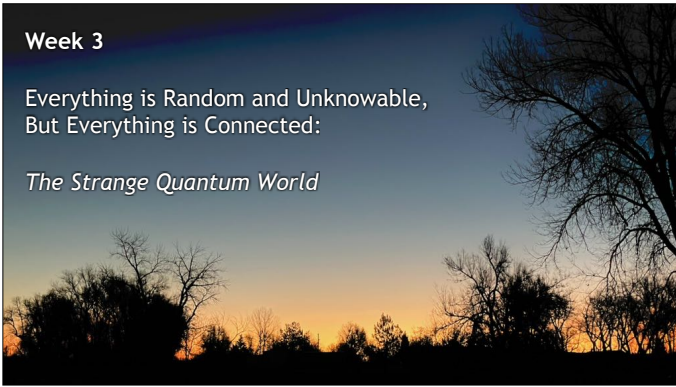


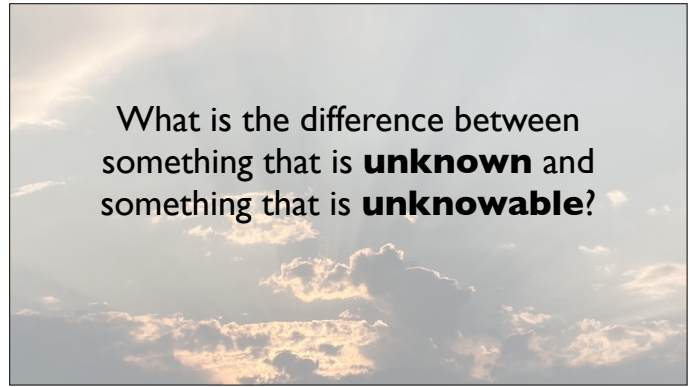
Week 3

Everything is Random and Unknowable,
But Everything is Connected:

The Strange Quantum World



What is the difference between something that is **unknown** and something that is **unknowable**?

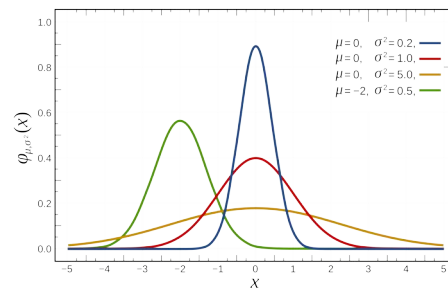


Your height varies over the day.
How accurately do you think you can know your height?
We use the symbol Δ to denote uncertainty.

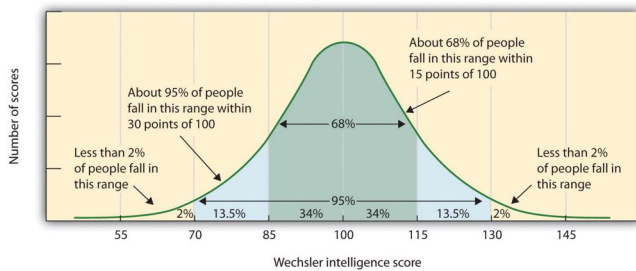
$$\Delta h = ?$$



Normal Distribution



Normal Distribution



Reasoning with Equations

$$c = f\lambda$$

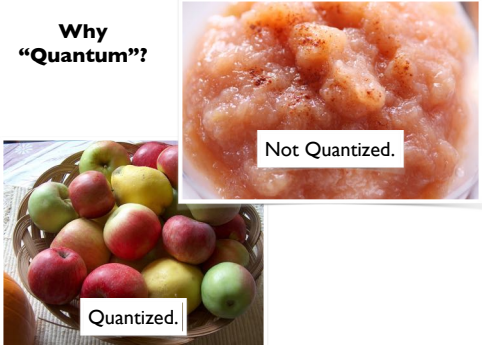
Red light has a longer wavelength than blue light. Which color has a higher frequency?



Where is a Wave?



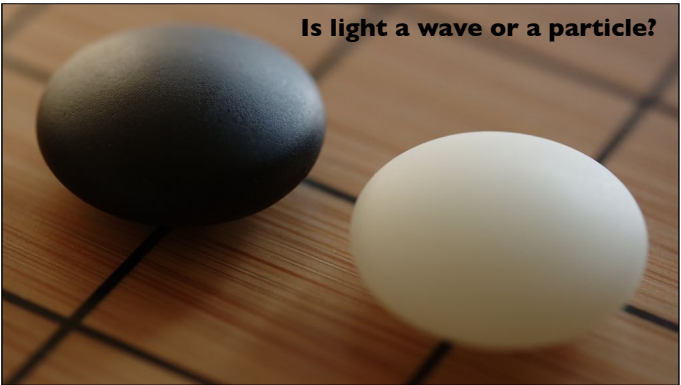
Why "Quantum"?



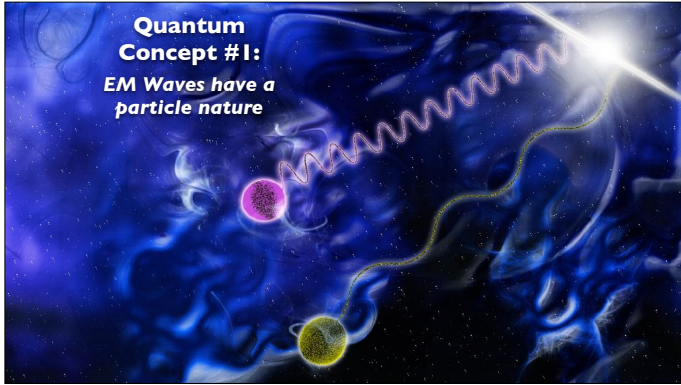
Quantized.

Not Quantized.

Is light a wave or a particle?

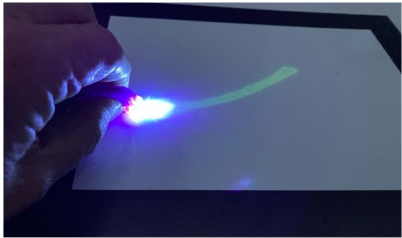


Quantum Concept #1:
EM Waves have a particle nature



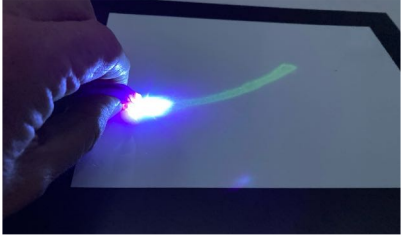
Writing with Light

Touch (gently!) different color flashlights to the glow-in-the-dark surface. Which colors leave trails?

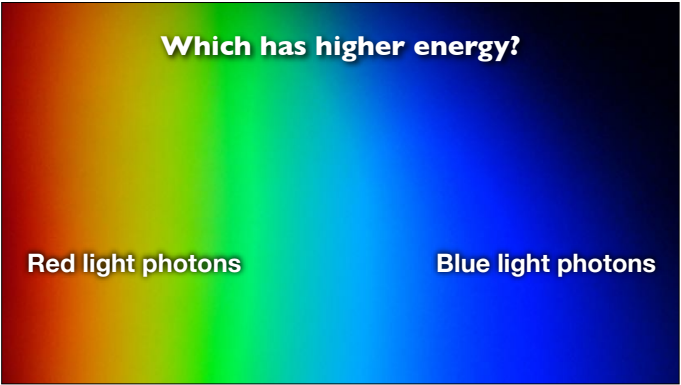


Writing with Light

Light comes in "chunks" of a certain size related to the wavelength.



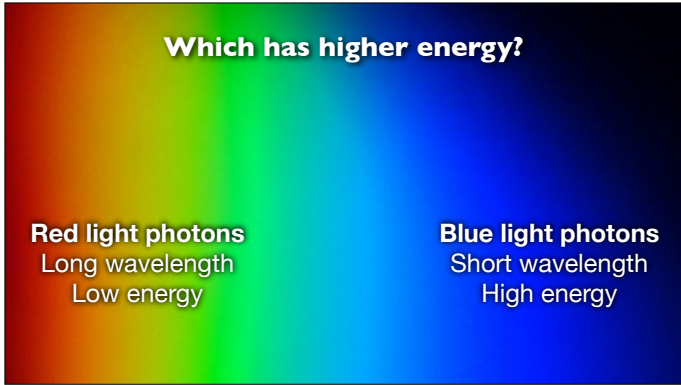
Which has higher energy?



Red light photons

Blue light photons

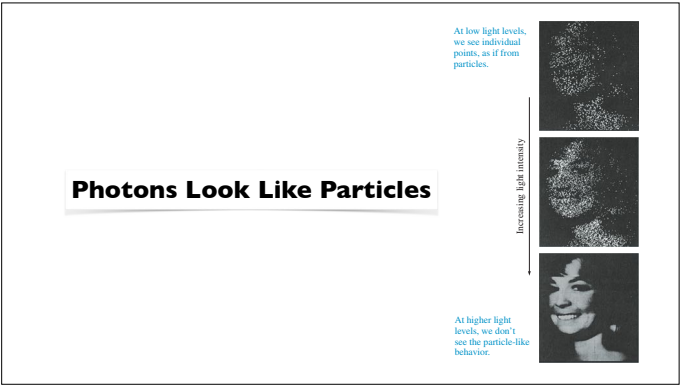
Which has higher energy?



Red light photons
Long wavelength
Low energy

Blue light photons
Short wavelength
High energy

Photons Look Like Particles

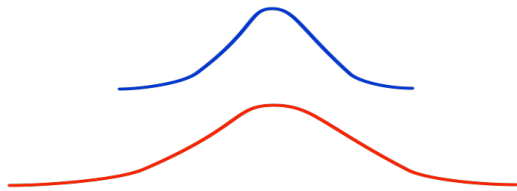


At low light levels, we see individual points, as if from particles.

Increasing light intensity

At higher light levels, we don't see the particle-like behavior.

Where Is A Photon?

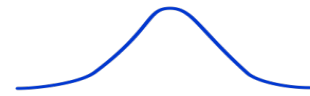


Which can you locate more precisely?

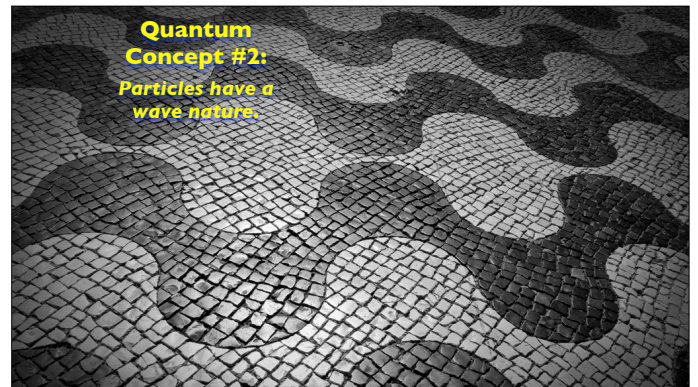
Worth Knowing:

Quantum Waves Aren't Like Other Waves.

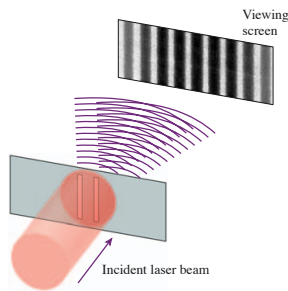
Before the photon hits the screen.



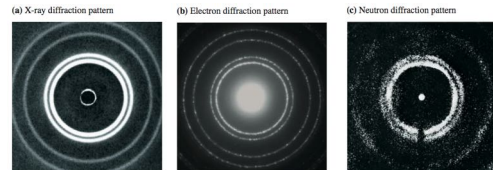
After the photon hits the screen.



Double Slit Interference Pattern



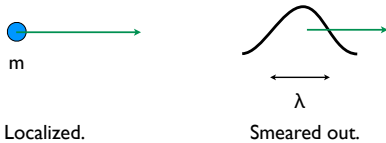
Particles have a Wave Nature



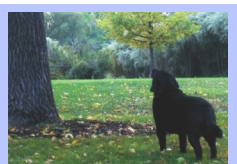
$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{mv}$$

De Broglie wavelength for a moving particle

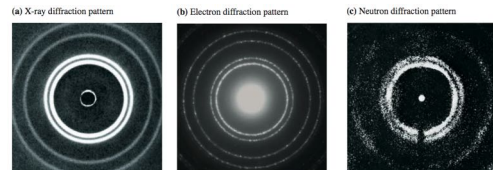
This doesn't matter for macroscopic objects.



Wavelength of a squirrel running at 3 m/s:
 1×10^{-33} m



Particles have a Wave Nature



$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{mv}$$

De Broglie wavelength for a moving particle

If a particle slows down, how does its wavelength change?

Colder = Slower.

$$v_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{\frac{3k_B T}{m}}$$

At very low temperature, the de Broglie wavelengths of the atoms in a diffuse gas can become larger than the distance between atoms, leading to remarkable consequences. In an early study, a gas of ^{23}Na was cooled to 200 nK. What is the de Broglie wavelength? How does this compare to the 0.36 nm diameter of the atoms?

Mass: 23 u

$$v_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{\frac{3k_B T}{m}}$$

$1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ m}^2 \cdot \text{kg} / \text{s}^2 \cdot \text{K}$

Diameter: 0.36 nm

Bose-Einstein Condensate

$v = 14.7 \text{ mm/s}$

$\lambda = 1.2 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$

Millions of atoms in the same place at the same time.

$T > T_c$ $T < T_c$ $T \ll T_c$

temperature

Two Types of Particles

Bosons Leptons

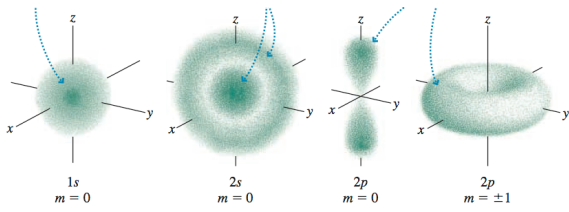
Photons are bosons.

That's how lasers work.

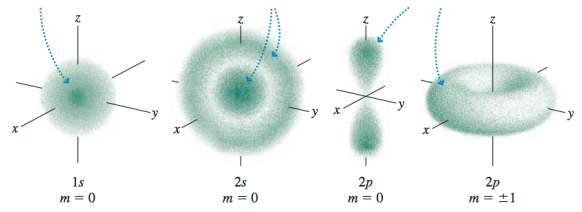
Particle Model

Particle Model: Orbits

Wave Model: Orbitals

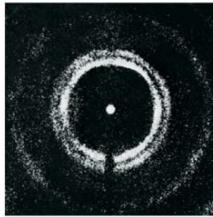


Wave Functions



But when the waves hit the screen....

(e) Neutron diffraction pattern

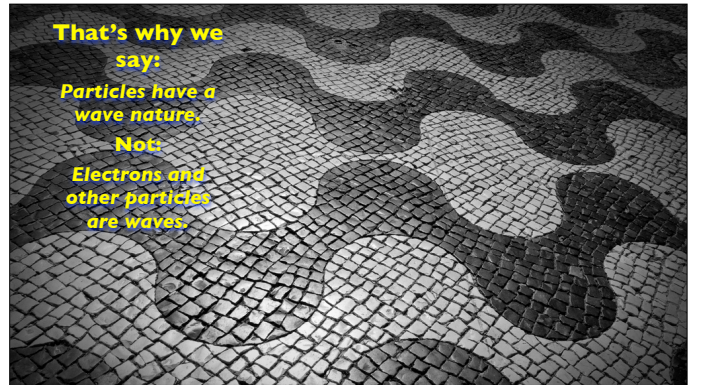


...they look like particles.

That's why we say:

Particles have a wave nature.

Not:
Electrons and other particles are waves.



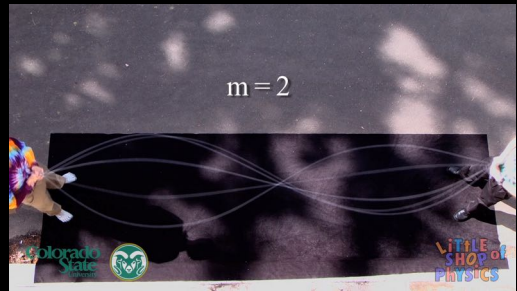
Quantum Concept #3:

The wave nature of particles leads to quantization.



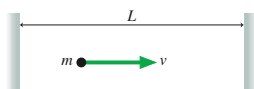
Standing Wave Modes

$m = 2$

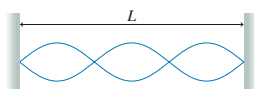


Particles have a wave nature. So...

Particle:

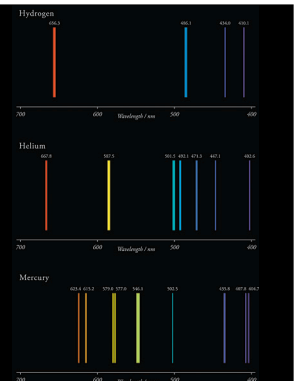


Wave:



...the possible states are **quantized**.

Line Spectra



The Crux of the Quantum Biscuit

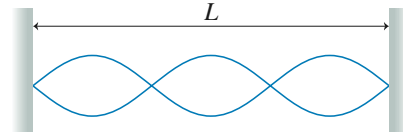
Photons have a particle nature.

Their energy is quantized.
It comes in chunks of a particular size.

Particles have a wave nature. Confining them restricts them to certain energy states.

The energy of a confined particle is quantized.
It is restricted to certain values.

When you constrain a wave, it can only have certain states.



$$E_n = \frac{1}{2m} \left[\frac{hn}{2L} \right]^2 = \frac{h^2}{8mL^2} n^2 \quad n = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$$

Allowed energies for particle in a box

What happens when you change the box size?

$$E_n = \frac{1}{2m} \left[\frac{hn}{2L} \right]^2 = \frac{h^2}{8mL^2} n^2 \quad n = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$$

Allowed energies for particle in a box

If you make the box smaller (make L smaller),
how does that change the energies?

Quantum Concept
#4:
Uncertainty

Not So Much

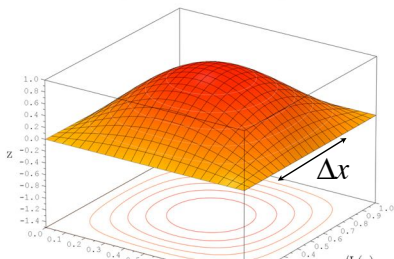


Lots



Heisenberg uncertainty principle

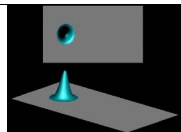
$$\Delta x \Delta p_x \geq \frac{h}{4\pi}$$



Uncertainty

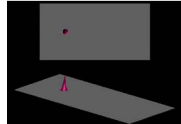
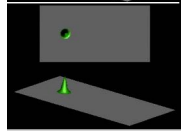
If I know where you are,
I don't know where you
are going.

Δx large



$$\Delta v \propto \frac{1}{\Delta x}$$

Δx small



Everything is in Motion

Can I say that something is not moving?



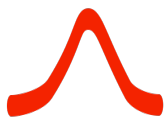
Quantum Zero Point Energy

Things are moving, even at absolute zero.




What does the wave function mean?

Before Measurement:

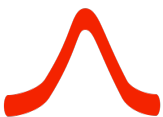


After Measurement:




The wave function is the particle.
It behaves differently depending on circumstances.

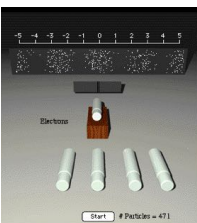
Before Measurement:



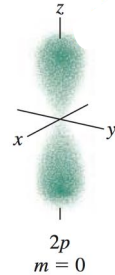
After Measurement:



Quantum Weirdness #1: Non-locality

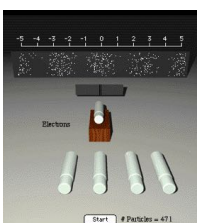


Which slit did the electron go through?



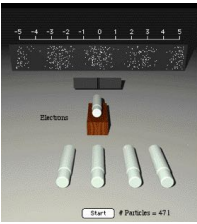
Where is the electron?

Quantum Weirdness #2: Unknowability

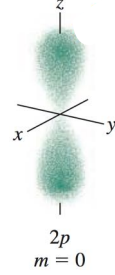


If you know which slit the electron goes through, it changes the pattern.

Related Concept: Measuring Reality Affects Reality

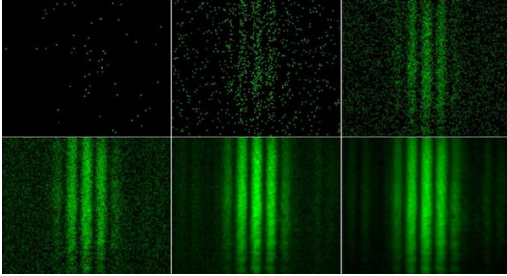


Which slit did the electron go through?



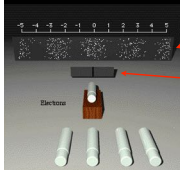
Where is the electron?

Quantum Weirdness #3: Wave function collapse



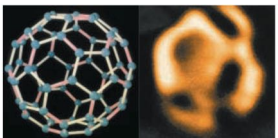
Single-photon diffraction pattern

Quantum Weirdness #4: Duality



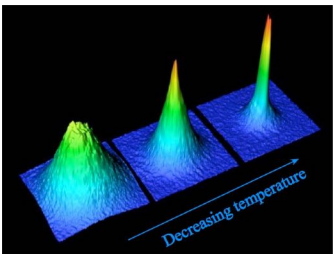
Acting like a particle

Acting like a wave



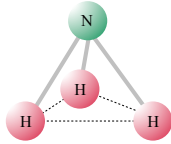
Buckyball:
Looks like particles
Can act like a wave

Quantum Weirdness #5: Superposition



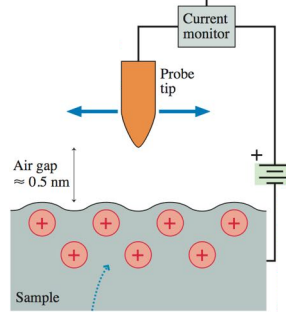
Bose-Einstein Condensate

Quantum Weirdness #6: Tunneling

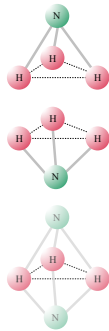


Transition between states

Scanning Tunneling Microscope



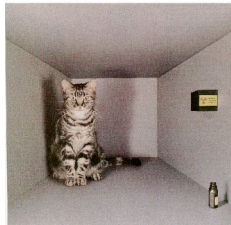
Quantum Weirdness #7: Mixed States



Up

Down

Up and Down

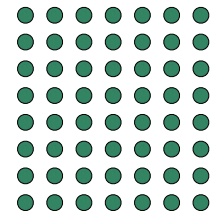


Schrödinger's Cat

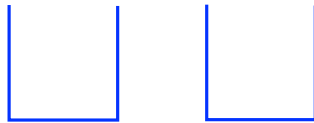
Quantum Weirdness #8: Indistinguishability



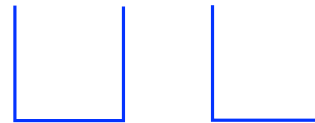
Identical.



Indistinguishable.



How many ways to arrange the two balls in the two containers?

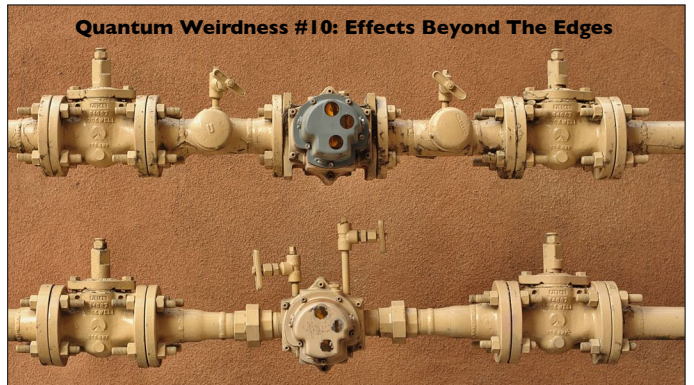


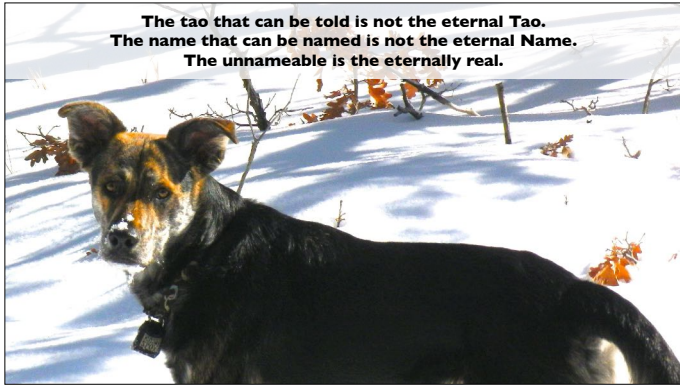
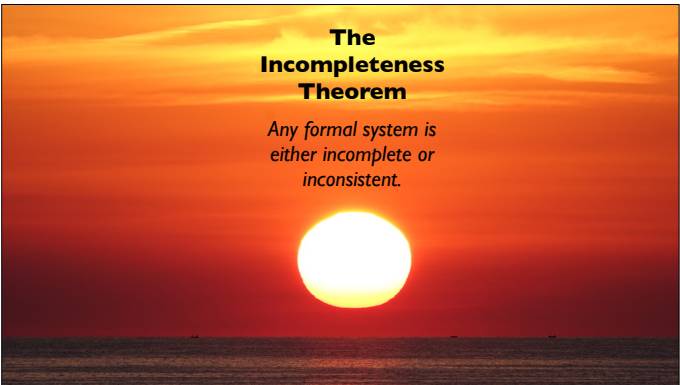
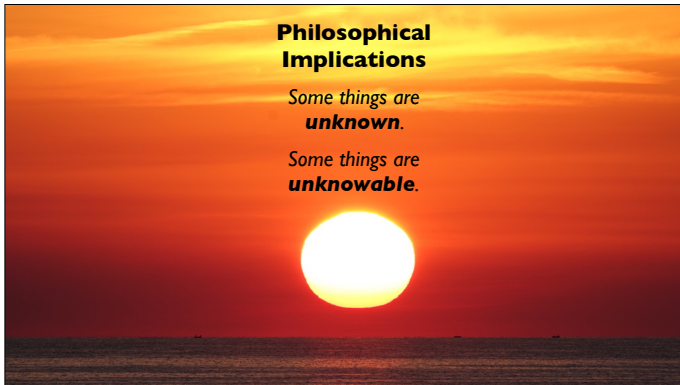
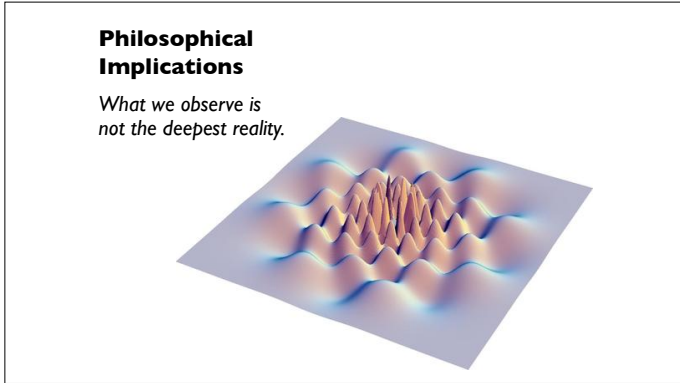
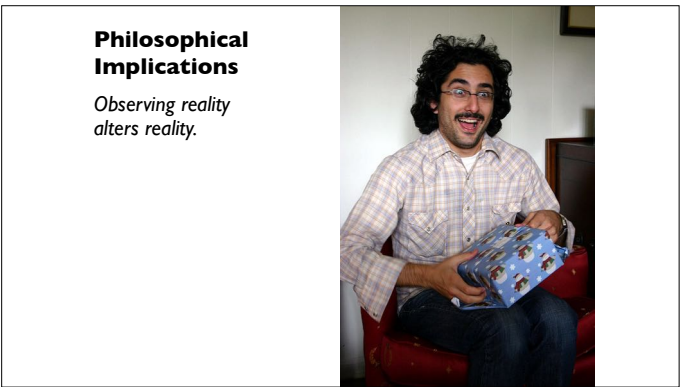
How many ways to arrange the two electrons in the two containers?

Quantum Weirdness #9: Entanglement



Quantum Weirdness #10: Effects Beyond The Edges

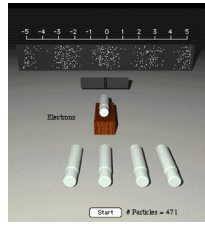




Philosophical Implications

Some things are not just **unknown**.

They are **unknowable**.



Which slit did the electron go through?

