Entanglement Evolution in Slow-Roll vs Ultra-Slow-Roll Inflation

Xiancong Luo

With S. Brahma, J. Calderón-Figueroa & D. Seery arXiv:2411.08632 (2024) and ongoing work

University of Edinburgh

December 3, 2025

USR enhances small scales

USR has a specific set of slow roll parameters $\{\epsilon^{(n)}\}$ such that:

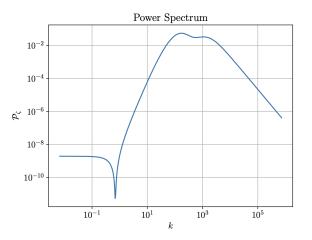


Figure 1: Amplification of small-scale modes.

⇒ A potential mechanism for generating primordial black holes.



Open EFT of the two-field model

We are going to investigate the impact of USR in the entanglement structure of curvature perturbation using the open EFT method.

$$\mathcal{L} = a^2 \epsilon M_{\text{Pl}}^2 \left(\zeta'^2 - (\partial_i \zeta)^2 \right) + \frac{1}{2} a^2 \left(\mathcal{F}'^2 - (\partial_i \mathcal{F})^2 \right)$$
$$- \frac{1}{2} m^2 a^4 \mathcal{F}^2 + \lambda a^3 \sqrt{2\epsilon} M_{\text{Pl}} \zeta' \mathcal{F}.$$

Purity evolution

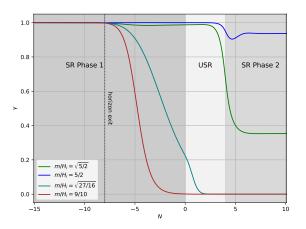


Figure 2: Purity of a given *k* mode in a sandwich model. The USR phase leads to efficient decoherence of the curvature perturbation mode and possesses less non-Markovianity.

Real-space entanglement in USR

Cosmic bell test requires space separation.

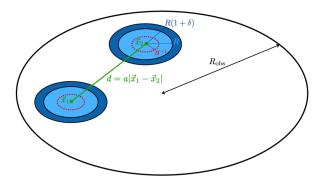


Figure 3: Real-Space Entanglement (Martin, Vennin; arXiv:2106.14575, arXiv:2106.15100)

Wands duality

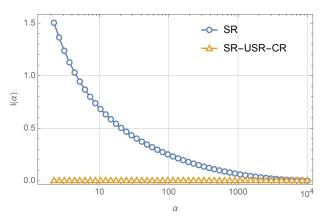
SR and USR has same mutual information and quantum discord. It turns out backgrounds linked by Wand's duality have same:

- symplectic eigenvalues
- mutual information
- quantum discord

including SR and USR pair.

Realistic transitions

A transient USR phase embedded inside SR leads to a strong reduction of mutual information between spatial regions.



 \Rightarrow The smoothness of the transition between backgrounds is crucial.

Thank you!