

assuming that the number of foton pairs was large enough that statistical error was negligible.

Experiment IV

This time both Alice and Bob each rotate their polarizers by the angle Θ . If they each rotated in the same direction, it would be the same as no rotation at all; their polarizers would still be aligned. So they each rotate their polarizers by Θ in opposite directions.

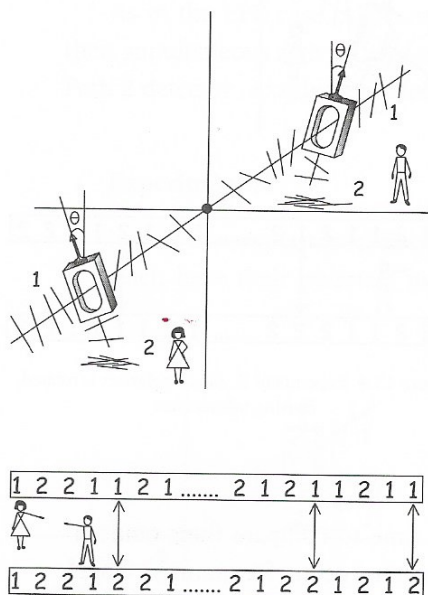


Figure 13.5 Experiment IV: Both Alice's and Bob's polarizers are rotated, and mismatches are due to both rotations

Alice, rotating her polarizer by Θ , changes the behavior of her foton pairs by the same amount as in Experiment II. She changes what would have happened to 5% of her foton pairs. The situation is symmetrical. Bob's polarizer rotation by Θ changes the behavior of 5% of his foton pairs from what would have happened.

Since Alice and Bob each changed the behavior of 5% of their foton pairs, and since every change could show up as a mismatch when their data streams are compared, we might expect a mismatch rate as high as 10%. There is no way to get a greater mismatch rate in a statistically large sample.

We might, however, get a smaller mismatch rate. Here's how: It's likely that for some pairs of twin-state foton pairs, both Alice and Bob each

caused their twin to change its behavior. The two foton pairs of such twin-state pairs would thus behave identically. The data for such twin-state pairs would not be recorded as mismatches.

As an example of such a double change of behavior, consider almost vertical twin-state foton pairs that would have both gone on Path 1 at Alice's and Bob's polarizers had their polarizer axes both remained vertical. If