

Title: Holography for Cosmology

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Abstract: TBA



# Holography for Cosmology

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work with Kostas Skenderis  
arXiv:0907.5542 & 1001.2007

# Holography

Holography states that any quantum theory of gravity should have a dual description in terms of a QFT (*without* gravity) in one dimension less.

Examples found in string theory involve spacetimes with a negative cosmological constant (e.g. AdS/CFT).

- ▶ Here we propose a holographic framework for inflationary cosmology.

Specifically, we seek a dual description of four-dimensional inflationary cosmology in terms of a three-dimensional QFT (without gravity).

# Holography *for Cosmology*

Any proposed holographic framework for cosmology should specify:

1. The precise nature of the dual QFT.
2. How to compute cosmological observables (e.g. the primordial power spectrum) from the correlation functions of the dual QFT.

Having defined such a duality,

3. Must recover standard inflationary predictions in their regime of validity (namely, when a perturbative quantisation of fluctuations is possible, i.e. weakly coupled gravity = strongly coupled QFT).



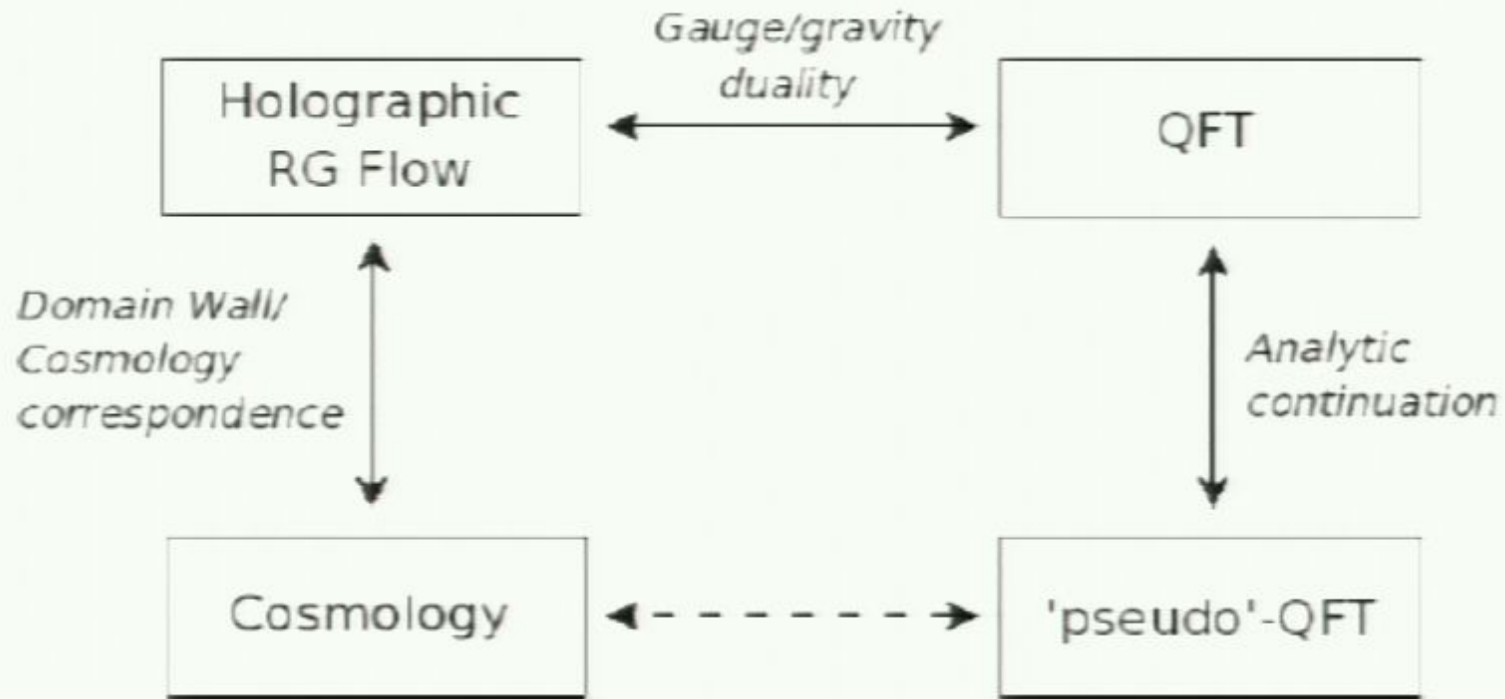
# Strong gravity

New results then follow by applying the holographic framework in the opposite regime where gravity is *strongly coupled* and a perturbative quantisation of fluctuations breaks down. The dual QFT is then *weakly coupled*.



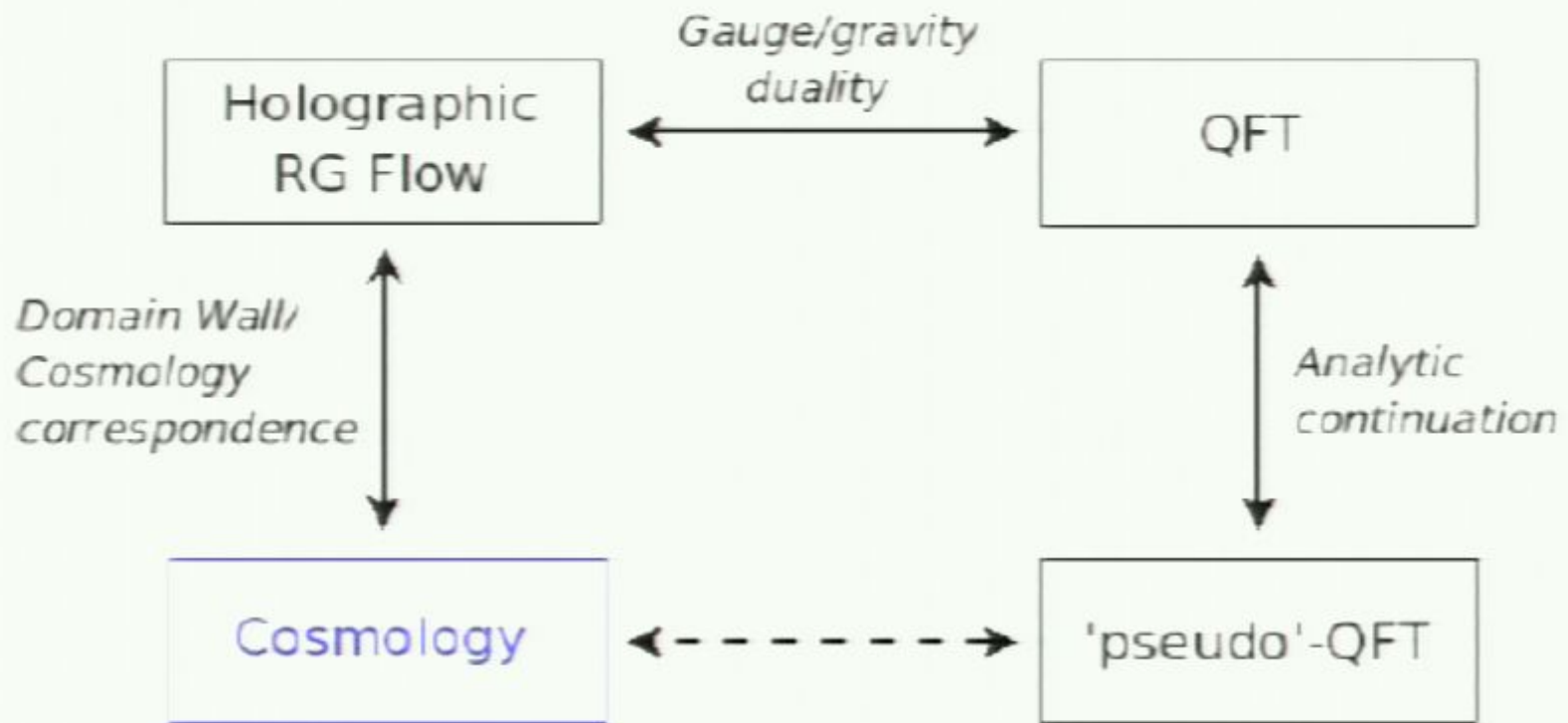
- ▶ Compute cosmological observables *holographically* using only perturbative QFT.
- ▶ Qualitatively different predictions from standard inflation.
- ▶ Simple to find holographic models consistent with observation.

# Plan of talk



- ▶ **Part I:** Holography for cosmology
- ▶ **Part II:** Strong gravity regime: overview of cosmological results.

Ref: arXiv:1001.2007 & 0907.5542.



# Cosmological perturbations

We start by reviewing **standard inflationary cosmology** and the cosmological observables we would like to compute holographically.

- ▶ For simplicity, we discuss single-field 4d inflationary models:

$$S = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} [R - (\partial\Phi)^2 - 2\kappa^2 V(\Phi)].$$

- ▶ We assume a spatially flat background and perturb

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 &= -dt^2 + a^2(t) [\delta_{ij} + h_{ij}(t, \vec{x})] dx^i dx^j, \\ \Phi &= \varphi(t) + \delta\varphi(t, \vec{x}). \end{aligned}$$

where  $h_{ij} = -2\psi(z, \vec{x})\delta_{ij} + 2\partial_i\partial_j\chi(z, \vec{x}) + \gamma_{ij}(z, \vec{x})$ .

- ▶  $\gamma_{ij}$  is transverse traceless and we form the gauge-invariant combination  $\zeta = \psi + (H/\dot{\varphi})\delta\varphi$ .



# Cosmological perturbations

- ▶ The equations of motion for the perturbations are:

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= \ddot{\zeta} + (3H + \dot{\epsilon}/\epsilon)\dot{\zeta} + a^{-2}q^2\zeta, \\0 &= \ddot{\gamma}_{ij} + 3H\dot{\gamma}_{ij} + a^{-2}q^2\gamma_{ij},\end{aligned}$$

where  $H = \dot{a}/a$  is the Hubble rate and  $\epsilon = -\dot{H}/H^2$  is the 'slow-roll' parameter. We are not assuming that  $\epsilon$  is small.

# Power spectra

In the inflationary paradigm, cosmological perturbations are assumed to originate on sub-horizon scales as quantum fluctuations.

- Quantising the perturbations in the usual manner,

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \zeta(t, \vec{q}) \zeta(t, -\vec{q}) \rangle &= |\zeta_q(t)|^2, \\ \langle \gamma_{ij}(t, \vec{q}) \gamma_{kl}(t, -\vec{q}) \rangle &= 2|\gamma_q(t)|^2 \Pi_{ijkl},\end{aligned}$$

where  $\Pi_{ijkl}$  is the transverse traceless projection operator while  $\zeta_q(t)$  and  $\gamma_q(t)$  are the mode functions.

- The superhorizon power spectra are then given by

$$\Delta_S^2(q) = \frac{q^3}{2\pi^2} |\zeta_{q(0)}|^2, \quad \Delta_T^2(q) = \frac{2q^3}{\pi^2} |\gamma_{q(0)}|^2,$$

where  $\gamma_{q(0)}$  and  $\zeta_{q(0)}$  are the constant late-time values of the mode functions, with initial conditions set by the Bunch-Davies vacuum.

# Power spectra via response functions

In preparation for our holographic discussion, we rewrite the power spectrum as follows.

- ▶ We define the *response functions* as

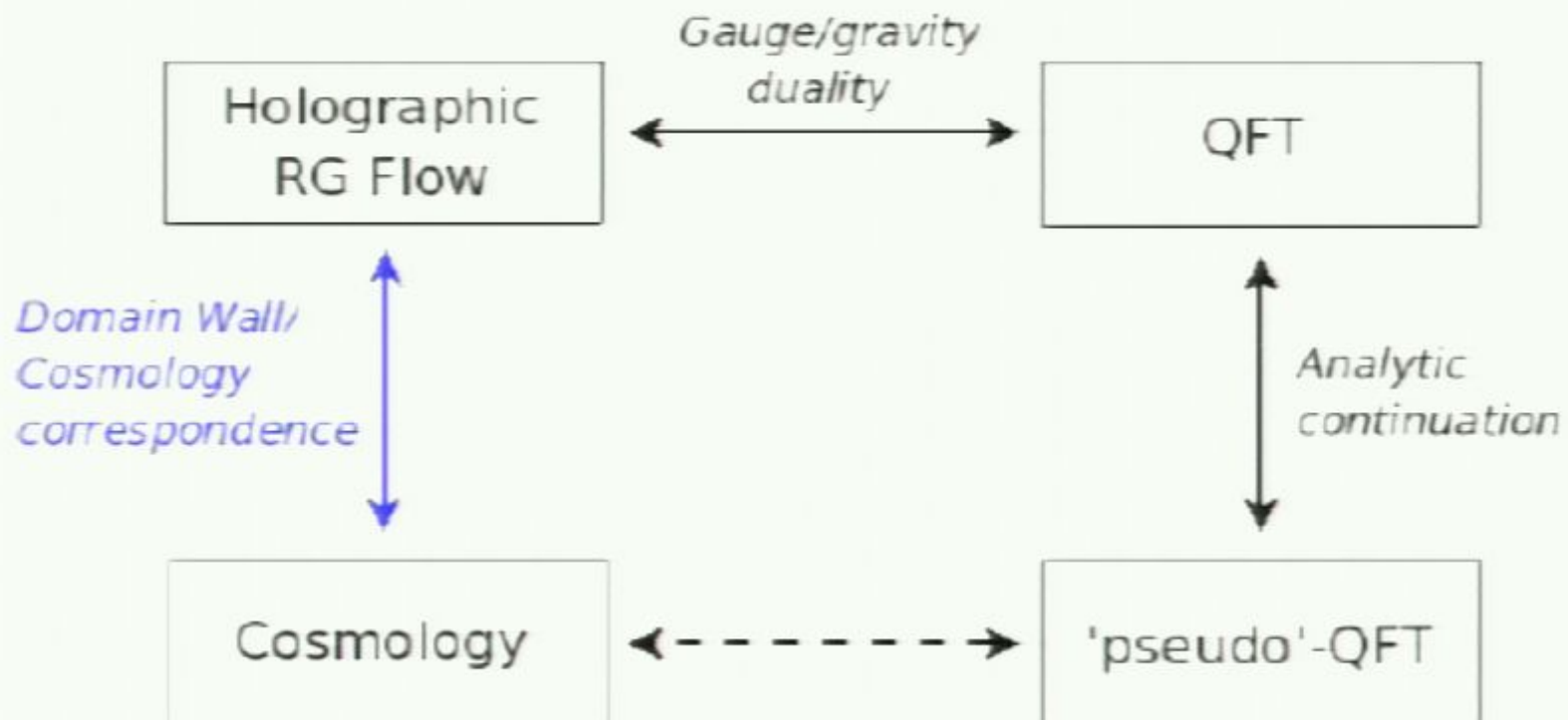
$$\Pi^{(\zeta)} = \Omega \zeta, \quad \Pi_{ij}^{(\gamma)} = E \gamma_{ij},$$

where  $\Pi^{(\zeta)}$  and  $\Pi_{ij}^{(\gamma)}$  are the canonical momenta.

- ▶ One can show that

$$|\zeta_q|^{-2} = -2\text{Im}[\Omega(q)], \quad |\gamma_q|^{-2} = -4\text{Im}[E(q)].$$

hence the power spectra may be expressed in terms of the *late-time behaviour of the response functions*.





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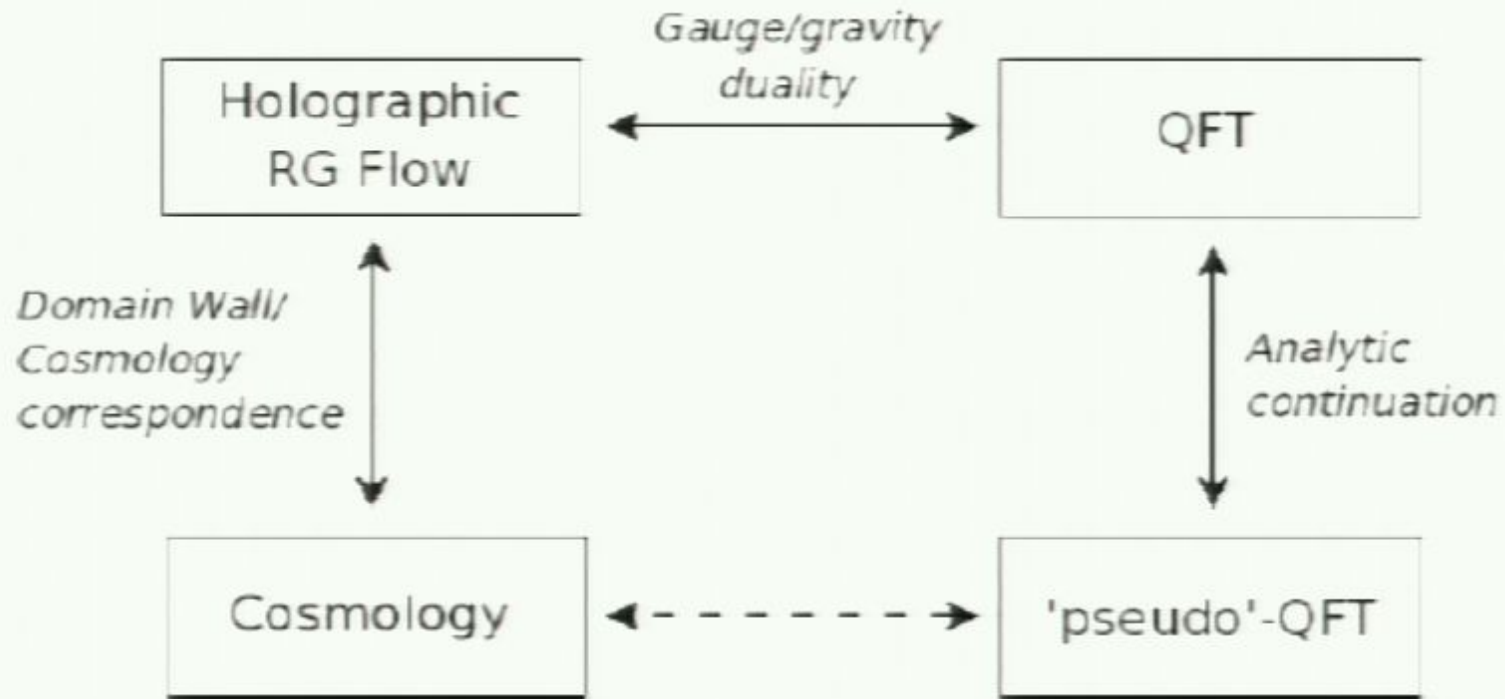
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# Domain-wall/cosmology correspondence

- ▶ 'Domain-wall' spacetimes are closely related to cosmological spacetimes:

$$ds^2 = \eta dz^2 + a^2(z) d\vec{x}^2, \quad \Phi = \varphi(z),$$

where  $\eta = +1$  for a (Euclidean) DW and  $\eta = -1$  for cosmology.

- ▶ They play a prominent role in holography where they describe **holographic RG flows** (i.e. radial evolution of DW  $\leftrightarrow$  RG flow of dual QFT).
- ▶ The DW action is

$$S = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} [-R + (\partial\Phi)^2 + 2\kappa^2 V(\Phi)].$$

## Domain-wall/cosmology correspondence

- ▶ Including perturbations, the equations of motion for DW/C read:

$$\begin{aligned} H &= -(1/2)W(\varphi), \quad \dot{\varphi} = W_{,\varphi}, \quad 2\eta\kappa^2 V = (W_{,\varphi})^2 - (3/2)W^2, \\ 0 &= \ddot{\zeta} + (3H + \dot{\epsilon}/\epsilon)\dot{\zeta} - \eta a^{-2} q^2 \zeta, \quad 0 = \ddot{\gamma}_{ij} + 3H\dot{\gamma}_{ij} - \eta a^{-2} q^2 \gamma_{ij}. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Defining the analytically continued variables

$$\bar{\kappa}^2 = -\kappa^2, \quad \bar{q} = -iq,$$

we see that a cosmological solution written in terms of  $(\kappa, q)$  continues to a DW solution expressed in terms of  $(\bar{\kappa}, \bar{q})$ .

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- ▶ This particular bulk continuation was chosen as it has a clear interpretation in terms of dual QFT variables.
- ▶ Our choice of sign in the continuation of  $q$  ensures that the Bunch-Davies vacuum on the cosmology side maps to a solution that is *regular* in the interior of the domain-wall:

$$\zeta, \gamma \sim \exp(-iq\tau) \quad \rightarrow \quad \zeta, \gamma \sim \exp(\bar{q}\tau)$$

where  $\tau = \int dz/a$  and the DW interior is  $\tau \rightarrow -\infty$ .

- ▶ One can define response functions  $\bar{\Omega}$  and  $\bar{E}$  for the DW spacetime. They are related to their cosmological counterparts by the analytic continuations  $\bar{\Omega}(-iq) = \Omega(q)$  and  $\bar{E}(-iq) = E(q)$ .

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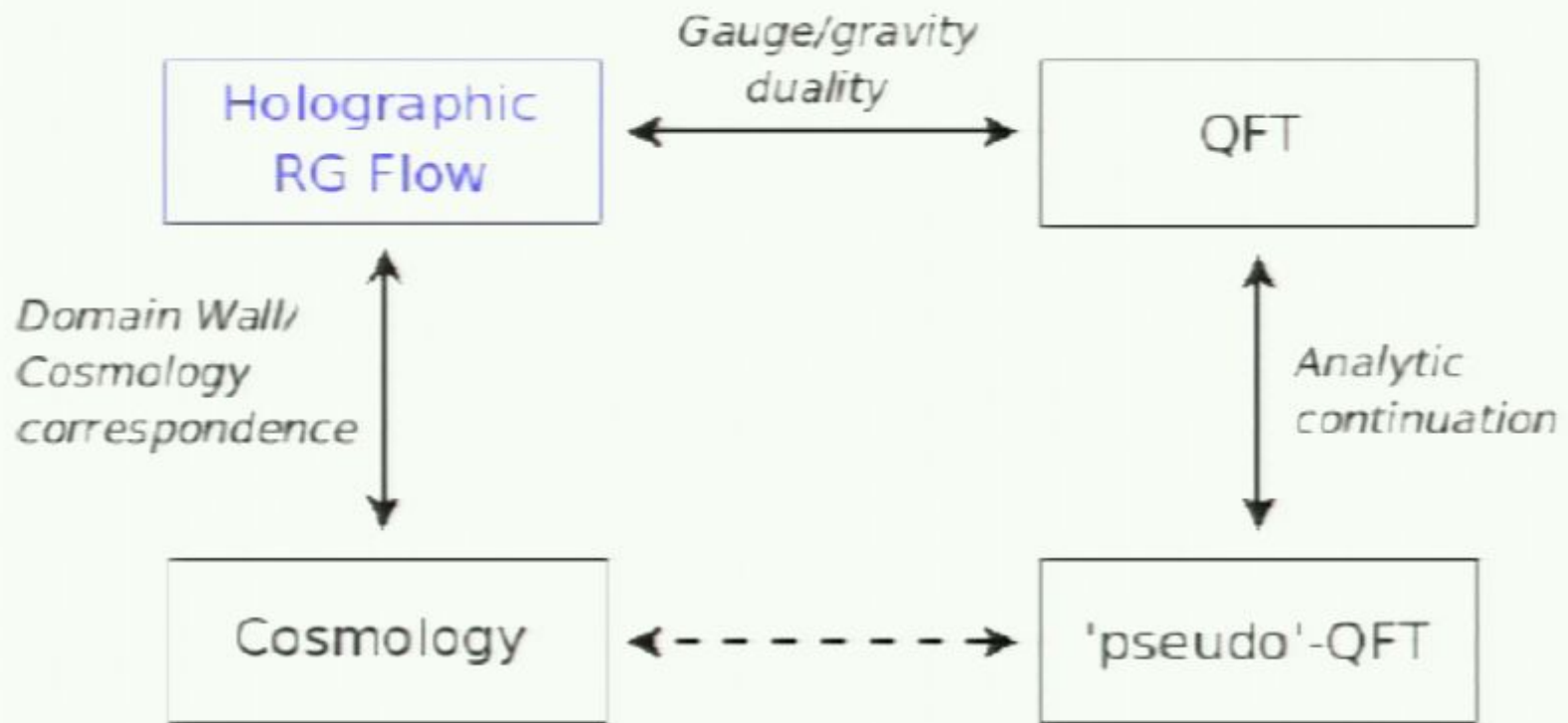
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# Holographic RG flows

There are two classes of domain-wall spacetimes whose holographic interpretation is well understood:

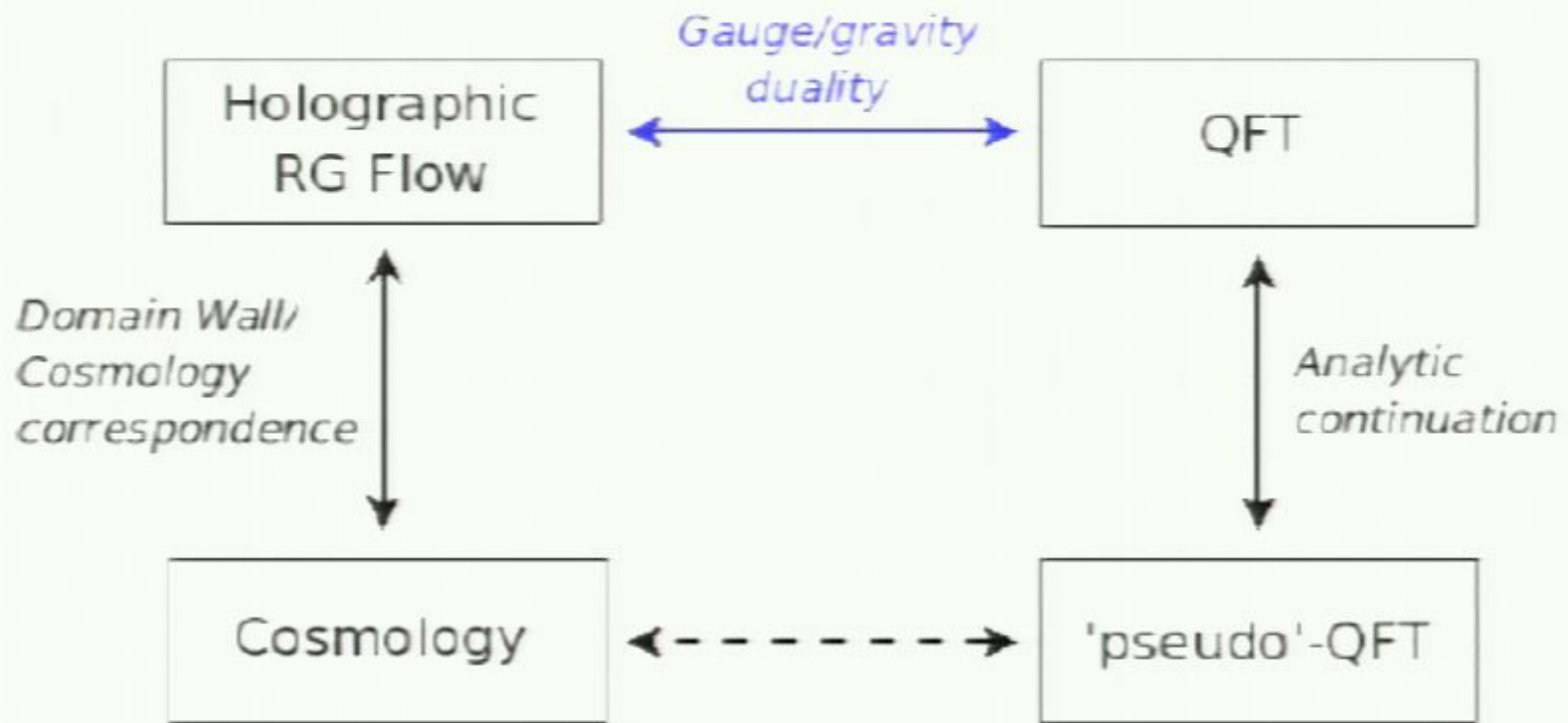
1. **Asymptotically AdS solutions:**  $a \sim e^z$ ,  $\varphi \sim 0$  as  $z \rightarrow \infty$ .

- ▶ These solutions describe a QFT that approaches a fixed point in the UV. The fixed point is the CFT dual to the asymptotic AdS spacetime.
- ▶ Under the DW/C correspondence, these solutions are mapped to cosmologies that are **asymptotically de Sitter** at late times.

# Holographic RG flows

2. Asymptotically power-law solutions:  $a \sim (z/z_0)^n$ ,  $\varphi \sim \sqrt{2n} \ln(z/z_0)$  as  $z \rightarrow \infty$ .

- ▶ Specific cases of such spacetimes may be obtained by taking the near-horizon limit of non-conformal branes (e.g. D2 brane  $\leftrightarrow n = 7$ ).
- ▶ These solutions describe QFTs with a dimensionful coupling constant in the regime where the dimensionality of the coupling constant drives the dynamics<sup>1</sup>.
- ▶ Under the DW/C correspondence, they are mapped to cosmologies that undergo asymptotic power-law inflation.



# Holography: a primer

Our holographic dictionary for cosmology will be based on the standard holographic dictionary, so we now briefly review standard holography:

- ▶ There is a 1-to-1 correspondence between local gauge-invariant operators of the boundary QFT and bulk supergravity modes:
  - ⇒ The bulk metric corresponds to the stress-energy tensor  $T_{ij}$  of the boundary theory.
  - ⇒ Bulk scalar fields correspond to boundary scalar operators, e.g.  $\text{tr} F_{ij} F^{ij}$ .
- ▶ Correlation functions of the dual QFT may be read off from the asymptotics of the bulk solution. Conversely, given appropriate QFT data, one can reconstruct the bulk asymptotics.

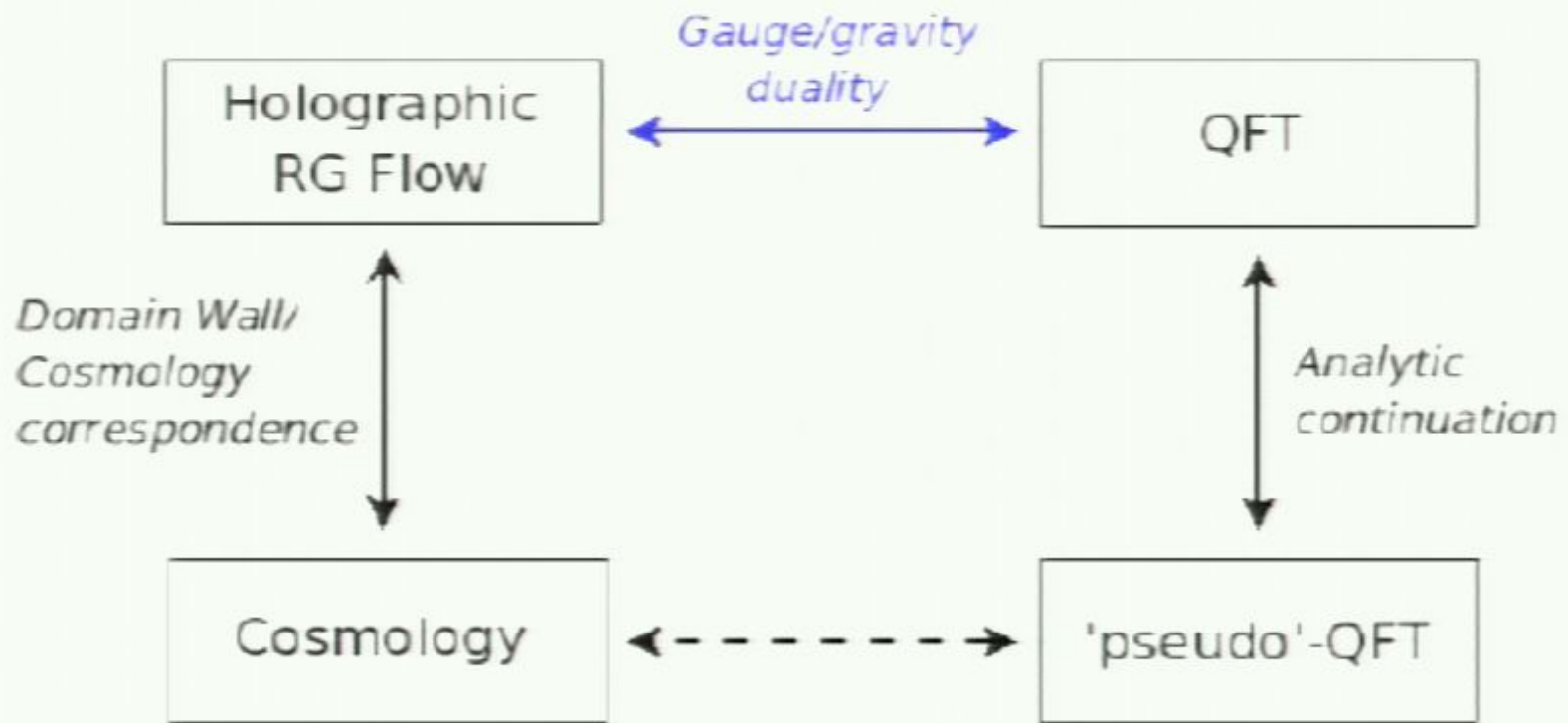


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# Bulk asymptotics

The general asymptotic solution for the 4d bulk metric reads:

$$ds^2 = dr^2 + e^{2r} g_{ij}(r, x) dx^i dx^j,$$
$$g_{ij}(r, x) = g_{(0)ij}(x) + e^{-2r} g_{(2)ij}(x) + \dots + e^{-2\sigma r} g_{(2\sigma)ij}(x) + \dots$$

- ▶  $g_{(0)ij}(x)$  is the metric seen by the dual QFT, and hence acts as the *source* for the dual stress tensor  $T_{ij}$ .
- ▶ The  $g_{(2k)ij}(x)$  with  $k < \sigma$  are locally determined in terms of  $g_{(0)ij}(x)$  via the asymptotic analysis of the field equations.
- ▶  $g_{(2\sigma)ij}(x)$  is only partially constrained by the asymptotic analysis of the field equations, and is related to the dual 1-pt function:

$$\langle T_{ij} \rangle = \frac{1}{2\bar{\kappa}^2} (2\sigma g_{(2\sigma)ij}).$$

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- ▶ From the bulk asymptotics, we can read off  $\langle T_{ij} \rangle$ . Equivalently, given  $\langle T_{ij} \rangle$ , we can reconstruct the bulk asymptotics.
- ▶ This remains true even in the regime where gravity is *strongly coupled* and the description in terms of low-energy fields (such as the metric) breaks down deep in the interior.
- ▶ The metric description is still valid *asymptotically*, however, and takes the same form as before. Gauge/gravity duality *requires* the value of  $g_{(2\sigma)ij}$  deriving from stringy dynamics to match that derived from the dual weakly coupled QFT.



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- ▶ From the bulk asymptotics, we can read off  $\langle T_{ij} \rangle$ . Equivalently, given  $\langle T_{ij} \rangle$ , we can reconstruct the bulk asymptotics.
- ▶ This remains true even in the regime where gravity is *strongly coupled* and the description in terms of low-energy fields (such as the metric) breaks down deep in the interior.
- ▶ The metric description is still valid *asymptotically*, however, and takes the same form as before. Gauge/gravity duality *requires* the value of  $g_{(2\sigma)ij}$  deriving from stringy dynamics to match that derived from the dual weakly coupled QFT.

## Two-point functions

- Higher-point functions may be obtained by differentiating the 1-pt function w.r.t. the sources and then setting the sources to their background values,

$$\text{e.g.} \quad \langle T_{ij}(x) T_{kl}(y) \rangle \sim \left. \frac{\delta g_{(2\sigma)ij}(x)}{\delta g_{(0)kl}(y)} \right|_{g_{(0)}=\delta}$$

- To compute 2-pt functions one only needs to solve for the fluctuations to *linear* order.
- On general grounds, the 2-pt function for the stress tensor admits the decomposition

$$\langle T_{ij}(\bar{q}) T_{kl}(-\bar{q}) \rangle = A(\bar{q}) \Pi_{ijkl} + B(\bar{q}) \pi_{ij} \pi_{kl},$$

where the transverse and transverse traceless projection operators are

$$\pi_{ij} = \delta_{ij} - \bar{q}_i \bar{q}_j / \bar{q}^2, \quad \Pi_{ijkl} = \pi_{i(k} \pi_{l)j} - (1/2) \pi_{ij} \pi_{kl}.$$

# Holographic analysis

- ▶ Employing the radial Hamiltonian formulation of holographic renormalisation<sup>2</sup>, we showed that for both asymptotically AdS and asymptotically power-law DW spacetimes,

$$A(\bar{q}) = 4\bar{E}_{(0)}(\bar{q}), \quad B(\bar{q}) = (1/4)\bar{\Omega}_{(0)}(\bar{q}).$$

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## (Some details)

- ▶ In the Hamiltonian formalism, the asymptotic radial expansion of the metric is replaced by a *covariant* expansion in eigenfunctions of the dilatation operator:

$$\delta_D = \partial_r + O(e^{-2r}), \quad \delta_D A_{(m)} = -m A_{(m)}.$$

- ▶ The dual 1-pt function is then

$$\langle T_j^i \rangle = \left( \frac{-2}{\sqrt{g}} \bar{\Pi}_j^i \right)_{(3)}$$

where  $\bar{\Pi}_j^i$  is the radial canonical momentum.

- ▶ For asymptotically power-law spacetimes, the holographic analysis takes place in the *dual frame*, where the metric is asymptotically AdS.

## (Some details)

Under a linear variation of the QFT sources  $g_{(0)ij}$  and  $\varphi_{(0)}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\delta\langle T_{ij}\rangle &= -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{g_{(0)}}\langle T_{ij}(\bar{q})T_{kl}(-\bar{q})\rangle\delta g_{(0)}^{kl} - \sqrt{g_{(0)}}\langle T_{ij}(\bar{q})\mathcal{O}(-\bar{q})\rangle\delta\varphi_{(0)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}A(\bar{q})\gamma_{j(0)}^i - 2B(\bar{q})\psi_{(0)}\pi_j^i - \langle T_j^i(\bar{q})\mathcal{O}(-\bar{q})\rangle\delta\varphi_{(0)}.\end{aligned}$$

In comparison, perturbing the bulk radial canonical momentum to linear order, we find (e.g. in the asymptotically AdS case)

$$\delta\langle T_j^i\rangle = \left[ \frac{2\bar{E}(\bar{q})}{a^3}\gamma_j^i - \left( \frac{\bar{q}^2}{\bar{\kappa}^2 a^2 H} + \frac{\bar{\Omega}(\bar{q})}{2a^3} \right) \psi \pi_j^i - (\dots)\delta\varphi \right]_{(3)}$$

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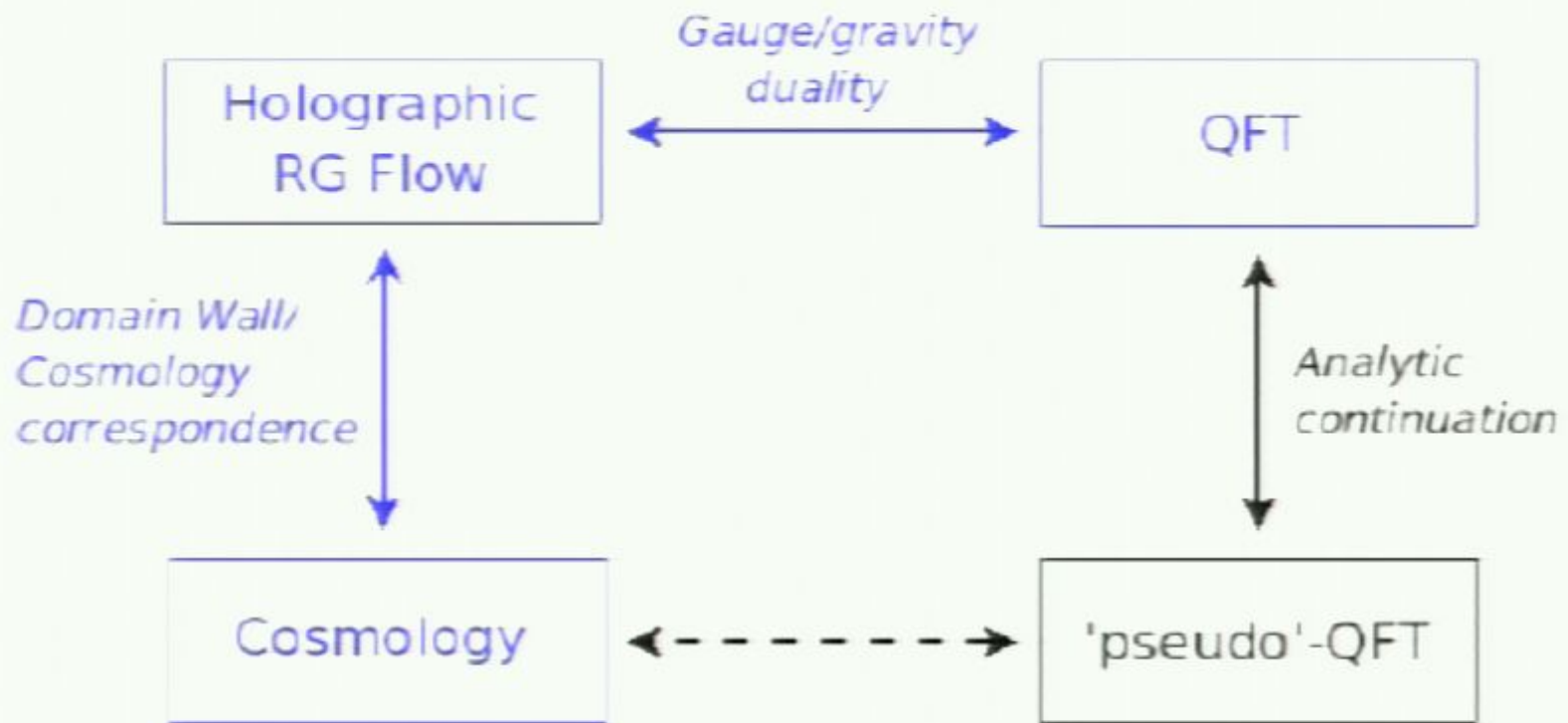
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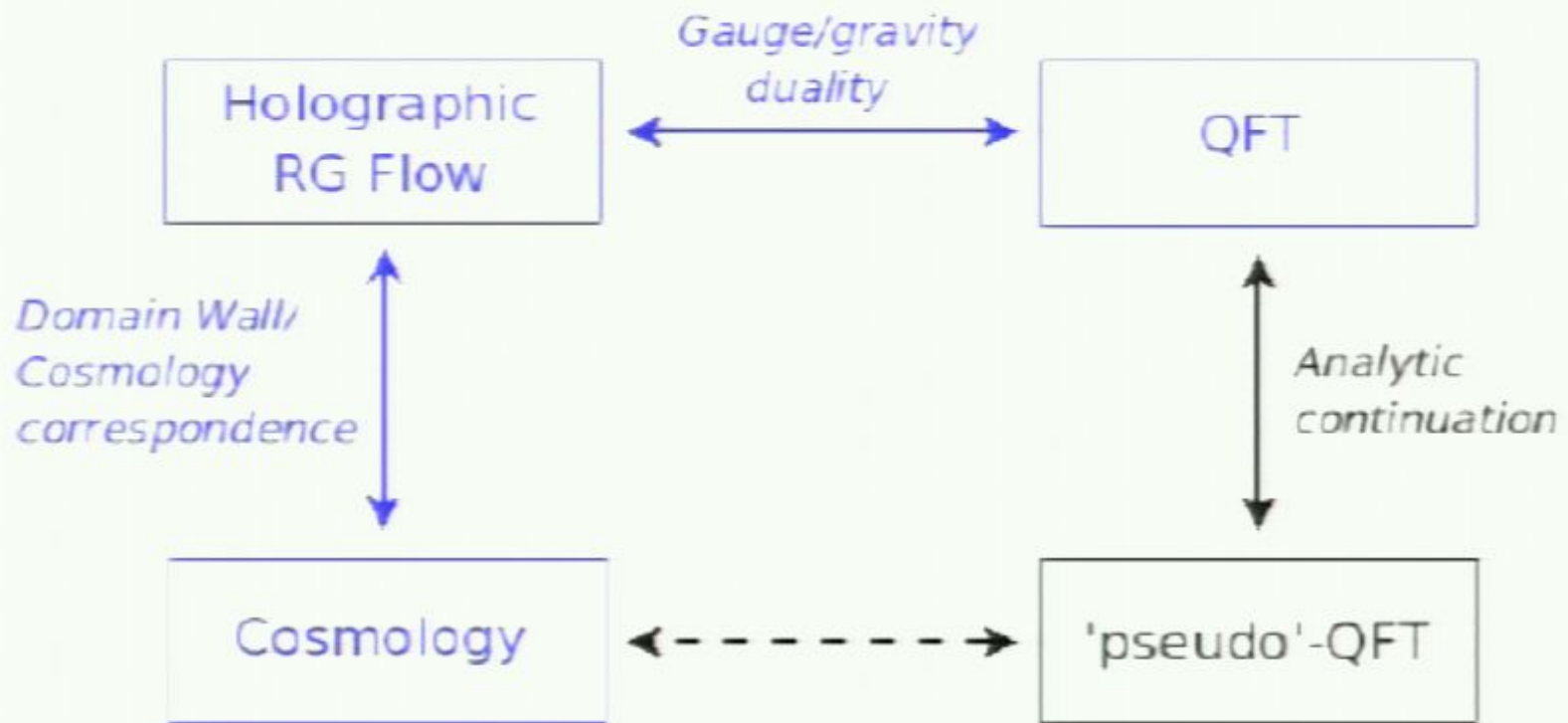
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## From cosmology to QFT

Applying the analytic continuations  $\bar{\kappa}^2 = -\kappa^2$ ,  $\bar{q} = -iq$ , we find a direct relation between the cosmological power spectra and the 2-pt functions of the dual QFT:

$$\Delta_S^2(q) = \frac{-q^3}{16\pi^2 \text{Im} B(-iq)}, \quad \Delta_T^2(q) = \frac{-2q^3}{\pi^2 \text{Im} A(-iq)},$$

where

$$\langle T_{ij}(\bar{q}) T_{kl}(-\bar{q}) \rangle = A(\bar{q}) \Pi_{ijkl} + B(\bar{q}) \pi_{ij} \pi_{kl}.$$