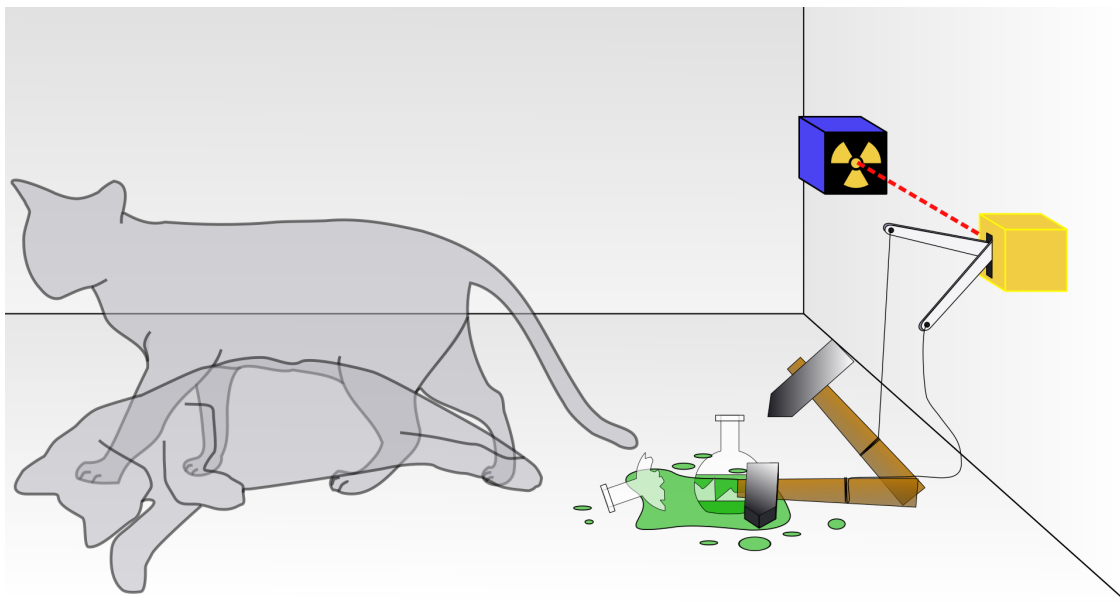


Schrödinger's cat

March 21, 2025

1 Schrödinger's cat

In [quantum mechanics](#), Schrödinger's cat is a [thought](#) experiment concerning [quantum superposition](#). In the thought experiment, a hypothetical cat in a closed box may be considered to be simultaneously both alive and dead while it is unobserved, as a result of its fate being linked to a random [subatomic](#) event that may or may not occur. This experiment, viewed this way, is described as a [paradox](#). This thought experiment was devised by physicist [Erwin Schrödinger](#) in 1935[1] in a discussion with [Albert Einstein](#)[2] to illustrate what Schrödinger saw as the problems of the [Copenhagen interpretation](#) of quantum mechanics.



Schrödinger's cat: a cat, a flask of poison, and a [radioactive](#) source connected to a [Geiger counter](#) are placed in a sealed box. As illustrated, the quantum description uses a superposition of an alive cat and one that has died.

- [HTML](#)
- [MarkdownTutorial](#)