

Title: Quantum Mechanics in the Presence of Time Machines

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Abstract: Tim Ralph

We consider quantum mechanical particles that traverse general relativistic wormholes in such a way that they can interact with their own past, thus forming closed timelike curves. Using a simple geometric argument we reproduce the solutions proposed by Deutsch for such systems. Deutsch's solutions have attracted considerable interest because they do not contain paradoxes, however, as originally posed, they do contain ambiguities. We show that these ambiguities are removed by following our geometric derivation.

Quantum Mechanics in the presence of Time Machines

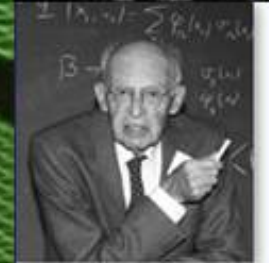
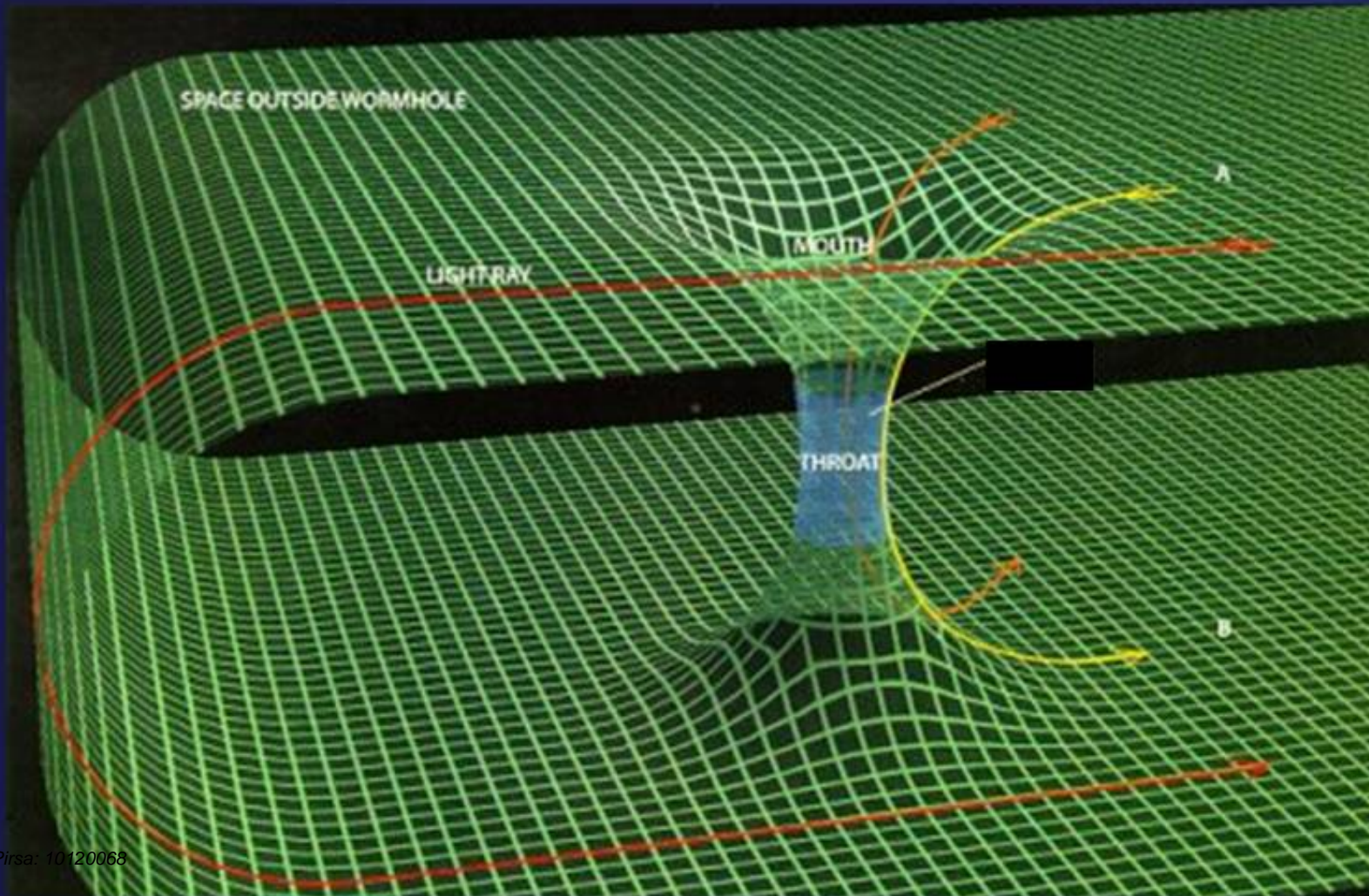
T.C.Ralph,
C.M.Myers, J.Pienaar
Department of Physics
The University of Queensland

Overview

- * Physical model of the interaction of a quantum system with a Closed Timelike Curve formed by spacetime geometry
- * Connection with Deutsch's model
- * Resolution of problems of the Deutsch model by the geometric model.
- * Conclusions

Creation of a Closed Timelike Curve

Wormhole



also known as
Einstein-Rosen
bridge

Creation of a Closed Timelike Curve

VOLUME 61, NUMBER 13

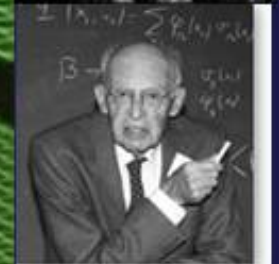
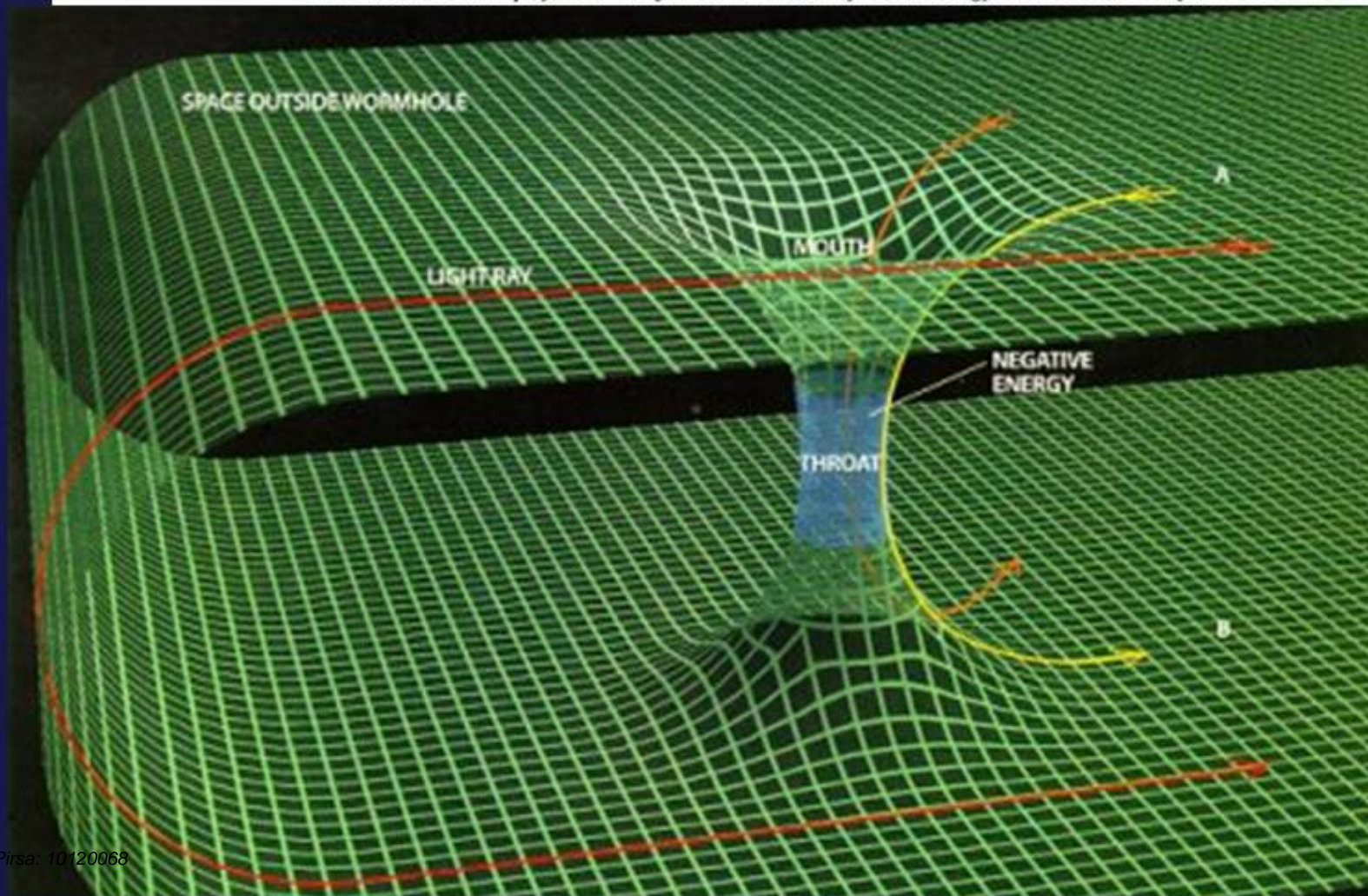
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26 SEPTEMBER 1988

Wormholes, Time Machines, and the Weak Energy Condition

Michael S. Morris, Kip S. Thorne, and Ulvi Yurtsever

Theoretical Astrophysics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91125



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Creation of a Closed Timelike Curve

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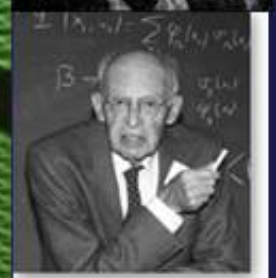
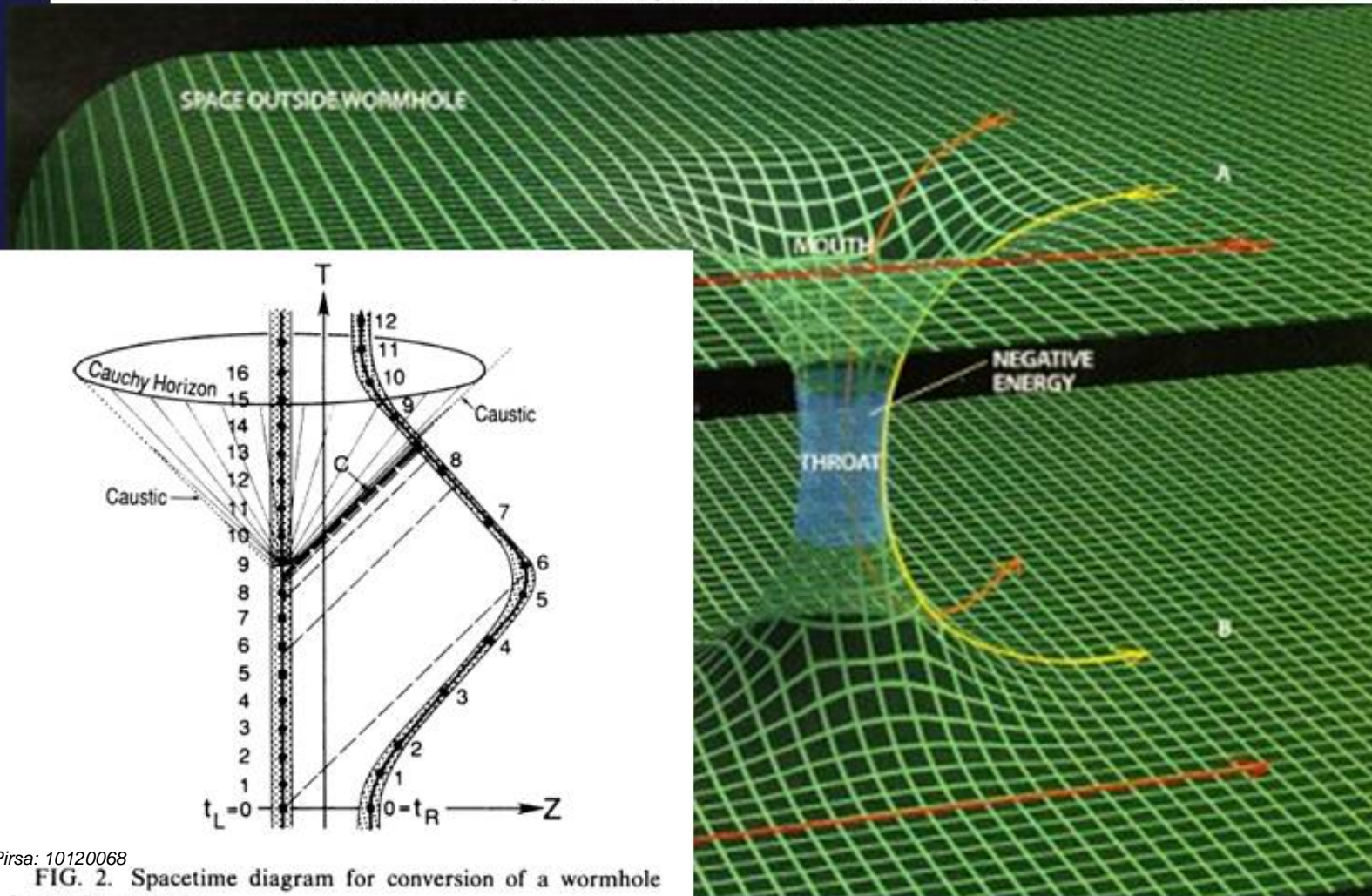
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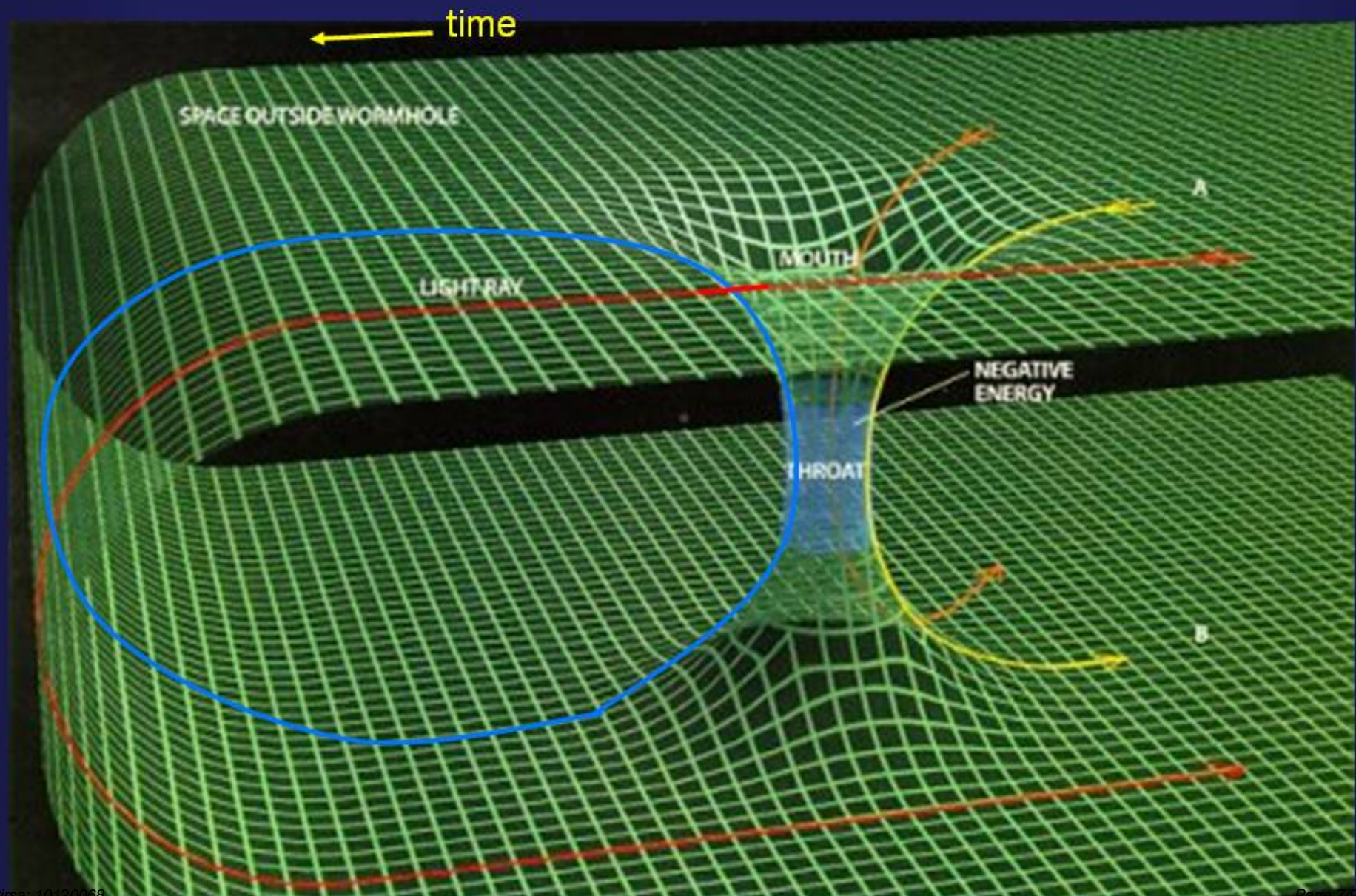
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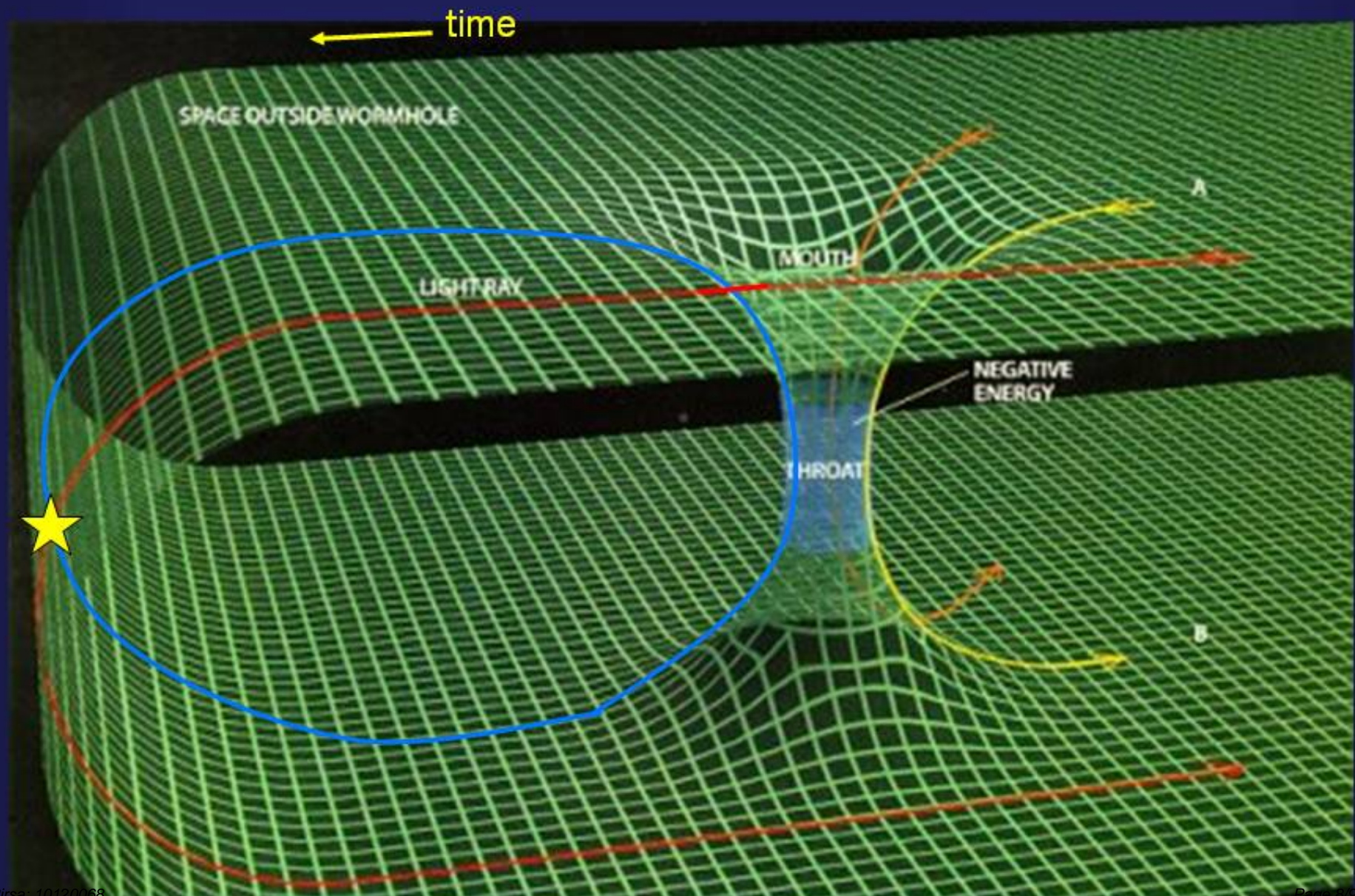


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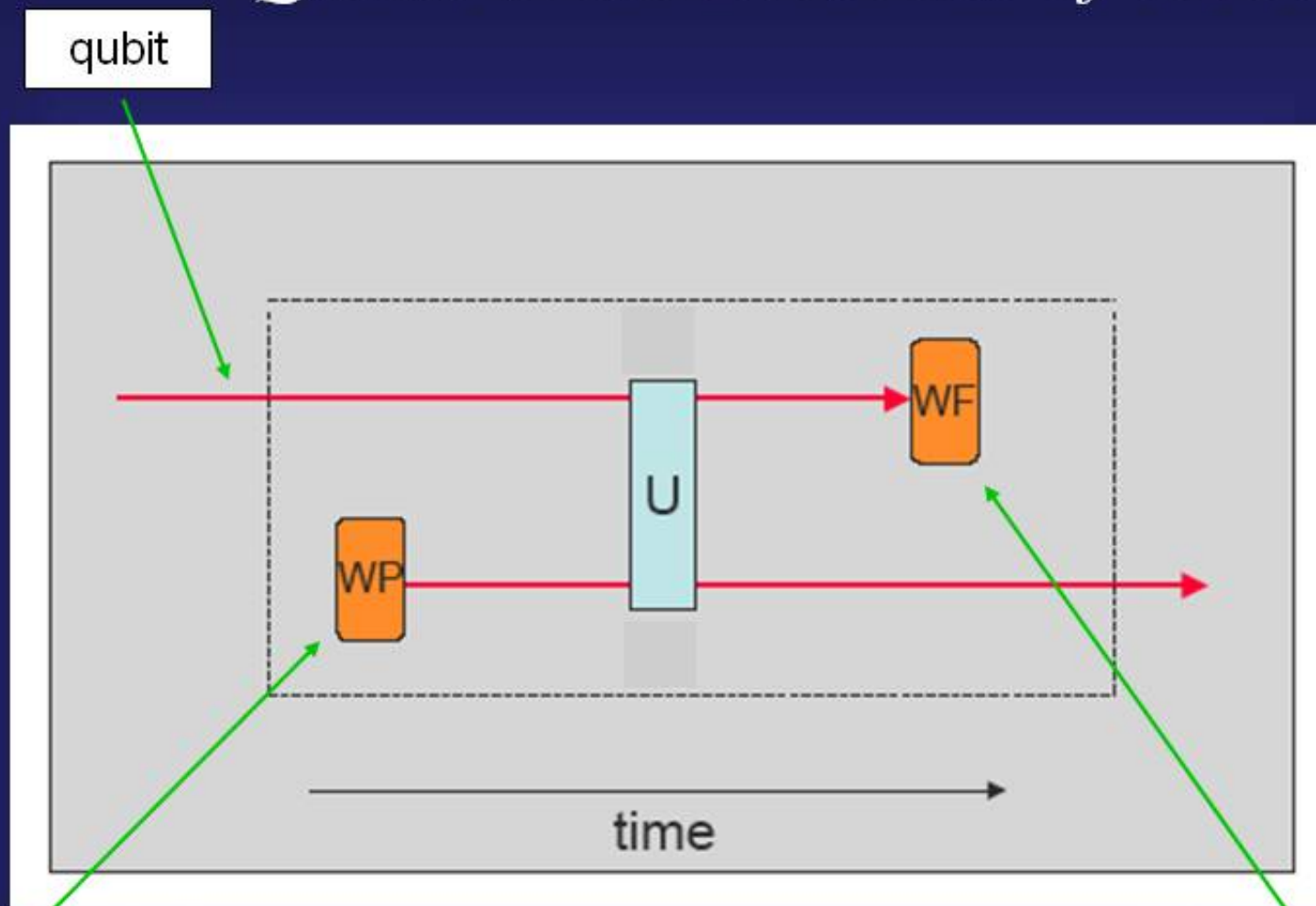
Creation of a Closed Timelike Curve



Creation of a Closed Timelike Curve



Qubits in the Presence of CTCs

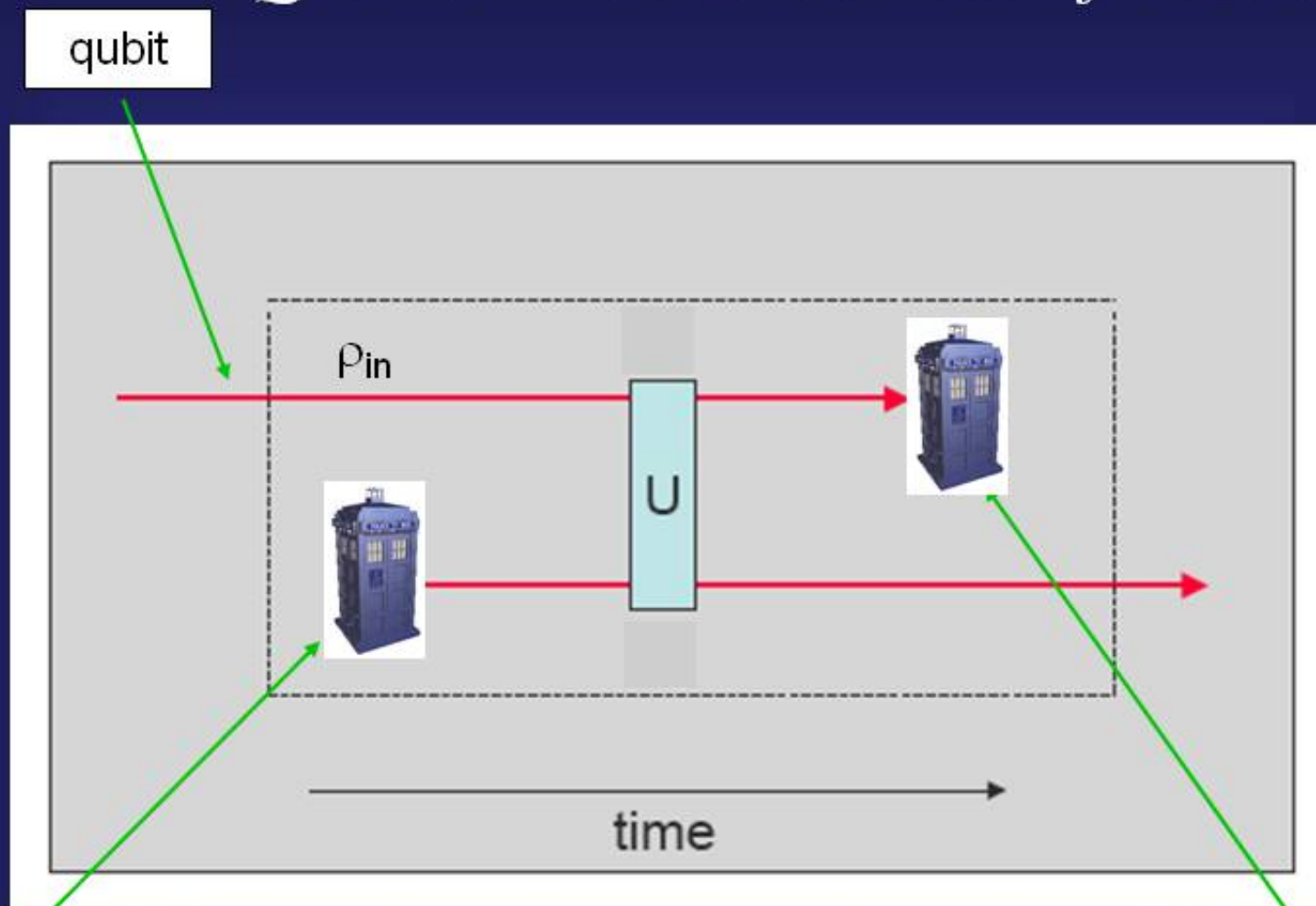


qubit

past mouth of
wormhole

future mouth
of wormhole

Qubits in the Presence of CTCs



qubit

ρ_{in}

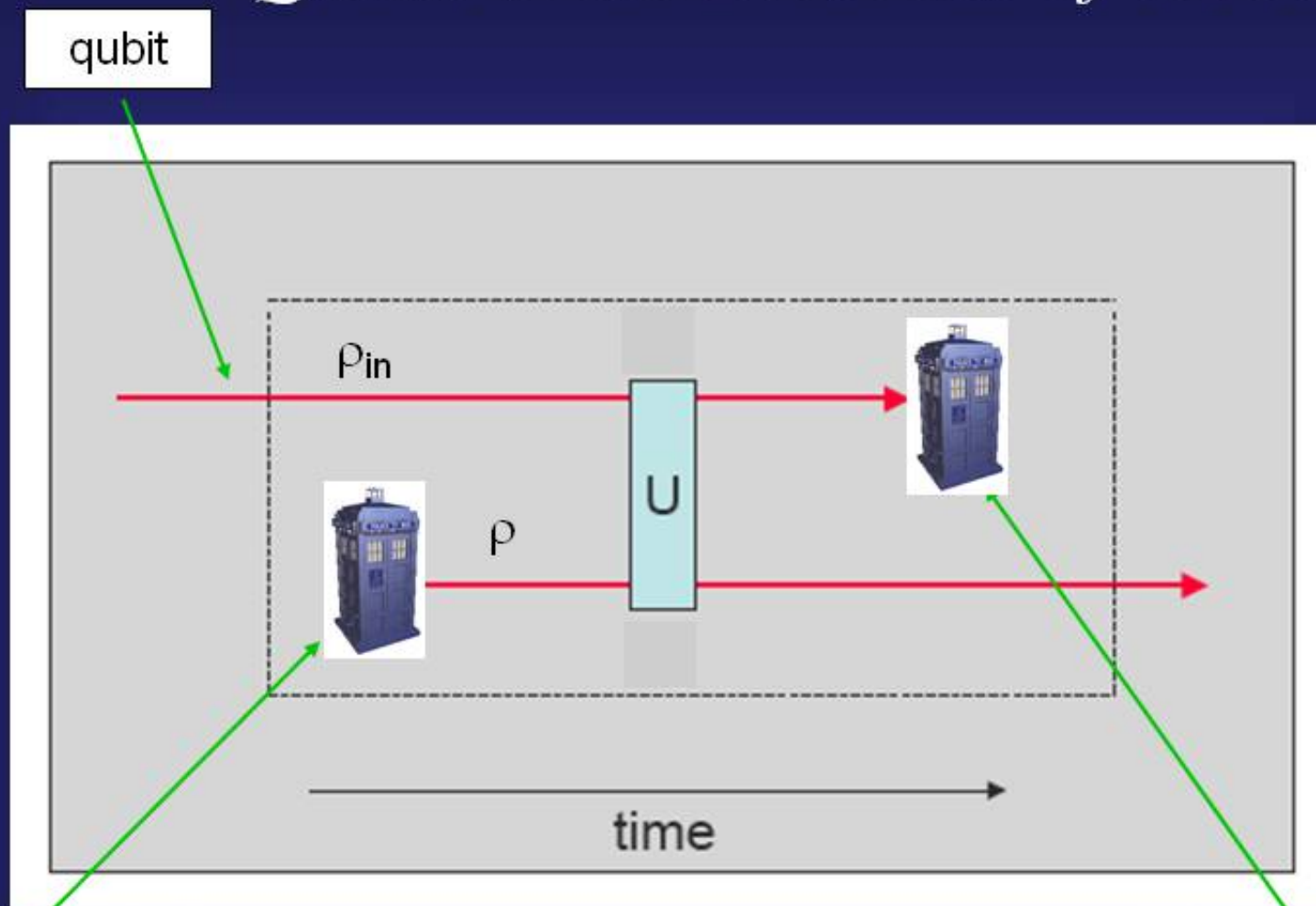
U

time

past mouth of
wormhole

future mouth
of wormhole

Qubits in the Presence of CTCs



qubit

ρ_{in}

ρ

U

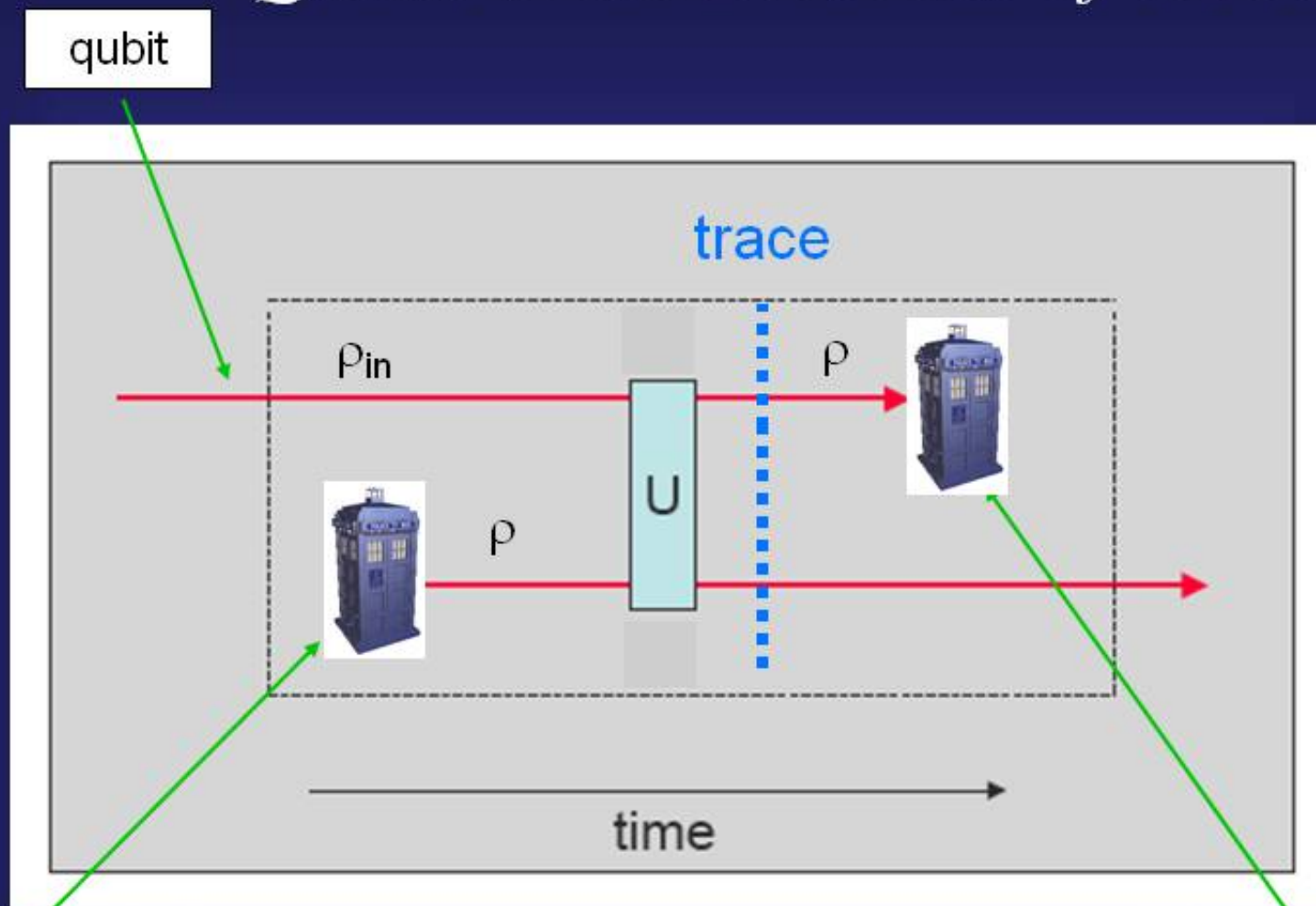
time

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D.Deutsch, *Phys.Rev.D*, 44, 3197 (1991),
D.Bacon, *Phys.Rev.A*, 70 032309 (2004).

Qubits in the Presence of CTCs



qubit

trace

ρ_{in}

ρ

ρ

U

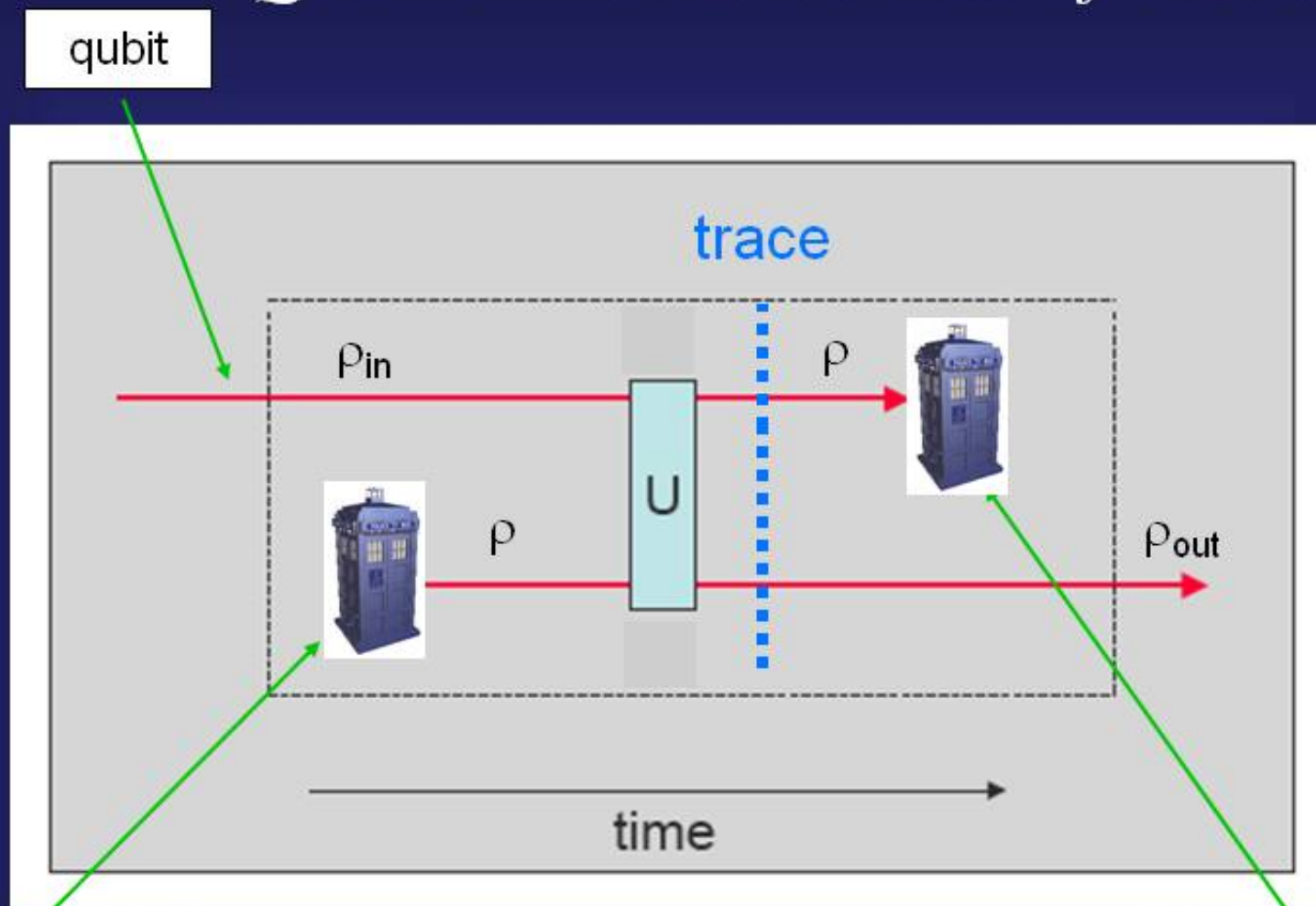
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Qubits in the Presence of CTCs



qubit

trace

ρ_{in}

ρ



ρ

U

ρ_{out}

time

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Key results of the Deutsch Model

(i) No Paradoxes

(ii) Non-linear evolution

(iii) no signalling

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 70, 032309 (2004)

Quantum computational complexity in the presence of closed timelike curves

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PRL 102, 210402 (2009)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
29 MAY 2009

Localized Closed Timelike Curves Can Perfectly Distinguish Quantum States

Todd A. Brun,¹ Jim Harrington,² and Mark M. Wilde^{1,3}

¹*Communication Sciences Institute, Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Southern California,
Los Angeles, California 90089, USA*

²*Applied Modern Physics (P-21), MS D454, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545, USA*

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(Received 7 November 2008; published 27 May 2009)

PRL 103, 170502 (2009)

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week ending
23 OCTOBER 2009

Can Closed Timelike Curves or Nonlinear Quantum Mechanics Improve Quantum State Discrimination or Help Solve Hard Problems?

Charles H. Bennett,^{1,*} Debbie Leung,^{2,†} Graeme Smith,^{1,‡} and John A. Smolin^{1,§}

¹*IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, New York 10598, USA*

²*Institute for Quantum Computing, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3G1, Canada*

(Received 2 September 2009; published 21 October 2009)

Problems with the Deutsch Model

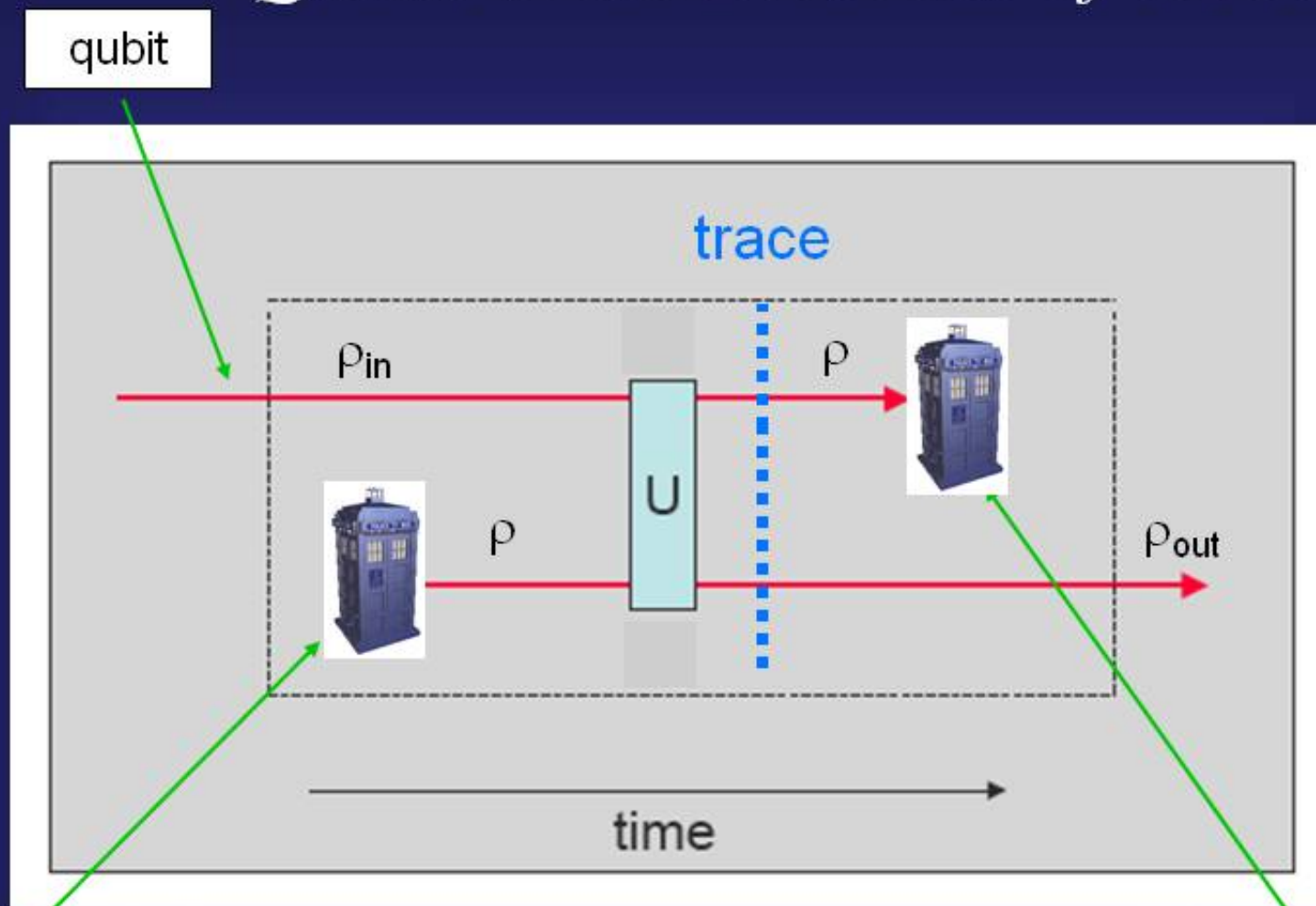
(i) Multiple solution ambiguity?

(ii) Initial state ambiguity?

(iii) non-unitarity?

(iv) Extension to field description?

Qubits in the Presence of CTCs

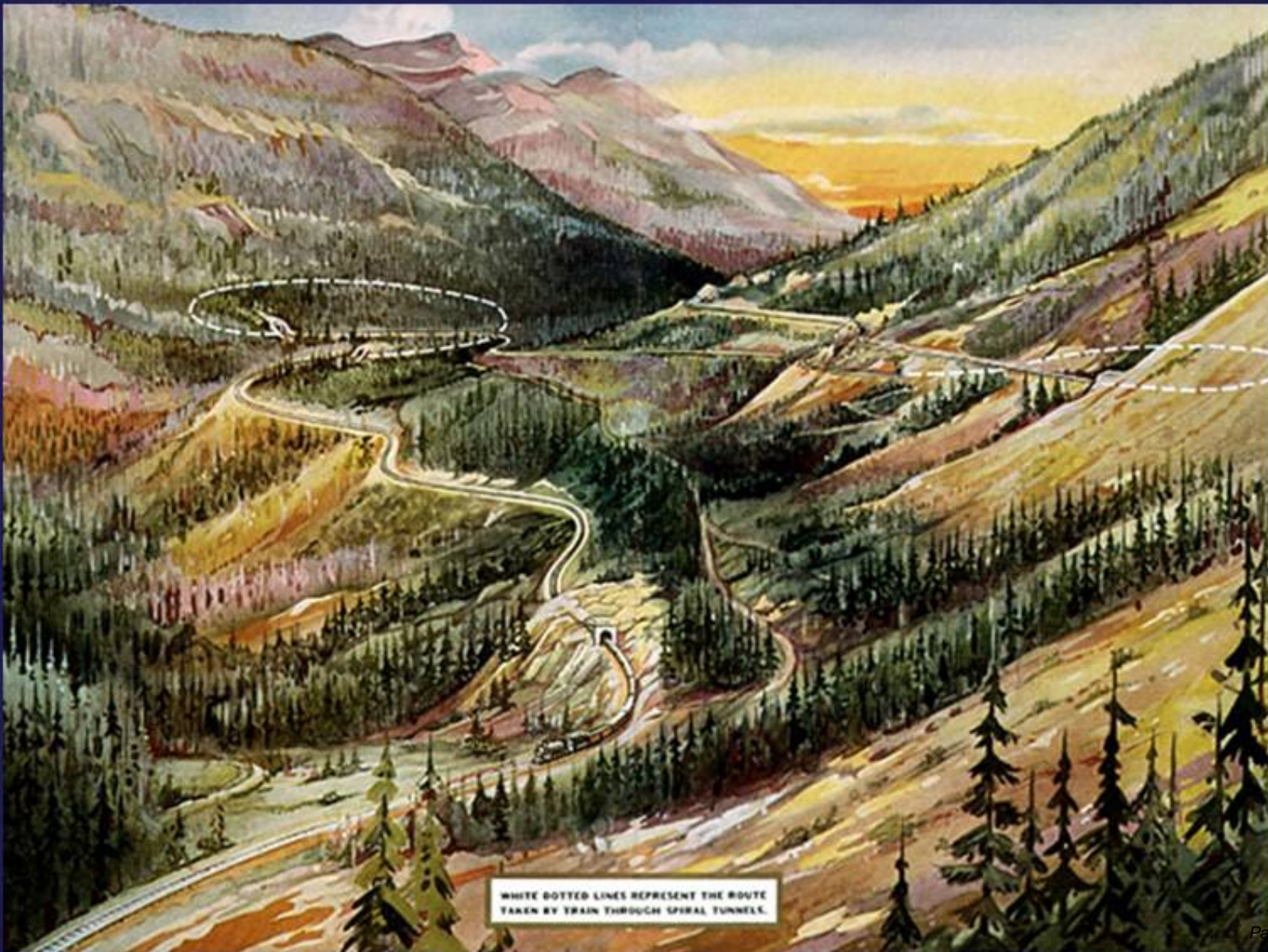


past mouth of
wormhole

future mouth
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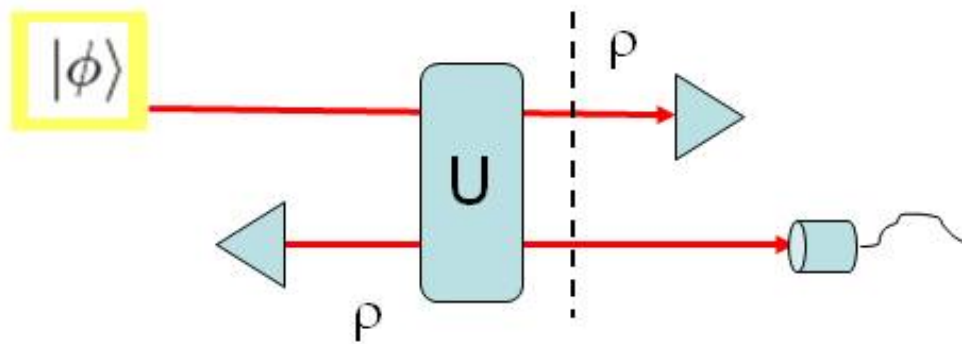
Bird's eye view



Traveler's eye view



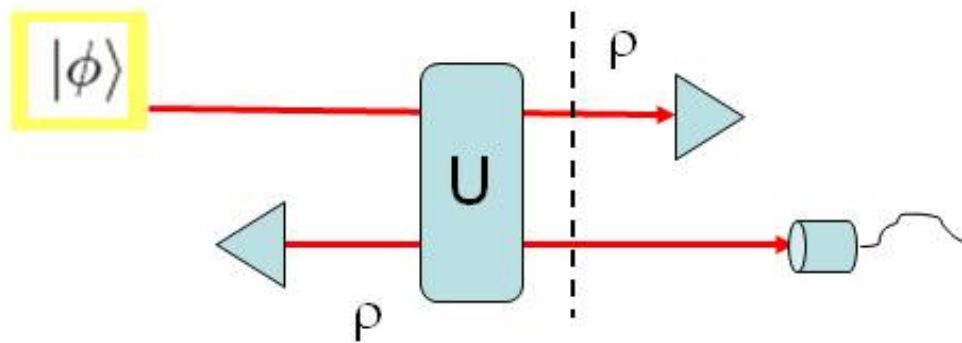
Following the Information Flow



$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

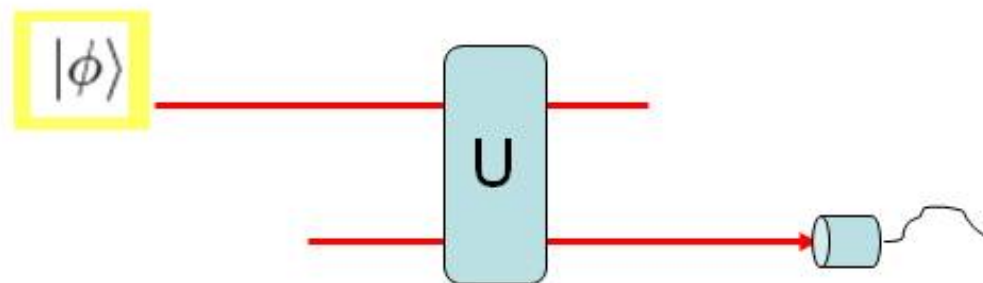
$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

Following the Information Flow

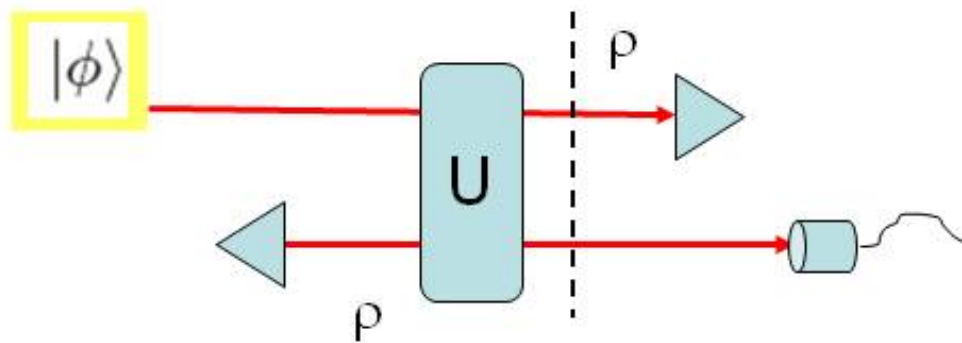


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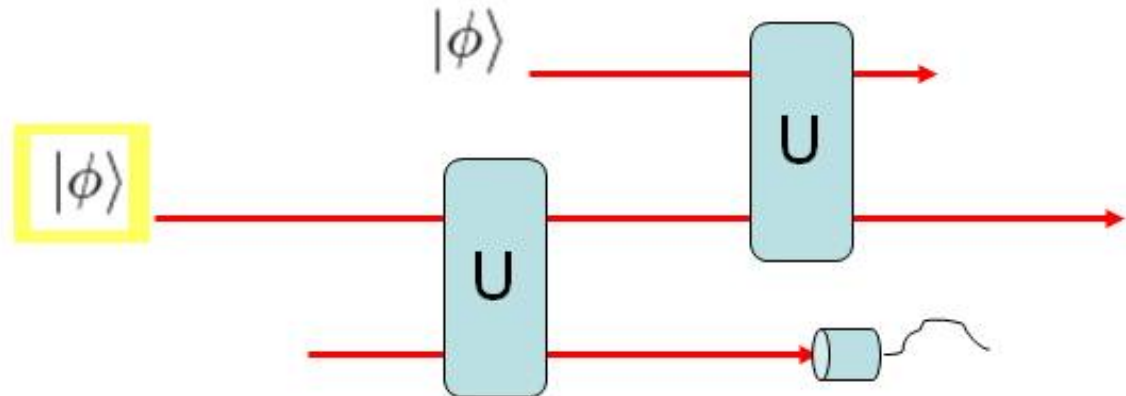


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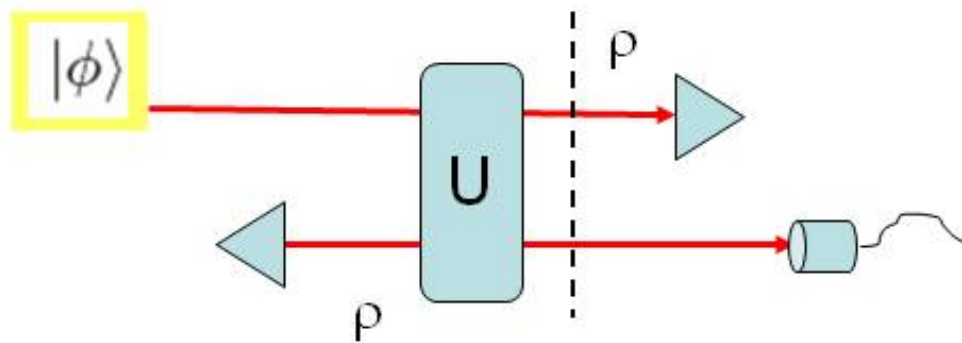


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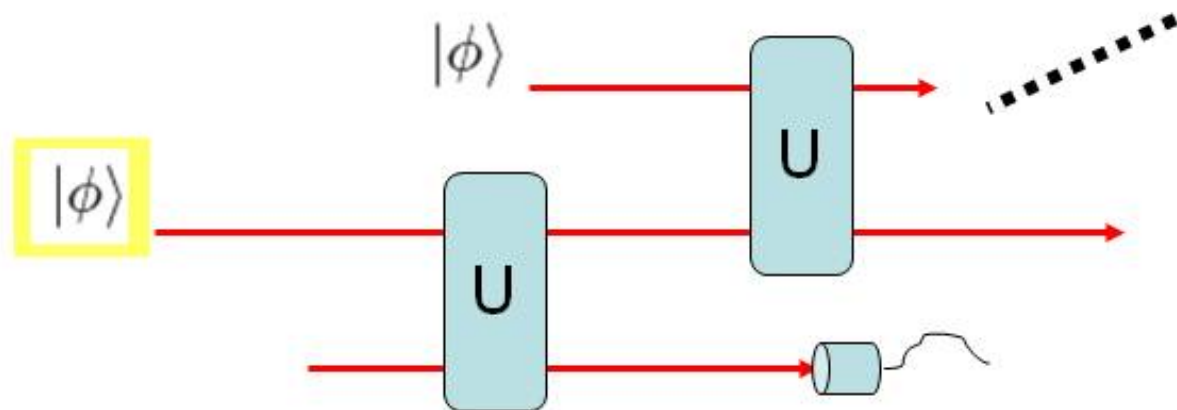


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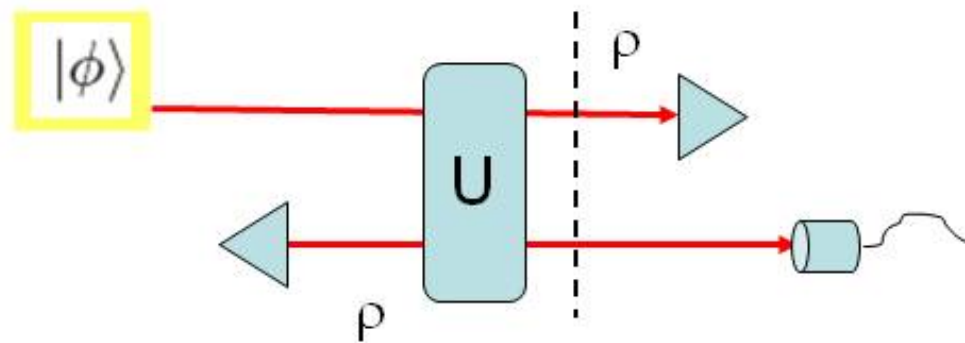


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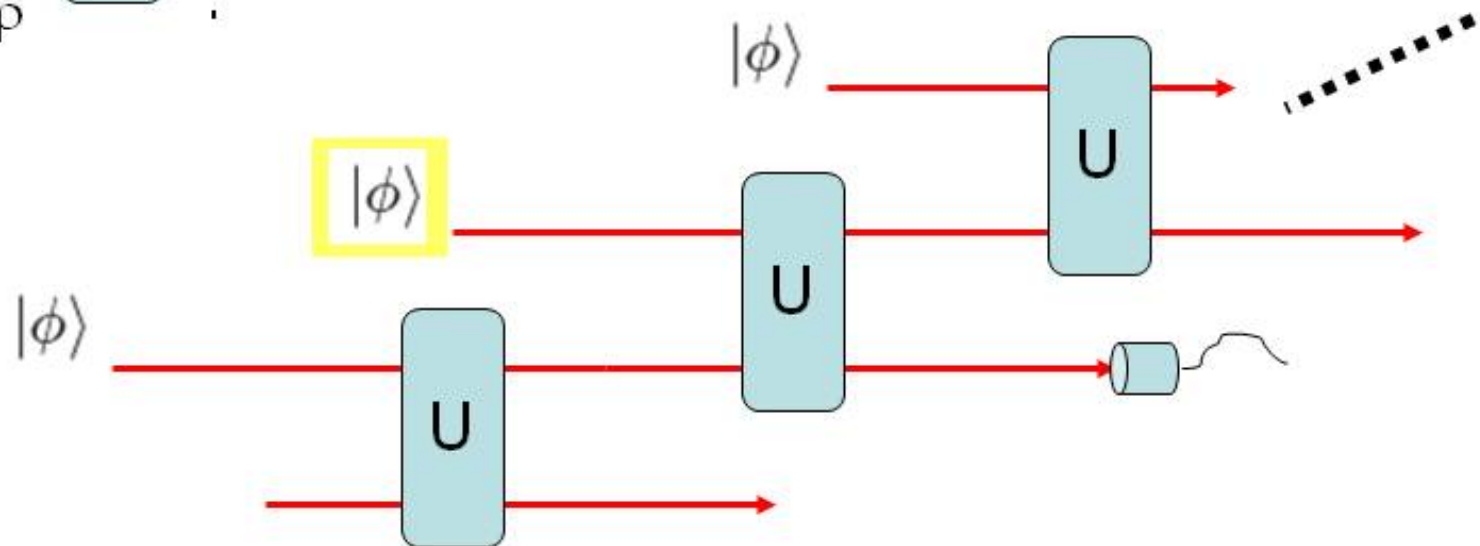


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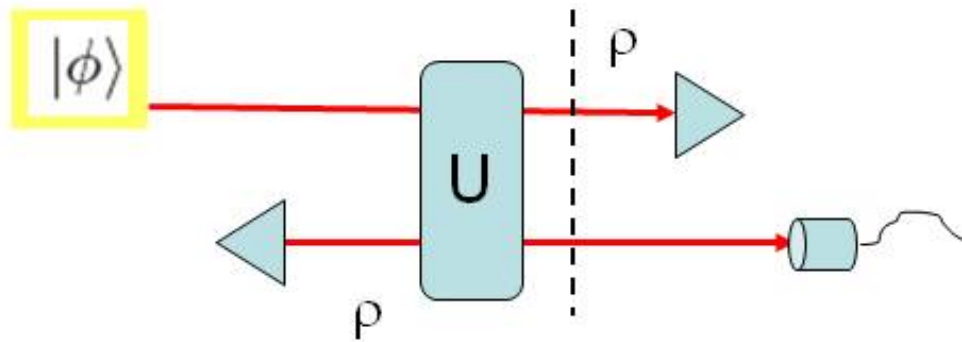


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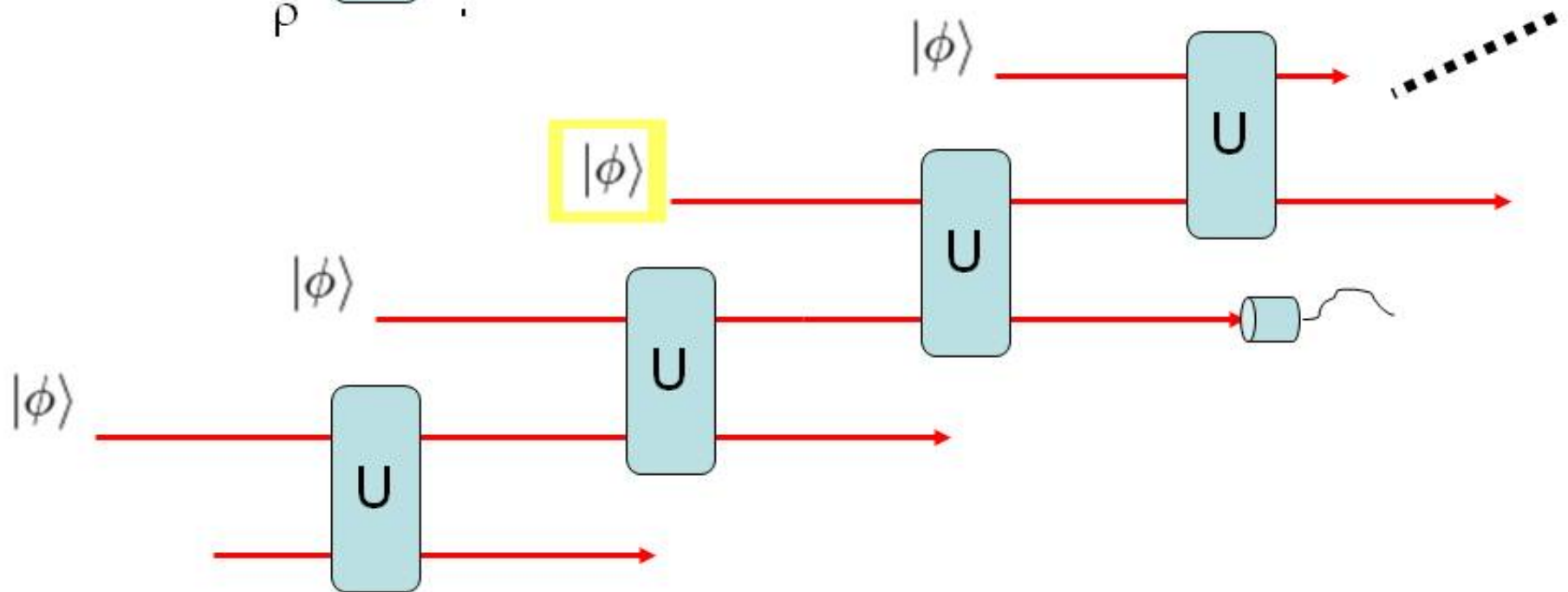


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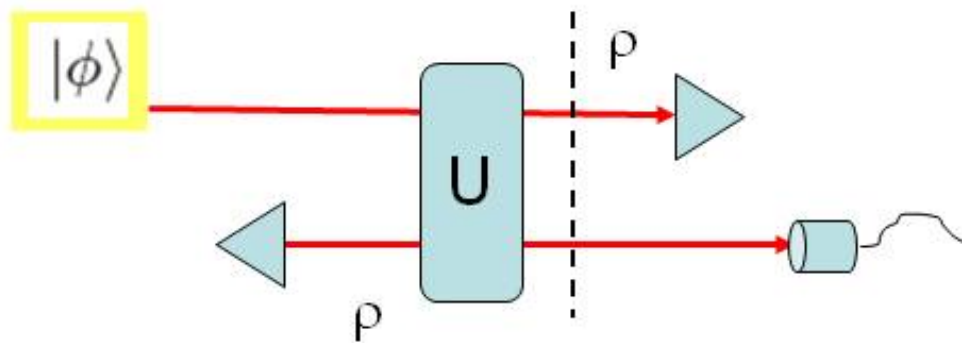


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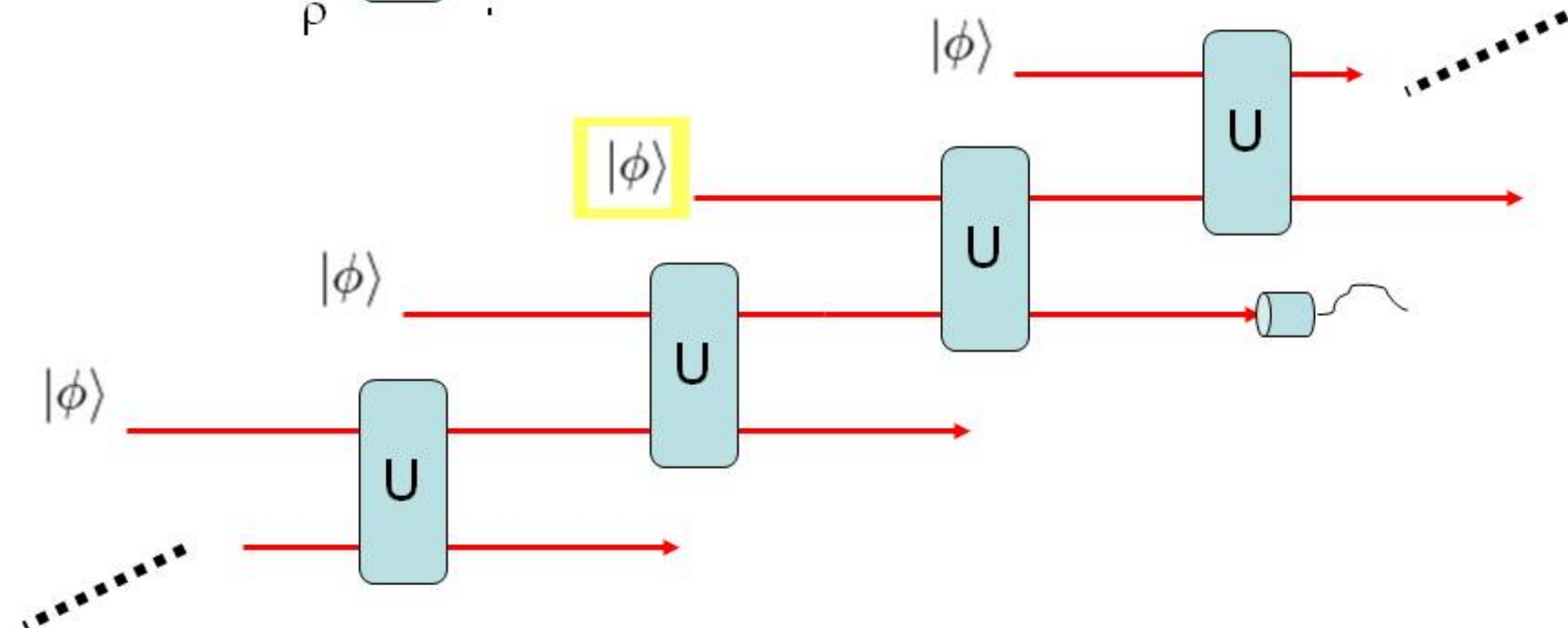


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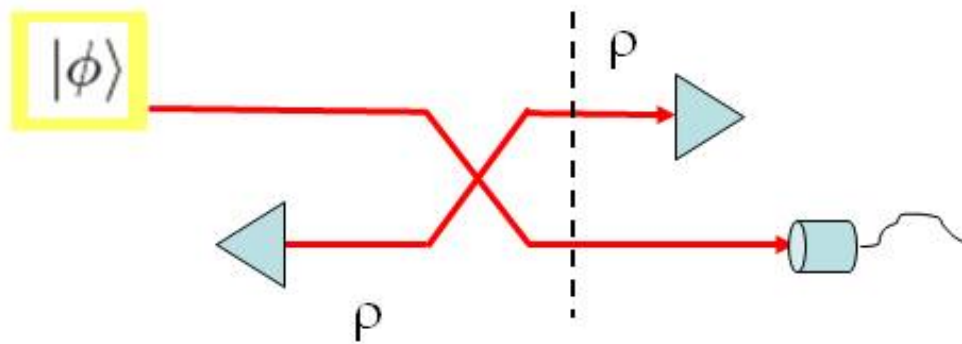


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$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

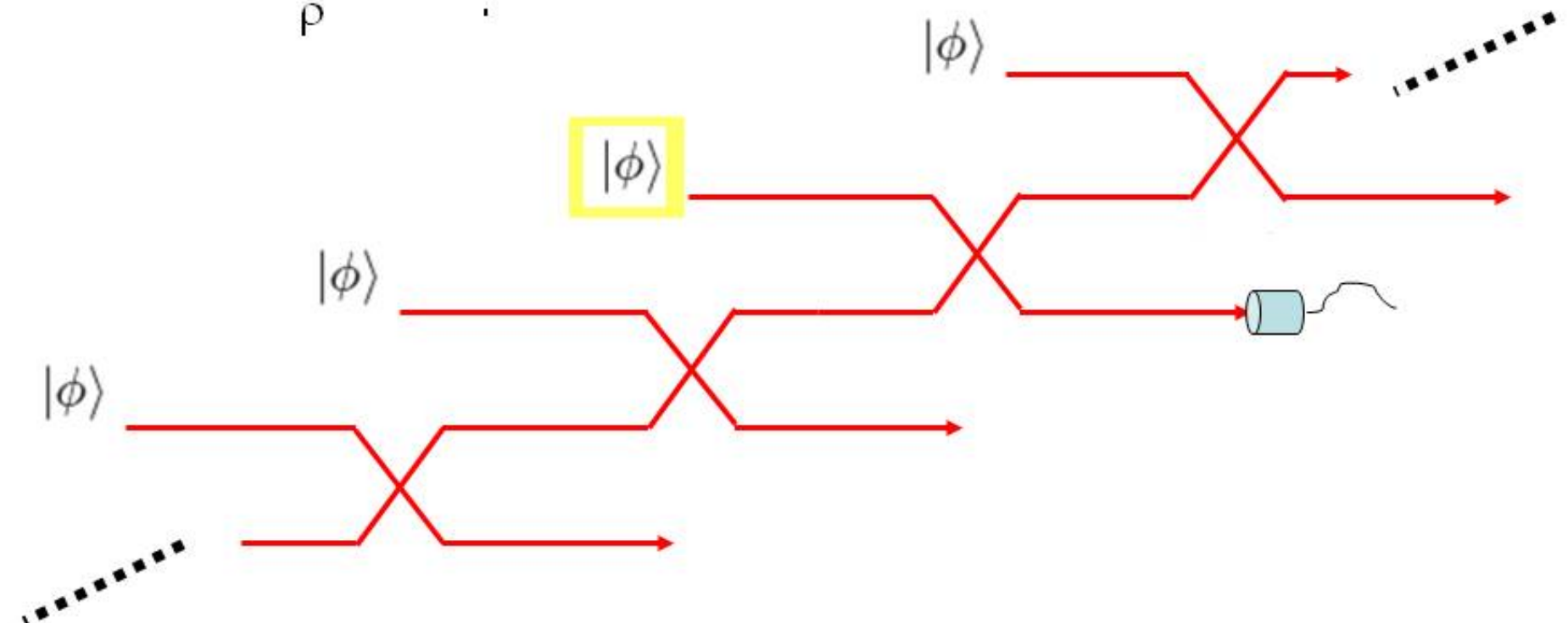


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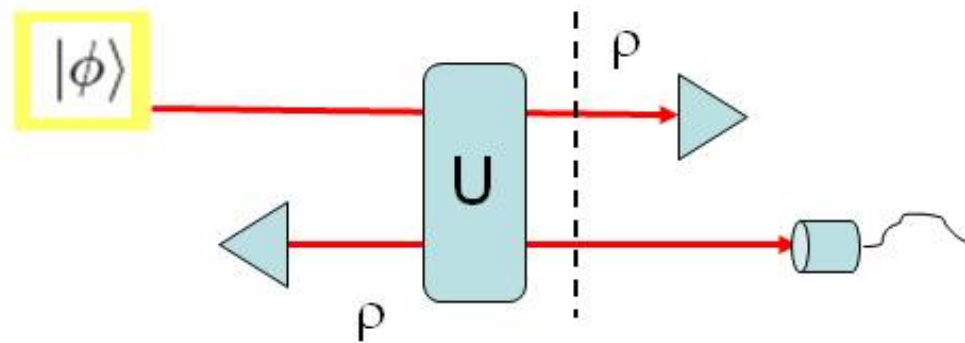


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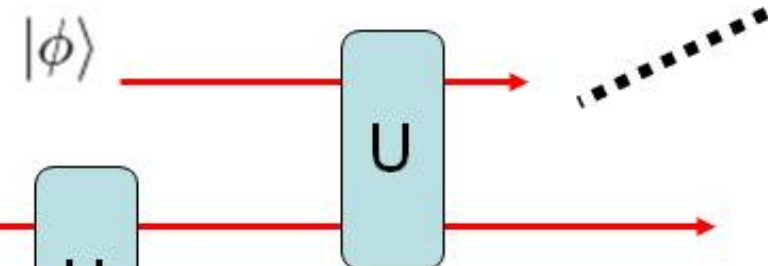


Following the Information Flow



$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

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$|\phi\rangle$

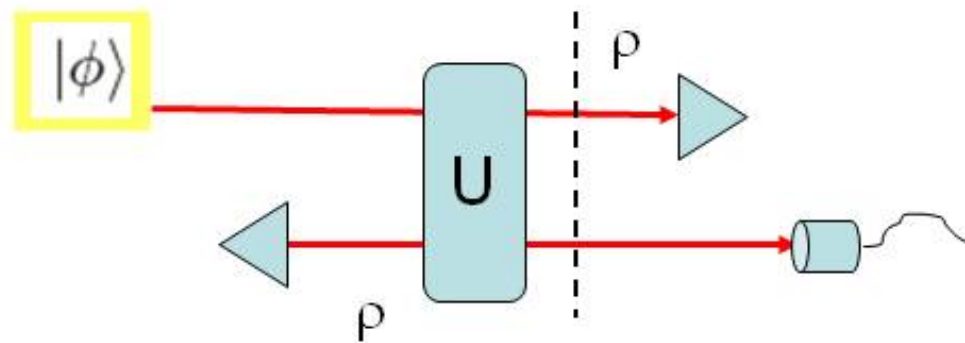


$|\phi\rangle$



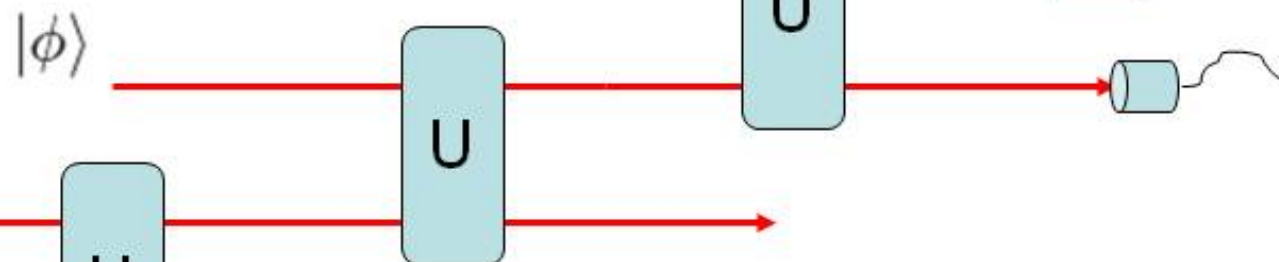
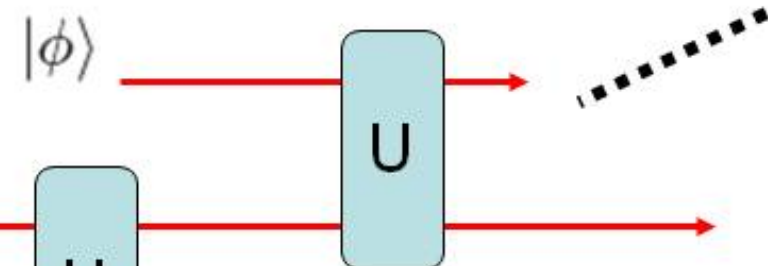
$$\rho' = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho_{in})U^\dagger]$$

Following the Information Flow



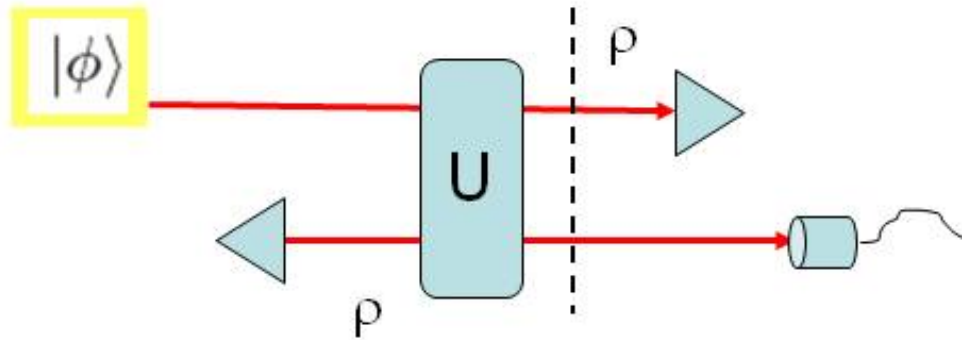
$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$



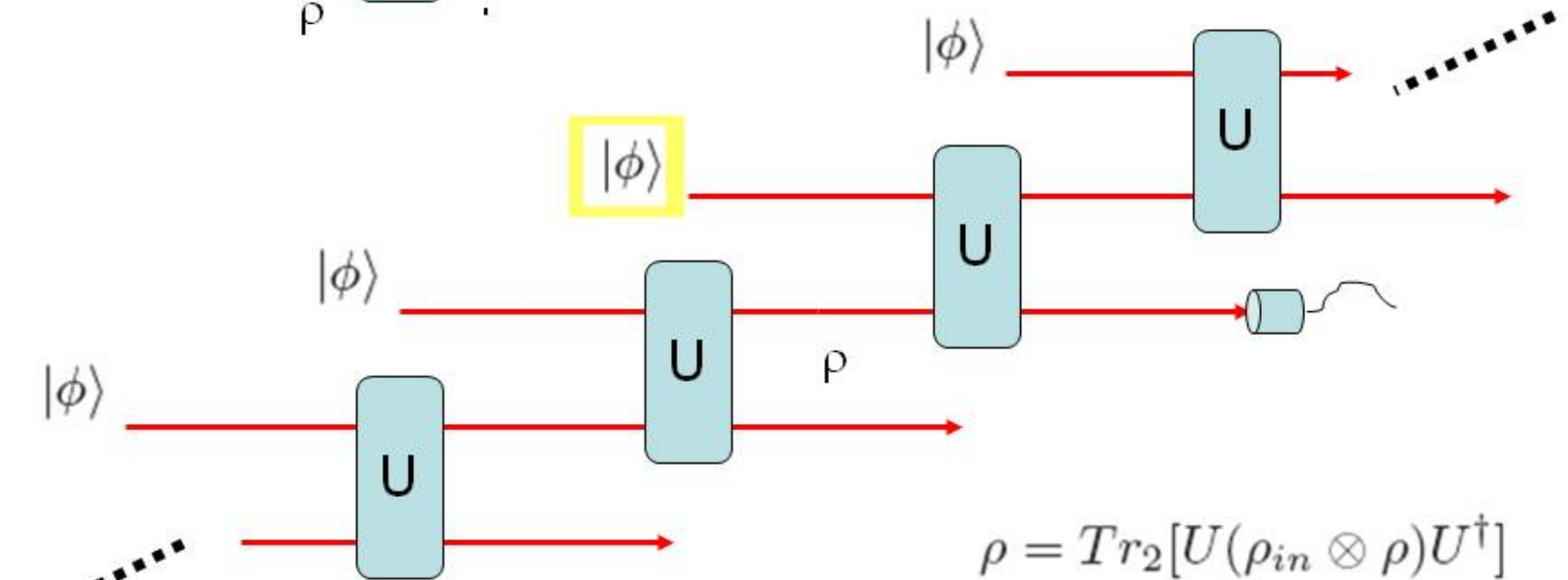
$$\rho'' = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho')U^\dagger]$$

Following the Information Flow

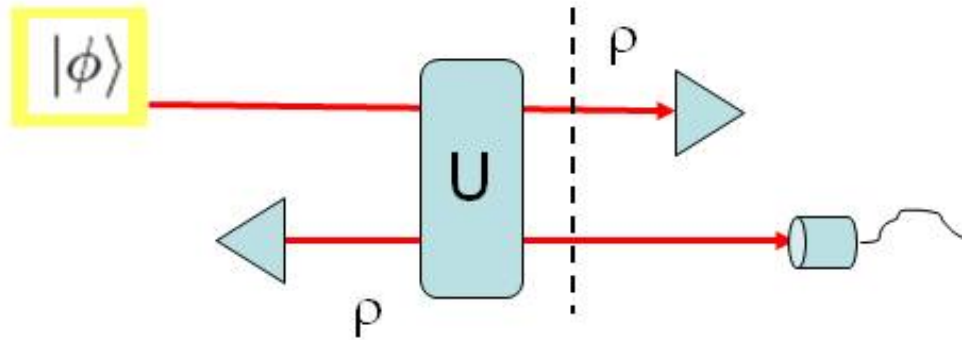


$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

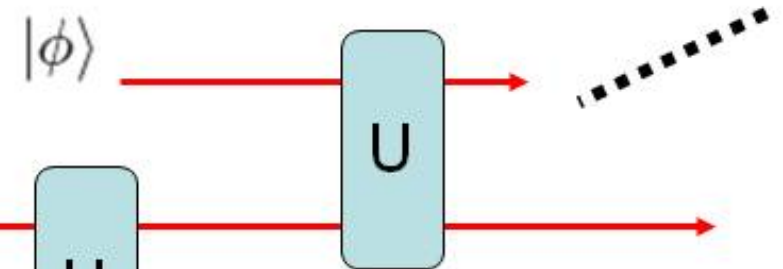


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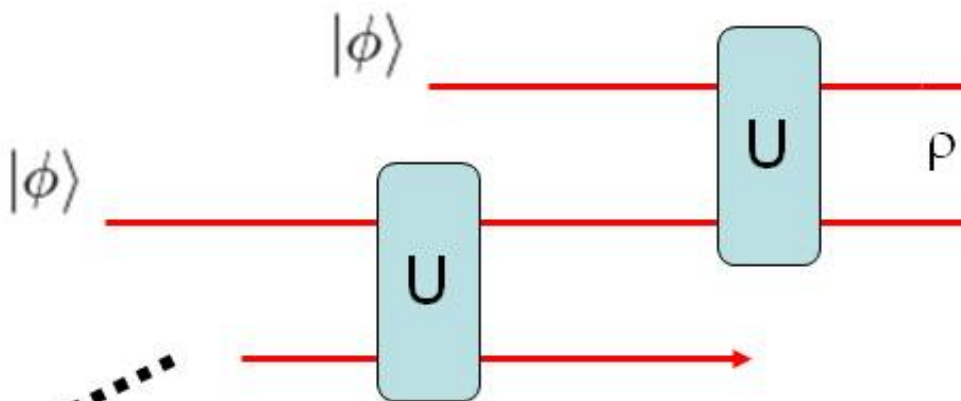


$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

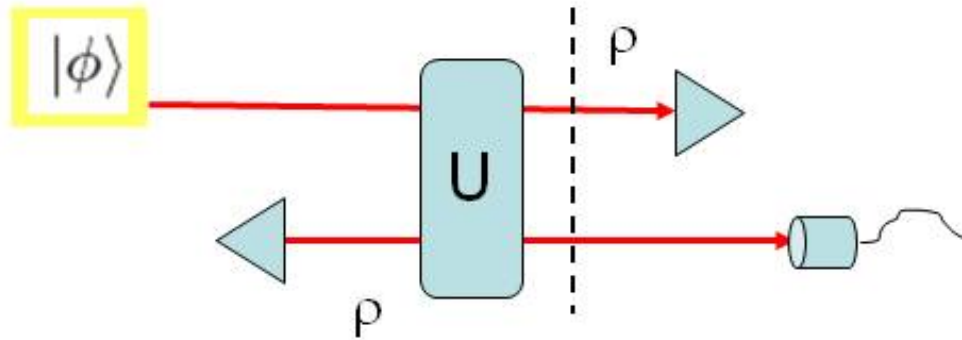


$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$



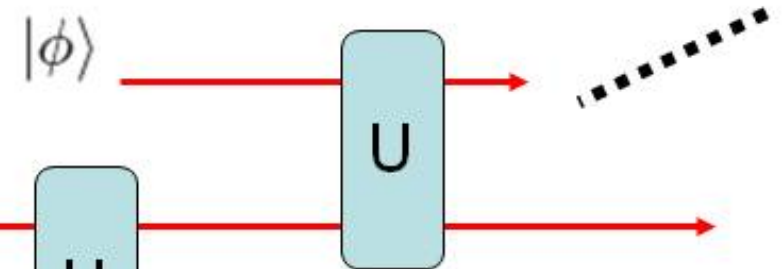
$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

(i) Multiple Solutions



$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$



$$\rho' = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho_{in})U^\dagger]$$

(i) Multiple Solutions



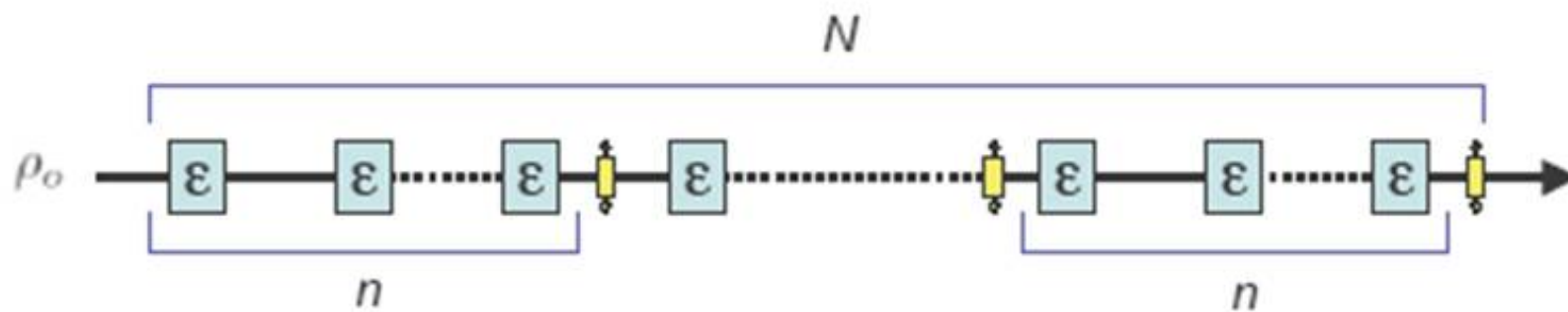
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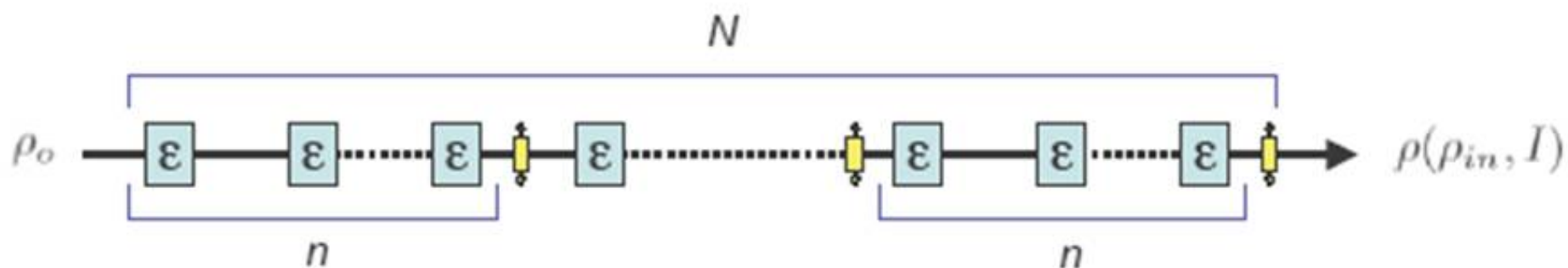
(i) Multiple Solutions



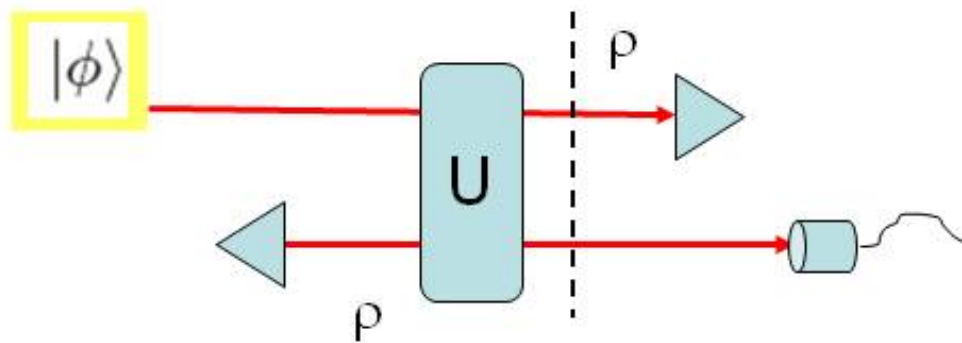
(i) Multiple Solutions



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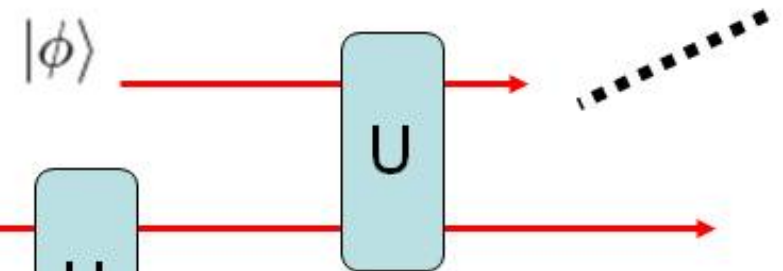


(i) Multiple Solutions



$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$



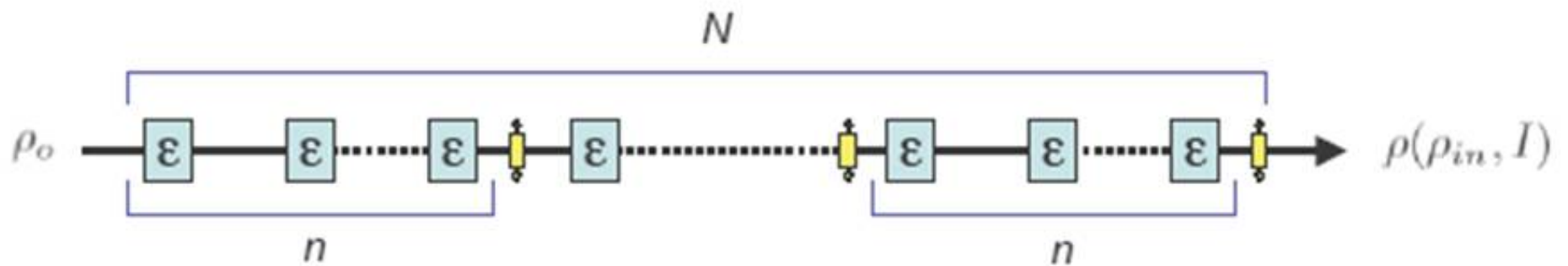
$|\phi\rangle$

$|\phi\rangle$

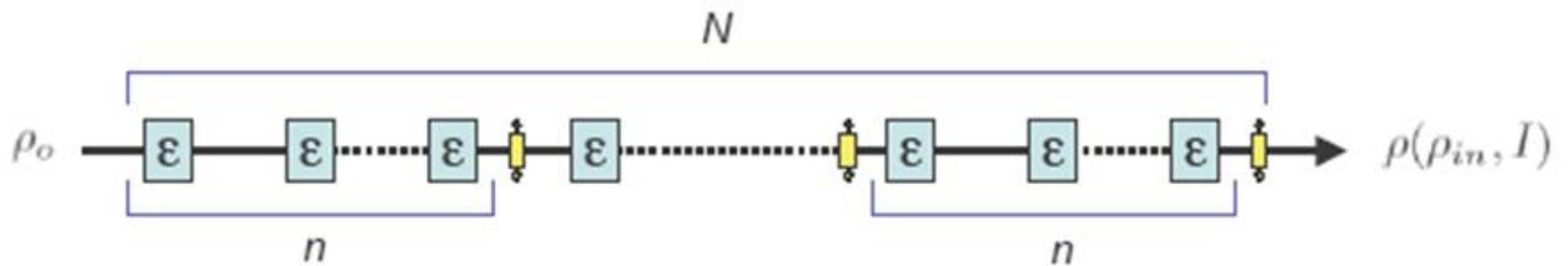
$|\phi\rangle$

$$\rho' = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes I)U^\dagger]$$

(i) Multiple Solutions

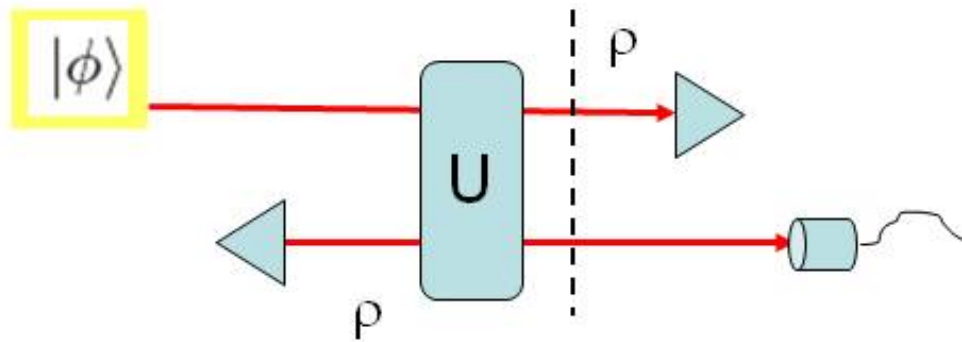


(i) Multiple Solutions



$$\rho(\rho_{in}, I) = I$$

(ii) Initial state ambiguity



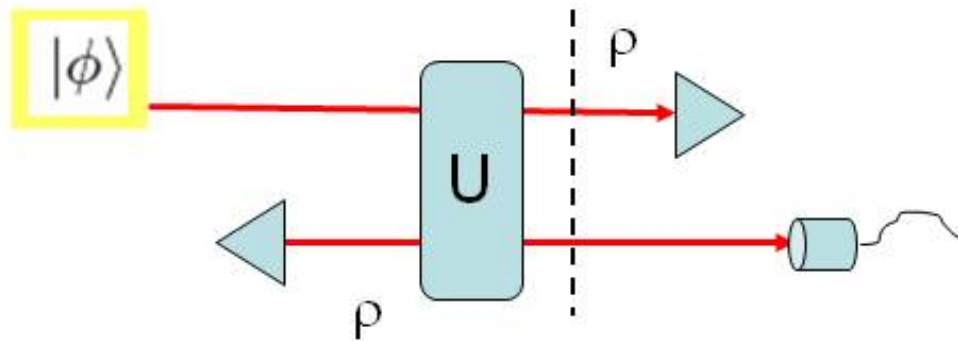
$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

Suppose

$$\rho_{inE} = \sum_{k=1}^K P_k |\phi_k\rangle\langle\phi_k|$$

(ii) Initial state ambiguity



$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

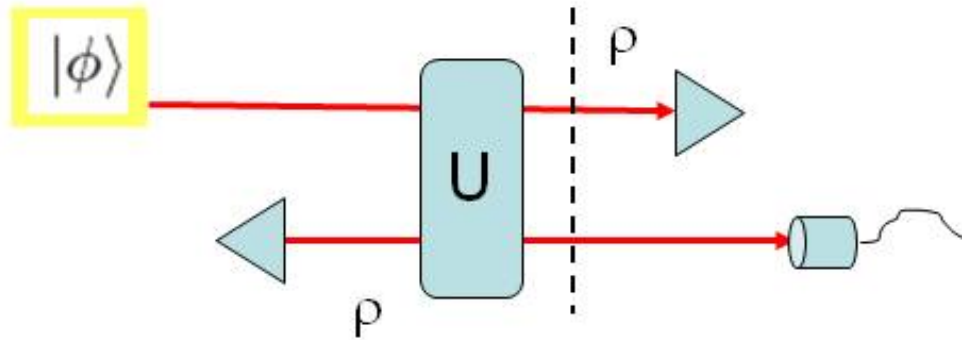
$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

Suppose

$$\rho_{inE} = \sum_{k=1}^K P_k |\phi_k\rangle\langle\phi_k|$$

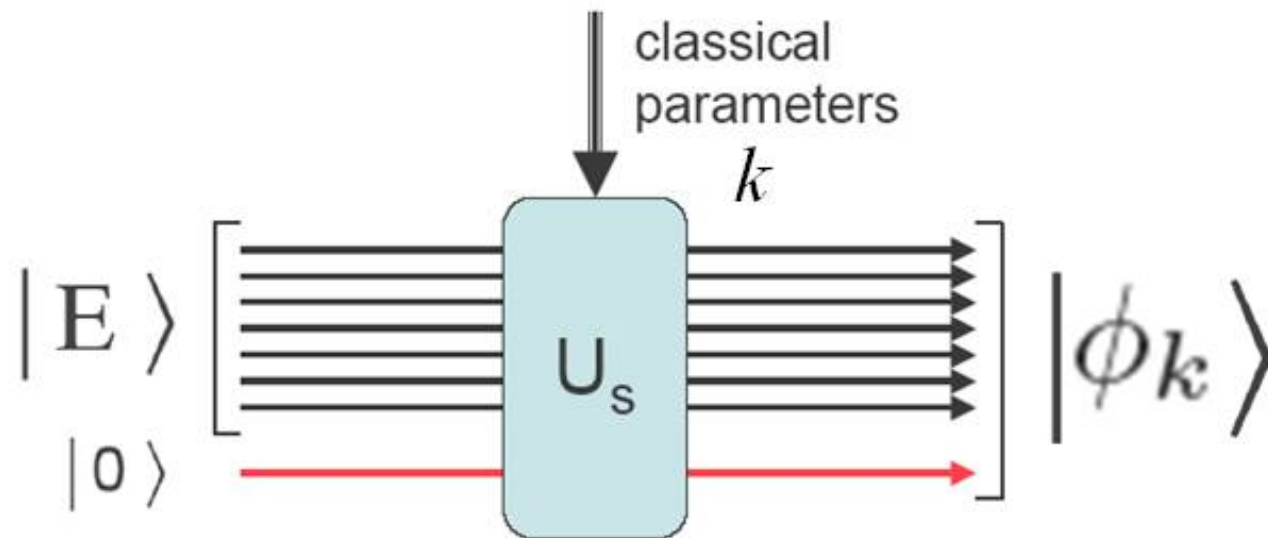
Because the system is **nonlinear**, in general the answer obtained by **mixing over the inputs** will be **different** to the answer obtained by **mixing over the outputs**!

(ii) Initial state ambiguity



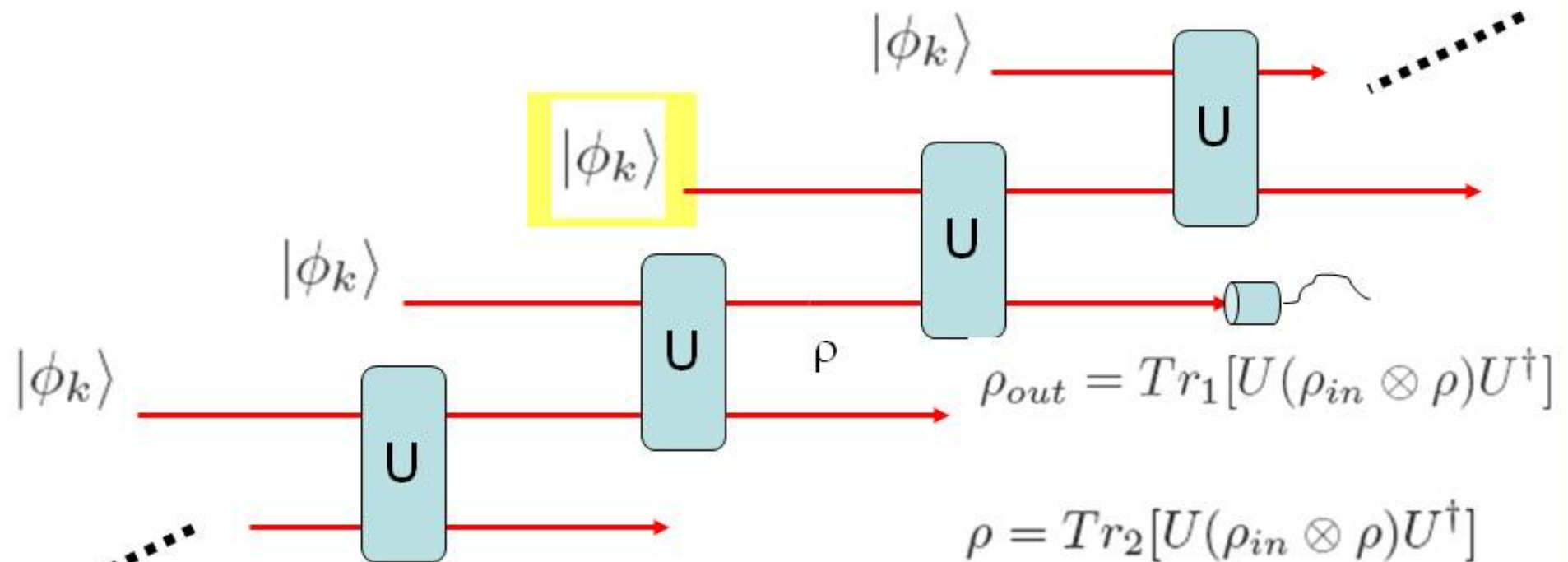
$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$



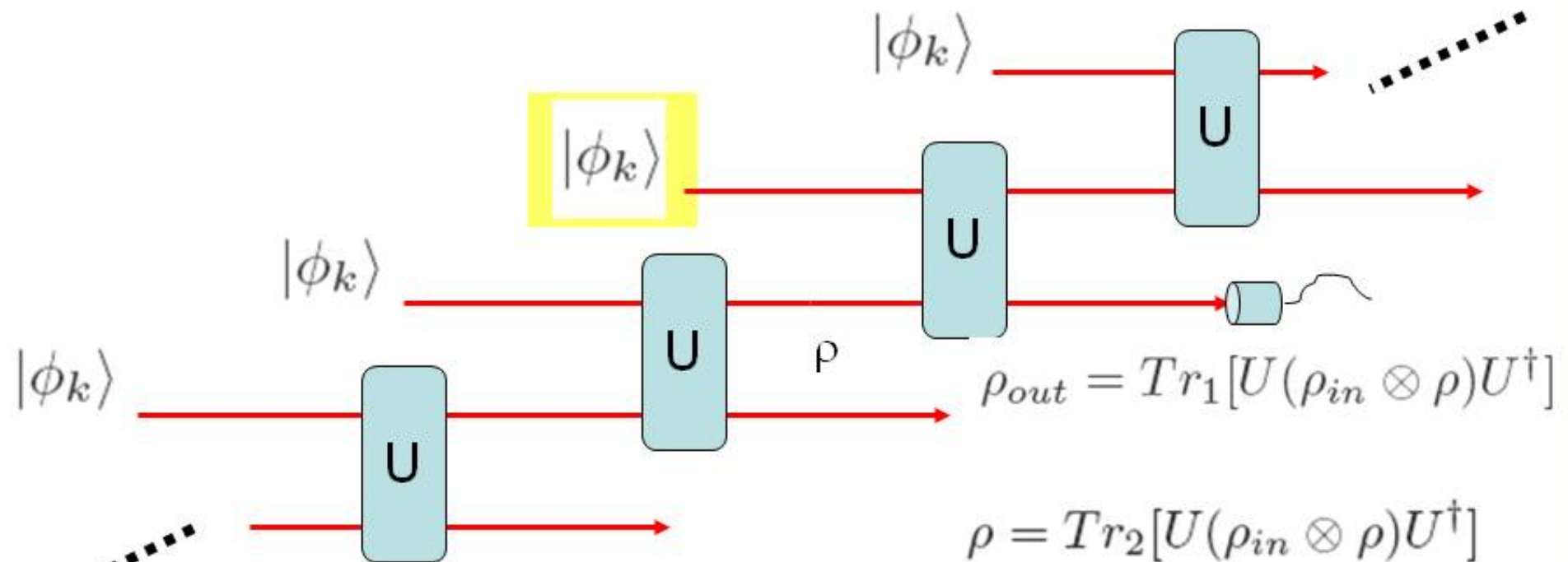
(ii) Initial state ambiguity

$$\rho_{in} = |\phi_k\rangle^{\otimes n} \langle \phi_k|^{\otimes n}$$



(ii) Initial state ambiguity

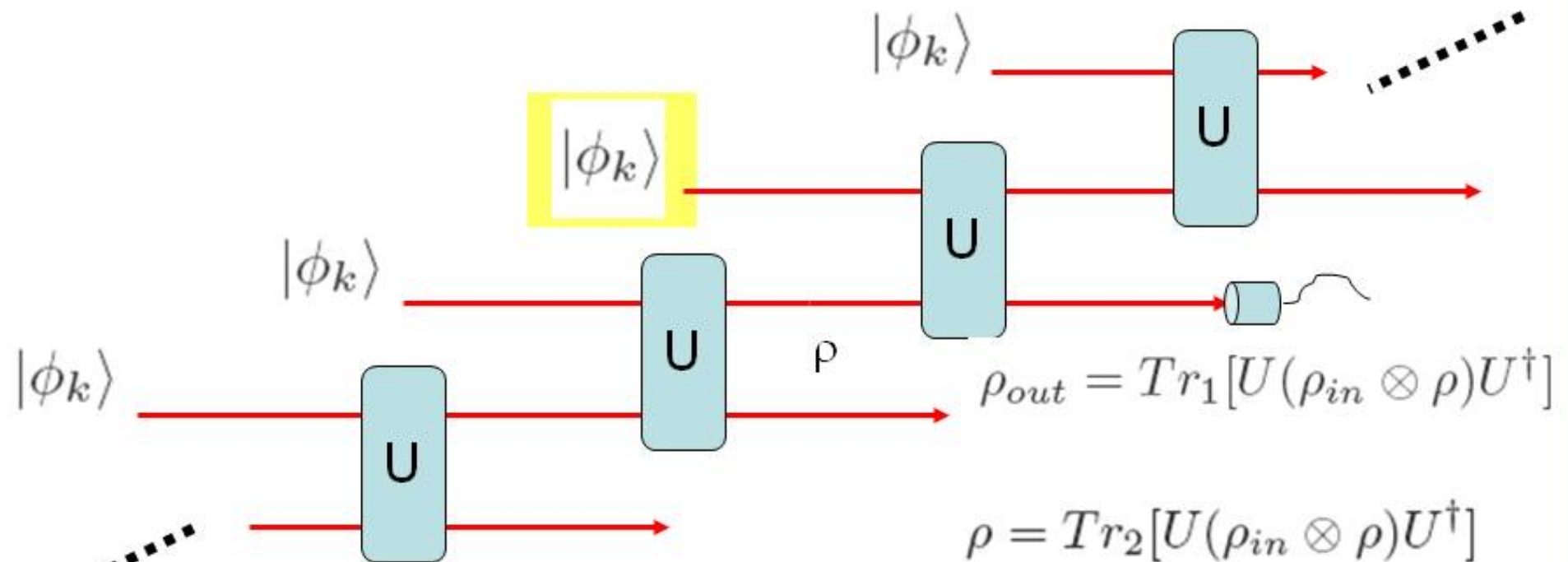
$$\rho_{inE} = \sum_{k=1}^K P_k |\phi_k\rangle^{\otimes n} \langle \phi_k|^{\otimes n}$$



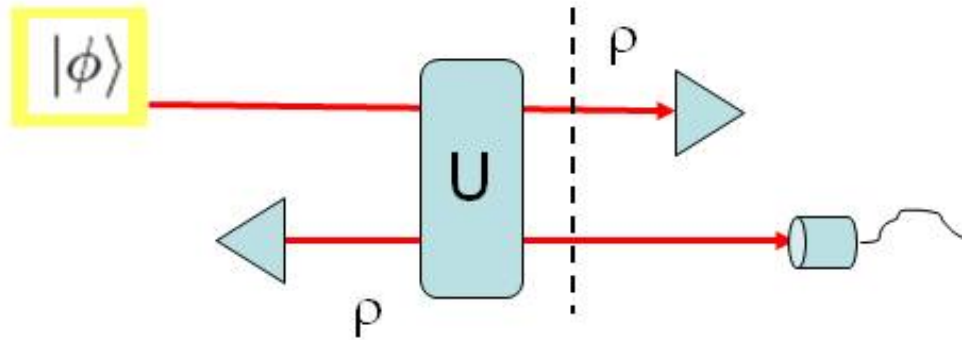
(ii) Initial state ambiguity

Corresponds to **mixing over the outputs!**

$$\rho_{inE} = \sum_{k=1}^K P_k |\phi_k\rangle^{\otimes n} \langle \phi_k|^{\otimes n}$$

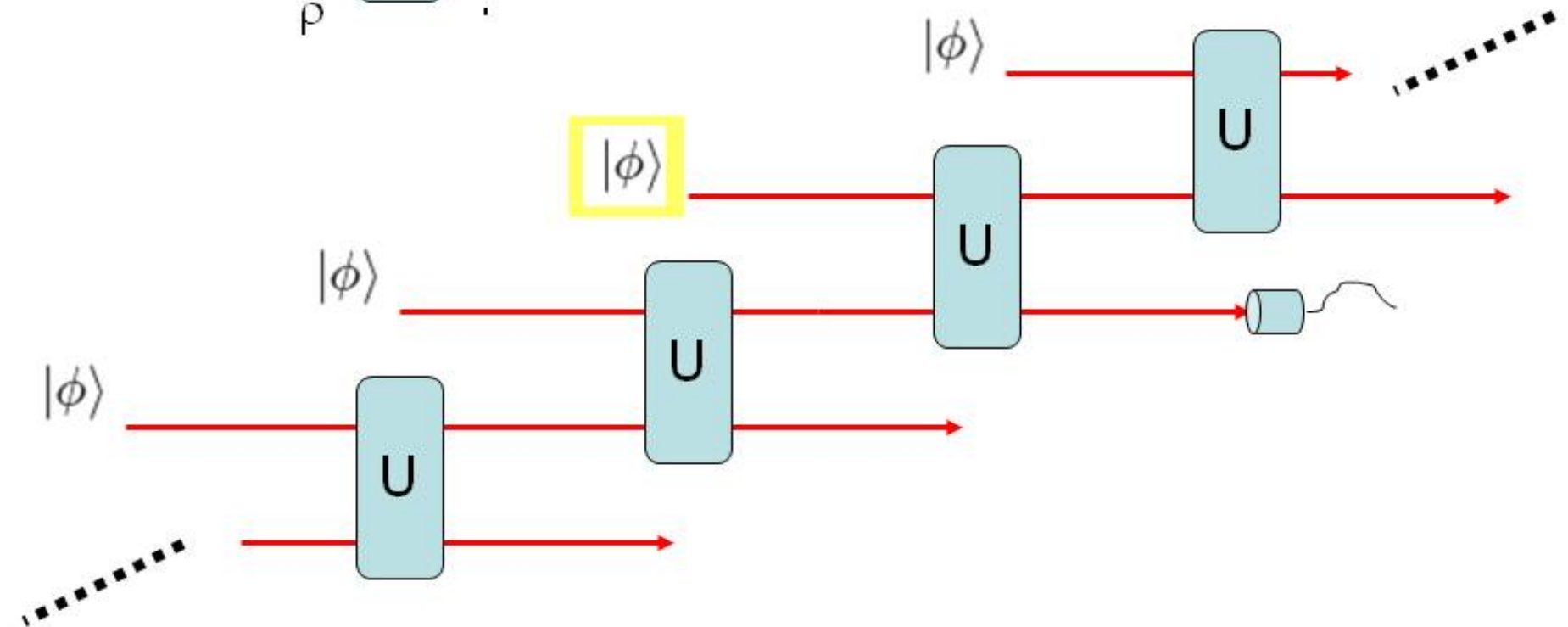


(iii) Non-unitarity

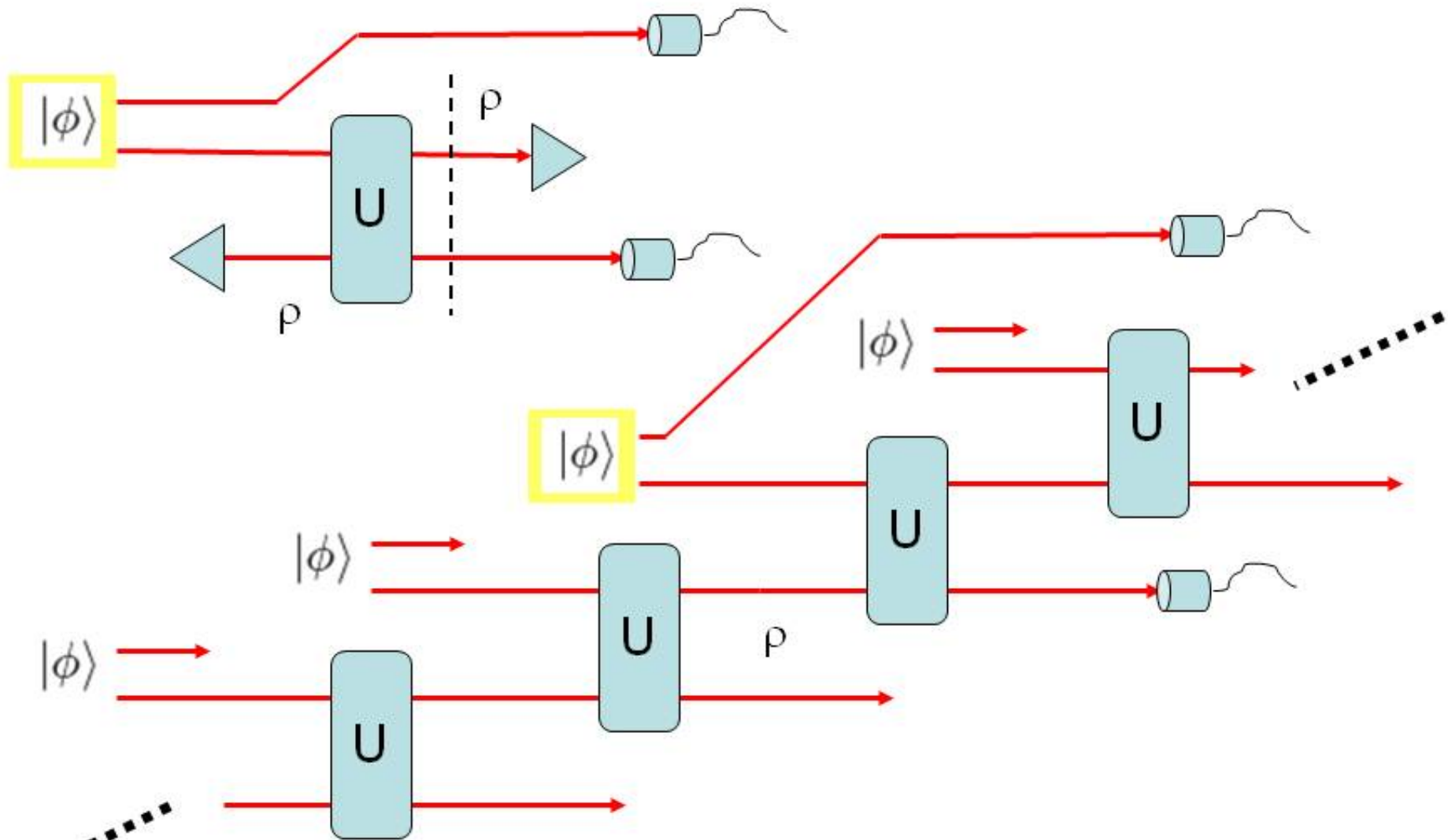


$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

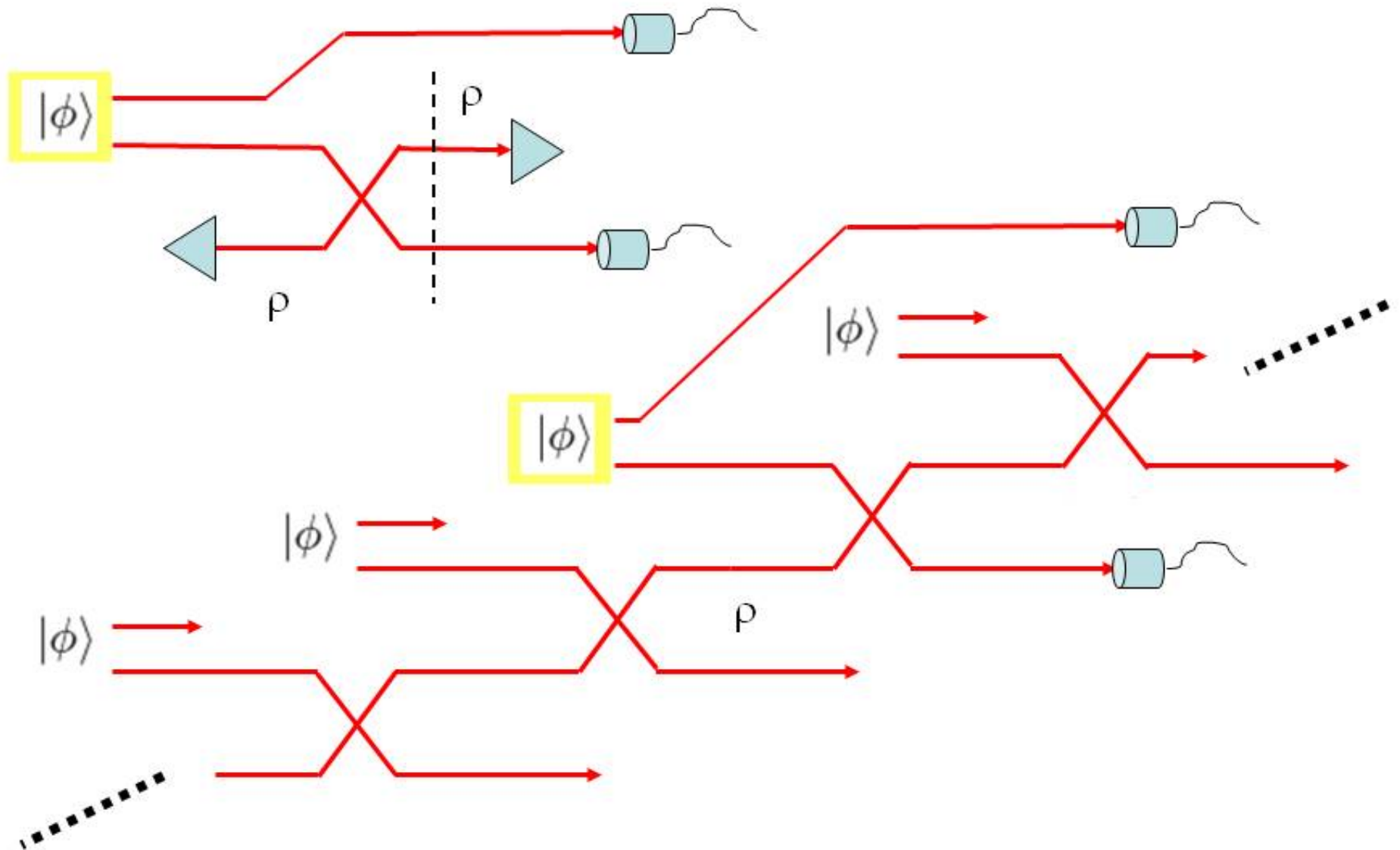
$$\rho_{out} = \text{Tr}_1[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$



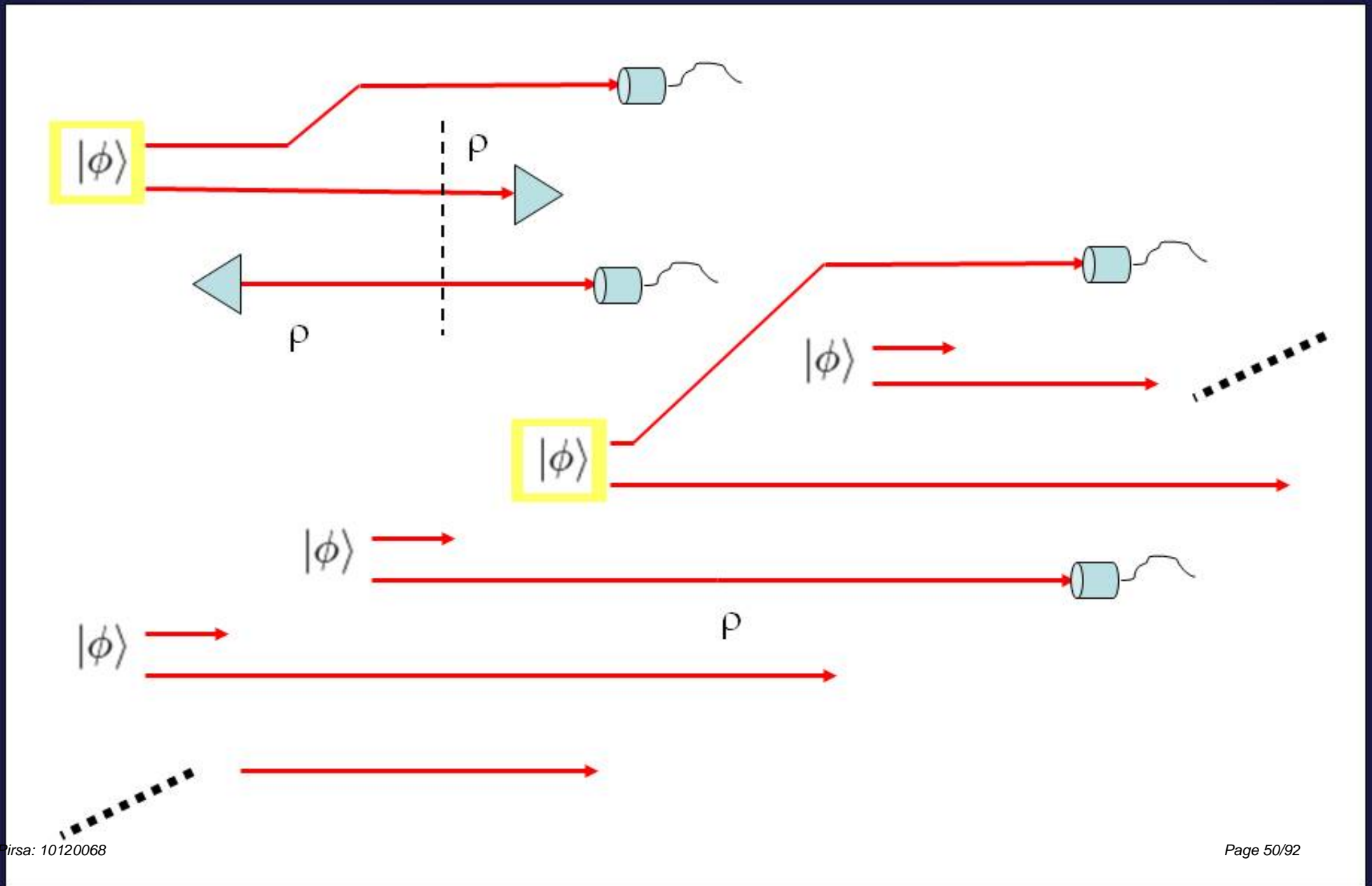
(iii) Non-unitarity



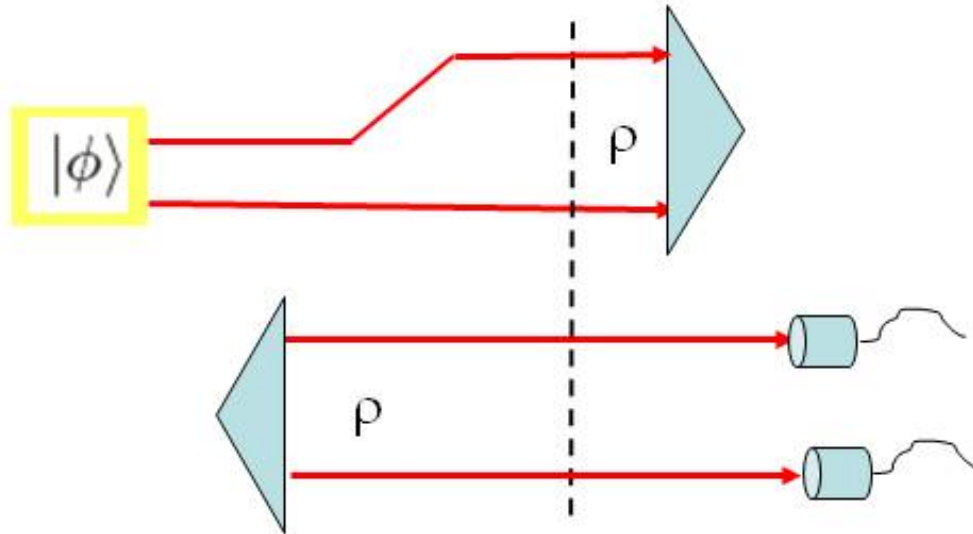
(iii) Non-unitarity



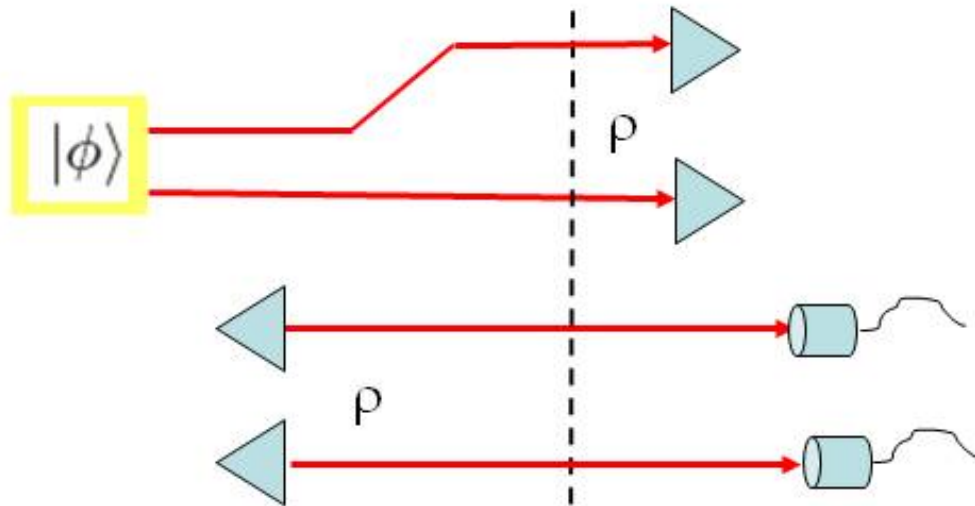
(iii) Non-unitarity



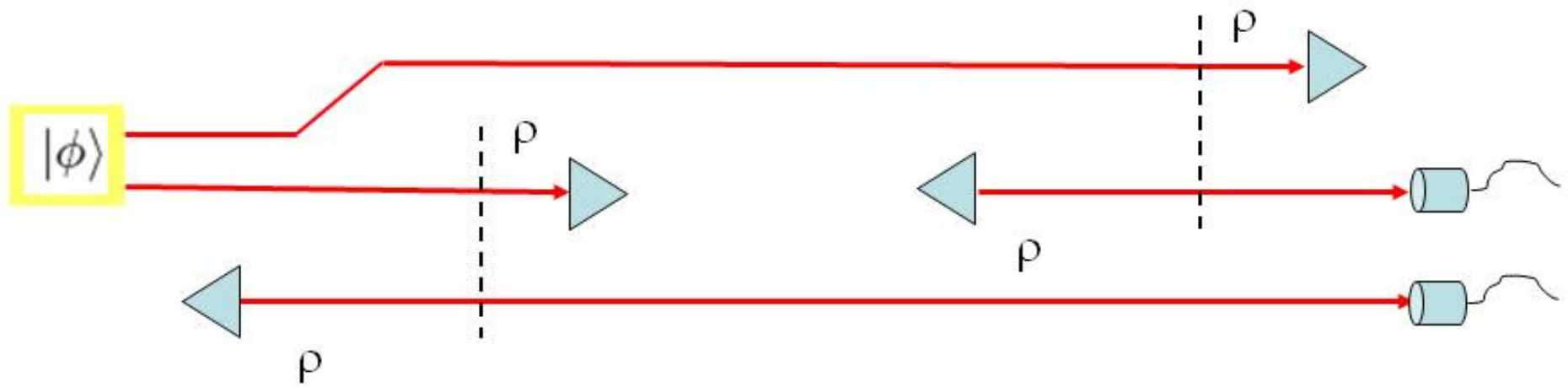
(iii) Non-unitarity



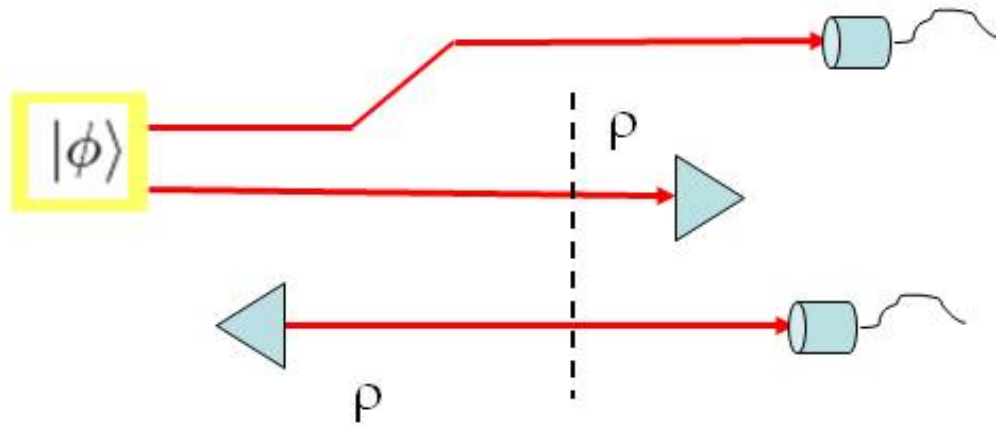
(iii) Non-unitarity



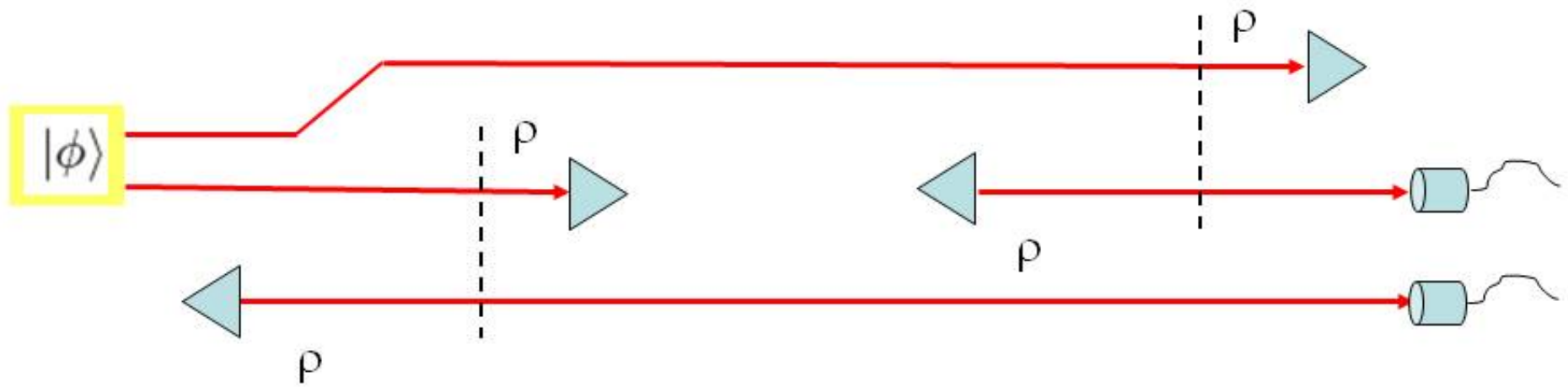
(iii) Non-unitarity



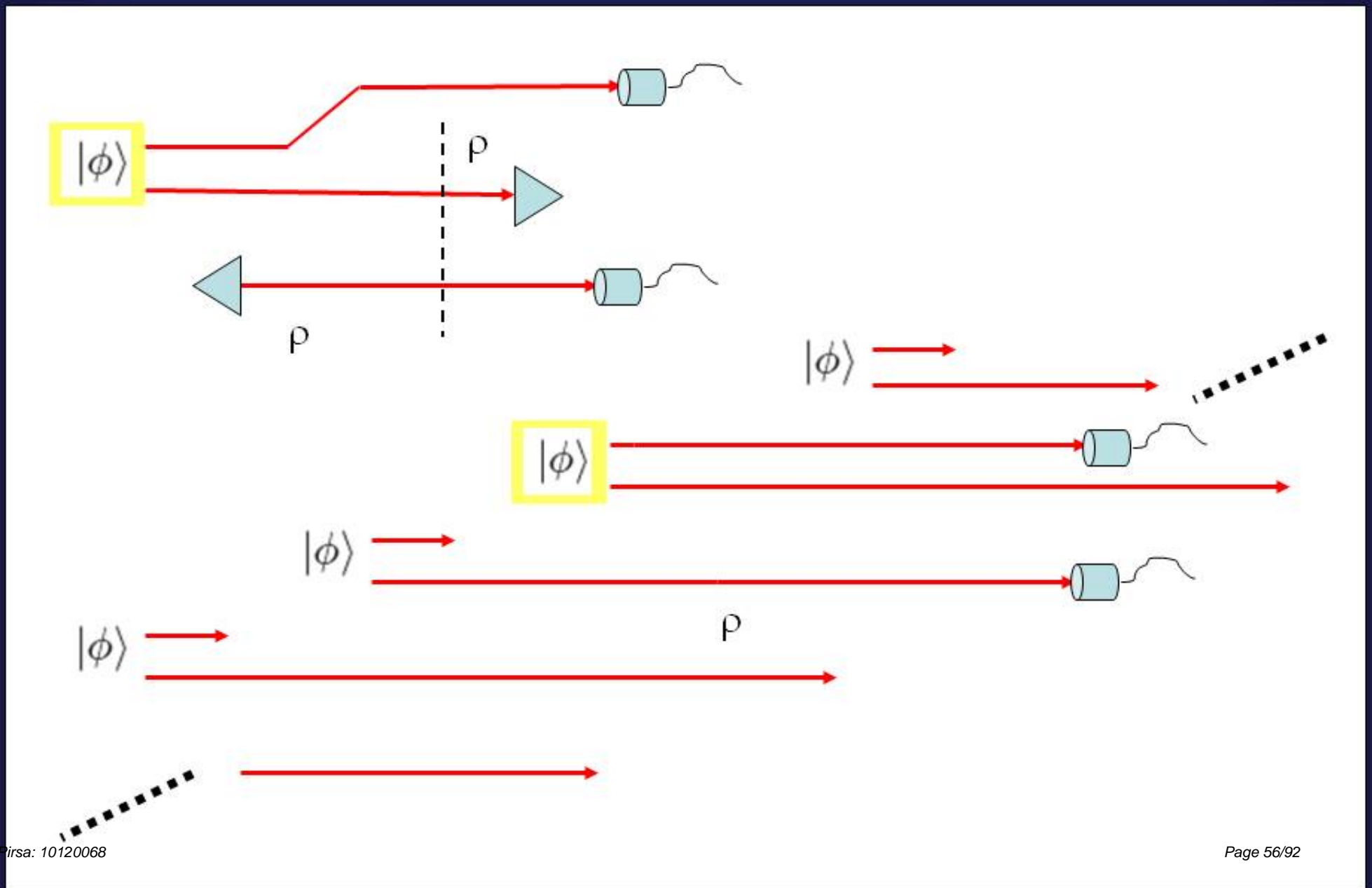
(iii) Non-unitarity



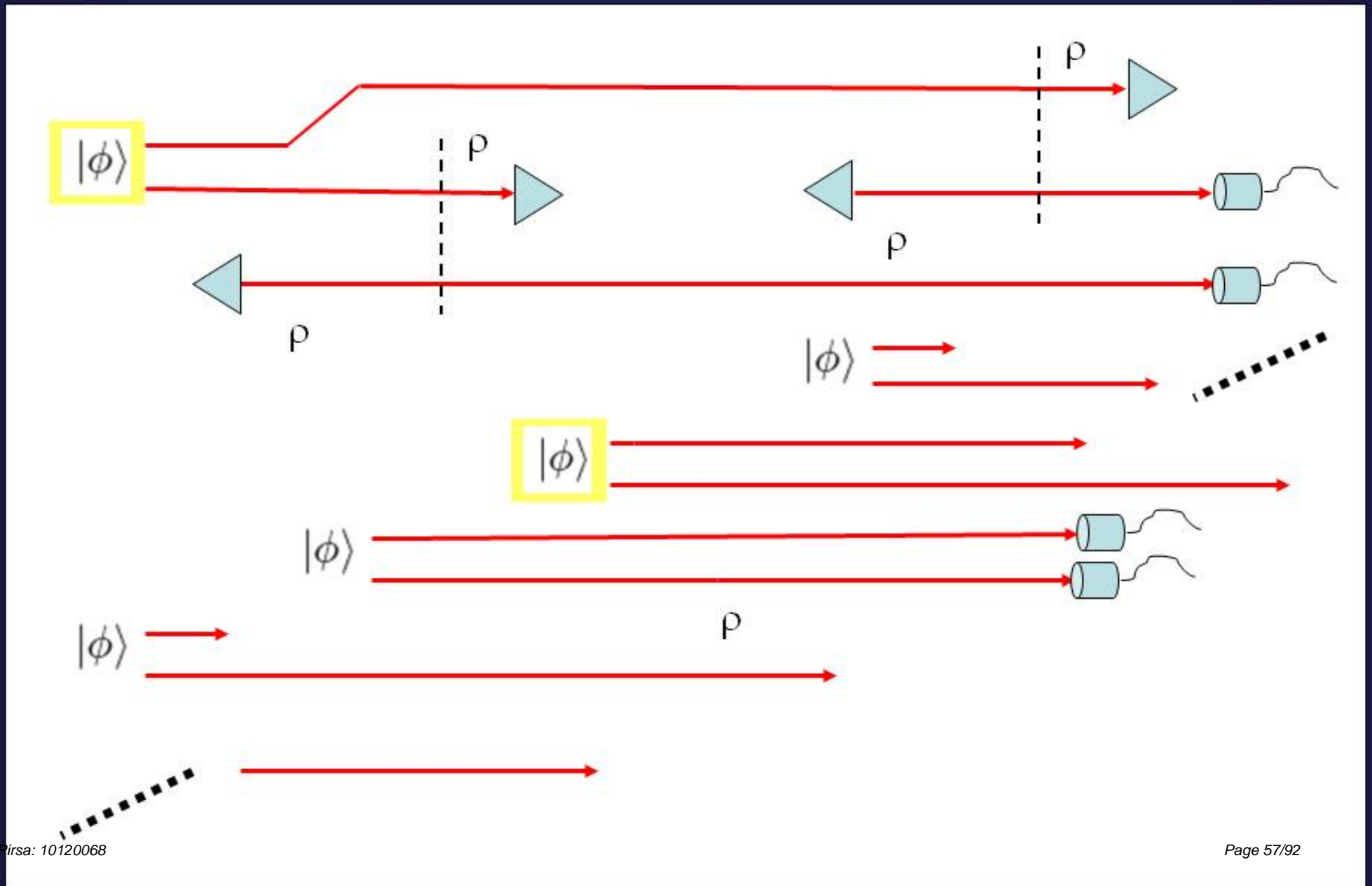
(iii) Non-unitarity



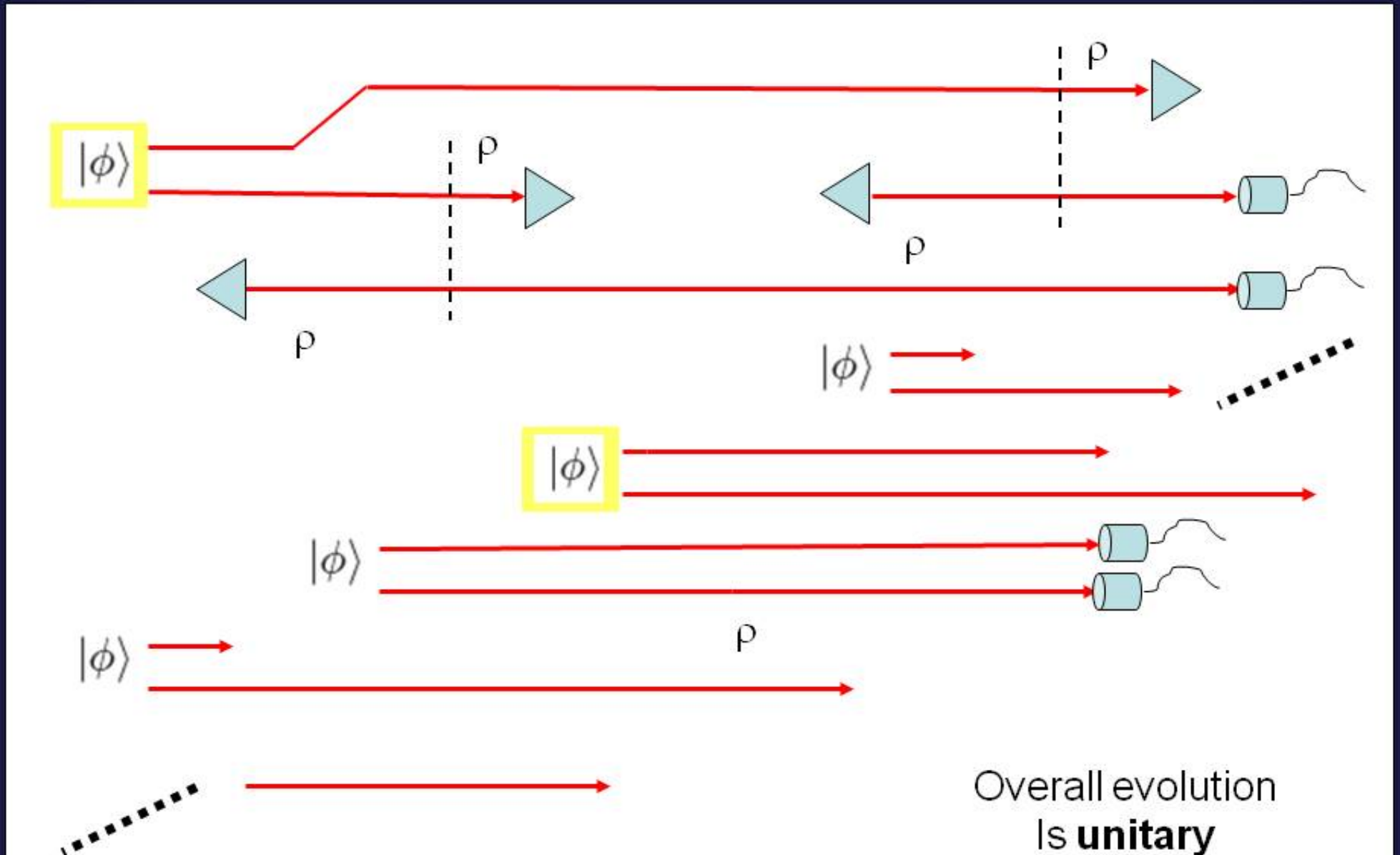
(iii) Non-unitarity



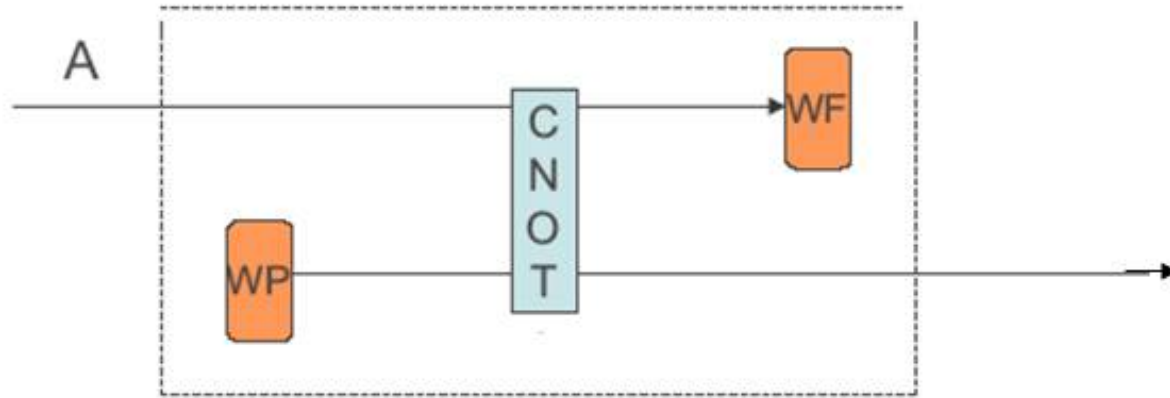
(iii) Non-unitarity



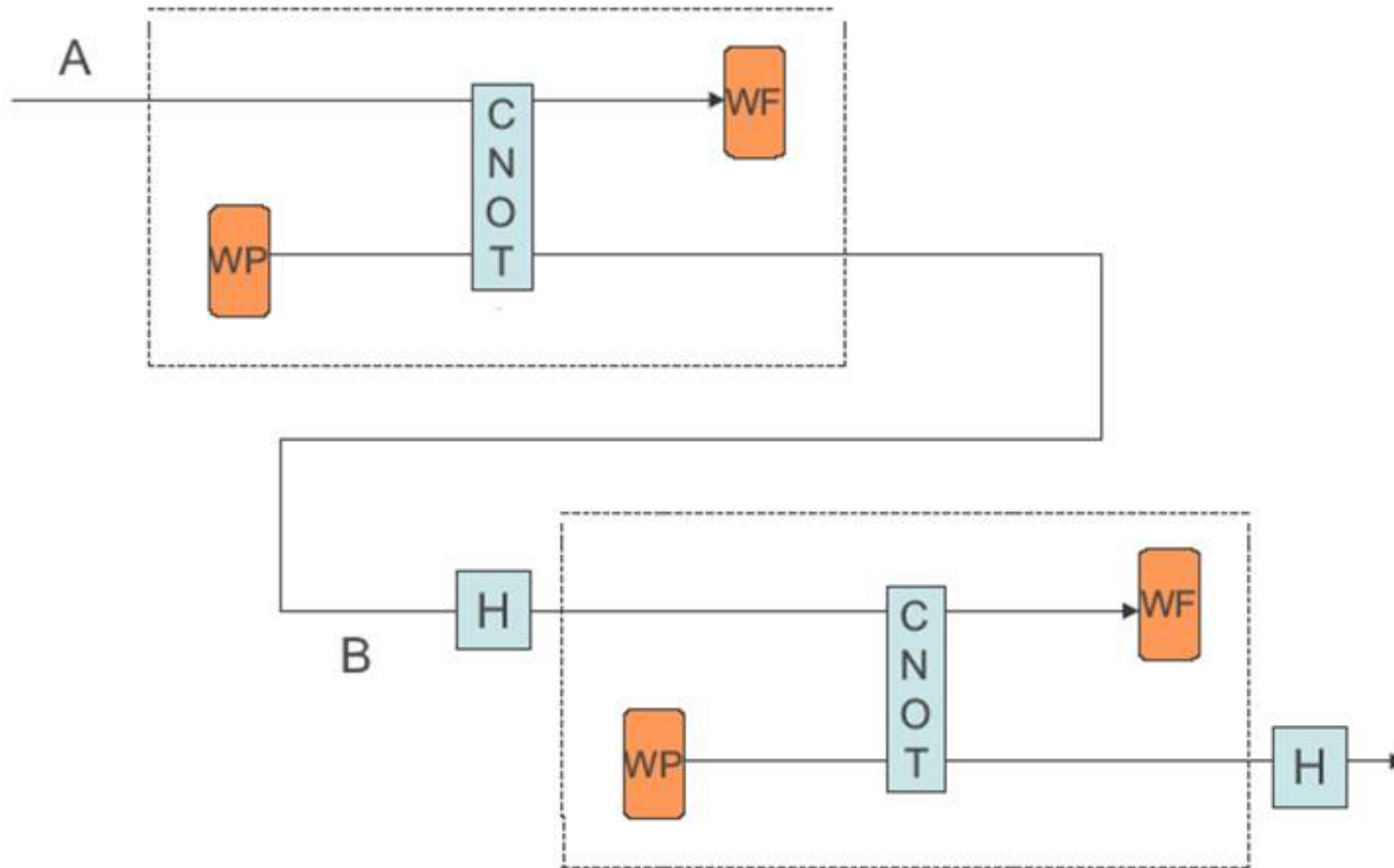
(iii) Non-unitarity



(iii) Non-unitarity



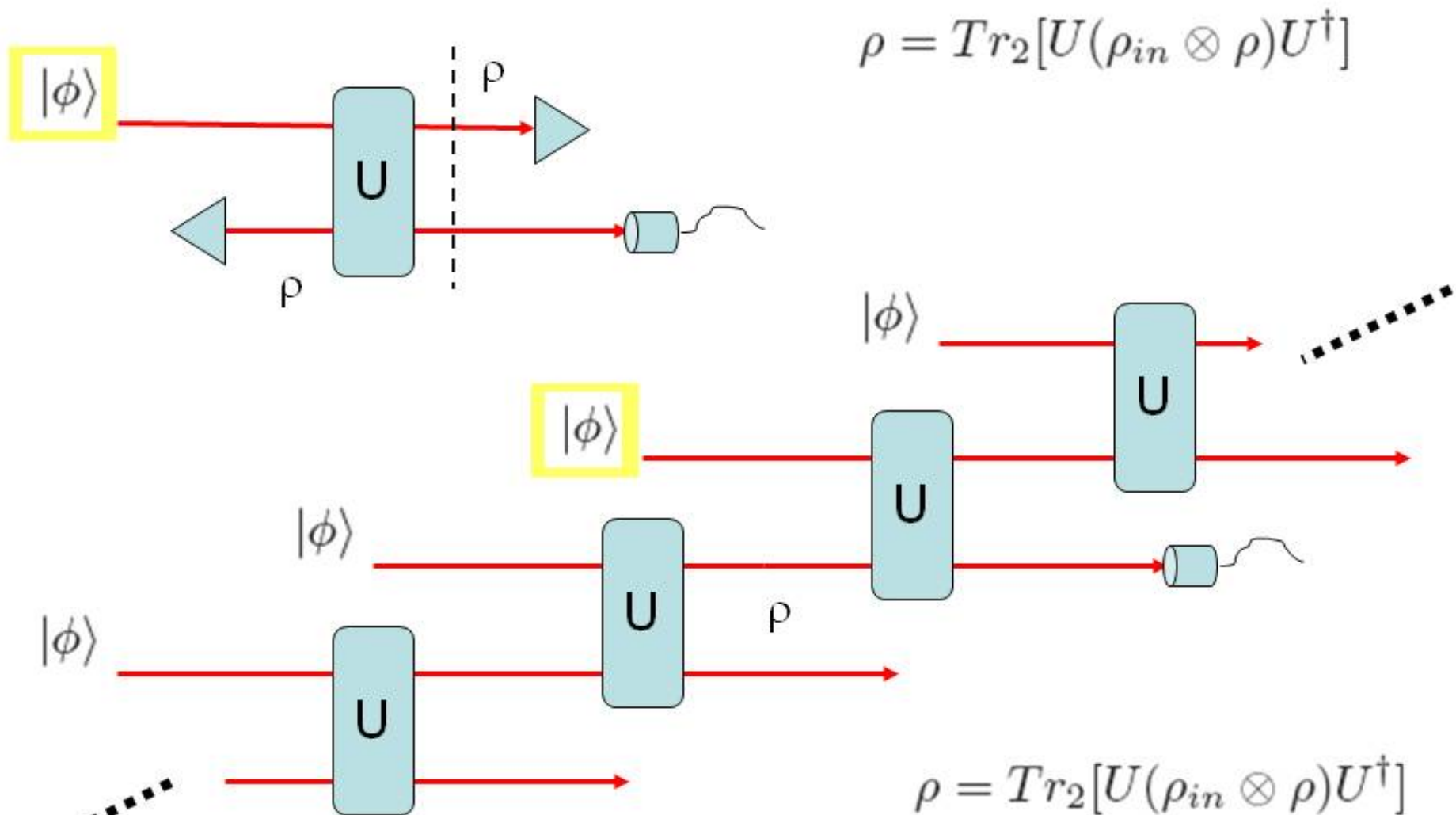
(iii) Non-unitarity



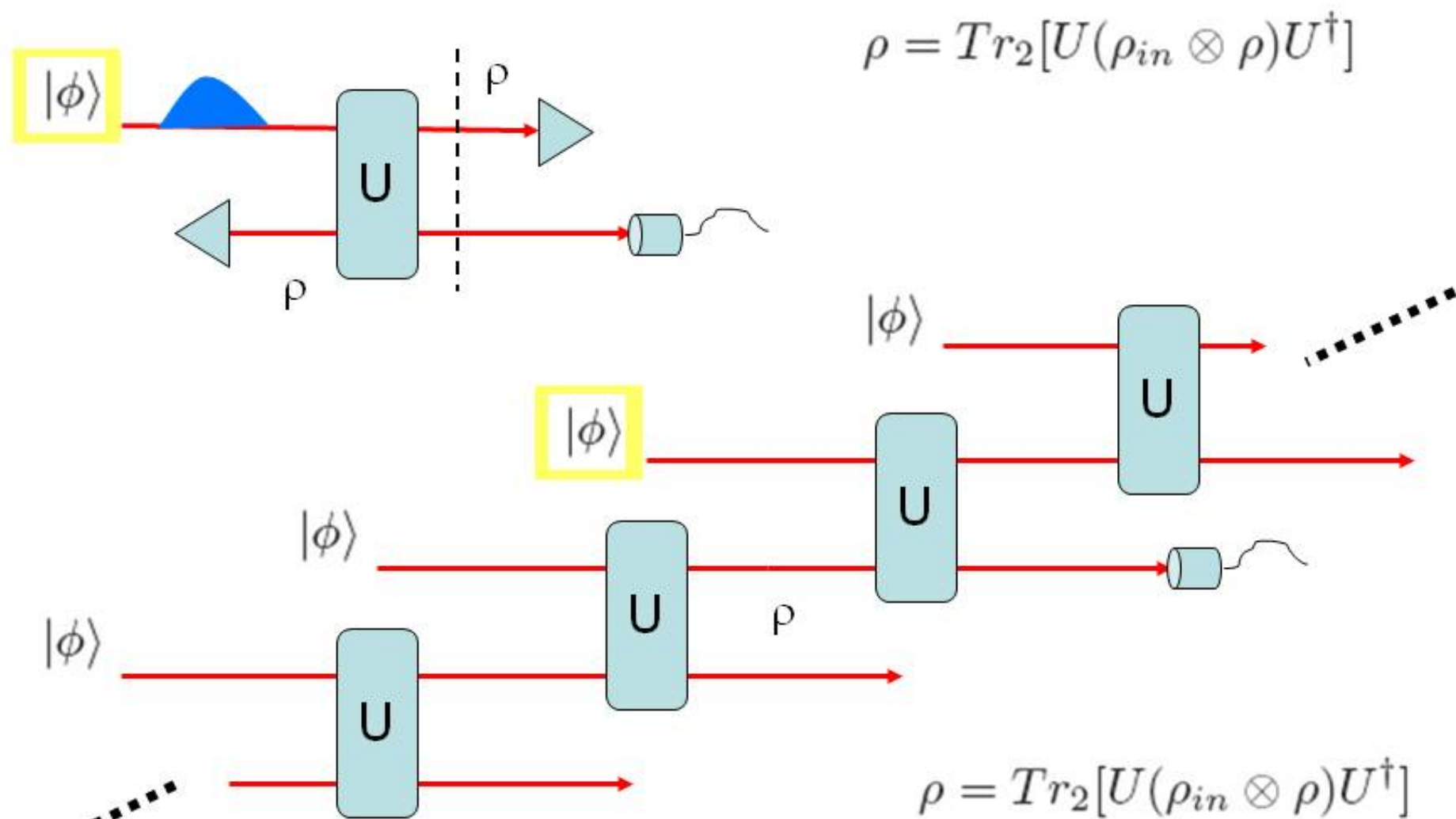
Overall evolution
Is **unitary**

T.C. Ralph, Phys.Rev.A 76, 012336 (2007)

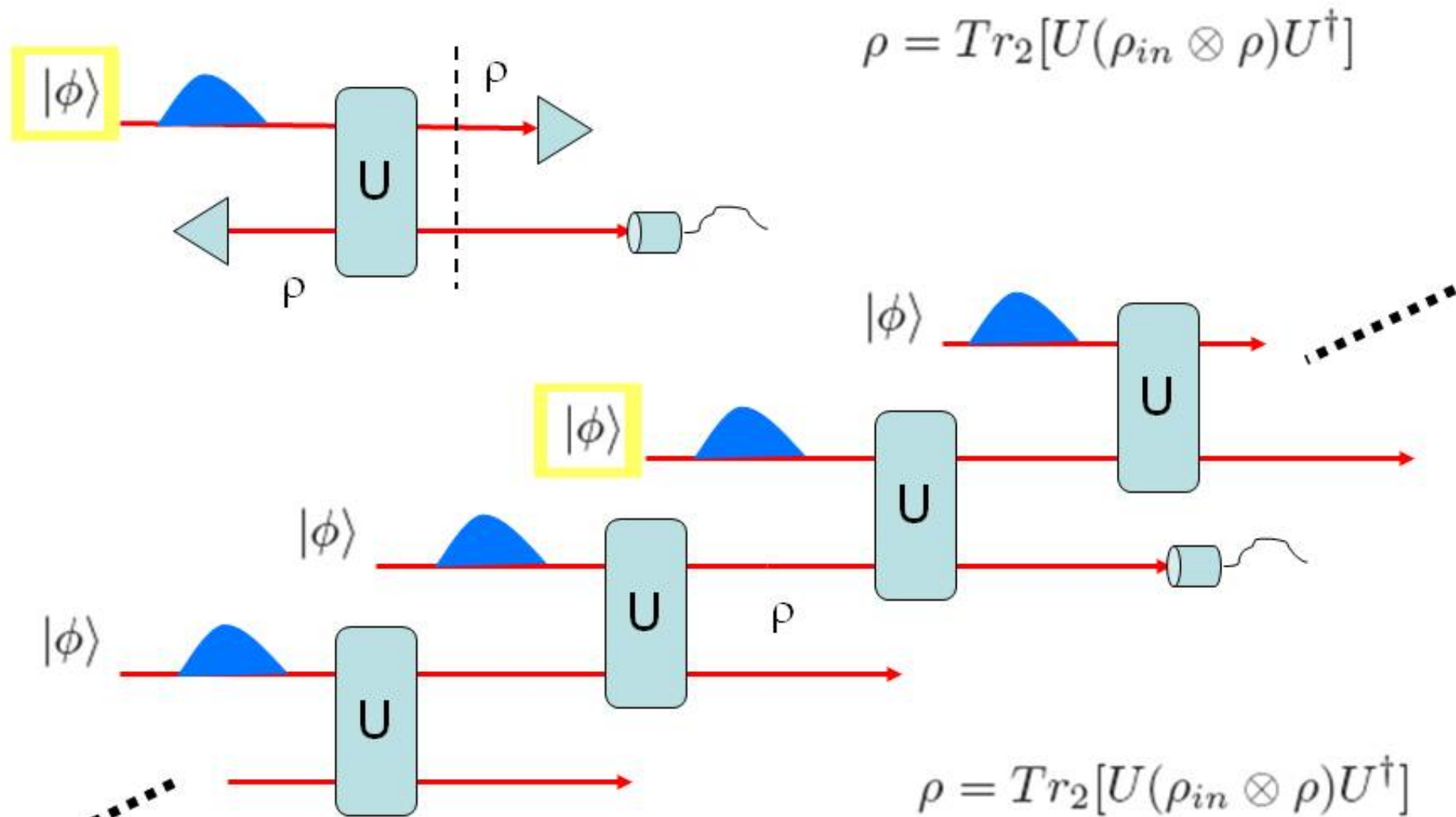
(iv) Extension to field modes



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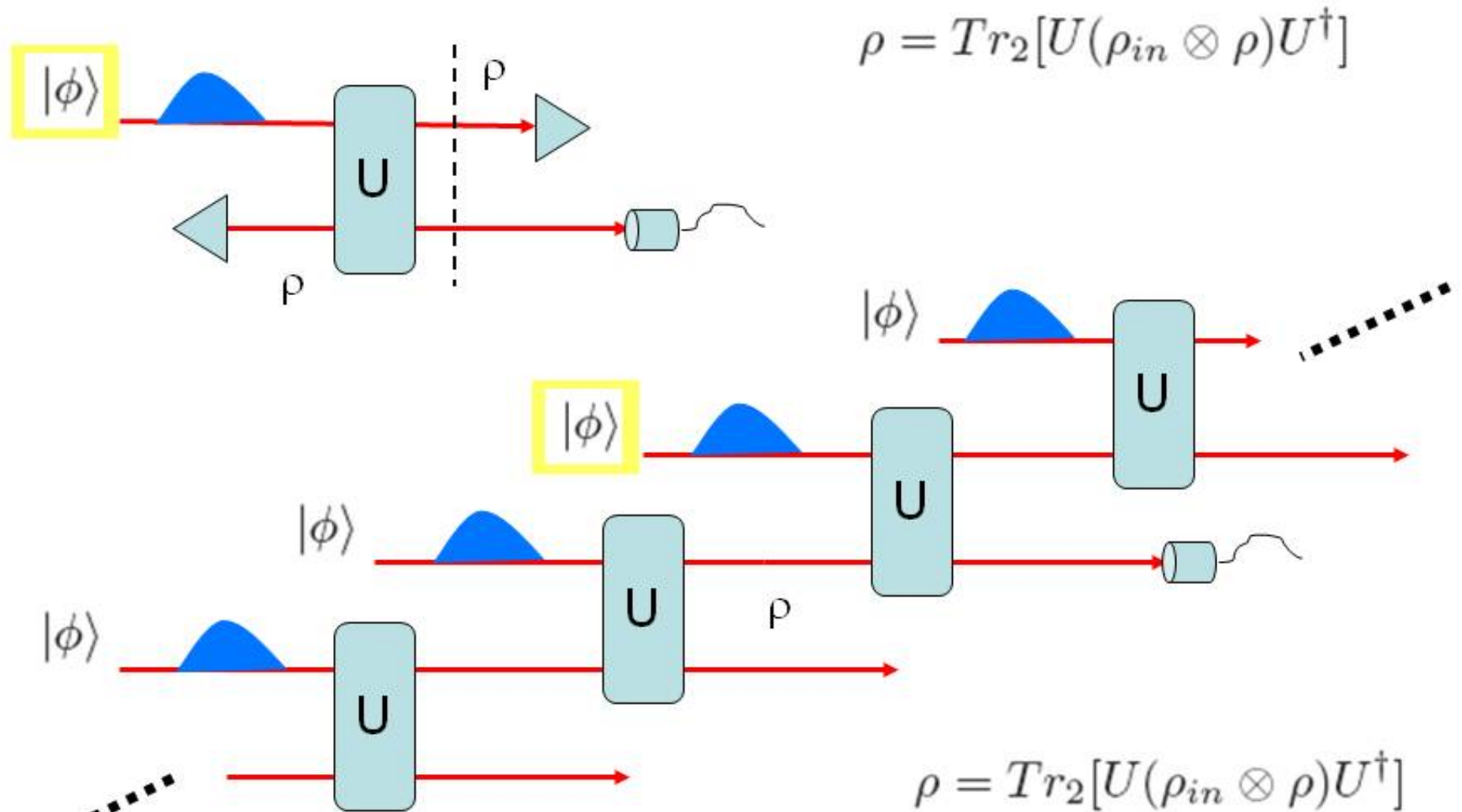


Mode operators

mode operators in quantum optics

$$\hat{a}(t, x) = \int dk G(k) e^{ik(x-t+\phi^+)} \hat{a}_k$$

(iv) Extension to field modes



Mode operators

mode operators in quantum optics

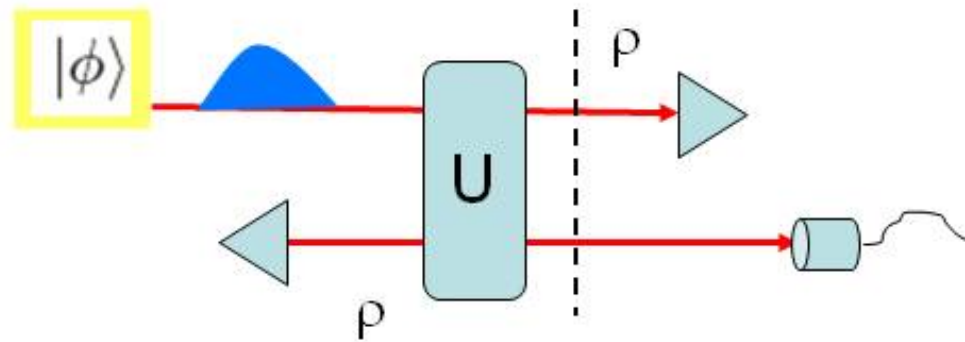
$$\hat{a}(t, x) = \int dk G(k) e^{ik(x-t+\phi^+)} \hat{a}_k$$

event operator

$$\bar{a}_i(x, t) = \int dk G(k) e^{ik(x-t+\phi^+)} \int d\Omega J(\Omega) e^{i\Omega(t_d-\tau(t))} \bar{a}_{i,k,\Omega}$$

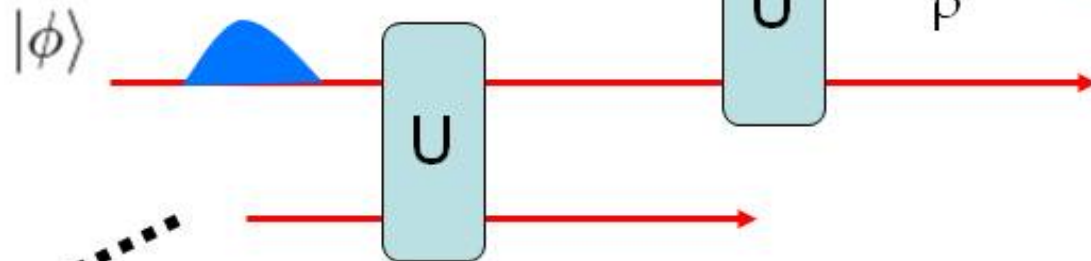
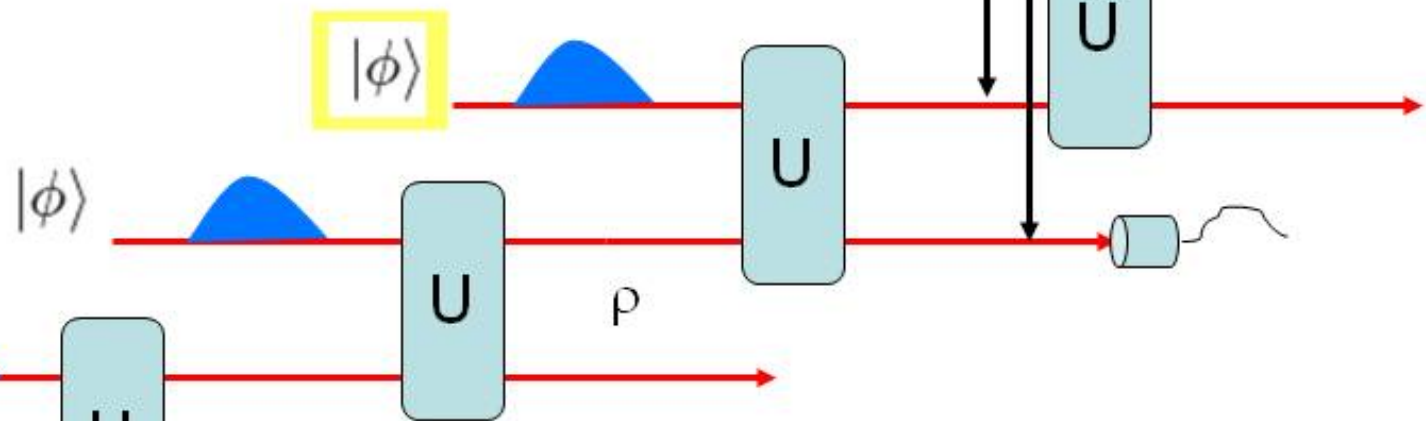
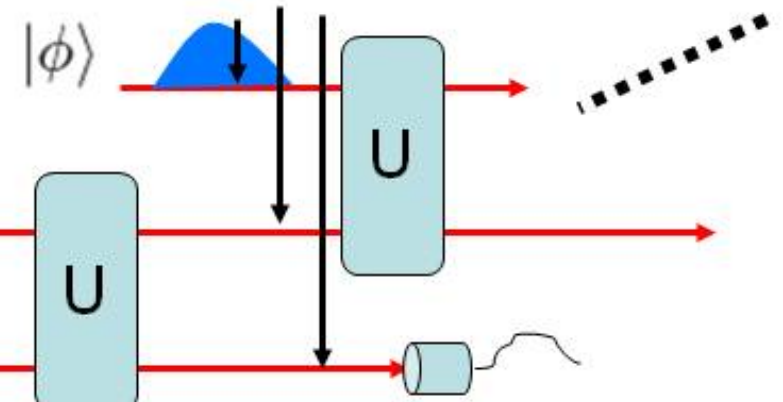
T.C.Ralph, G.J.Milburn and T.Downes, Phys.Rev.A. 79, 022121 (2009).

(iv) Extension to field modes



$$\rho = \text{Tr}_2[U(\rho_{in} \otimes \rho)U^\dagger]$$

different parts
of the same
trajectory

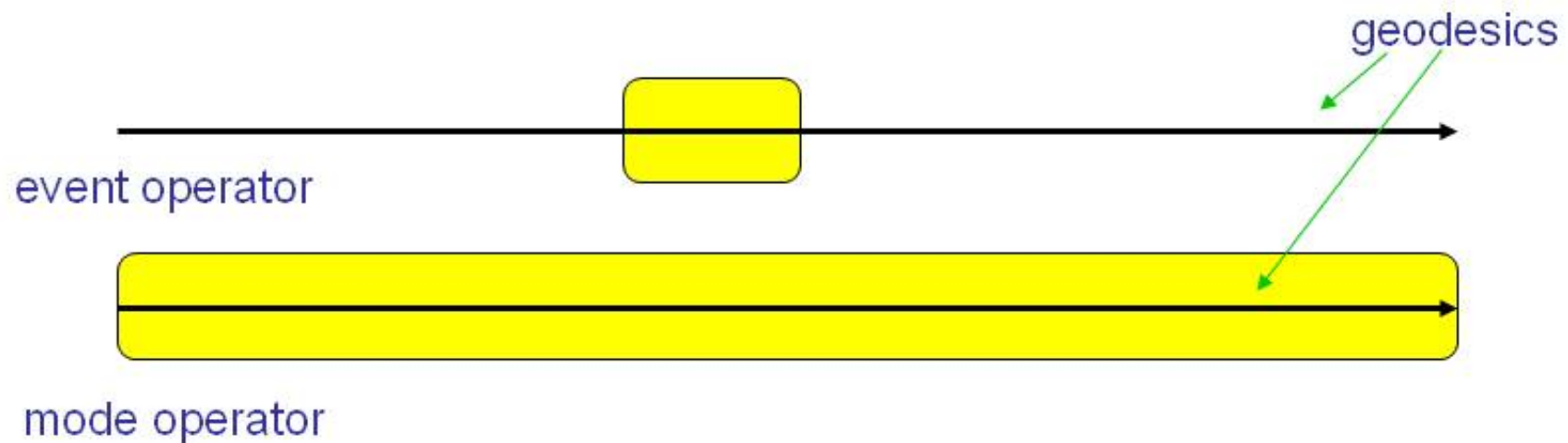


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Event operators

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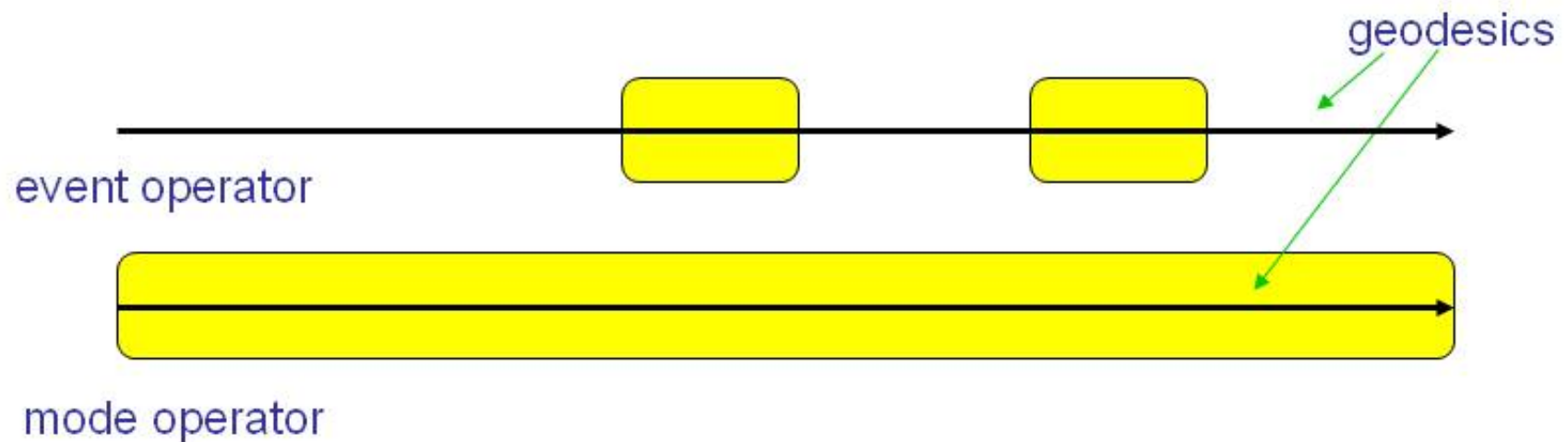


T.C.Ralph, G.J.Milburn and T.Downes, Phys.Rev.A. 79, 022121 (2009).

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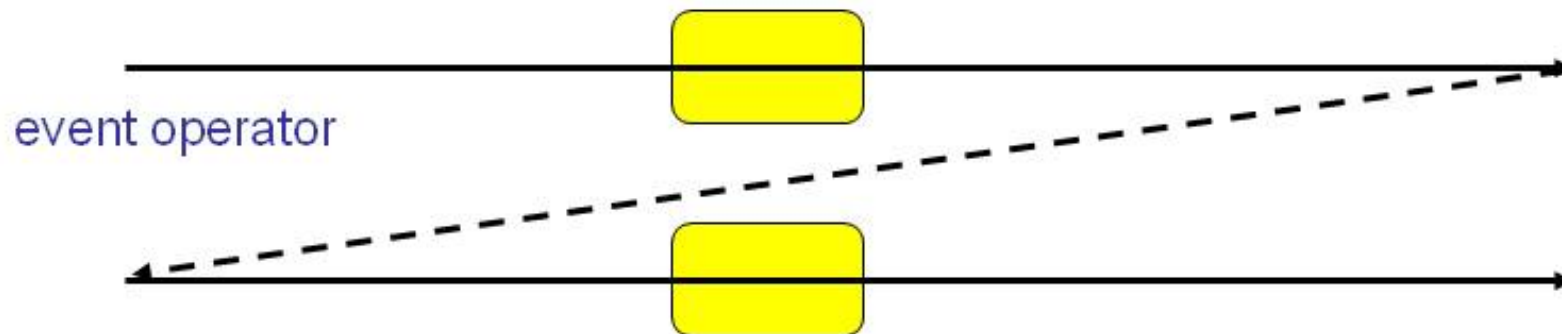


T.C.Ralph, G.J.Milburn and T.Downes, Phys.Rev.A. 79, 022121 (2009).

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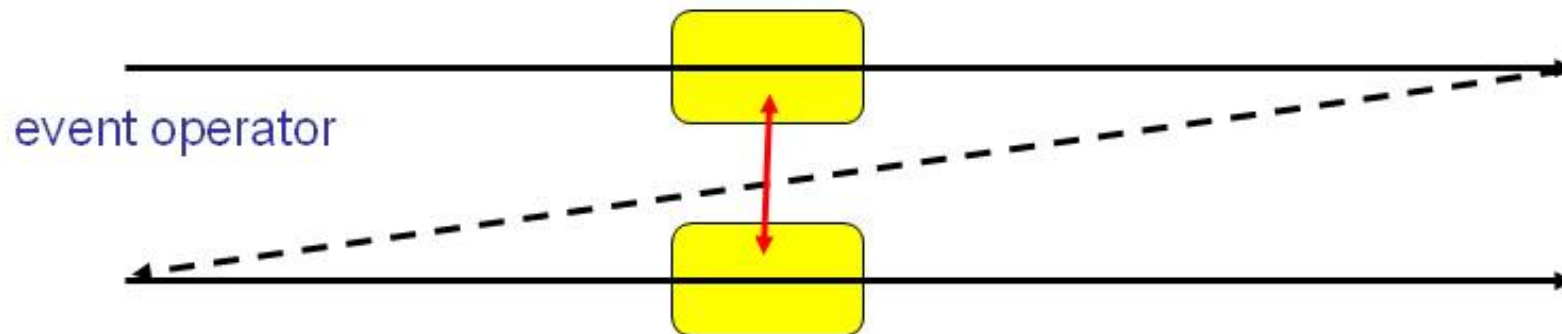


T.C.Ralph, G.J.Milburn and T.Downes, Phys.Rev.A. 79, 022121 (2009).

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T.C.Ralph, G.J.Milburn and T.Downes, Phys.Rev.A. **79**, 022121 (2009).

Summary

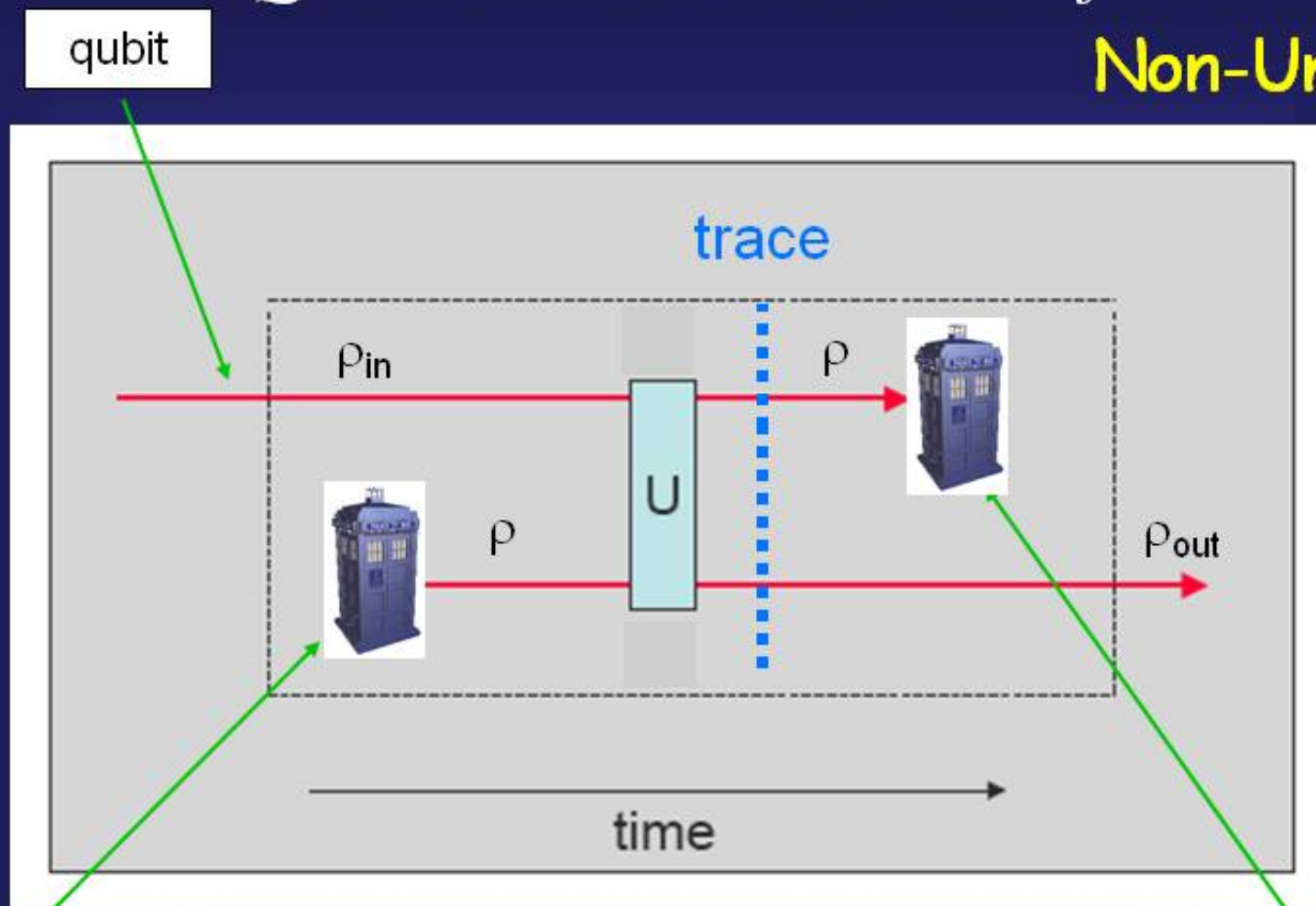
- * Described a method for modeling qubits interacting with geometric CTCs.
- * Showed that the model agrees with the Deutsch model of qubit/CTC interactions - but resolves several problems.
- * Discussed how the model can be extended to more general quantum field states.



thanks

Qubits in the Presence of CTCs

Non-Unitary!



qubit

trace

ρ_{in}

ρ

ρ

U

ρ_{out}

time

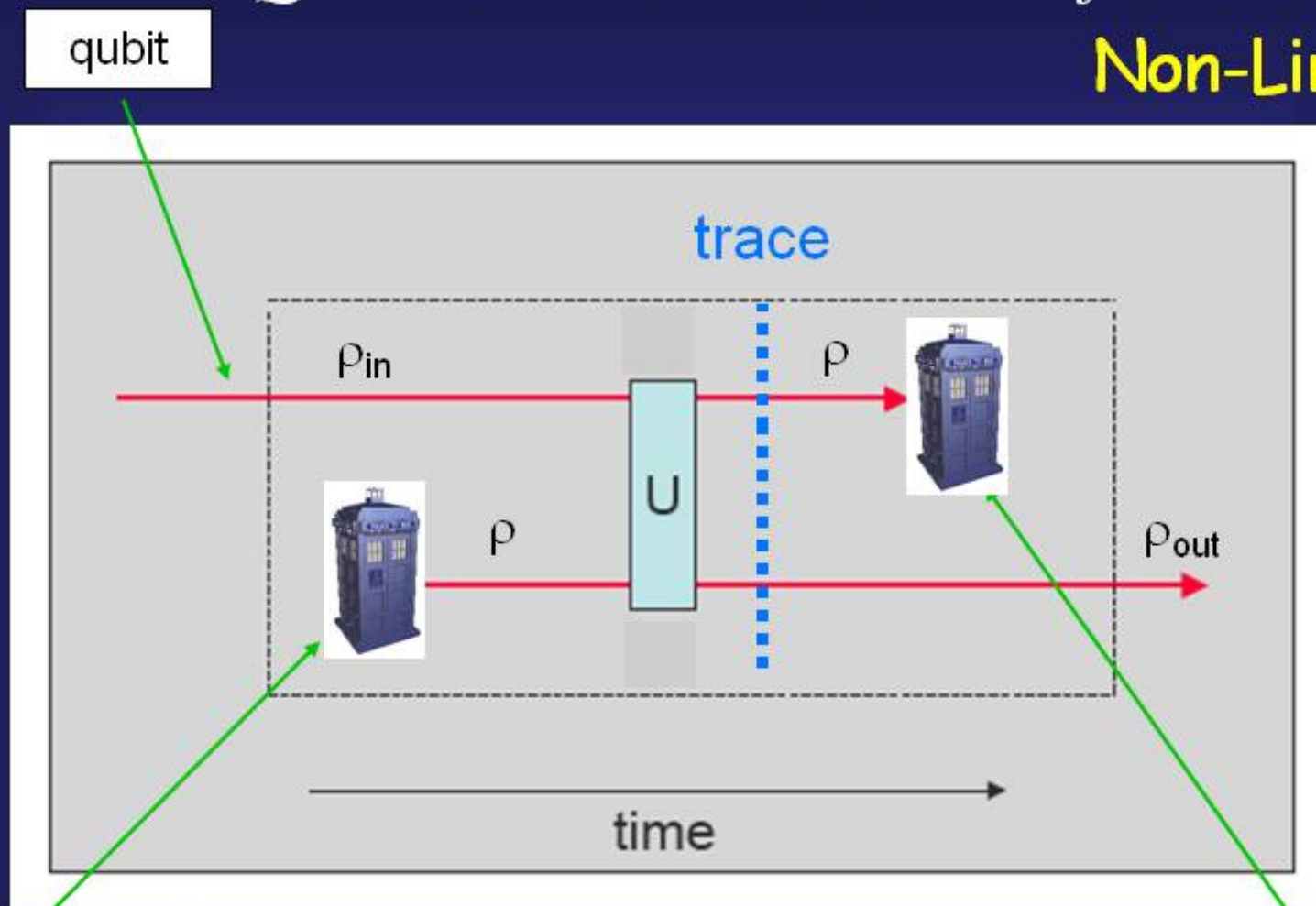
past mouth of wormhole

future mouth of wormhole

D.Deutsch, Phys.Rev.D, 44, 3197 (1991),
D.Bacon, Phys.Rev.A, 70 032309 (2004).

Qubits in the Presence of CTCs

Non-Linear!



qubit

trace

ρ_{in}

ρ

ρ

U

ρ_{out}

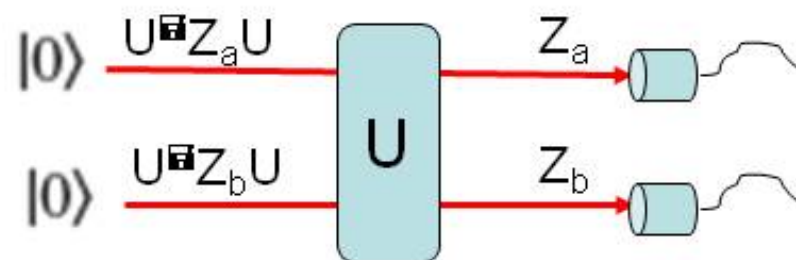
time

past mouth of
wormhole

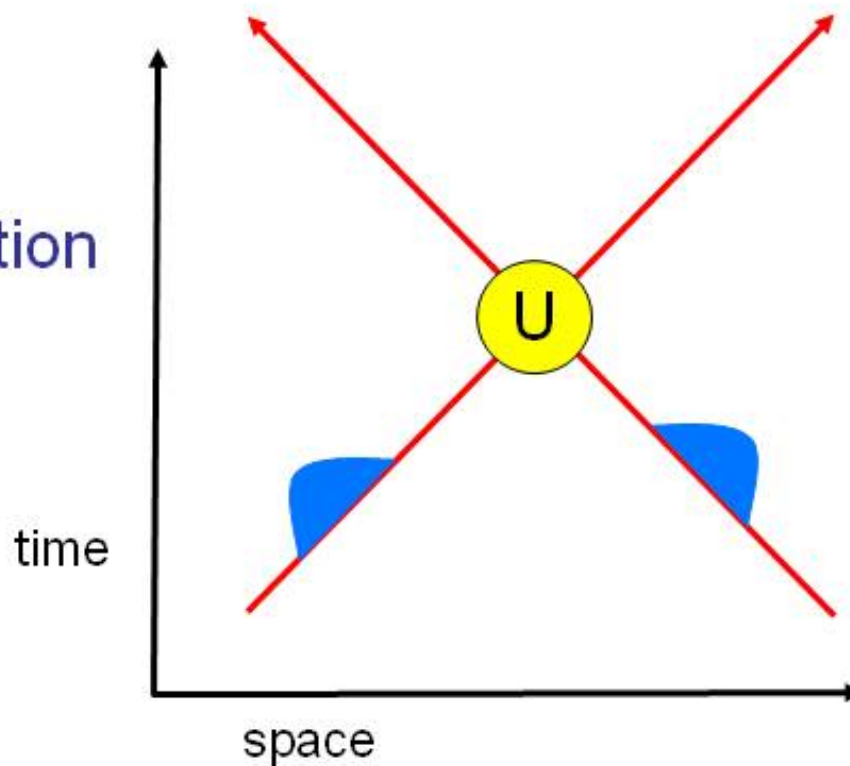
future mouth
of wormhole

D.Deutsch, Phys.Rev.D, 44, 3197 (1991),
D.Bacon, Phys.Rev.A, 70 032309 (2004).

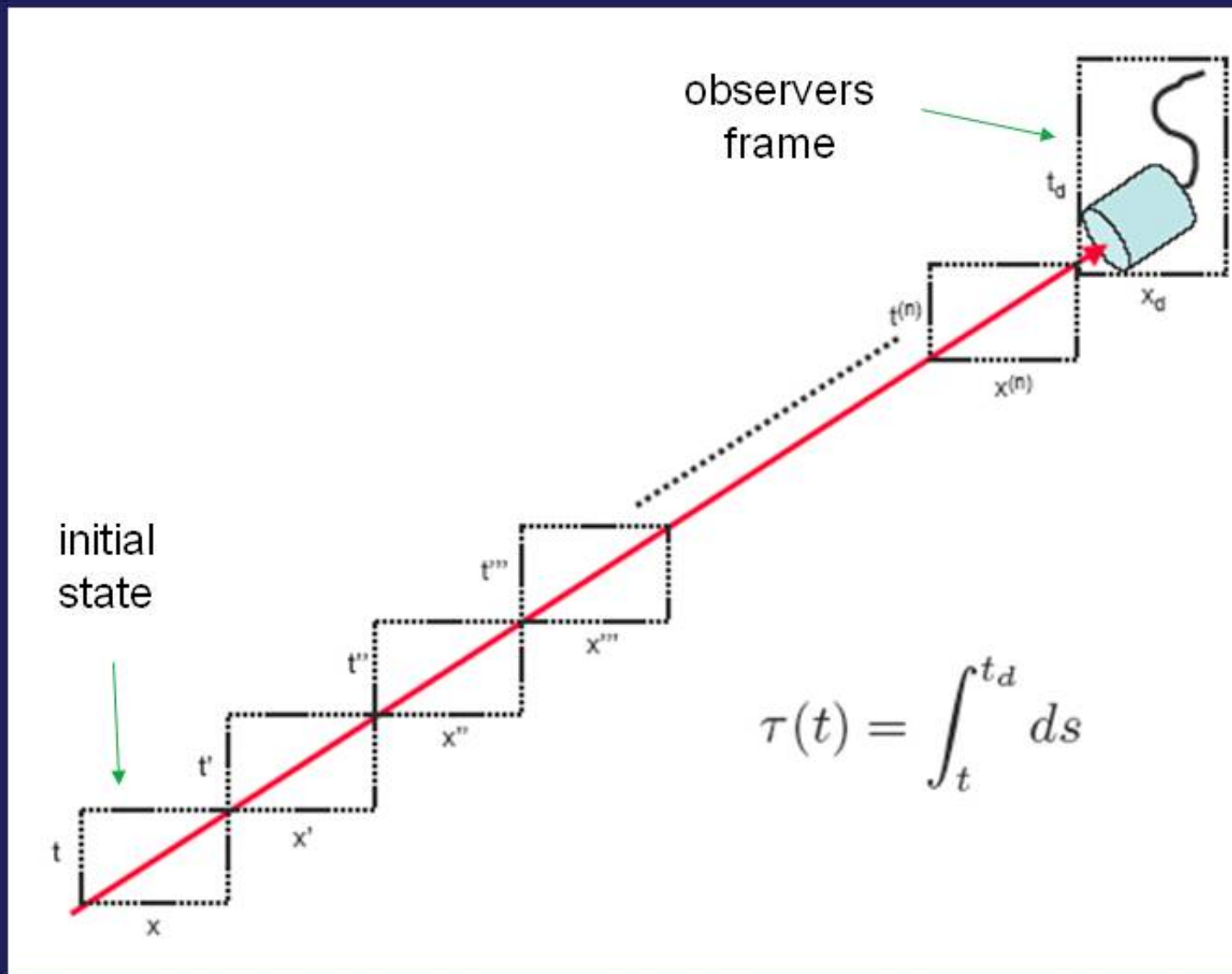
Space-time Qubits



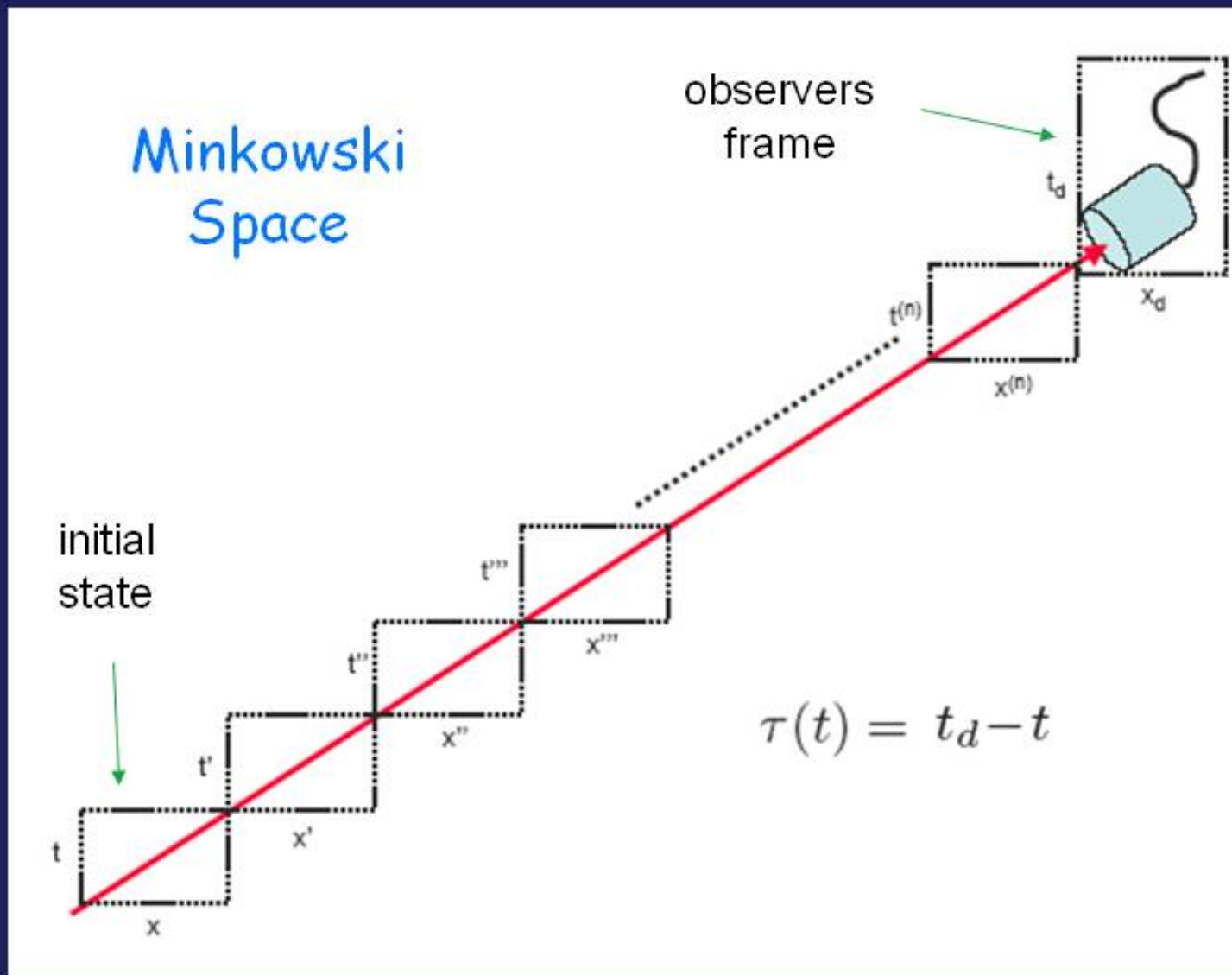
- Heisenberg Picture
- Field ground-state
- Retain Pauli description of qubits



Event operators



Event operators



Decorrelation of entanglement

$$|\Psi\rangle = |0\rangle|0\rangle + |1\rangle|1\rangle$$

entanglement



Decorrelation of entanglement

$$|\Psi\rangle = |0\rangle|0\rangle + |1\rangle|1\rangle$$

entanglement



$$\text{Tr}_2\{|\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|\}$$

no entanglement

$$\text{Tr}_1\{|\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|\}$$

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does not require an interaction

Predicted by all models

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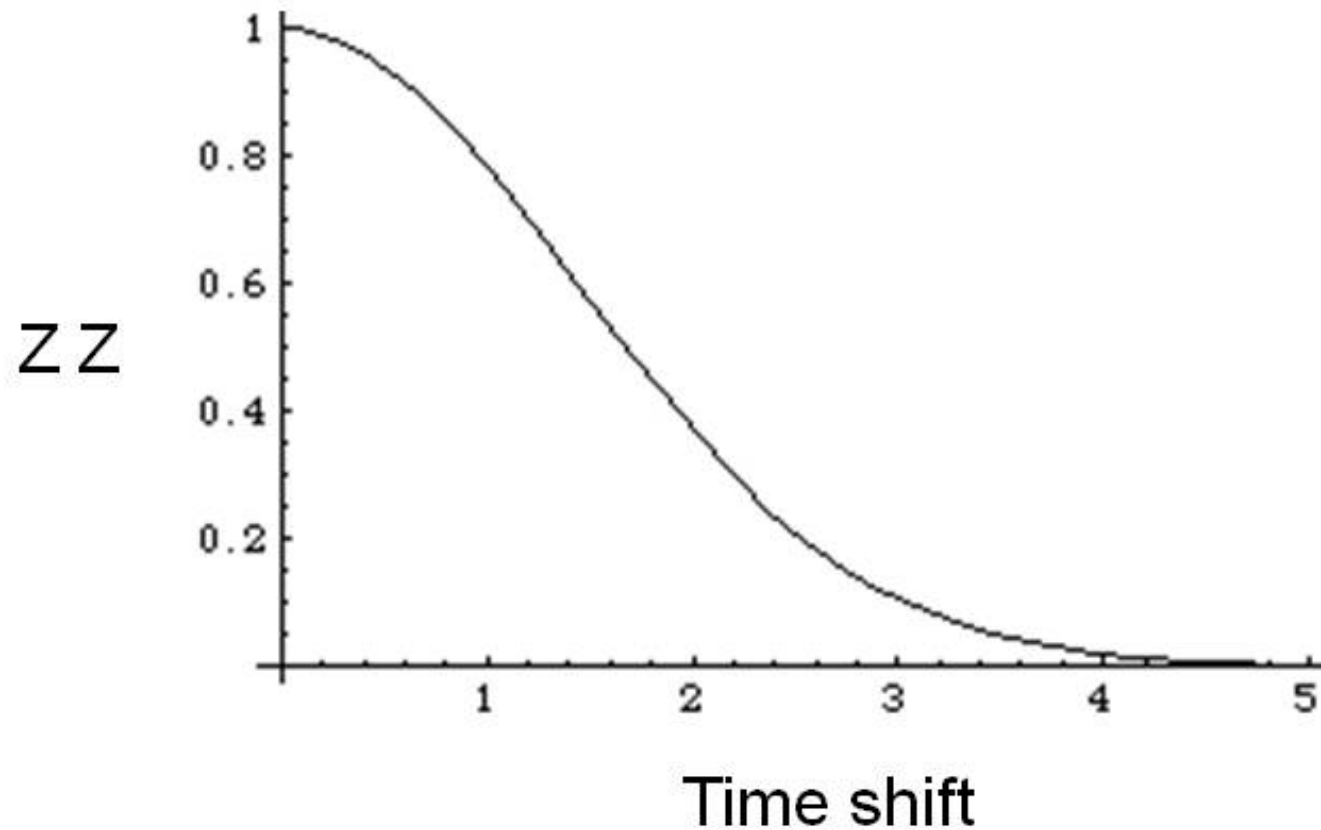
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entanglement

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Predicted by all models

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Decorrelation of entanglement

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entanglement



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no entanglement

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Decorrelation of entanglement

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entanglement



$$\text{Tr}_2\{|\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|\}$$

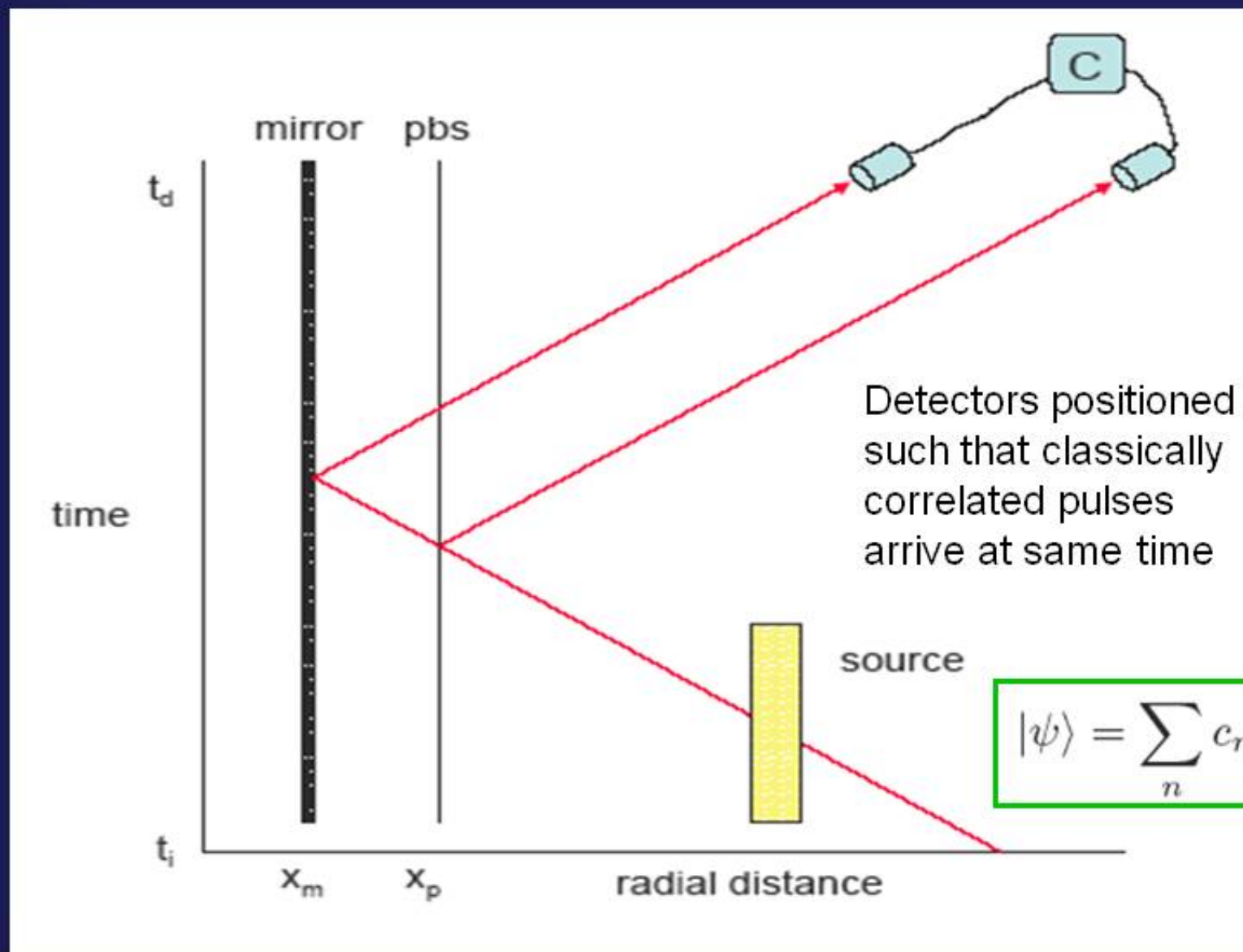
no entanglement



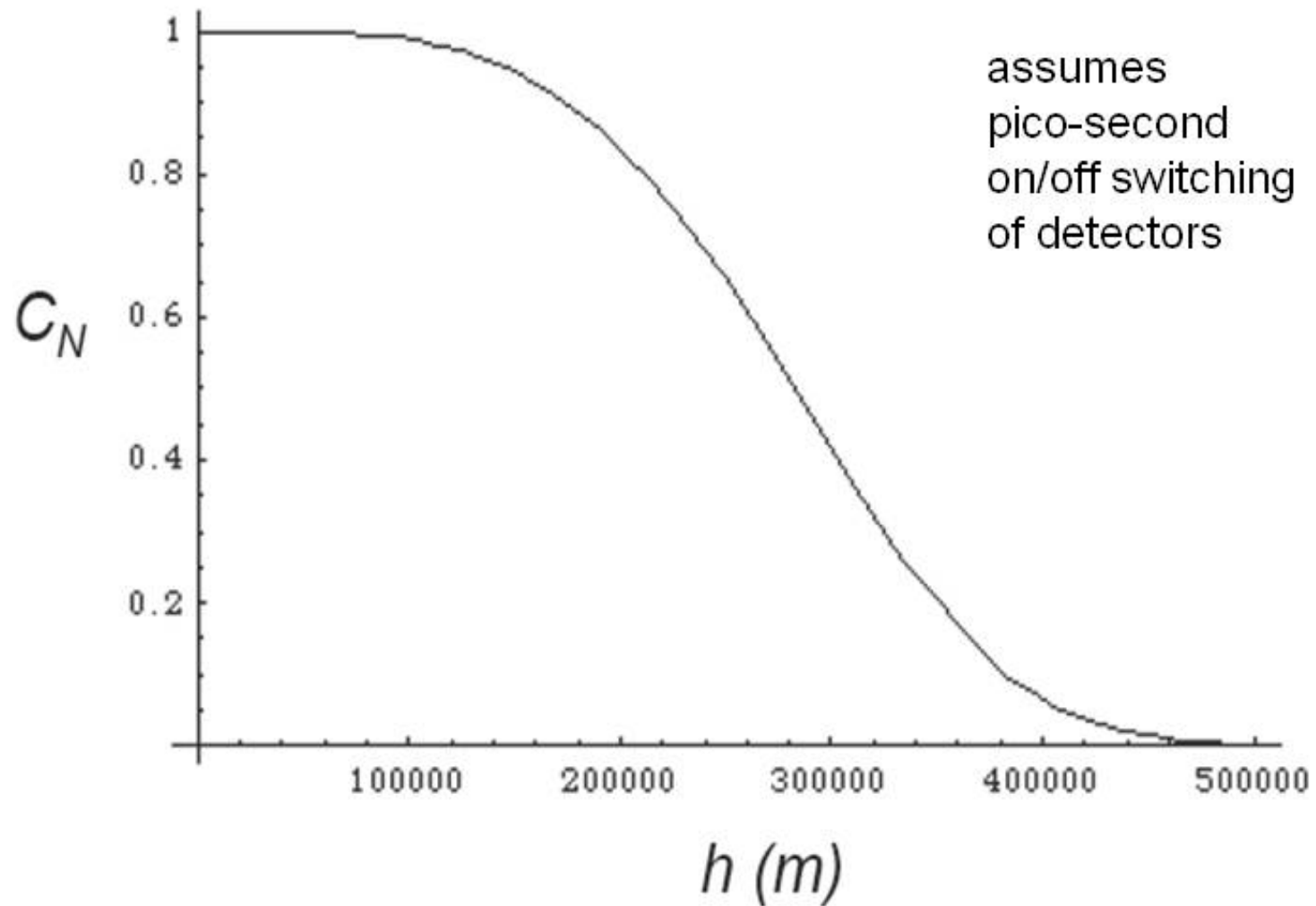
$$\text{Tr}_1\{|\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|\}$$

T.C.Ralph, G.J.Milburn and T.Downes, Phys.Rev.A. 79, 022121 (2009).

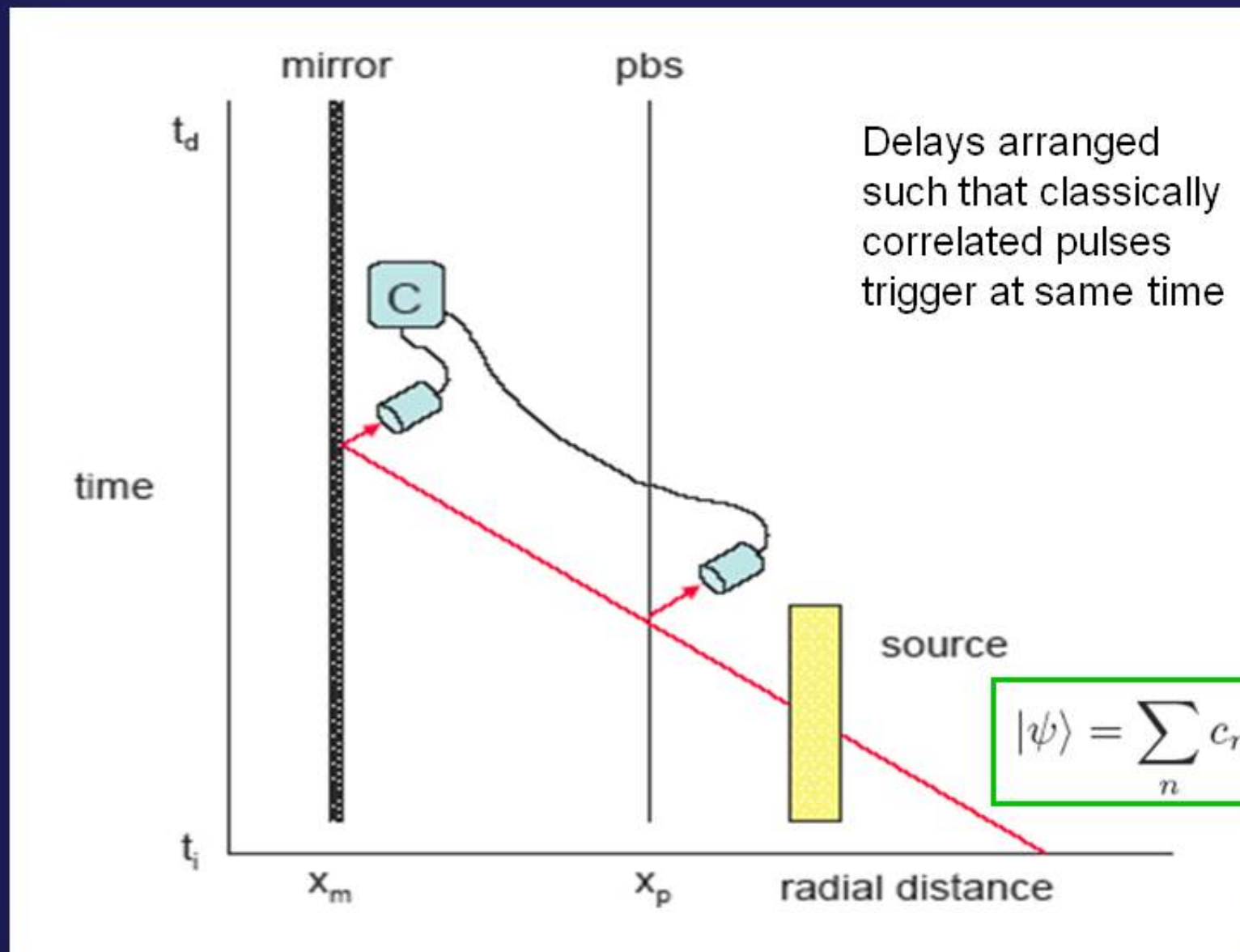
Space time diagram of correlation exp



Coincidence rate vs height of PBS



Space time diagram of correlation exp 2



Space time diagram of correlation exp 2

