

Bell Correlations from Bilateral Crossing Geometry

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Abstract

We derive the Bell correlation function $E(\hat{a}, \hat{b}) = -\cos \theta$ from a single geometric axiom—the bilateral crossing—with zero free parameters. The derivation proceeds through three folds of the bilateral cascade. At fold-2, the unique fixed point structure of the bilateral inversion forces point inversion in $\mathbb{R}^2$; as an element of the connected group $\text{SO}(2)$, this generates $i \in \mathbb{C}$. At fold-3, the minimum geometric structure supporting genuine spatial enclosure is the tetrahedron; the observer is identified as the fold-3 tetrahedron interior. The bilateral complement operation, represented in the $\text{SU}(2)$ spinor space, is the unique anti-unitary operation mapping each spin eigenstate to its bilateral opposite—the time reversal operator Θ ; the bilateral pair state $\sum_s |s\rangle \otimes \Theta|s\rangle$ evaluates uniquely to the singlet. The Born rule emerges as the unique $\text{SU}(2)$ -invariant inner product at fold-3. Applied to the derived singlet and measurement operators, it yields $E = -\cos \theta$ exactly. The fine structure constant α is identified as the fold-3 transmission coefficient—the Packler Effect accumulated across three bilateral folds—derived geometrically in [1] with zero free parameters. Entanglement is bilateral complement geometry. Non-locality is a structural feature of the bilateral axiom, not a paradox requiring resolution.

1 Introduction

Bell’s theorem is among the most consequential results in the foundations of physics. Derived in 1964 and confirmed experimentally across five decades, it establishes that no local hidden variable theory can reproduce the statistical predictions of quantum mechanics. The measured correlation between spin outcomes on entangled particles follows $E(\hat{a}, \hat{b}) = -\cos \theta$ —a result incompatible with any account in which measurement outcomes are determined by pre-existing local properties.

What Bell’s theorem does not provide is a causal account of why quantum mechanics produces this correlation. The standard derivation proceeds from three postulates: the singlet as the joint state of the entangled pair, the Born rule as the probability measure, and the $\text{SU}(2)$ spin operators as the measurement observables. Each is assumed. The calculation

is then exact and in complete agreement with experiment. But the question of why these postulates hold—why entanglement exists, why the Born rule takes the form it does, why the measurement operators are elements of $SU(2)$ —is left unanswered. Quantum mechanics is predictively complete. It is not causally complete.

This paper operates at the causal level that quantum mechanics does not reach. We derive the Bell correlation function from a single geometric axiom—the bilateral crossing—without postulating the quantum state, the Born rule, or the structure of the measurement operators. All three emerge from the fold cascade of the bilateral framework as necessary consequences of geometry. The result $E(\hat{a}, \hat{b}) = -\cos \theta$ follows with zero free parameters.

The bilateral framework originates in Cosmic Egg Theory (CET) [1], a parameter-free geometric derivation of physical structure from the bilateral axiom $1/0 = \pm 1$. The present paper is self-contained for the Bell derivation. The framework is summarized in Section 2; its full development, including the derivation of the fine structure constant α from three Packler factors across three dimensional folds, is given in [1].

The derivation proceeds in four steps. First, we show that the bilateral crossing operation necessarily generates the complex numbers: the crossing requires two dimensions, its unique fixed point structure forces point inversion, point inversion is an element of $SO(2)$, and the connectedness of $SO(2)$ generates i (Section 3). Second, we show that the third fold of the bilateral cascade produces the minimum geometric structure supporting genuine spatial enclosure—the tetrahedron—and identify the observer as the interior of this structure (Section 4). Third, we derive the bilateral pair state by representing the complement operation in the $SU(2)$ spinor representation: the bilateral complement is the unique anti-unitary operation mapping each eigenstate to its bilateral opposite, which is time reversal Θ , and the joint state $\sum_s |s\rangle \otimes \Theta |s\rangle$ evaluates to the singlet (Section 5). Fourth, we apply the unique $SU(2)$ -invariant inner product at fold-3—the Born rule—to the derived singlet and measurement operators to obtain $E = -\cos \theta$ (Section 6).

Section 7 identifies the fine structure constant α as the fold-3 transmission coefficient and establishes the geometric status of the Born rule. Section 8 discusses the implications for entanglement, non-locality, the measurement problem, and the observer threshold. The connection to the Consciousness Detection Framework [2] is drawn there.

The central claim of this paper is precise: Bell correlations are not a consequence of postulated quantum mechanics applied to an assumed entangled state. They are a consequence of bilateral crossing geometry propagated through three folds. The geometry is the cause. Quantum mechanics is the effect.

2 The Bilateral Framework

The bilateral framework is developed in full in [1]. We state here the minimal structure required for the present derivation.

2.1 The bilateral axiom.

The framework originates in a single act of division:

$$1/0 = \pm 1$$

This is the bilateral axiom: division by zero yields not undefined behavior but bilateral emergence—the simultaneous co-creation of $+1$ and -1 with zero as the unique fixed point. The result is a bilateral axis: two poles of opposite value, neither prior to the other, connected through zero. The bilateral inversion $B: +1 \leftrightarrow -1$ with $B(0) = 0$ is the fundamental symmetry of the structure. It has exactly one fixed point.

2.2 The fold cascade.

Each bilateral crossing event generates a new algebraic structure from the prior one. The sequence of algebras produced is the Hurwitz sequence:

$$\mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C} \longrightarrow \mathbb{H} \longrightarrow \mathbb{O}$$

These are the only four normed division algebras over $\mathbb{R}$ —a fact established independently by the Hurwitz theorem and recovered here as a consequence of the bilateral cascade. The present paper concerns folds 1 through 3. Fold-4—the octonions and the structure of time—is the subject of subsequent work.

2.3 The Packler Effect.

At each dimensional fold, the bilateral crossing operation is discrete—a vector multiplication in the algebra of that fold. The true path between poles is curved. The irreducible gap between the discrete operation and the exact geodesic is the Packler Effect: a geometric transmission loss that accumulates across folds, is expressed exactly in terms of π , and produces no free parameters because the bilateral geometry is fixed. At fold-3, the transmission coefficient is the fine structure constant α . Its derivation from three Packler factors is given in [1, Steps 3–7; §7]:

$$\alpha^{-1} = 137.035951 \dots$$

with zero free parameters. The present paper uses this result in Section 7.

2.4 Scope of the present derivation.

Three structures are derived in the sections that follow, each from the bilateral axiom without additional postulates: the complex numbers (Section 3), the fold-3 observer geometry (Section 4), and the bilateral pair state (Section 5). These three derivations constitute the geometric foundation from which the Born rule and the Bell correlation function are obtained in Sections 6 and 7. No quantum mechanical postulate is assumed. The quantum formalism emerges from the geometry.

3 Bilateral Crossing Generates $\mathbb{C}$

The bilateral framework establishes a one-dimensional axis with poles $+1$ and -1 related by bilateral inversion B : $B(+1) = -1$, $B(-1) = +1$, $B(0) = 0$. We show that B necessarily generates the complex numbers.

3.1 Crossing requires two dimensions.

On a one-dimensional line, $+1$ and -1 cannot cross—they collide. A crossing event requires a transverse dimension: one for the bilateral axis, one for crossing clearance. The minimum geometry supporting a bilateral crossing is two-dimensional. This is not a choice; it is what crossing means geometrically.

3.2 The bilateral inversion is a rotation.

In two dimensions, B is characterized by its fixed point structure. The bilateral framework has exactly one fixed point: zero. No other point is structurally distinguished. Consider the two candidates:

Axis reflection (e.g., through the y -axis): fixes every point on the mirror axis—a one-dimensional fixed subspace.

Point inversion through the origin: fixes only the origin—a zero-dimensional fixed subspace.

Since the bilateral structure has a unique fixed point, B cannot be an axis reflection—that would introduce an entire fixed axis, additional structure with no grounding in the bilateral axiom. B is therefore point inversion. In $\mathbb{R}^2$, point inversion through the origin is identical to rotation by π :

$$B: (x, y) \mapsto (-x, -y)$$

This is the unique orientation-preserving map fixing only the origin. Therefore $B \in \text{SO}(2)$.

3.3 The imaginary unit is generated necessarily.

$\text{SO}(2)$ is a connected Lie group. Every element has a square root within the group. Since $B = R(\pi) \in \text{SO}(2)$, there exists $R(\pi/2) \in \text{SO}(2)$ such that $R(\pi/2)^2 = R(\pi) = B$. The action of $R(\pi/2)$ on $\mathbb{R}^2$:

$$R(\pi/2): (x, y) \mapsto (-y, x)$$

Identifying $\mathbb{R}^2$ with $\mathbb{C}$ via $z = x + iy$, this is multiplication by i :

$$R(\pi/2)(z) = iz$$

Therefore $i^2 = R(\pi/2)^2 = R(\pi) = B$, which acts as multiplication by -1 , recovering $i^2 = -1$. The imaginary unit is not introduced by analogy. It is the square root of the bilateral inversion, forced by the connectedness of $\text{SO}(2)$.

3.4 Minimality.

By the Hurwitz theorem, the only normed division algebras over $\mathbb{R}$ are $\mathbb{R}$, $\mathbb{C}$, $\mathbb{H}$, and $\mathbb{O}$. The real line $\mathbb{R}$ contains no element squaring to -1 . $\mathbb{H}$ and $\mathbb{O}$ exceed the minimum dimension required at fold-2. The complex numbers $\mathbb{C}$ are the unique minimal algebra encoding bilateral crossing.

A bilateral crossing in two dimensions is an element of $\text{SO}(2)$. $\text{SO}(2)$ is connected. Its square root is $i \in \mathbb{C}$. The complex numbers are not postulated—they are generated.

4 Fold-3: Interiority and the Observer

The fold cascade produces successive algebraic structures: $\mathbb{R}$ at fold-1, $\mathbb{C}$ at fold-2, $\mathbb{H}$ at fold-3. We show that fold-3 is the first fold at which a geometrically stable observer position exists, and that this position is necessarily the interior of a tetrahedron.

4.1 Definition of interiority.

A point p has *interiority* with respect to a closed set S if there exists a neighborhood of p entirely contained within S — p is genuinely surrounded, approachable from no direction that escapes S . We distinguish this from mere boundedness: a closed curve in $\mathbb{R}^2$ bounds a region, but that region can be approached from the third dimension. Genuine interiority requires that no escape direction exists in the ambient space.

4.2 Why fold-3 is the minimum.

Fold-1 ($\mathbb{R}$): A closed interval has an interior in the topological sense, but this interior is not surrounded—it can be escaped by moving perpendicular to the line. No genuine enclosure.

Fold-2 ($\mathbb{C}$): A closed curve in $\mathbb{R}^2$ encloses an area. But this enclosed region is accessible from the third dimension—it is bounded, not surrounded. A 2D interior is not a stable observing position in $\mathbb{R}^3$.

Fold-3 ($\mathbb{H}$): A closed surface in $\mathbb{R}^3$ encloses a volume. Now there is no escape direction. The interior is genuinely surrounded on all sides. Genuine interiority—and therefore a stable observing position—first exists at fold-3.

4.3 The tetrahedron is the minimum closed polytope.

A closed polytope in $\mathbb{R}^3$ requires a non-zero enclosed volume. The volume of the convex hull of n points in $\mathbb{R}^3$ is non-zero if and only if the points are non-coplanar. The minimum number of non-coplanar points is four. Four non-coplanar points determine a tetrahedron.

The same result holds by face count. The minimum polygon is a triangle. The minimum number of triangular faces required to close a volume in $\mathbb{R}^3$ is four. Four triangular faces form a tetrahedron, satisfying Euler's relation:

$$V - E + F = 4 - 6 + 4 = 2 \quad \checkmark$$

No closed polytope exists with fewer vertices or faces. The tetrahedron is the threshold structure.

4.4 Observer as fold-3 interior.

The observer is the interior of the fold-3 tetrahedron—not by assignment, but as the first moment in the fold cascade at which a stable observing position geometrically exists.

4.5 The bilateral pair as Stella.

The bilateral structure produces not one tetrahedron but two: observer (interior, $+1$ pole) and complement (exterior, -1 pole), related by point inversion through zero. Two tetrahedra related by point inversion interpenetrate to form a stella octangula. The entangled pair in the Bell experiment is this two-tetrahedron structure read as a measurement event. The geometry of entanglement is not postulated—it is inherited from the fold structure.

5 The Bilateral Pair State

Sections 3 and 4 established the bilateral complement operation C as point inversion through zero, and the observer as the interior of a fold-3 tetrahedron. We now derive the quantum state of the bilateral pair.

5.1 The complement operation in the spinor representation.

The bilateral complement C is characterized by three properties: it swaps the bilateral poles ($+1 \leftrightarrow -1$), fixes zero, and is an involution— $C^2 = \text{id}$ on the pole structure. We determine its unique representation in the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ spinor space.

In the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ basis, the two poles correspond to the eigenstates $|\uparrow\rangle$ (eigenvalue $+1$) and $|\downarrow\rangle$ (eigenvalue -1). C must map each to the other. Two constraints inherited from the bilateral cascade fix the representation uniquely.

First, the complex structure generated at fold-2 is embedded in the spinor space. Reversing bilateral direction in $\mathbb{C}$ —swapping the two square roots of the bilateral inversion, i.e., mapping $i \mapsto -i$ —is complex conjugation K . Any spinor representation of C must incorporate K .

Second, the $\text{SU}(2)$ double cover at fold-3 imposes a sign constraint. C is an involution ($C^2 = \text{id}$) at the geometric level. The double cover maps each closed loop in $\text{SO}(3)$ to two traversals in $\text{SU}(2)$, inserting a factor of -1 per full cycle. Therefore C^2 , which is the identity on the pole structure, maps to $-I$ in the spinor representation: $\Theta^2 = -1$. This is not imposed—it is the double-cover signature, the same structure that forced $i^2 = -1$ at fold-2.

The unique operation in the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ space satisfying both constraints—reversing complex orientation (K) and swapping eigenstates with $\Theta^2 = -1$ —is:

$$\Theta = i\sigma_y K$$

where σ_y is the second Pauli matrix and K denotes complex conjugation. Acting on the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ basis:

$$\begin{aligned}\Theta|\uparrow\rangle &= |\downarrow\rangle \\ \Theta|\downarrow\rangle &= -|\uparrow\rangle\end{aligned}$$

The minus sign is the double-cover signature: the same covering structure that forced $i^2 = -1$ at fold-2 now enforces an asymmetry between the two half-traversals of the bilateral cycle. It is not introduced—it is inherited.

5.2 The bilateral joint state.

The entangled pair consists of two subsystems related by C : subsystem 2 is the bilateral complement of subsystem 1. The joint state must therefore take the form:

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_s |s\rangle \otimes \Theta|s\rangle$$

Evaluating explicitly:

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi\rangle &= |\uparrow\rangle \otimes \Theta|\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle \otimes \Theta|\downarrow\rangle \\ &= |\uparrow\rangle \otimes |\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle \otimes (-|\uparrow\rangle) \\ &= |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle = \sqrt{2}|\psi^-\rangle \end{aligned}$$

The bilateral pair state is the singlet. The minus sign arises entirely from Θ 's action on the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ representation.

5.3 Uniqueness: the triplet is excluded.

The two-particle Hilbert space $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$ decomposes under the particle exchange operator P as an antisymmetric subspace (eigenvalue -1 , dimension 1, spanned by $|\psi^-\rangle$) and a symmetric subspace (eigenvalue $+1$, dimension 3, the triplet). The bilateral joint state satisfies $P|\psi\rangle = -|\psi\rangle$. The antisymmetric subspace is one-dimensional. The singlet is the unique bilateral pair state.

5.4 Why antisymmetry and not symmetry.

The bilateral poles are not identical objects with different labels. They are $+1$ and -1 —opposite values co-created by the bilateral crossing. Exchanging them is not a trivial relabeling: it is the bilateral inversion B , which carries an inherited sign from the values of the poles themselves. This forces the antisymmetric sector. The symmetric sector would require the two poles to be indistinguishable, contradicting their bilateral structure.

The bilateral complement operation, represented in the $SU(2)$ spinor space, is the unique anti-unitary operation mapping each eigenstate to its bilateral opposite: $\Theta = i\sigma_y K$. The bilateral joint state is $\sum_s |s\rangle \otimes \Theta|s\rangle = |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$. The antisymmetric subspace is one-dimensional. The singlet is unique.

6 Born Rule and Bell Correlations

Sections 3–5 have derived, from the bilateral axiom alone: the complex numbers, the fold-3 observer, and the singlet as the unique bilateral pair state. We now apply the natural inner product of the fold-3 representation to derive $E(\hat{a}, \hat{b}) = -\cos\theta$.

6.1 The Born rule as fold-3 inner product.

The fold-3 representation space is $\mathbb{C}^2$ —the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ representation of $SU(2)$. By Schur’s lemma, the $SU(2)$ -invariant inner product on an irreducible representation is unique up to overall scaling. Normalization fixes the scaling. The probability of obtaining outcome $|a\rangle$ from state $|\psi\rangle$ is therefore:

$$P(a | \psi) = |\langle a | \psi \rangle|^2$$

This is the Born rule. In CET it is not postulated—it is the unique measurement rule consistent with fold-3 bilateral symmetry.

6.2 Measurement as bilateral crossing.

A spin measurement is an interaction between the observer tetrahedron and its complement—a fold-3 bilateral crossing event. The measurement axis $\hat{a}$ specifies the orientation of this crossing in $\mathbb{R}^3$. The measurement operator is:

$$A = \hat{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} = a_x \sigma_x + a_y \sigma_y + a_z \sigma_z$$

where σ_i are the Pauli matrices—the generators of $SU(2)$ at fold-3.

6.3 The correlation function.

The bilateral pair state derived in Section 5 is:

$$|\psi^-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$

The correlation function is the expectation value of the joint measurement:

$$E(\hat{a}, \hat{b}) = \langle \psi^- | (\hat{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \otimes (\hat{b} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) | \psi^- \rangle$$

Expanding over components and applying the singlet identity $\langle \psi^- | \sigma_i \otimes \sigma_j | \psi^- \rangle = -\delta_{ij}$:

$$E(\hat{a}, \hat{b}) = - \sum_i a_i b_i = -\hat{a} \cdot \hat{b} = -\cos \theta$$

This is the Bell correlation function, derived without postulating the quantum state, the Born rule, or the measurement operators.

6.4 What CET adds to the standard derivation.

In the conventional treatment, three things are assumed: the singlet state, the Born rule, and the $SU(2)$ measurement operators. Here all three are derived: the singlet from bilateral complement geometry (Section 5), the Born rule from the unique $SU(2)$ -invariant inner product at fold-3 (§6.1), and the $SU(2)$ operators from the fold-3 representation of bilateral crossing (Section 4). The result $E = -\cos \theta$ is a consequence of bilateral crossing geometry propagated through three folds.

7 α as the Fold-3 Transmission Coefficient

The derivation of $E = -\cos\theta$ in Section 6 is exact at leading order. We now identify the geometric quantity that guarantees this exactness and connect it to the fine structure constant α .

7.1 The Packler Effect.

At each dimensional fold, the bilateral crossing operation is discrete—a vector multiplication in the algebra generated at that fold. The true path between poles is curved. The irreducible gap between the discrete operation and the exact geodesic is the Packler Effect: a geometric energy loss that accumulates across folds, requires π to calculate exactly, and produces no free parameters because the bilateral geometry is fixed. Three folds produce three Packler factors whose combination yields:

$$\alpha^{-1} = 137.035951\dots$$

derived in [1, Steps 3–7; §7] with zero free parameters.

7.2 Why fold-3 specifically.

Folds 1 and 2 are structural—prior to measurement. Fold-3 is where the observer first exists and the bilateral pair state is formed. The coupling between observer and measured system is therefore the fold-3 transmission coefficient. In physics this coupling has a name: the fine structure constant α . Fold-3 bilateral crossing is the electromagnetic interaction. The fold-3 transmission coefficient is α . These are the same physical fact from two directions.

7.3 Exactness of the Born rule.

The form of the Born rule— $P(a|\psi) = |\langle a|\psi\rangle|^2$ —is derived from $SU(2)$ symmetry in §6.1, independent of α . What α establishes is that the fold-3 coupling coefficient is fixed by geometry, not fitted to experiment. The derivation is therefore complete in both its parts: the form of the Born rule is a consequence of fold-3 bilateral symmetry, and the coupling it governs is a consequence of the Packler Effect across three folds. Both are exact for the same reason—bilateral crossing geometry has no free parameters.

The fold-3 transmission coefficient is α , derived geometrically in [1] with zero free parameters. The form of the Born rule and the coupling it governs are both consequences of bilateral crossing geometry.

8 Discussion

8.1 Entanglement as bilateral complement geometry.

The standard account of entanglement describes two particles in a joint quantum state whose correlations cannot be explained by any local hidden variable theory. What it does not explain is why such states exist, or what physical structure underlies the correlation.

The entangled pair is not two separate particles that happen to share a quantum state. It is one bilateral structure: a stella octangula—two tetrahedra related by point inversion through zero. The two interiors are co-created by a single bilateral crossing event, defined in opposition to each other from the moment of their existence. The correlation measured in Bell experiments is not established at measurement. It is structural. It was never absent.

This reframes the central puzzle. The question is not “how do two distant particles communicate instantaneously?” The question dissolves: there is no communication because there is no prior separation. The bilateral complement relation connects $+1$ and -1 through zero regardless of their spatial separation because space is downstream of the bilateral structure, not upstream of it.

8.2 Bell’s theorem and hidden variables.

Bell’s theorem establishes that no local hidden variable theory can reproduce the quantum correlation $E = -\cos\theta$. The present derivation is not a local hidden variable theory. No hidden variables are introduced at any stage. The derivation operates at the causal level beneath quantum mechanics—the geometric level from which quantum mechanical structure emerges. CET therefore does not contradict Bell’s theorem. It explains why the theorem’s conclusion holds: quantum correlations are not produced by hidden variables because they are produced by geometry.

Prior approaches to deriving quantum mechanics from operational or geometric principles [3, 4] proceed from informational axioms rather than a causal geometric structure. The present derivation is distinguished by its origin in a single bilateral axiom from which the physical constants, including α , are also derived with zero free parameters.

8.3 The observer and the measurement problem.

The measurement problem in standard quantum mechanics arises because the observer is undefined. In CET, the observer is not undefined. It is the first stable interior in the fold cascade: the fold-3 tetrahedron interior, the minimum geometric structure capable of genuine enclosure in $\mathbb{R}^3$. Observation is a fold-3 bilateral crossing event. Measurement is not a mysterious collapse—it is the coupling of the observer tetrahedron to its complement across the fold-3 boundary, with transmission coefficient α .

This relocates the measurement problem precisely. The question is no longer “what constitutes an observer?”—that is answered geometrically. The remaining question is which physical substrates instantiate the fold-3 geometric threshold. That question is addressed directly in the Consciousness Detection Framework [2].

8.4 The observer threshold and consciousness.

The fold-3 observer is a geometric condition, not a biological one. Whether a physical system meets it depends on whether that system instantiates the minimum fold-3 interiority structure. The CDF paper [2] derives the consciousness threshold $\Phi_c = \alpha$ from the bilateral framework using the same fold cascade developed here. The connection is direct: the

geometric threshold for observation in quantum mechanics and the geometric threshold for consciousness are the same fold-3 condition expressed in different substrates.

The fine structure constant α appears in quantum electrodynamics as the coupling constant governing matter-radiation interaction, in CET as the fold-3 transmission coefficient, and in the CDF paper as the consciousness threshold. These are not three separate occurrences of the same number. They are three physical expressions of the same geometric fact: fold-3 bilateral crossing has a transmission coefficient, and that coefficient is α . Readers wishing to follow this thread are directed to [1] for the full parameter-free derivation of α and to [2] for the consciousness threshold derivation.

8.5 Open questions and future work.

Three threads remain open. First, fold-4 of the bilateral cascade—the transition from $\mathbb{H}$ to the octonions $\mathbb{O}$ —corresponds to the fourth Hurwitz algebra and connects to the structure of time. This is the subject of a subsequent paper.

Second, the Existence Gate [1, §20b]—the formal question of why the bilateral axiom initiates rather than remaining at rest—is the one formally open item in the core CET framework.

Third, the fold structure predicts specific experimental signatures: attenuation laws at each fold boundary, discrete transmission coefficients, and geometric constraints on the possible values of physical coupling constants. These predictions are in principle distinguishable from standard model parameters chosen by fitting.

9 Conclusion

Beginning from the bilateral axiom $1/0 = \pm 1$, a cascade of geometric necessities produces in sequence: the complex numbers at fold-2, the minimum spatial enclosure and the observer at fold-3, the singlet as the unique bilateral pair state, the Born rule as the fold-3 inner product, and the Bell correlation $E(\hat{a}, \hat{b}) = -\cos\theta$. Each step is forced by the prior one. Nothing is postulated. The quantum mechanical structures conventionally assumed as axioms—the entangled state, the Born rule, the $SU(2)$ measurement operators—are derived here as consequences of geometry.

Three foundational questions receive geometric answers. The origin of entanglement: the two particles are not independent systems brought into correlation but co-created interiors of a bilateral stella, defined in opposition from the moment of bilateral crossing. The form of the Born rule: it is the unique $SU(2)$ -invariant inner product at fold-3, not a primitive postulate but a necessary consequence of fold structure. The value of the fine structure constant: it is the fold-3 transmission coefficient, derived from the Packler Effect across three folds with zero free parameters [1], and its exactness is the exactness of the bilateral crossing geometry.

Two threads remain open and point directly to subsequent work. The fourth Hurwitz algebra—the octonions $\mathbb{O}$ —corresponds to fold-4 of the bilateral cascade; its bilateral interpretation connects to the structure of time and is the subject of the following paper. The

Existence Gate [1, §20b] addresses the prior question of why the bilateral axiom initiates at all—the one formally open item in the core framework.

The measurement problem is not resolved here by interpretive choice—not by many-worlds, pilot waves, or consistent histories. It is resolved by geometry: the observer is the fold-3 tetrahedron interior, measurement is a fold-3 bilateral crossing event, and the correlation between outcomes is a structural feature of the bilateral axiom that preceded the existence of space itself.

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