# A SUPERPOSITION QUANTUM UNIVERSE AND ITS PERTURBATIONS

... an alternative description for quantum cosmology?

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[arXiv:2508.06231] - work in collaboration with Kratika Mazde and Patrick Peter





LEVERHULME TRUST\_\_\_\_\_

## INTRO: QUANTUM COSMOLOGY

 Minisuperspace models: Wheeler-de-Witt quantisation on the reduced phase space of general relativity to obtain a quantum description of the universe



approximation to a full theory of quantum gravity

Problem of time

[Isham, ('93)]

- GR is a fully constrained system → no external time parameter
- Evolution happens w.r.t. an internal degree of freedom serving as a clock (here: perfect fluid)

[Małkiewicz, Peter, ('19)]

[Gielen, Menéndez-Pidal, ('20, `21)]

[de Cabo Martin, Małkiewicz, Peter, ('22)]

[Bergeron, Dapor, Gazeau, Małkiewicz, ('14)]

#### Ambiguities

- Quantisation: choice of clock degree of freedom, canonical variables, quantisation scheme
- Extraction of an effective evolution of the scale factor
- (Semiclassical) state of the universe



**different phenomenology** (e.g. singularity resolution)

## IN A NUTSHELL

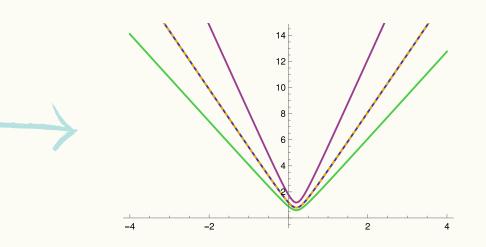


Minisuperspace quantisation of FLRW spacetime

Quantum **trajectories** to obtain quantum corrected evolution of scale factor

Universe in a superposition  $\Psi = \mathcal{N}(\psi_0 + \rho e^{\mathrm{i}\delta}\psi_1)$ 

bounce



Influence on perturbations?

Interaction between multiple background states and their perturbations leads to non Gaussianities in perturbations

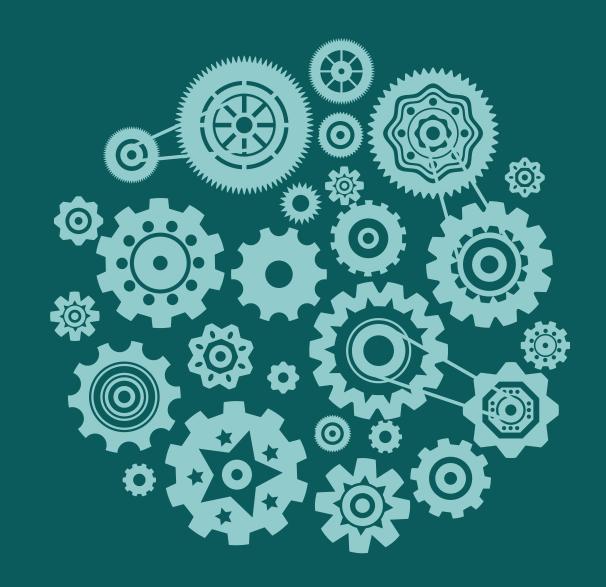
[Bergeron, Małkiewicz, Peter, ('24)] [Bergeron, Małkiewicz, Peter, ('25)]



Trajectories give drastically different background evolution that alters the dynamics of perturbations

## SETUP

Quantising the universe



#### THE SYSTEM

• Quantise phase space of FLRW spacetime  $\,\mathrm{d}s^2 = -N^2(t)\mathrm{d}t^2 + a^2(t)\delta_{ij}\mathrm{d}x^i\mathrm{d}x^j$ 

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{ADM}} \to \mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{FLRW}} = \frac{\kappa = 8\pi G}{12 \mathcal{V}_0 a} p_a^2 \qquad \text{momentum conjugate to scale factor}$$
 spatial section volume

• Perfect fluid as matter clock fixes the lapse  $N=-a^{3w}$  equation of state parameter [Schutz, ('70) ('71)]

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{fluid}} = \gamma(w) \frac{N}{a^{3w}} p_{\phi}^{1+w}$$

- Canonical transformation to convenient variables
  - $(a,p_a) o (q,p)$  with  $p \propto a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)}H$ ,  $q \propto a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)}$
  - $p_{\phi} \rightarrow p_{\tau} = -\gamma p_{\phi}^{1+w}$
- ullet Total Hamiltonian after deparametrisation:  ${\cal H}={\cal H}_{
  m FLRW}+{\cal H}_{
  m fluid}\propto p^2+p_ au$  matter clock





## QUANTISATION $\mathcal{H} \to \hat{\mathcal{H}}$

Quantisation based on the Weyl-Heisenberg group  $x \in \mathbb{R}$   $p \in \mathbb{R}$ 

$$U(q,p)\psi(x) = e^{ip(x-q/2)}\psi(x-q)$$

- Here:  $x \ge 0$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{R}$   $\longrightarrow$  use affine group  $U(q,p)\psi(x) = \frac{e^{ipx}}{\sqrt{a}}\psi\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)$
- Quantisation map  $\hat{A}_f = \mathcal{N} \int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+} \mathrm{d}p \mathrm{d}q \, |q,p\rangle \, f(p,q) \, \langle q,p|$  where  $|q,p\rangle = U(q,p) |\psi_0\rangle$  phase space function  $\Rightarrow$  coherent state fiducial state
- Quantisation of FLRW Hamiltonian  $~{\cal H} \propto p^2 + p_ au~$  leads to a repulsive potential

$$\hat{A}_{p^2}\,\psi = -\partial_x^2\,\psi + \frac{K}{x^2}\psi \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad \hat{\mathcal{H}} \propto \hat{p}^2 + \frac{K}{\hat{q}^2} + \hat{p}_\tau \qquad \text{time evolution}$$

$$\hat{p}\,\psi=-\mathrm{i}\partial_x\psi$$
 with 
$$\hat{q}\,\psi=x\,\psi$$
 
$$\hat{p}_\tau\psi=-\mathrm{i}\partial_\tau\psi$$

[Klauder, ('99)] [Bergeron, Dapor, Gazeau, Małkiewicz, ('14)]

## SEMICASSICAL STATES

• Use semiclassical state  $|\psi\rangle=e^{-\mathrm{i}\phi(\tau)}|q(\tau),p(\tau)\rangle$ 

[Bergeron, Gazeau, Małkiewicz, Peter ('23)]

- $\circ$  Satisfies the Schrödinger equation  $\,\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathrm{FLRW}}\psi \mathrm{i}\partial_{ au}\psi = 0$
- $\circ$  Follows dynamics generated by the semiclassical Hamiltonian  $\; {\cal H}_{
  m sem} = p^2 + rac{K}{q^2} \; . \;$

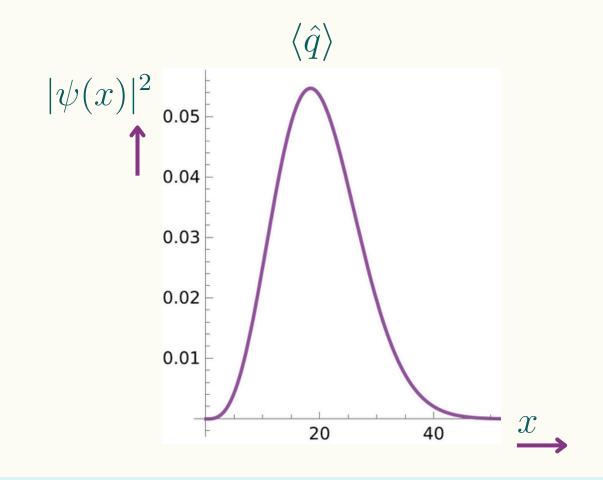
$$q(\tau) = q_B \sqrt{1 + \omega^2 (\tau - \tau_B)^2} \qquad p(\tau) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{q}(\tau) = \frac{q_B \omega^2 (\tau - \tau_B)}{2\sqrt{1 + \omega^2 (\tau - \tau_B)^2}}$$

 $\circ \ \, \text{Specific choice of fiducial state} \ \, \langle x|q(\tau),p(\tau)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{q(\tau)}} \exp\left(\mathrm{i}\frac{p(\tau)}{2q(\tau)}x^2\right) \Phi_n\left(\frac{x}{q(\tau)}\right)$ 

Note: use different representation  $V(q,p)\psi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{q}} \exp\left(i\frac{p}{2q}x^2\right)\psi\left(\frac{x}{q}\right)$ 

#### SEMICLASSICAL SCALE FACTOR

- Operator related to the scale factor  $q \propto a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)}$   $q \to \hat{q}$
- In order to connect to GR: need classical scale factor on spacetime
- Common: semiclassical scale factor from an operator expectation value in a highly peaked state semiclassical state = the most likely state for the system  $\langle \psi | \hat{q} | \psi \rangle \propto a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)}$
- Contrary to lab experiments (or cosmological perturbations) one cannot repeat the experiment many times: no statistical distribution



- Here: use Bohmian trajectories
  - Predictions of the trajectory approach are equivalent to the Copenhagen / orthodox version of quantum mechanics: give the same probabilistic outcomes
  - Applications in e.g. theoretical chemistry

[de Broglie ('27)] [Bohm ('52)]

[Sanz ('18)] [Gindensperger ('00)]

## THE TRAJECTORY APPROACH

In a nutshell: The quantum system follows a trajectory, but our knowledge of system properties at any given moment is limited

• Physical system = wave + point particle moving under guidance of the wave

[Holland ('93)]

$$\psi(x,t) = R(x,t)e^{\mathrm{i}S(x,t)} \longrightarrow x(t)$$
 trajectory

Wave function obeys the Schrödinger equation

$$\mathrm{i}\partial_t\psi=H\psi$$

• Particle motion is obtained calculated from the phase (initial condition dependent)

$$\dot{x} = \frac{1}{m} \nabla S(x, t)$$

- Different initial conditions  $x(t_0)$  give an ensemble of particles associated to the same wave
- $\circ$  Arbitrary initial condition, but not in regions where  $\psi(x,t)=0$
- ullet Probability of the particle to lie in an interval  $x+\mathrm{d}x$  is determined by the wave function amplitude  $R^2(x,t)dx$

Lisa Mickel

## EXAMPLE: DOUBLE SLIT EXPERIMENT

- Consider the double slit experiment as an example
  - Two wave packets emerge from the slits: Gaussian in y-direction, plane waves in x-direction

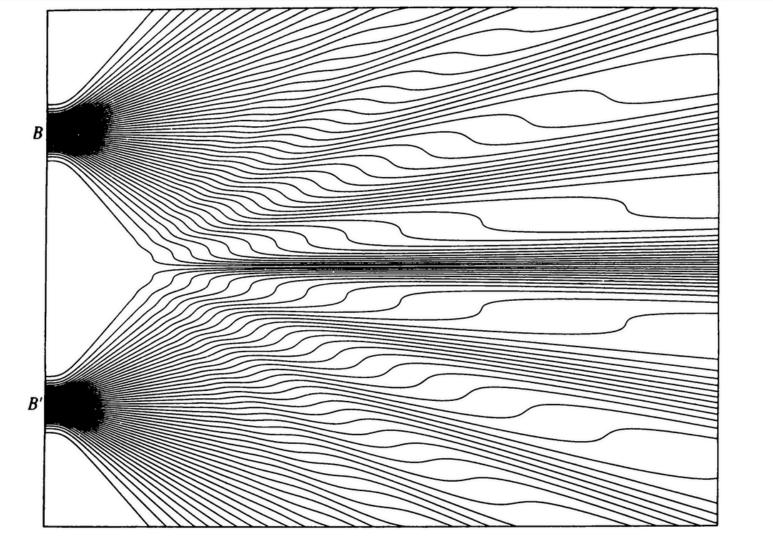
$$\psi_B(x,y,t_0)$$
 and  $\psi_{B'}(x,y,t_0)$ 

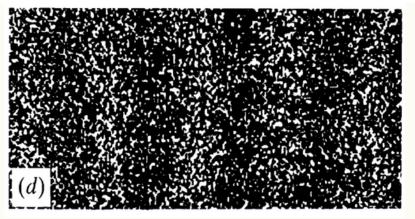
Total wave function is a superposition

$$\psi = \mathcal{N}(\psi_B(x, y, t) + \psi_{B'}(x, y, t))$$

- Obtain interference pattern from  $R^2=|\psi|^2$
- Numerically calculate trajectories
  - Can reconstruct the path of an electron that hit the screen (up to measurement uncertainty)







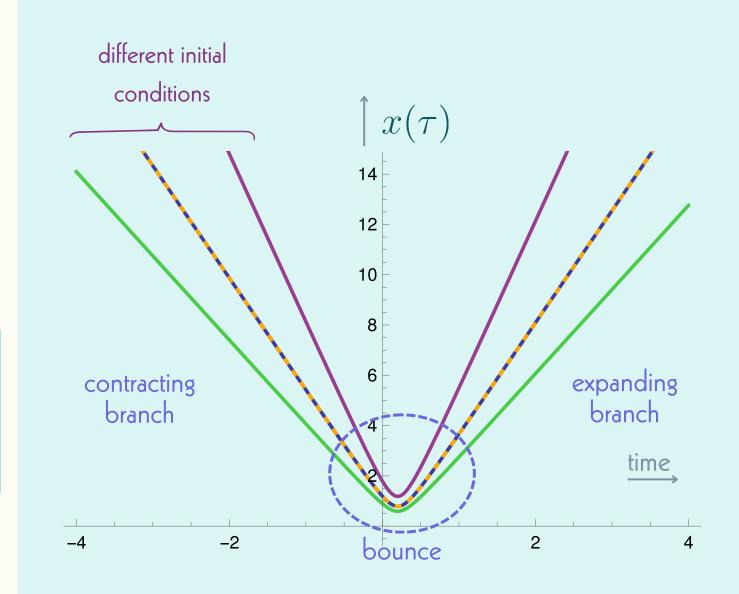
[Image: Tonomura et al., ('89)]

## BOUNCING TRAJECTORIES

• Continuous ensemble of trajectories can be obtained from the wave function:

trajectory gives the scale factor: 
$$x(\tau) = \sqrt{\frac{12\mathcal{V}_0}{\kappa}} \frac{2\,a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)}}{3(1-w)}$$
 evolution governed by the wave function: 
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}x}{\mathrm{d}\tau} = -\mathrm{i}\partial_x \ln\frac{\psi}{\psi^\star}$$
 with 
$$|\psi\rangle = e^{-\mathrm{i}\phi(\tau)}|q(\tau),p(\tau)\rangle$$

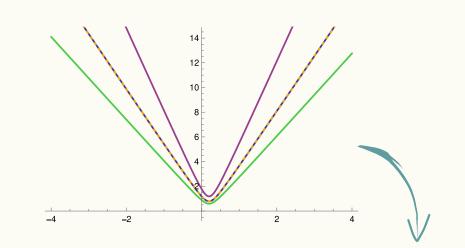
- quantum uncertainty in the initial conditions
- assign a concrete value to the effective scale factor at all times
- o classical dynamics away from bounce



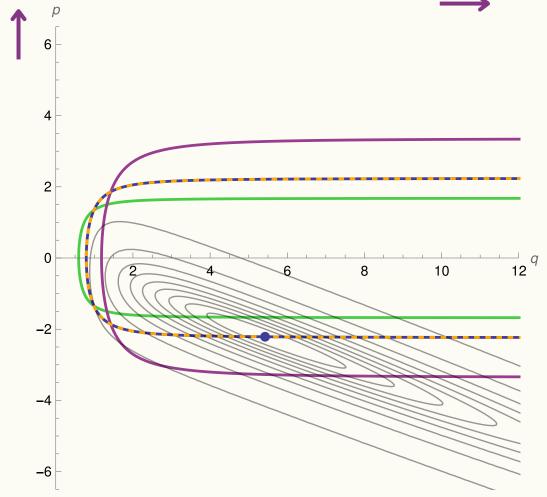
 $\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathrm{FLRW}}\psi - \mathrm{i}\partial_{\tau}\psi = 0$ 

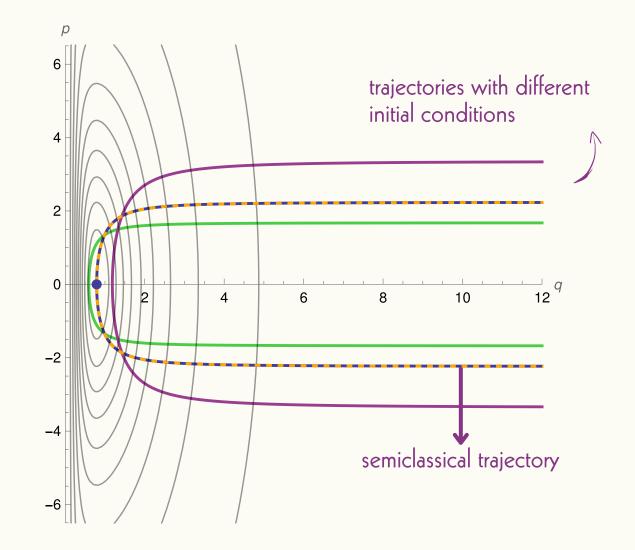
## BOUNCING SINGLE STATE TRAJECTORIES

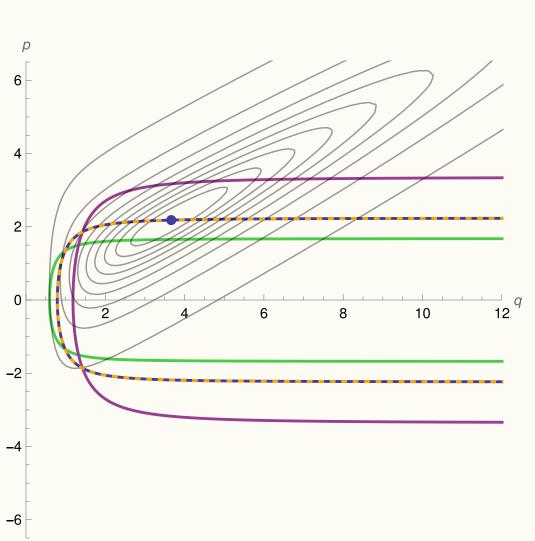
• State and trajectories follow dynamics generated by the semiclassical Hamiltonian  $\mathcal{H}_{\rm sem}=p^2+\frac{K}{q^2}$ 



$$p \propto a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)}H \qquad q \propto a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)}$$







# SUPERPOSITION UNIVERSE

Bouncing biverse

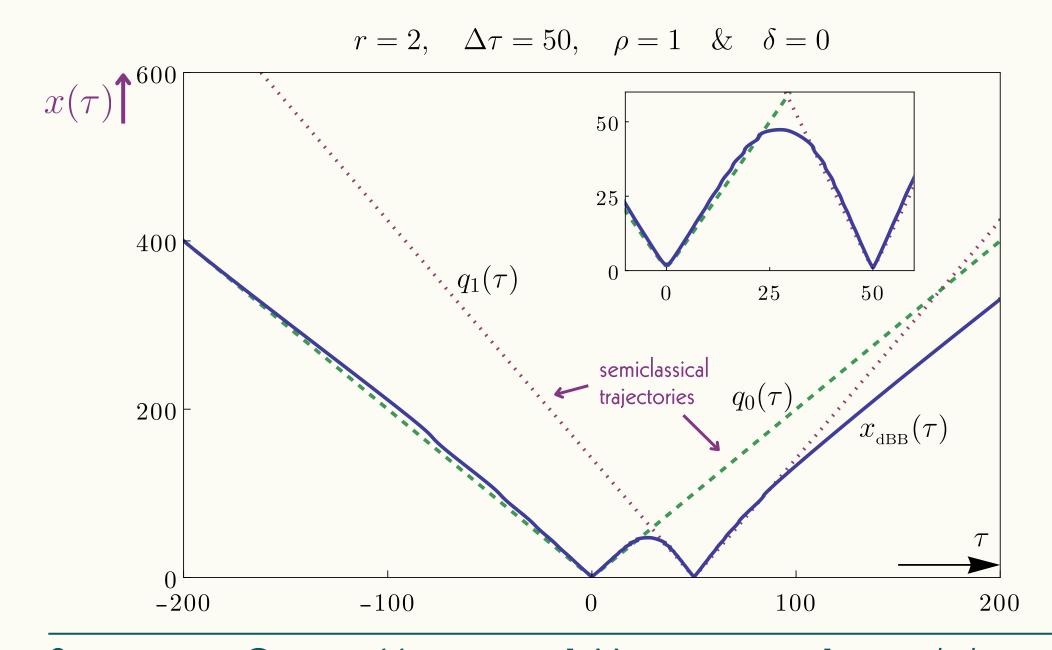


## UNIVERSE IN A SUPERPOSITION $\Psi = \mathcal{N} \sum \alpha_n \psi_n$

$$\Psi = \mathcal{N} \sum_{n} \alpha_n \psi_n$$

- Biverse:  $\Psi = \mathcal{N}(\psi_0 + \rho e^{\mathrm{i}\delta}\psi_1)$

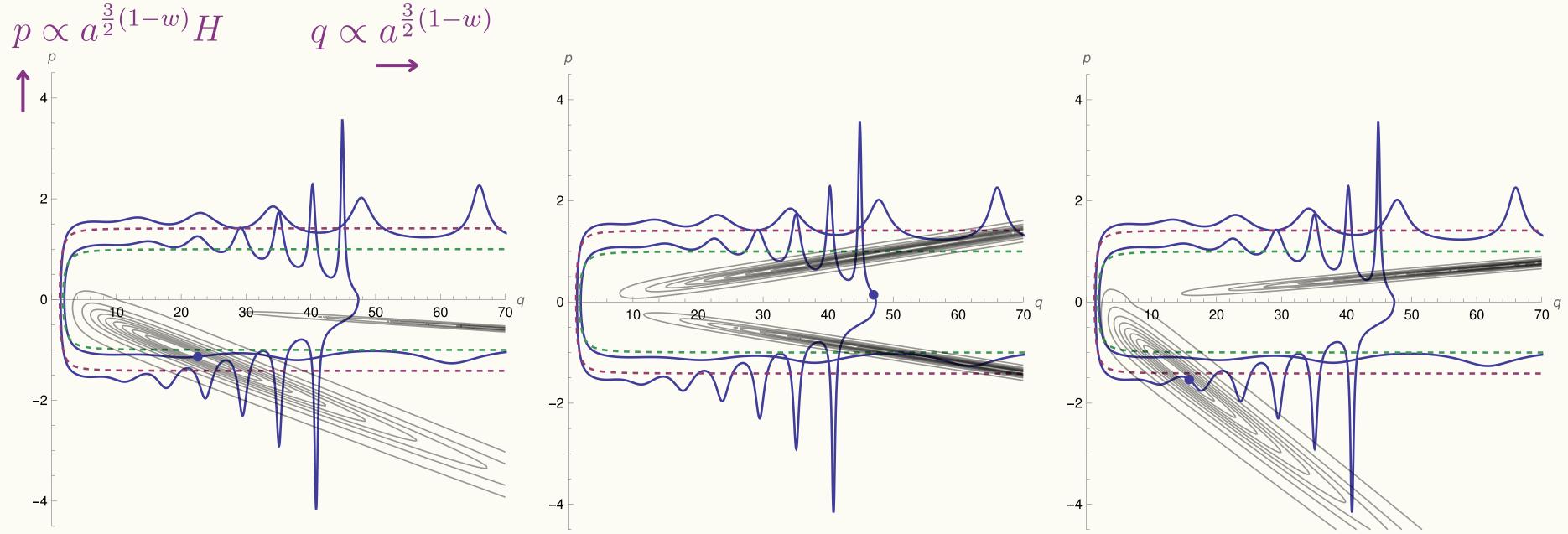
• Recall that trajectories are calculated from: 
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}x}{\mathrm{d} au} = -\mathrm{i}\partial_x\ln\frac{\Psi}{\Psi^*}$$
 with  $x\propto a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)}$ 



- Start on semiclassical trajectory
- Parameters:
- r or ratio of late time momenta of semiclassical solutions
- $\Delta au$  o difference in bounce times
- $\rho, \ \delta \ \circ \ \text{contribution of second wave}$ function

## UNIVERSE IN A SUPERPOSITION

• Phase space portraits and wave functions for the biverse  $\Psi=\mathcal{N}(\psi_0+
ho e^{\mathrm{i}\delta}\psi_1)$ 



• Trajectories highly dependent on initial conditions, but generally exhibit features that differ from single state trajectories

## ANOTHER EXAMPLE & LATE TIME LIMIT

• Phase space portraits for the biverse  $\Psi = \mathcal{N}(\psi_0 + \rho e^{\mathrm{i}\delta}\psi_1)$ 

$$p \propto a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)}H$$
 $r = 1.2, \quad \Delta \tau = 2, \quad \rho = 0.2$ 
 $0.5$ 
 $-\delta = 0$ 
 $-\delta = \pi/2$ 
 $-\delta = \pi$ 
 $-\delta = 3\pi/2$ 
 $\frac{3}{2}(1-w)$ 

- Trajectories highly dependent on initial conditions,
   but generally exhibit features that differ from single state trajectories
- Late time behaviour
  - Dominated by a single wave function → same
     evolution as in single state case
  - $\circ$  Return to initial momentum  $\; \dot{x}(\tau) \to x_0 \, \omega \;$

## FIRST APPROACH TO PERTURBATIONS

ullet Consider tensor perturbations in a flat FLRW spacetime with a radiation fluid (set w=1/3)

$$ds^{2} = a^{2}(\eta) \left(-d\eta^{2} + \left[\delta_{ij} + h_{ij}(\eta, \vec{x})\right] dx^{i} dx^{j}\right)$$

[Peter, Pinho, Pinto-Neto, ('05)]

[Peter, Pinho, Pinto-Neto, ('06)]

• Second order linear perturbative Hamiltonian for tensor modes: sum of the two polarisations and Fourier modes

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{FLRW}} = \mathcal{H}^{(0)} + \mathcal{H}^{(2)}$$

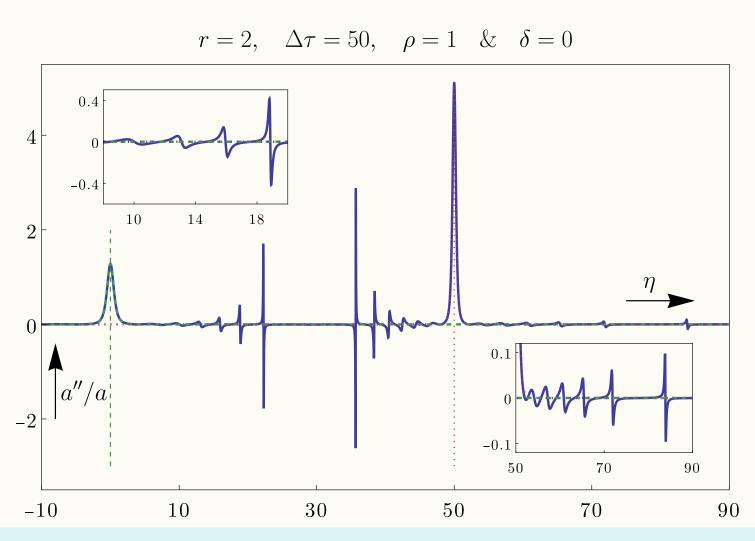
$$\mathcal{H}^{(2)} = \sum_{\vec{k}} \left( \mathcal{H}^{(2)}_{\vec{k},+} + \mathcal{H}^{(2)}_{\vec{k},\times} \right) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{H}^{(2)}_{\vec{k},\lambda} = \pi^{(\lambda)}_{\vec{k}} \pi^{(\lambda)}_{-\vec{k}} + \left( k^2 - \frac{a''}{a} \right) \mu^{(\lambda)}_{\vec{k}} \mu^{(\lambda)}_{-\vec{k}} \quad \longrightarrow \quad h_{ij} \propto \mu_{ij}/a$$

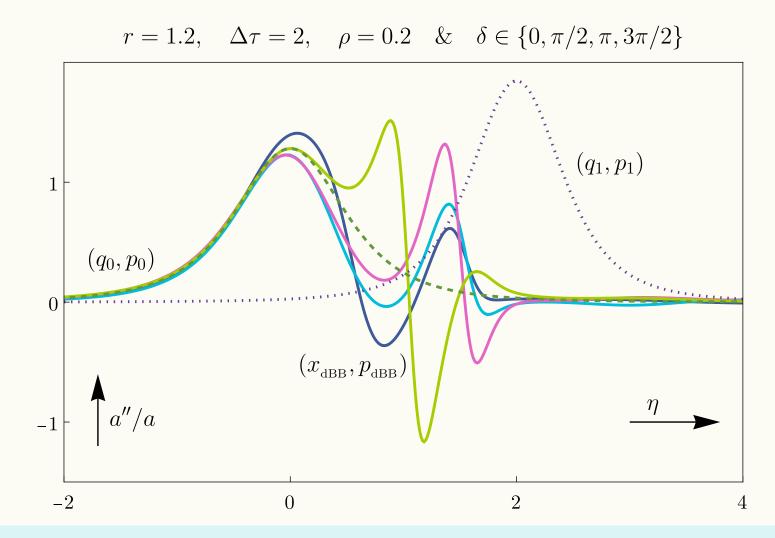
$$\text{conjugate momentum of } \mu^{(\lambda)}_{\vec{k}}$$

- Use scale factor as given by Bohmian trajectories in perturbed Hamiltonian  $\Psi_{\mathrm{pert}} = \Psi_{\mathrm{pert}}(a(\eta), \mu_k)$
- Canonical quantisation of the tensor perturbations leads to mode equation  $\mu_k'' + \left(k^2 \frac{a''}{a}\right)\mu_k = 0$

## PERTURBATIONS FROM BIVERSE TRAJECTORIES

• Dynamics of perturbation modes 
$$\mu_k'' + \left(k^2 - \frac{a''}{a}\right)\mu_k = 0$$
 
$$h_{ij} \propto \mu_{ij}/a$$
 modified by trajectories

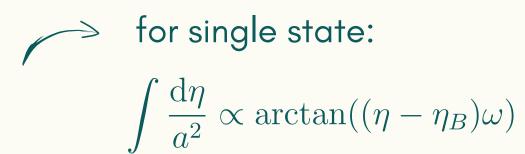


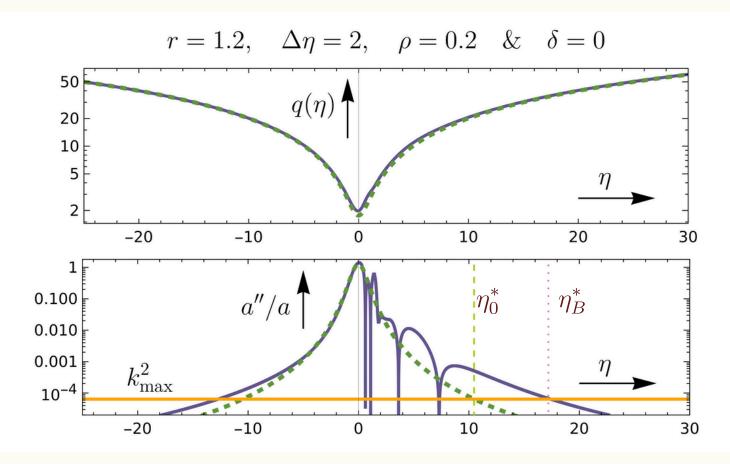


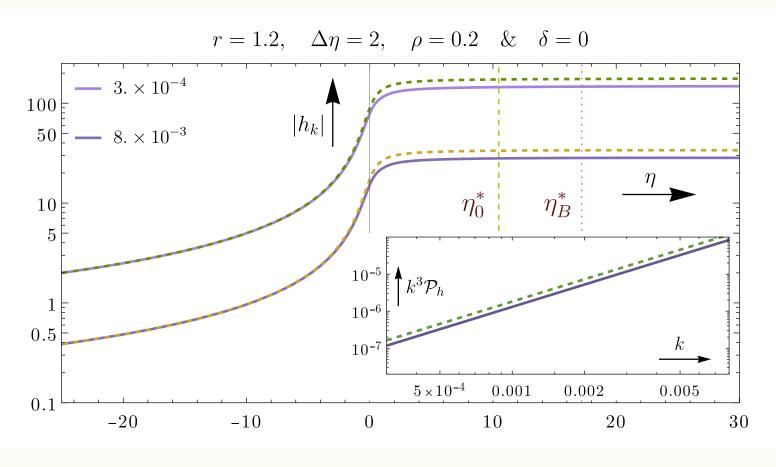
• Potential resulting from the biverse trajectories differs from single state case which would dictate perturbative dynamics in each universe separately if effective scale factor was obtained from projection onto a state [Bergeron, Małkiewicz, Peter, ('24)]

## PERTURBATIVE DYNAMICS: EXAMPLE I

- Range of Fourier modes:  $k \in (8 \times 10^{-4}, 3 \times 10^{-3})$
- Initial conditions: Bunch-Davies vacuum  $\mu_k(\eta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} e^{-\mathrm{i}k(\eta \eta_i)}$
- In potential dominated regime:  $\mu_k(\eta) \approx a(\eta) \left( \frac{\mu_{k,0}}{a_0} + (\mu'_{k,0}a_0 \mu_{k,0}a'_0) \int_{n_0}^{\eta} \frac{\mathrm{d}\eta}{a^2} \right)^{\prime} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}\eta}{a^2} \propto \arctan((\eta \eta_B)\omega)$



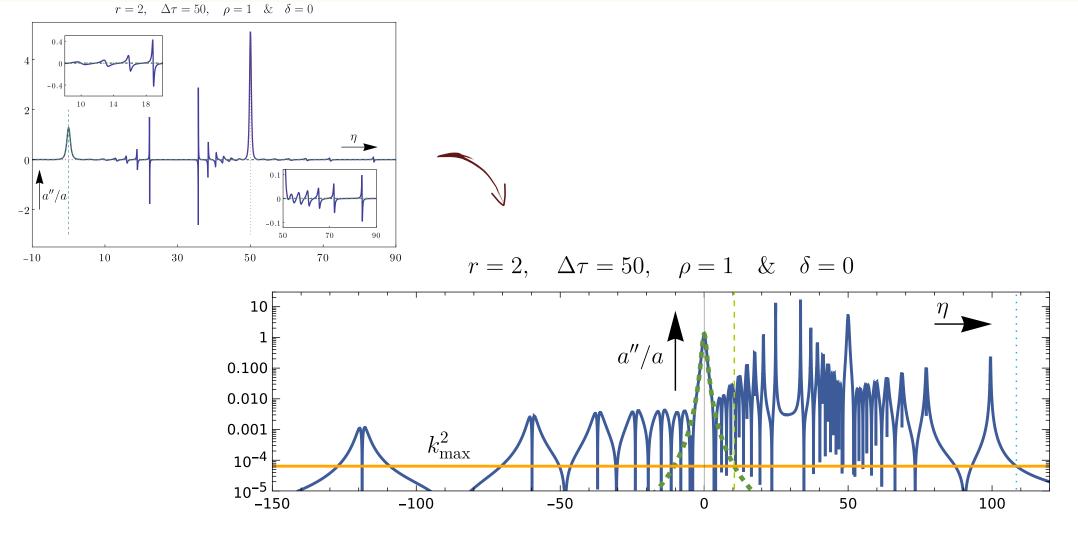


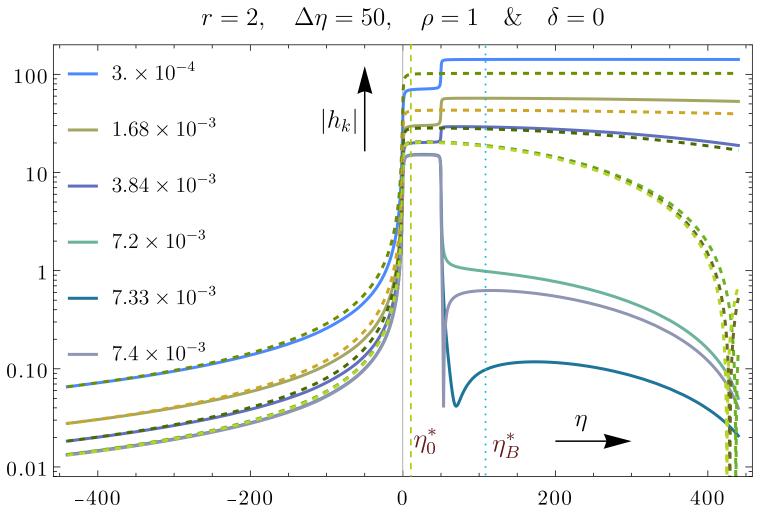


• Power spectrum  $k^3\mathcal{P}=\frac{2k^3}{\pi^2}\left|\frac{\mu_k}{a}\right|_{n=n^*}^2$  taken at time when  $V_{\text{eff}}(\eta^*)=k_{\max}^2$ 

#### PERTURBATIVE DYNAMICS: EXAMPLE II

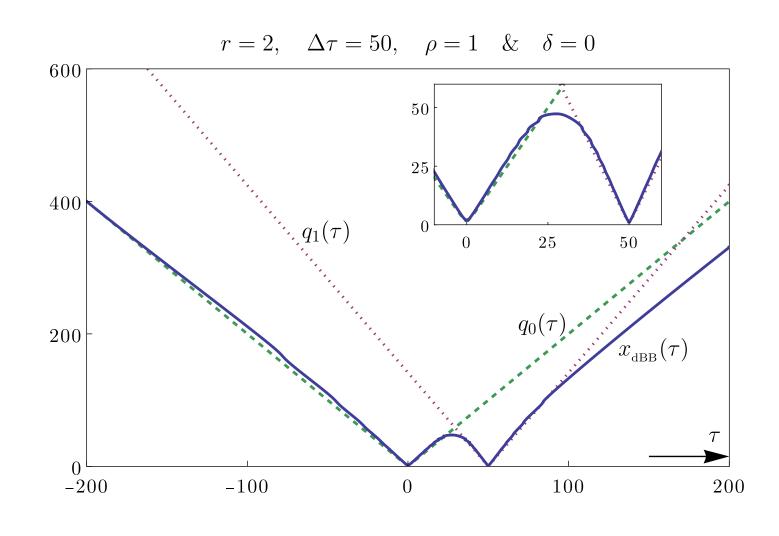
- Range of Fourier modes:  $k \in (8 \times 10^{-4}, 3 \times 10^{-3})$
- In potential dominated regime:  $\mu_k(\eta) \approx a(\eta) \left( \frac{\mu_{k,0}}{a_0} + (\mu'_{k,0}a_0 \mu_{k,0}a'_0) \int_{\eta_0}^{\eta} \frac{\mathrm{d}\eta}{a^2} \right)$  for single state:  $\int \frac{\mathrm{d}\eta}{a^2} \propto \arctan((\eta \eta_B)\omega)$

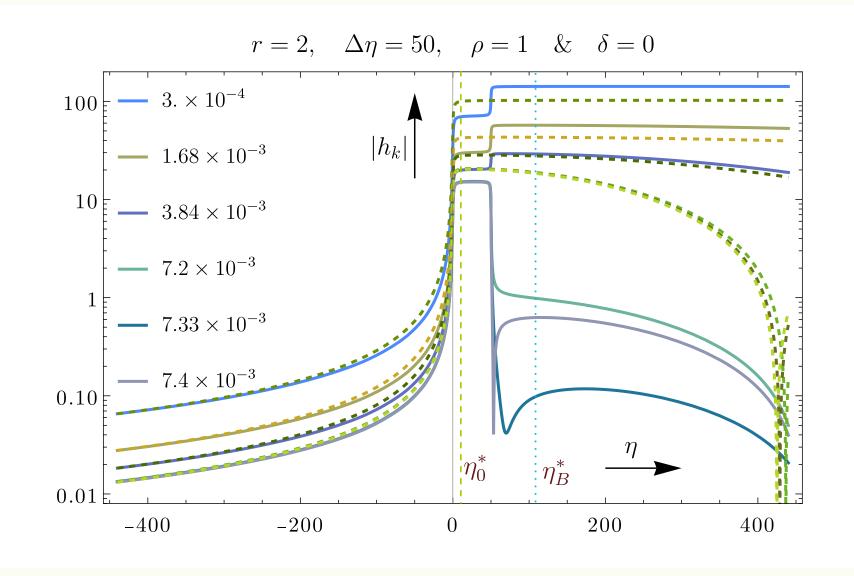




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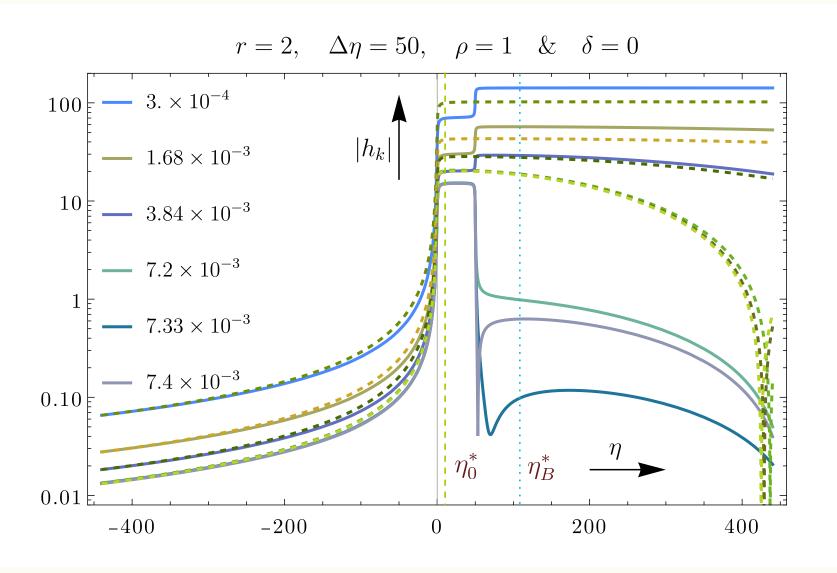
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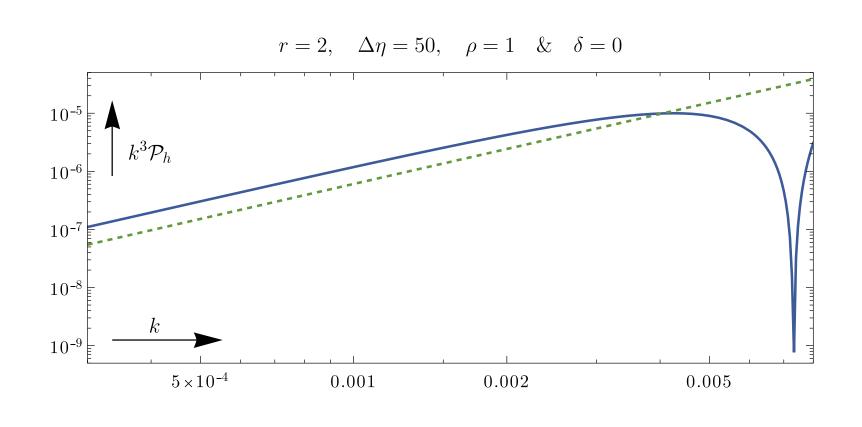




## PERTURBATIVE DYNAMICS: EXAMPLE II

- Power spectrum  $k^3\mathcal{P}=\frac{2k^3}{\pi^2}\left|\frac{\mu_k}{a}\right|_{\eta=\eta^*}^2$  taken at time when  $V_{\mathrm{eff}}(\eta^*)=k_{\mathrm{max}}^2$ 
  - Lowering of spectral index





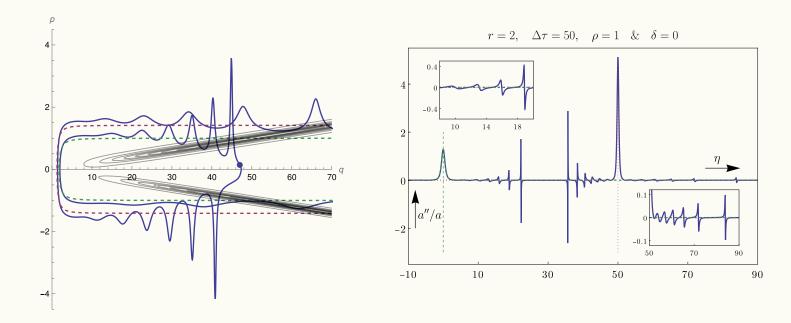
## CONCLUSION

... and next steps



## CONCLUSION

- Affinely quantise an FLRW spacetime to obtain bouncing trajectories
  - o trajectories assign unambiguous value to the scale factor at all times
- Trajectories for a universe in a superposition introduce distinct features in the scale factor evolution
- These features affect the evolution of perturbations and thereby the tensor power spectrum



→ *Next*: detailed study of perturbations, scalar perturbation, and perturbative trajectories



Quantum cosmology offers a unique scenario where quantum trajectories could lead to different phenomenological implications



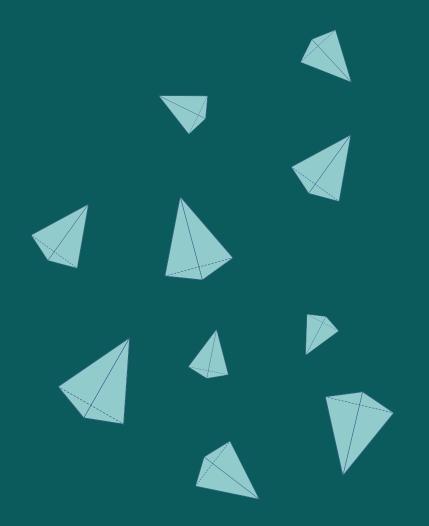
## THANK YOU!

Questions...?





## BACKUP





## THE CHOICE OF STATE

- Use semiclassical state  $|\psi\rangle=e^{-\mathrm{i}\phi(\tau)}|q(\tau),p(\tau)\rangle$ 
  - $\circ$  Satisfies the Schrödinger equation  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathrm{FLRW}}\psi \mathrm{i}\partial_{ au}\psi = 0$
  - $\circ$  Follows dynamics generated by the semiclassical Hamiltonian  $\,\mathcal{H}_{
    m sem}=p^2+rac{K}{q^2}\,$

$$q(\tau) = q_B \sqrt{1 + \omega^2(\tau - \tau_B)^2} \qquad p(\tau) = \frac{1}{2}\dot{q}(\tau) = \frac{q_B \omega^2(\tau - \tau_B)}{2\sqrt{1 + \omega^2(\tau - \tau_B)^2}}$$

 $\circ \text{ Specific choice of fiducial state } \langle x|q(\tau),p(\tau)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{q(\tau)}} \exp\left(\mathrm{i}\frac{p(\tau)}{2q(\tau)}x^2\right) \Phi_n\left(\frac{x}{q(\tau)}\right)$ 

[Bergeron, Gazeau, Małkiewicz, Peter ('23)]

Note: use different representation  $V(q,p)\psi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{q}} \exp\left(\mathrm{i}\frac{p}{2q}x^2\right)\psi\left(\frac{x}{q}\right)$ 

 $n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

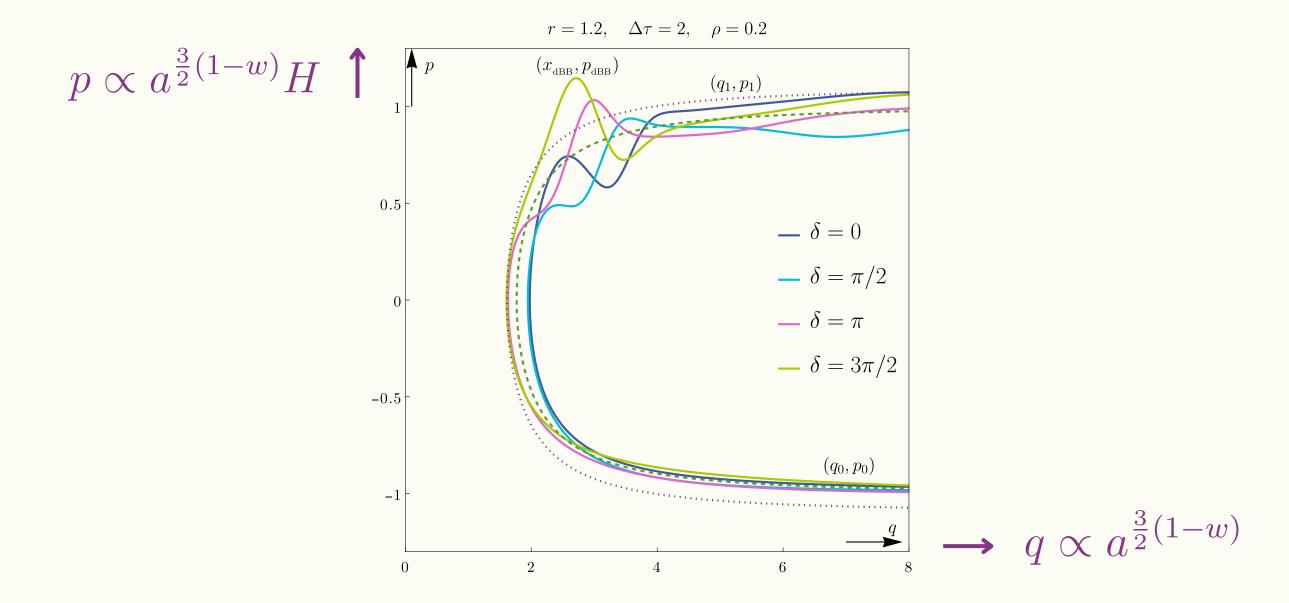
• Wave function of the universe:  $\psi_a(x) = \langle x|\psi_a\rangle$  with  $x\propto a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)}$ 

$$\psi_a(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2 n_a!}{\Gamma(\nu + n_a + 1)}} \left( \frac{\xi_{\nu, n_a} - iq_a p_a}{\xi_{\nu, n_a} + iq_a p_a} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}(2n_a + \nu + 1)} \xi_{\nu, n_a}^{\frac{\nu + 1}{2}} \frac{x^{\nu + 1/2}}{q_a^{\nu + 1}} L_{n_a}^{\nu} \left( \xi_{\nu, n_a} \frac{x^2}{q_a^2} \right) \exp\left( -\frac{1}{2} (\xi_{\nu, n_a} - i q_a p_a) \frac{x^2}{q_a^2} \right)$$

$$\text{Phase:} \quad e^{-\mathrm{i}\phi_a(\tau)} = \left(\frac{\xi_{\nu,n_a} - \mathrm{i}q_a p_a}{\xi_{\nu,n_a} + \mathrm{i}q_a p_a}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}(2n_a + \nu + 1)} \int_0^\infty y^{\nu + \frac{1}{2}} \left(L_n^{(\nu)}(y)\right)^2 e^{-y} \mathrm{d}y \right)^2$$

## UNIVERSE IN A SUPERPOSITION

• Phase space portraits and wave functions for the biverse  $\Psi = \mathcal{N}(\psi_0 + \rho e^{\mathrm{i}\delta}\psi_1)$ 

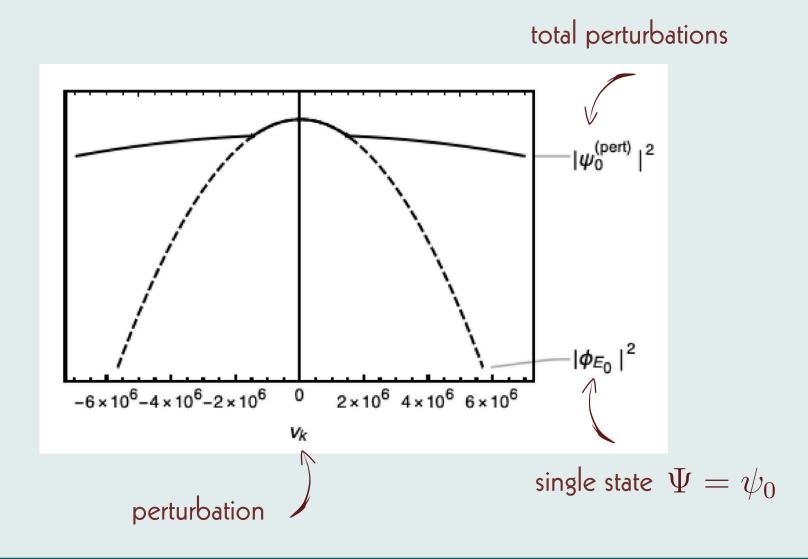


• Trajectories highly dependent on initial conditions, but generally exhibit features that differ from single state trajectories

## COMPARISON

- Biverse  $\Psi = \mathcal{N}(\psi_0 + \alpha \, \psi_1)$
- Our universe: projection on a single wave

function  $\propto H$  $\propto a$  Entanglement of perturbations between states



## QUANTUM CORRECTED SCALE FACTOR

 Quantum corrected scale factor has the same dynamics as a semiclassical trajectory → recover GR dynamics at late times

$$x(\tau) \to x_0 \, \omega \, \tau \Rightarrow a \propto t^{2/(3(1+w))} \qquad \text{with} \qquad x \propto a^{\frac{3}{2}(1-w)} \qquad \text{and} \qquad N \mathrm{d}\tau = \mathrm{d}t$$

- $\circ$  Initial condition related to the expansion rate of the universe  $\dot{x}( au) 
  ightarrow x_0 \, \omega$
- Quantum potential  $Q(x,\tau) = \frac{2\xi_{\nu}(\nu+1)}{a^2} \frac{\xi_{\nu}^2 x^2}{a^4} \frac{\nu^2 \frac{1}{4}}{x^2}$  gives  $\ddot{x} = -2\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\nu^2 \frac{1}{4}}{x^2} + Q(x,\tau) \right) = \frac{4\xi_{\nu}^2}{a(\tau)^4} x$
- Hubble rate from trajectories

$$\text{bubble rate from trajectories} \\ \circ \text{ FLRW with perfect fluid for } \partial_x S = \text{const.} \qquad H^2 = \left(\frac{\dot{a}}{Na}\right)^2 = \frac{4}{9(1-w)^2} \frac{\dot{x}^2}{N^2 x^2} \propto \frac{(\partial_x S)^2}{a^{3(1+w)}} \propto \frac{(\partial_a S)^2}{a^4}$$

- Acceleration
  - $\circ$  FLRW for  $\ddot{x} \to 0$

$$\dot{H} = \frac{2}{3(1-w)} \frac{\ddot{x}}{Nx} - \frac{3}{2}(1+w)NH^2$$

#### QUANTISATION $\mathcal{H} \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{H}}$

- ullet Quantisation based on the Weyl-Heisenberg group  $x\in\mathbb{R}$ ,  $p\in\mathbb{R}$ 
  - $U(q,p)\psi(x) = e^{ip(x-q/2)}\psi(x-q)$
- Here:  $x \ge 0$  ,  $p \in \mathbb{R}$   $\longrightarrow$  use affine group  $U(q,p)\psi(x) = \frac{e^{1px}}{\sqrt{a}}\psi\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)$
- fiducial state • Quantisation map  $\hat{A}_f = \mathcal{N} \int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+} \mathrm{d}p \mathrm{d}q \, |q,p\rangle \, f(p,q) \, \langle q,p|$  where  $|q,p\rangle = U(q,p) |\psi_0\rangle$
- ullet Quantisation of FLRW Hamiltonian  ${\cal H} \propto p^2 + p_ au$  leads to a repulsive potential

$$\hat{A}_{p^2} \, \psi = -\partial_x^2 \, \psi + \frac{K}{x^2} \psi \qquad \longrightarrow$$

$$\hat{A}_{p^2}\,\psi = -\partial_x^2\,\psi + \frac{K}{x^2}\psi \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad \hat{\mathcal{H}} \propto \hat{p}^2 + \frac{K}{\hat{q}^2} + \hat{p}_\tau \qquad \text{introduces a bounce}$$

$$\hat{p}\,\psi=-\mathrm{i}\partial_x\psi$$
 with 
$$\hat{q}\,\psi=x\,\psi$$
 
$$\hat{p}_\tau\psi=-\mathrm{i}\partial_\tau\psi$$

## EXAMPLE: DOUBLE SLIT EXPERIMENT

• Weak measurements - reconstruct trajectories

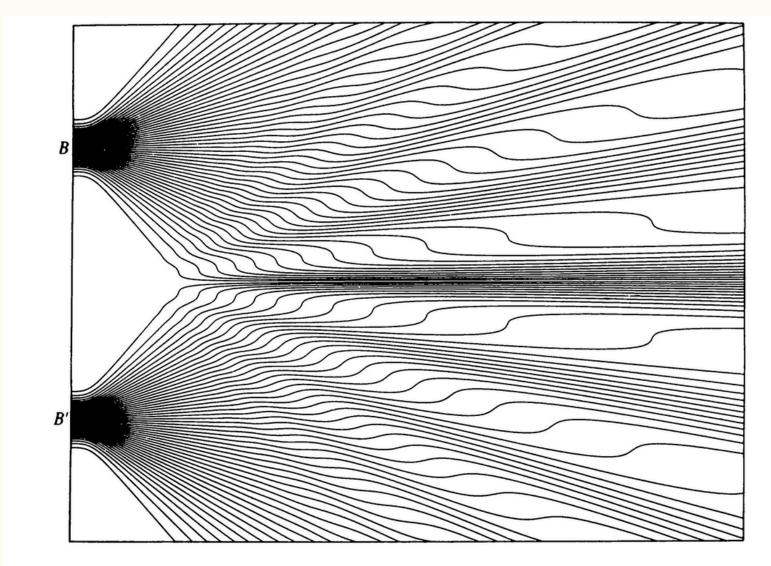


Fig. 5.7 Trajectories for two Gaussian slits with a Gaussian distribution of initial positions at each slit. The probability density is proportional to the number of lines per unit length in the y-direction (from Philippidis et al. (1982)).

