



# Quantum Discord and decoherence of inflationary perturbations

TUG Workshop 2021

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arXiv:2112.05037 AM, Jérôme Martin <sup>2</sup>, Vincent Vennin <sup>2</sup>

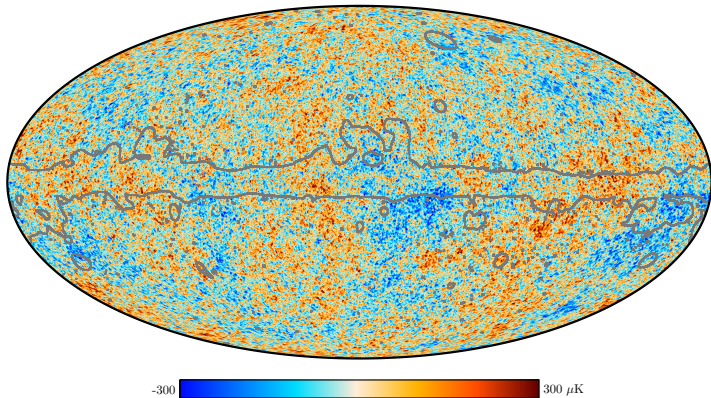
IJCLab, Orsay <sup>1</sup>

IAP, Paris <sup>2</sup>

# INTRODUCTION : QUANTUM FEATURES IN THE EARLY UNIVERSE ?

# CONTEXT I, INHOMOGENEITIES IN THE EARLY UNIVERSE

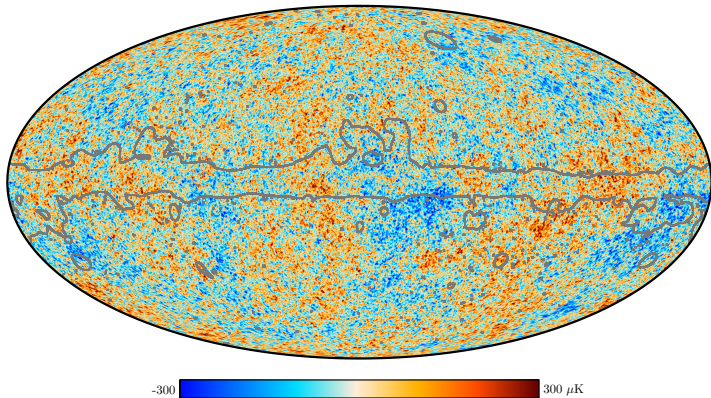
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# CONTEXT I, INHOMOGENEITIES IN THE EARLY UNIVERSE

→ Early Universe is homogeneous within a very good approximation<sup>1</sup>  $\Delta T/T \sim 10^{-4}$  **Origin of inhomogeneities?**



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## CONTEXT II, INHOMOGENEITIES IN THE EARLY UNIVERSE

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- Proposition  $\sim 80s^2$  : Inhomogeneities come from minimal (vacuum) quantum fluctuations at the beginning of inflation stretched to cosmological scales by expansion!

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2. [Mukhanov and Chibisov, 1981]

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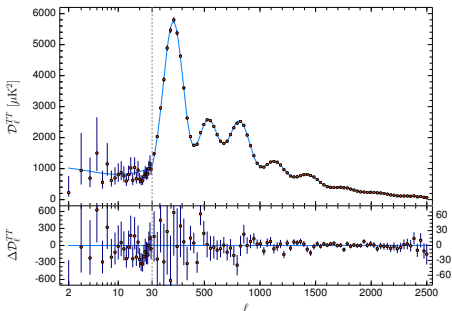
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- Indirect proof : very good agreement with data.<sup>2</sup>



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- We need **tools to measure the quantumness of a state** and hence study this transition : **Quantum Discord**
- Interactions with extra d.o.f lead to **decoherence** of quantum systems : **ingredient of quantum-to-classical transition.**

# CHARACTERIZING QUANTUMNESS OF INFLATIONNARY PERTURBATIONS

## QUANTUMNESS OF A STATE

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$$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2) = \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2) - \max_{\{\hat{\Pi}_j^{\mathcal{S}_2}\}} \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2, \{\hat{\Pi}_j^{\mathcal{S}_2}\})$$

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**If  $\mathcal{S}_i$  described by classical probabilities  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2) = 0$ .**  
**Quantum description  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2) \geq 0$ .**

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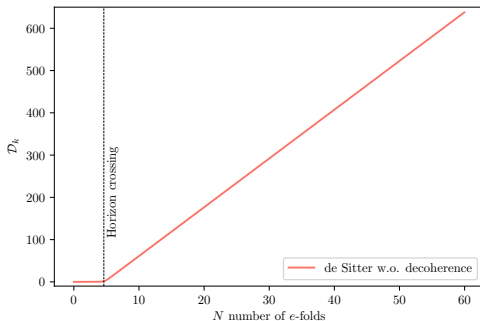
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### Take-home message 1

Without decoherence, according to any criterion, quantumness is strongly amplified by inflation and final state is very quantum.<sup>2 3</sup>

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**Can this result be due to oversimplified models?**

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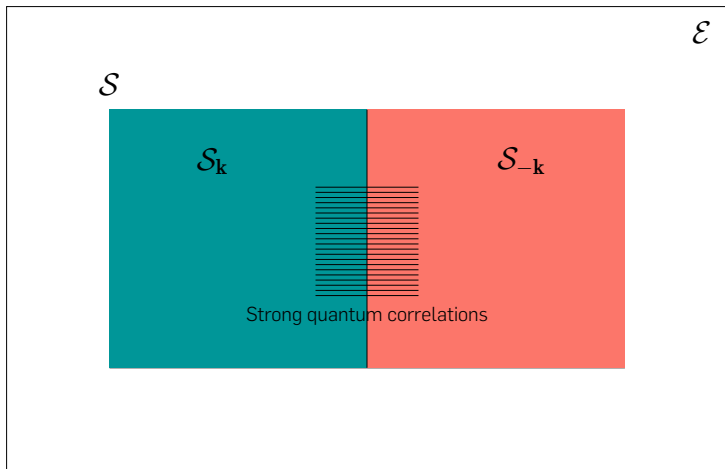
# DECOHERENCE AND LOSS OF QUANTUMNESS

# NON-LINEARITIES, INTERACTIONS : DECOHERENCE



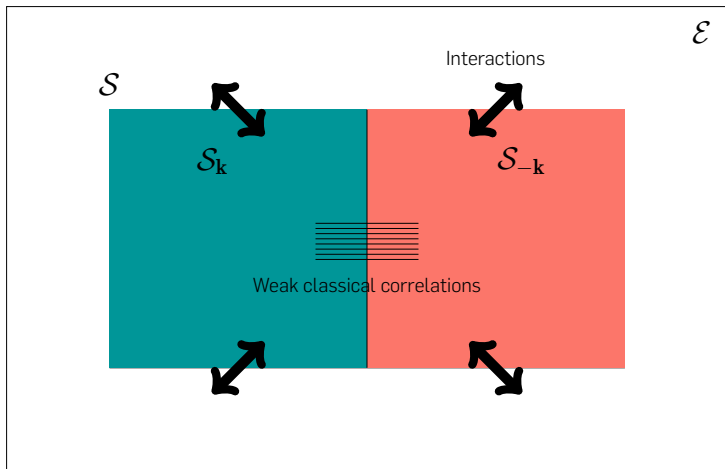


# NON-LINEARITIES, INTERACTIONS : DECOHERENCE



In fact  $\mathcal{S}$  has an environment  $\mathcal{E}$  (e.g.  $\mathcal{S}_{\pm\mathbf{k}'}$  with  $\mathbf{k}' \neq \mathbf{k}$ ) or other fields.

# NON-LINEARITIES, INTERACTIONS : DECOHERENCE



**Interactions  $\mathcal{S} / \mathcal{E}$  destroy correlations  $\mathcal{S}_k / \mathcal{S}_{-k}$  : decoherence.**

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## Is Quantum Discord spoiled by decoherence?

### Take-home message 2<sup>4</sup>

Loss or preservation of Quantum Discord is the result of a competition between generation of entanglement by inflation and decoherence due to interactions.

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4. [arXiv:2112.05037 Martin et al., 2021]

# COMPETITION OF ENTANGLEMENT AND DECOHERENCE

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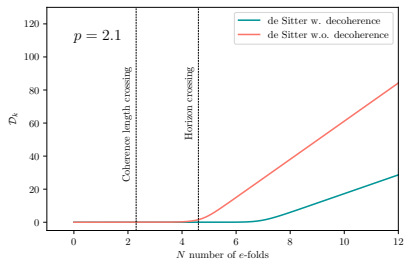
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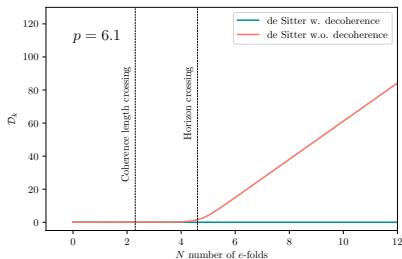
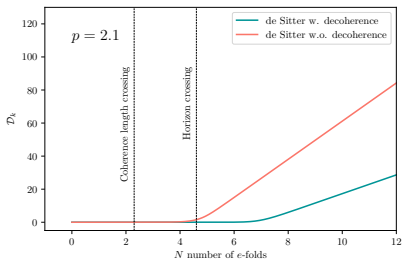
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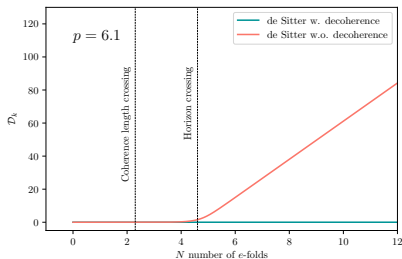
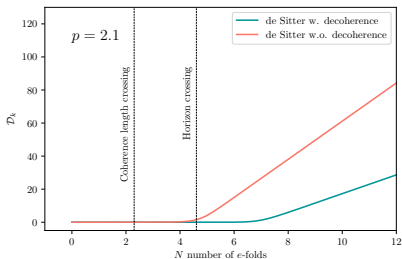
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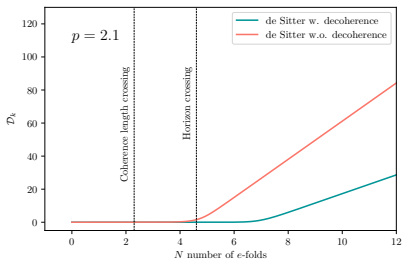


$p < 6$  then  $D_k \propto (6 - p)N$

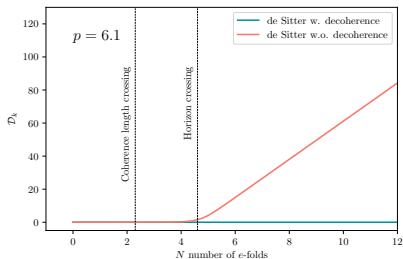
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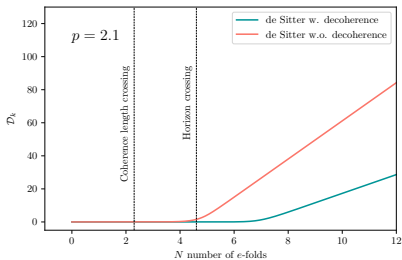


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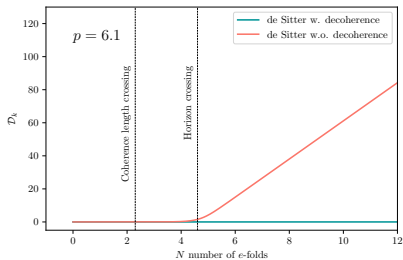
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**Is there a way to understand this competition visually?**

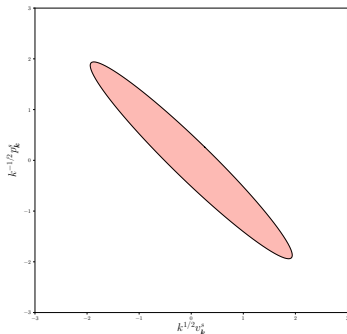
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WHAT DOES QUANTUM DISCORD  
MEASURE ?



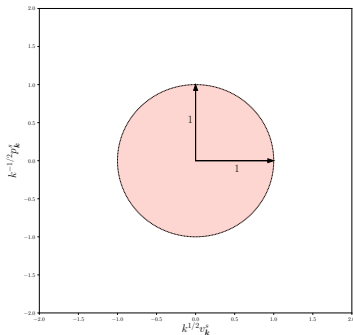
## WARM-UP : GEO. REP. 2-MODE SQUEEZED STATES

- **Gaussian state** can be represented as **probability distribution in phase space** using their Wigner function. Contours levels are **ellipses**.



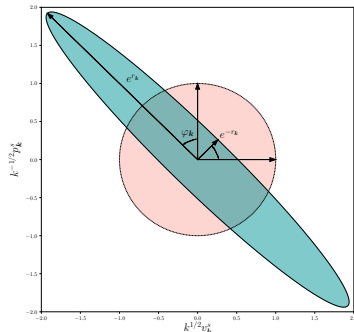
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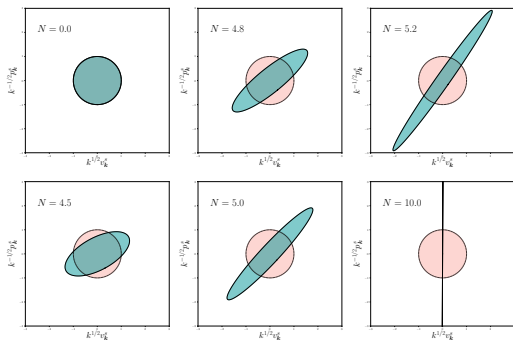
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- **Gaussian state** can be represented as **probability distribution in phase space** using their Wigner function. Contour levels are **ellipses**. Vacuum gives circles.
- Evolution under quadratic hamiltonian : **squeezing of the contour, preserving area**. Creates a **sub-fluctuant direction**  $e^{-\eta_k}$ .



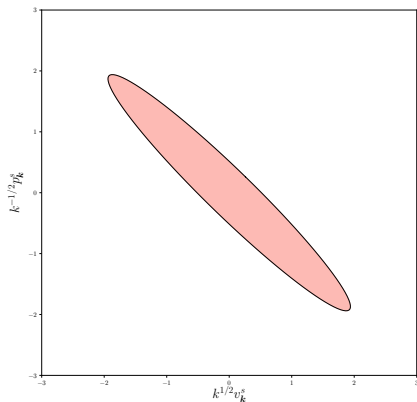
## WARM-UP : GEO. REP. 2-MODE SQUEEZED STATES

- **Gaussian state** can be represented as **probability distribution in phase space** using their Wigner function. Contour levels are **ellipses**. Vacuum gives circles.
- Inflation leads to strong squeezing hence **very sub-fluctuant mode**.



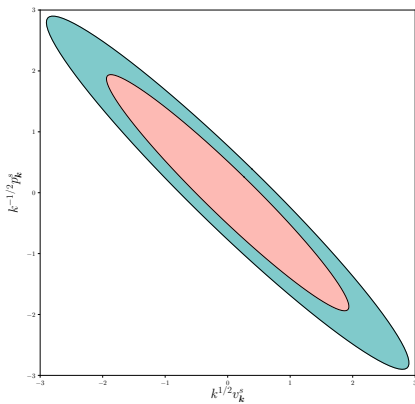
## GEO. REP. DECOHERED 2-MODE SQUEEZED STATES

→ Decoherence in phase space ?



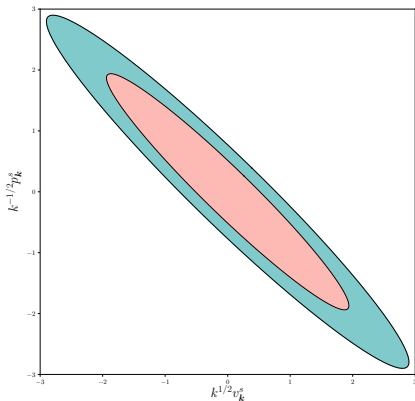
# GEO. REP. DECOHERED 2-MODE SQUEEZED STATES

→ Decoherence in phase space? Growth of ellipse area



## GEO. REP. DECOHERED 2-MODE SQUEEZED STATES

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- **Competition of squeezing and decoherence over the existence of a sub-fluctuant direction** <sup>5</sup>.

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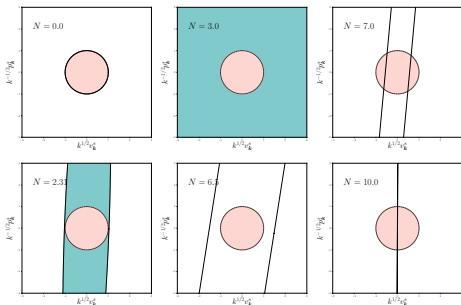
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$$p = 2.1$$

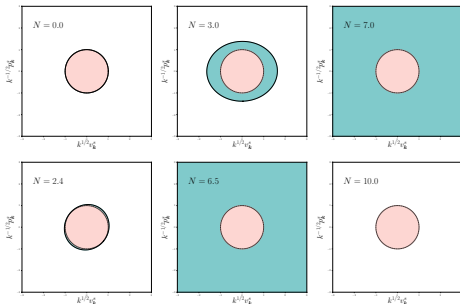


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### Take-home message 3

For decohered 2-mode squeezed states the value of Quantum Discord is related to the size of the semi-minor axis.

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# SUMMARY & FUTURE DIRECTIONS

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- Computed the Quantum Discord of inflationary perturbations in presence of decoherence.
- Competition between entanglement build up and decoherence determines fate of Quantum Discord.
- For decohered 2-mode squeezed state the presence of Quantum Discord is related to the existence of a sub-fluctuant direction in the phase space distribution.

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

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- Compare the effect of decoherence on different criteria (Bell Inequalities, non-separability etc.).







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- Compare the effect of decoherence on different criteria (Bell Inequalities, non-separability etc.).
- Use a more realistic interaction for decoherence, for instance non-linearities of pure gravity and see if we recover similar results.

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Thank you for your attention!

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Astronomy & Astrophysics, 641:A4.

EXTRA

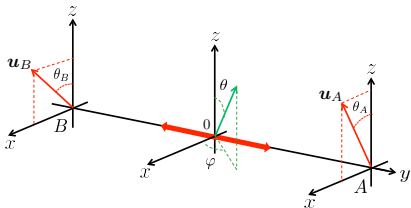
## ANOTHER CRITERION : BELL INEQUALITIES

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→ Quantumness of a state for a system  $\mathcal{S}$  = Quantumness of correlations of subsystems  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}_1 \cup \mathcal{S}_2$  for this state.

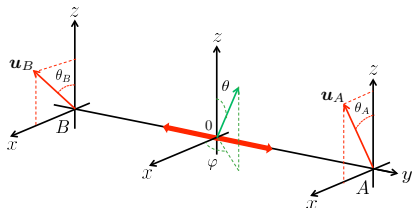
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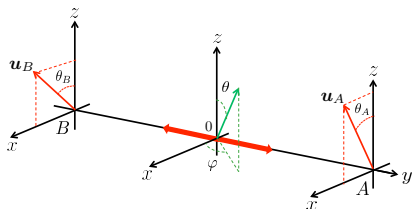
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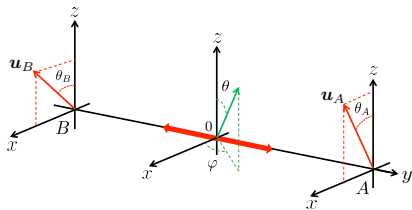
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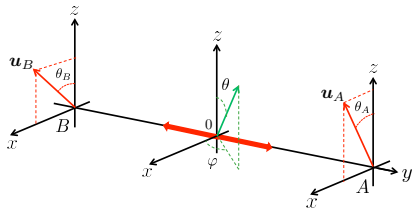
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 $\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}} \rangle = 2\sqrt{2}$

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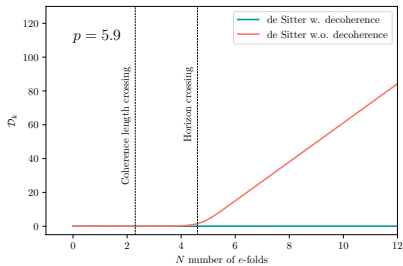
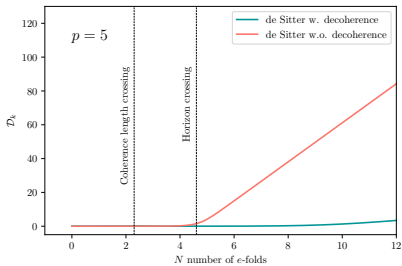


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**If measure  $\langle \hat{\mathcal{O}} \rangle > 2$ , correlations stronger than classical ones  
→ quantum state.**

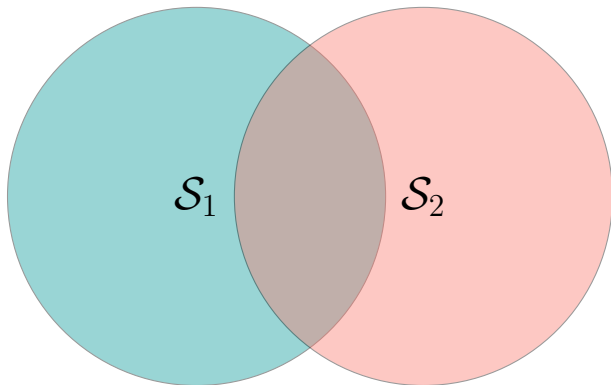


# GROWTH OF $\mathcal{D}_K$ AND VALUES $p$



## MUTUAL INFORMATION

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$$\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2) = H(\mathcal{S}_1) + H(\mathcal{S}_2) - H(\mathcal{S})$$

## DECOHERED INFLATIONARY FLUCTUATIONS

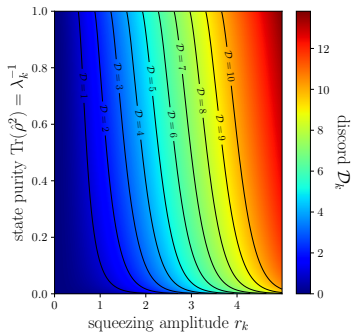
→ Environment for  $\mathcal{S}$ ? Modeled by Lindblad equation + linear interaction with strength

$$k_{\Gamma}^2 \left( \frac{a}{a_{\star}} \right)^{p-3} H \left( 1 - \frac{k\ell_E}{a} \right). \quad (1)$$

# COMPETITION BETWEEN DECOHERENCE AND INFLATION

## Take-home message 2<sup>6</sup>

Loss or preservation of Quantum Discord is the result of a competition between generation of entanglement by inflation and decoherence due to interactions.



6. [arXiv:2112.05037 Martin et al., 2021]