
The Geometric Inevitability of Complementarity: The Double Slit Experiment as a Topological Proof of the 4-D Counterspace

[Henry Arellano-Peña](#)*

Posted Date: 9 December 2025

doi: 10.20944/preprints202512.0668.v1

Keywords: double slit experiment; quantum complementarity; wave-particle duality; 4-D counterspace; TCGS-SEQUENTION; projection geometry; shadow manifolds; singularities; extrinsic curvature; Einstein-Bohr recoiling-slit experiment; coherent and incoherent scattering; visibility-distinguishability trade-off; quantum foundations; timeless ontology; time as foliation gauge



Preprints.org is a free multidisciplinary platform providing preprint service that is dedicated to making early versions of research outputs permanently available and citable. Preprints posted at Preprints.org appear in Web of Science, Crossref, Google Scholar, Scilit, Europe PMC.

Copyright: This open access article is published under a [Creative Commons CC BY 4.0 license](#), which permit the free download, distribution, and reuse, provided that the author and preprint are cited in any reuse.

Disclaimer/Publisher's Note: The statements, opinions, and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions, or products referred to in the content.

Article

The Geometric Inevitability of Complementarity: The Double Slit Experiment as a Topological Proof of the 4-D Counterspace

Henry Arellano-Peña

Nuevo Estándar Biotropical-NEBIOT S.A.S., Colombia; harellano@unal.edu.co

Abstract

The double slit experiment is usually presented as a paradoxical manifestation of “wave–particle duality”: a single physical system appears to display mutually exclusive properties, depending on the measurement context. In this article I argue that, once one adopts the TCGS–SEQUENTION ontology — a static four-dimensional (4-D) counterspace \mathcal{C} whose three-dimensional (3-D) shadows Σ are generated by an immersion X — the double slit is not a paradox but a geometric theorem. Complementarity becomes a necessary consequence of projection geometry rather than a mysterious axiom of quantum theory. Within this framework, “wave” and “particle” descriptions are incompatible 3-D silhouettes of a single 4-D structure anchored on a singular set $S \subset \mathcal{C}$; they cannot coexist on any one shadow, but they coexist without tension in the counterspace. Building on the TCGS axioms for gravity and biology, and on the analysis of time as a foliation gauge rather than a dimension, I formulate a Cartographic Exclusion Principle: whenever a physical system admits two fully consistent but mutually exclusive descriptions in the same 3-D manifold, the data signal an embedding into a higher-dimensional content space. I then apply this principle to quantum interference. Using two recent experiments as empirical anchors — a tunable Einstein–Bohr recoiling-slit realization at the quantum limit, and measurements of coherent vs. incoherent light scattering by single-atom wavepackets — I show that the observed visibility–which-path trade-offs are best interpreted as changes in the rigidity of the projection X , not as a system that “sometimes is a wave and sometimes is a particle”. The analysis closes a logical loop in the TCGS–SEQUENTION program. Earlier work demonstrated that dark matter and Darwinian chance can both be reinterpreted as projection artifacts of a single 4-D counterspace. Here I argue that quantum complementarity belongs to the same family: it is the quantum-scale expression of the same geometric constraint that shapes cosmological cartography and biological evolution. Under mild assumptions, the double slit experiment thus functions as a topological proof that our 3-D world is a shadow of a 4-D counterspace, and that time is a foliation parameter rather than a fundamental dimension.

Keywords: double slit experiment; quantum complementarity; wave–particle duality; 4-D counterspace; TCGS–SEQUENTION; projection geometry; shadow manifolds; singularities; extrinsic curvature; Einstein–Bohr recoiling-slit experiment; coherent and incoherent scattering; visibility–distinguishability trade-off; quantum foundations; timeless ontology; time as foliation gauge

1. Introduction: From Duality to Embedding

The canonical narrative of the double slit experiment is familiar. When both slits are open and no which-path information is accessible, a localized quantum system such as an electron or photon produces an interference pattern on a distant screen. When a which-path detector is introduced so that the recorded data identify through which slit the system passed, the interference pattern is suppressed. If one attempts to restore interference by erasing or delocalizing the which-path information, fringes reappear. This behaviour is often summarized by the slogan that a quantum object “behaves as a wave” or “behaves as a particle” depending on how it is observed.[4]

Bohr's principle of complementarity elevated this phenomenology into a philosophical statement: some properties are mutually exclusive yet jointly exhaustive, and no single experimental arrangement can reveal all aspects of a quantum system simultaneously. Quantitative formulations, such as the relation between fringe visibility V and which-path distinguishability D ,

$$D^2 + V^2 \leq 1, \quad (1)$$

were developed to capture this trade-off in concrete setups.[5] Experimental realizations with atoms and photons have repeatedly confirmed such relations.[6,7]

Still, the conceptual discomfort remains. A single physical entity appears to instantiate two incompatible regimes. Intuitions based on three-dimensional classical ontology struggle to accommodate this: how can one and the same object be extended and delocalized (wave-like) in one context, yet behave as a localized, path-definite (particle-like) object in another? The double slit is often treated as a pedagogical puzzle rather than a structural clue.

In the TCGS-SEQUENTION framework,[1] this discomfort is reinterpreted as a diagnostic: it signals that the dimensional ontology has been mis-specified. A 3-D manifold Σ cannot consistently host two incompatible but individually coherent descriptions of the same entity unless Σ is a projection of a richer content space. Apparent "duality" is reclassified as a cartographic symptom of embedding. From this point of view, the double slit is not an oddity of quantum mechanics but one more instance of a pattern already observed in cosmological mass-radius cartography and in evolutionary biology.[1,2]

The aim of this paper is to make this claim precise. I will:

- Restate, in minimal form, the TCGS axioms relevant to quantum phenomena.
- Formulate a Cartographic Exclusion Principle that connects mutually exclusive descriptions to higher-dimensional embeddings.
- Apply this principle to the double slit experiment, treating wave-like and particle-like regimes as incompatible 3-D cross-sections of a single 4-D configuration anchored on a singular set.
- Use two recent experiments — a tunable recoiling-slit realization of the Einstein-Bohr thought experiment,[8] and single-atom wavepacket scattering measurements[9] — as empirical anchors for the geometric reinterpretation.
- Show that, in this ontology, time plays no ontic role: the apparent "evolution" of interference patterns with experimental parameters is a modulation of projection rigidity, not a temporal metamorphosis of the system.

The central claim is not that TCGS-SEQUENTION is the only possible account of complementarity. Rather, it is that once we adopt its axioms, the double slit pattern ceases to be mysterious and instead becomes a topological necessity. This offers a new kind of evidence: the experiment is interpreted as a proof that a 4-D counterspace exists, in the same sense that mass-radius cartography exposes the necessity of embedding for cosmology.[1,2]

2. A Brief Recap of the TCGS-SEQUENTION Ontology

TCGS-SEQUENTION postulates a static, four-dimensional counterspace \mathcal{C} endowed with a metric G_{AB} and a global content field Ψ . [1,2] The observable 3-D world is a shadow manifold Σ immersed in \mathcal{C} by a map

$$X : \Sigma \longrightarrow \mathcal{C},$$

and all physical quantities on Σ are pullbacks of structures defined on \mathcal{C} . Time is demoted to a gauge parameter associated with how one foliates the image $X(\Sigma)$; it plays no role as an independent geometric dimension.[2]

For the purposes of this article, the following axioms are sufficient.

Axiom 1 (Whole Content). *There exists a smooth, four-dimensional manifold (\mathcal{C}, G_{AB}) with a global content field Ψ . This manifold encodes, in a single timeless structure, the complete set of physically admissible configurations and correlations.*

Axiom 1 replaces the idea of a world evolving in time with that of a static content container. Apparent sequences are foliation choices on $X(\Sigma)$, not ontic properties of \mathcal{C} . [1]

Axiom 2 (Identity of Source). *There exists a distinguished point $p_0 \in \mathcal{C}$ and an automorphism group $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{C}, G, \Psi)$ such that the fundamental singular set*

$$S := \text{Orb}(p_0)$$

is the orbit of p_0 . All singularities observed in any shadow sector (gravitational, biological, quantum, etc.) descend from this unique origin.

This axiom implies that apparently distinct singular structures — from black holes to conserved developmental organizers — are different images of the same underlying singular set. [1]

Axiom 3 (Shadow Realization and Gauge Time). *The observable universe is a 3-D manifold Σ immersed in \mathcal{C} by a smooth map X . Apparent temporal orderings are labels on families of embeddings or foliations; only quantities invariant under reparametrizations of these families are physically meaningful. [2]*

Foliation parameters (including the operational time of laboratory clocks along worldlines in Σ) are thus interpreted as bookkeeping devices for comparing distinct slices of $X(\Sigma)$, not as fundamental coordinates in \mathcal{C} . [2]

Axiom 4 (Extrinsic Constitutive Law). *The geometry of Σ and the dynamics of observable fields are constrained by an extrinsic constitutive law relating the curvature of the immersion X to gradients of an underlying potential (e.g. gravitational or biological). For gravity, one representative form is*

$$\nabla \cdot \left[\mu \left(\frac{\|\nabla\Phi\|}{a_*} \right) \nabla\Phi \right] = 4\pi G\rho_b, \quad (2)$$

where Φ is the gravitational potential on Σ , ρ_b the baryonic mass density, a_ a fundamental embedding scale, and μ a permeability function that deviates from unity in the weak-acceleration regime. [1]*

Equation (2) illustrates the general pattern: apparent “dark sectors” and stochastic elements in standard theories are reinterpreted as consequences of extrinsic curvature and projection stiffness, rather than as evidence for new particles or random forces. [1]

In the biological sector, an analogous law governs the projection of a biological potential U and replaces Darwinian chance with a geometric bias. [1] In the consciousness sector, similar reasoning has been applied to quantum and neural degrees of freedom. [3] Here, I extend this logic to quantum interference.

3. Dual Descriptions and the Cartographic Exclusion Principle

The double slit experiment is a paradigmatic case in which a single physical system admits two incompatible descriptions on the same 3-D manifold. To formalize this, consider the following schematic setting.

Let Σ denote a 3-D configuration space containing a scattering region with two apertures and a detection screen. Let M be the set of possible measurement contexts, i.e. arrangements of sources, detectors, and environmental couplings. Each context $m \in M$ defines a probability distribution P_m over detection events on the screen.

Empirically, we encounter the following situation:

- In some contexts m_w , the distribution P_{m_w} displays high-visibility interference fringes with no reliable which-path inference.
- In other contexts m_p , the distribution P_{m_p} is well-approximated by the incoherent sum of two single-slit patterns, with which-path information accessible from auxiliary degrees of freedom.
- In intermediate contexts, quantitative complementarity relations such as Eq. (1) are satisfied: increasing distinguishability reduces fringe visibility.[5]

These facts are usually summarized by saying that the system behaves as a wave in contexts m_w and as a particle in contexts m_p . The underlying ontology, however, is left ambiguous.

Within TCGS–SEQUENTION, we interpret this as follows.

Definition 1 (Dual descriptions in a shadow manifold). *A dual description of a system on a shadow manifold Σ is a pair of families of measurement contexts*

$$\{m_w\} \subset M, \quad \{m_p\} \subset M$$

and corresponding distributions P_{m_w}, P_{m_p} such that:

1. Each family is internally consistent: there exists some 3-D model (e.g. a wave equation or a stochastic particle model) that accurately reproduces all distributions in that family.
2. The two models are mutually incompatible: no single 3-D model on Σ can simultaneously reproduce both families without invoking higher-dimensional structure or nonlocal dependencies that cannot be encoded in Σ alone.

The double slit exhibits precisely this pattern: a coherent wave description and a which-path particle description, each sufficient for its own regime yet jointly irreconcilable within purely 3-D ontology.

The TCGS view is that such a situation is not merely puzzling but topologically diagnostic.

Proposition 1 (Cartographic Exclusion Principle). *Let Σ be a 3-D manifold interpreted as a fundamental container of physical states. Suppose that for a single system there exist dual descriptions in the sense above. Assume further that:*

1. Measurement contexts differ only by local boundary conditions and couplings in Σ .
2. No hidden variable fields on Σ can restore a single unified 3-D model without violating relativistic causality or introducing superdeterministic conspiracies.

Then the dual descriptions cannot both be fundamental. They must instead be shadows of a single, higher-dimensional content structure. In particular, there exists an embedding $X : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ into a 4-D counterspace \mathcal{C} such that the two descriptions arise as incompatible projections of a single configuration on \mathcal{C} .

The proof is constructive at the level of representation: any attempt to represent the joint data on Σ alone either violates locality or requires superdeterministic fine-tuning. By contrast, a higher-dimensional embedding naturally accommodates both descriptions as different coordinate systems or cross-sections of the same content. This is analogous to the standard illustration in which a cylinder in 3-D projects to a circle or a rectangle on 2-D screens. Neither silhouette fully captures the cylinder, and the apparent inconsistency between them dissolves once the embedding object is recognized.

Proposition 1 generalizes a pattern already exploited in TCGS. The mass–radius cartography of astrophysical objects exhibits forbidden regions bounded by the Schwarzschild and Compton limits; this wedge in the 2-D map signals that the 3-D universe cannot be fundamental and must itself be embedded.[2] In biological evolution, mutually incompatible temporal narratives of chance and selection are replaced by a single timeless projection of an informational potential.[1] The double slit

adds a quantum wedge: complementary descriptions of the same system mark the failure of 3-D ontology.

4. The Double Slit as a Projection Wedge

To connect the Cartographic Exclusion Principle to concrete data, we briefly recall a standard quantum description of the double slit. Let $\psi_1(x)$ and $\psi_2(x)$ be the amplitudes on the detection screen for paths through slit 1 and slit 2. In a context with perfect coherence and no which-path information, the intensity is

$$I_{\text{coh}}(x) \propto |\psi_1(x) + \psi_2(x)|^2 = I_1(x) + I_2(x) + 2\text{Re}[\psi_1^*(x)\psi_2(x)], \quad (3)$$

where $I_i(x) = |\psi_i(x)|^2$. In the opposite limit, when which-path detectors fully entangle the system with distinct pointer states and the off-diagonal terms in the reduced density matrix vanish, the intensity becomes

$$I_{\text{incoh}}(x) \propto I_1(x) + I_2(x), \quad (4)$$

and the interference cross-term is suppressed.

Intermediate situations can be described by *visibility* V and *distinguishability* D : the visibility quantifies the modulation depth of the fringes, while distinguishability measures how well one can infer the path from pointer states.[5] Inequalities of the form (1) hold in a wide class of models and have been verified experimentally.[6,7]

From a TCGS perspective, the crucial fact is not the inequality itself but the structural role it plays. The pair (D, V) spans a wedge of admissible behaviours: the system cannot reside simultaneously at $D = 1, V = 1$. This wedge is analogous, in the space of interference phenomena, to the mass–radius wedge in cosmology. In both cases, the map reveals an excluded region that would not exist if the mapped space were fundamental. A truly fundamental 3-D space would not admit such internal contradictions: there would be no geometrically forbidden combinations of properties. Their presence is a signature of embedding.[2]

In the next sections, I show how two recent experiments sharpen this intuition: by allowing continuous control over the degree of which-path information and coherence, they demonstrate that the double slit is best understood as the projection of a single 4-D structure whose shadow can be tuned between wave-like and particle-like regimes without altering the underlying content.

5. Evidence I: The Tunable Einstein–Bohr Recoiling-Slit Experiment

5.1. Experimental Summary

Zhang and collaborators implemented a modern version of the Einstein–Bohr recoiling-slit thought experiment.[8] In the original argument, Einstein considered a double slit mounted on a movable support. By measuring the recoil of the support, one could in principle infer through which slit a particle had passed, seemingly allowing simultaneous access to which-path information and interference. Bohr responded by arguing that the uncertainty principle prevents this: attempting to measure recoil with sufficient precision disturbs the interference.

The contemporary realization replaces the mechanical support with a single trapped atom whose vibrational state encodes the recoil. A single photon scatters from the atom, playing the role of the particle traversing a double slit; the atom, trapped in a harmonic potential, plays the role of the recoiling slit. By tuning the trap frequency and the coupling strength to the vibrational degree of freedom, the experiment interpolates continuously between regimes with high which-path information and suppressed interference, and regimes with high visibility and negligible which-path information.[8]

The analysis shows that the visibility V of the interference pattern is suppressed according to a factor that depends on an effective recoil parameter η_{eff} characterizing the overlap of vibrational states corresponding to different paths. In a simplified description, one can write

$$V \approx \exp(-2\eta_{\text{eff}}^2), \quad (5)$$

while the which-path distinguishability increases with η_{eff} in a way that restores a relation of the form (1).[8] When the trap is tight and the recoil is poorly resolved, η_{eff} is small, visibility is high, and which-path information is low; when the trap allows significant distinguishability of the vibrational states, η_{eff} grows, visibility is suppressed, and path information is enhanced.

5.2. Standard Interpretation

In standard quantum optics, the above behaviour is interpreted through entanglement and decoherence. The photon and the atom become entangled; tracing over the atomic degree of freedom yields a reduced density matrix for the photon in which off-diagonal terms are suppressed by the overlap of the relevant vibrational states. The trap frequency and coupling act as environmental control parameters: by tuning them one moves along the visibility–distinguishability trade-off curve.

From this viewpoint, the experiment offers a clean realization of quantitative complementarity, confirming that the Einstein recoiling-slit scenario does not violate Bohr’s principle.[8] It reinforces the idea that which-path information and interference are mutually exclusive manifestations of underlying entanglement structure.

5.3. TCGS Reinterpretation: Projection Rigidity and Singular Anchoring

Within TCGS–SEQUENTION, the same data receive a geometric reinterpretation. The atom–photon composite is not treated as a system that sometimes “is a particle” and sometimes “is a wave”. Instead, it is a single 4-D configuration anchored on the singular set S in the counterspace \mathcal{C} , with two incompatible 3-D shadows:

- A wave-like shadow in which the photon amplitude spreads coherently across both paths, and the atomic degree of freedom is effectively frozen with respect to the projection.
- A particle-like shadow in which the atomic degree of freedom carries robust which-path information, and the interference cross-term in Eq. (3) is projected out.

The parameter η_{eff} is reinterpreted as a measure of *projection rigidity*: it quantifies how strongly the immersion X ties the shadow degrees of freedom to specific directions in \mathcal{C} . In the limit of small η_{eff} , the relevant part of $X(\Sigma)$ samples a broader neighbourhood of the singular structure in \mathcal{C} , allowing destructive and constructive interference to manifest in the shadow. In the opposite limit, the projection is stiff: the shadow is constrained to follow a narrower corridor in \mathcal{C} that separates the two paths into effectively disjoint sectors.

Formally, let Ψ_q denote the restriction of Ψ to the atom–photon Hilbert sector, and let X_η denote the projection map incorporating the extrinsic constraint associated with η_{eff} . The observed intensity pattern on the screen is a functional of the pullback state

$$\Psi_q^{(\eta)} := X_\eta^* \Psi_q.$$

The experiment shows that by tuning η_{eff} one does not alter Ψ_q in \mathcal{C} ; rather, one selects different families of pullbacks $\Psi_q^{(\eta)}$ that emphasize either interference or which-path structure. The mutual exclusivity expressed by Eq. (1) is thus a property of the map X_η , not of the underlying content.

This reinterpretation aligns with the broader TCGS pattern. Just as the extrinsic constitutive law (2) reinterprets dark matter as a consequence of projection stiffness in weak-gravity regimes,[1] the tunable visibility of the recoiling-slit experiment reinterprets complementarity as a manifestation of projection rigidity in a quantum interference regime. The double slit becomes, in effect, a small-scale cartographic instrument for probing the geometry of X in the vicinity of S .

6. Evidence II: Coherent and Incoherent Scattering by Single-Atom Wavepackets

6.1. Experimental Summary

Fedoseev and co-workers studied the scattering of light from single atoms prepared in spatially extended wavepackets.[9] In their setup, a trapped atom is illuminated so that its wavepacket size and expansion dynamics can be controlled. The scattered light is detected in two modes:

- A *coherent* channel, where contributions from different parts of the atomic wavepacket interfere.
- An *incoherent* channel, where these contributions add without fixed phase relations.

The key quantity controlling the relative weights of these channels is the Debye–Waller factor $D = |\langle \beta|0 \rangle|^2$, where $|0\rangle$ represents the motional ground state and $|\beta\rangle$ the displaced state induced by scattering.[9] When $D \approx 1$, the scattered light is predominantly coherent; when $D \ll 1$, the incoherent component dominates. By adjusting the trap parameters and timing, the experiment explores the transition between these regimes.

6.2. Standard Interpretation

In standard quantum optics, the Debye–Waller factor quantifies the overlap between initial and final motional states and thus the degree of entanglement between internal and motional degrees of freedom. A large overlap means that the motional state effectively factors out, preserving coherence in the scattered field; a small overlap corresponds to strong entanglement and decoherence. The coherent and incoherent components of the scattering cross-section are then determined by D and related quantities.[9]

This picture is conceptually similar to the recoiling-slit analysis: coherence is traded against path information carried by auxiliary degrees of freedom.

6.3. TCGS Reinterpretation: Singular Connectivity and Field Sampling

Within TCGS–SEQUENTION, the same phenomena are re-expressed in geometric terms. The atomic wavepacket and the scattered field are not viewed as separate objects interacting in time but as different coordinate projections of a joint content structure anchored on S . The Debye–Waller factor now serves as a measure of how uniformly the projection X samples this structure:

- A large D means that the relevant region of $X(\Sigma)$ remains close to a single trajectory in \mathcal{C} , so that phases across the wavepacket are coherently registered on the screen. The coherent component dominates because the projection preserves the phase structure of Ψ_q .
- A small D indicates that the projection splits the relevant content into effectively disjoint sectors in \mathcal{C} , each associated with different motional histories. The shadow then realizes these sectors as an incoherent mixture, and the coherent contribution is suppressed.

Operationally, varying D by changing trap parameters is analogous to varying the extrinsic curvature in Eq. (2): one changes not the underlying content but the geometry of the projection. The coherent/incoherent split in the scattering data thus supplies a second, independent wedge in the space of quantum phenomena. Together with the recoiling-slit data, it reinforces the view that complementarity is a structural property of projection geometry.

7. Singularities and Determined Behaviours

The TCGS framework attributes a special role to the singular set S introduced in Axiom 2. In previous work, this structure has been used to unify gravitational singularities, biological organizers, and consciousness-related attractors.[1,3] The double slit experiment reveals that quantum interference phenomena also fall within this unification.

Conceptually, one may distinguish two complementary aspects of behaviour:

1. *Field behaviour*, where extended structures in Σ (waves, interference patterns, probability densities) dominate the description.

2. *Singular behaviour*, where localized, path-defined, or point-like events (particle hits, discrete transitions) are emphasized.

In 3-D ontology, these are often treated as different kinds of entities. Within TCGS, they are different projections of the same 4-D content. The singular set S corresponds to extrema or boundary structures of the content field Ψ ; extended field configurations in Σ are continuous images of neighbourhoods of S , while discrete events arise when the projection intersects S along sharply localized subsets.

We can capture this schematically as follows. Let $U \subset \mathcal{C}$ be a neighbourhood of S , and let $X : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ be such that the experimentally accessible region $\Sigma_{\text{exp}} \subset \Sigma$ satisfies $X(\Sigma_{\text{exp}}) \subset U$. Define an indicator function f on U that distinguishes two regimes:

$$f(p) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p \text{ lies in a "field" region,} \\ 1 & \text{if } p \text{ lies in a "singular" corridor.} \end{cases}$$

The effective behaviour observed in Σ_{exp} is determined by the preimage structure of $f \circ X$. If X maps most of Σ_{exp} into field regions, interference-like patterns dominate; if it maps into singular corridors, particle-like detections prevail. Mixed behaviours correspond to mixed sampling.

In this language, the double slit experiment reveals how small changes in boundary conditions (trap depth, detection geometry) move the image $X(\Sigma_{\text{exp}})$ between field-dominated and singular-dominated regions of U . The key point is that nothing about Ψ itself needs to change; it is the projection that is reconfigured. Apparent randomness, probability, and wave-particle duality are thus reclassified as features of our limited access to Ψ through specific projections. This is consistent with the broader TCGS claim that uncertainty and randomness have no ontic status but arise from foliation and incomplete conditioning.[1]

8. Logical Closure: Complementarity as the Quantum Wedge of TCGS-SEQUENTION

Earlier TCGS work identified two major cartographic wedges that demand a 4-D embedding:

- In cosmology, the mass-radius plane of astrophysical objects is bounded by the Schwarzschild and Compton curves, producing a wedge of admissible structures. This is difficult to reconcile with a fundamental 3-D universe but natural if Σ is a shadow of \mathcal{C} . [1,2]
- In evolutionary biology, the coexistence of convergence, canalization, and apparent randomness is reinterpreted as a projection of a biological potential U in \mathcal{C} , governed by an extrinsic constitutive law that biases mutations along hidden gradients. [1]

In both cases, phenomena traditionally attributed to new substances (dark matter, dark energy) or to deep time and chance (Darwinian evolution) are reinterpreted as projection artifacts: they arise because we attempt to treat a shadow as fundamental.

The analysis presented here adds a third wedge:

- In quantum interference, the visibility-distinguishability plane is bounded by relations such as Eq. (1). The regimes of high visibility and high distinguishability are mutually exclusive within 3-D ontology, yet both are realized in experiments that differ only by boundary conditions and couplings. [5-9]

Within TCGS-SEQUENTION, the three wedges are manifestations of a single geometric fact: 3-D descriptions are maps, not territories. Each wedge records a failure of 3-D ontology to accommodate the full structure of Ψ . The counterspace \mathcal{C} and its singular set S provide the minimal extension in which all three domains — gravitational, biological, quantum — can be described coherently without introducing ontically new substances or temporal dimensions. [1-3]

The double slit experiment thus closes a logical loop in the framework. If one accepts:

1. The mass-radius wedge as evidence that cosmological data require embedding. [1,2]

2. The homology between dark sectors and Darwinian chance as evidence that biological evolution is a shadow of a 4-D informational potential.[1]
3. The wave–particle wedge of the double slit as evidence that quantum complementarity is a projection effect.

then one arrives at a unified conclusion: a single, timeless counterspace $(\mathcal{C}, G_{AB}, \Psi)$ underlies all three sectors, and time cannot be treated as a genuine dimension. What appears as “evolution in time” — be it cosmic expansion, biological adaptation, or quantum state change — is a foliation artifact of the projection X . [2,3]

9. Discussion and Outlook

The argument developed here is both modest and ambitious. It is modest in that it does not attempt to derive the quantitative details of quantum mechanics from TCGS–SEQUENTION. The formal machinery of Hilbert spaces, operators, and path integrals remains in place as a powerful computational layer. What changes is the ontology: instead of assigning wave functions and particles to a self-contained 3-D space evolving in time, we interpret them as coordinate descriptions of a static 4-D content projected onto a 3-D shadow.

At the same time, the claim is ambitious: under the TCGS axioms, the double slit experiment becomes a topological proof that a 4-D counterspace exists and that time is a gauge parameter. The key move is to treat mutually exclusive yet individually coherent descriptions not as paradoxes but as cartographic evidence. Complementarity, in this view, ceases to be an inexplicable feature of quantum mechanics and becomes a structural property shared by cosmology, biology, and consciousness. [1–3]

Several avenues for further work emerge:

- **Quantitative projection models.** The reinterpretation of parameters such as η_{eff} and the Debye–Waller factor D as measures of projection rigidity suggests that one could construct explicit models in which these quantities arise from extrinsic curvature invariants of X . This would parallel the way in which the function $\mu(\|\nabla\Phi\|/a_*)$ encodes gravitational projection stiffness. [1]
- **New experimental regimes.** The framework predicts that whenever one can adiabatically tune a system between field-dominated and singular-dominated regimes by modifying only boundary conditions and couplings — without altering the underlying content — one should observe complementarity-like wedges. Designing experiments that probe this prediction in mesoscopic systems would provide further tests.
- **Cross-domain homologies.** The unification of cosmological, biological, and quantum wedges suggests that there may exist common projection invariants across these domains. For instance, the same type of slice-invariant geometry that constrains galaxy-scale structures may have analogues in genotype–phenotype maps or in neural dynamics. [1,3]
- **Foundations of probability.** If apparent randomness is a foliation artifact rather than an ontic property, then probabilistic tools in quantum theory, statistical mechanics, and population genetics should be reinterpreted as cartographic heuristics. Clarifying this reinterpretation could help resolve long-standing debates about the meaning of probability in physics and biology. [1]

Perhaps the most provocative implication is conceptual. The Einstein–Bohr debate, often presented as a clash between completeness and classical realism, is reframed here as a dispute about dimensional ontology. Einstein’s insistence on an underlying reality and Bohr’s emphasis on experimental arrangements both point, from different angles, to the same conclusion: what we observe are shadows. The double slit experiment, in its modern implementations, [8,9] finally provides the geometric evidence to support this reading.

References

1. H. Arellano, “Timeless Counterspace & Shadow Gravity: A Unified Framework – Foundational Consistency, Metamathematical Boundaries, and Cartographic Inquiries,” Preprint (2025).
2. H. Arellano-Peña, “Escaping the Minkowski Trap: Why Time Cannot Be a Dimension,” Preprint (2025).

3. H. Arellano-Peña, "The Crystallography of Consciousness: A Timeless TCGS-SEQUENTION Embedding of Quantum, Neural, and Harmonic Field Architectures," Preprint (2025).
4. J. A. Wheeler and W. H. Zurek (eds.), *Quantum Theory and Measurement*, Princeton University Press, Princeton (2014).
5. W. K. Wootters and W. H. Zurek, "Complementarity in the double-slit experiment: Quantum nonseparability and a quantitative statement of Bohr's principle," *Phys. Rev. D* **19**, 473–484 (1979).
6. M. S. Chapman *et al.*, "Photon Scattering from Atoms in an Atom Interferometer: Coherence Lost and Regained," *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **75**, 3783–3787 (1995).
7. F. Schmidt *et al.*, "Momentum Transfer to a Free-Floating Double Slit: Realization of a Thought Experiment from the Einstein–Bohr Debates," *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **111**, 103201 (2013).
8. Y. Zhang *et al.*, "Tunable Einstein–Bohr recoiling-slit gedankenexperiment at the quantum limit," arXiv:2410.10664 (2024).
9. V. Fedoseev *et al.*, "Coherent and incoherent light scattering by single-atom wavepackets," arXiv:2410.19671 (2024).

Disclaimer/Publisher's Note: The statements, opinions and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content.