

Quantum Random Number Generators

Marcin Pawłowski

Outline

- Current Quantum RNGs
- The need for self-testing
- History of device independent protocols
- Quantum nonlocality
- Self-testing QRNGs

Current Quantum RNGs

Classical

- [Thermal noise](#) from a [resistor](#), amplified to provide a random voltage source.^[12]
- [Avalanche noise](#) generated from an [avalanche diode](#), or [Zener breakdown](#) noise from a reverse-biased [Zener diode](#).
- [Atmospheric noise](#), detected by a radio receiver attached to a PC (though much of it, such as lightning noise, is not properly thermal noise, but most likely a [chaotic](#) phenomenon).

Quantum

- [Shot noise](#), a quantum mechanical noise source in electronic circuits. A simple example is a lamp shining on a photodiode. Due to the [uncertainty principle](#), arriving photons create noise in the circuit. Collecting the noise for use poses some problems, but this is an especially simple random noise source. However, shot noise energy is not always well distributed throughout the bandwidth of interest. Gas diode and thyratron electron tubes in a crosswise magnetic field can generate substantial noise energy (10 volts or more into high impedance loads) but have a very peaked energy distribution and require careful filtering to achieve flatness across a broad spectrum.^[8]
- A [nuclear decay](#) radiation source, detected by a [Geiger counter](#) attached to a PC.
- [Photons](#) travelling through a [semi-transparent mirror](#). The [mutually exclusive events](#) (reflection/transmission) are detected and associated to '0' or '1' bit values respectively.
- [Amplification](#) of the signal produced on the base of a [reverse-biased transistor](#). The emitter is saturated with electrons and occasionally they will [tunnel](#) through the [band gap](#) and exit via the base. This signal is then [amplified](#) through a few more [transistors](#) and the result fed into a [Schmitt trigger](#).
- [Spontaneous parametric down-conversion](#) leading to binary phase state selection in a degenerate [optical parametric oscillator](#).^[9]
- Fluctuations in [vacuum energy](#) measured through [homodyne detection](#).^{[10][11][third-party source needed]}

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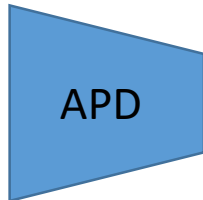
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Current Quantum RNGs

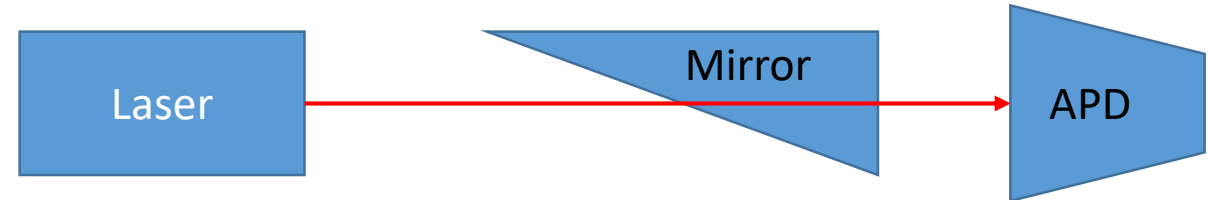
Classical

• Avalanche noise generated from an avalanche diode, or Zener breakdown noise from a reverse-biased Zener diode.



Quantum

• Photons travelling through a semi-transparent mirror. The mutually exclusive events (reflection/transmission) are detected and associated to '0' or '1' bit values respectively.



The need for self-testing



Dishonest vendor



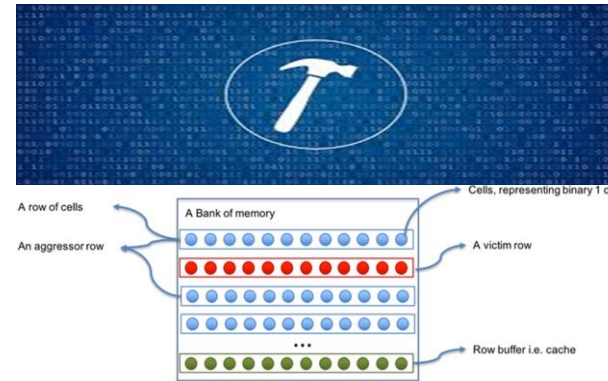
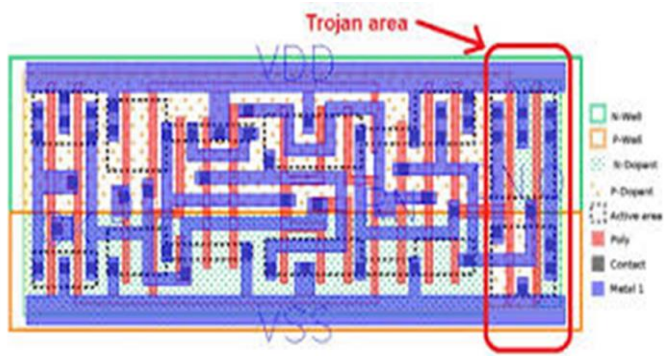
Dishonest designer and/or certifier



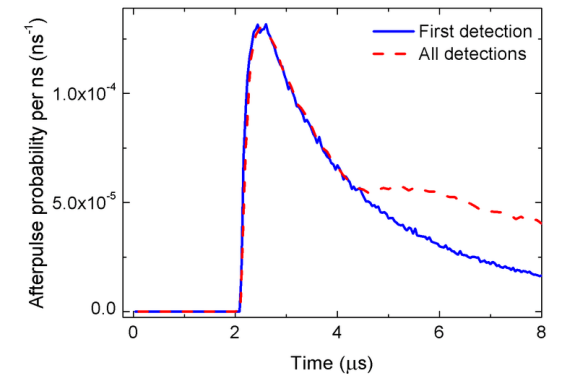
Dishonest manufacturer



Dishonest subcontractor



Smart hacker



DOI: 10.1080/09500340.2012.690050

Smart scientist

History of device independent protocols

Antonio Acin, Nicolas Brunner, Nicolas Gisin, Serge Massar, Stefano Pironio, Valerio Scarani,
„Device-independent security of quantum cryptography against collective attacks”,
Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 230501 (2007):

„This intuition has been around for some time [2, 11, 12].”

[2] A.K. Ekert, Phys. Rev. Lett. 67, 661 (1991).

[11] C. H. Bennett, G. Brassard, N. D. Mermin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 68, 557 (1992).

[12] D. Mayers, A. Yao, Quant. Inf. Comput 4, 273 (2004).



„Self-testing”

History of device independent protocols

1715 A.D.:



"George, by the Grace of God,
King of Great Britain, **France**
and Ireland, Defender of the
Faith, etc."



"Louis XIV, by the Grace of
God, King of **France** and of
Navarre"

History of device independent protocols

1715 A.D.:



Tower of London

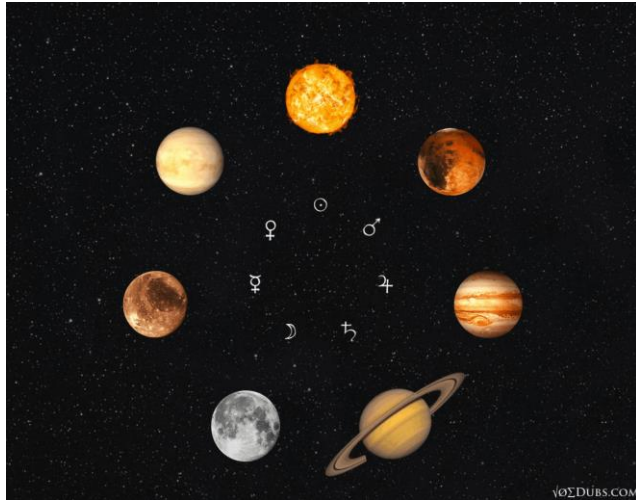


Sir Issac Newton

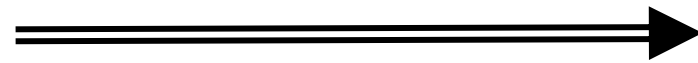


History of device independent protocols

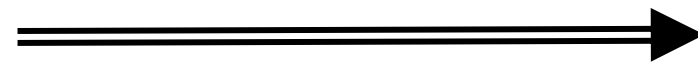
1715 A.D.:



Security proof



Gold is the densest



Estimate of coin density



Lower bound on gold content

History of device independent protocols

Intangible quality

Proof

Measurable parameter

1715 A.D.:

Value of a coin

Alchemy

Density

2020 A.D.:

Entropy of a string of numbers

Quantum Physics

Nonlocality,
noncompatibility, etc.

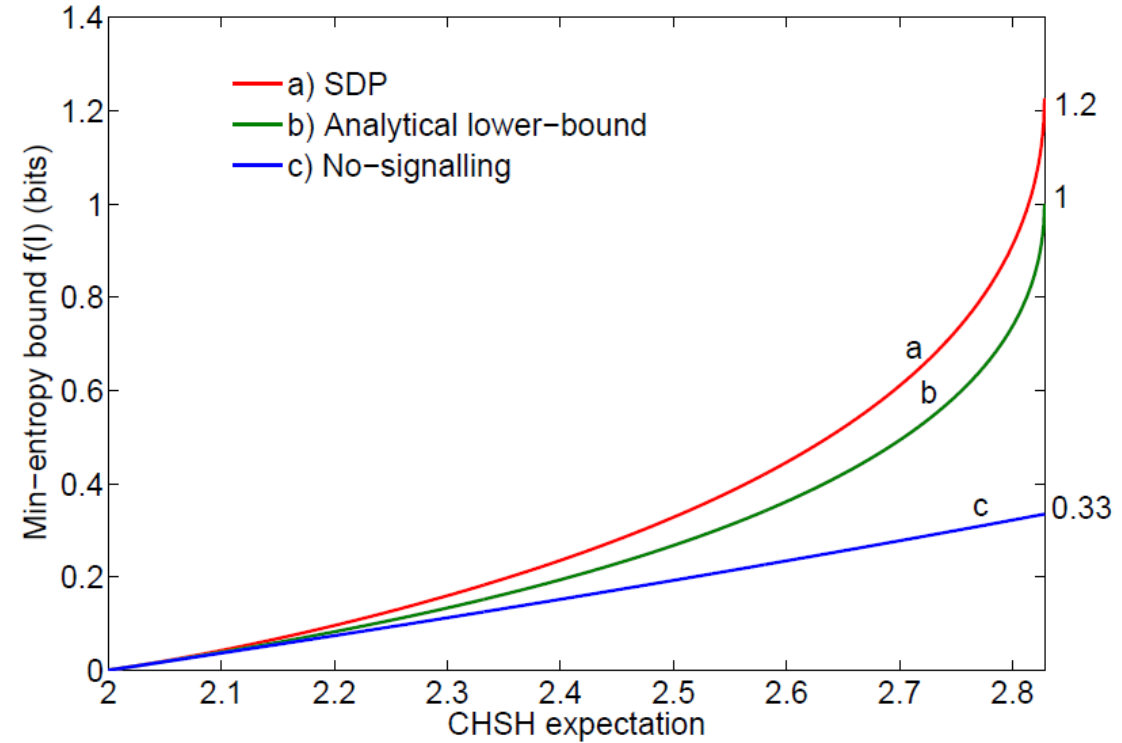
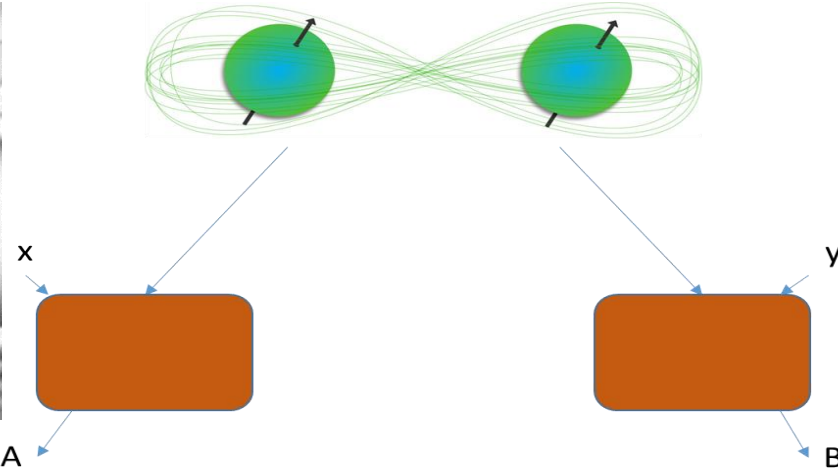
Assumptions:

1. Adversary has better technology and unlimited funds
2. Adversary is limited only by the laws of Nature

Quantum nonlocality



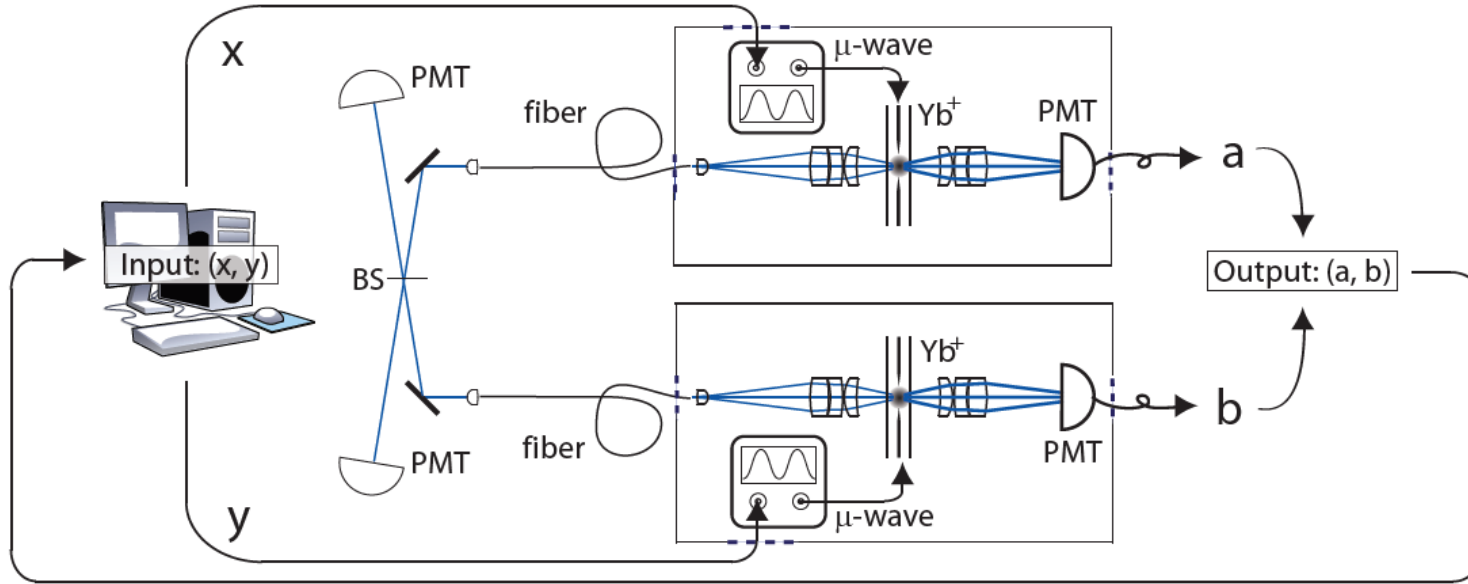
J.S. Bell



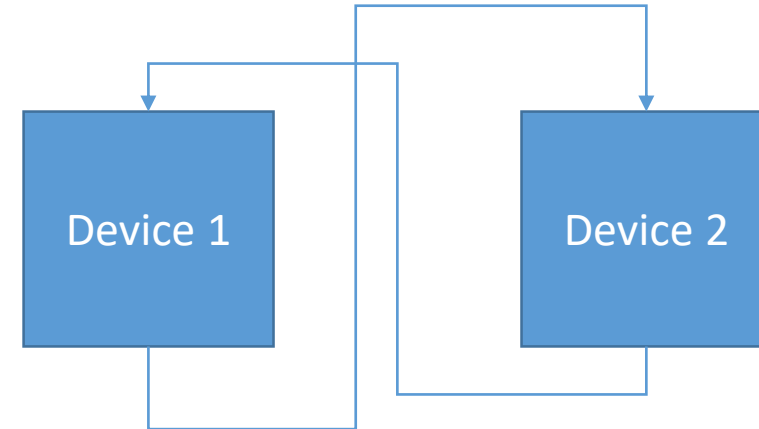
S. Pironio, et. al., Nature 464, 1021 (2010)

$$\beta = P(A=B | x=0, y=0) + P(A=B | x=1, y=0) + P(A=B | x=0, y=1) - P(A=B | x=1, y=1) \leq 2$$

Quantum nonlocality

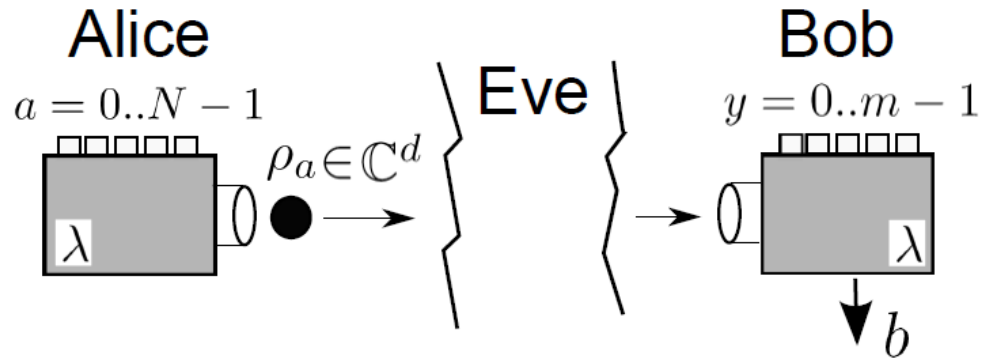


S. Pironio, et. al., Nature 464, 1021 (2010)

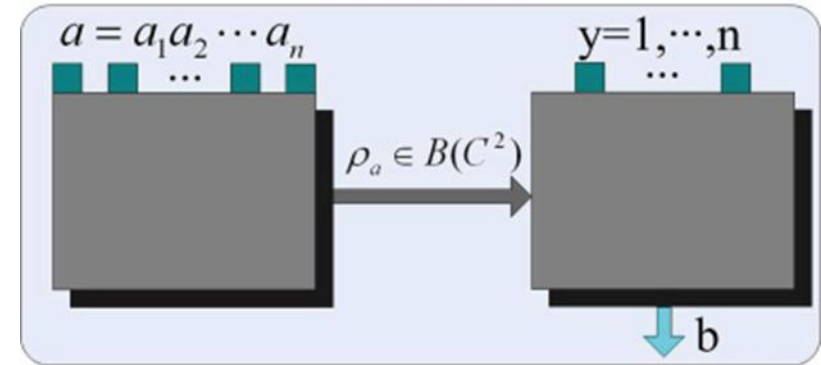


C.A. Miller, Y. Shi, Journal of the ACM, Vol. 63, Issue 4, Article No. 33 (2016)

Self-testing QRNGs: Semi-device independent



M. Pawłowski, N. Brunner, "Semi-device-independent security of one-way quantum key distribution", Phys. Rev. A 84, 010302(R) (2011).

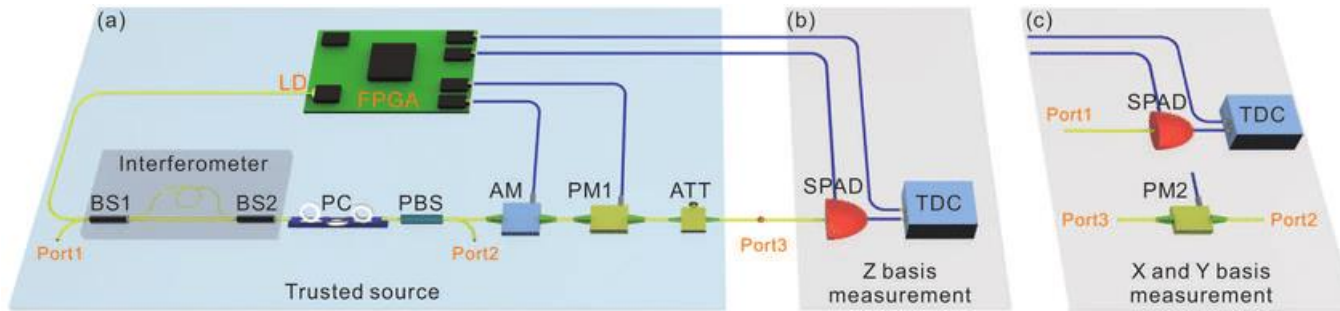


H-W Li, Z-Q Yin, Y-C Wu, X-B Zou, S. Wang, W. Chen, G-C Guo, Z-F Han, Phys. Rev. A. 84 ,034301 (2011).

H-W. Li, M. Pawłowski, Z-Q. Yin, G-C. Guo, Z-F. Han, Phys. Rev. A 85, 052308 (2012).

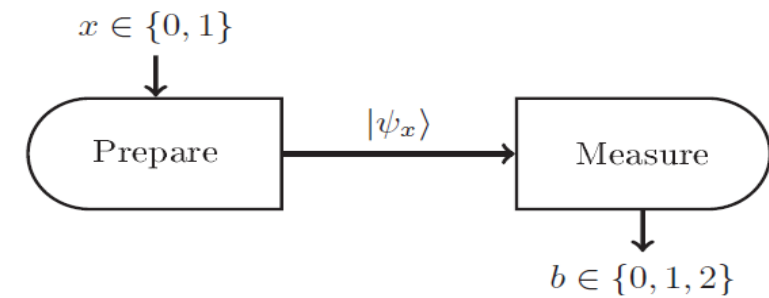
Self-testing QRNGs: Semi-device independent

Measurement device independent QRNG



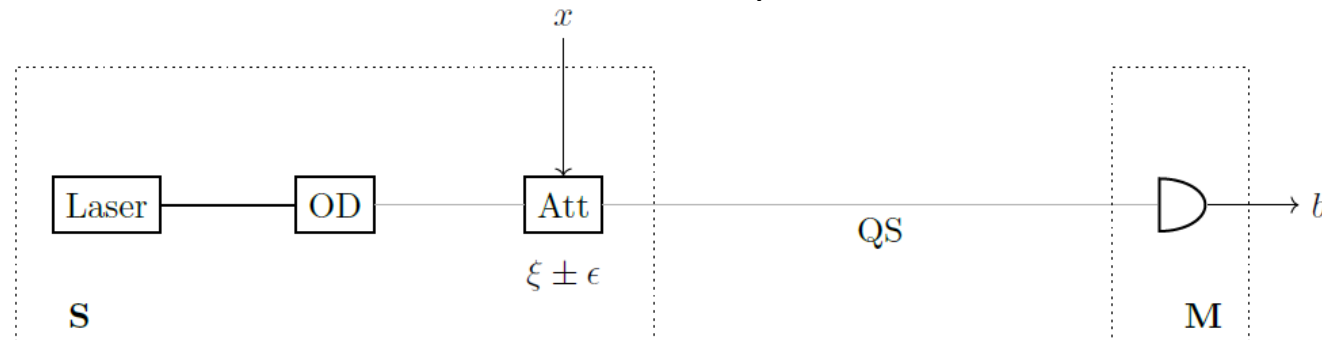
Y.-Q. Nie, et. al., Experimental measurement-device-independent quantum random number generation, *Physical Review A*, 94 (2016).

Minimal state overlap assumption



W. Shi, Y. Cai, J. Bohr Brask, H. Zbinden, N. Brunner, *Phys. Rev. A* 100, 042108 (2019).

Mean value assumption



T. Van Himbeek, et. al., *Quantum* 1, 33 (2017).

Self-testing QRNGs: Semi-device independent

