

# Please: what's wrong with this refutation of Bell's famous inequality?

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**Abstract** Elementary algebra refutes Bell's famous inequality conclusively.

## 1. Introduction

1.1. The context is John Bell's famous 1964 essay (freely available, see ¶4-References). We use  $E$  (not  $P$ ) for Bell's expectation-values, and  $a, b, c$  for Bell's unit-vectors  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ .

1.2. We here refute Bell's inequality. We thus show that it is not an impediment to our provision of a more complete specification of the Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen-Bohm experiment (EPRB). Nor to our refutation of Bell's related theorem [see the line below Bell 1964:(3)] and his conclusion:

“In a theory in which parameters are added to quantum mechanics to determine the results of individual measurements, without changing the statistical predictions, there must be a mechanism whereby the setting of one measuring device can influence the reading of another instrument, however remote. Moreover, the signal involved must propagate instantaneously, so that such a theory could not be Lorentz invariant,” Bell (1964:199).

## 2. Analysis

2.1. From Bell 1964:(1)-(2), we have

$$-1 \leq E(a, b) \leq 1, -1 \leq E(a, c) \leq 1, -1 \leq E(b, c) \leq 1. \quad (1)$$

$$\therefore E(a, b)[1 + E(a, c)] \leq 1 + E(a, c). \quad (2)$$

$$\therefore E(a, b) - E(a, c) \leq 1 - E(a, b)E(a, c). \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Similarly: } E(a, c) - E(a, b) \leq 1 - E(a, b)E(a, c). \quad (4)$$

$$\therefore \pm [E(a, b) - E(a, c)] \leq 1 - E(a, b)E(a, c). \quad (5)$$

$$\therefore |E(a, b) - E(a, c)| + E(a, b)E(a, c) \leq 1. \blacksquare \quad (6)$$

2.2. Then, for comparison with irrefutable (6), here's Bell's famous inequality, Bell 1964:(15):

$$|E(a, b) - E(a, c)| - E(b, c) \leq 1 \text{ [sic]}. \quad (7)$$

2.3. So, comparing (7) with (6), Bell 1964:(15) is algebraically false: and seriously false,<sup>2</sup> for

$$|E(a, b) - E(a, c)| - E(b, c) > 1. \blacksquare \quad (8)$$

2.4. That is, allowing the expectation values in (1) to range from  $-1$  to  $1$  over  $[0, \pi]$  via the proxies

$$E(a, b) = -\cos(a, b), E(a, c) = -\cos(a, c), E(b, c) = -\cos(b, c) \quad (9)$$

[which are consistent with quantum theory] then Bell's inequality is seriously false whenever

$$|\cos(a, c) - \cos(a, b)| + \cos(b, c) > 1. \quad (10)$$

2.5. Or, using (10) with an angular relation commonly found in Bell-studies [eg, Peres (1995:Fig.6.7)],

$$(b, c) = (a, c) - (a, b) : \text{ and, say, with } (a, c) = 3(a, b), \quad (11)$$

then, in this example, Bell's inequality is false over 66% of the range  $-\pi < (a, b) < \pi$ ; to wit,

$$-\pi < (a, b) < \frac{2\pi}{3}, \frac{\pi}{3} < (a, b) < 0, 0 < (a, b) < \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{2\pi}{3} < (a, b) < \pi; \text{ etc.} \quad (12)$$

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<sup>2</sup> *Seriously false* in that, theoretically and experimentally, Bell's inequality (7) can exceed its upper bound of one.

### 3. Conclusions and the way ahead

3.1. Bell's inequality [algebraically false; cf (7) with (6)], is seriously false under EPRB; see (12).

3.2. Further, exhausting (1), our inequality (6) becomes

$$0 \leq |E(a, b) - E(a, c)| + E(a, b)E(a, c) \leq 1; \quad (13)$$

to be compared with Bell's inequality (7), amended under (11) and the same exhaustion,

$$-1 \leq |E(a, b) - E(a, c)| - E(b, c) \leq \frac{3}{2}. \quad (14)$$

3.3. Thus, in the context of EPRB and Bell 1964, (14) joins our (13) as a truism. And neither presents any impediment to our provision of a more complete specification of EPRB.<sup>3</sup> Nor to our consequent refutation of Bell's related theorem.

3.4. Nor to our consequent completion—without *spooky-action-at-a-distance*—of Einstein's argument that EPR correlations can be “made intelligible only by completing the quantum mechanical account in a classical way,” Bell (2004:86).

‘... one supposition we should absolutely hold fast: the real factual situation of the system  $S_2$  is independent of what is done with the system  $S_1$ , which is spatially separated from the former,’ after Einstein (1949:85).

3.5. For, based on that supposition, our local hidden-variable theory refutes this:

“If nature follows quantum mechanics in these correlations [which she does], then Einstein's conception of the world is untenable,” Bell (2004:86).

3.6. Further, and in any case: a contagious error voids Bell (1964) and most of Bell's EPR-based theorizing; see Watson 2018K.

### 4. References

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6. Watson, G. (2018K). Forthcoming. [A contagious error voids Bell (1964), etc.]

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<sup>3</sup> Drafted in Watson (2017d), and now being rewritten.