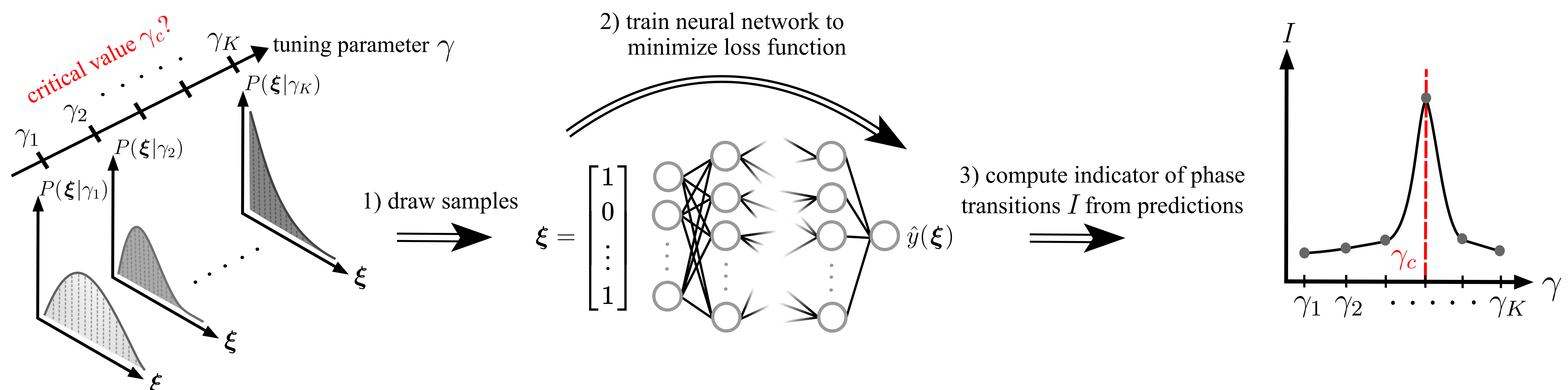


# Machine learning phase transitions: Connections to the Fisher information

Julian Arnold,<sup>1</sup> Niels Lörch,<sup>1</sup> Flemming Holtorf,<sup>2</sup> and Frank Schäfer<sup>2</sup>

## Automated detection of phase transitions from data

requires minimal explicit knowledge of the system's underlying physics and could enable the discovery of new phases of matter



### Approach 1 ("Supervised learning")

- pick a set of points  $\Gamma_0$  and  $\Gamma_1$  lying within each of the two phases
- each sample  $\xi$  drawn in  $\Gamma_y$  is assigned the label  $y$

$$\Rightarrow I_1(\gamma) = \left| \frac{\partial \hat{y}(\gamma)}{\partial \gamma} \right|, \text{ where } \hat{y}(\gamma) = \mathbb{E}_{\xi \sim P(\cdot|\gamma)} [\hat{y}(\xi)]$$

### Approach 2 ("Learning by confusion")

- split parameter space at  $\gamma$  into two neighboring regions  $\Gamma_0$  and  $\Gamma_1$
- each sample  $\xi$  drawn in  $\Gamma_y$  is assigned the label  $y$

$$\Rightarrow I_2(\gamma) = 1 - 2p_{\text{err}}(\gamma), \text{ where } p_{\text{err}}(\gamma) \text{ is mean unbiased error rate}$$

### Approach 3 ("Prediction-based method")

- each sample  $\xi$  drawn at  $\gamma$  is assigned the label  $y = \gamma$

$$\Rightarrow I_3(\gamma) = \frac{\partial \hat{y}(\gamma) / \partial \gamma}{\sigma(\gamma)}, \text{ where } \sigma(\gamma) \text{ is standard deviation of estimator at } \gamma$$

## Relation to the Fisher information

Classical Fisher information matrix  $\mathcal{F}(\gamma)$  measures how quickly a probability distribution  $P(\cdot|\gamma)$  changes w.r.t. its parameters  $\gamma$

$$\mathcal{F}_{i,j}(\gamma) = \mathcal{F}_{i,j}[P(\cdot|\gamma)] = \mathbb{E}_{\xi \sim P(\cdot|\gamma)} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial \log [P(\cdot|\gamma)]}{\partial \gamma_i} \right) \left( \frac{\partial \log [P(\cdot|\gamma)]}{\partial \gamma_j} \right) \right]$$

### Main result:

Machine-learned indicators of phase transitions are underapproximators to the square root of the system's (classical) Fisher information

$$I(\gamma) \leq \sqrt{\text{tr}[\mathcal{F}(\gamma)]}$$

### Proof sketch:

#### Approach 1

use Cauchy-Schwarz inequality with constraints  
 $\Rightarrow$  indicator is maximal iff  $\hat{y}$  is perfectly correlated with score  $\frac{\partial \log [P(\cdot|\gamma)]}{\partial \gamma}$

#### Approach 2

equivalent to single-shot binary symmetric hypothesis testing task  
 $\Rightarrow I_2^{\text{opt}} = \text{TV}[P_I, P_{\text{II}}] = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\xi} |P_I(\xi) - P_{\text{II}}(\xi)|$   
 $\Rightarrow$  related to Fisher information to 1<sup>st</sup> order  
 $\text{TV}[P(\cdot|\gamma), P(\cdot|\gamma + \delta\gamma)] \leq \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\mathcal{F}(\gamma)} \delta\gamma + \mathcal{O}(\delta\gamma^2)$

#### Approach 3

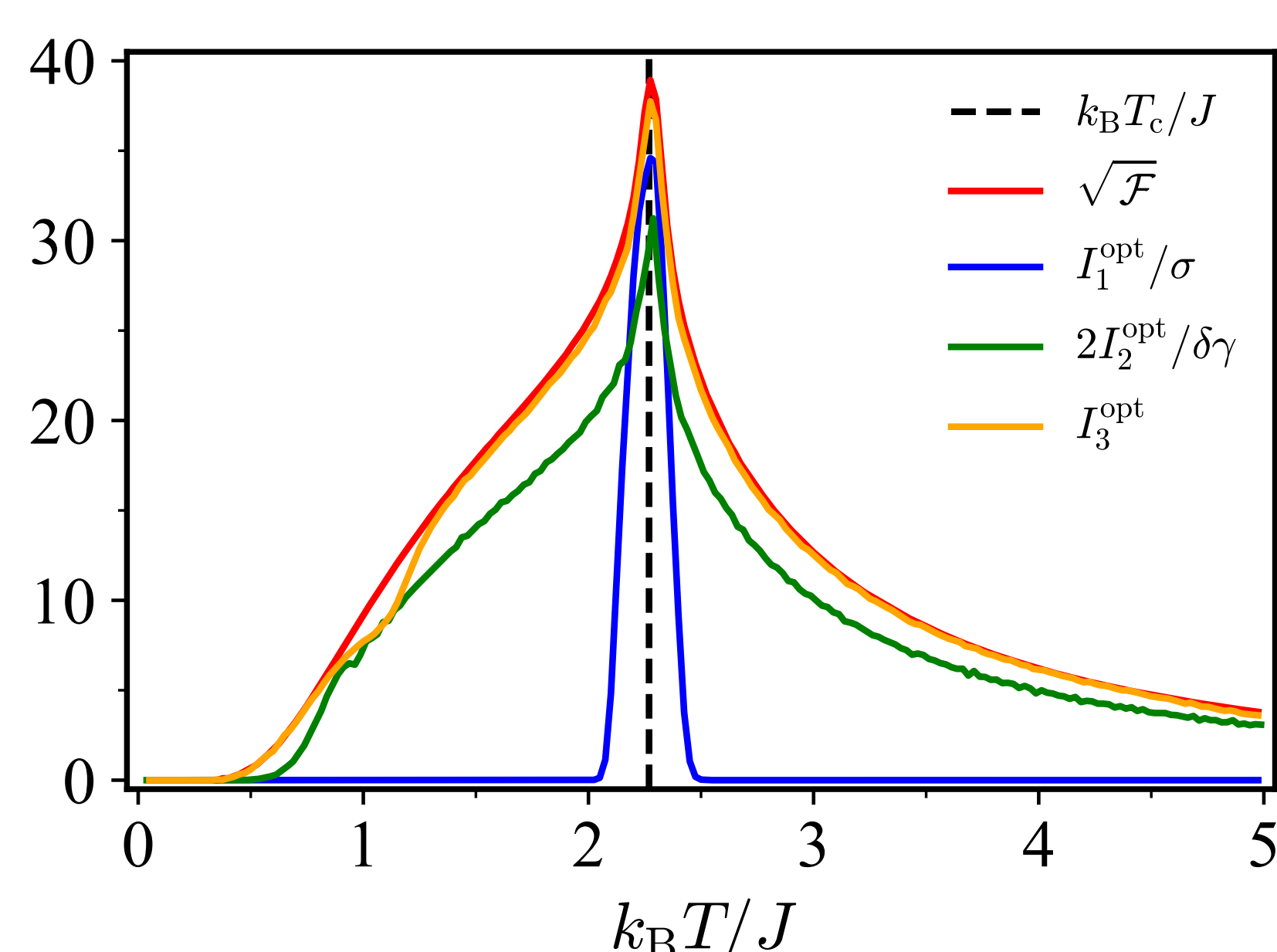
equivalent to parameter estimation task  
 $\Rightarrow$  apply Cramér-Rao bound  
 $\sigma^2(\gamma) \geq \frac{(\partial \psi(\gamma) / \partial \gamma)^2}{\mathcal{F}(\gamma)}$ ,  
 where  $\sigma^2$  and  $\psi$  are variance and expected value of estimator  $\hat{y}$

## Classical example: 2D Ising model

$$\text{Hamiltonian } H = -J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z$$

$\Rightarrow$  consider system in thermal state  $\rho(\gamma) = e^{-H/k_B T} / Z$  with  $\gamma = k_B T / J$  measured in  $z$ -basis:  $P(\mathbf{z}|\gamma) = \text{tr} [|\mathbf{z}\rangle\langle \mathbf{z}| \rho(\gamma)]$

$\Rightarrow$  Fisher information is proportional to heat capacity  $C$ :  
 $\mathcal{F}(\gamma) = C J^2 / k_B^3 T^2$

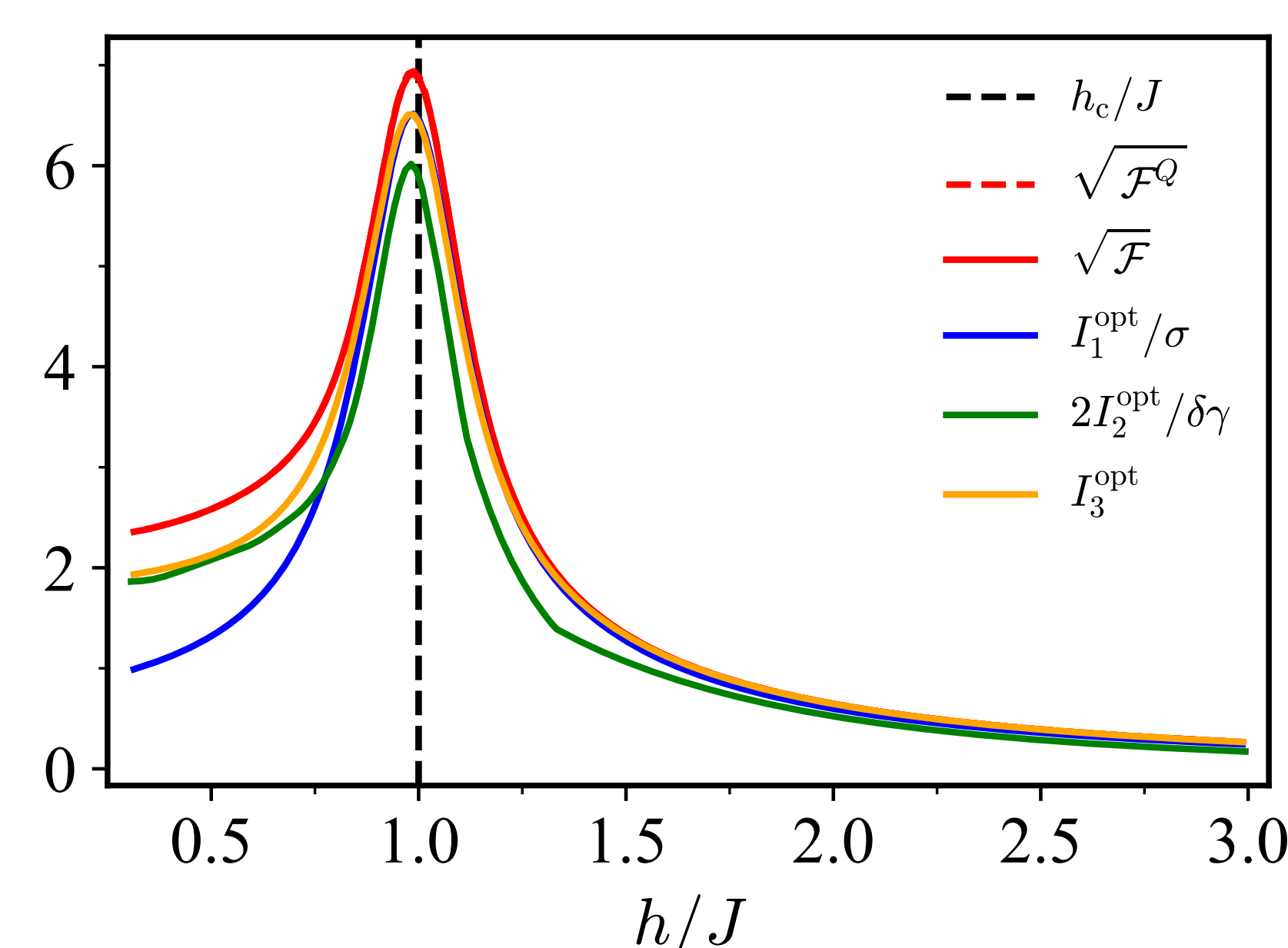


## Quantum example: 1D TFIM

$$\text{Hamiltonian } H = -J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z - h \sum_i \sigma_i^x$$

$\Rightarrow$  consider system in ground state  $|\Psi(\gamma)\rangle$  with  $\gamma = h/J$  measured in  $x$ -basis:  $P(\mathbf{x}|\gamma) = |\langle \mathbf{x} | \Psi(\gamma) \rangle|^2$

$\Rightarrow$  indicators also lower-bound square root of quantum Fisher information  $\mathcal{F}^Q(\gamma) = \max_{\{\Pi_{\xi}\}_{\xi}} \mathcal{F}(\text{tr}[\Pi_{\xi} \rho(\gamma)])$



## References

- [1] J. Arnold and F. Schäfer, Phys. Rev. X **12**, 031044 (2022)
- [2] J. Arnold, F. Schäfer, A. Edelman, and C. Bruder, arXiv:2306.14894 (2023)
- [3] J. Arnold, N. Lörch, F. Holtorf, and F. Schäfer, arXiv:2311.10710 (2023)

## Contact

julian.arnold@unibas.ch

## Acknowledgments