

# **Synergy as a warning sign of transitions**

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# Coworkers

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# Summary

- Transfer Entropy
- Information Decomposition
- Synergy in the 2D Ising model

# Transfer Entropy

$X$  and  $Y$  two (vectorial) time series  
 $x$ , the future values of  $X$

Absence of causality:  
Generalized Markov property

$$P(x | X) = P(x | X, Y)$$

$$T(Y \rightarrow X) = \int P(x, X, Y) \log \left( \frac{P(x | X, Y)}{P(x | X)} \right) dx dX dY$$

Transfer Entropy =  $I(x, Y | X)$

# The Ising model

Let us consider the two dimensional Ising model, where spins on a regular lattice are characterized by the Hamiltonian

$$H = -\beta \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} s_i s_j, \quad (1)$$

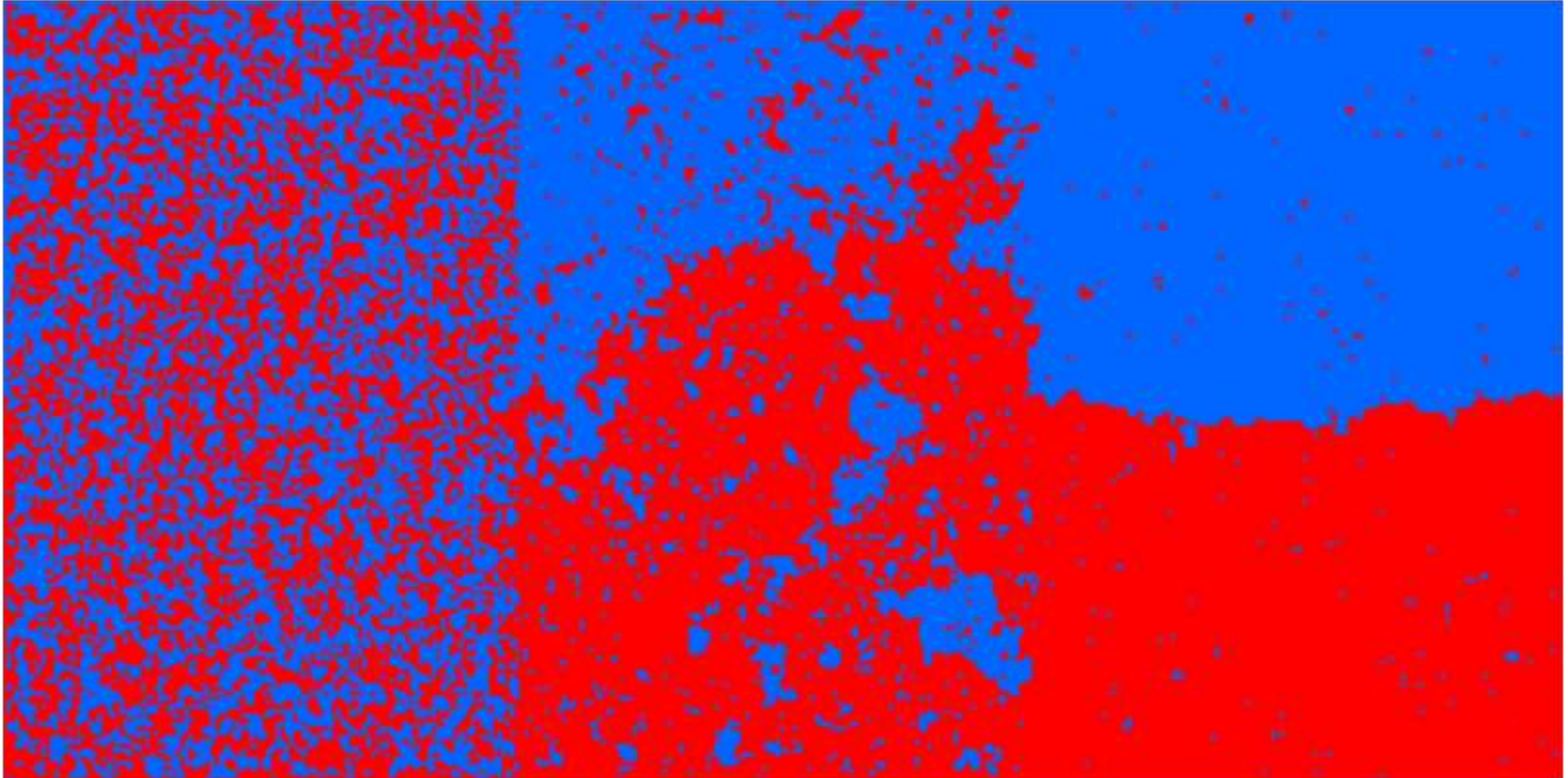
$\beta$  being the coupling and the sum being performed over nearest neighbor pairs of spins. This model shows a second order phase transition at  $\beta_c \approx 0.4407$ , in correspondence with long range correlations in the system [7]. The mutual information of a pair of nearest neighbor

# *Ising 2D: Phase transition*

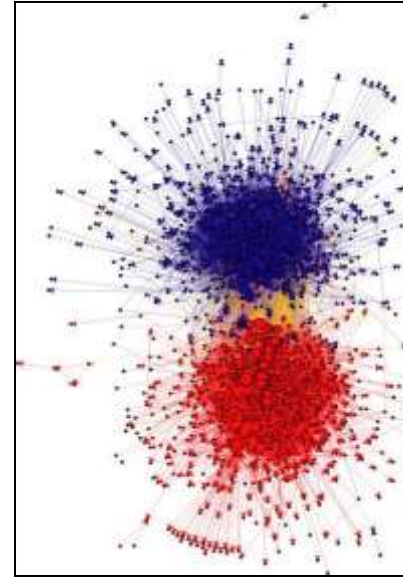
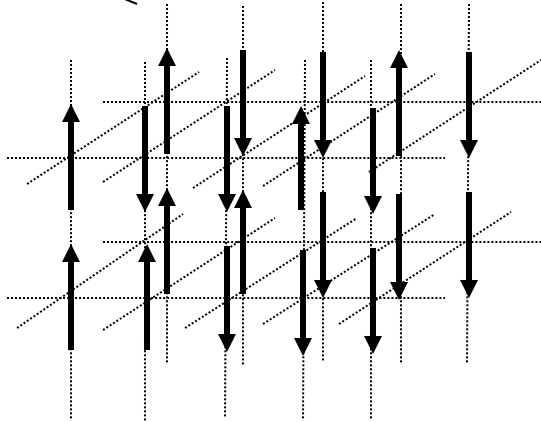
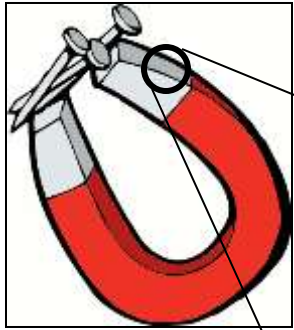
$T \rightarrow \infty$

$T = T_{\text{crit}}$

$T \rightarrow 0$



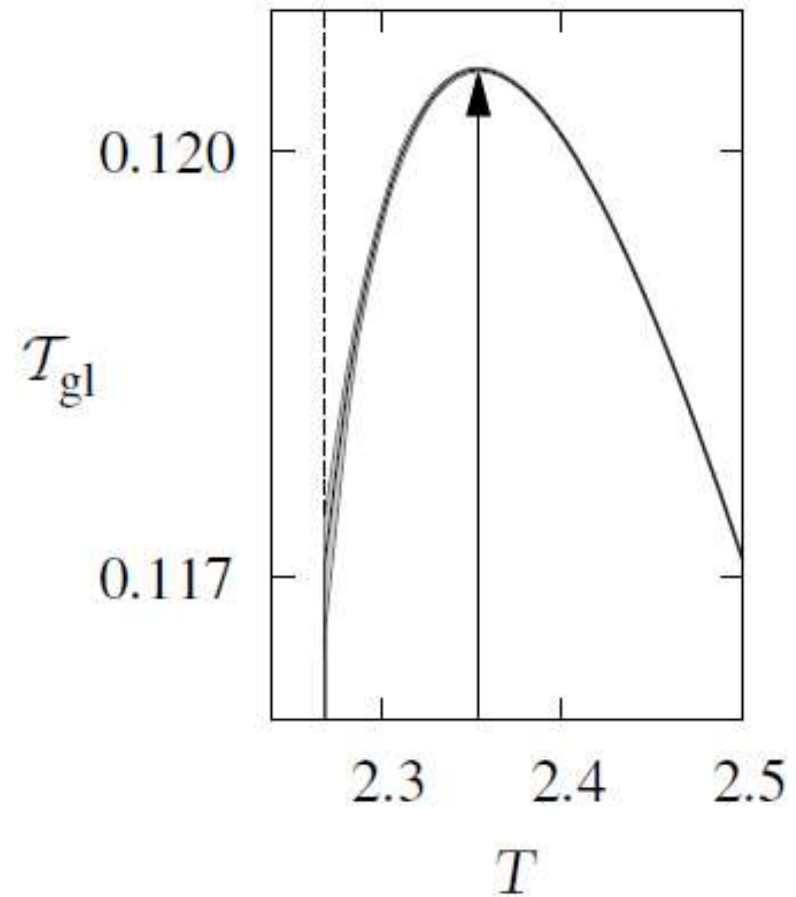
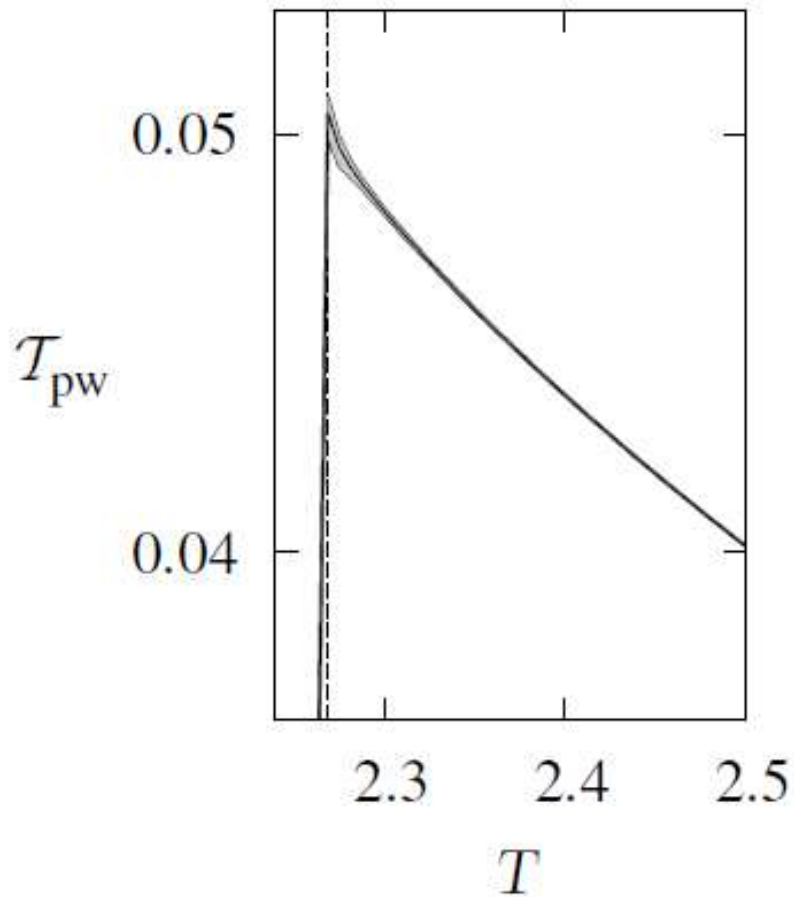
# Ising Model for ferromagnetism and Opinion Dynamics and many other systems



Polarization of news, financial crashes,  
epileptic seizures



# Transfer entropy 2D Ising model



# Global Transfer Entropy as precursor of the transition !!!

- Question 1: global transfer entropy requires dynamical data. Precursors based on static data?
- Question 2: Is it mandatory to measure all the variables, or one can build precursors based on a small number (e.g. 3) of variables?

The key to answer: Information decomposition!

Example:  $s$  stimulus,  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  the response from two cells

## Information Independence

$$I(\{r_1, r_2\}; s) = I(r_1; s) + I(r_2; s)$$

The two cells are sensitive to completely different features of the stimulus

E. Schneidman, W. Bialek, M.J. Berry, J. Neuroscience 23,11539 (2003).

# Synergy

$$I(\{r_1, r_2\}; s) > I(r_1; s) + I(r_2; s)$$

The joint response from the two cells conveys more information than treating them separately

S is a function of both r1 and r2

# Redundancy

$$I(\{r_1, r_2\}; s) < I(r_1; s) + I(r_2; s)$$

The two cells are sensitive to the same features of the stimulus

The two responses  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  share a certain amount of common information about the stimulus

# The decomposition we need:

$$I(s_i; \{s_j s_k\}) = U_{j \rightarrow i}^I + U_{k \rightarrow i}^I + R_{jk \rightarrow i}^I + S_{jk \rightarrow i}^I,$$

$$I(s_i; s_j) = U_{j \rightarrow i}^I + R_{jk \rightarrow i}^I,$$

$$I(s_i; s_k) = U_{k \rightarrow i}^I + R_{jk \rightarrow i}^I.$$

# Similar decomposition for the transfer entropy

$$T_{jk \rightarrow i} = U_{j \rightarrow i}^T + U_{k \rightarrow i}^T + R_{jk \rightarrow i}^T + S_{jk \rightarrow i}^T,$$

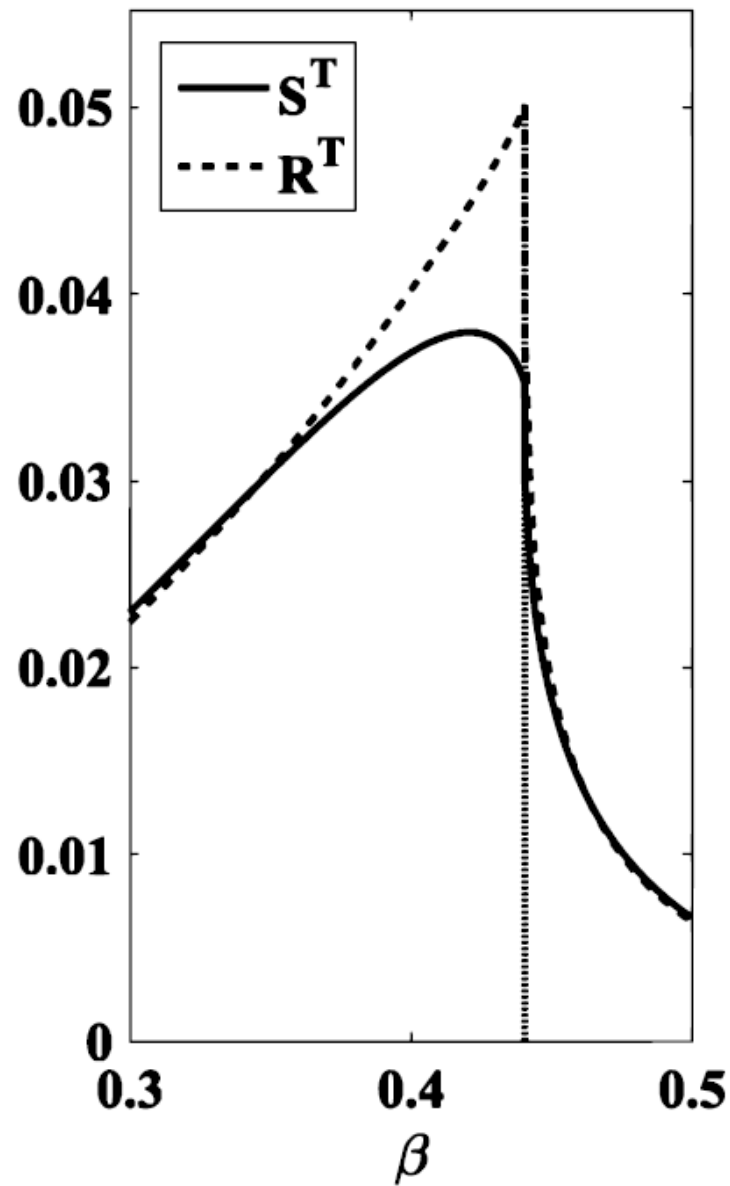
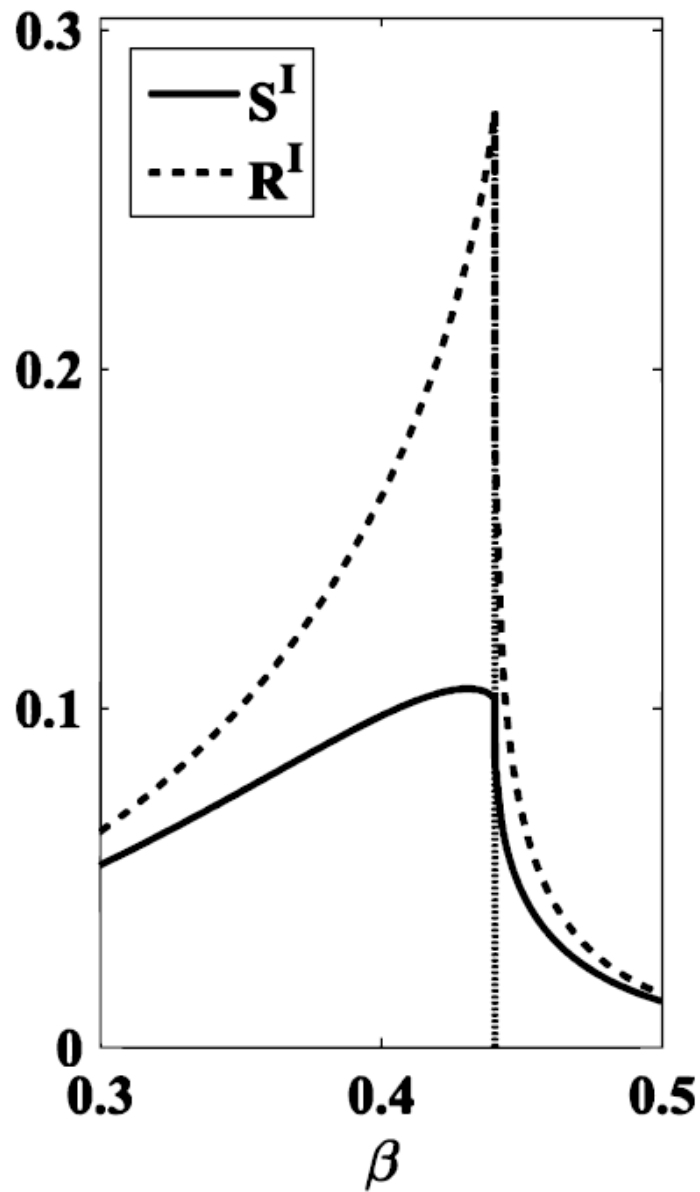
$$T_{j \rightarrow i} = U_{j \rightarrow i}^T + R_{jk \rightarrow i}^T,$$

$$T_{k \rightarrow i} = U_{k \rightarrow i}^R + R_{jk \rightarrow i}^T.$$

Fourth relation (beyond Shannon theory)

$$\text{Redundancy} = \min \{T1, T2\}$$





# Conclusions

The physical quantity that actually acts as a transition precursor is the synergy

This valuable marker can be found considering as few as three variables, and lagged correlations are not necessary to this scope

Preprint: [arXiv.org](https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.05405) - cond-mat

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