

Bell's theorem refuted via elementary probability theory

Gordon Stewart Watson¹

Abstract: Bell's theorem has been described as the most profound discovery of science. Let's see.

Introduction: Let β denote the thought-experiment in Bell (1964). Let $\mathbf{B}(\cdot)$ denote his equations (\cdot). Let the causally-independent same-instance results in $\mathbf{B}(1)$ be A^\pm and B^\pm , pairwise correlated via the functions A & B and the variable λ . Then, reserving P for probabilities, let's replace Bell's expectation $P(\vec{a}, \vec{b})$ in $\mathbf{B}(2)$ with its identity $E(a, b|\beta)$. So, from $\mathbf{B}(1)$, $\mathbf{B}(2)$, RHS $\mathbf{B}(3)$ and the line below $\mathbf{B}(3)$ —with Λ denoting the space of λ —here's Bell's theorem (**BT**) in our notation:

$$\mathbf{BT}: E(a, b|\beta) = \int_{\Lambda} d\lambda \rho(\lambda) A(a, \lambda) B(b, \lambda) \neq -a \cdot b \text{ [sic];} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{with } A(a, \lambda) = \pm 1 \equiv A^\pm, B(b, \lambda) = \pm 1 \equiv B^\pm, A(a, \lambda) B(b, \lambda) = \pm 1. \quad (2)$$

Refutation: Via RHS (2), and independent of the functions A and B , we divide Λ into two subsets: Λ^+ is the space that delivers $A(a, \lambda) B(b, \lambda) = 1$, Λ^- delivers $A(a, \lambda) B(b, \lambda) = -1$. Thus, from (1):

$$E(a, b|\beta) = \int_{\Lambda^+} d\lambda \rho(\lambda) A(a, \lambda) B(b, \lambda) - \int_{\Lambda^-} d\lambda \rho(\lambda) A(a, \lambda) B(b, \lambda) \quad (3)$$

$$= P(AB = 1 | a, b, \Lambda^+) - P(AB = -1 | a, b, \Lambda^-), \text{ the weighted-sum of } AB \text{ results.} \quad (4)$$

$$= [P(A^+ B^+) + P(A^- B^-)] - [P(A^+ B^-) + P(A^- B^+)], \text{ with conditions suppressed,}$$

the weighted-sum of the same-instance results (± 1) that deliver each AB result. (5)

$$= P(A^+) P(B^+ | A^+) + P(A^-) P(B^- | A^-) - P(A^+) P(B^- | A^+) - P(A^-) P(B^+ | A^-)$$

via the product rule for the paired (same-instance) results correlated as in (2). (6)

$$= \frac{1}{2} [P(B^+ | A^+) + P(B^- | A^-) - P(B^- | A^+) - P(B^+ | A^-)] \text{ for, with}$$

λ a random latent variable, the marginal probabilities [like $P(A^+)$] = $\frac{1}{2}$. (7)

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\sin^2 \frac{1}{2}(a, b) + \sin^2 \frac{1}{2}(a, b) - \cos^2 \frac{1}{2}(a, b) - \cos^2 \frac{1}{2}(a, b)]: \text{ replacing the probability}$$

functions in (7) with our β -based laws (akin to Malus' Law for light-beams). (8)

$$= \sin^2 \frac{1}{2}(a, b) - \cos^2 \frac{1}{2}(a, b) = -\cos(a, b) = -a \cdot b. \text{ So RHS (1) is refuted: QED.} \quad (9)$$

¹ eprb@me.com [Ex: 1989.v0, 2019R.v1, 2020H.v3b] Ref: 2020H.v4 20201017

Confirmation: We now refute **B(15)**, Bell's inequality (**BI**), offered by Bell as proof of his theorem.

$$\mathbf{BI}: |E(a,b) - E(a,c)| - 1 \leq E(b,c) \text{ [sic]: ie, } \mathbf{B(15)} \text{ in our notation,} \quad (10)$$

$$\text{where } -1 \leq E(a,b) \leq 1, -1 \leq E(a,c) \leq 1, -1 \leq E(b,c) \leq 1. \quad (11)$$

$$\text{However: } E(a,b)[1 + E(a,c)] \leq 1 + E(a,c); \text{ for, if } V \leq 1, \text{ and } 0 \leq W, \text{ then } VW \leq W. \quad (12)$$

$$\therefore E(a,b) - E(a,c) - 1 \leq -E(a,b)E(a,c). \quad (13)$$

$$\text{Similarly: } E(a,c) - E(a,b) - 1 \leq -E(a,b)E(a,c). \text{ Hence our irrefutable inequality} \quad (14)$$

$$\mathbf{WI}: |E(a,b) - E(a,c)| - 1 \leq -E(a,b)E(a,c). \quad (15)$$

$$\text{So, with test-settings } 0 < (a,c) < \pi; (a,b) = (b,c) = \frac{(a,c)}{2} = \frac{x}{2}, \text{ and, via (9),} \quad (16)$$

$$\text{with test-functions } E(a,b) = E(b,c) = -\cos\left(\frac{x}{2}\right), E(a,c) = -\cos(x) : \text{ please} \quad (17)$$

$$\text{copy, paste and test this next expression in WolframAlpha}^{\text{®}}; \text{ free-online, see References.} \quad (18)$$

$$\text{plot} | \cos(x) - \cos(x/2) | - 1 \&\& - \cos(x/2) \&\& - \cos(x) \cos(x/2), 0 \leq x \leq \pi \quad (19)$$

Thus, under the generality of (16)-(17):² (i) For $0 < x < \pi$, (10) is everywhere false, (15) is everywhere true. (ii) For $x = 0$ and $x = \pi$, (10) and (15) are true. (iii) Let the unnumbered relations between **B(14)** and **B(15)** be **B(14a)**-**B(14c)**. (iv) Then Bell's error is his move from true **B(14a)** to false **B(14b)**: for **B(14b)** leads to false **B(15)**. (v) In other words, given the common LHS in (10) and (15): Bell's error equates irrefutable $-E(a,b)E(a,c)$ from (15) to false $E(b,c)$ from (10); hence, as above, Bell's equality only holds at $x = 0$ and $x = \pi$. That is: when Bell's $-\cos\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = -\cos\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)\cos(x)$.

Conclusions: (i) Bell's theorem (1) and Bell's inequality (10) are refuted. (ii) In (8), via our heuristic debt to Malus, we provide the first of a family of laws that refute Bell's theorem in other settings.

References:

1. Bell, J. S. (1964). "On the Einstein Podolsky Rosen paradox." Physics 1, 195-200.
http://cds.cern.ch/record/111654/files/vol1p195-200_001.pdf
2. WolframAlpha[®]. "WolframAlpha: computational intelligence." <https://www.wolframalpha.com>

² Under β , the plane of the coplanar angles need not be orthogonal to the line-of-light axis: just not parallel to it.