

# Classical-Quantum Coexistence: 'Free Will' Test

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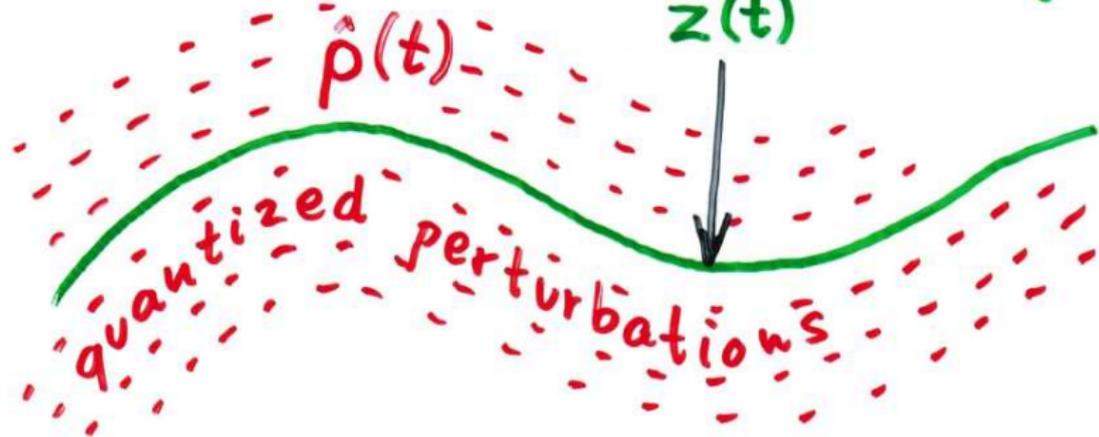
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# The physics issue Cambridge, 1999

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Q-field theory:

classical background  
 $z(t)$



no backreaction  $\hat{\rho}(t) \rightarrow z(t)$

Study the coexistence of  $\hat{\rho}(t)$  &  $z(t)$ !

# Vocabulary

- **Classical continuum:** a smooth real function  $z(t)$  of time
- **Quantum theory:** dynamics of the density matrix  $\rho(t)$  plus its statistical interpretation
- **Coexistence:**  $\rho(t)$  and  $z(t)$  coexist and depend on each other
- **'Free Will':** my freedom to, conditioned on  $z$ , perturb the dynamics of  $\rho$ . I call  $z$  **tangible** then.
- **Causality:** perturbation at  $t$  has no effect at times  $< t$  prior to  $t$
- **Measurement:** math procedure (selective stochastic map) on  $\rho$

Sensitively interrelated: 'Free Will' perturbation vs statistical interpretation, smoothness vs causality.

# The quantum-classical coexistence issue

There must be mutual classical  $\leftrightarrow$  quantum influences.

Classical on quantum is trivial:

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \frac{-i}{\hbar} [H(z), \rho]$$

Quantum on classical (back-reaction) is problematic:

- Mean-Field  
*Moller1962, Rosenfeld1963*
- de Broglie-Bohm<sup>1927–1952</sup>
- Decoherence  
*Zeh1970, Zurek1982*
- Decoherent Histories  
*Griffith1984, Gell – MannHartle1993*
- Measurement  
*vonNeumann1932*
- Continuous Measurement  
*Belavkin1988, Diosi1988*
- Hybrid Dynamics  
*SherrySudarshan1979, ..., Elze2011*

# Influence of quantum on classical: Mean-Field?

Classical continuum variable = quantum expectation value:

$$z = \text{tr}[q\rho]$$

Most successful approximation in optics, cosmology, e.t.c.

**Mean-Field  $z(t)$  is smooth and causal.**

Free Will test: make  $H(t)$  depend on  $z(t)$ .

Recall influence of classical on quantum:

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \frac{-i}{\hbar}[H(z), \rho]$$

Nonlinear evolution for  $\rho$  denies statistical interpretation. **Free Will doesn't work, Mean-Field  $z$  is not tangible.**

# Influence of quantum on classical: Bohm theory?

Restricted for pure states  $\rho = \rho^2$  and for coordinate  $q \Rightarrow z$ .

Amazing: Born probability density is preserved for  $z(t)$ .

Classical continuum variable senses the quantum potential  $V_\rho(z)$ :

$$m \frac{d^2 z}{dt^2} = -V'(z) - V'_\rho(z)$$

Oldest non-standard theory to generate classical from quantum.

**Bohm's  $z(t)$  is smooth and causal.**

Time-local Free Will test passes,  $H(t)$  depends on  $z(t)$ :

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \frac{-i}{\hbar} [H(z), \rho]$$

Does Bohm remain consistent when  $H(t)$  depends on  $z(t' < t)$ ?

**If causal Free Will fails: Bohm's  $z$  is not tangible.**

# Influence of quantum on classical: Measurement?

Classical variable = outcome of quantum measurement:

$$\rho \longrightarrow \frac{P(z)\rho P(z)}{p(z)} \equiv \rho_z \text{ with prob. } p(z)$$

Standard theory to generate classical from quantum.

**Measurement  $z(t)$  is not continuous (though causal).**

Free Will test, make  $H$  depend on  $z$  and average the dynamics over  $z$ :

$$\rho(t) = \sum_z p(z) e^{-(i/\hbar)H(z)t} \rho_z e^{(i/\hbar)H(z)t} = \sum_z U(z,t) P(z) \rho_z P(z) U^\dagger(z,t)$$

This is linear for  $\rho$ . **Free Will works, Measurement  $z$  is tangible.**

# Influence of quantum on classical: Continuous Measurement?

Classical variable = outcome of time-continuous quantum measurement:

$$z = \text{tr}[q\rho] + \text{white-noise}$$

Now standard theory to generate classical from quantum in Markovian approximation. **Continuous Measurement  $z(t)$  is not smooth (though continuous and causal).**

Free Will test: make  $H(t)$  depend on  $z(<t)$  and average over  $z$ . We get linear equation for  $\rho$  at the end. **Free Will works, the Continuous Measurement  $z(t)$  is tangible.**

# The quantum-classical coexistence issue (re-shown)

There must be mutual classical  $\leftrightarrow$  quantum influences.

Classical on quantum is trivial:

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \frac{-i}{\hbar} [H(z), \rho]$$

Quantum on classical (back-reaction) is problematic:

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# Summary: Coexistence (co-influence) of quantum and classical

Classical on quantum is trivial:

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \frac{-i}{\hbar} [H(z), \rho]$$

Quantum on classical (back reaction): The only **tangible** (cf. **Free Will**) and **smooth** classical 'field'  $\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{t})$ :

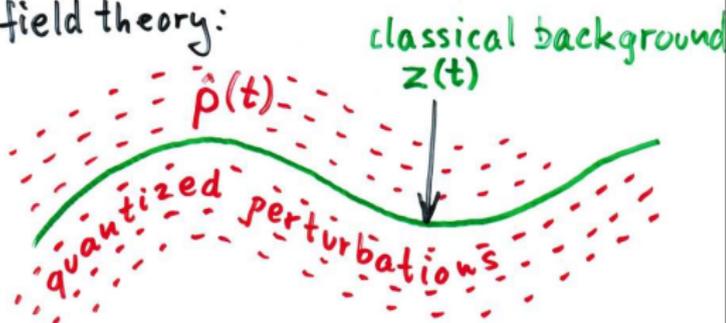
Classical variable = outcome of time-continuous non-Markovian quantum measurement:

$$z = \text{tr}[q\rho] + \text{colored-noise}$$

**Causality** structure of Non-Markovian Continuous Measurement is tricky. Progress after Cambridge 1999, with recent debates Jack Collet Walls, Wiseman Gambetta, Diosi (1999–2011)

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Study the coexistence of  $\hat{p}(t)$  &  $z(t)$ !

On coexistence of classical continuum and quantum theory, Cambridge, July 1999,

[www.rmki.kfki.hu/~diosi/slides/cambridge.pdf](http://www.rmki.kfki.hu/~diosi/slides/cambridge.pdf).

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Continuous wave function collapse in quantum-electrodynamics?,

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