Figure 1: SKA Learning Duality

A pocket watch over ancient books, symbolizing the temporal flow of real-time SKA learning versus the static residue of batch analysis

A foundational epistemology of real-time systems, grounded in entropy-based computation.

SKA Learning Duality

Emergent Information Structure in Real-Time vs Batch SKA Learning

Overview

SKA Learning Duality explores a profound and surprising phenomenon discovered in Structured Knowledge Accumulation (SKA):

The information structure of any complex system—be it financial markets, biological sequences, or physical signals—emerges only through the process of real-time SKA learning. Batch (retrospective) analysis cannot reveal the same informational landscape.

Motivation

Classical data analysis assumes that the structure of a system is already present and can be "revealed" by analyzing the full dataset.

SKA challenges this notion: * In batch analysis, no new information geometry emerges beyond static statistics and known features. * In real-time SKA learning, the entropy landscape, predictability windows, and regime boundaries appear **dynamically**—step by step, as the data is encountered.

This duality is **universal:** It applies to tick-by-tick financial trades, genome sequences, physical oscillators, and more.

Key Insight

Information structure is not an objective property of the data, but a phenomenon that emerges only through real-time, sequential learning.

SKA's forward-only, unsupervised process brings to light informational "landmarks," boundaries, and predictability windows that are invisible to retrospective, batch approaches—even with the same data.

Entropy Exists Only Before the Outcome

A central consequence of SKA Learning Duality is this realization:

Entropy is a measure of uncertainty—and uncertainty only exists before the outcome is known.

In fact, entropy is not a snapshot—it is a path integral:

$$H(t) = \int_0^t L d\tau$$

where L acts as a Lagrangian of uncertainty flow. This reveals learning as an irreversible trajectory through time, not a static analysis.

Therefore, it is fundamentally incoherent to compute entropy on a dataset that has already been fully observed.

This is why applying SKA retrospectively violates the principle of least informational action—because it eliminates the uncertainty required for learning to occur.

Results & Interpretation

Example Results

	Real-Time SKA Learning	Batch SKA Analysis
Entropy	Dynamic, structured, regime-aligned	Smoothed, static, often featureless
Boundaries	Discovered as system unfolds	Rarely visible
Predictability	Emerges in "windows" and phases	Lost in global averaging
Anomalies	Stand out in entropy/knowledge profile	Obscured by retrospect

- **Markets:** Real-time learning reveals transitions, volatility clusters, and hidden regimes.
- **Genomes:** Information valleys and peaks can appear at functional regions, even in unlabeled DNA.

- **Physics:** Oscillator learning phase-locks entropy to dynamic states.

The Spacetime Foundation: Why Information is Hidden

The fundamental reason researchers have missed this approach: the real world is spacetime where events flow continuously.

Traditional data analysis treats datasets as if they exist in a timeless mathematical space where all points are equally accessible. But reality doesn't work this way. Complex systems exist in spacetime where:

- **Causality flows forward** - each moment builds irreversibly on previous ones
- **Information emerges through temporal sequence** - not as pre-existing structure waiting to be discovered
- **The act of sequential encounter creates knowledge** - just as quantum measurement creates reality

When we do batch analysis, we're essentially studying shadows on a cave wall—static projections of a dynamic process. We're analyzing the *residue* of temporal flow, not the flow itself.

This is why information remains hidden in retrospective analysis. The entropy landscapes, regime boundaries, and predictability windows that SKA reveals aren't buried features that better algorithms could uncover—they're emergent properties of the temporal learning process itself. They exist only in the *doing*, not in the *having done*.

Real-world systems don't just contain information; they *generate* information through their unfolding in spacetime. SKA learning respects this fundamental aspect of reality by maintaining the irreversible, forward-only nature of how complex systems actually evolve and learn.

Philosophical Note

This echoes Wheeler's "It from bit"—that reality itself arises from acts of measurement and knowledge accumulation.

Connection to Gödel's Incompleteness

The SKA Learning Duality shares a deep parallel with Gödel's Incompleteness Theorems, which reveal that any sufficiently complex formal system cannot capture all its truths within itself. Similarly, batch SKA analysis—a static, retrospective framework—fails to uncover the dynamic information structure that emerges through real-time SKA learning. Just as Gödel's truths require stepping beyond the system, SKA's entropy landscapes, regime boundaries, and predictability windows only appear through sequential, forward-only processing. This connection underscores a universal principle: the full structure of information emerges through the act of learning itself.

Discovery Context

This duality was observed on July 27, 2025, after a month of developing the real-time SKA framework, suggesting a new perspective on information dynamics.

Contributing

We invite you to add your own datasets (e.g., CSV for financial data, FASTA for genomics), experiments, or theoretical explanations! Implement SKA algorithms (e.g., in Python) or share visualizations. Questions and issues are welcome—open a discussion in the Issues section.

Reference & Foundation Theory

- This project builds on the general theory of Structured Knowledge Accumulation (SKA): QUANTIOTA / Arxiv — Foundation Theory

- **Structured Knowledge Accumulation: An Autonomous Framework for Layer-Wise Entropy Reduction in Neural Learning** arXiv:2503.13942

- **Structured Knowledge Accumulation: The Principle of Entropic Least Action in Forward-Only Neural Learning** arXiv:2504.03214

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