

---

Subject: Time Travel and other stuff.

Posted by [boma57](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2003 20:09:32 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

A paradox is just an unanswered question. There's two views that I think are most probable relating to time travel, one being that you simply cannot change the past. You might go back in time with intent to change something, but the fact is, it never happened, so you didn't change it. This is of course, assuming that there is merely one timeline. The most widespread example of the time paradox is going back in time and killing yourself. Most people say, "Well, if you killed yourself, you can't go back in time to do it, so you're still alive, so you go back in time to kill yourself..."

This explanation is far too overcomplicated. If you're still alive to use the time machine, than you never kill yourself. Perhaps you go back in time, but you do not end up killing yourself, regardless of what happens. Maybe you change your mind, or something stops you, but you cannot change that which has already happened, even if you can go back to the point at which it happened.

My other opinion, and the one I favor of the two, is much like from the book Timeline. There's multiple timelines. If you go back or forward in time, you are no longer in the same dimensional parallel from whence you left, you are now in a new one, going either slower or faster than the one you left.

The way Timeline expresses it is that there is an infinite amount of parallel universes, each one different than the others no matter how small a difference it is. One is exactly the same as ours, but a second behind. Another is two seconds behind, another three seconds, et cetera, and I think this to be the most likely possibility. Therefore, if you go into a parallel universe behind ours and change something, you're not changing your present, you're changing their future, something quite different than your present.

---