

PALMER PHYSICAL LABORATORY
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

November 5, 1958

Dr. Hugh Everett
W.S.E.G.
Pentagon Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Hugh,

Your idea of a universal wave function I have found very exciting and crucial in trying to ground a new approach. Wheeler has suggested writing you with the idea that if you are in the area (anytime after a month from now--will need a month for a first draft I guess) we can get together.

The main starting point of the theory is that certain qualitatively new effects can be expected, in two stages:

- (a) when local matter's wave function forming the measuring background (anything from a laboratory to a galaxy) is spread out locally;
- (b) when the wave function of all matter is spread out uniformly over the whole universe.

We must consider what effect the fact that this world is projected by observation from the universal wave function has on this world.

The type of effects expected arise through extension of the range of possible states because we must consider quantum effects from the background, so to speak, it being now spread out in phase space.

A major tool in the analysis will be the necessary uniformity of the probability distribution in the universal wave function.

Will keep you posted on developments.

Sincerely,



Peter Putnam

cc: Prof. Wheeler