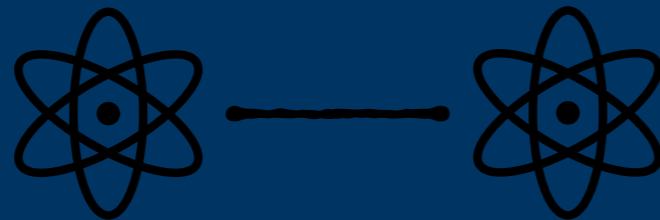
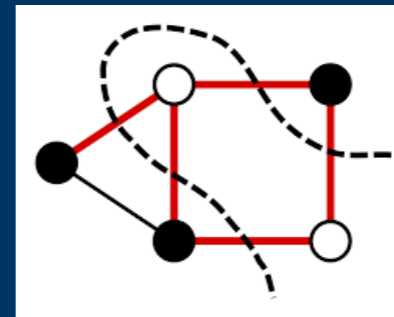


# Approximation Algorithms for Noncommutative Constraint Satisfaction Problems



Maximize  $\langle \phi | A_0 B_0 + A_0 B_1 + A_1 B_0 - A_1 B_1 | \phi \rangle$



Max-Cut

Hamoon Mousavi (Simons at UC Berkeley)

Eric Culf (University of Waterloo), Taro Spirig (University of Copenhagen)

# Magic Square

$$x_{ij} \in \{+1, -1\}$$

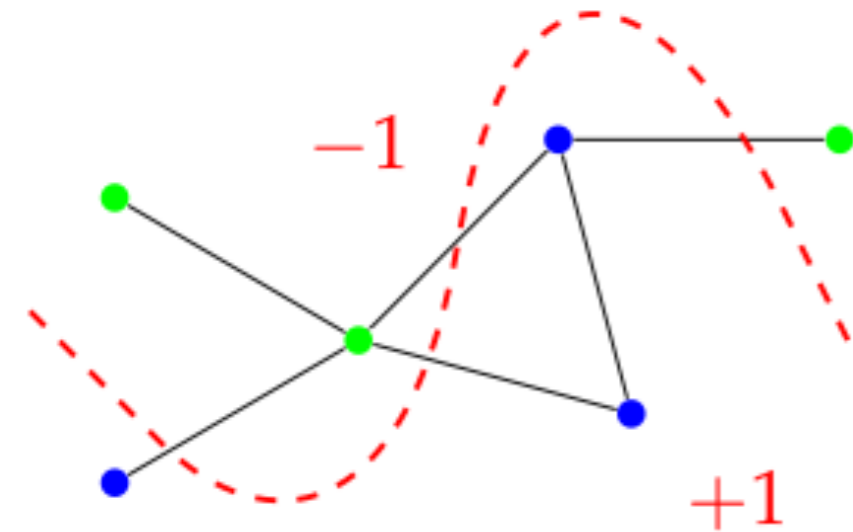
$x_{11}$	$x_{12}$	$x_{13}$	+1
$x_{21}$	$x_{22}$	$x_{23}$	+1
$x_{31}$	$x_{32}$	$x_{33}$	+1
+1	+1	-1	

# Operator Solution

Mermin 1990 and Peres 1990

$I \otimes X$	$X \otimes I$	$X \otimes X$	$+I$
$Z \otimes I$	$I \otimes Z$	$Z \otimes Z$	$+I$
$Z \otimes X$	$X \otimes Z$	$Y \otimes Y$	$+I$
$+I$	$+I$	$-I$	

# Max-Cut

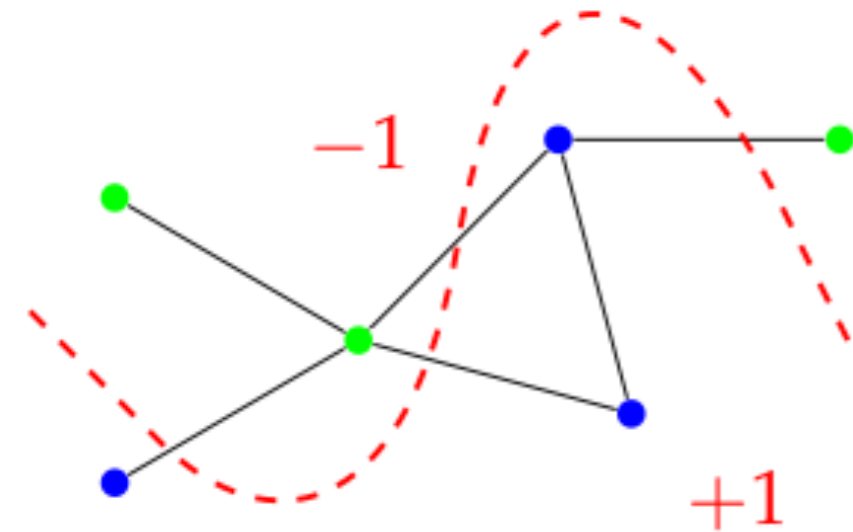


$$\begin{aligned} \text{maximize:} & \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \frac{1 - x_i x_j}{2} \\ \text{subject to:} & x_i \in \{-1, +1\}. \end{aligned}$$

# Noncommutative Max-Cut

$$\begin{aligned} \max & \sum \frac{1 - X_i X_j}{2} \\ \text{s.t.} & X_i \text{ is unitary with } \pm 1 \text{ eigenvalues} \end{aligned}$$

# Max-Cut



$$\begin{aligned} \text{maximize:} & \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \frac{1 - x_i x_j}{2} \\ \text{subject to:} & x_i \in \{-1, +1\}. \end{aligned}$$

# Noncommutative Max-Cut

$$\begin{aligned} \max & \sum \frac{1 - \text{tr}(X_i X_j)}{2} \\ \text{s.t.} & X_i \text{ is unitary with } \pm 1 \text{ eigenvalues} \end{aligned}$$

# Noncommutative Max-Cut

$$\max \sum \frac{1 - \text{tr}(X_i X_j)}{2}$$

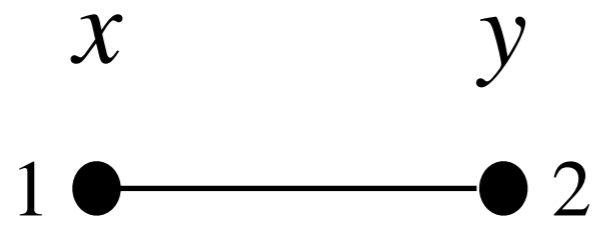
s.t.  $X_i$  is unitary with  $\pm 1$  eigenvalues

- The Hilbert space is finite-dimensional
- But no bound on the dimension
- $\text{tr}$  is the dimension-normalized trace
- $\text{tr}(XY)$  is always between  $-1$  and  $1$

$$\text{tr}(XY) = \langle \psi | (XY \otimes I) | \psi \rangle$$

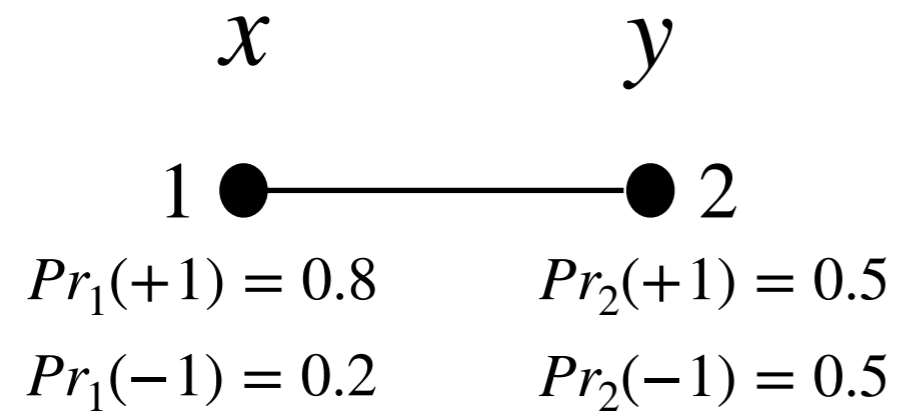
Where  $|\psi\rangle$  is a maximally entangled state on a larger system

# Probabilistic Cut: an assignment of **binary random variables**

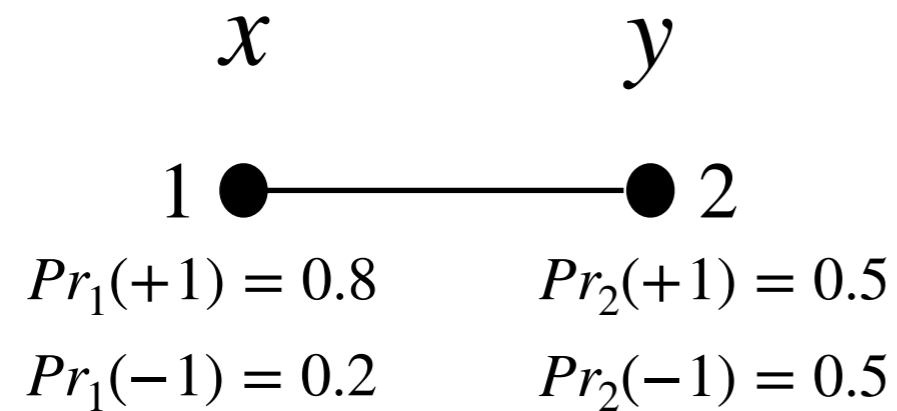




# Probabilistic Cut: an assignment of **binary random variables**



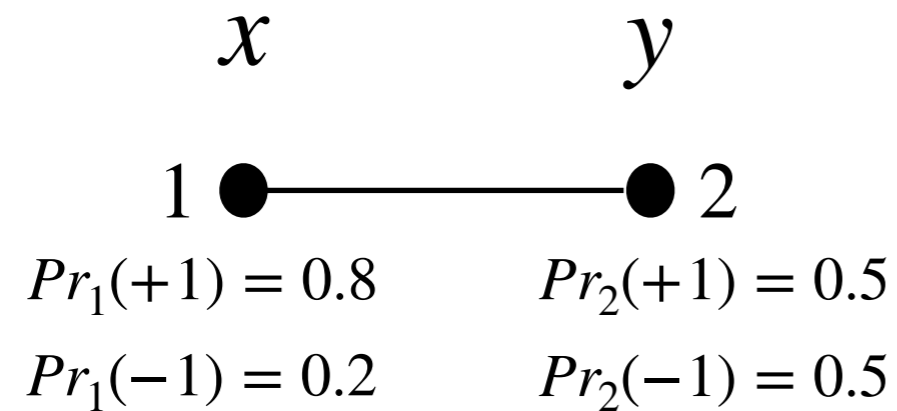
# Probabilistic Cut: an assignment of **binary random variables**



This then induces a probability distribution over cuts

A probabilistic cut: An ensemble of cuts

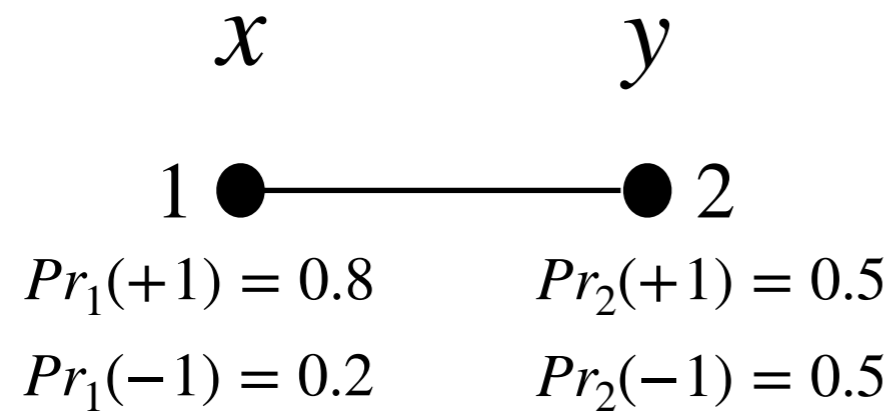
## Probabilistic Cut: an assignment of **binary random variables**



## Noncommutative Cut: an assignment of **binary observables**



## Probabilistic Cut: an assignment of **binary random variables**



## Noncommutative Cut: an assignment of **binary observables**



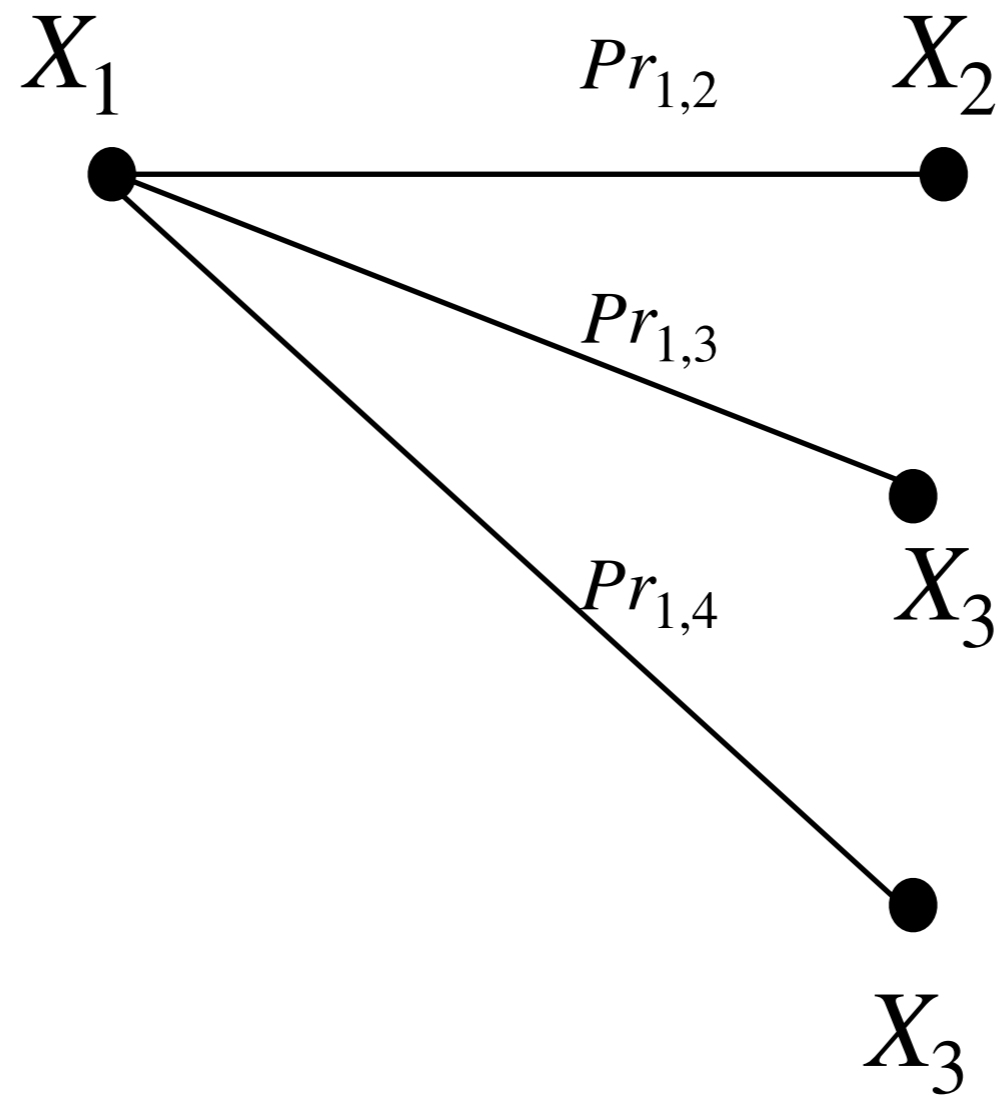
$$Pr_{12}(+1, +1) = 0.1$$

$$Pr_{12}(+1, -1) = 0.2$$

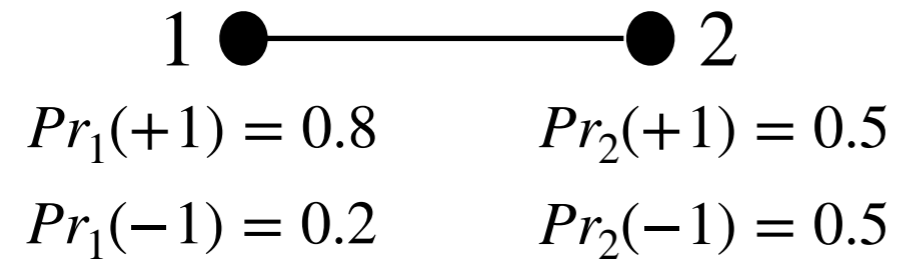
$$Pr_{12}(-1, +1) = 0.3$$

$$Pr_{12}(-1, -1) = 0.4$$

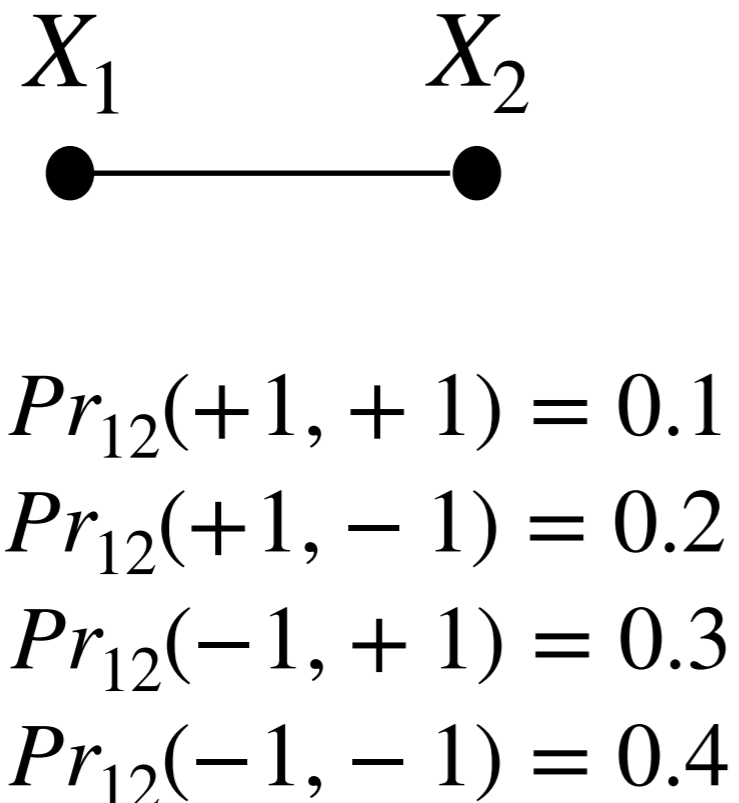
# Inconsistencies of Edge Probabilities



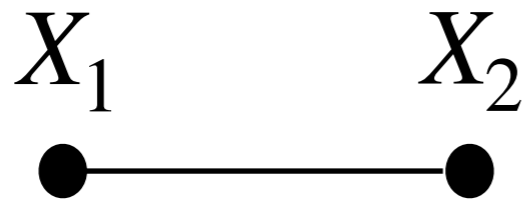
# Probabilistic Cut



# Noncommutative Cut



# Noncommutative Cut



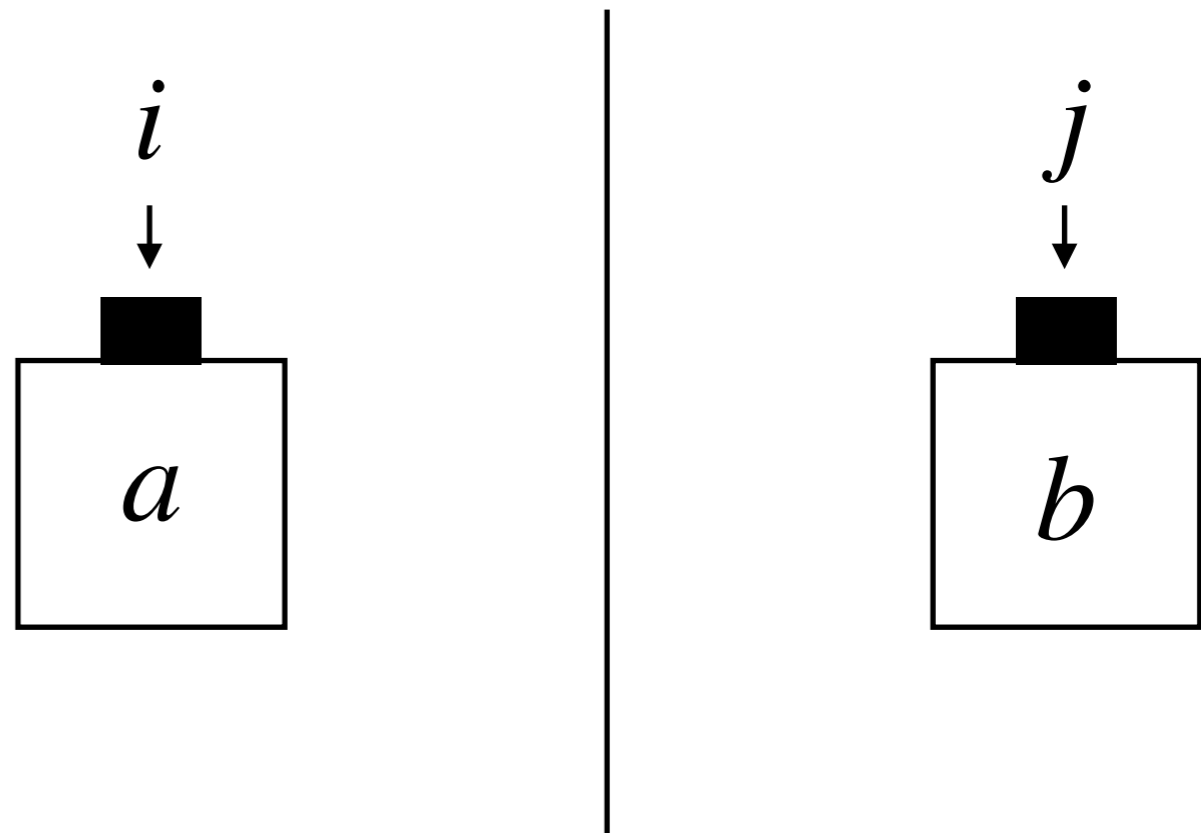
$$Pr_{12}(+1, +1) = tr\left(\frac{I + X_1}{2} \frac{I + X_2}{2}\right)$$

$$Pr_{12}(+1, -1) = tr\left(\frac{I + X_1}{2} \frac{I - X_2}{2}\right)$$

$$Pr_{12}(-1, +1) = tr\left(\frac{I - X_1}{2} \frac{I + X_2}{2}\right)$$

$$Pr_{12}(-1, -1) = tr\left(\frac{I - X_1}{2} \frac{I - X_2}{2}\right)$$

# Operational Interpretation of Noncommutative Cuts

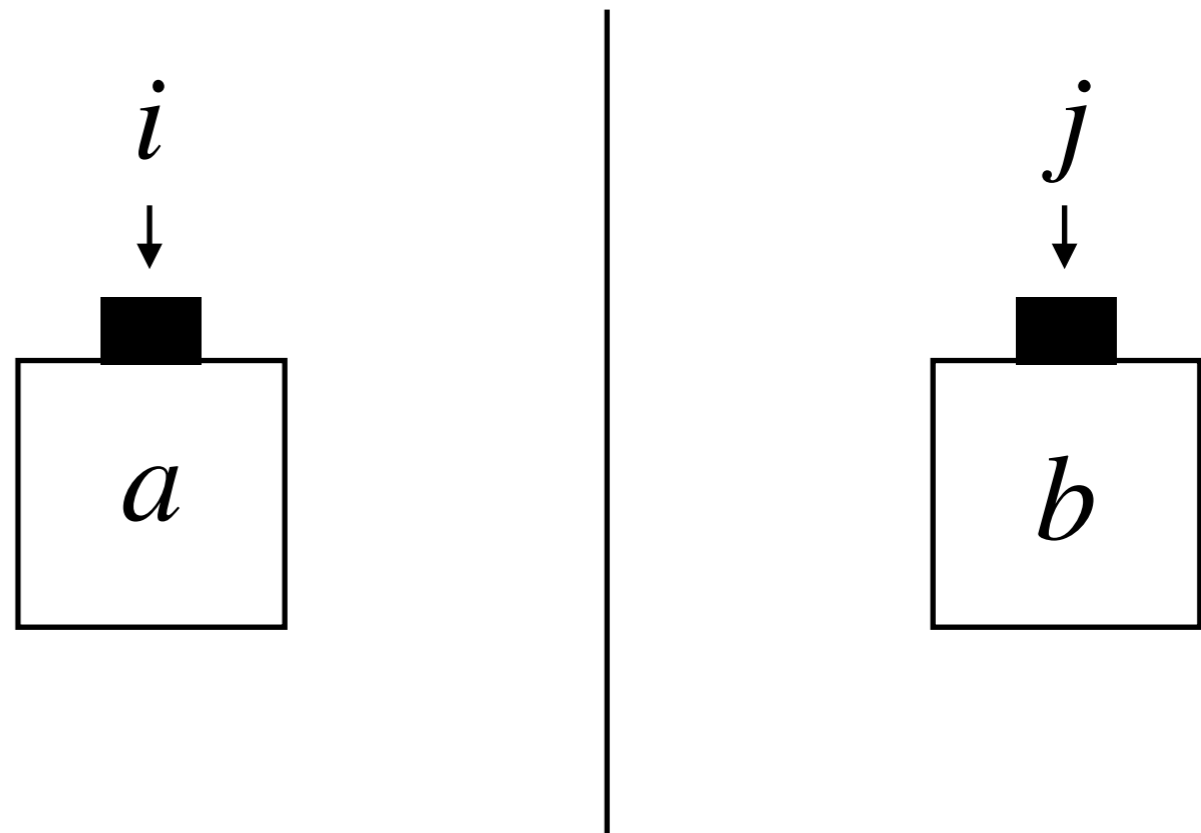


$$i, j \in V,$$

$$a, b \in \{+1, -1\}$$



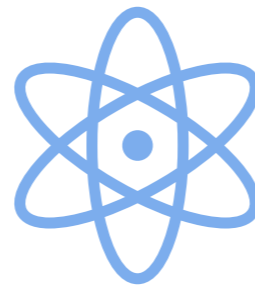
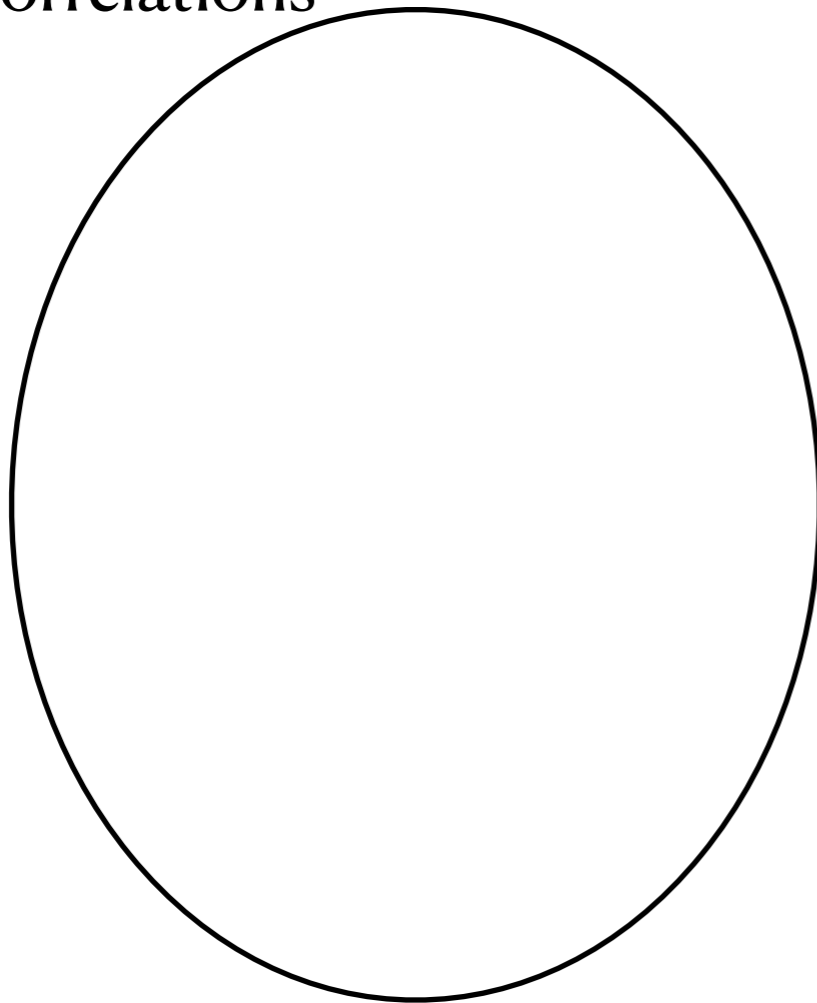
# Correlations



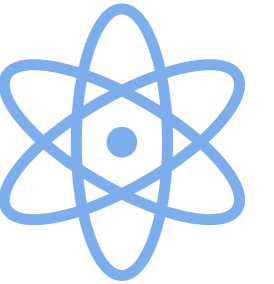
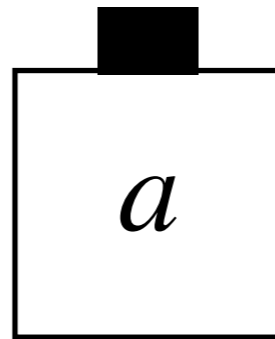
$$P_{i,j}(a, b)$$

# Quantum Correlations

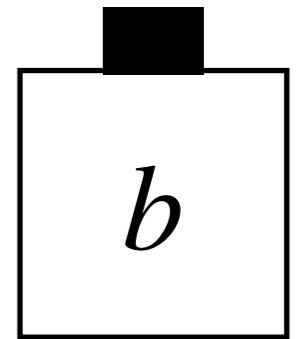
Quantum  
Correlations



$i$



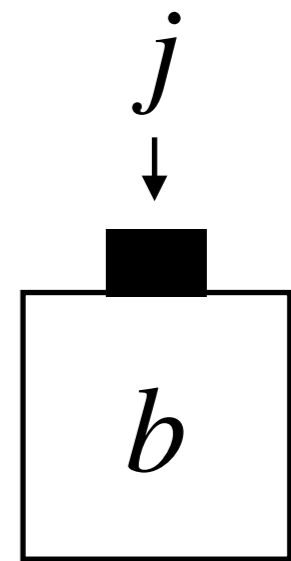
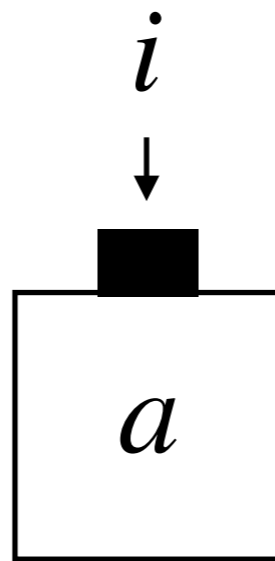
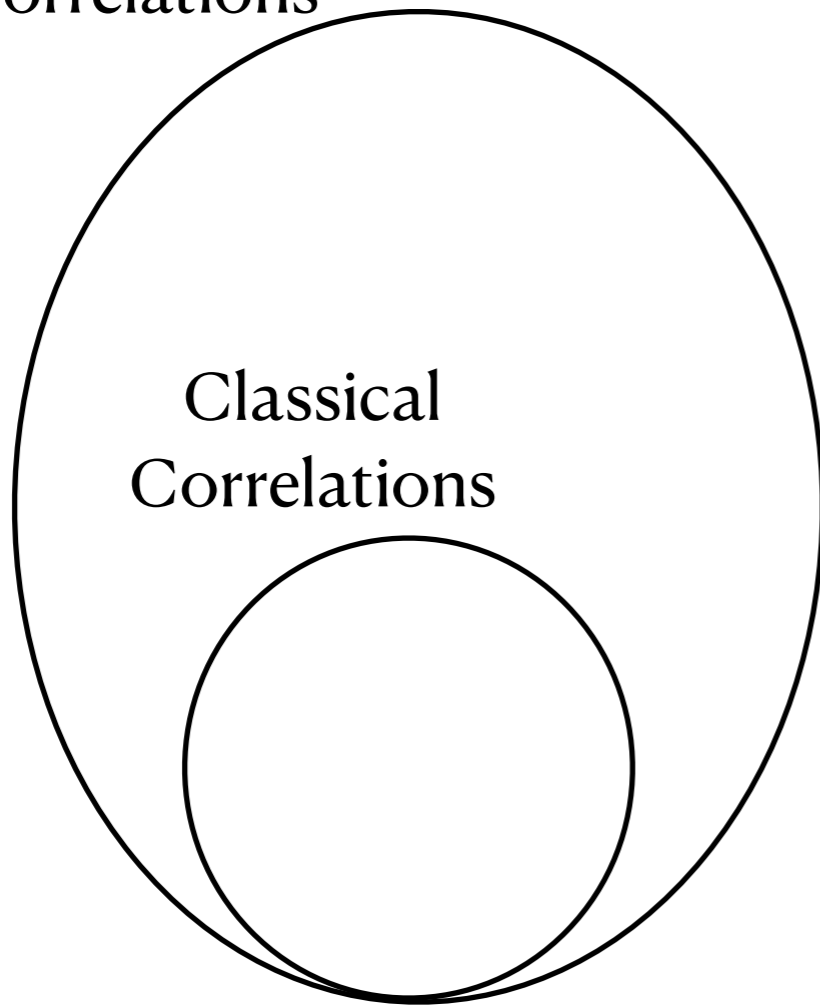
$j$



$$P_{i,j}(a, b)$$

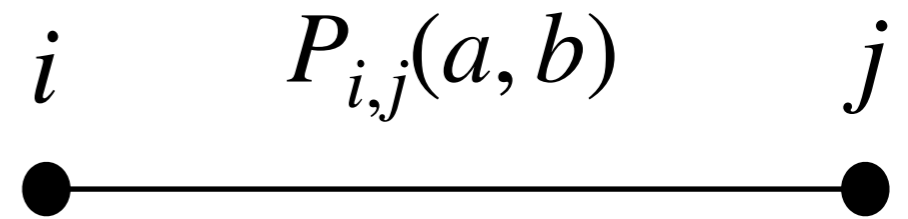
# Classical Correlations

Quantum  
Correlations



$$P_{i,j}(a, b)$$

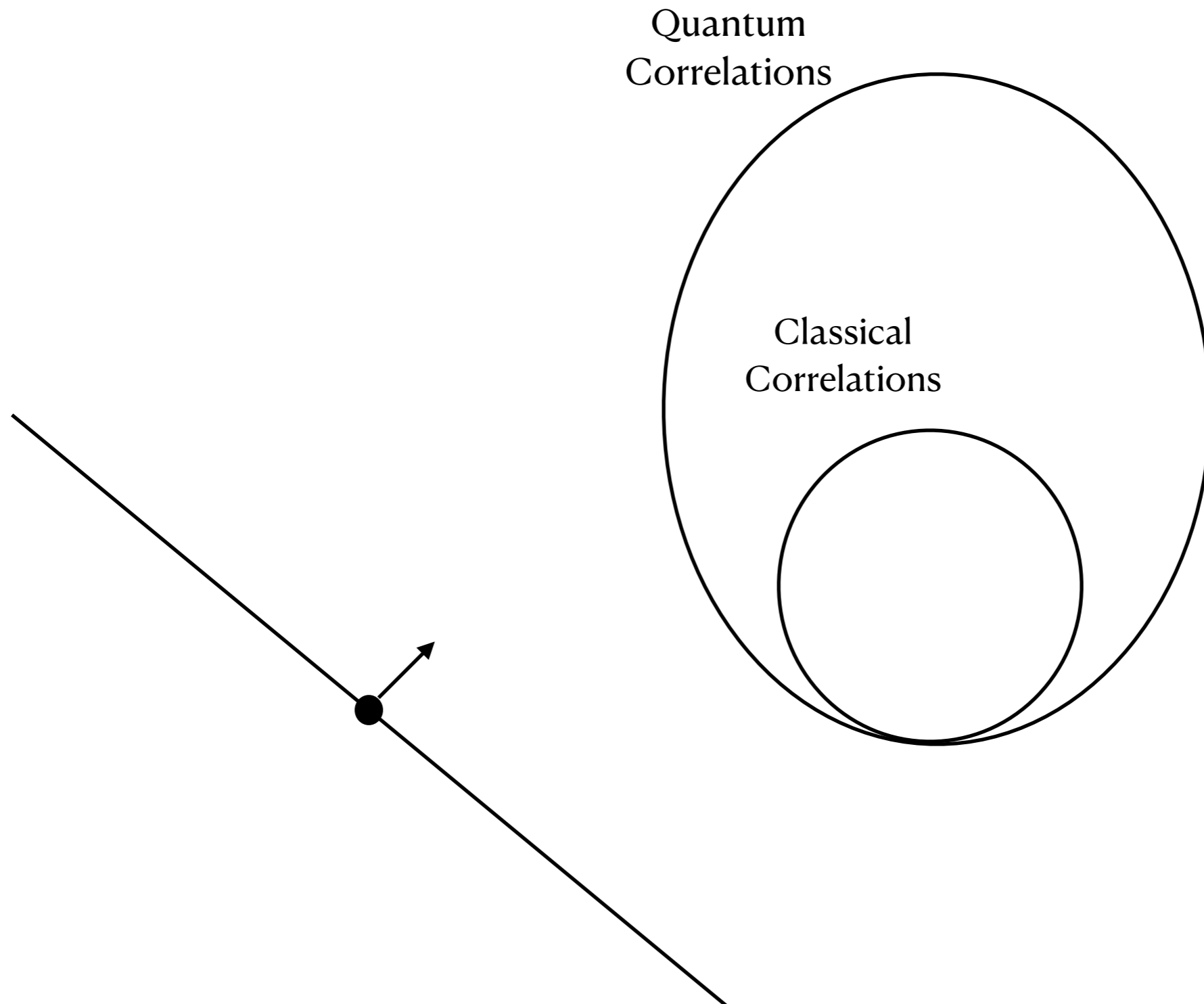
# Edge Probabilities



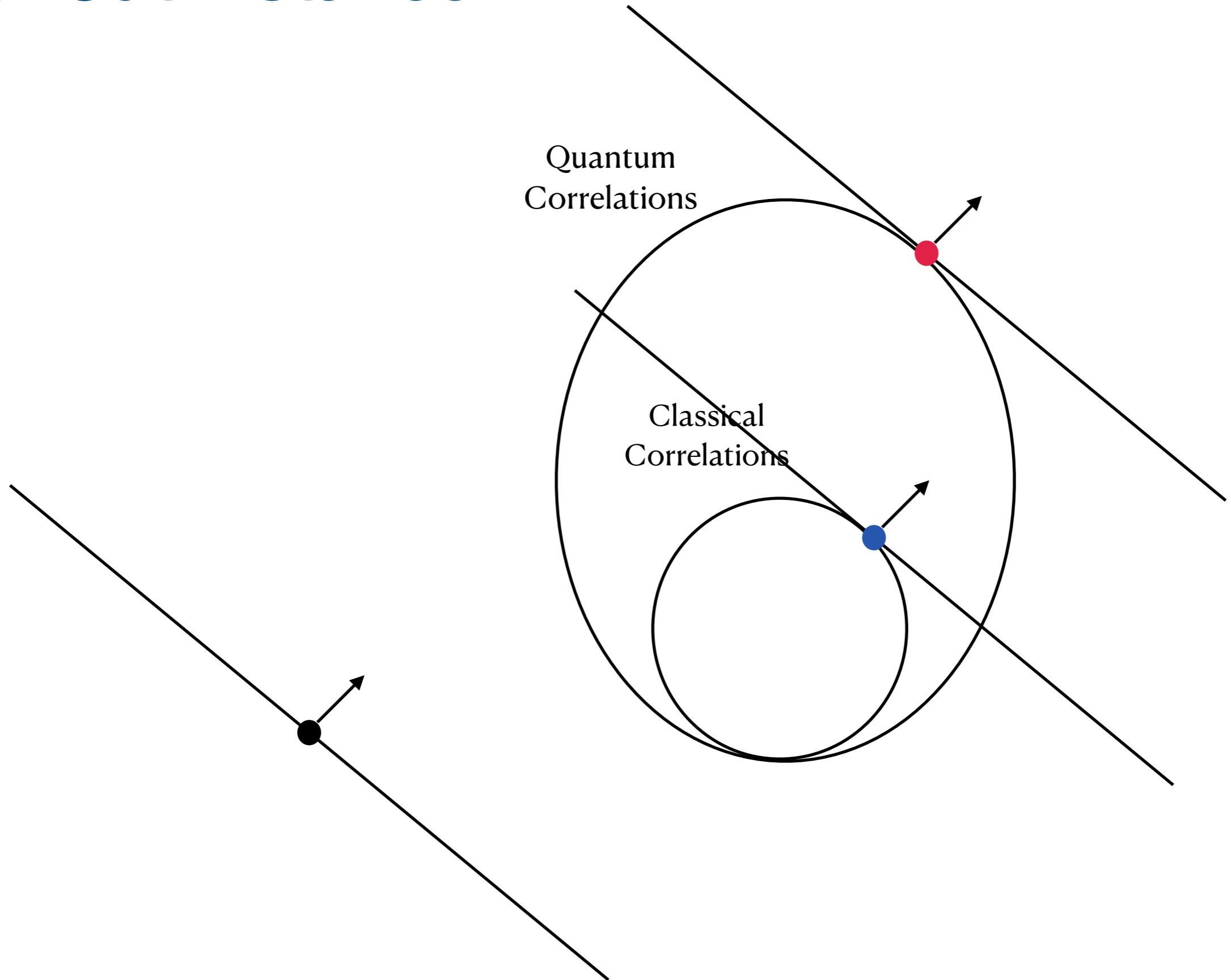
Quantum  
Correlations  $\equiv$  Noncommutative  
Cuts

Classical  
Correlations  $\equiv$  Probabilistic  
Cuts

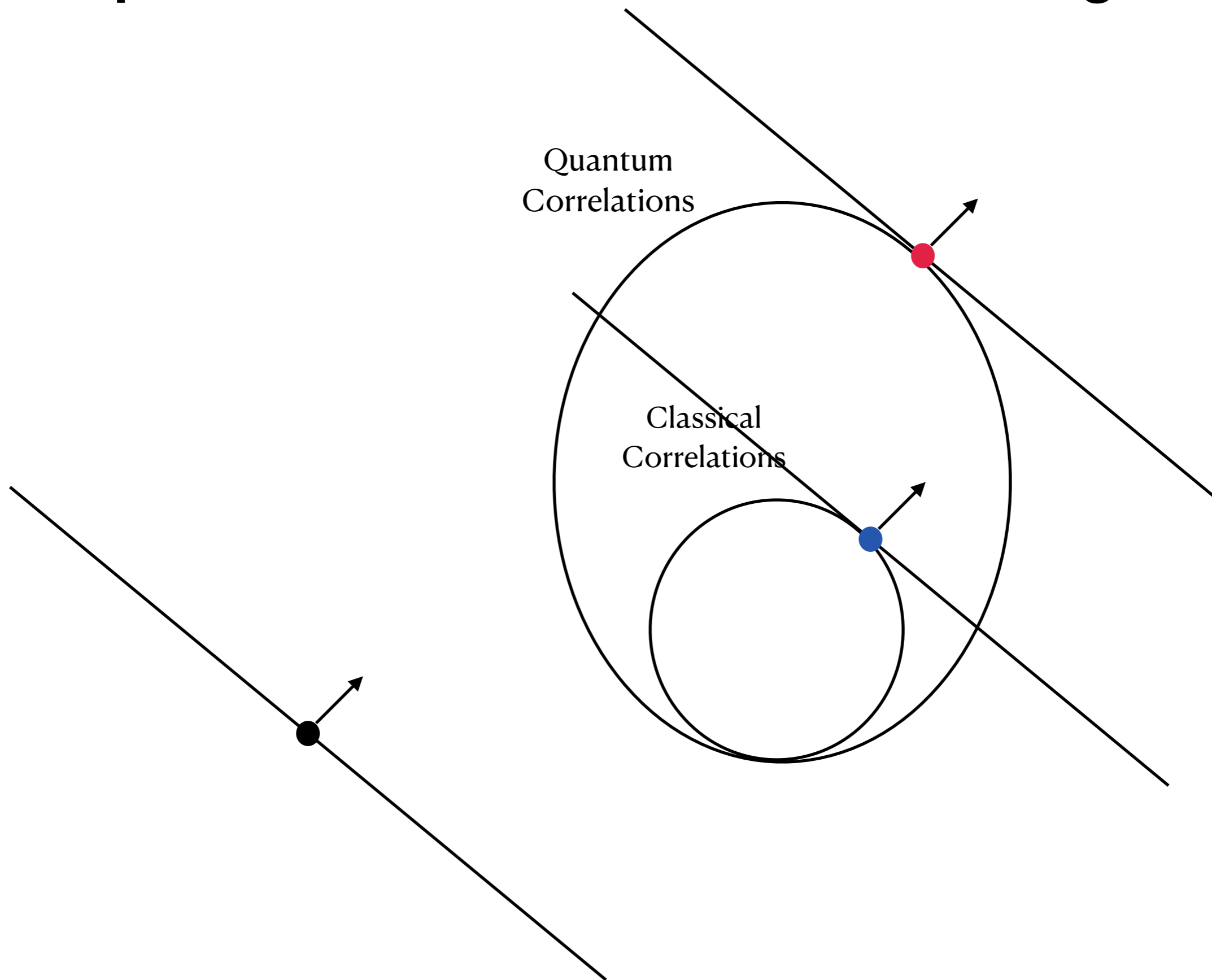
# MaxCut Instance



# MaxCut Instance



# The 2022 Nobel Prize in Physics awarded to Alain Aspect, John F. Clauser, and Anton Zeilinger



# Computational Aspects

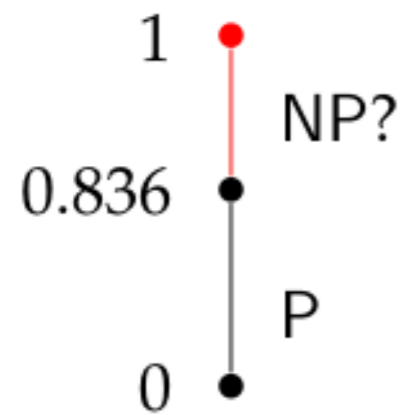
- Slofstra 2016: Membership problem for "Quantum Correlations" is undecidable
- In particular optimization over the set is uncomputable
- Ji, Natarajan, Vidick, Wright, Yuen 2020: Approximation is also beyond reach
- Tsirelson 1980: Noncommutative MaxCut is in P
- Karp 1972: Classical MaxCut is NP-Complete



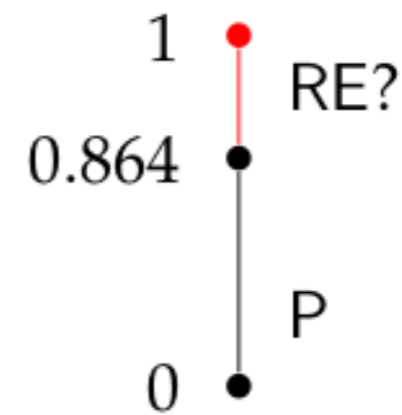
# Computational Aspects

- Slofstra 2016: Membership problem for "Quantum Correlations" is undecidable
- In particular optimization over the set is uncomputable
- Ji, Natarajan, Vidick, Wright, Yuen 2020: Approximation is also beyond reach
- Tsirelson 1980: Noncommutative MaxCut is in P
- Karp 1972: Classical MaxCut is NP-Complete
- Classical theory: General CSPs are NP-hard to approximate, but what about special cases like MaxCut or Max3SAT?

# Approximability of Noncommutative CSPs



(a) Max-3-Cut



(b) Noncommutative Max-3-Cut

Algorithm: Frieze and Jerrum  
Goemans and Williamson  
de Klerk, Pasechnik, and Warners

Hardness: Khot, Kindler, Mossel, O'Donnell

# Concepts: Anticommuting Algebras and Relative Distributions

- Hyperplane rounding of Goemans-Williamson  $\vec{r} = (r_1, \dots, r_n)$
- A random operator  $R = r_1\sigma_1 + \dots + r_n\sigma_n$
- $\sigma_i$ 's generate generalized Weyl-Brauer algebra

# Concepts: Anticommuting Algebras and Relative Distributions

- Given a  $\lambda$ , sample unitaries  $U, V$  uniformly such that  $\langle U, V \rangle = \lambda$
- Sample eigenvalues  $\alpha, \beta$  from  $U, V$
- What is the angle between  $\alpha, \beta$ ?
- It is the well-known Cauchy distribution