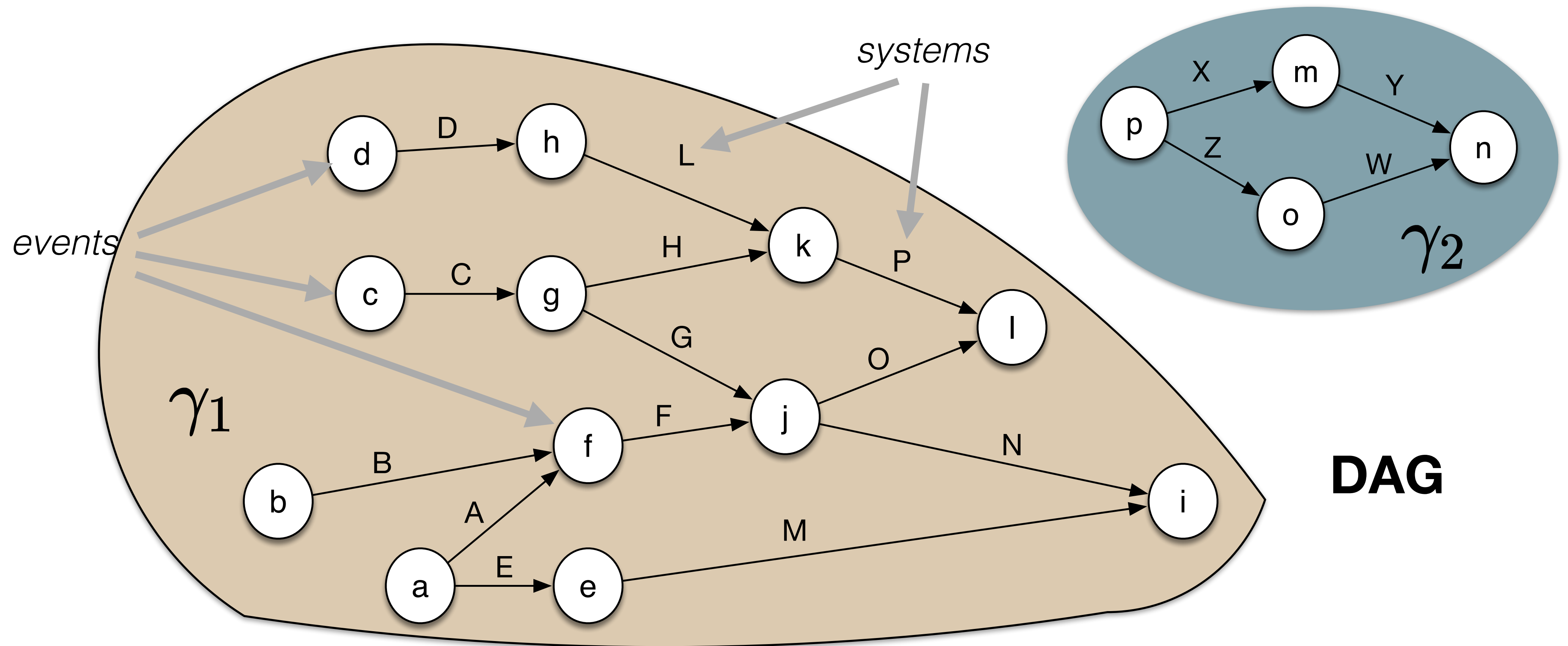
# About scientific method



# Operational probabilistic theory (OPT)

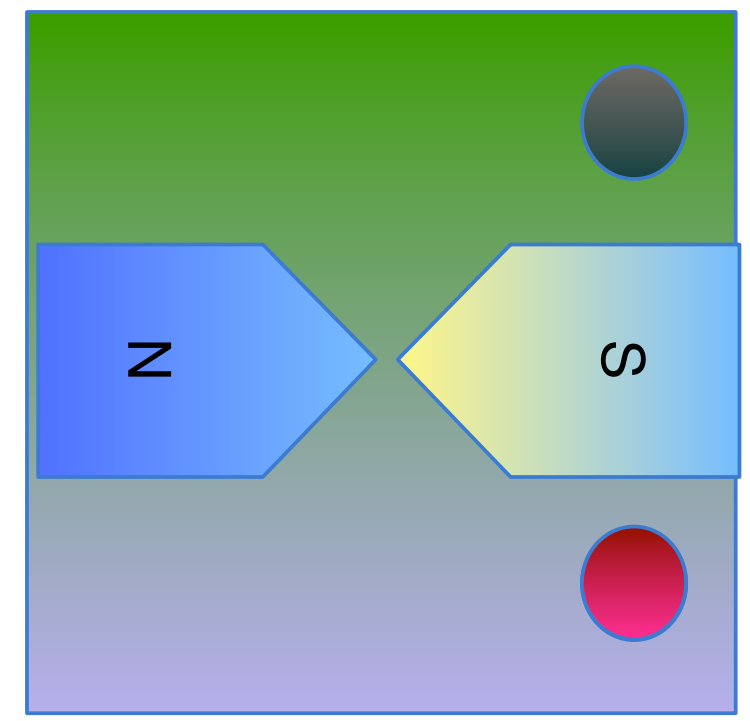
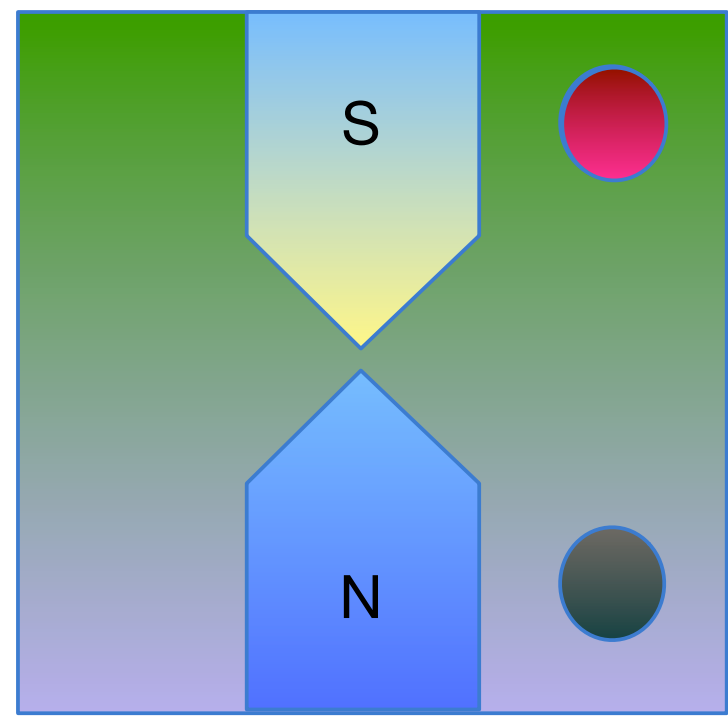
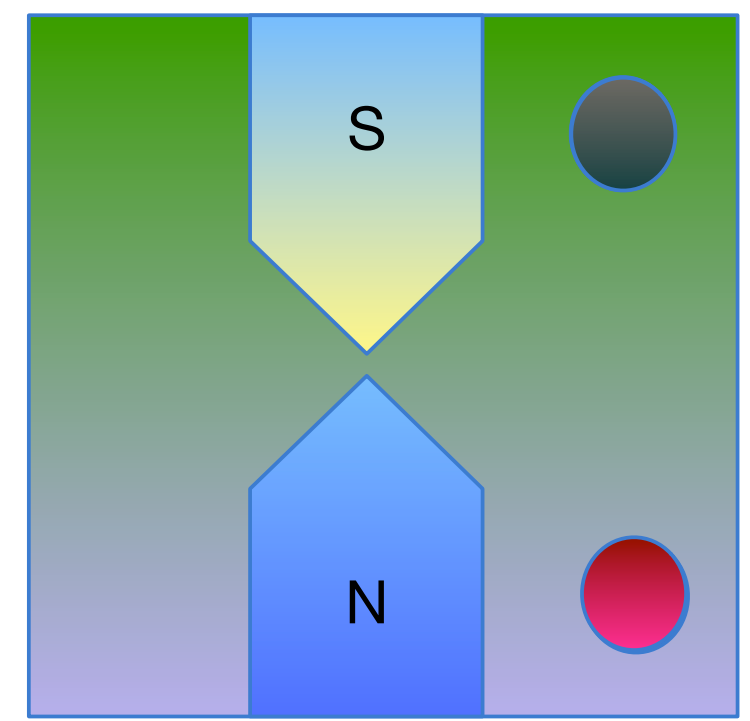
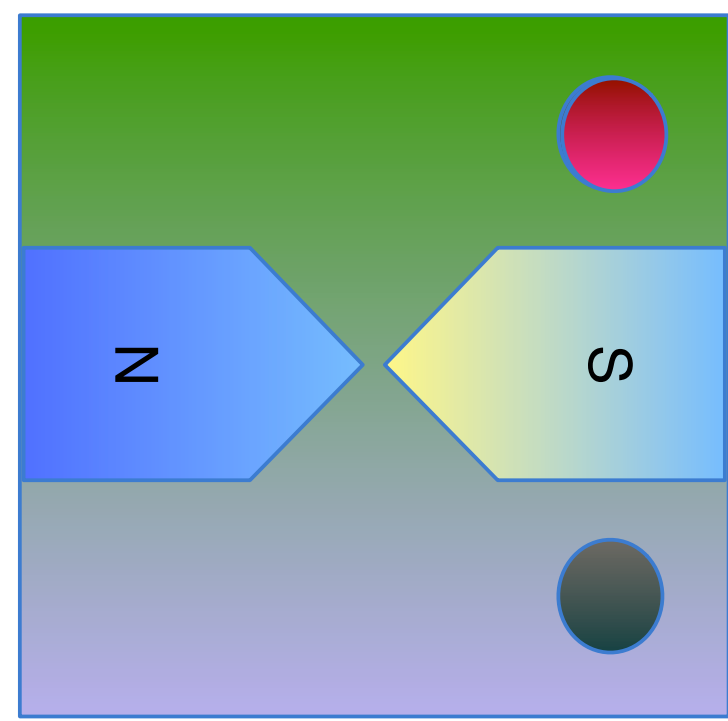
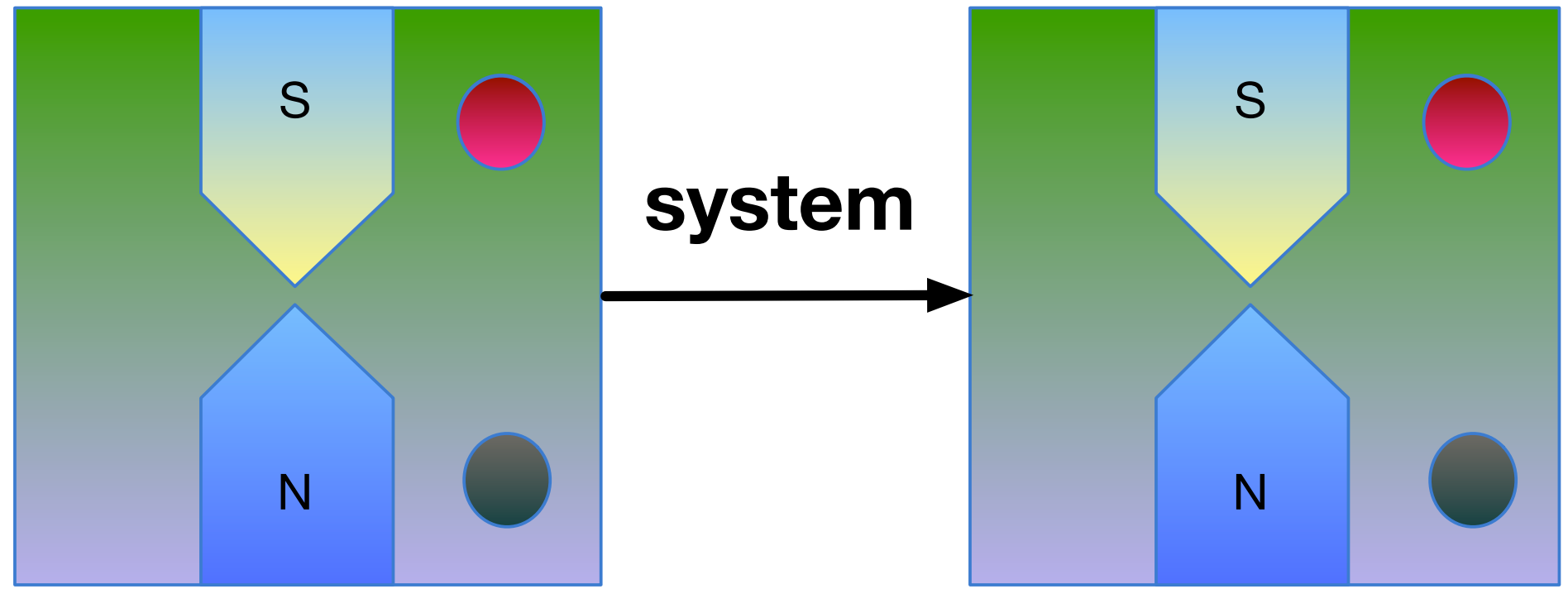


# Operational probabilistic theory (OPT)



$$p(abc, \dots, o | \gamma_1 \cup \gamma_2) = p(abc, \dots, l | \gamma_1) p(n, \dots, p | \gamma_2)$$

**NOTICE: marginals depend on the marginalised part of the graph!**



# Main goal of Science

1. To connect “objective things happening” (events)
2. To devise a theory of such “connections” (systems)
3. To make predictions for future occurrence (predict joint probabilities of events depending on their connections).



Which **events** happen is **objective**  
**Systems** are **theoretical**



OPT: methodologically fit, falsification-ready



# Goal of an OPT

To provide a mathematical description of systems and events consistent with their composition rules, allowing to evaluate their joint probability distribution depending on the graph of connections

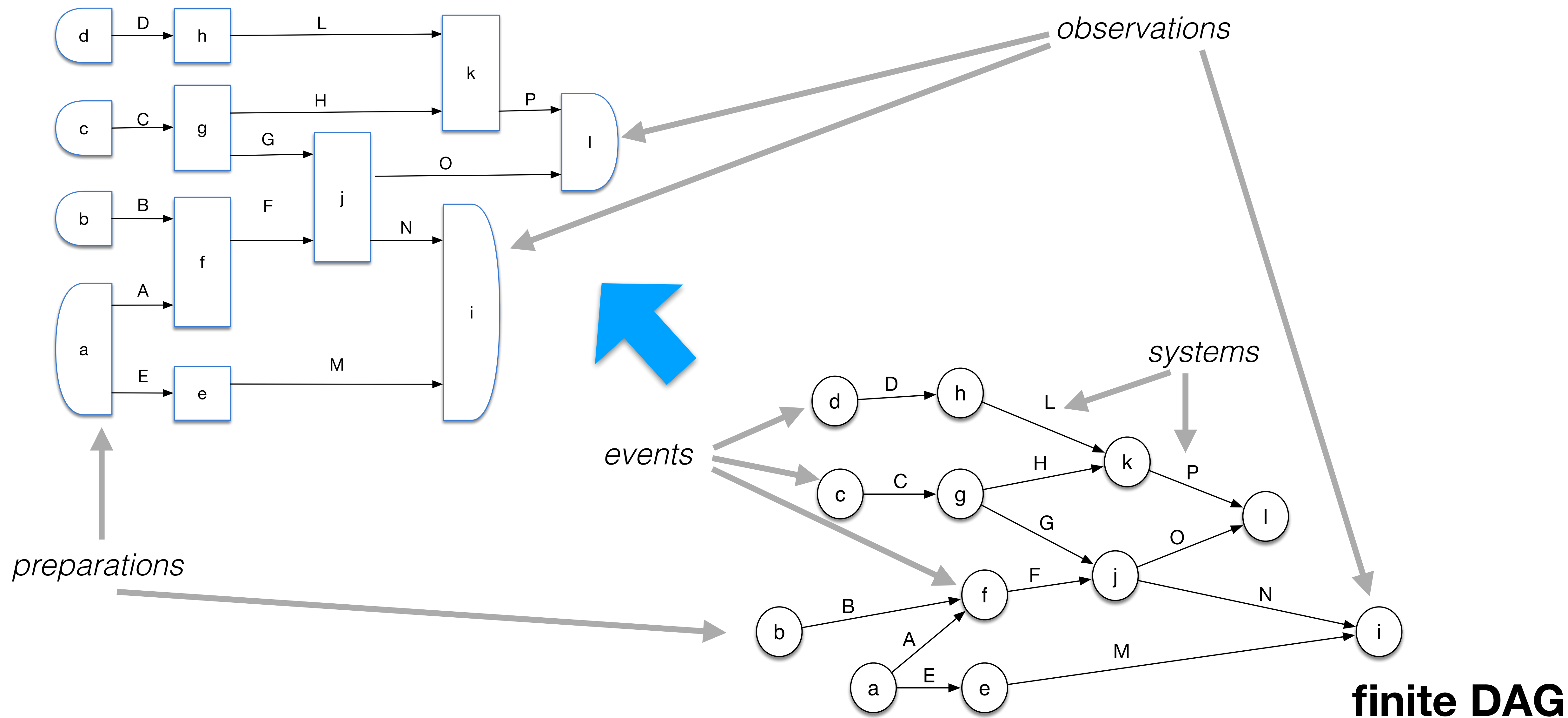




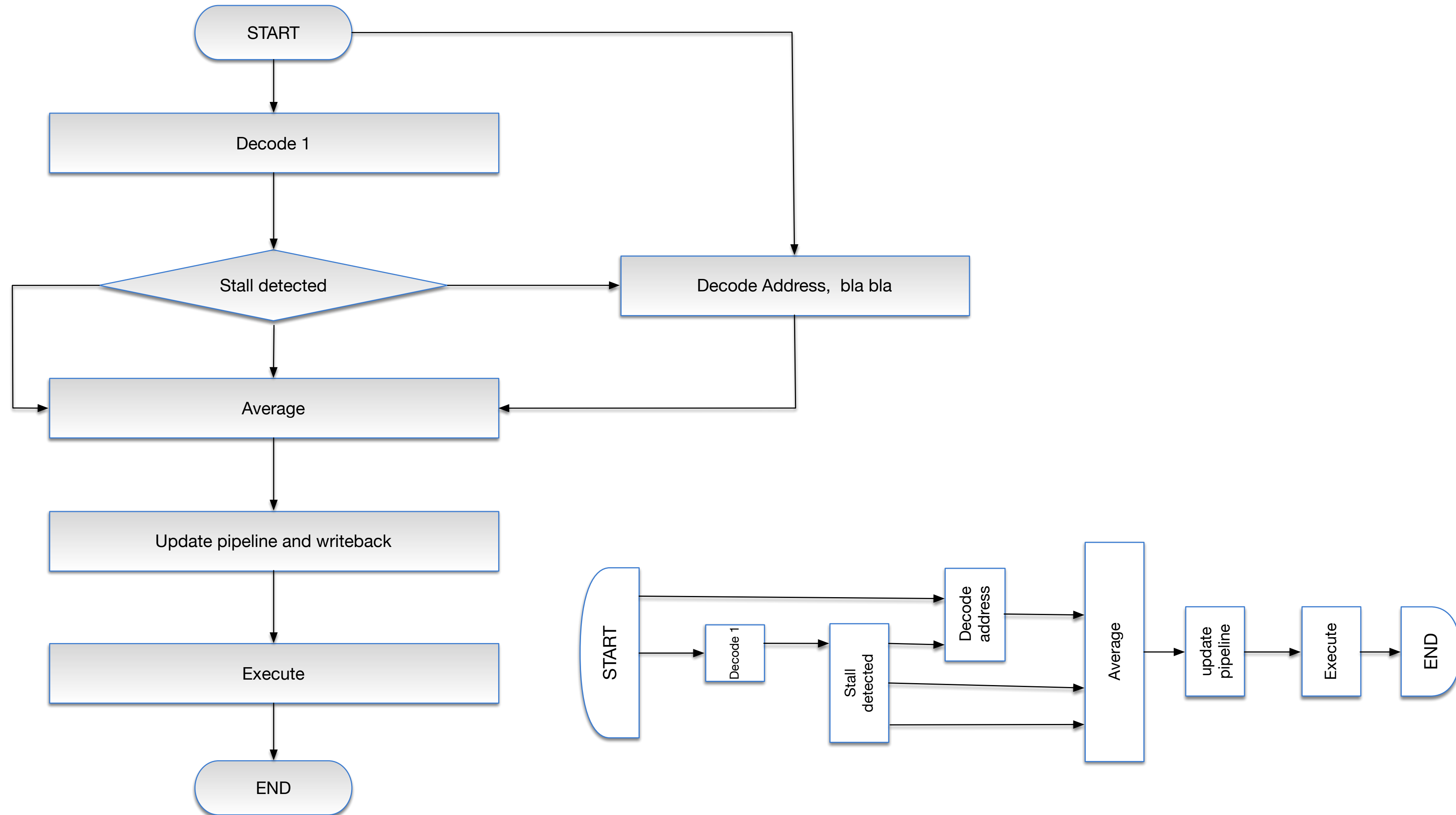
# Quantum Theory: the “grammar” of Physics

*Quantum Theory is an OPT*

# An OPT is an Information Theory



# An OPT is an Information Theory



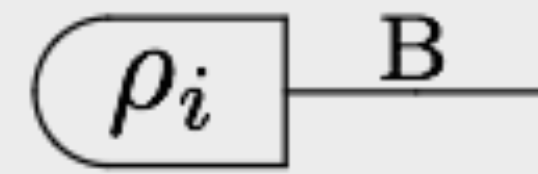
# OPT framework

joint probabilities + **connectivity**



Probabilistic  
equivalence classes

category theory:  
transformations  $\rightarrow$  morphisms  
systems  $\rightarrow$  objects  
  
OPT: strict monoidal braided category

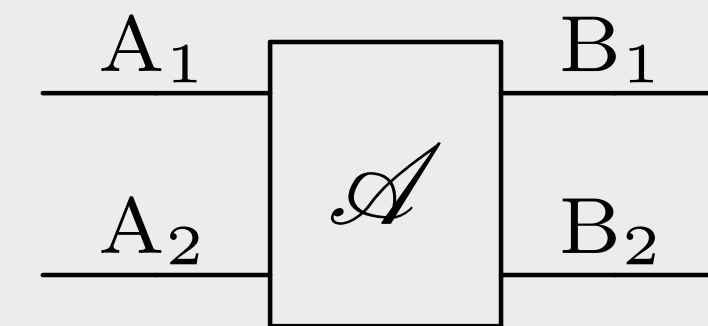


*state*

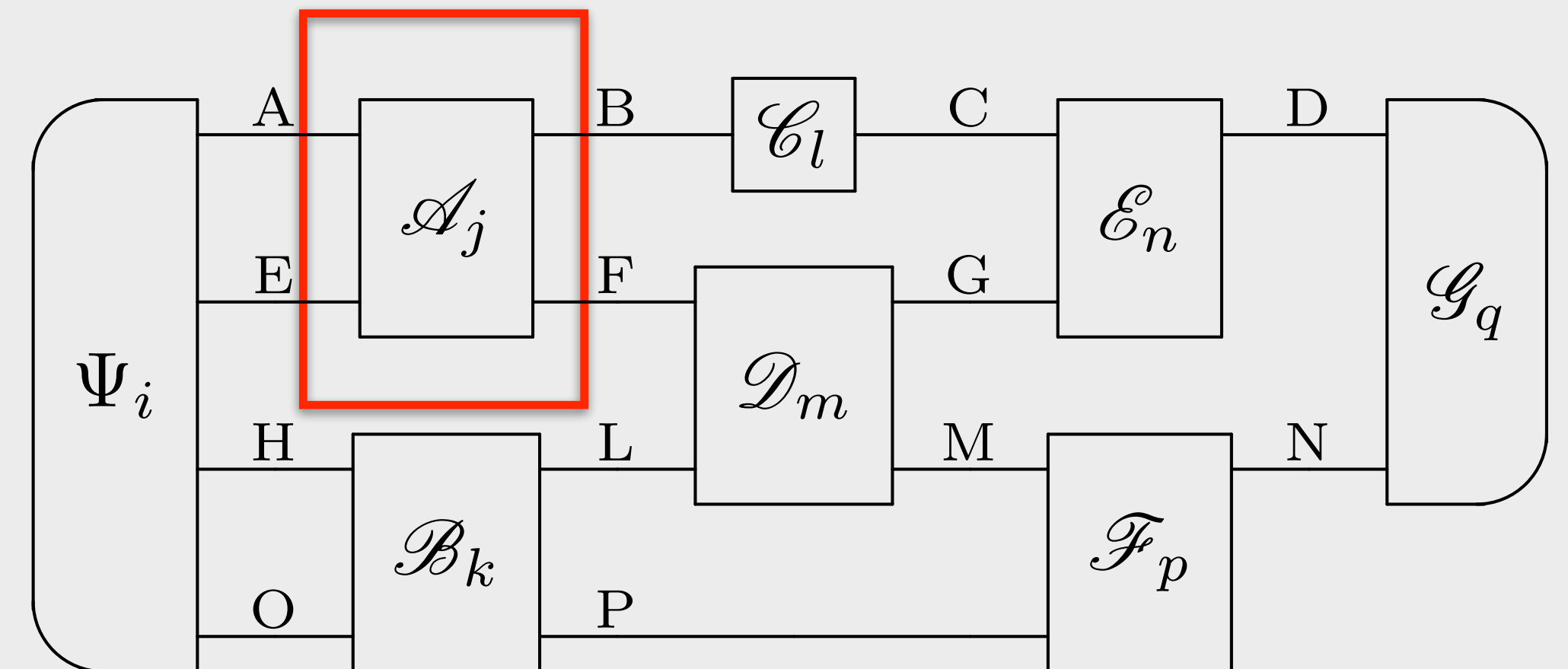


*effect*

*transformation*



$p(i, j, k, l, m, n, p, q | \text{circuit})$



# OPT framework

Sequential composition (associative)

$$\text{---}^A \text{---} \boxed{\{\mathcal{A}_x\}_{x \in X}} \text{---}^B \text{---} \boxed{\{\mathcal{B}_y\}_{y \in Y}} \text{---}^C \text{---} =: \text{---}^A \text{---} \boxed{\{\mathcal{B}_x \circ \mathcal{A}_y\}_{(x,y) \in X \times Y}} \text{---}^C \text{---}$$

Identity test

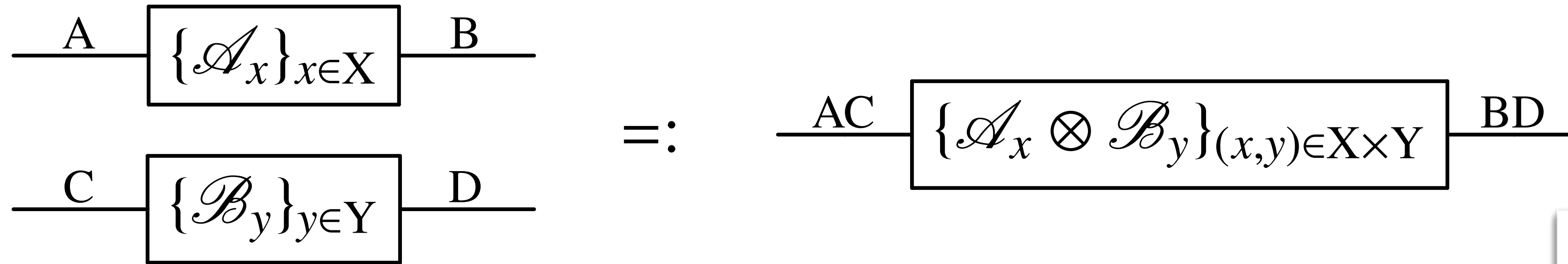
$$\begin{aligned} \text{---}^A \text{---} \boxed{\mathcal{I}_A} \text{---}^A \text{---} \boxed{\mathcal{C}} \text{---}^B \text{---} &= \text{---}^A \text{---} \boxed{\mathcal{C}} \text{---}^B \text{---} = \text{---}^A \text{---} \boxed{\mathcal{C}} \text{---}^B \text{---} \\ \text{---}^A \text{---} \boxed{\mathcal{D}} \text{---}^B \text{---} \boxed{\mathcal{I}_B} \text{---}^B \text{---} &= \text{---}^A \text{---} \boxed{\mathcal{D}} \text{---}^B \text{---} = \text{---}^A \text{---} \boxed{\mathcal{D}} \text{---}^B \text{---} \end{aligned}$$

# OPT framework

OPT: strict monoidal braided category

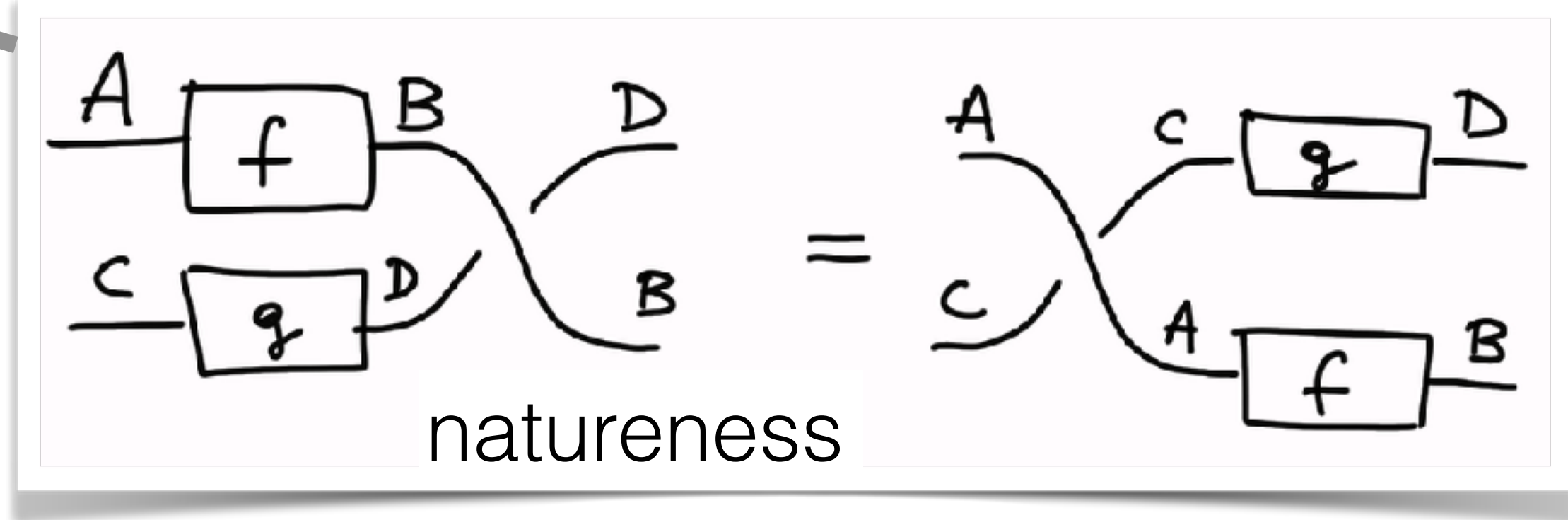
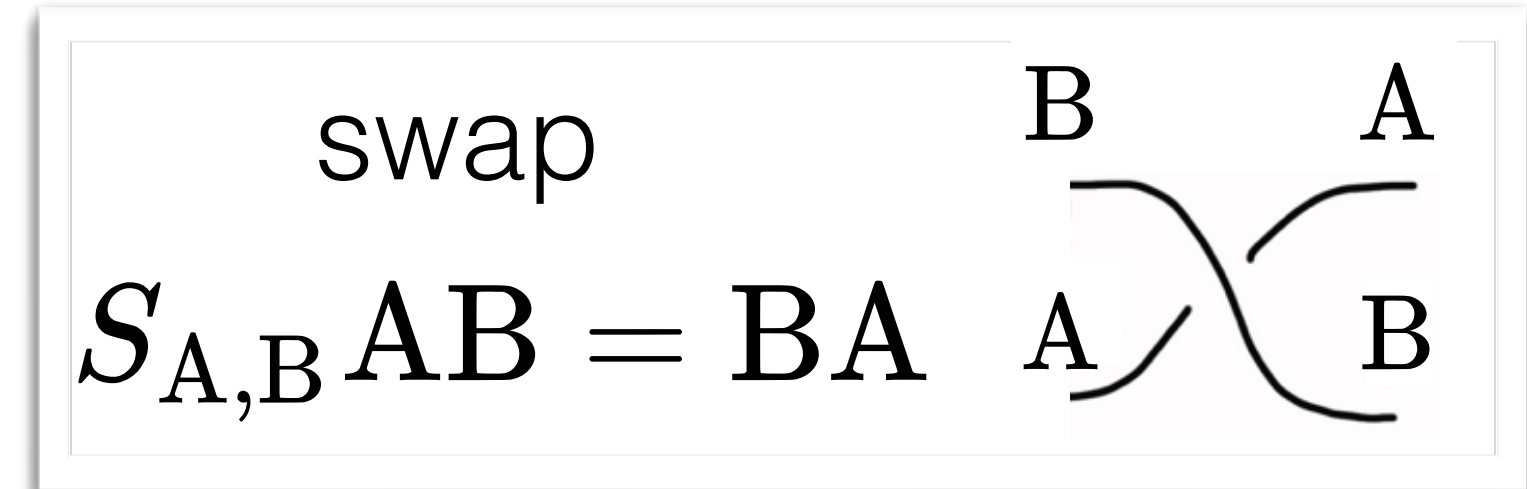
Quantum Theory: symmetric OPT

Parallel composition (associative)



$$AB \simeq BA =: S_{A,B} AB \quad (\text{braided})$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} AI &= IA \\ A(BC) &= A(BC) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (\text{strict monoidal})$$

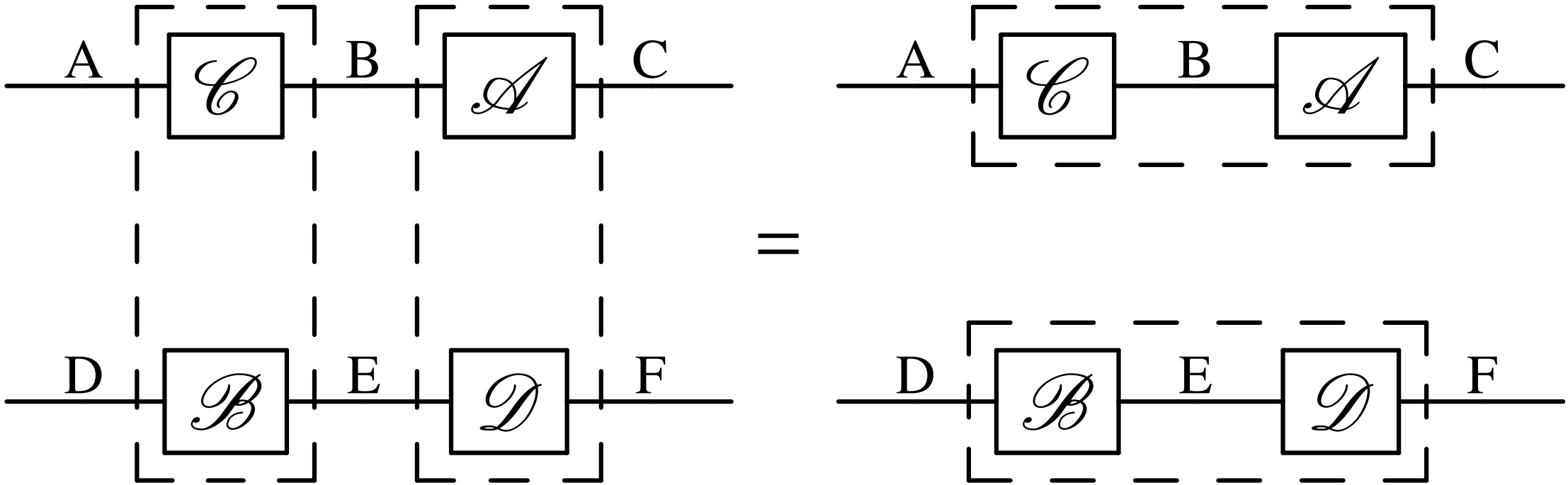


$$(AB)C \simeq A(BC) \quad (\text{monoidal})$$

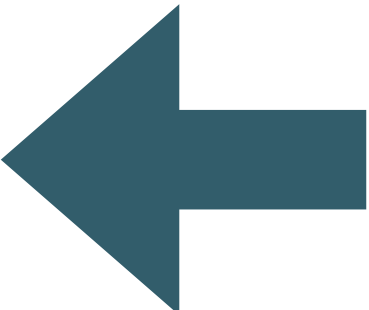
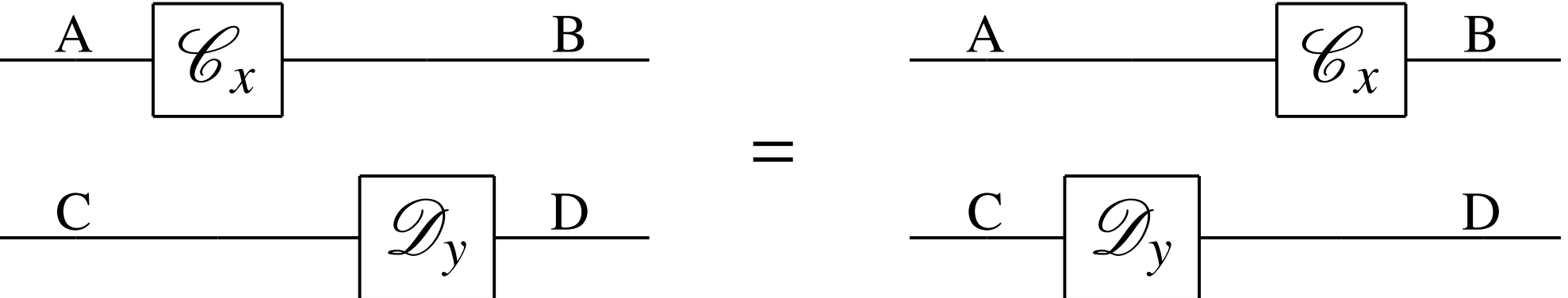
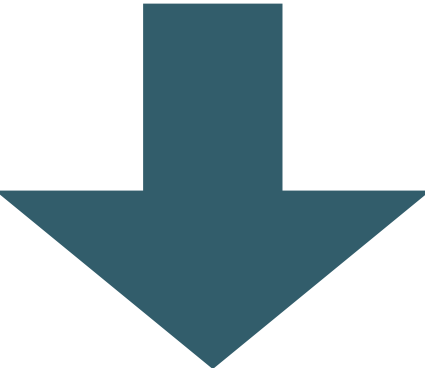
$$S_{A,B}^{-1} = S_{B,A} \quad (\text{symmetric})$$

# OPT framework

Sequential and parallel compositions commute



$$(\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{D}) \circ (\mathcal{C} \otimes \mathcal{B}) = (\mathcal{A} \circ \mathcal{C}) \otimes (\mathcal{D} \circ \mathcal{B})$$



wire-stretching  
(foliations)

## Quantum Theory as OPT

system	A	$\mathcal{H}_A$	(1)
system composition	AB	$\mathcal{H}_{AB} = \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$	
transformation	$\mathcal{T} \in \text{Transf}(A \rightarrow B)$	$\mathcal{T} \in \text{CP}_{\leq}(\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{H}_A) \rightarrow \mathbf{T}(\mathcal{H}_B))$	(2)

## Theorems

trivial system system	I	$\mathcal{H}_I = \mathbb{C}$	
deterministic transformation	$\mathcal{T} \in \text{Transf}_1(A \rightarrow B)$	$\mathcal{T} \in \text{CP}_{=}(\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{H}_A) \rightarrow \mathbf{T}(\mathcal{H}_B))$	(2)
states	$\rho \in \text{St}(A) \equiv \text{Transf}(I \rightarrow A)$	$\rho \in \mathbf{T}_{\leq 1}^+(\mathcal{H}_A)$	(3)
	$\rho \in \text{St}_1(A) \equiv \text{Transf}_1(I \rightarrow A)$	$\rho \in \mathbf{T}_{=1}^+(\mathcal{H}_A)$	(3)
	$\rho \in \text{St}(I) \equiv \text{Transf}(I \rightarrow I)$	$\rho \in [0, 1]$	
	$\rho \in \text{St}_1(I) \equiv \text{Transf}(I \rightarrow I)$	$\rho = 1$	
effects	$\varepsilon \in \text{Eff}(A) \equiv \text{Transf}(A \rightarrow I)$	$\varepsilon(\cdot) = \text{Tr}_A[\cdot E], 0 \leq E \leq I_A$	(4)
	$\varepsilon \in \text{Eff}_1(A) \equiv \text{Transf}_1(A \rightarrow I)$	$\varepsilon = \text{Tr}_A$	(4)



D'ARIANO,  
CHIRIBELLA  
AND PERINOTTI



QUANTUM THEORY  
FROM FIRST PRINCIPLES

# QUANTUM THEORY FROM FIRST PRINCIPLES

An Informational Approach

GIACOMO MAURO D'ARIANO  
GIULIO CHIRIBELLA  
PAOLO PERINOTTI

CAMBRIDGE

## Principles for Quantum Theory

P1. Causality

P2. Local discriminability

P3. Purification

P4. Atomicity of composition

P5. Perfect distinguishability

P6. Lossless Compressibility

G. Chiribella, G. M. D'Ariano, P. Perinotti, *Probabilistic Theories with Purification* Phys. Rev. A **81** 062348 (2010)

G. Chiribella, G. M. D'Ariano, P. Perinotti, *Informational derivation of Quantum Theory* Phys. Rev. A **84** 012311 (2011)

# Principles for Quantum Theory

P1. Causality

P2. Local discriminability

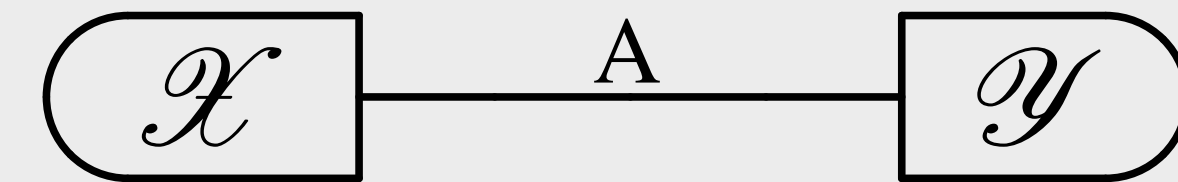
P3. Purification

P4. Atomicity of composition

P5. Perfect distinguishability

P6. Lossless Compressibility

The probability of preparations is independent of the choice of observations



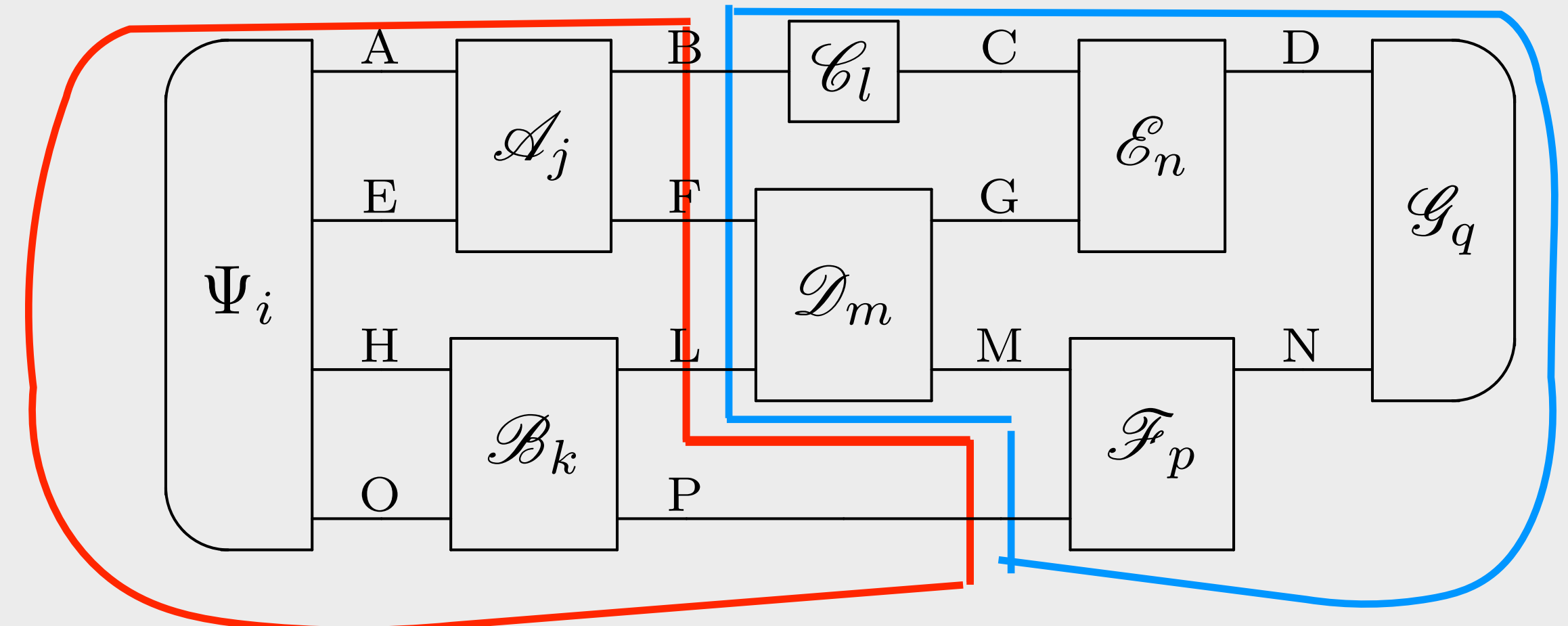
$$p(i, j | \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}) := (a_j | \rho_i)$$



$$p(i | \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}) = p(i | \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}') = p(i | \mathcal{X})$$

Iff conditions: a) the deterministic effect is unique;  
b) states are “normalizable”

$$p(i, j, k, l, m, n, p, q | \text{circuit})$$



# Principles for Quantum Theory

P1. **Causality**

P2. Local discriminability

P3. Purification

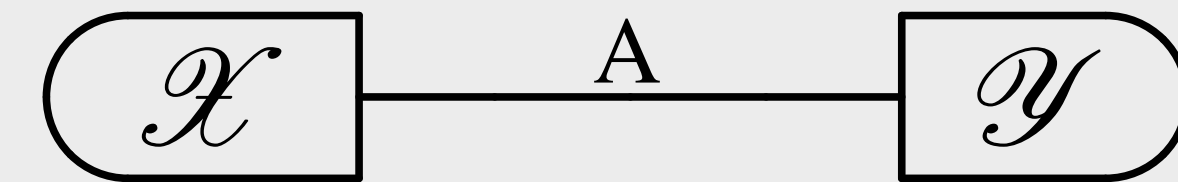
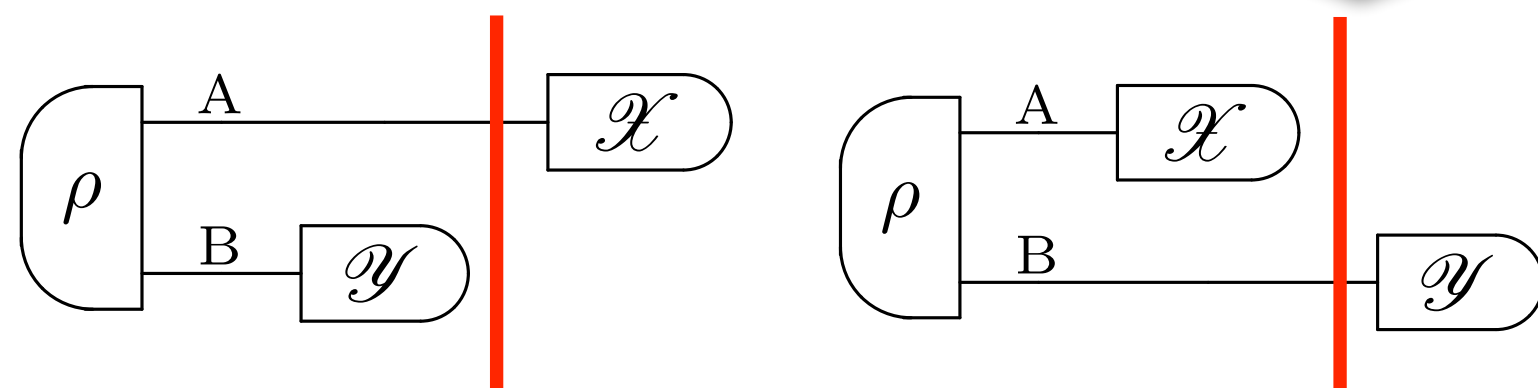
P4. Atomicity of composition

P5. Perfect distinguishability

P6. Lossless Compressibility

The probability of preparations is independent of the choice of observations

no signaling without interaction

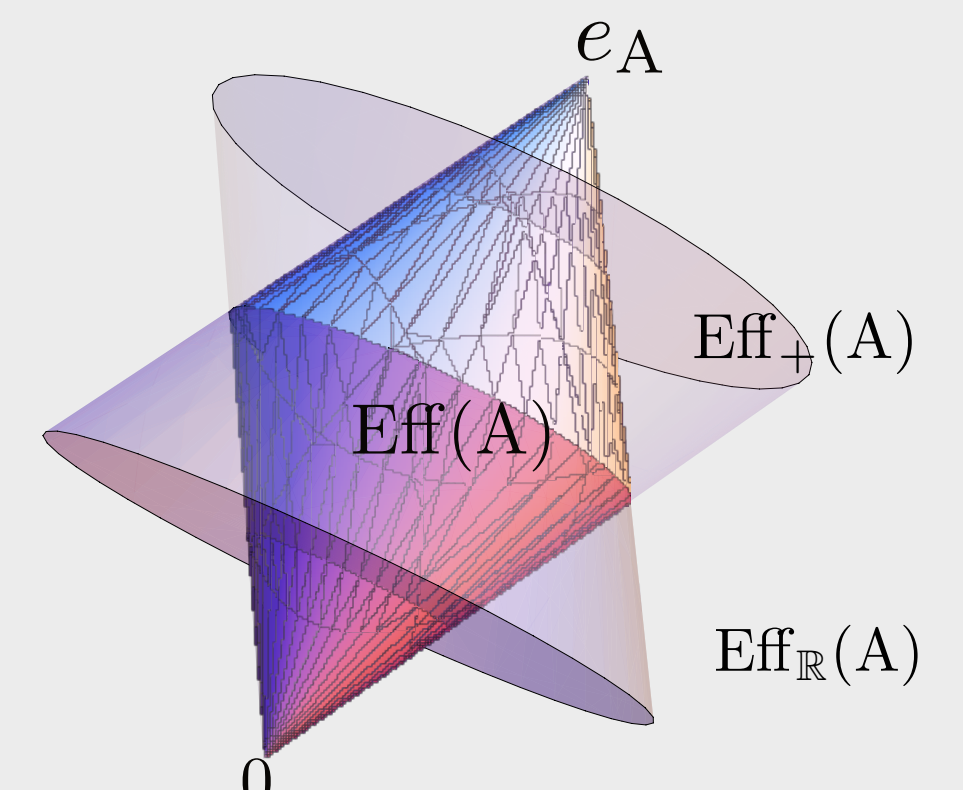
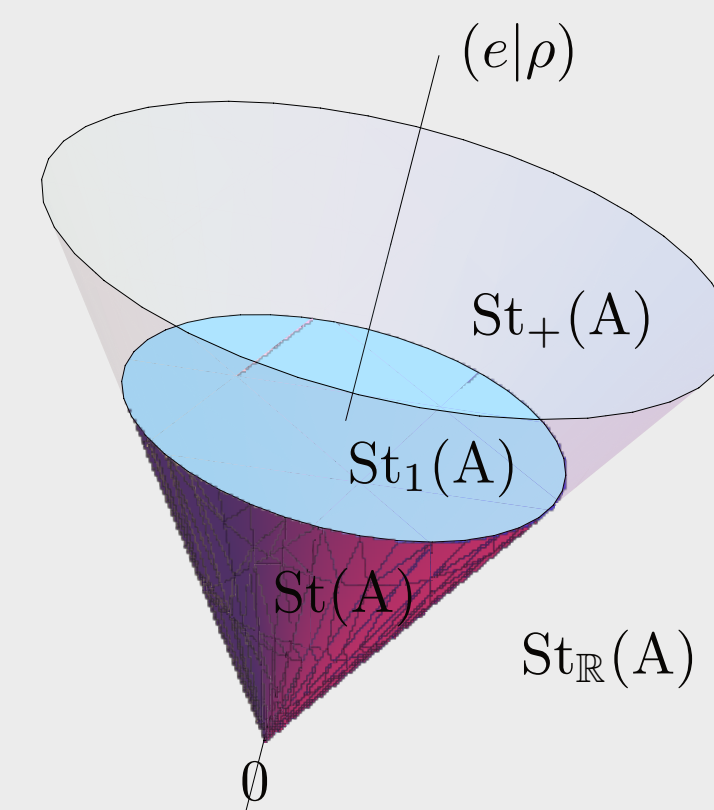
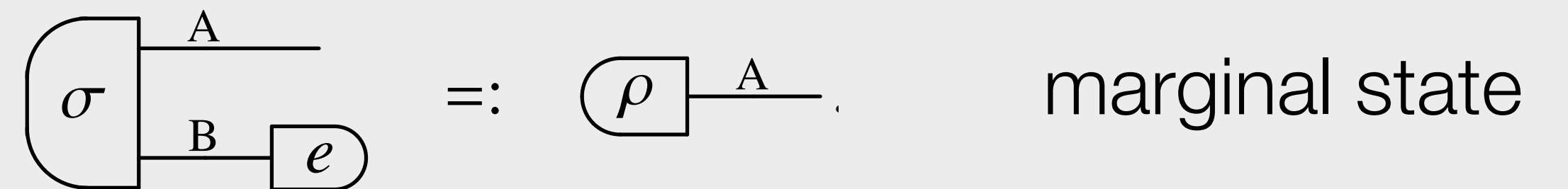


$$p(i, j | \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}) := (a_j | \rho_i)$$



$$p(i | \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}) = p(i | \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}') = p(i | \mathcal{X})$$

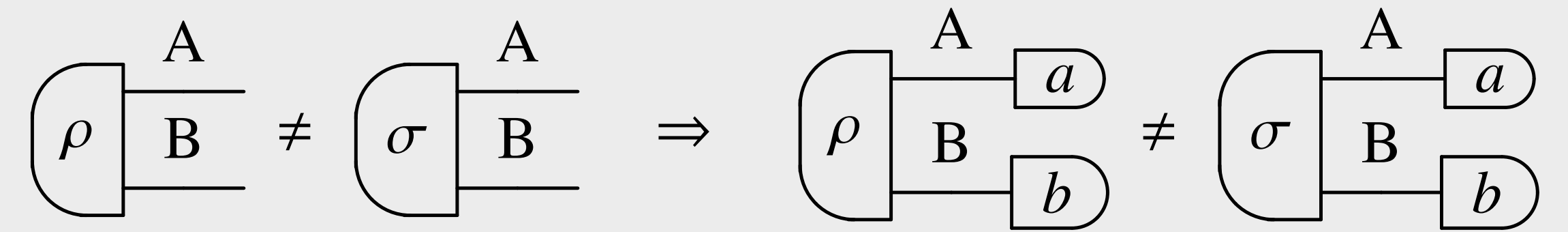
Iff conditions: a) the deterministic effect is unique;  
b) states are “normalizable”



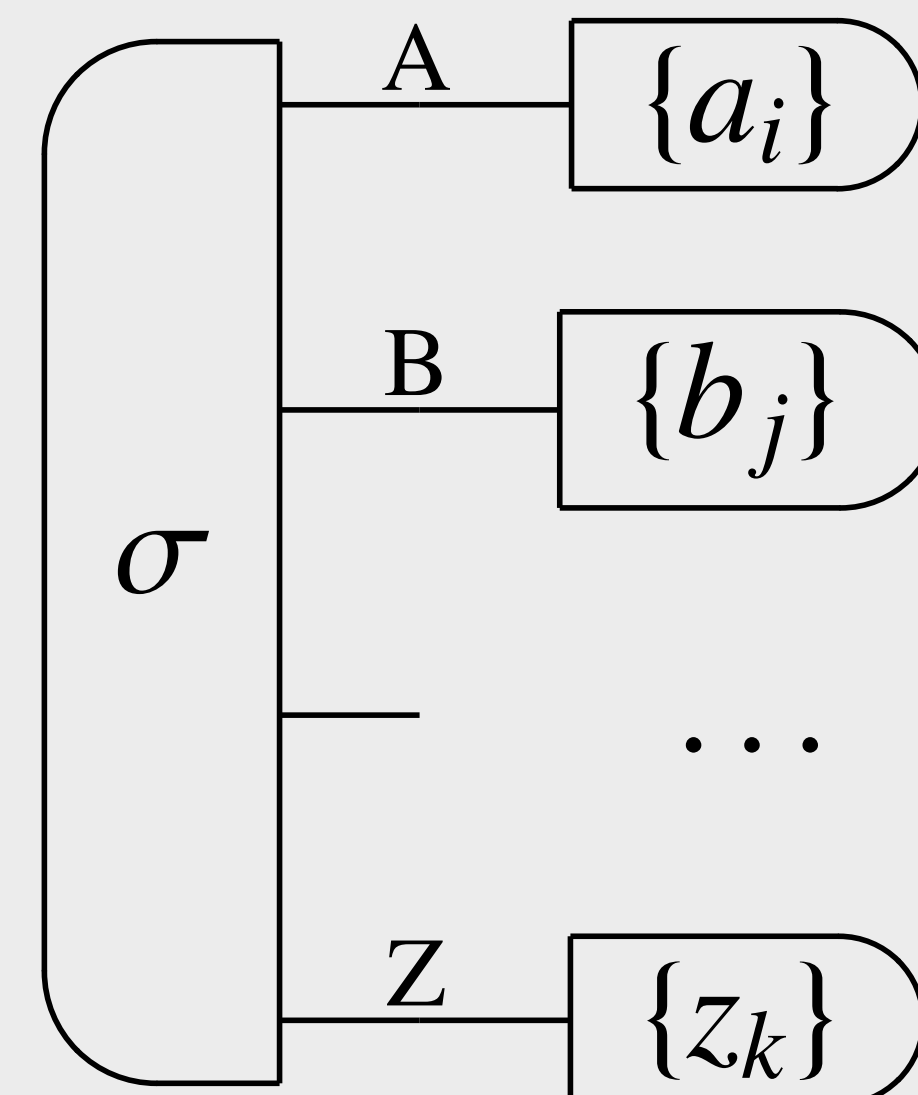
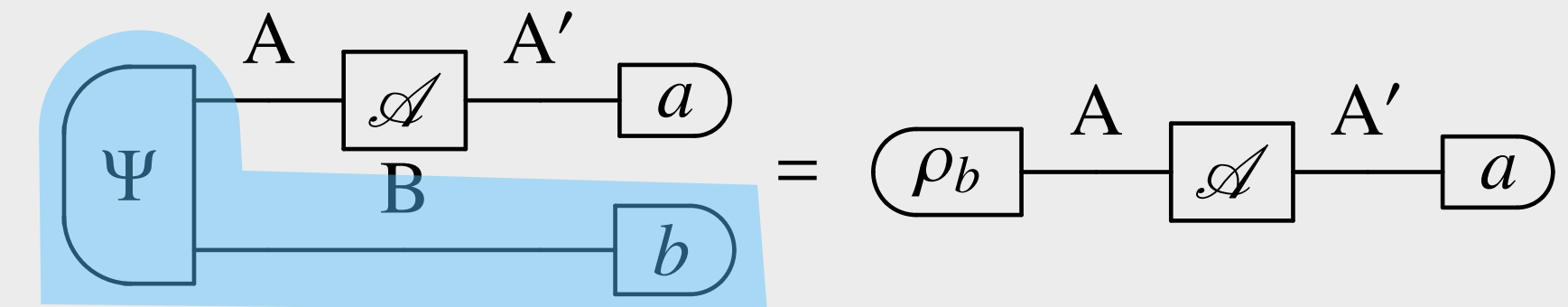
# Principles for Quantum Theory

- P1. Causality
- P2. Local discriminability
- P3. Purification
- P4. Atomicity of composition
- P5. Perfect distinguishability
- P6. Lossless Compressibility

It is possible to discriminate any pair of states of composite systems using only local measurements.



Local characterization of transformations



# Principles for Quantum Theory

- P1. Causality
- P2. Local discriminability
- P3. Purification
- P4. Atomicity of composition
- P5. Perfect distinguishability
- P6. Lossless Compressibility

It is possible to discriminate any pair of states of composite systems using only local measurements.

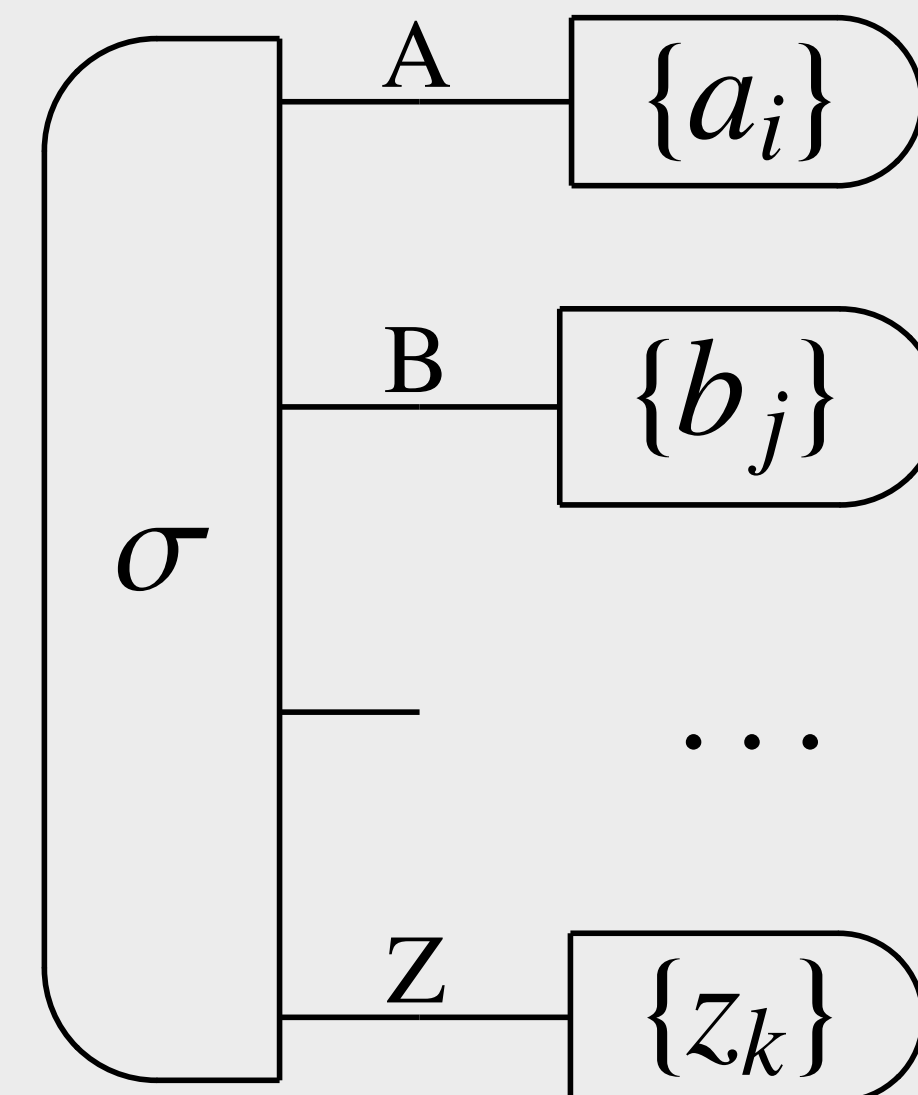
Origin of the complex tensor product

$$\left( \rho \begin{array}{c} A \\ B \end{array} \right) \neq \left( \sigma \begin{array}{c} A \\ B \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow \left( \rho \begin{array}{c} A \\ B \\ a \\ b \end{array} \right) \neq \left( \sigma \begin{array}{c} A \\ B \\ a \\ b \end{array} \right)$$



Local characterization of transformations

$$\left( \Psi \begin{array}{c} A \\ B \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{A} \\ B \end{array} \begin{array}{c} A' \\ a \\ b \end{array} = \left( \rho_b \begin{array}{c} A \\ B \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{A} \\ B \end{array} \begin{array}{c} A' \\ a \end{array}$$



# Principles for Quantum Theory

---

P1. Causality

P2. Local discriminability

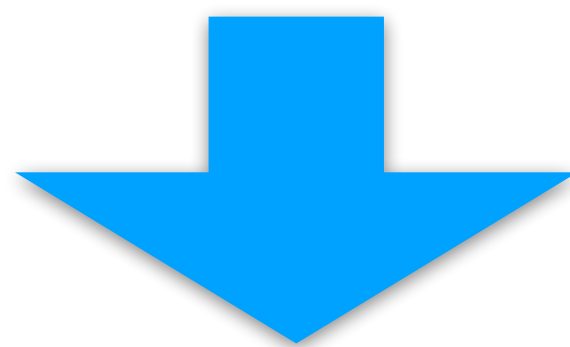
P3. Purification

P4. Atomicity of composition

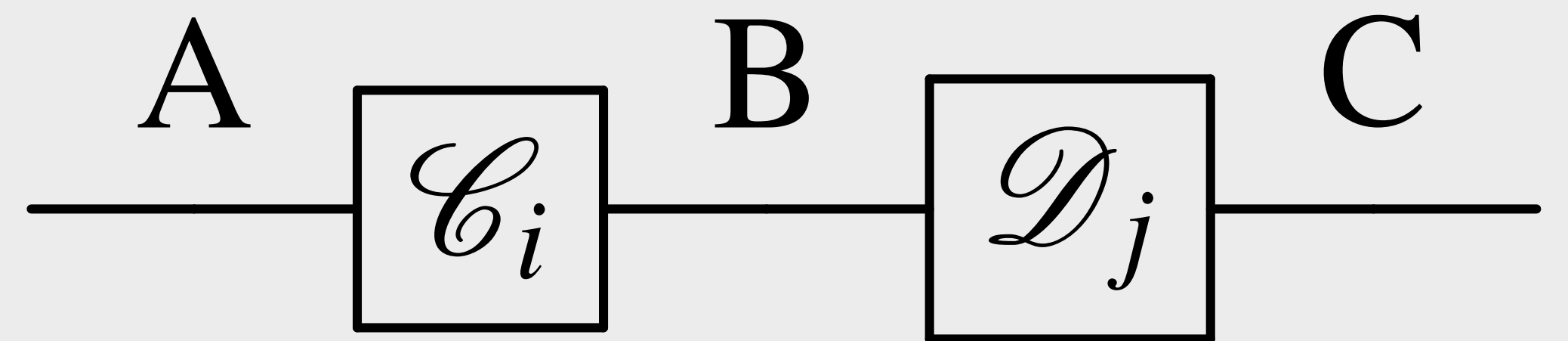
P5. Perfect distinguishability

P6. Lossless Compressibility

The composition of two atomic transformations is atomic



Complete information can be accessed  
on a step-by-step basis



# Principles for Quantum Theory

---

P1. Causality

P2. Local discriminability

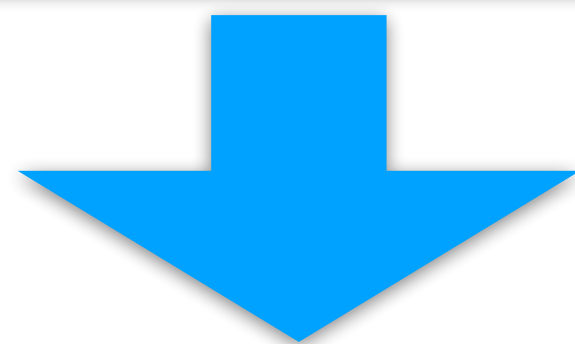
P3. Purification

P4. Atomicity of composition

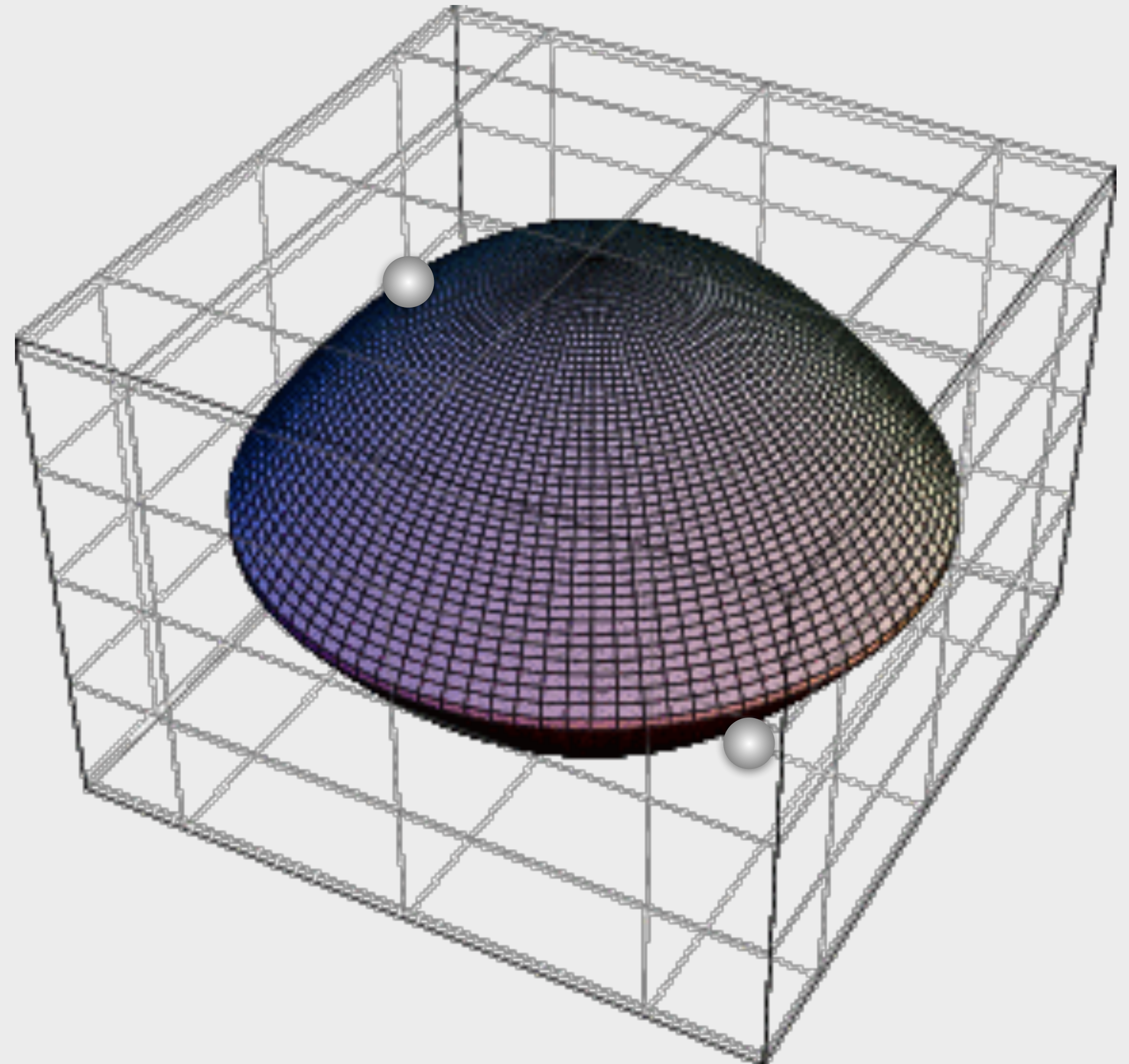
P5. Perfect distinguishability

P6. Lossless Compressibility

Every state that is not completely mixed (i.e. on the boundary of the convex) can be perfectly distinguished from some other state



Falsifiability of the theory

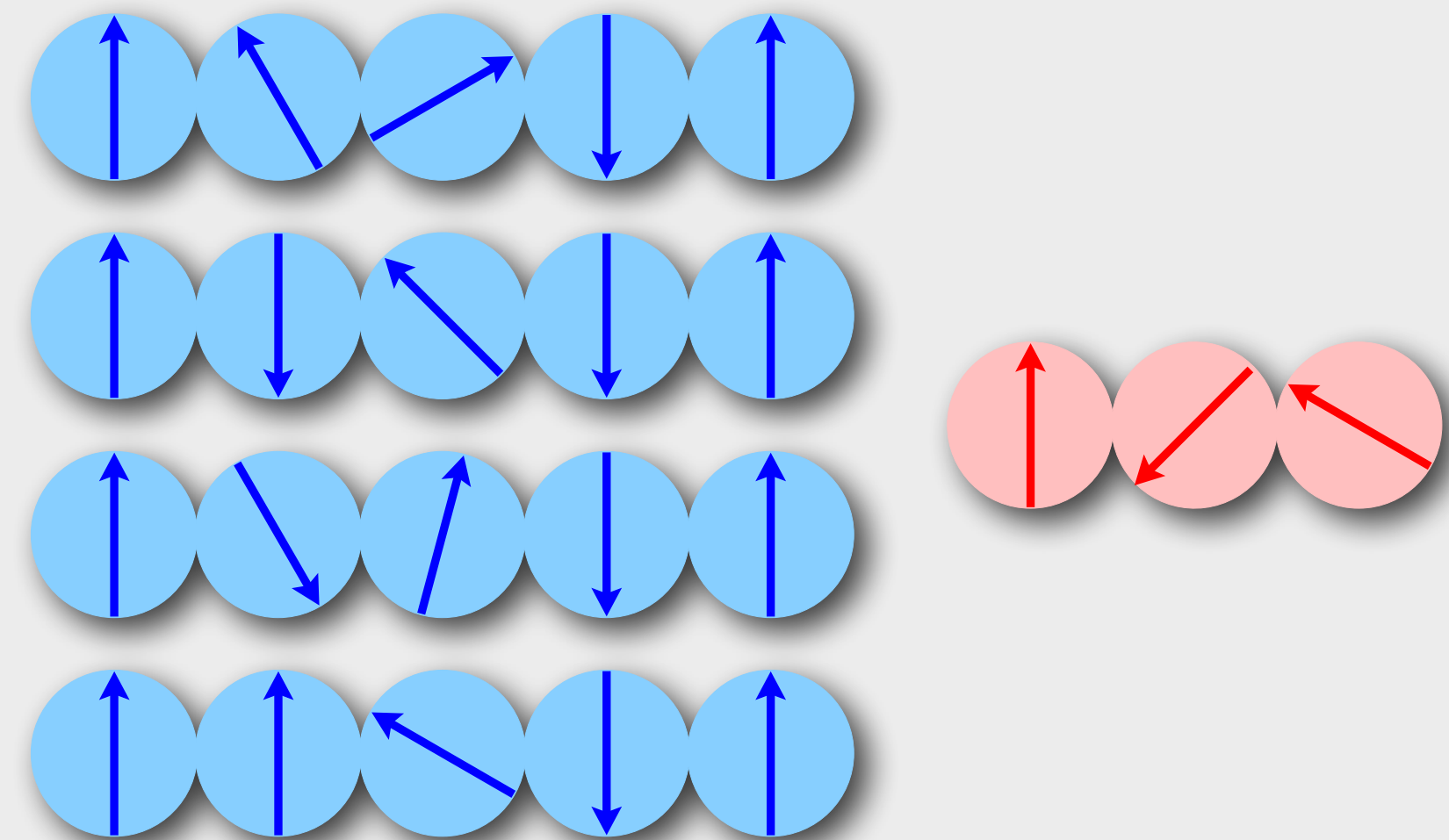
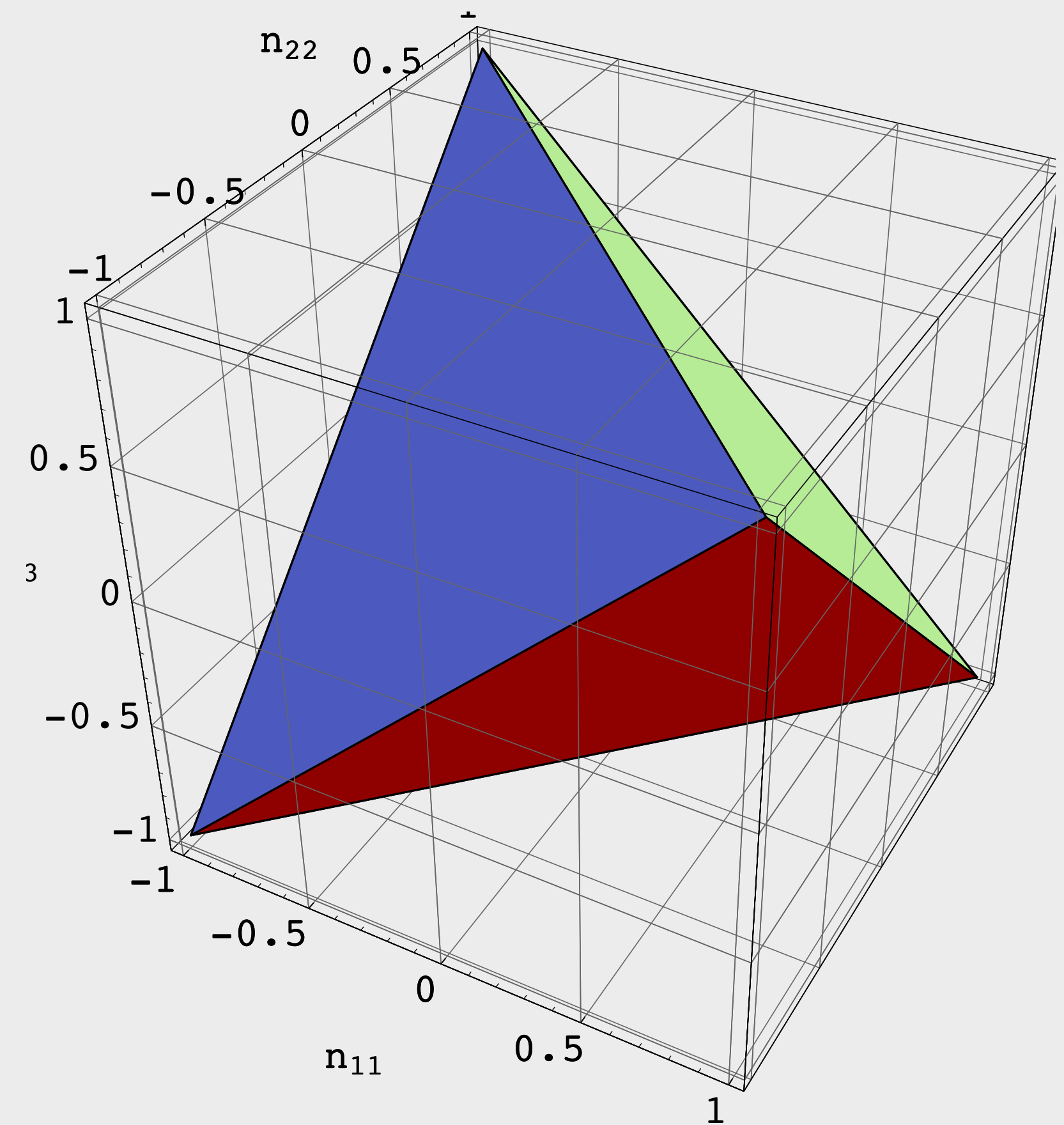


# Principles for Quantum Theory

- P1. Causality
- P2. Local discriminability
- P3. Purification
- P4. Atomicity of composition
- P5. Perfect distinguishability
- P6. **Lossless Compressibility**

For states that are not completely mixed there exists an ideal compression scheme

Any face of the convex set of states is the convex set of states of some other system





# Principles for Quantum Theory

---

P1. Causality

P2. Local discriminability

P3. Purification

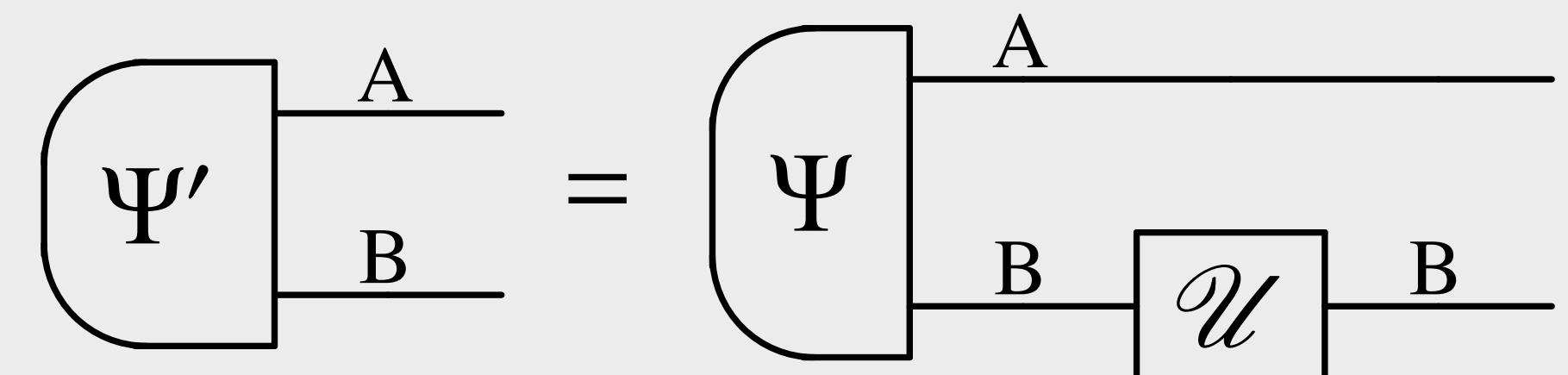
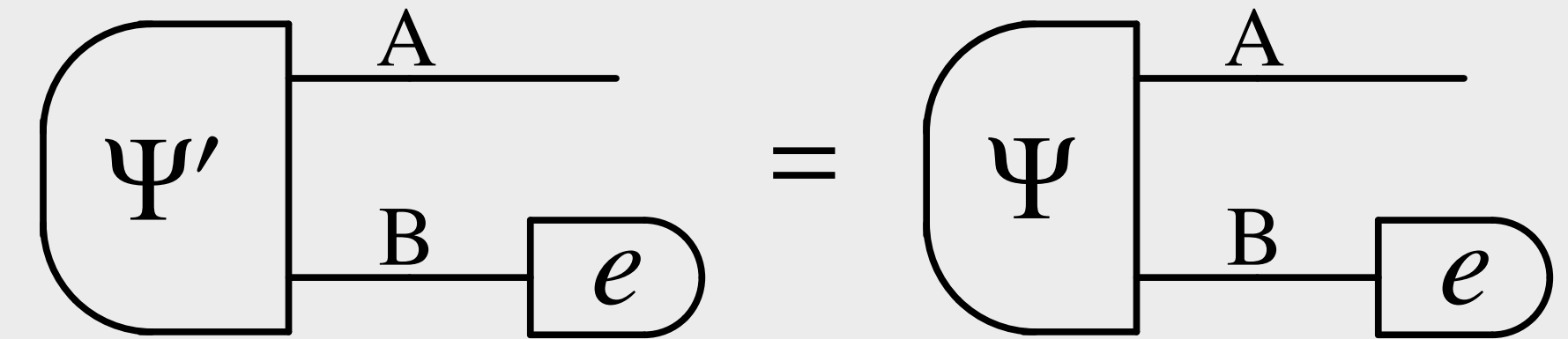
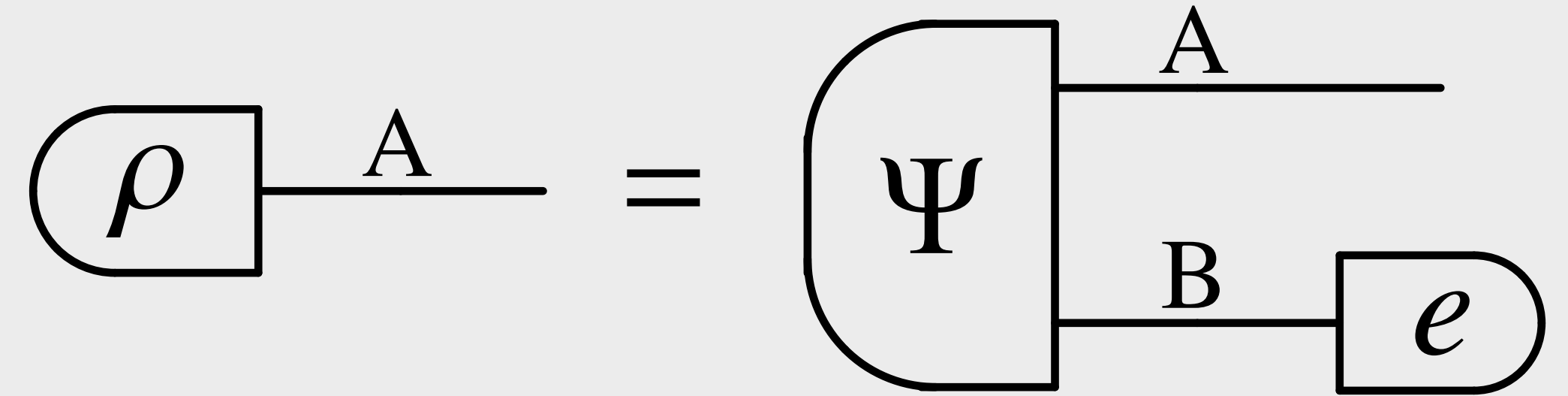
P4. Atomicity of composition

P5. Perfect distinguishability

P6. Lossless Compressibility

Every state has a purification.

For fixed purifying system, every two purifications of the same state are connected by a reversible transformation on the purifying system



# Principles for Quantum Theory

---

P1. Causality

P2. Local discriminability

P3. Purification

P4. Atomicity of composition

P5. Perfect distinguishability

P6. Lossless Compressibility

Every state has a purification.

For fixed purifying system, every two purifications of the same state are connected by a reversible transformation on the purifying system

## Consequences

1. Existence of entangled states:

the purification of a mixed state is an entangled state;  
the marginal of a pure entangled state is a mixed state;

2. Every two normalized pure states of the same system are connected by a reversible transformation

$$\boxed{\psi'} \text{---}^B = \boxed{\psi} \text{---}^B \boxed{\mathcal{U}} \text{---}^B$$

3. Steering: Let  $\Psi$  purification of  $\rho$ . Then for every ensemble decomposition  $\rho = \sum_x p_x \alpha_x$  there exists a measurement  $\{b_x\}$ , such that

$$\boxed{\Psi} \text{---}^A \text{---}^B \boxed{b_x} = p_x \boxed{\alpha_x} \text{---}^A \quad \forall x \in X$$

4. Process tomography (faithful state):

$$\boxed{\Psi} \text{---}^A \boxed{\mathcal{A}} \text{---}^{A'} = \boxed{\Psi} \text{---}^A \boxed{\mathcal{A}'} \text{---}^{A'} \quad \rightarrow \quad \mathcal{A}\rho = \mathcal{A}'\rho \quad \forall \rho$$

5. No information without disturbance

# Principles for Quantum Theory

P1. Causality

P2. Local discriminability

P3. Purification

P4. Atomicity of composition

P5. Perfect distinguishability

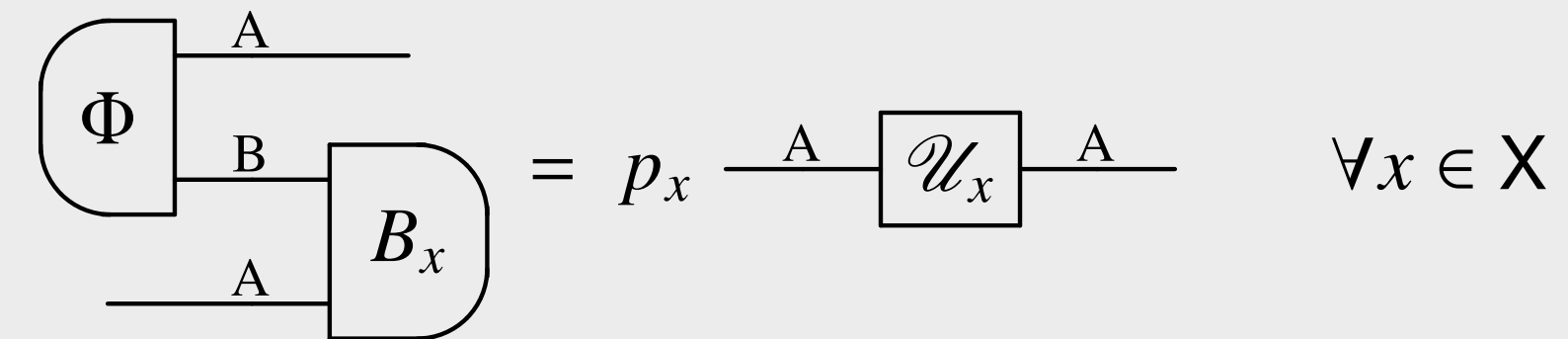
P6. Lossless Compressibility

Every state has a purification.

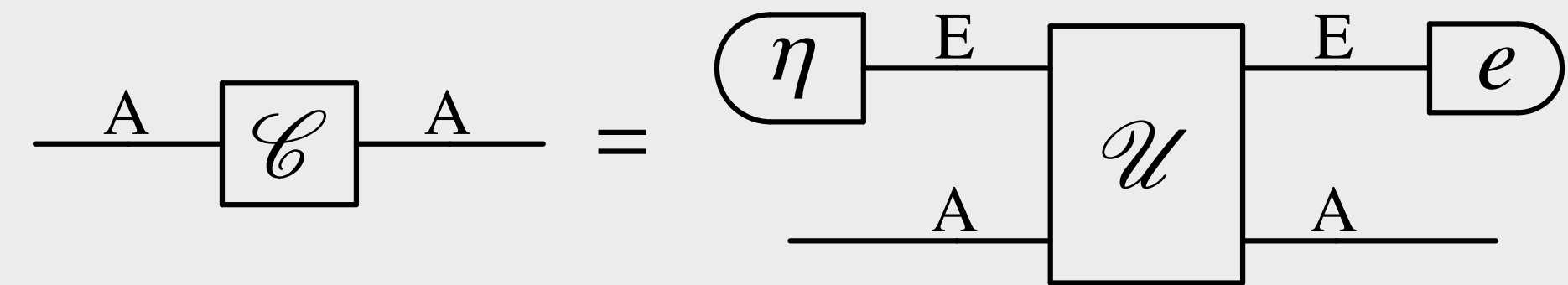
For fixed purifying system, every two purifications of the same state are connected by a reversible transformation on the purifying system

# Consequences

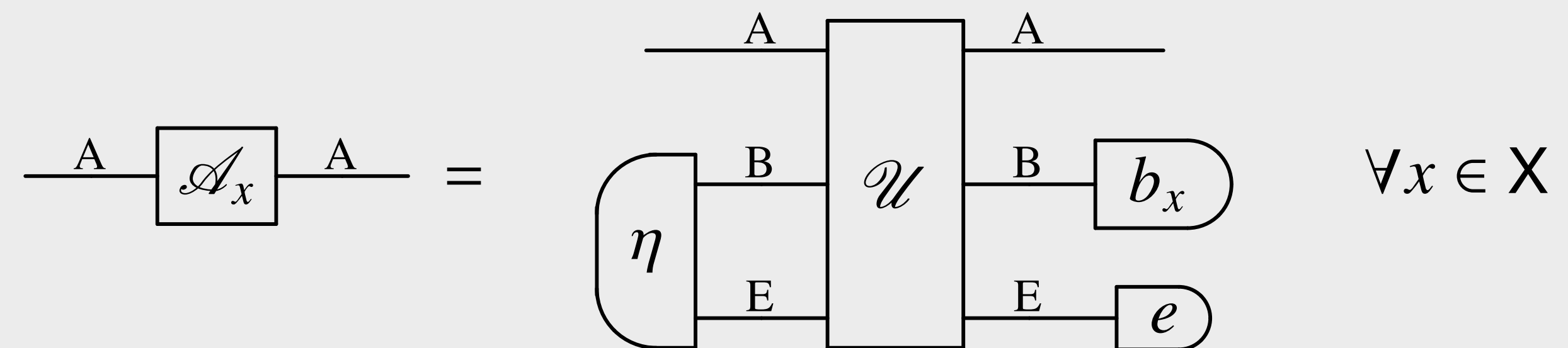
6. Teleportation



7. Reversible dilation of “channels”



8. Reversible dilation of “instruments”



9. State-transformation cone isomorphism

10. Reversible transform. for a system make a compact Lie group

# Other OPTs

	Caus.	Perf. disc.	Loc. discr.	n-loc. discr.	At. par. comp.	At. seq. comp.	Compr.	$\exists$ Purification	$\exists!$ Purification	NIWD
QT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
QBIT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
FQT	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
RQT	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
NSQT	?	?	✗	✗	?	?	?	?	?	?
PR	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	?	✗	✗	✗	✓
DPR	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	?	✗	✗	✗	✓
HPR	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
FOCT	✗	?	✓	✓	✓	?	?	✗	✗	?
FOQT	✗	?	?	✓	?	?	?	?	?	?
NLCT	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	?	✓	✗	✗	✗
NLQT	?	?	?	✓	?	?	?	?	?	?

QT: Quantum theory

CT: Classical theory

QBIT: Qubit theory

FQT: Fermionic quantum theory

RQT: Real quantum theory

NSQT: Number superselected quantum theory

PR: PR-boxes theory

DPR: Dual PR-boxes theory

HPR: Hybrid PR-boxes theory

FOCT: First order classical theory

FOQT: First order quantum theory

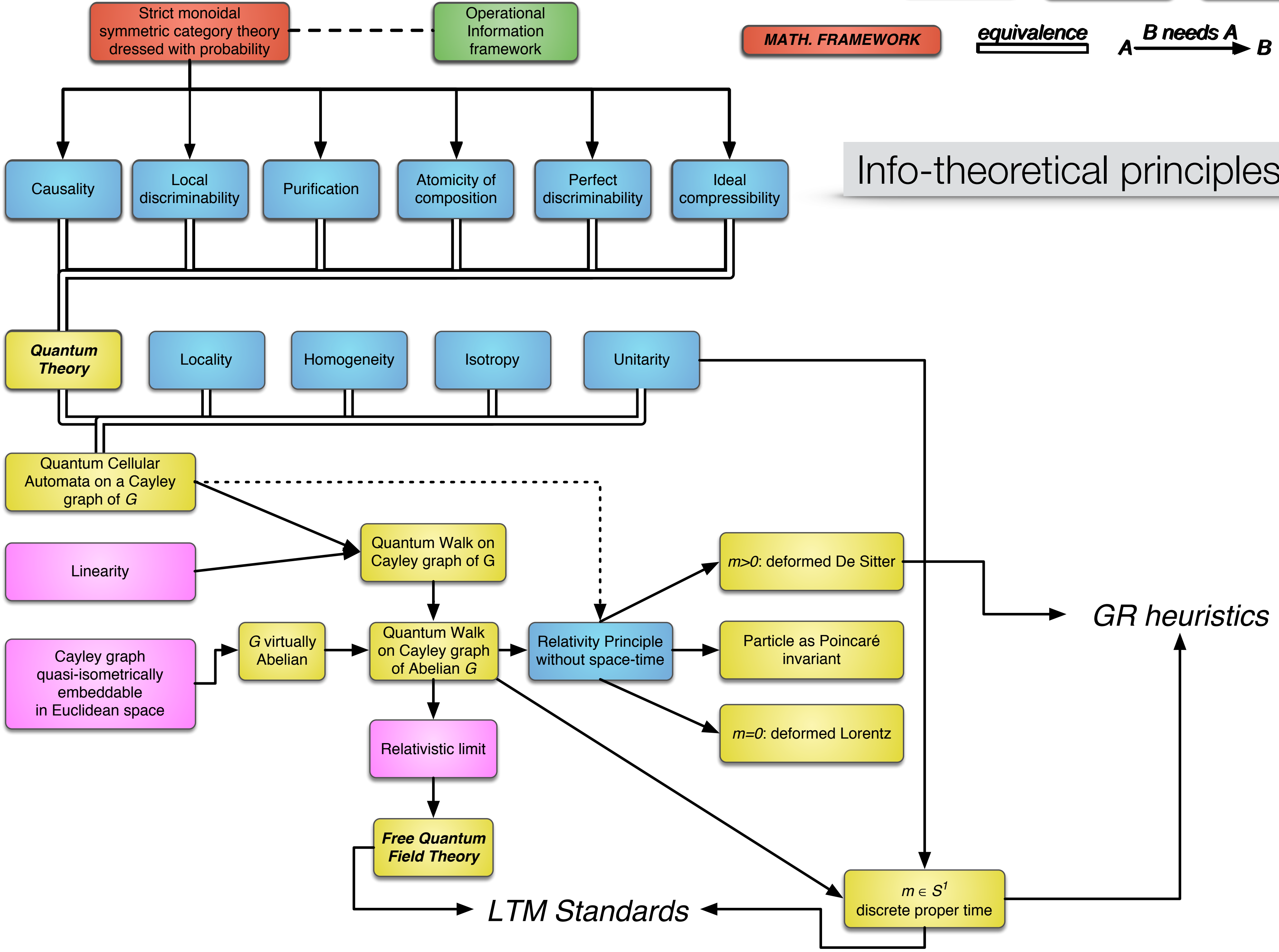
NLCT: Non-local classical theory

NLQT: Non-local quantum theory

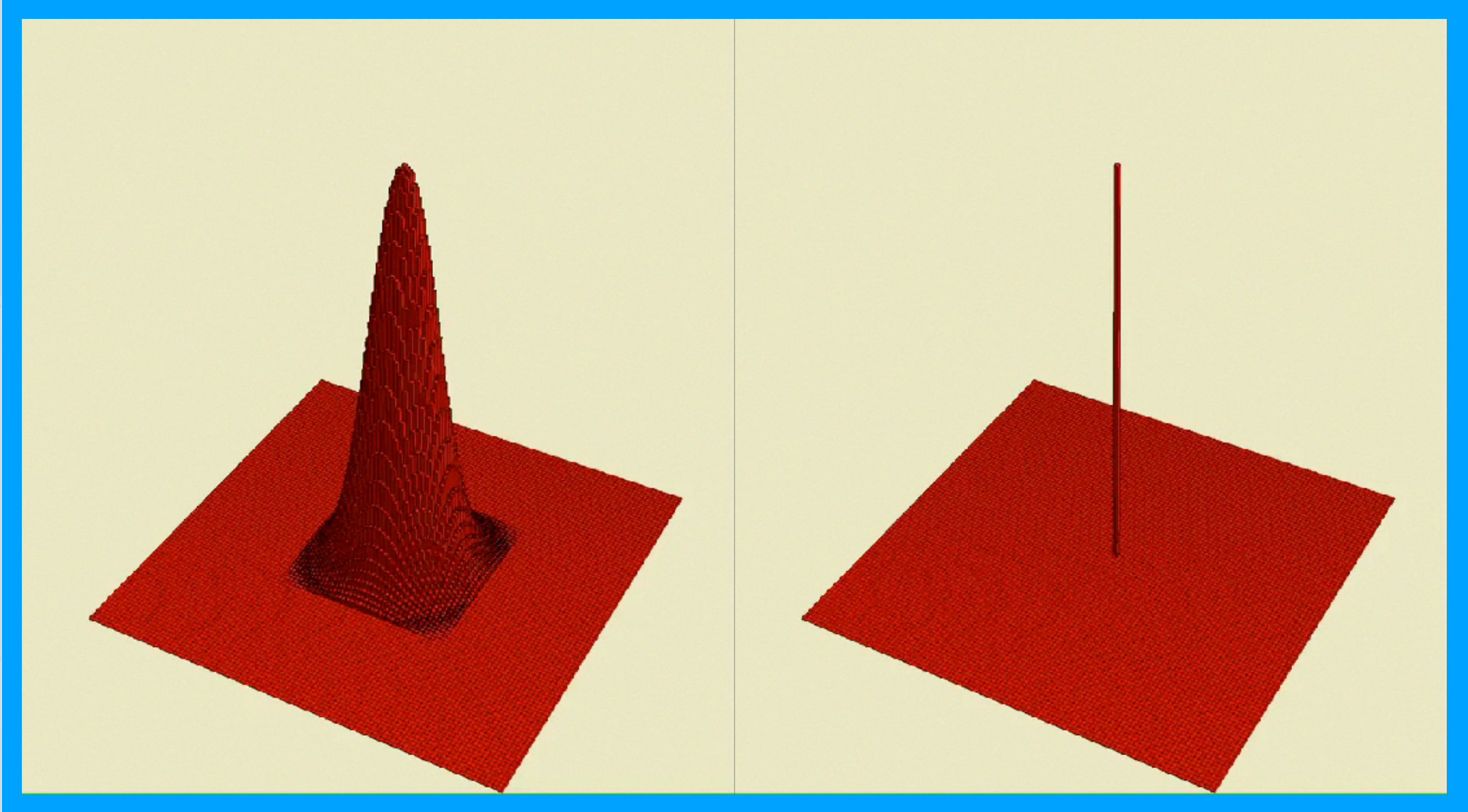
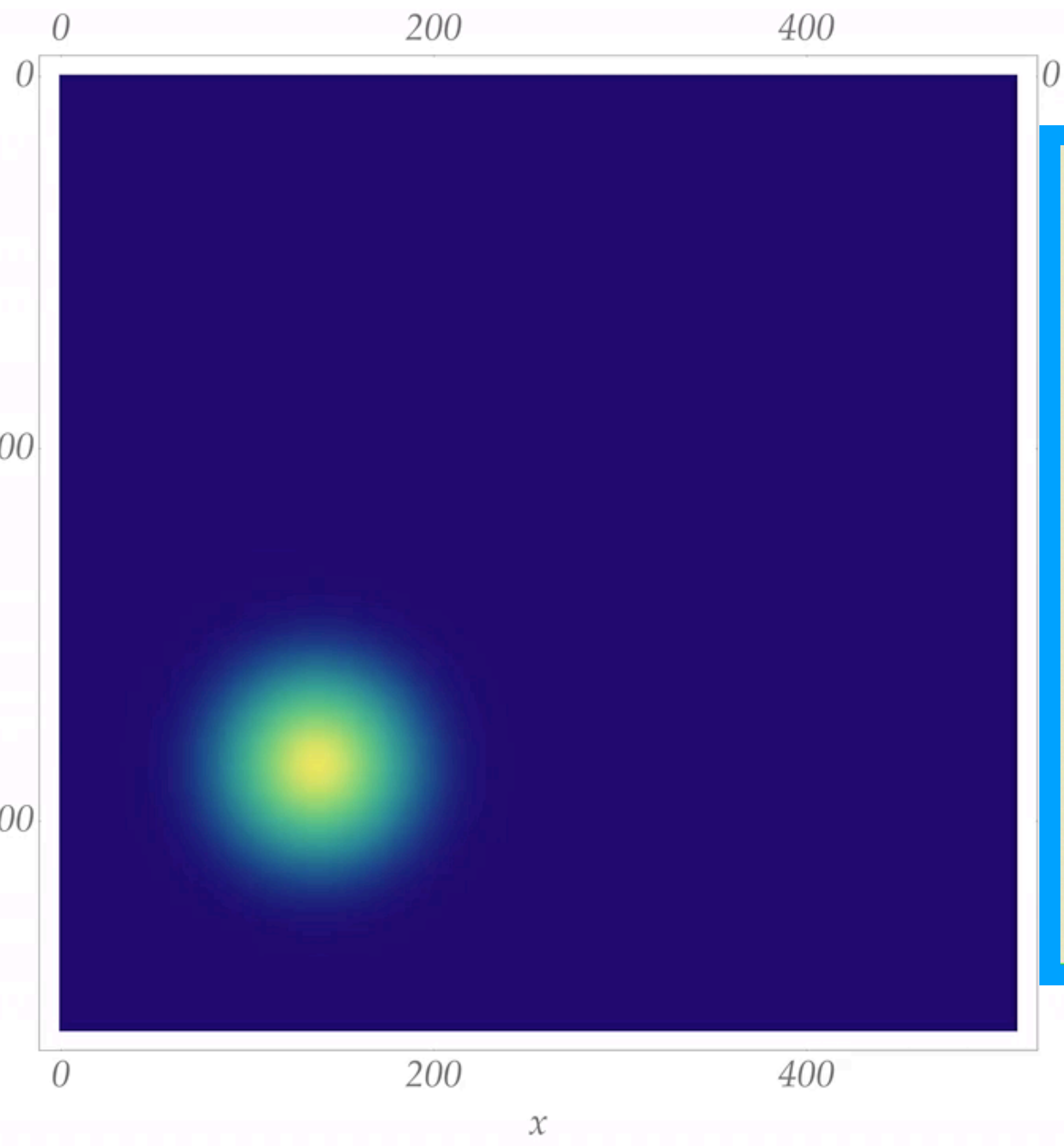
**“HOW TO GET THE “MECHANICS?””**

*QUANTUM FIELD THEORY: an ultra-short account*

Info-theoretical principles for Quantum Field Theory



Info-theoretical principles for Quantum Field Theory



**“NO PURIFICATION ONTOLOGY”**

*NO PARADOXES!*

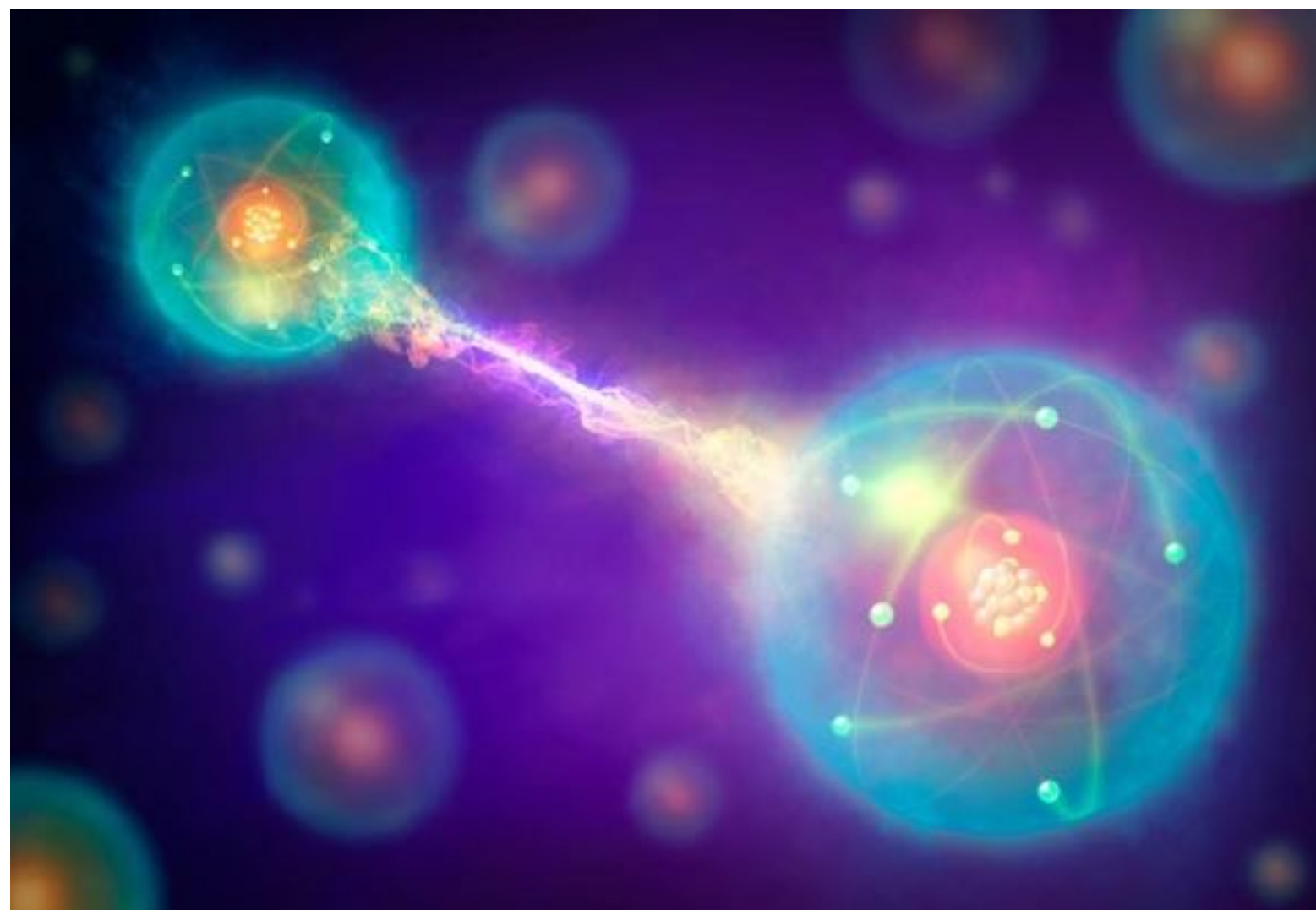


# Quantum Theory: no purification ontology

---

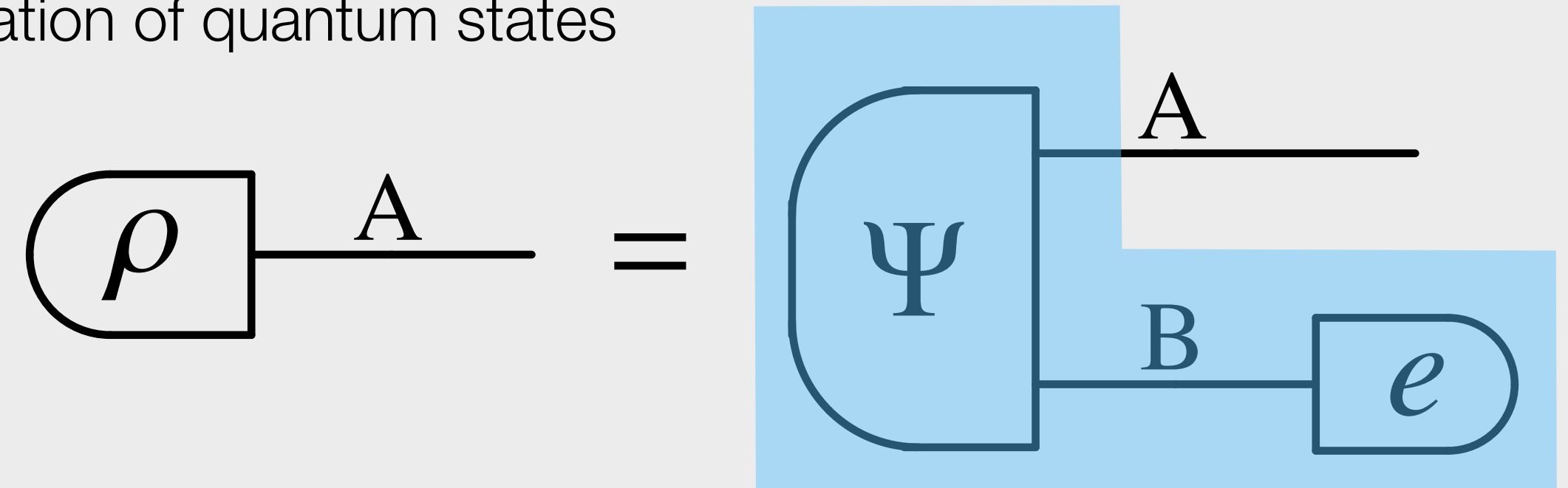
## P3. Purification

1. Isolated systems don't need to be in a pure state!
2. Isolated systems don't need to undergo unitary transformations!

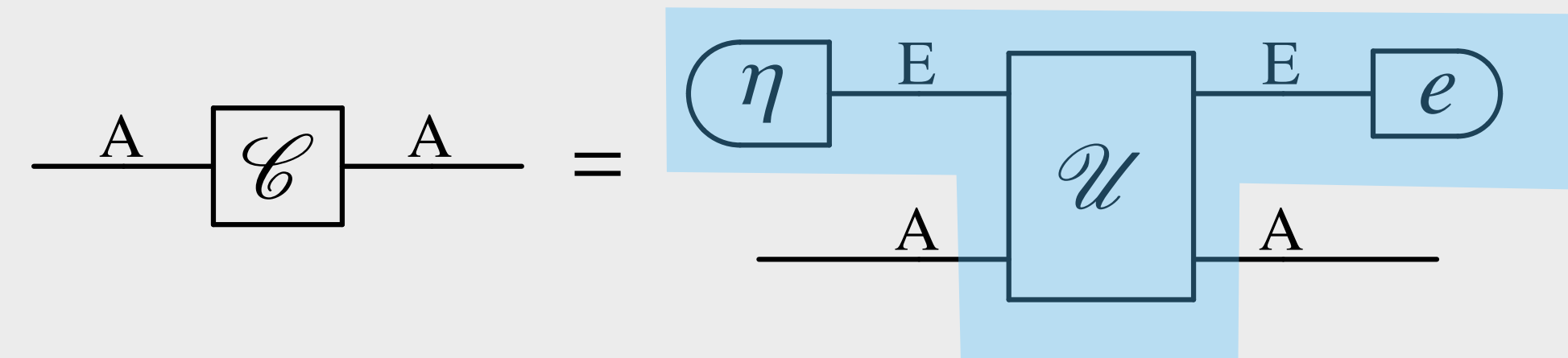


## Unfalsifiable ontologies!

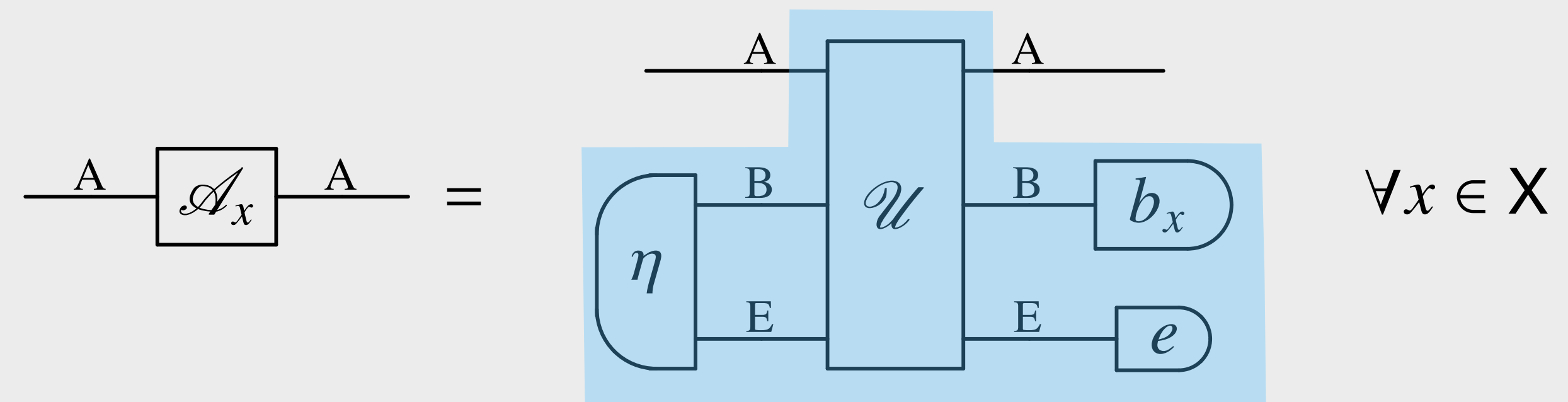
Purification of quantum states



Unitary purification of quantum channels



Unitary purification of quantum instruments



# Quantum Theory: no purification ontology

---

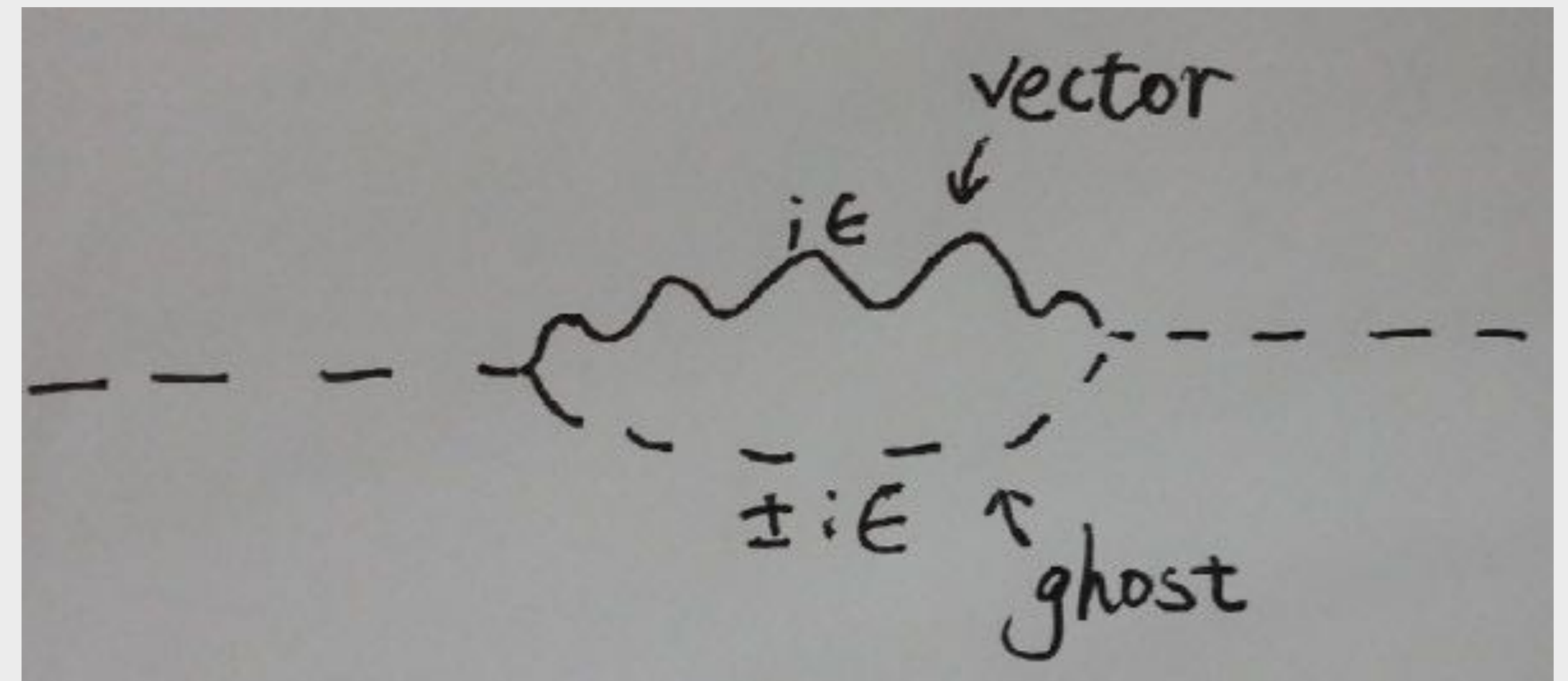
## P3. Purification

1. Isolated systems don't need to be in a pure state
2. Isolated systems don't need to undergo unitary transformations

The necessity for Faddeev–Popov ghosts follows from the requirement that quantum field theories yield unambiguous, non-singular solutions. This is not possible in the path integral formulation when a gauge symmetry is present since there is no procedure for selecting among physically equivalent solutions related by gauge transformation. The path integrals overcount field configurations corresponding to the same physical state; the measure of the path integrals contains a factor which does not allow obtaining various results directly from the action.

It is possible, however, to modify the action, such that methods such as Feynman diagrams will be applicable by adding ghost fields which break the gauge symmetry. **The ghost fields do not correspond to any real particles in external states: they appear as virtual particles in Feynman diagrams – or as the absence of gauge configurations. However, they are a necessary computational tool to preserve unitarity.**

# Unitarity in quantum field theory?



# “Angel” of the Theory



A theoretical notion that:

- can achieve elements of the theory (powerful)
- is logically coherent within the theory
- is non falsifiable in principle
- is unnecessary for completeness of the theory



A theoretical notion that:

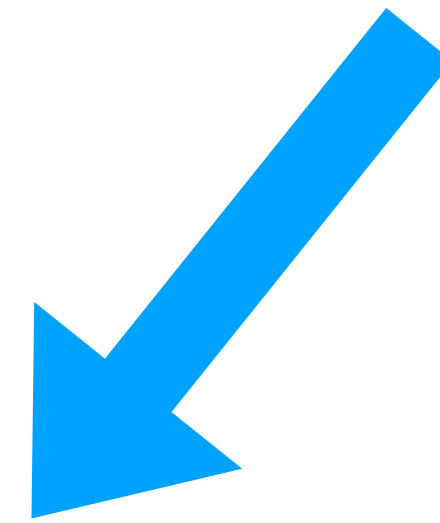
- can achieve elements of the theory (powerful)
- is logically coherent within the theory
- is non falsifiable in principle
- is not necessary for completeness of the theory

**PURIFICATIONS  
(UNITARITY and PURITY)  
are ANGELS of QT**

*(the purification postulate, however, is in principle falsifiable)*



Academical distinction



**Quantum Theory**

**Open Quantum Systems Theory**

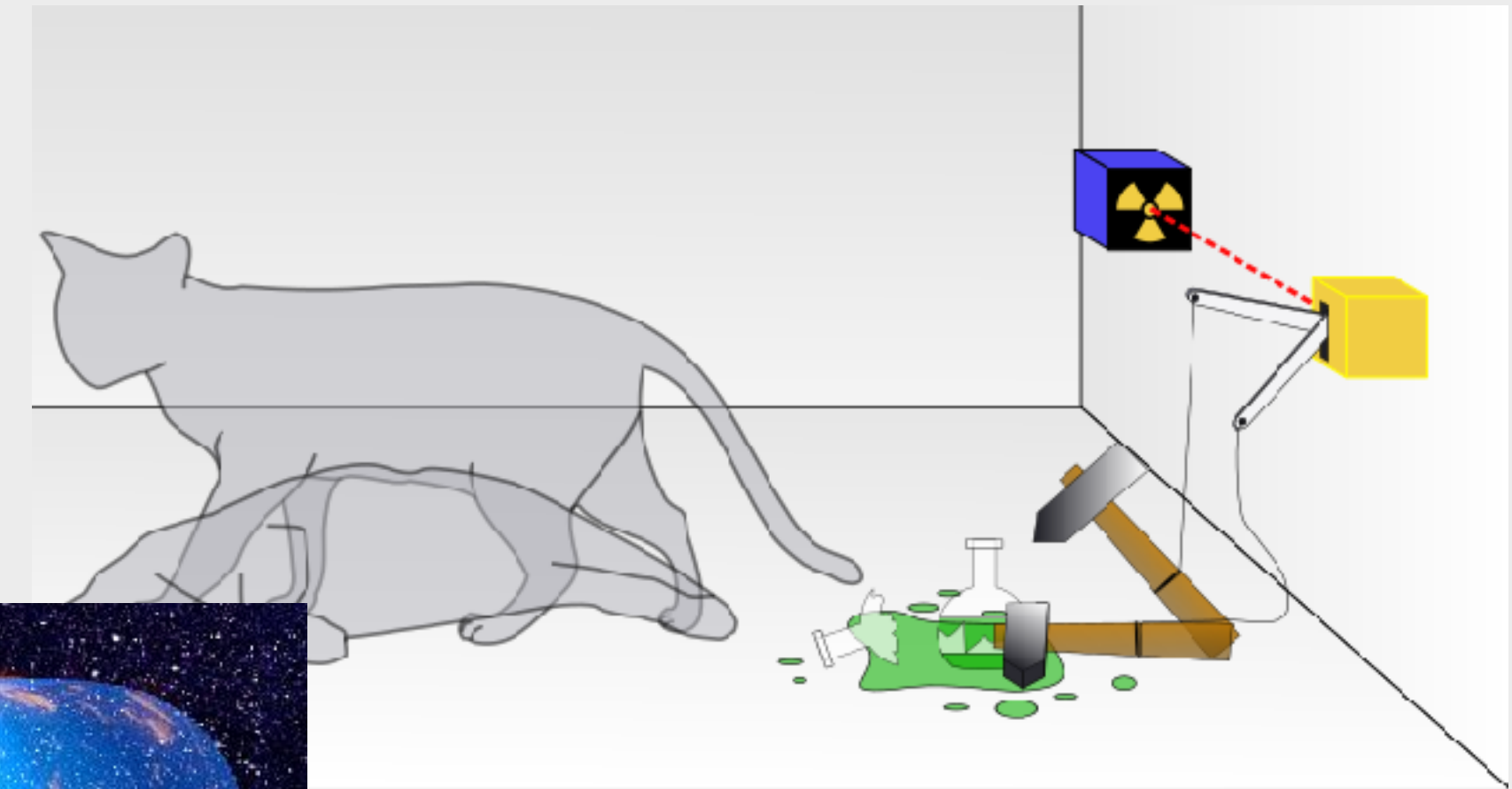
# Quantum Theory: no purification ontology

---

1. Isolated systems don't need to be in a pure state
2. Isolated systems don't need to undergo unitary transformations

No paradoxes, and more ...

Schroedinger's cat



Information paradox

Many-world,  
relational, ...  
interpretations



Wheeler-DeWitt  
equation

$$H(x) |\psi\rangle = 0$$



**Purification is a “symmetry”**

**Can we find a substitute?**

**This is more or less  
what I wanted to say**

*THANK YOU!*



*A Quantum-Digital Universe*, Grant ID: 43796  
*Quantum Causal Structures*, Grant ID: 60609

G. Chiribella, G. M. D'Ariano, P. Perinotti, *Informational derivation of Quantum Theory*, Phys. Rev A **84** 012311 (2011)

G. M. D'Ariano, P. Perinotti, *The Dirac Equation from Principles of Information processing*, Phys. Rev. A **90** 062106 (2014)

A. Bisio, G. M. D'Ariano, P. Perinotti, *Quantum Cellular Automaton Theory of Light*, Ann. Phys. **368** 177 (2016)

A. Bisio, G. M. D'Ariano, P. Perinotti, *Special relativity in a discrete quantum universe*, Phys. Rev. A **94**, 042120 (2016)

A. Bisio, G. M. D'Ariano, P. Perinotti, A. Tosini, *The Thirring quantum cellular automaton*, Phys. Rev. A **97**, 032132 (2018)

Follow **project on Researchgate**: *The algorithmic paradigm:  
deriving the whole physics from information-theoretical principles.*



REVIEW

G. M. D'Ariano, *Physics without Physics*, Int. J. Theor. Phys. **128** 56 (2017),  
[in memoriam of D. Finkelstein]

OPINION  
PAPERS

G.M. D'Ariano, *Causality re-established*, Phil. Trans. R. Soc. A **376**: 20170313 (2018)

*The solution of the Sixth Hilbert Problem: the Ultimate Galilean Revolution*, Phil. Trans. R. Soc. A **376**: 20170224 (2018)