

# Hierarchy 1

“Bounding and Simulating Contextual Correlations in Quantum Theory”

Armin Tavakoli, Emmanuel Zambrini Cruzeiro, Roope Uola, Alastair A. Abbott

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# SDP Hierarchies for Quantum Correlations

- Outer approximations of sets of quantum correlations using semidefinite programming (SDP)
- **Bell scenarios:**  $p(a, b|x, y) = \langle\psi|E_a^x E_b^y|\psi\rangle$ 
  - Navascues-Pironio-Acin (NPA) hierarchy [NJP 2008]
- **Prepare-and-measure scenarios:**
  - Dimension bounded correlations [Navascues, Vertesi, PRL 2015]
  - Bounded overlap between states [Y. Wang *et al.*, npjQI 2019]
$$p(b|x, y) = \langle\psi_x|E_b^y|\psi_x\rangle = \text{Tr}(E_b^y |\psi_x\rangle\langle\psi_x|)$$

# SDP Hierarchies for Quantum Correlations

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- **Bell scenarios:**  $p(a, b|x, y) = \langle\psi|E_a^x E_b^y|\psi\rangle$ 
  - Navascues-Pironio-Acin (NPA) hierarchy [NJP 2008]
- **Prepare-and-measure scenarios:**
  - Dimension bounded correlations [Navascues, Vertesi, PRL 2015]
  - Bounded overlap between states [Y. Wang *et al.*, npjQI 2019]
  - Contextuality?
- **Difficulties:**
  - How to enforce operational equivalences?
  - Mixed states and POVMs? (Standard purification arguments don't go through)

# Preparation Noncontextuality & Zero-Information Games

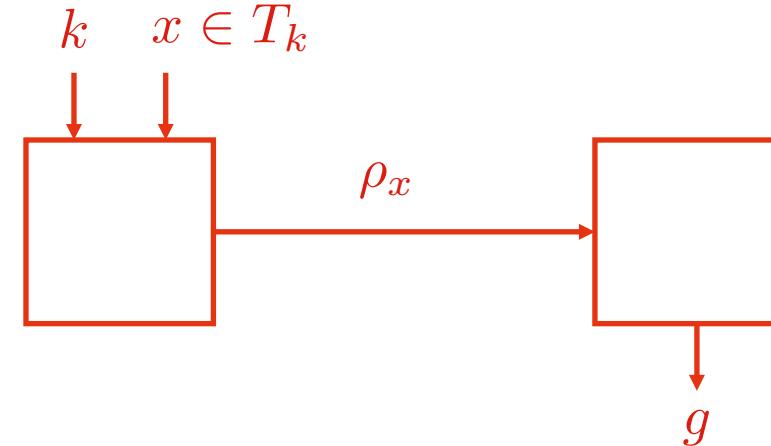
- Focus on preparation noncontextuality for simplicity

$$\frac{1}{2}(\rho_0 + \rho_1) = \frac{1}{2}(\rho_2 + \rho_3) = \frac{1}{2}(\rho_4 + \rho_5)$$

$$T_1 = \{\rho_0, \rho_1\}$$

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operational equivalences satisfied  $\iff \max p_{\text{guess}} = \max p(g = k) = \frac{1}{3}$   
 $\iff I_{\text{accessible}} = \log_2 3 + \log_2 \max p_{\text{guess}} = 0$

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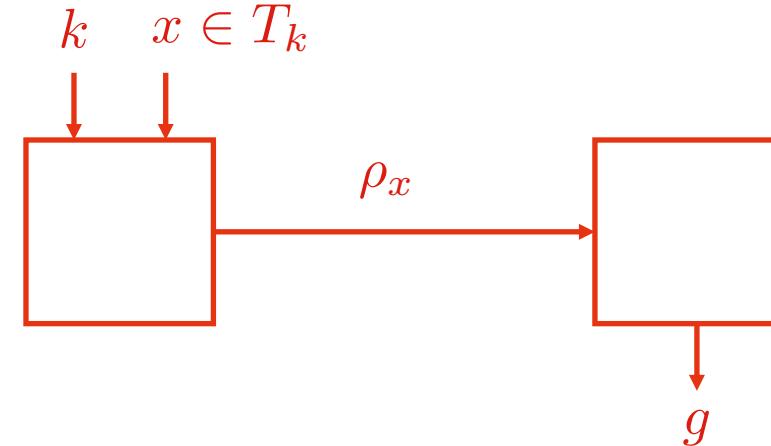
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- Adapt results from “informationally-restricted correlations” to handle OEs

- [A. Tavakoli *et al.*, Quantum (2020)]
- SDP hierarchy: [A. Tavakoli, E. Zambrini Cruzeiro, E. Woodhead, S. Pironio, arXiv:2007.16145]

# SDP Hierarchy for Preparation Noncontextuality

Given a distribution  $p(b|x, y)$  are there quantum states  $\{\rho_x\}$  and POVMs  $\{E_b^y\}$  reproducing the statistics  $p(b|x, y) = \text{Tr}(E_b^y \rho_x)$  and satisfying the operational equivalences?

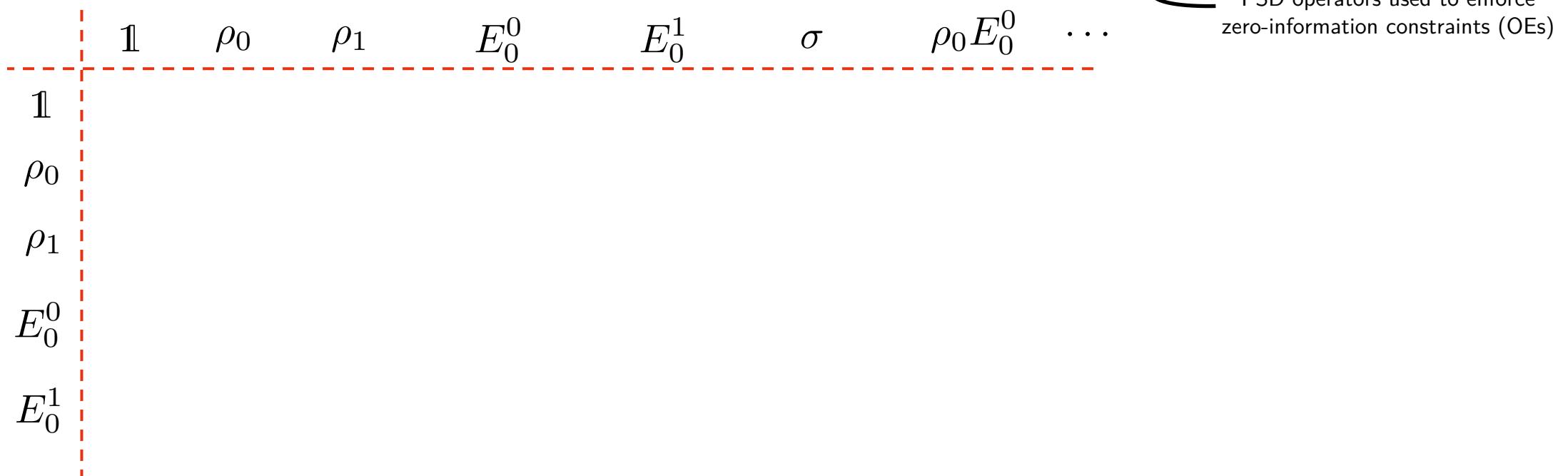
Mixed states  
Unbounded dimension

Projective measurements  
(preparation NC)

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- Moment matrix  $\Gamma : \Gamma_{ij} = \text{Tr}(O_i^\dagger O_j)$   $O_i, O_j \in \{\mathbb{1}, \rho_x, E_b^y, \sigma, \rho_x \rho_{x'}, \rho_x E_b^y, \dots\}$



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$\mathbb{1}$	$\text{Tr}(\mathbb{1})$	$\text{Tr}(\rho_0)$	$\text{Tr}(\rho_1)$					
$\rho_0$								
$\rho_1$								
$E_0^0$								
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PSD operators used to enforce zero-information constraints (OEs)

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$\mathbb{1}$	$\text{Tr}(\mathbb{1})$	1	1					
$\rho_0$								
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$\rho_0$				$\text{Tr}(\rho_0 E_0^0)$	$\text{Tr}(\rho_0 E_0^1)$			
$\rho_1$				$\text{Tr}(\rho_1 E_0^0)$	$\text{Tr}(\rho_1 E_0^1)$			
$E_0^0$							$\text{Tr}(E_0^0 \rho_0 E_0^0)$	
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$\rho_0$				$p(0 0, 0)$	$p(0 0, 1)$			
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$E_0^0$				$\text{Tr}(E_0^0)$		$p(0 0, 0)$	
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PSD operators used to enforce zero-information constraints (OEs)

- How to enforce the operational equivalences, positivity ( $\rho_x \succeq 0$ )?

## Necessary Conditions

$$\Gamma \succeq 0$$

$$\Gamma_{\mathbb{1}, \rho_x} = 1$$

$$\Gamma_{\rho_x, E_b^y} = p(b|x, y)$$

$\vdots$

# Localising Matrices for Noncontextuality

- State positivity:  $\Upsilon^x : (\Upsilon^x)_{ij} = \text{Tr}(L_i^\dagger \rho_x L_j)$
- $L_i, L_j \in \{\mathbb{1}, E_b^y, \rho_x, \dots\}$

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} & \mathbb{1} & E_0^0 & E_0^1 & \dots \\ \hline \mathbb{1} & 1 & p(0|x,0) & p(0|x,1) & & \\ E_0^0 & & p(0|x,0) & \text{Tr}(\rho_x E_0^1 E_0^0) & & \\ E_0^1 & & & p(0|x,1) & & \\ \vdots & & & & & \end{array} \succeq 0$$

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$\rho_0$		$\text{Tr}(\rho_0^2)$		$p(0 0,0)$	$p(0 0,1)$			
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- Operational equivalences:

$$\frac{1}{2}(\rho_0 + \rho_1) = \frac{1}{2}(\rho_2 + \rho_3) = \frac{1}{2}(\rho_4 + \rho_5)$$

$$T_1 = \{\rho_0, \rho_1\}, T_2 = \{\rho_2, \rho_3\}, T_3 = \{\rho_4, \rho_5\}$$

$$\exists \sigma : \begin{cases} \text{Tr}(\sigma) = \frac{1}{3} \quad (= \max p_{\text{guess}}) \\ \sigma = \frac{1}{3} \left[ \frac{1}{2}(\rho_0 + \rho_1) \right] \\ \sigma = \frac{1}{3} \left[ \frac{1}{2}(\rho_2 + \rho_3) \right] \\ \sigma = \frac{1}{3} \left[ \frac{1}{2}(\rho_4 + \rho_5) \right] \end{cases} \quad \Lambda^k : (\Lambda^k)_{ij} = \text{Tr} \left( L_i^\dagger \left( \sigma - \frac{1}{3} \sum_{x \in T_k} \frac{1}{2} \rho_x \right) L_j \right)$$

$$\Lambda^k = 0$$

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$$\Lambda^k \succeq 0$$

## Necessary Conditions

$$\Gamma \succeq 0$$

$$\Upsilon^x \succeq 0$$

$$\Lambda^k \succeq 0$$

$$\Gamma_{\mathbb{1}, \rho_x} = 1$$

$$\Gamma_{\rho_x, E_b^y} = p(b|x, y)$$

$$\Gamma_{\mathbb{1}, \sigma} = \frac{1}{K}$$

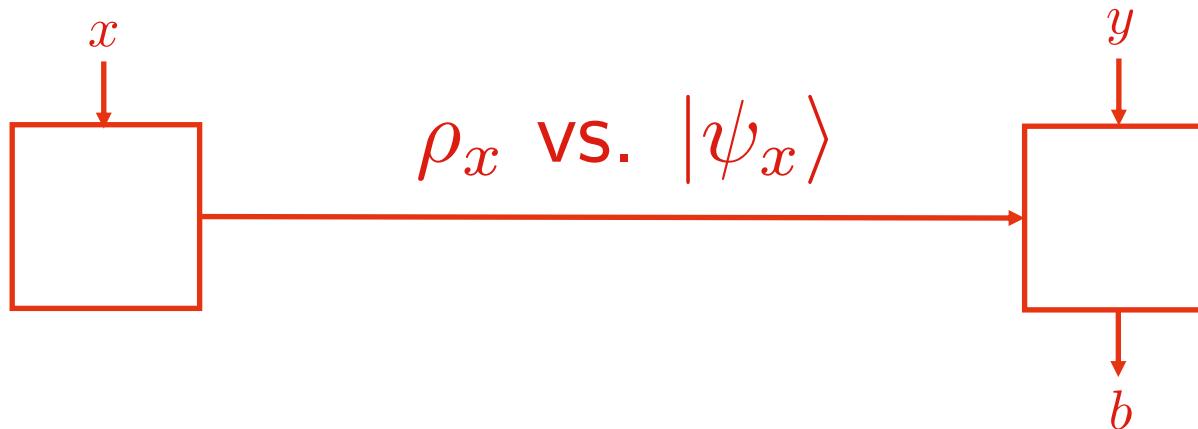
# Applications

- Tight upper bounds for several noncontextuality inequalities
- Implementation freely available on github

See paper!

Are pure states as useful as mixed states in contextuality scenarios?

- Purifications may not satisfy preparation equivalences

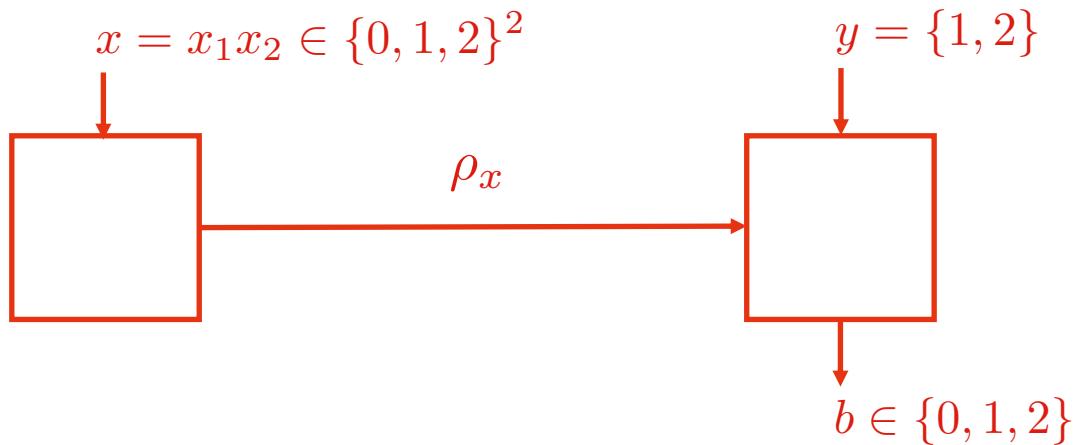


Pure hierarchy:

- Simplify:  $(\rho_x)^2 = \rho_x$
- No need for positivity localising matrices ( $\Upsilon^x$ ):  $(\rho_x)^2 = \rho_x \implies \rho_x \succeq 0$

# Contextual Advantage from Mixed States

- Hameedi-Tavakoli-Marques-Bourennane inequality [PRL 2017]



**RAC-based communication game:**

$$p_{\text{win}} = \frac{1}{18} \sum_{x,y} p(b = x_y | x, y)$$

**Operational equivalences:**

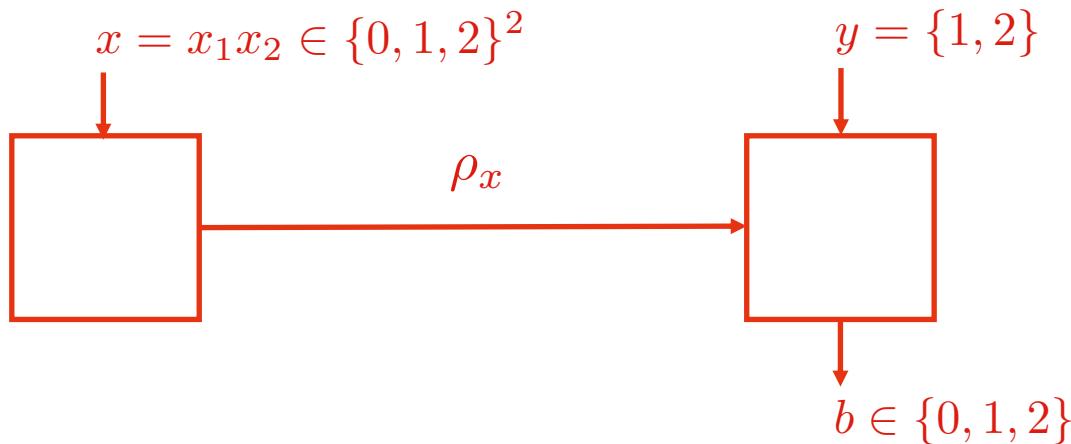
$$\frac{1}{3}(\rho_{00} + \rho_{12} + \rho_{21}) = \frac{1}{3}(\rho_{01} + \rho_{10} + \rho_{22}) = \frac{1}{3}(\rho_{02} + \rho_{20} + \rho_{11})$$

$$\frac{1}{3}(\rho_{00} + \rho_{11} + \rho_{22}) = \frac{1}{3}(\rho_{02} + \rho_{10} + \rho_{21}) = \frac{1}{3}(\rho_{01} + \rho_{12} + \rho_{20})$$

**Noncontextuality inequality:**  $p_{\text{win}} \stackrel{\text{NC}}{\leq} 2/3$

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**Noncontextuality inequality:**  $p_{\text{win}}^{\text{NC}} \leq 2/3$

➤ SDP hierarchy: No contextual advantage from pure states!  $p_{\text{win}}^{\Psi} \lesssim 2/3$

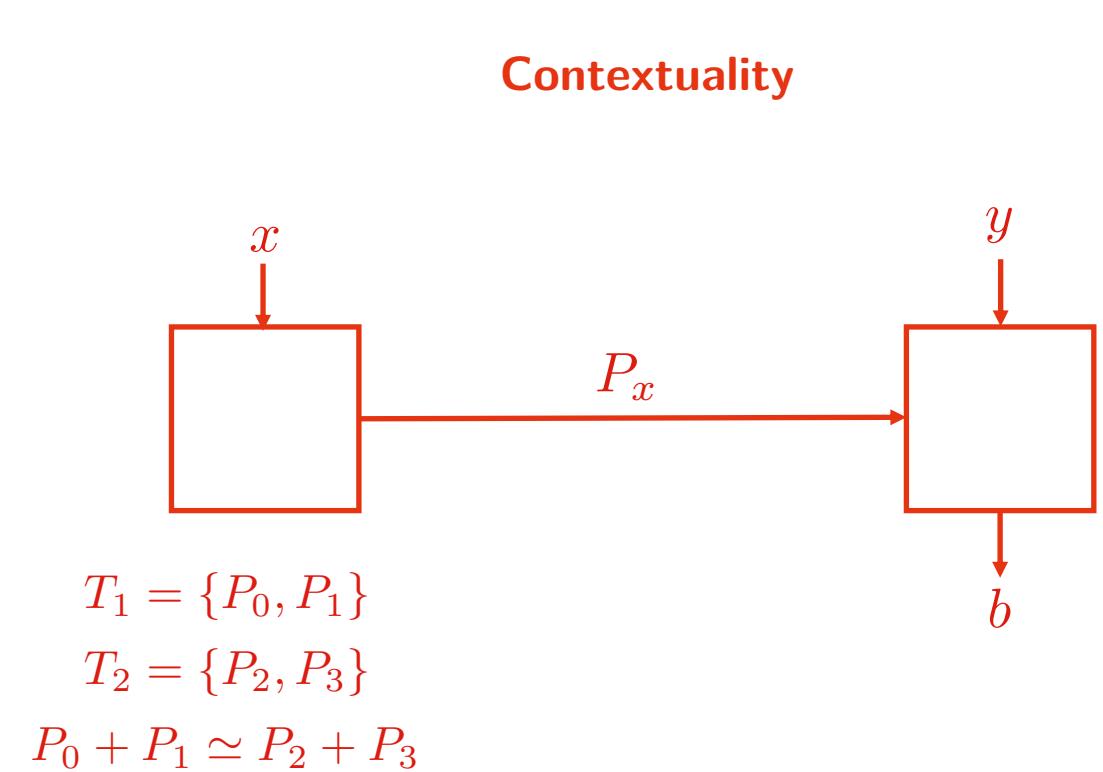
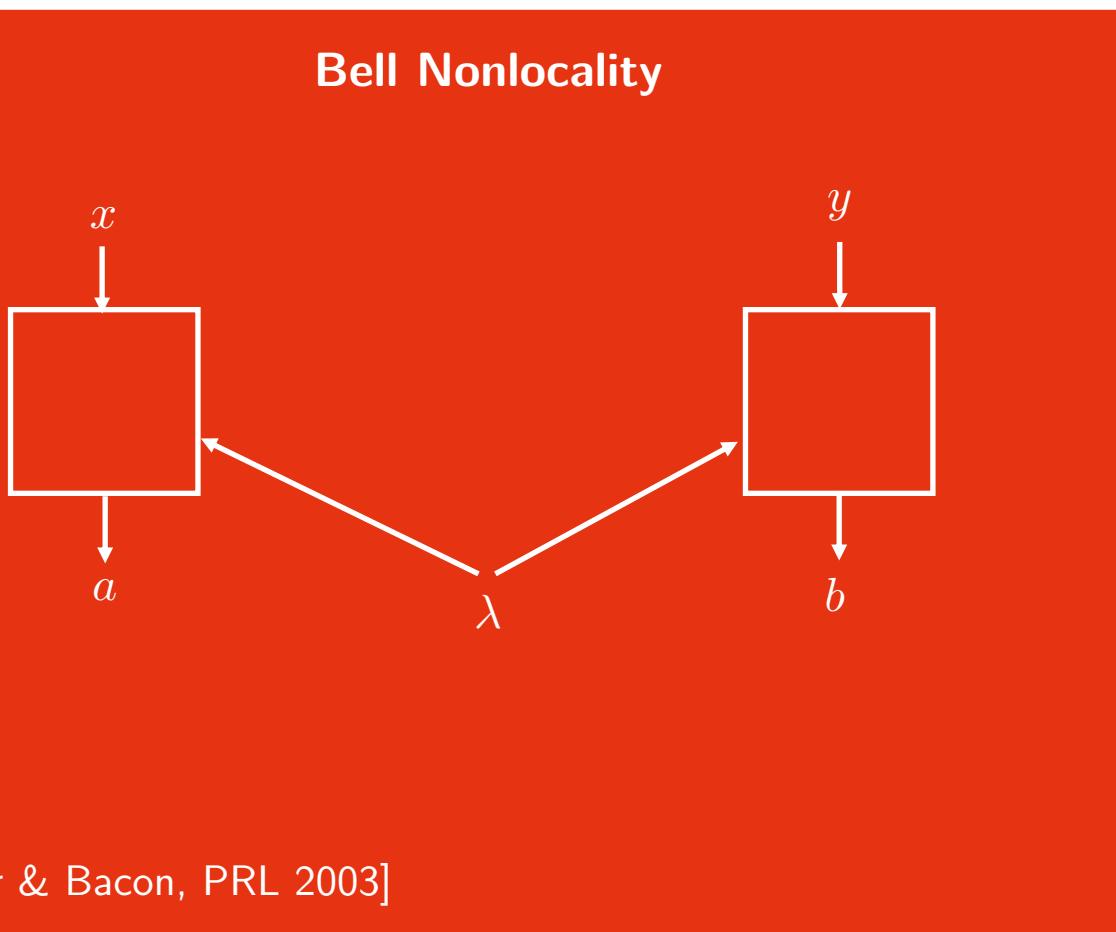
➤ Mixed states:

- Achievable (d=6):  $p_{\text{win}}^Q \approx 0.6979$
- SDP hierarchy:  $p_{\text{win}}^Q \lesssim 0.704$

# Simulating Contextuality

What resources are needed to simulate contextual correlations (maybe post-quantum ones)

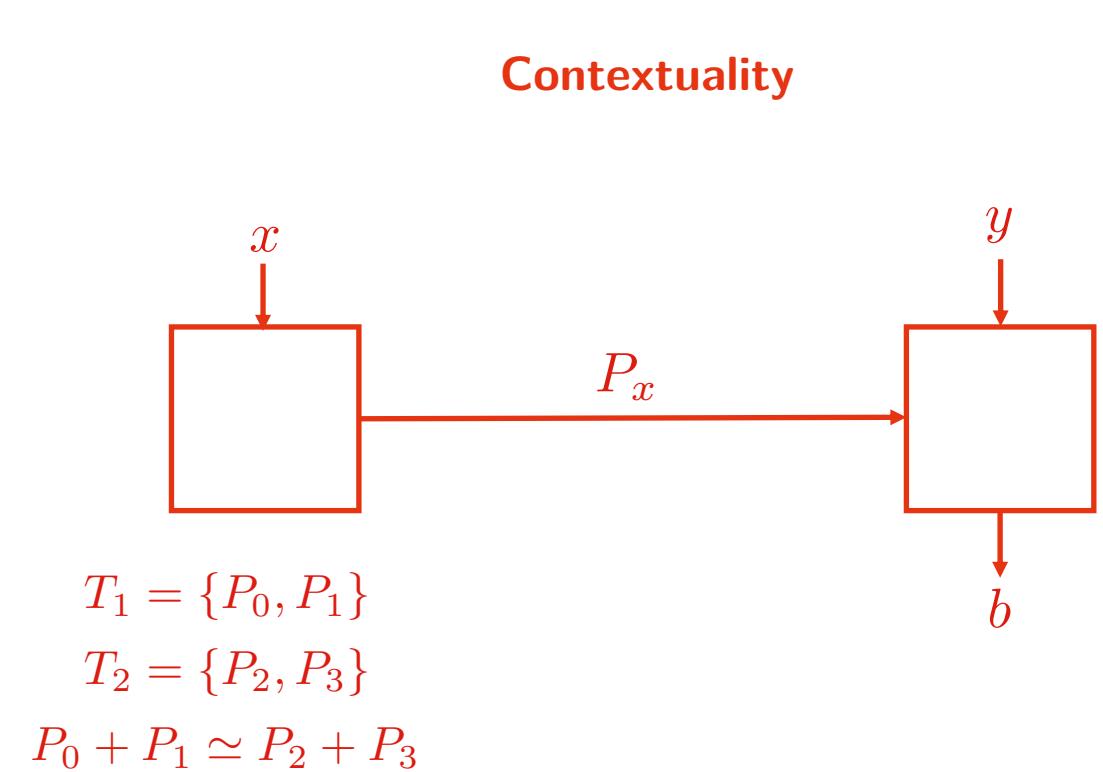
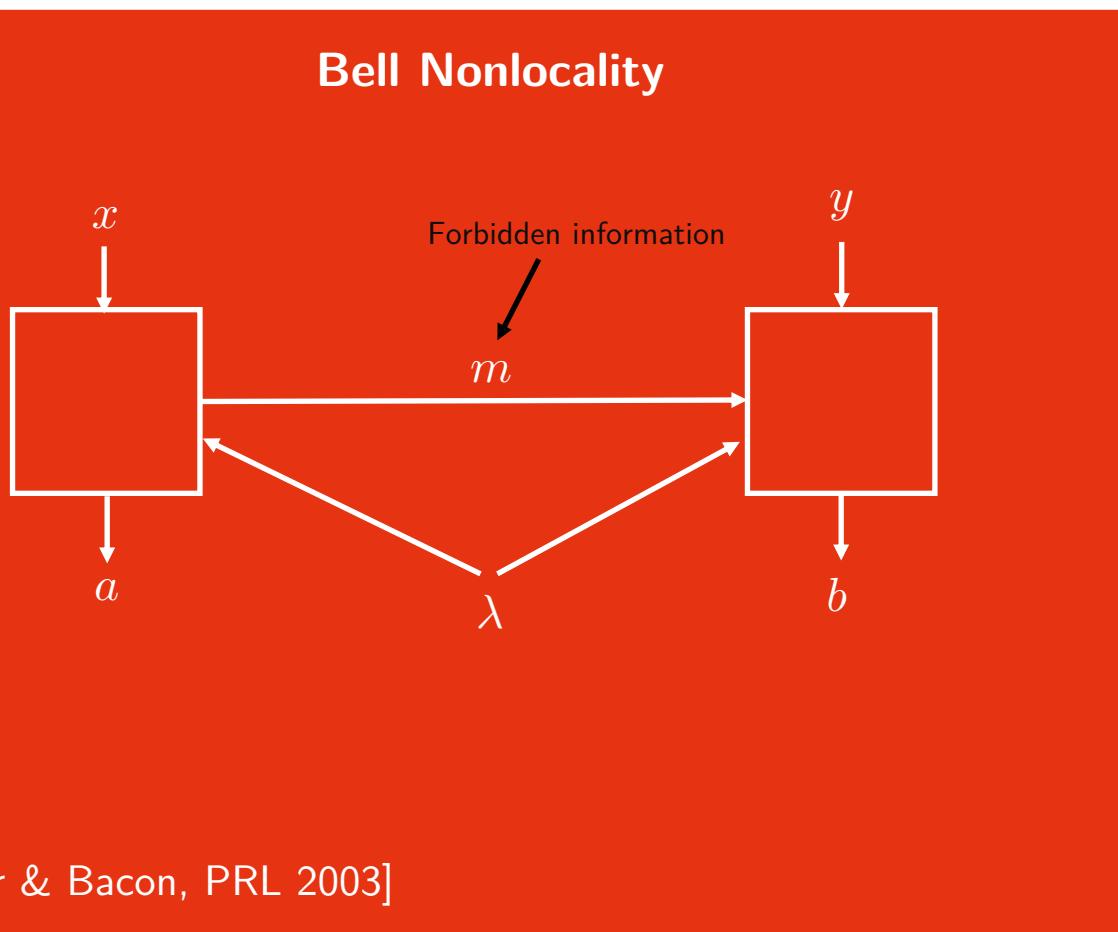
1. with a noncontextual, classical model?
2. with a quantum model?



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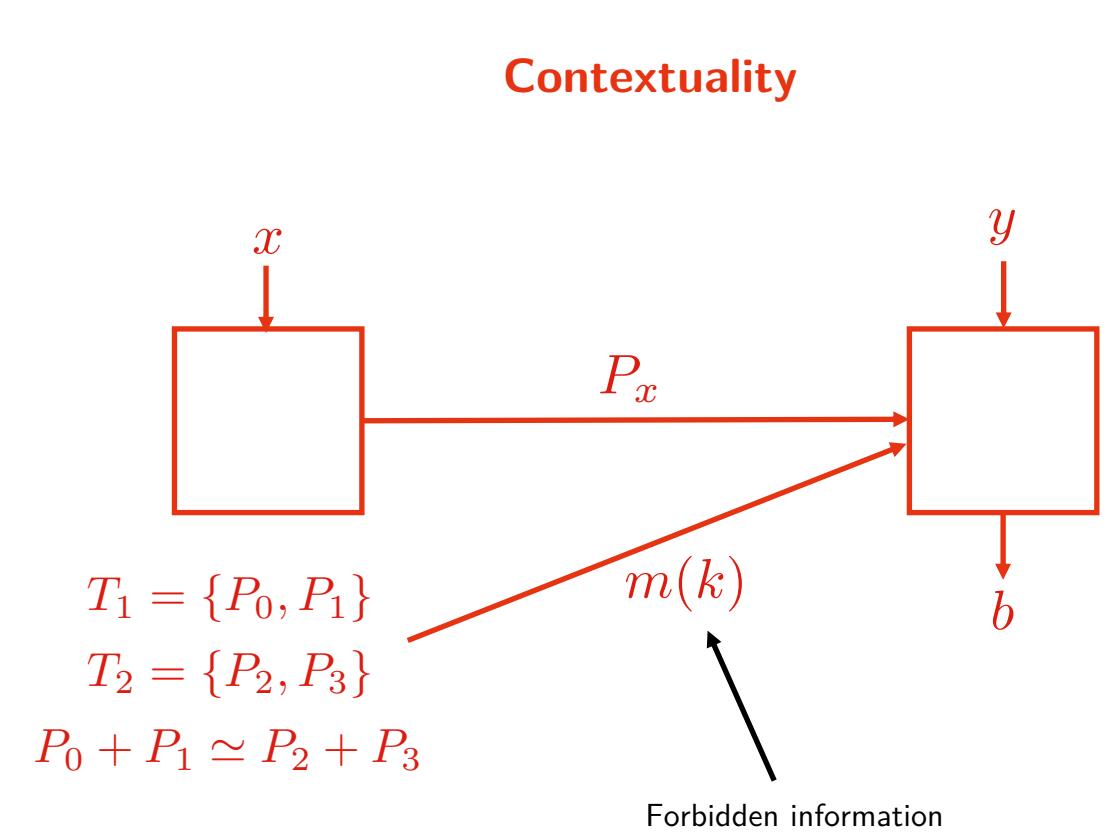
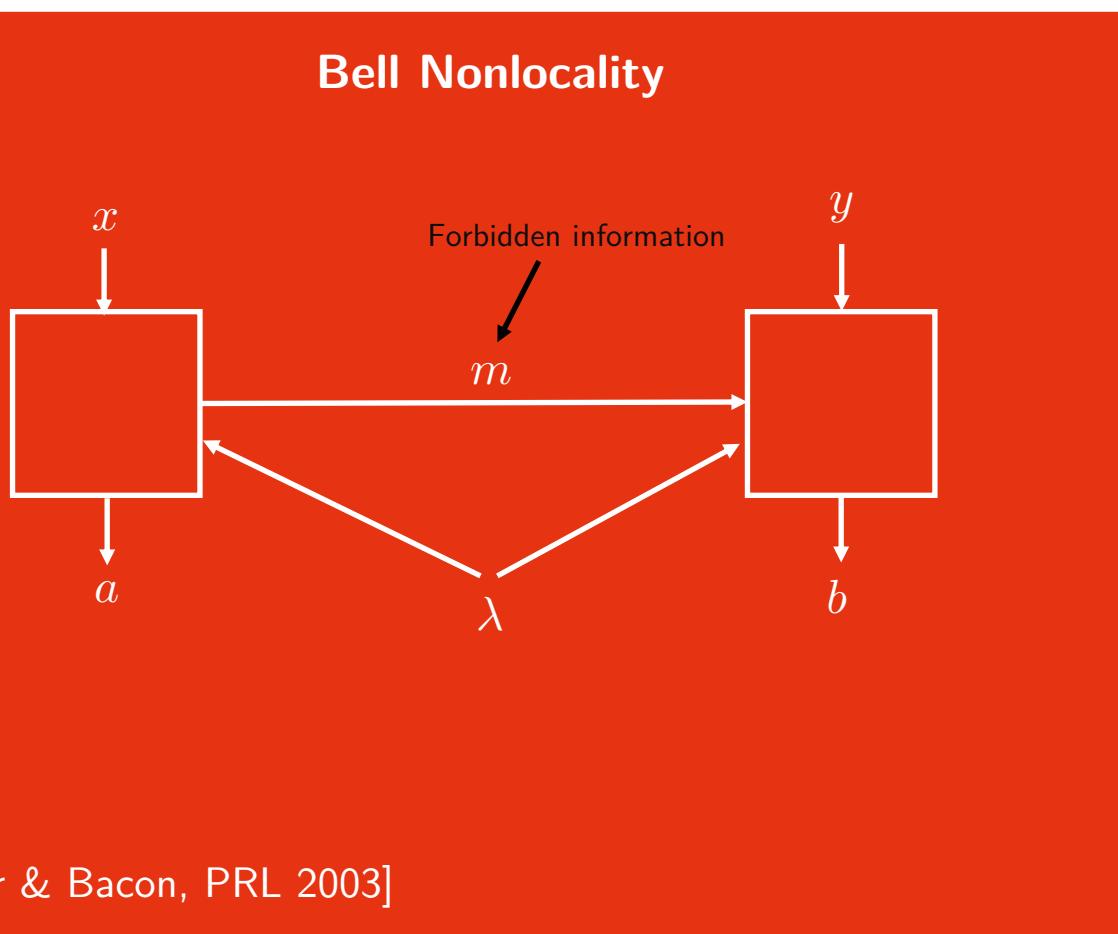
1. with a noncontextual, classical model?
2. with a quantum model?



# Simulating Contextuality

What resources are needed to simulate contextual correlations (maybe post-quantum ones)

1. with a noncontextual, classical model?
2. with a quantum model?



# Simulation Cost of Preparation Contextuality

Simulation cost: quantifies information about preparation equivalences available to Bob

$$C(p) = \min \mathcal{I}_{\text{accessible}} = \log_2 K + \log_2(\max p_{\text{guess}})$$

min over all models (classical or quantum)  
reproducing  $p(b|x,y)$

Can lower bound  $C(p)$  using SDP hierarchy:

- Rather than imposing  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{1},\sigma} = \frac{1}{K}$  we instead minimise  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{1},\sigma} = \text{Tr}(\sigma)$  and use

$$p_{\text{guess}} \leq \text{Tr}(\sigma)$$

- Classical models  $\approx$  commuting operators

