

# Lecture 4

## Outline

- **Quantum Circuit Complexity**
- **Squeezed States**
- **Cosmological Complexity**

- **Growth of complexity with time?**
- **Bounds on the growth of complexity?**
- **Complexity for decohered state?**

# LECTURE 4

## Last time/Lecture 2

- Examples: Displacement operator, Harmonic Oscillator, Free field Theory
- What is Squeezed States?
- Complexity of Purification

## Today

- Cosmological Perturbation Model
- Cosmological Squeezed states
- Operator Complexity for cosmological perturbation
- State Complexity for cosmological perturbation
- Open System: Complexity of Purification for Cosmological Perturbation

# OUTLINE

**Goal:** Complexity in Cosmology

Cosmological Perturbation

Not talking about AdS/CFT

**Linear Growth**

Closed system:  
Operator Method

Squeezing  
Operator

Complexity:  
Field Theory  
Limit

**Decomplexification**

Closed system: State  
Method

Two-mode  
squeezed state

**Extend**

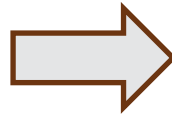
Open System:  
State Circuit

**Decoherence**

Complexity of  
Purification

# COSMOLOGICAL PERTURBATION MODEL

To get the Action for linearized cosmological perturbations



We expand the action to quadratic order in the fluctuating d.o.f.

The **linear terms cancel** because the background is taken to satisfy the background equations of motion.

The Einstein-Hilbert action for gravity and the action of a scalar matter field

Mukhanov, Brandenberger

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ -\frac{1}{16\pi G} R + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial^\mu \varphi - V(\varphi) \right]$$

The simplest way to proceed is to work in a fixed gauge, **longitudinal gauge**

The metric & matter take the form

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 &= a^2(\eta) [(1 + 2\phi(\eta, \mathbf{x})) d\eta^2 - (1 - 2\psi(\eta, \mathbf{x})) d\mathbf{x}^2] \\ \varphi(\eta, \mathbf{x}) &= \varphi_0(\eta) + \delta\varphi(\eta, \mathbf{x}). \end{aligned}$$

Ansatz

# COSMOLOGICAL PERTURBATION MODEL

- The off-diagonal spatial Einstein equations force  $\psi = \phi$  since  $\delta T_{ij} = 0$  for scalar field (no anisotropic stresses to linear order).
- The two remaining fluctuating variables  $\delta\varphi$  and  $\phi$  must be linked by the Einstein constraint equations since there cannot be matter fluctuations without induced metric fluctuations.

## Calculation:

- insert the ansatz into the action,
- expand the result to second order in the fluctuating fields,
- make use of the background and the constraint equations, and dropping total derivative terms from the action

Then the action quadratic in the perturbations:

$$S^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \left[ v'^2 - v_{,i}v_{,i} + \frac{z''}{z}v^2 \right]$$

Mukhanov variable  $v = a \left[ \delta\varphi + \frac{\dot{\varphi}_0}{\mathcal{H}} \phi \right]; \quad \mathcal{H} = a'/a, \quad z = \frac{a\dot{\varphi}_0}{\mathcal{H}} \Rightarrow z(\eta) \sim a(\eta).$

Note:  $v = z \mathcal{R}$  (curvature perturbation  $\mathcal{R} = \psi + \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}_0} \delta\varphi$ )

# COSMOLOGICAL PERTURBATION MODEL

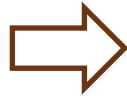
The action :  $S^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x [v'^2 - v_{,i}v_{,i} + \frac{z''}{z}v^2]$

The EOM in momentum space  $v_k'' + k^2v_k - \frac{z''}{z}v_k = 0$

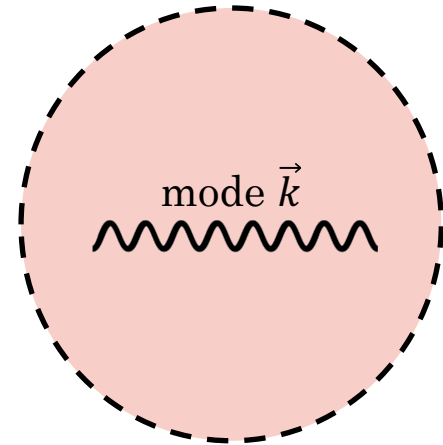
Here  $\frac{z''}{z} \simeq H^2$

Small length scales

$k \gg H$



$v_k$  constant amplitude oscillations



Oscillations freeze out at Hubble radius crossing

$k = H$

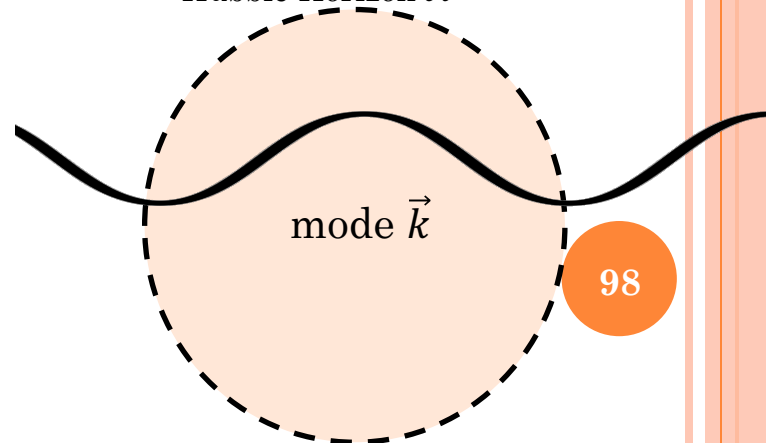


Longer length scales

$k \ll H$



solution goes as:  
 $v_k \sim z$



# COSMOLOGICAL SQUEEZED STATES

## Background metric – Cosmology

Brandenberger, Mukhanov

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a(t)^2 d\vec{x}^2 = a(\eta)^2 (-d\eta^2 + d\vec{x}^2) \quad \text{equation of state } a(\eta) \sim \left(\frac{\eta}{\eta_0}\right)^{2/(1+3w)}$$

## Cosmological Perturbations

## Scalar Field

$$ds^2 = a(\eta)^2 (-(1 + 2\psi(x, \eta))d\eta^2 + (1 - 2\psi(x, \eta))d\vec{x}^2) \quad \varphi(x) = \varphi(\eta) + \delta\varphi(\eta, x)$$

**Action:** 
$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d\eta d^3x \left[ v'^2 - (\partial_i v)^2 + \frac{z''}{z} v^2 \right]$$

Hamiltonian: 
$$\hat{H}_{\text{cosmo}} = \int d^3k \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\vec{k}} = \int d^3k \left[ k \left( \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} + \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger \right) - i \frac{z'}{z} \left( \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger \right) \right]$$

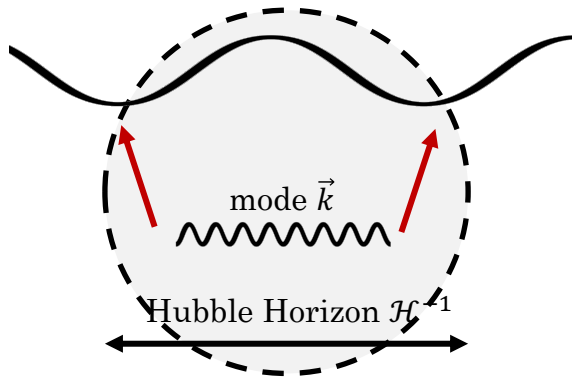
Free-particle

Inverted Oscillator

Dominates when mode outside horizon  $k \ll \mathcal{H}$

Time-dependent frequency

Two-mode squeezed state  $(\vec{k}, -\vec{k})$



Accelerating background  
Stretches modes outside horizon (horizon-exit)

Grishchuk, Sidorov  
Albrecht, Ferreira, Joyce, Prokopec

I will discuss de Sitter,  $w = -1$



# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

*The complexity of quantum cosmological perturbations*

$$|\psi_T\rangle = \hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}} |\psi_R\rangle$$

Squeezed  
Cosmological  
Perturbations

$$|r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k\rangle = \hat{S}(r_k, \phi_k) \hat{\mathcal{R}}(\theta_k) |0_{\vec{k}}, 0_{-\vec{k}}\rangle$$

## Operator Circuit Complexity

SH, Jana, Underwood

$$\hat{U}_{\text{target}} = \tilde{P} \exp \left[ \int_0^1 V^I(s) \hat{O}_I ds \right]$$

$$\hat{S} = \exp \left[ \frac{r_k}{2} \left( e^{-2i\phi_k} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} - e^{2i\phi_k} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger \right) \right] \quad \text{squeezing operator}$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{R}} = \exp \left[ -i\theta_k \left( \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger + \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} \right) \right] \quad \text{rotation operator}$$

- Characterize gates by structure constants

$$[\hat{O}_I, \hat{O}_J] = i f_{IJ}^K \hat{O}_K$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \hat{O}_1 &= \frac{\hat{a}_{\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} + \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger}{2} \\ \hat{O}_2 &= i \frac{\hat{a}_{\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger}{2} \\ \hat{O}_3 &= \frac{\hat{a}_{\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger + \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}}{2} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{SU}(1,1)$$

Two-mode Operators can be generated from this fundamental operators.

- Minimization:  
⇒ Euler-Arnold eq on group manifold

$$G_{IJ} \frac{dV^J}{ds} = f_{IJ}^K G_{KL} V^J V^L$$

$V^I(s)$ : tangent vectors

⇒ solve for  $V^J(s)$ , construct  $U_{\text{target}}$

- Operator Circuit Complexity

$$C^{(0)} = \sqrt{G_{IJ} V^I V^J}$$





# COSMOLOGICAL SQUEEZED STATES

## Operator Circuit Complexity

Geodesic  
Equations

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dV^1}{ds} &= -2V^2V^3; \\ \frac{dV^2}{ds} &= 2V^1V^3; \\ \frac{dV^3}{ds} &= 0.\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}V^1(s) &= v_1 \cos(2v_3s) - v_2 \sin(2v_3s) \\ V^2(s) &= v_1 \sin(2v_3s) + v_2 \cos(2v_3s) \\ V^3(s) &= v_3,\end{aligned}$$

The resulting circuit complexity along this minimal path is then simply

$$C_{\text{target}} = \min_{\{V^I\}} \mathcal{D}[V^I] = \min_{\{V^I\}} \int_0^1 \sqrt{G_{IJ}V^IV^J} ds = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2}.$$

**Now let's construct the  $U(s)$**

Target operator is the  $s = 1$  boundary condition of the  $s$  dependent unitary operator

$$\hat{U}(s) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[ -i \int_0^s V^I(s') \hat{e}_I ds' \right]$$

We use this representation

A general element of  $SU(1,1)$

$$\hat{e}_1 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{e}_2 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{e}_3 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\hat{U}(s) = \begin{pmatrix} q(s) & p(s)^* \\ p(s) & q(s)^* \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|q|^2 - |p|^2 = 1.$$



# COSMOLOGICAL SQUEEZED STATES

## Operator Circuit Complexity

with this group element and the  
sols of the E A equations in

$$\frac{d\hat{U}(s)}{ds} = -iV^I(s) \hat{e}_I \hat{U}(s)$$

solved by the parametrization

$$\begin{cases} q(s) = e^{-iv_3s}(c_1 e^{\lambda s/2} + c_2 e^{-\lambda s/2}); \\ p(s) = \frac{v_2 - iv_1}{v^2} e^{iv_3s} (c_1(\lambda - iv_3)e^{\lambda s/2} - c_2(\lambda + v_3)e^{-\lambda s/2}) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_1^2 + v_2^2 &= v^2 \\ \lambda &= \sqrt{v^2 - v_3^2} \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\hat{U}(s) = \begin{pmatrix} q(s) & p(s)^* \\ p(s) & q(s)^* \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\downarrow s = 0, \hat{U}(s = 0) = \hat{1}$$

$$\hat{U}(s) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-iv_3s} \left( \cosh\left(\frac{\lambda s}{2}\right) + i\frac{v_3}{\lambda} \sinh\left(\frac{\lambda s}{2}\right) \right) & e^{-iv_3s} \frac{(v_2 + iv_1)}{\lambda} \sinh\left(\frac{\lambda s}{2}\right) \\ e^{iv_3s} \frac{(v_2 - iv_1)}{\lambda} \sinh\left(\frac{\lambda s}{2}\right) & e^{iv_3s} \left( \cosh\left(\frac{\lambda s}{2}\right) - i\frac{v_3}{\lambda} \sinh\left(\frac{\lambda s}{2}\right) \right) \end{pmatrix}$$

We will determine the constants  $v_i$  by applying the boundary conditions:

$$s = 1, \hat{U}(s = 1) = \hat{U}_{\text{target}}: \quad \hat{U}_{\text{target}} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\theta} \cosh r & e^{i(2\phi+\theta)} \sinh r \\ e^{-i(2\phi+\theta)} \sinh r & e^{i\theta} \cosh r \end{pmatrix}$$

# COSMOLOGICAL SQUEEZED STATES

The complexity of quantum cosmological perturbations

$$|\psi_T\rangle = \hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}} |\psi_R\rangle$$

## Squeezed Cosmological Perturbations

$$|r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k\rangle = \hat{S}(r_k, \phi_k) \hat{R}(\theta_k) |0_{\vec{k}}, 0_{-\vec{k}}\rangle$$

$$\hat{S} = \exp\left[\frac{r_k}{2}\left(e^{-2i\phi_k}\hat{a}_{\vec{k}}\hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} - e^{2i\phi_k}\hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger\hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger\right)\right] \text{ squeezing operator}$$

$$\hat{R} = \exp\left[-i\theta_k\left(\hat{a}_{\vec{k}}\hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger + \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger\hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}\right)\right] \text{ rotation operator}$$

### Complexity?

- Unsqueezed limit  $r_k \rightarrow 0$  is the Minkowski vacuum  $|0\rangle_{\vec{k}, -\vec{k}}$  (Bunch Davies)
- EOM for  $r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k$  come from Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H}_{\vec{k}} = k\left(\hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger\hat{a}_{\vec{k}} + \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}\hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger\right) - i\frac{z'}{z}\left(\hat{a}_{\vec{k}}\hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger\hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger\right)$$

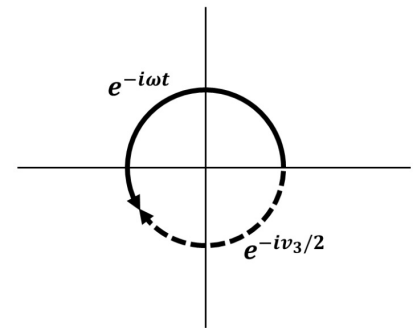
### Complexity

$$\mathcal{C}_{\vec{k}}(\eta) = \sqrt{4r_k(\eta)^2 + v_3(\eta)^2}$$

where  $v_3$  is given in terms of  $\theta_k$

$$|v_3| = \begin{cases} 2\theta_{\min} & \text{for } r \ll 1 \\ \theta_{\min} & \text{for } r \gg 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\theta_{\min} = \begin{cases} \theta - 2\pi n & \text{for } 2\pi n < \theta < \pi(2n + 1) \\ 2\pi n - \theta & \text{for } \pi(2n - 1) < \theta < 2\pi n \end{cases}$$



**Time  
Dependence?**

# COSMOLOGICAL SQUEEZED STATES

$$|\psi_T\rangle = \hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}} |\psi_R\rangle$$

Bhattacharyya, Das, SSH, Underwood

## Two-mode Squeezed States

$$|r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k\rangle = \hat{S}(r_k, \phi_k) \hat{\mathcal{R}}(\theta_k) |0\rangle_{\vec{k}}$$

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- EOM for  $r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k$  come from Hamiltonian

Inside  
Horizon:

- $\frac{k}{\mathcal{H}} \gg 1$
- $r_k$  is fixed
- $\phi_k, \theta_k$  evolve

Outside  
Horizon:

- $\frac{k}{\mathcal{H}} \ll 1$
- $r_k \sim \ln a$
- $\phi_k, \theta_k$  fixed

$$\hat{H}_{\vec{k}} = k \left( \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} + \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger \right) - i \frac{z'}{z} \left( \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger \right)$$

## Heisenberg Equations

$$\frac{dr_k}{d\eta} = -\frac{z'}{z} \cos(2\phi_k);$$

$$\frac{d\phi_k}{d\eta} = k + \frac{z'}{z} \coth(2r_k) \sin(2\phi_k);$$

$$\frac{d\theta_k}{d\eta} = k - \frac{z'}{z} \tanh(r_k) \sin(2\phi_k).$$

# COSMOLOGICAL SQUEEZED STATES

$$|\psi_T\rangle = \hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}} |\psi_R\rangle$$

Bhattacharyya, Das, SSH, Underwood

## Two-mode Squeezed States

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### Heisenberg Equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dr_k}{d\eta} &= -\frac{z'}{z} \cos(2\phi_k); \\ \frac{d\phi_k}{d\eta} &= k + \frac{z'}{z} \coth(2r_k) \sin(2\phi_k); \\ \frac{d\theta_k}{d\eta} &= k - \frac{z'}{z} \tanh(r_k) \sin(2\phi_k). \end{aligned}$$

### Exact Solutions for de Sitter

$$\begin{aligned} r_k &= \sinh^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2|k\eta|} \right) = \sinh^{-1} \left( \frac{a}{2kH_{dS}} \right) \\ \phi_k &= -\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2|k\eta|} \right) = -\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{a}{2kH_{dS}} \right) \\ \theta_k &= |k\eta| - \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2|k\eta|} \right) = \frac{kH_{dS}}{a} - \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{a}{2kH_{dS}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# COSMOLOGICAL SQUEEZED STATES

$$|\psi_T\rangle = \hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}} |\psi_R\rangle$$

Bhattacharyya, Das, SSH, Underwood

Inside  
Horizon:

- $\frac{k}{\mathcal{H}} \gg 1$
- $r_k$  is fixed
- $\phi_k, \theta_k$  evolve

## Two-mode Squeezed States

$$|r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k\rangle = \hat{S}(r_k, \phi_k) \hat{\mathcal{R}}(\theta_k) |0\rangle_{\vec{k}}$$

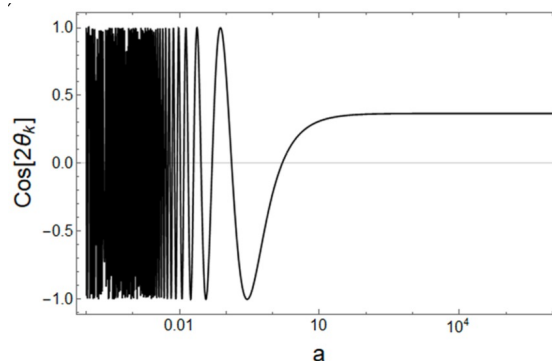
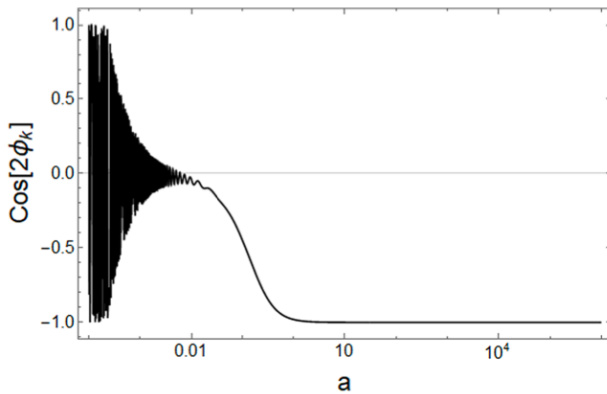
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- EOM for  $r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k$  come from Hamiltonian

Outside  
Horizon:

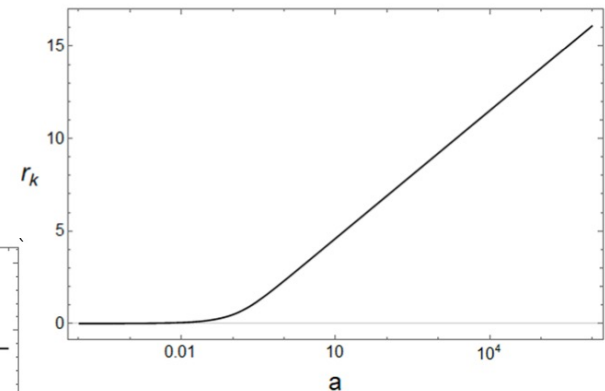
- $\frac{k}{\mathcal{H}} \ll 1$
- $r_k \sim \ln a$
- $\phi_k, \theta_k$  fixed

$$\hat{H}_{\vec{k}} = k \left( \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} + \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger \right) - i \frac{z'}{z} \left( \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}}^\dagger \right)$$

When Mode exits the horizon squeezing angle freezes



Squeezing begins to grow when mode exit the horizon



# COSMOLOGICAL PERTURBATIONS:

**Complexity**  $C_{\vec{k}}(\eta) = \sqrt{4r_k(\eta)^2 + v_3(\eta)^2}$

IR (Super-horizon modes) Limit

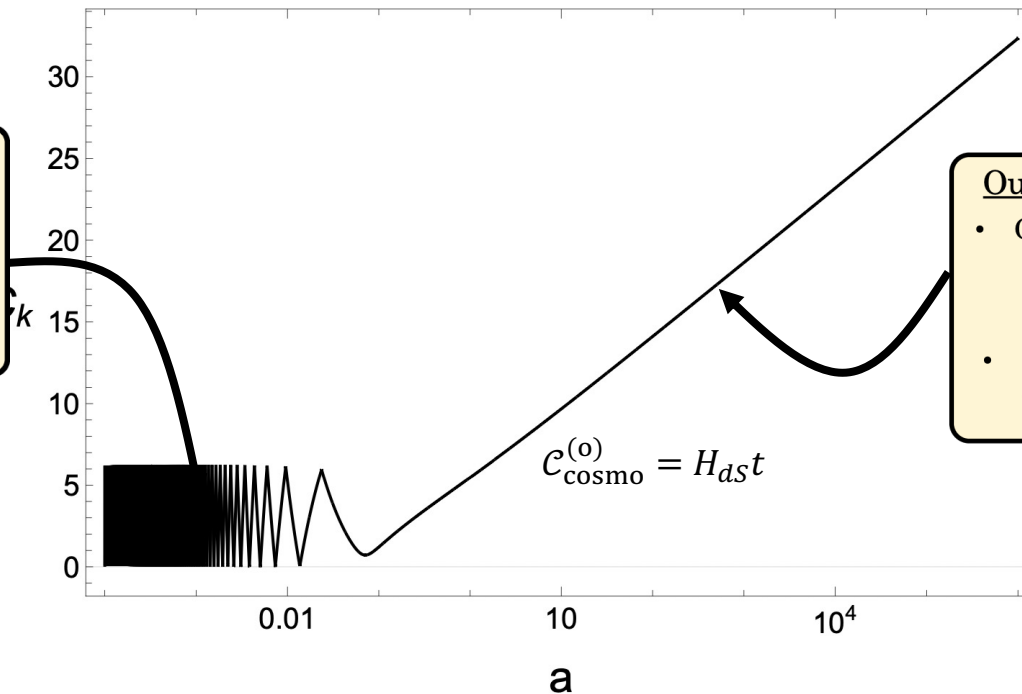
$$C_{\vec{k}}(\eta) \sim 2r_k \sim 2 \ln \left( \frac{1}{2|k\eta|} \right) \sim 2 \ln (a(\eta)/a_e) \sim 2N_e$$

No of e-folds  
after the  
horizon-exit

Scale factor at the  
horizon-exit

Inside Horizon:

- $r_k \ll 1$
- Complexity oscillates  
 $C_{\text{cosmo}}^{(o)} \leq 2\pi$   
due to rotation phase  $\theta$

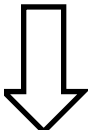


Outside Horizon:

- Grows with squeezing, e-folds  
 $C_{\text{cosmo}}^{(o)} \approx r_k \approx \ln \left( \frac{a}{a_{\text{exit}}} \right)$
- Growth is linear in  
cosmic time  $t$ ,  $a(t) = e^{H_d t}$

# COSMOLOGICAL PERTURBATIONS: FIELD THEORY LIMIT

$$\mathcal{C}_{\text{op}}^{\text{tot}} \rightarrow L^{3/2} \sqrt{\int^{\Lambda} (4r_k(\eta)^2 + v_3(\eta)^2) d^3k}.$$

IR limit  $|k\eta| \ll 1$ ,  UV limit  $|k\eta| \gg 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}_{\text{op}}^{\text{tot}} &\sim L^{3/2} \sqrt{\int_{\text{IR}} 4r_k(\eta)^2 d^3k + \int_{\text{UV}} v_3(\eta)^2 d^3k} \sim L^{3/2} \sqrt{\int_0^{|\eta|^{-1}} k^2 \ln^2\left(\frac{1}{|k\eta|}\right) dk + \int_{|\eta|^{-1}}^{\Lambda} k^2 dk} \\ &\sim L^{3/2} \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_1}{|\eta|^3} + \alpha_2 \Lambda^3} \quad \text{upto some } \mathcal{O}(1) \text{ factors absorbed in } \alpha_i \text{ constants} \end{aligned}$$

Proportional to growth of the de Sitter volume  $\sim H_{ds}^3 a(\eta)^3$

Even for Planck-scale UV cut-off and 60 e-folds, IR terms dominates for Hubble scale down to  $H_{ds} > 1 \text{ keV}$

During inflation, complexity of the universe grows by a factor

$$\frac{\mathcal{C}^{\text{tot}}(\eta_f)}{\mathcal{C}^{\text{tot}}(\eta_i)} \sim \left(\frac{a_f}{a_i}\right)^{3/2} \sim e^{3N_e/2} \sim e^{90} \sim 10^{39} \text{ for } N_e \sim 60 \text{ e-folds of inflation}$$

Now we will consider the (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity



# OUTLINE

**Goal:** Complexity  
in Cosmology

Cosmological  
Perturbation

Not talking about AdS/CFT

**Decomplexification**

Closed system: State  
Method

Two-mode  
squeezed state

**Extend**

Open System:  
State Circuit

**Decoherence**

Complexity of  
Purification

# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

*the complexity of quantum  
cosmological perturbations*

$$|\psi_T\rangle = \hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}} |\psi_R\rangle$$

Bhattacharyya, Das, **SH**, Underwood

Squeezed Cosmological  
Perturbations

$$|r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k\rangle = \hat{S}(r_k, \phi_k) \hat{R}(\theta_k) |0_{\vec{k}}, 0_{-\vec{k}}\rangle$$

**Reference State**

vacuum

$$\psi_R(q_{\vec{k}}, q_{-\vec{k}}) = \langle q_{\vec{k}}, q_{-\vec{k}} | 0 \rangle_{\vec{k}, -\vec{k}} = \left(\frac{k}{\pi}\right)^{1/4} e^{-\frac{k}{2}(q_{\vec{k}}^2 + q_{-\vec{k}}^2)}$$

**Target State**

cosmological squeezed state

$$\Psi_{sq}(q_{\vec{k}}, q_{-\vec{k}}) = \langle q_{\vec{k}}, q_{-\vec{k}} | \Psi_{sq} \rangle_{\vec{k}} = \frac{e^{A(q_{\vec{k}}^2 + q_{-\vec{k}}^2) - Bq_{\vec{k}}q_{-\vec{k}}}}{\cosh r_k \sqrt{\pi} \sqrt{1 - e^{-4i\phi_k} \tanh^2 r_k}}$$

$$A = \frac{k}{2} \left( \frac{e^{-4i\phi_k} \tanh^2 r_k + 1}{e^{-4i\phi_k} \tanh^2 r_k - 1} \right), \quad B = 2k \left( \frac{e^{-2i\phi_k} \tanh r_k}{e^{-4i\phi_k} \tanh^2 r_k - 1} \right)$$

$$C_2(k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\left( \ln \left| \frac{1 + e^{-2i\phi_k} \tanh r_k}{1 - e^{-2i\phi_k} \tanh r_k} \right| \right)^2 + \left( \tan^{-1} (2 \sin 2\phi_k \sinh r_k \cosh r_k) \right)^2}$$

We have

$$\frac{dr_k}{d\eta} = -\frac{z'}{z} \cos(2\phi_k);$$

$$\frac{d\phi_k}{d\eta} = k + \frac{z'}{z} \coth(2r_k) \sin(2\phi_k);$$



# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

*the complexity of quantum  
cosmological perturbations*

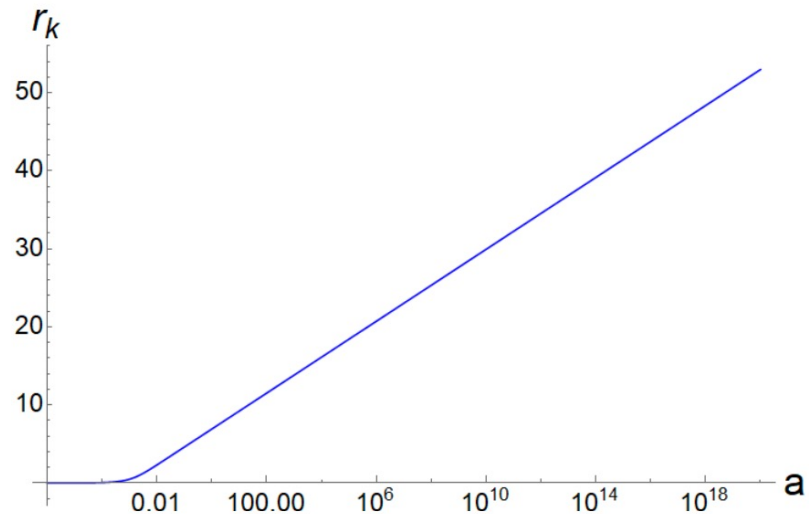
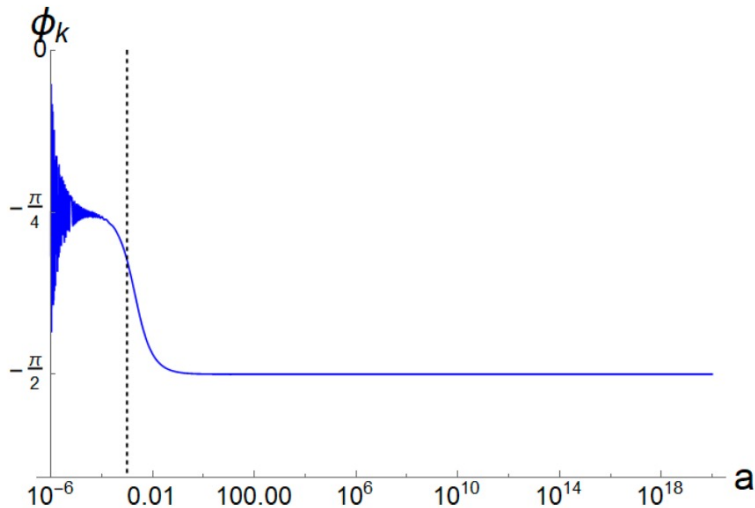
$$|\psi_T\rangle = \hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}} |\psi_R\rangle$$

Bhattacharyya, Das, **SH**, Underwood

Squeezed Cosmological  
Perturbations

$$|r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k\rangle = \hat{S}(r_k, \phi_k) \hat{R}(\theta_k) |0_{\vec{k}}, 0_{-\vec{k}}\rangle$$

$$C_2(k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\left( \ln \left| \frac{1 + e^{-2i\phi_k} \tanh r_k}{1 - e^{-2i\phi_k} \tanh r_k} \right| \right)^2 + \left( \tan^{-1} (2 \sin 2\phi_k \sinh r_k \cosh r_k) \right)^2}$$



on super-horizon  
scales we expect

$$C \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left| \ln \left| \frac{1 + e^{-2i\phi_k} \tanh r_k}{1 - e^{-2i\phi_k} \tanh r_k} \right| \right| \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \ln \left( \frac{a}{a_{\text{exit}}} \right)$$



# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

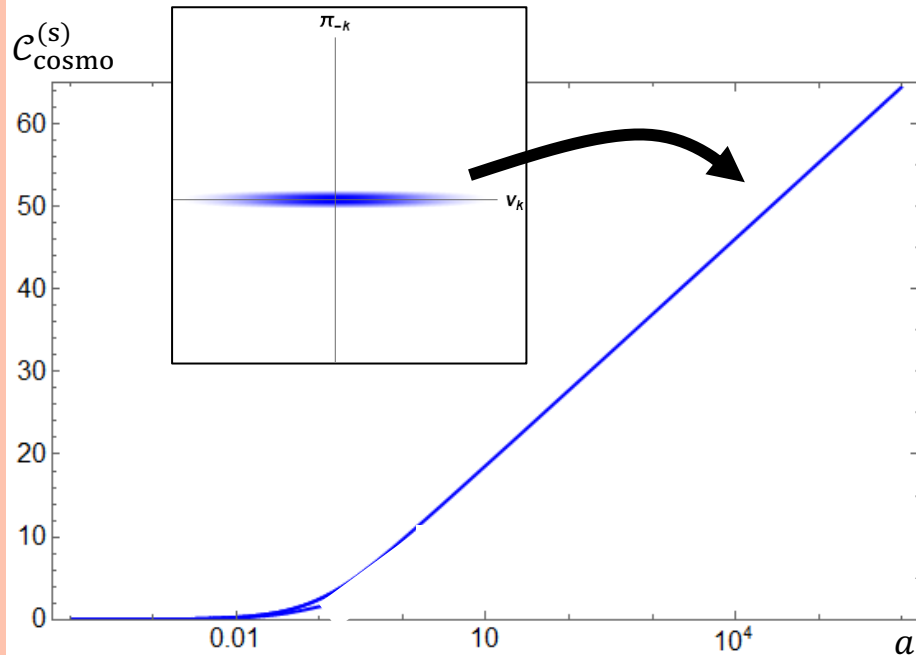
## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

*the complexity of quantum cosmological perturbations*

$$|\psi_T\rangle = \hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}} |\psi_R\rangle$$

Squeezed  
Cosmological  
Perturbations

$$|r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k\rangle = \hat{S}(r_k, \phi_k) \hat{R}(\theta_k) |0_{\vec{k}}, 0_{-\vec{k}}\rangle$$



Unbounded growth of complexity depends sensitively on squeezing angle  $\phi$



# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

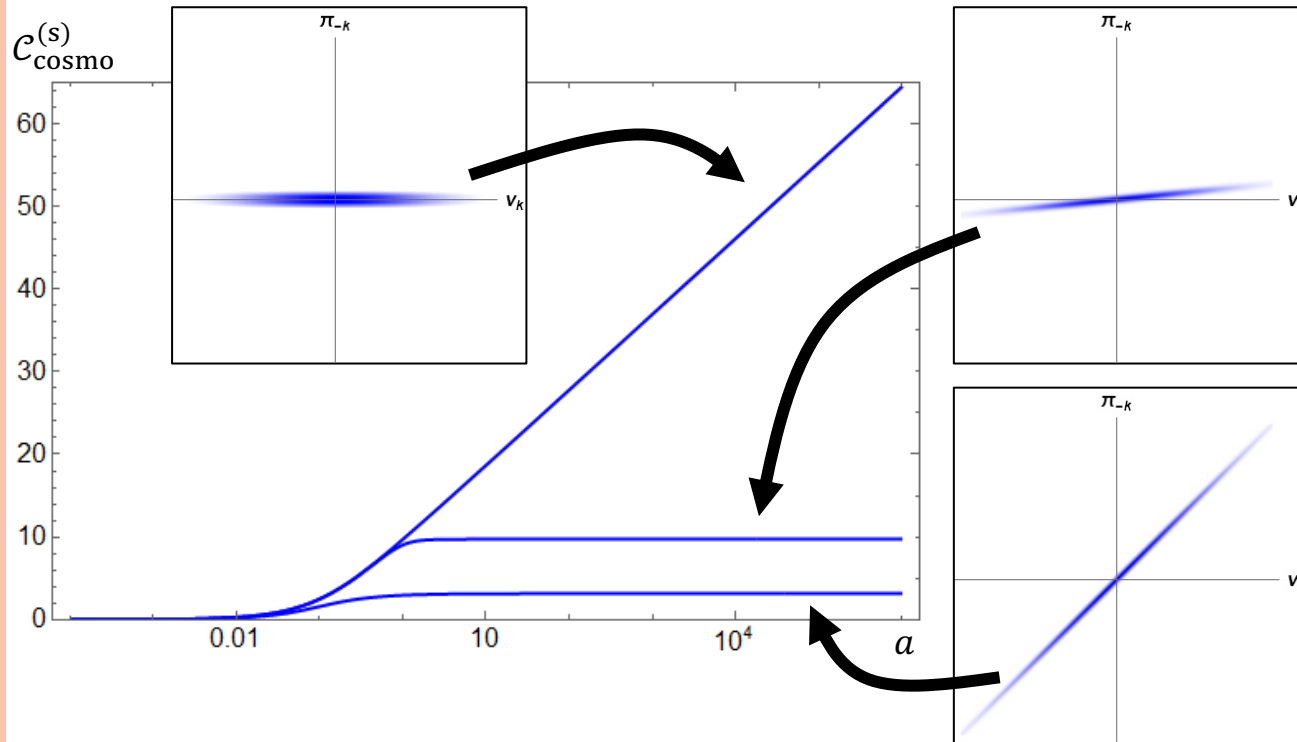
## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

*the complexity of quantum cosmological perturbations*

$$|\psi_T\rangle = \hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}} |\psi_R\rangle$$

Squeezed  
Cosmological  
Perturbations

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Unbounded growth of complexity depends sensitively on squeezing angle  $\phi$

- Complexity of dS is maximal w.r.t.  $\phi$   
Why?



# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

the complexity of quantum cosmological perturbations

$$|\psi_T\rangle = \hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}} |\psi_R\rangle$$

Squeezed  
Cosmological  
Perturbations

$$|r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k\rangle = \hat{S}(r_k, \phi_k) \hat{R}(\theta_k) |0_{\vec{k}}, 0_{-\vec{k}}\rangle$$

## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

Bhattacharyya, Das, SH, Underwood

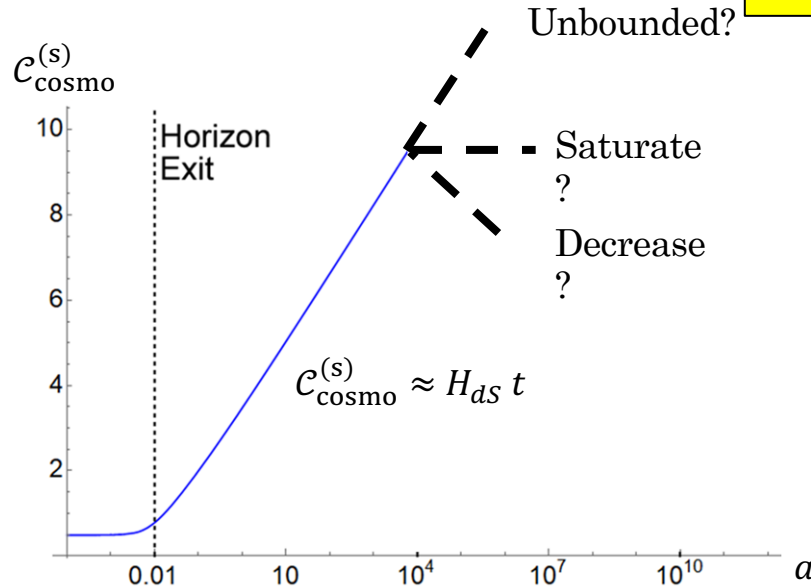
- Characterize  $\hat{U}_{\text{cosmo}}$  by its action on Gaussian states

$$\Psi_{\text{sq}} = \langle q_{\vec{k}}, q_{-\vec{k}} | r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k \rangle \sim e^{A(q_{\vec{k}}^2 + q_{-\vec{k}}^2) - B q_{\vec{k}} q_{-\vec{k}}}$$

What is the long-term behavior of cosmological complexity?

### Inside Horizon:

- $r_k \ll 1$
- Gaussian State Complexity insensitive to phase  $\mathcal{C}_{\text{cosmo}}^{(s)} \ll 1$



### Outside Horizon:

- Grows with squeezing, e-folds
 
$$\mathcal{C}_{\text{cosmo}}^{(s)} \approx r_k \approx \ln\left(\frac{a}{a_{\text{exit}}}\right)$$
- Growth is linear in cosmic time  $t$ ,  $a(t) = e^{H_{ds} t}$



# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

<b>Reference State</b> vacuum	$\psi_R(q_{\vec{k}}, q_{-\vec{k}}) = \langle q_{\vec{k}}, q_{-\vec{k}}   0 \rangle_{\vec{k}, -\vec{k}} = \left(\frac{k}{\pi}\right)^{1/4} e^{-\frac{k}{2}(q_{\vec{k}}^2 + q_{-\vec{k}}^2)}$
<b>Target State</b> cosmological squeezed state	$\Psi_{sq}(q_{\vec{k}}, q_{-\vec{k}}) = \langle q_{\vec{k}}, q_{-\vec{k}}   \Psi_{sq} \rangle_{\vec{k}} = \frac{e^{A(q_{\vec{k}}^2 + q_{-\vec{k}}^2) - Bq_{\vec{k}}q_{-\vec{k}}}}{\cosh r_k \sqrt{\pi} \sqrt{1 - e^{-4i\phi_k} \tanh^2 r_k}}$
$A = \frac{k}{2} \left( \frac{e^{-4i\phi_k} \tanh^2 r_k + 1}{e^{-4i\phi_k} \tanh^2 r_k - 1} \right), \quad B = 2k \left( \frac{e^{-2i\phi_k} \tanh r_k}{e^{-4i\phi_k} \tanh^2 r_k - 1} \right)$	

### Radiation?

$$r_k = \sinh^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2k\eta} \right);$$
$$\phi_k = -\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \tanh^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2k\eta} \right)$$

At sufficiently  
early times  $\eta \rightarrow 0$

a mode will start outside the horizon  
 $k\eta \ll 1$ , then re-enter the horizon later.

We expect that the squeezing of the mode will continue to grow while outside of the horizon, then “freeze in” when the mode re-enters the horizon.



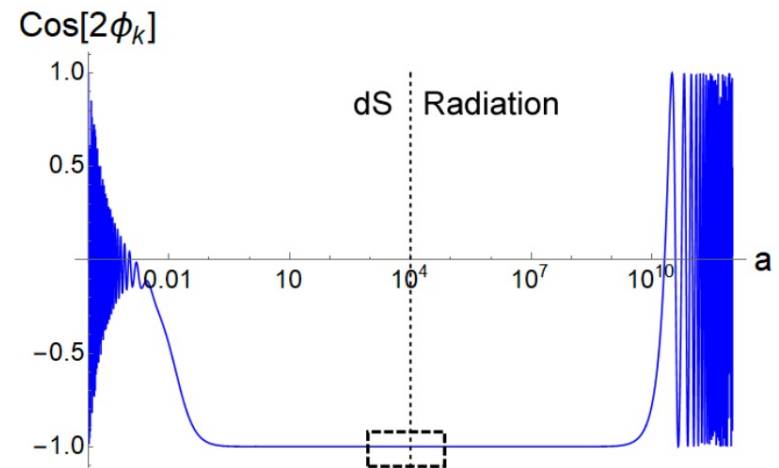
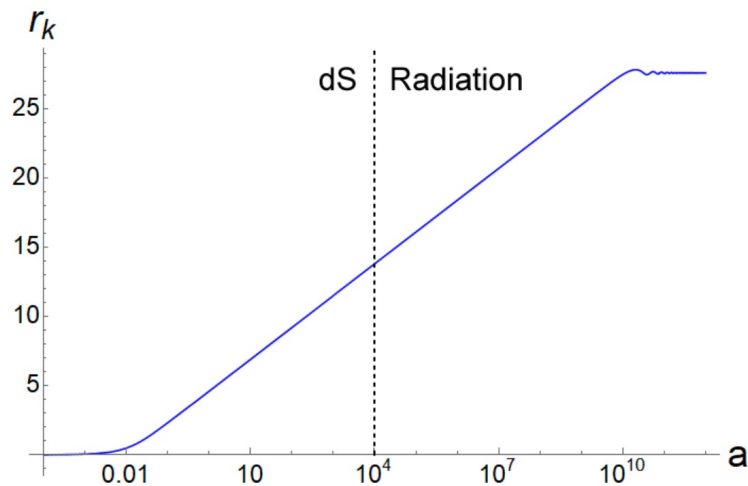
# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

### Radiation?

$$r_k = \sinh^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2k\eta} \right) ;$$

$$\phi_k = -\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \tanh^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{2k\eta} \right)$$



What happens to complexity?

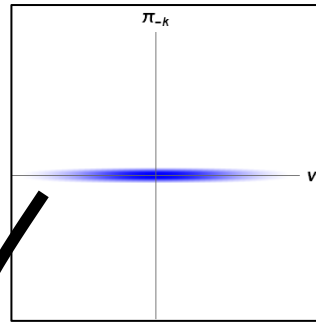




# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

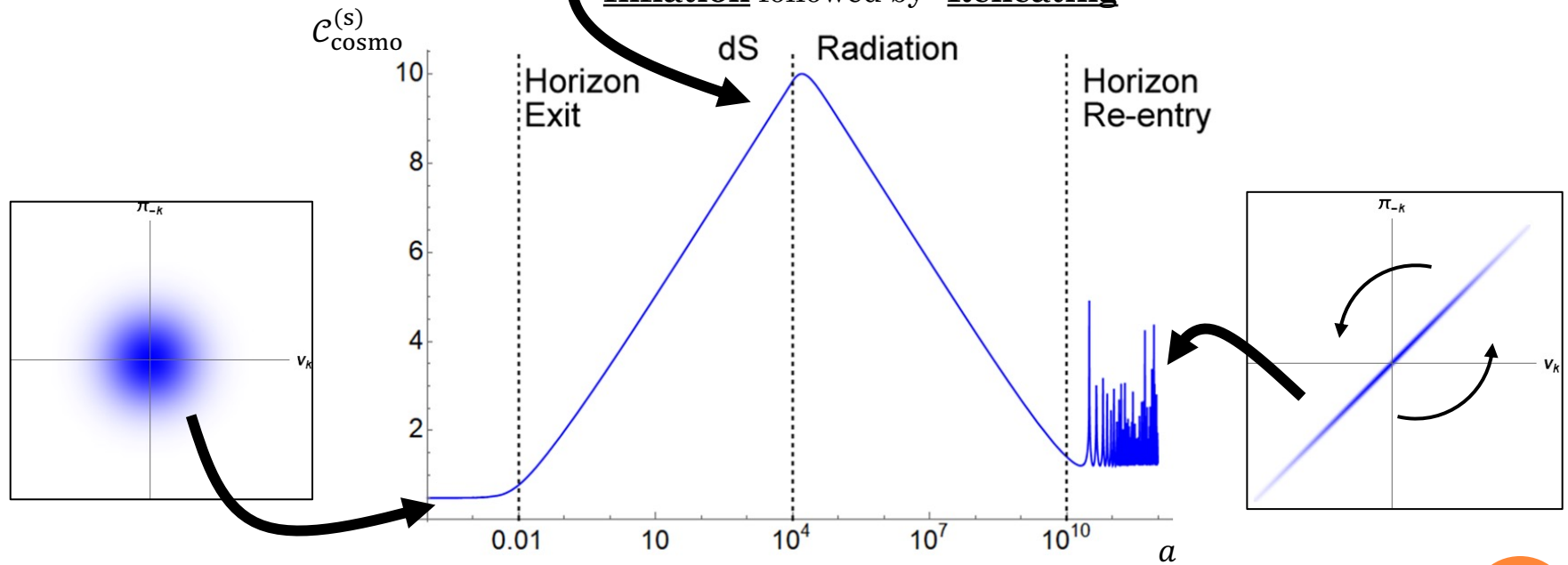
*the complexity of quantum cosmological perturbations*



### “De-Complexification”:

- Complexity **decreases** for radiation-dominated, then “freezes-in” upon horizon re-entry!
- Modes are still highly squeezed
- dS  $\rightarrow$  radiation transition cuts off complexity growth

Inflation followed by “Reheating”



# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

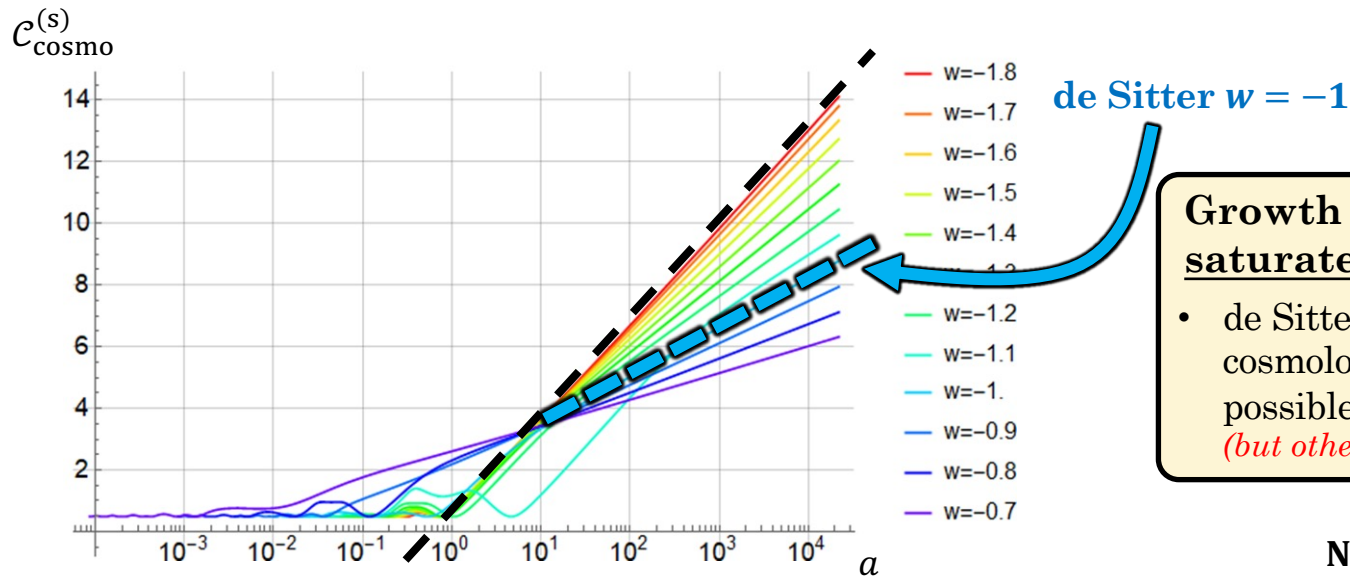
## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

*the complexity of quantum  
cosmological perturbations*

### Accelerating, Expanding Backgrounds

$$ds^2 = a(\eta)^2 (-d\eta^2 + d\vec{x}^2) \quad a(\eta) = \left(\frac{\eta_0}{\eta}\right)^{-2/(1+3w)} \quad \text{Equation of state } p = w\rho$$

Bound on growth rate  $\frac{dc}{dt} \leq \sqrt{2}H$



**Growth rate of complexity saturates** at  $w = -5/3$

- de Sitter is not fastest growth in cosmological complexity among all possible accelerating backgrounds... *(but others violate NEC)*

$$\text{NEC: } -1 \leq w \leq -\frac{1}{3}$$

Bhattacharyya, Das, SH, Underwood

Open Quantum System?



## FROM LAST TIME (LECTURE 2)

Thermal state  $\hat{\rho}_{\text{th}} = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\beta E_n} |n\rangle \langle n|$   $\xrightarrow{\text{purification}}$   $|\text{TFD}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\beta E_n/2} |n\rangle \otimes |n\rangle_{\text{anc}}$

This is not a unique purification, and it is possible to include an additional phase

$$|\Psi\rangle_{\phi} = |\text{TFD}\rangle_{\phi} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n e^{-2in\phi} e^{-n\beta\omega/2} |n\rangle \otimes |n\rangle_{\text{anc}} ;$$

We recognize this as a two-mode squeezed vacuum state

$$|\Psi_{sq}\rangle = \frac{1}{\cosh r} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n e^{-2in\phi} \tanh^n r |n\rangle \otimes |n\rangle_{\text{anc}} \equiv \hat{S}_{sq}(r, \phi) |0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle_{\text{anc}}$$

$$\beta\omega = -\ln \tanh^2 r$$

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{pure}} = |\Psi_{sq}\rangle \langle \Psi_{sq}| = \frac{1}{\cosh^2 r_k} \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+m} e^{-2i(n-m)\phi_k} \tanh^{n+m} r_k |n_{\vec{k}}, n_{-\vec{k}}\rangle \langle m_{\vec{k}}, m_{-\vec{k}}|$$

We can get a reduced density matrix only with diagonal entries by averaging this density matrix over the squeezing angle Brandenberger

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{red}} = \frac{1}{\cosh^2 r_k} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tanh^{2n} r_k |n_{\vec{k}}, n_{-\vec{k}}\rangle \langle n_{\vec{k}}, n_{-\vec{k}}|$$

Serve as a simple model for decoherence

# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

### Decoherence

Reduced density matrix resulting from this simple model of decoherence is thermal

#### Pure State

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{pure}} = |r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k\rangle\langle r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k| \longrightarrow$$

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{red}} = \frac{1}{\cosh^2 r_k} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tanh^{2n} r_k |n_{\vec{k}}, n_{-\vec{k}}\rangle\langle n_{\vec{k}}, n_{-\vec{k}}|$$

#### Thermal Density Matrix

#### Complexity of Purification

- Assume decoherence occurs at re-entry
- Purification with ancillary dof  
 $\mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\text{anc}}$
- Minimize complexity over purification

$$C_{\text{purif}} = \min_{\{\text{anc}\}} C_{\text{tot}}$$

- Complexity of purification  $\mathcal{O}(1)$

$$C_{\text{purif}} \approx \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

We will calculate the associated thermal complexity of purification of the cosmological perturbations.

To do this, we expand our Hilbert space to include an ancillary copy

$$|\Psi_{\text{cosmo,p}}\rangle_{\vec{k}} = \frac{1}{\cosh r_k} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n e^{-2in\phi} \tanh^n r_k |n_{\vec{k}}\rangle \otimes |n'_{\vec{k}}\rangle$$

SH, Jana, Underwood

(Suppressing the  $-\vec{k}$  modes here)



# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

### Decoherence

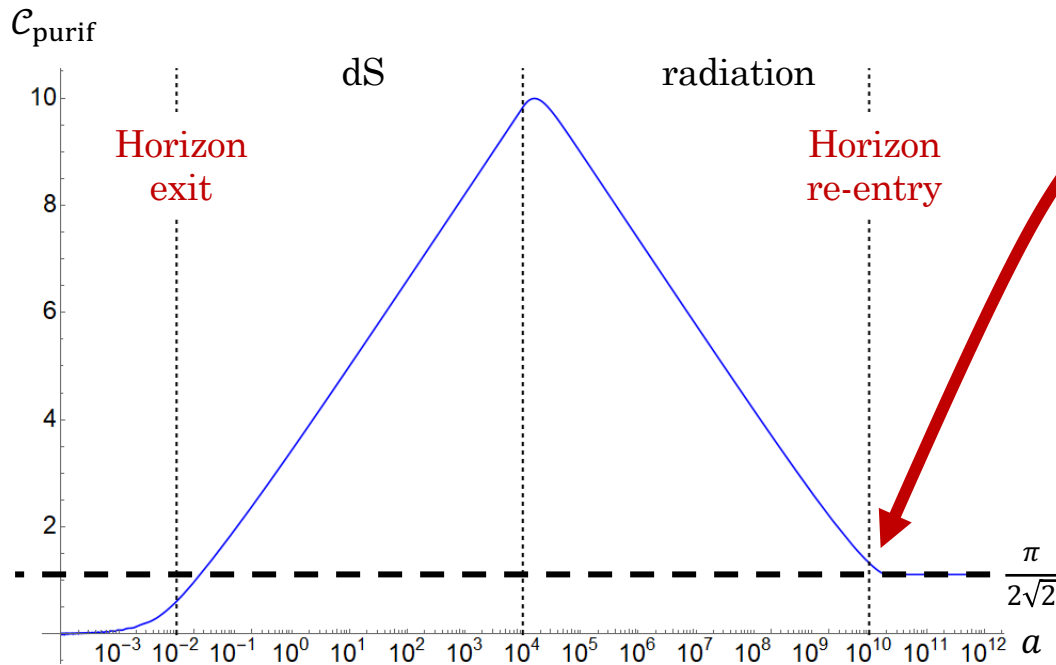
Pure State

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{pure}} = |r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k\rangle\langle r_k, \phi_k, \theta_k|$$



Thermal Density Matrix

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{red}} = \frac{1}{\cosh^2 r_k} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tanh^{2n} r_k |n_{\vec{k}}, n_{-\vec{k}}\rangle\langle n_{\vec{k}}, n_{-\vec{k}}|$$



### Complexity of Purification

- Assume decoherence occurs at re-entry
- Purification with ancillary dof  
 $\mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{\text{anc}}$
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SH, Jana, Underwood



# COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY

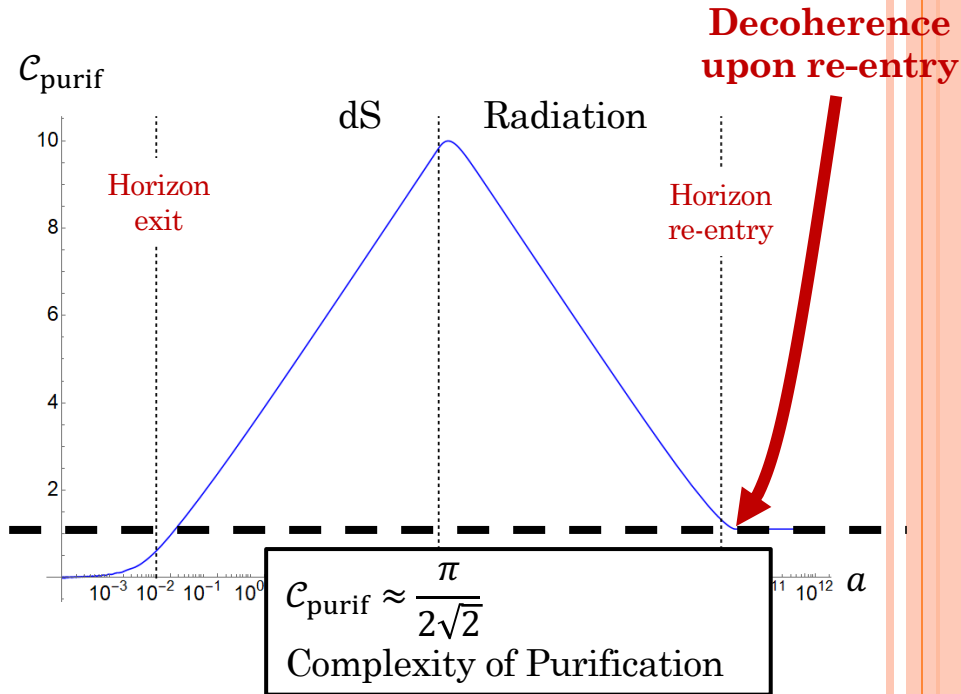
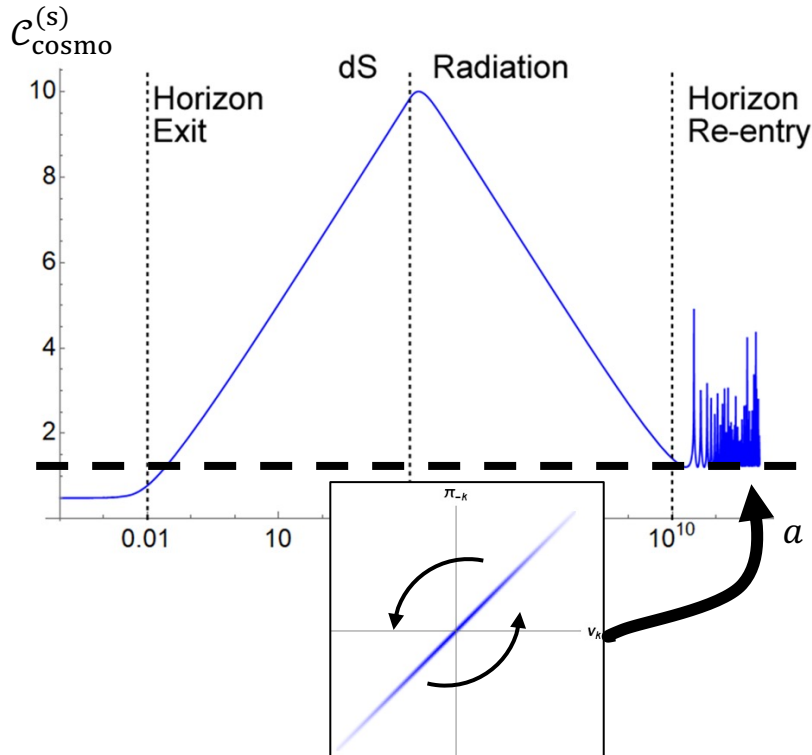
## (Gaussian) State Circuit Complexity

**Decomplexification**

vs

**Decoherence**

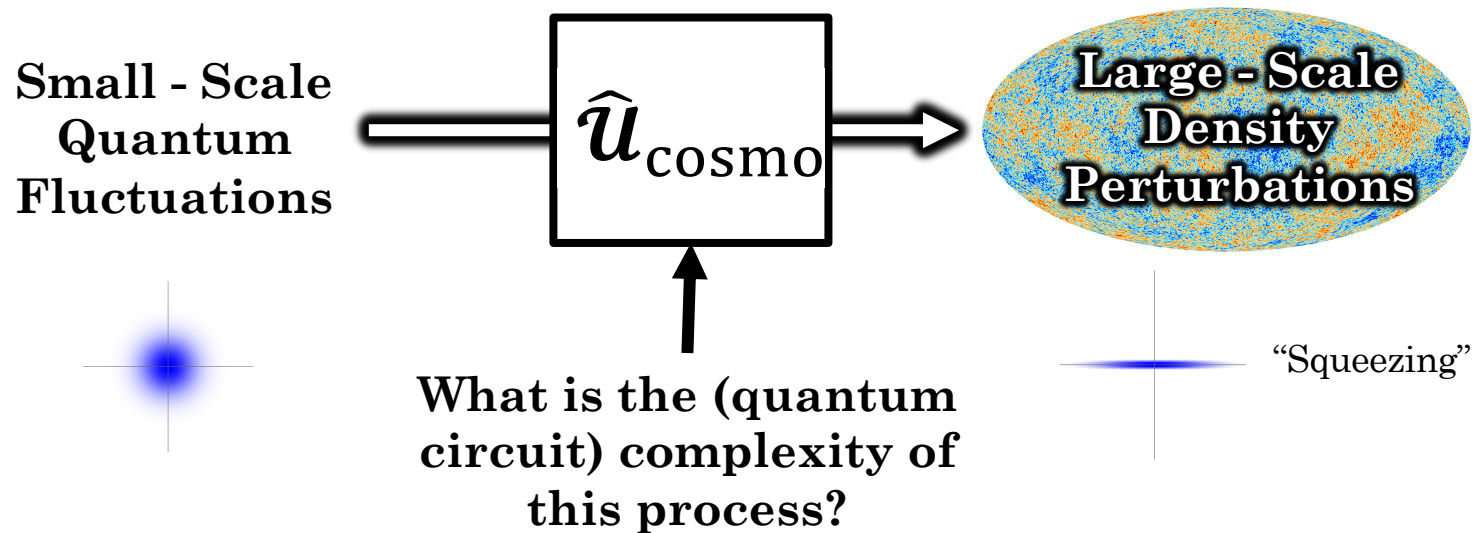
Inflation followed by "Reheating"



Rapidly changing squeezing angle  $\approx$  Complexity of decohered mixed state



# SUMMARY

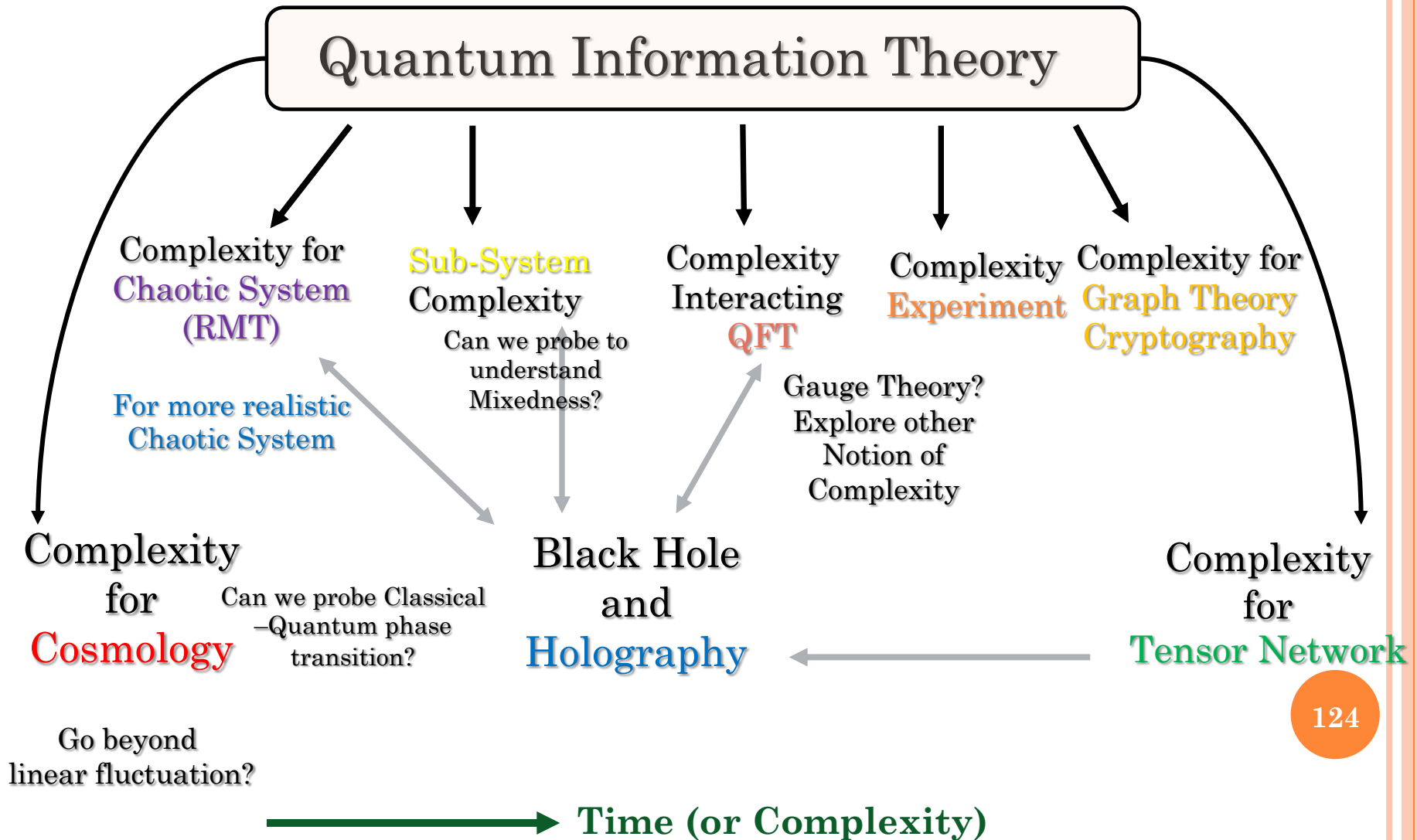


- ❑ Cosmological Complexity in dS grows linearly with time  $\mathcal{C}_{\text{cosmo}} = H_{\text{dS}} t$
- ❑ Complexity depends sensitively on squeezing angle  $\phi$ 
  - Complexity of dS is **maximal** w.r.t.  $\phi$ . Why? **Did our Universe choose to be more complex?**
- ❑ Growth rate of complexity  $\frac{d\mathcal{C}}{dt}$  is bounded from above for accelerating backgrounds
- ❑ **De-complexification** during radiation-domination phase
  - Connection between decomplexification and decoherence?

Complexity can be a sensitive measure for studying different models and implementing decoherence

# FUTURE DIRECTION

## Understanding Gravity and QFT from QI







ChatGPT

# WHAT IS COSMOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY?

**Cosmological complexity** refers to the intricate and multifaceted nature of the universe at the largest scales. It encompasses the study of the formation and evolution of cosmic structures like galaxies, galaxy clusters, and the vast cosmic web, as well as the complexities associated with cosmic microwave background radiation, dark matter, and dark energy. This concept highlights the rich interplay of physical processes, gravitational interactions, and cosmic phenomena that have shaped the universe's history and structure over billions of years, **making cosmology a complex and fascinating field of study** in astrophysics and cosmology.

# COLLABORATORS

**Helped me to put together the lectures**



**Bret Underwood**



**Arpan Bhattacharyya**



**Ghadir Jafari**

**Thank You**