

# Package ‘infocausality’

March 20, 2026

**Title** Information-Theoretic Measure of Causality

**Version** 1.1

**Description** Methods for quantifying temporal and spatial causality through information flow, and decomposing it into unique, redundant, and synergistic components, following the framework described in Martinez-Sanchez et al. (2024) <[doi:10.1038/s41467-024-53373-4](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-53373-4)>.

**License** GPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.3

**URL** <https://stscl.github.io/infocausality/>,  
<https://github.com/stscl/infocausality>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/stscl/infocausality/issues>

**Depends** R (>= 4.1.0)

**LinkingTo** Rcpp

**Imports** methods, reticulate (>= 1.41.0), sdsfun, sf, terra

**Suggests** gdverse, ggplot2, infoxtr, knitr, Rcpp, rmarkdown, spEDM,  
tEDM

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**NeedsCompilation** yes

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**Repository** CRAN

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surd

*synergistic-unique-redundant decomposition of causality*

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## Description

synergistic-unique-redundant decomposition of causality

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'data.frame'
surd(
  data,
  target,
  agents,
  lag = 1,
  bin = 5,
  max.combs = NULL,
  cores = 1,
  backend = "threading"
)

## S4 method for signature 'sf'
surd(
  data,
  target,
  agents,
  lag = 1,
  bin = 5,
  max.combs = NULL,
  cores = 1,
  backend = "threading",
  nb = NULL
)

## S4 method for signature 'SpatRaster'
surd(
  data,
  target,
  agents,
  lag = 1,
  bin = 5,
  max.combs = NULL,
  cores = 1,
  backend = "threading"
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	observation data.
<code>target</code>	name of the target variable.
<code>agents</code>	names of agent variables.
<code>lag</code>	(optional) lag order.
<code>bin</code>	(optional) number of discretization bins.
<code>max.combs</code>	(optional) maximum combination order. If NULL, the standard SURD decomposition is applied.
<code>cores</code>	(optional) number of cores for parallel computation.
<code>backend</code>	(optional) Joblib backend: loky, threading, or multiprocessing.
<code>nb</code>	(optional) neighbours list.

**Value**

A list.

**unique** Unique information contributions per variable.

**synergistic** Synergistic information components by agent combinations.

**redundant** Redundant information shared by agent subsets.

**mutual\_info** Mutual information measures for each combination.

**info\_leak** Information leak ratio.

**References**

Martinez-Sanchez, A., Arranz, G. & Lozano-Duran, A. Decomposing causality into its synergistic, unique, and redundant components. *Nat Commun* 15, 9296 (2024).

**Examples**

```
columbus = sf::read_sf(system.file("case/columbus.gpkg", package="spEDM"))

tryCatch(
  surd(columbus, "hoval", c("inc", "crime")),
  error = \(e) message("Skipping Python-dependent example: ", e$message)
)
```

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