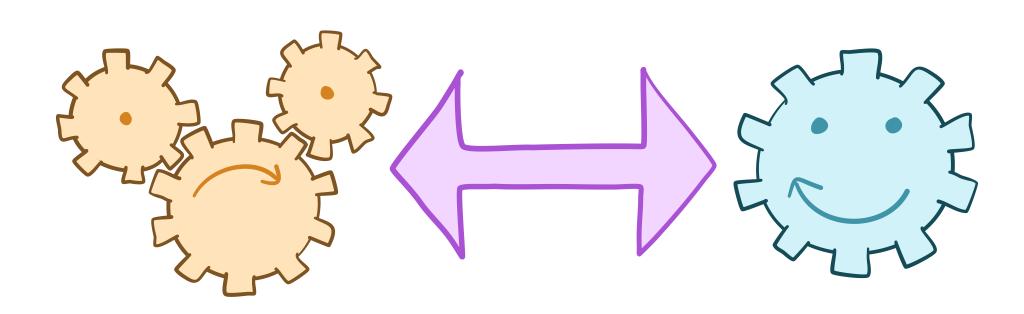
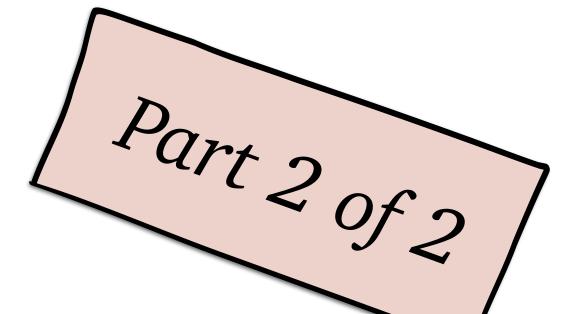
Coupling Techniques for Complex Control Problems

Ziv Scully Carnegie Mellon University

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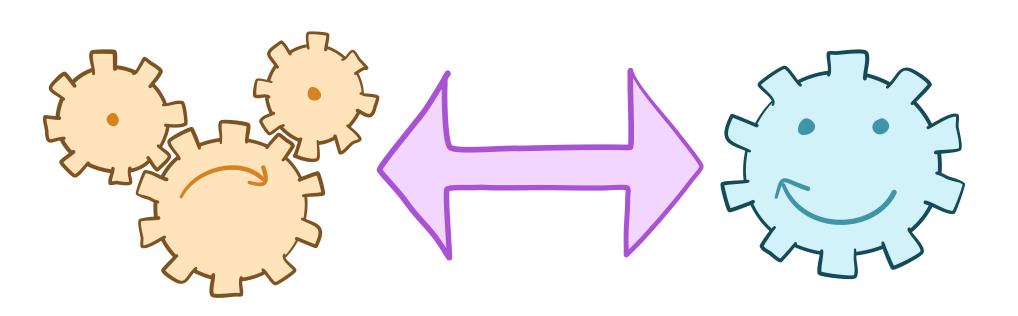




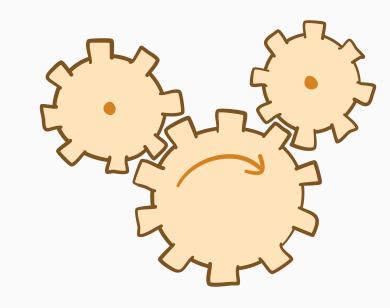
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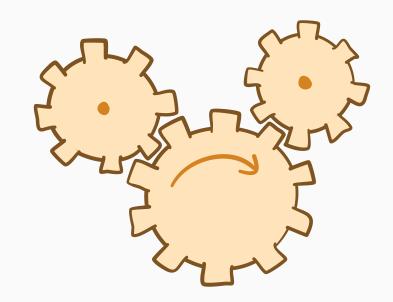
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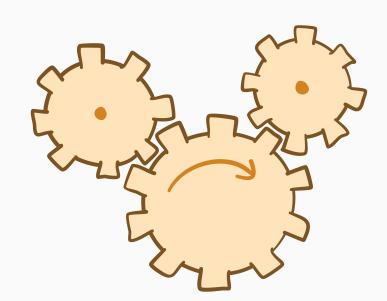
complex system X



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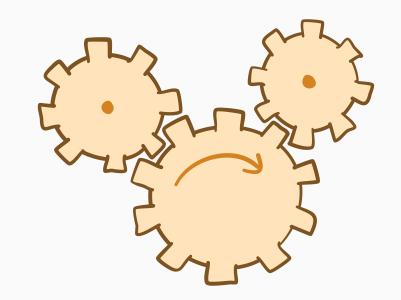


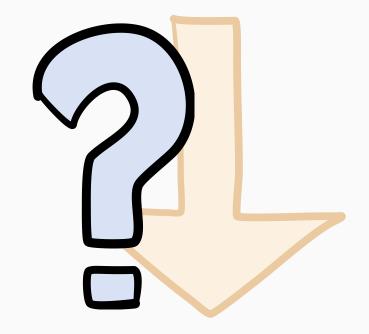
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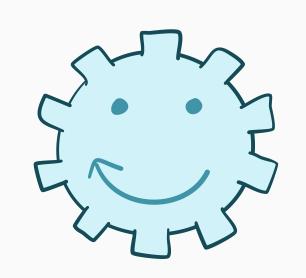
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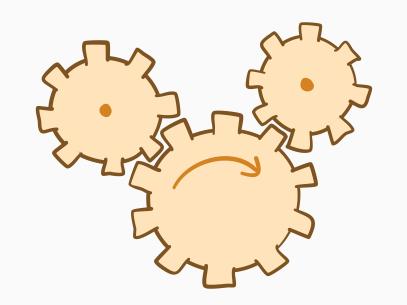


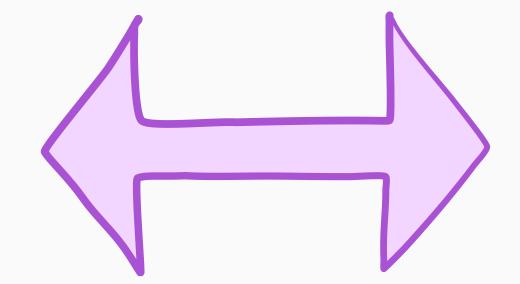
Goal: answer a question about *X* (approximate is okay)

easy system Y

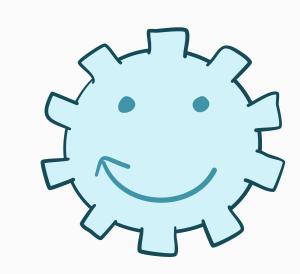


complex system X



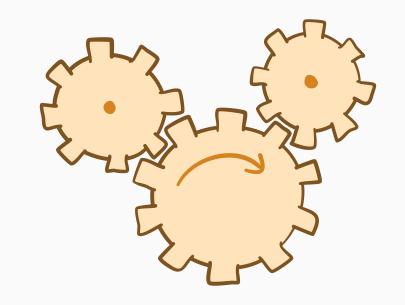


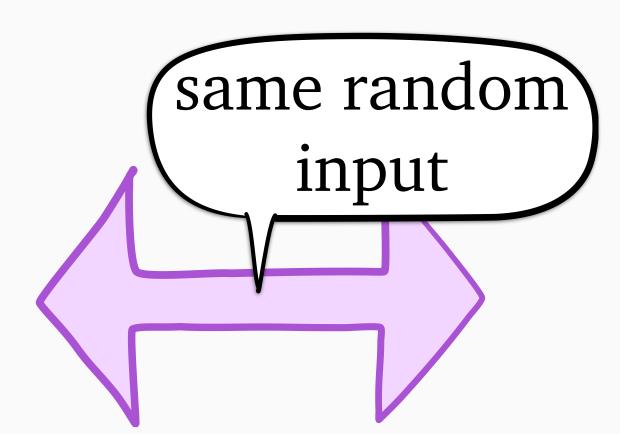




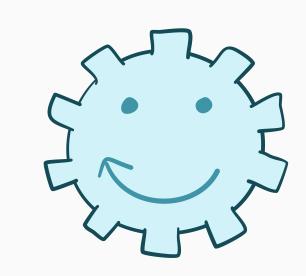


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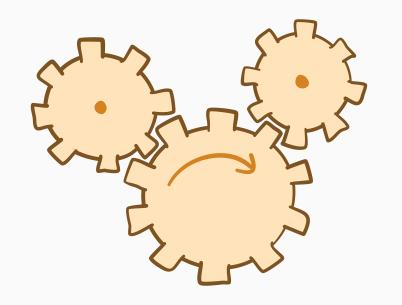


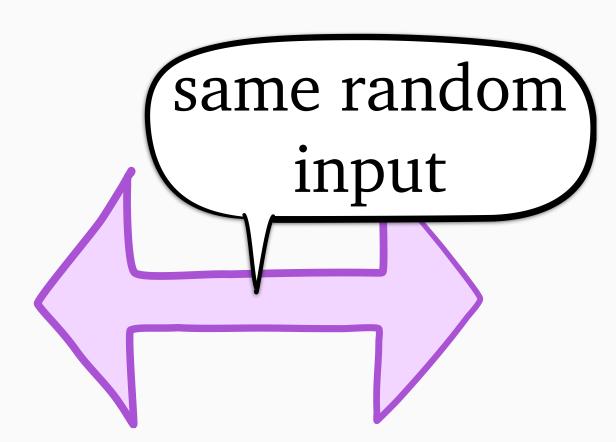
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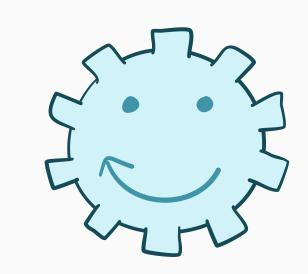


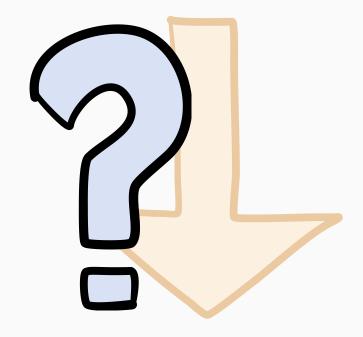
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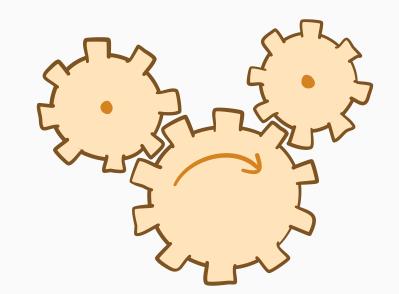
easy system Y

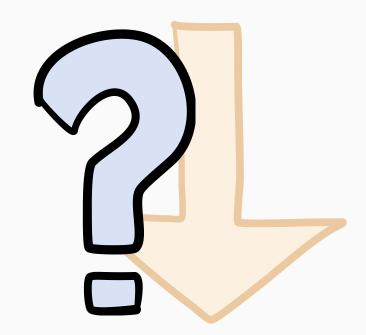




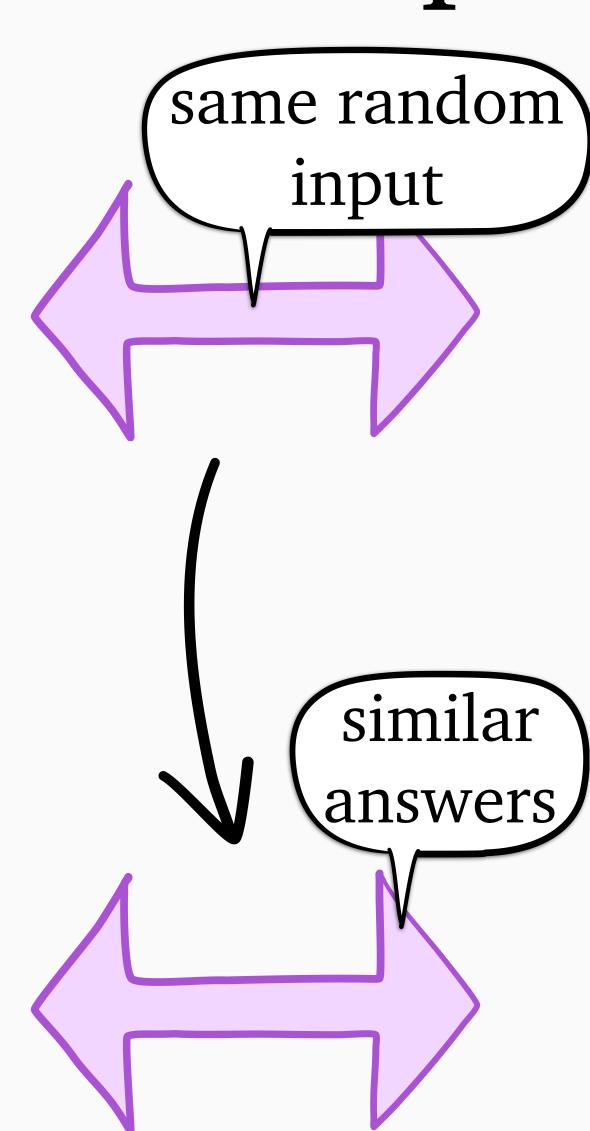
answer the question for *Y*

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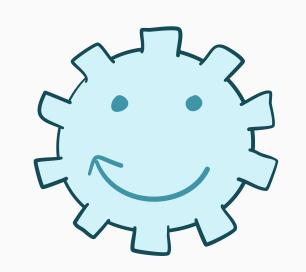


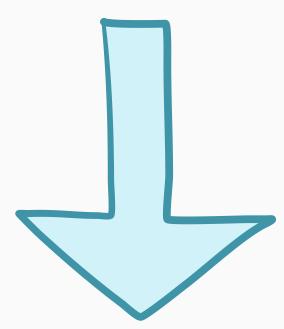


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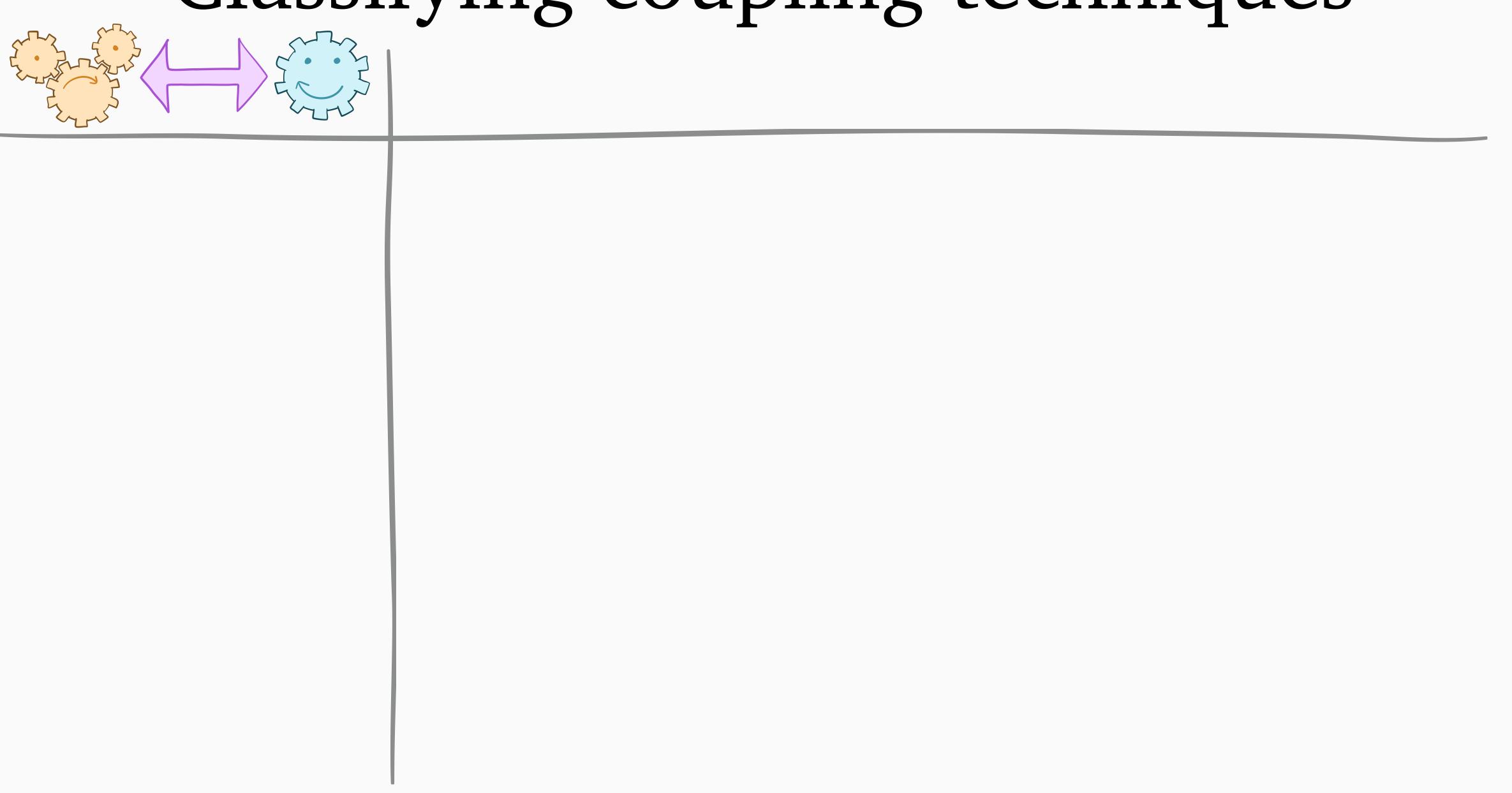


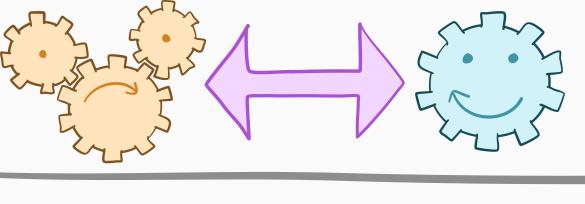
easy system Y

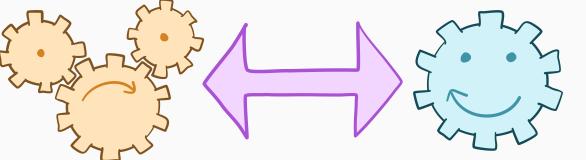




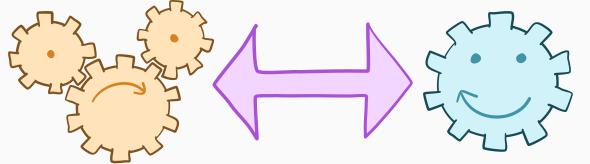
answer the question for **Y**





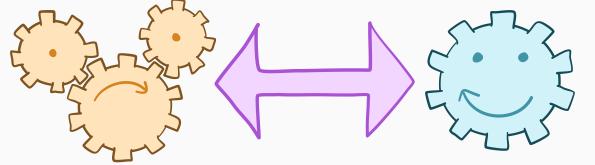


In what sense are *X* and *Y* close?



1. More information

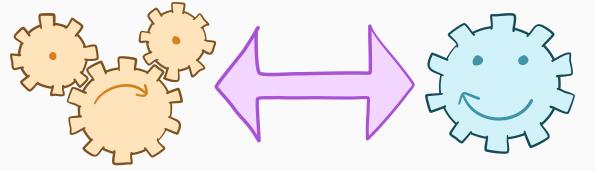
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In what sense are *X* and *Y* close?

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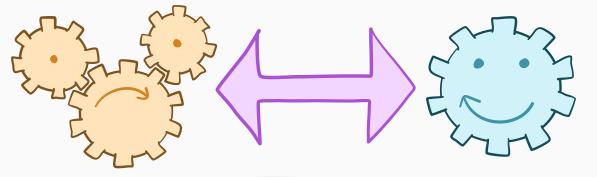
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3. Simpler dynamics



A. Every sample path

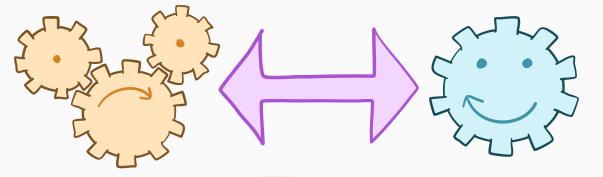
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A. Every sample path

B. Steady-state distribution

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	A. Every sample path	B. Steady-state distribution
1. More information	A1	B1
2. Fewer constraints	A2	B2
3. Simpler dynamics	A3	B3

	A. Every sample path	B. Steady-state distribution
1. More information	A1 BIG online knapsack (via compensated coupling)	B1
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Overview



Part 2



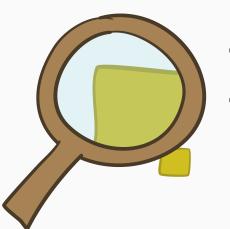
Survey 1: Sample-Path Coupling



Survey 2:
Steady-State Coupling



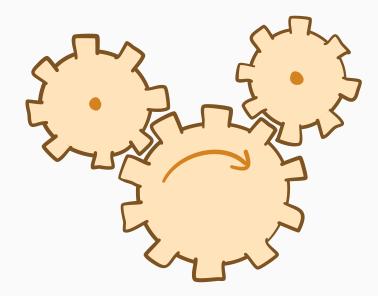
In-Depth Study 1:
Online Resource Allocation

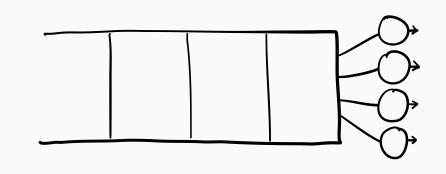


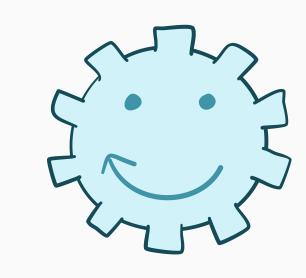
In-Depth Study 2:
Gittins in the M/G/k



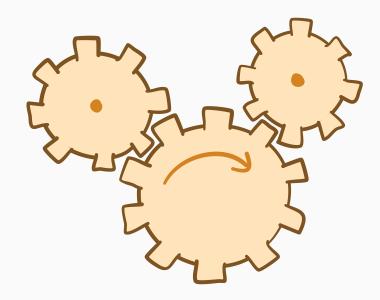
Survey 2: Steady-State Coupling

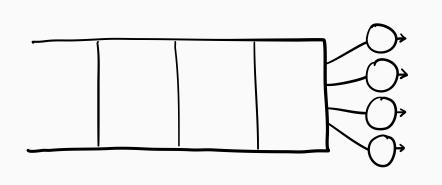


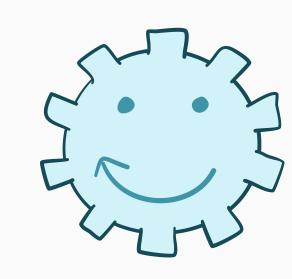




- $X(\infty) = M/M/k$ in steady-state
- CDF has jumps at points in \mathbb{N}

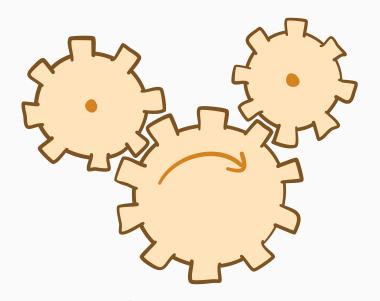


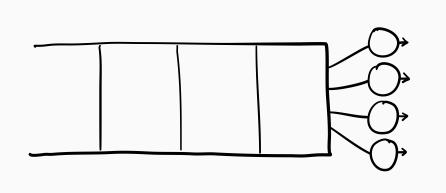


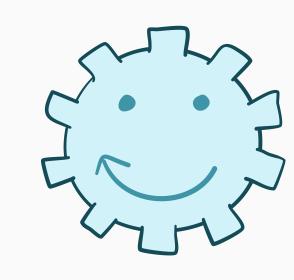


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- Y= absolutely continuous distribution
- CDF is smooth everywhere in \mathbb{R}

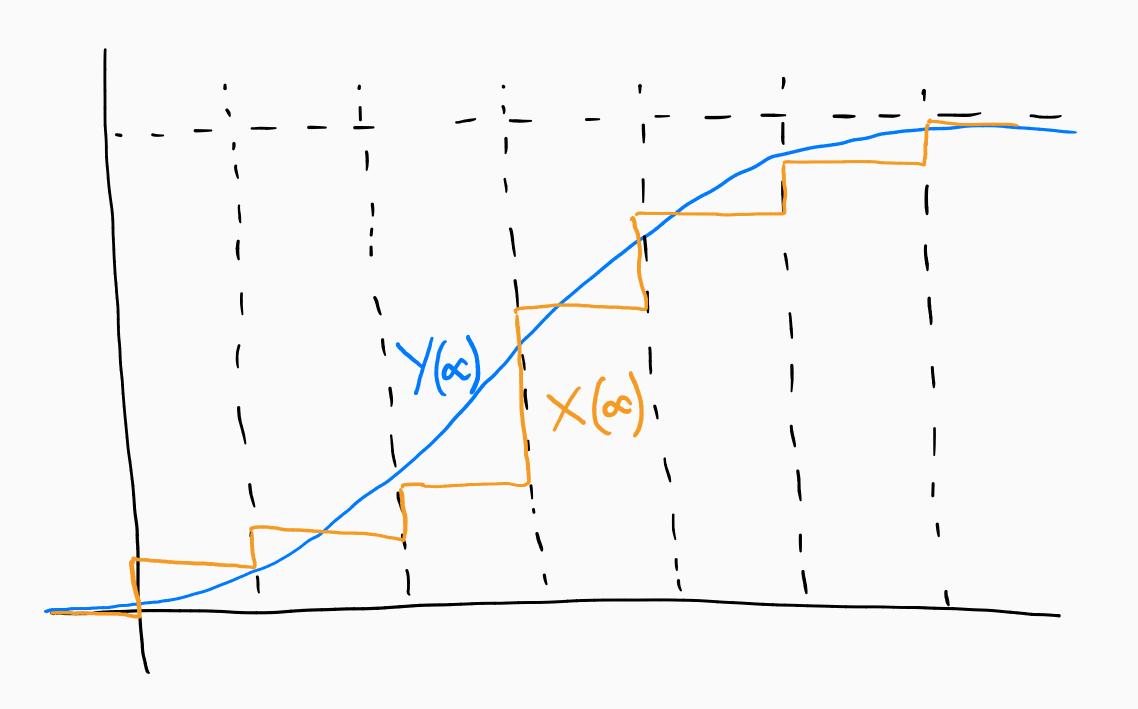


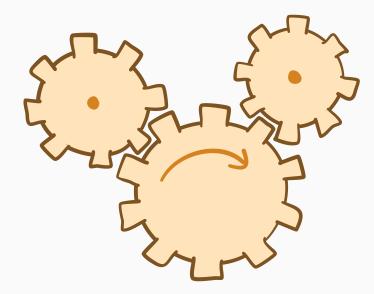


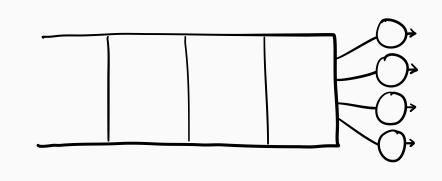


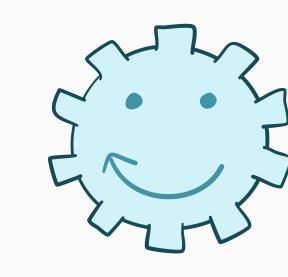
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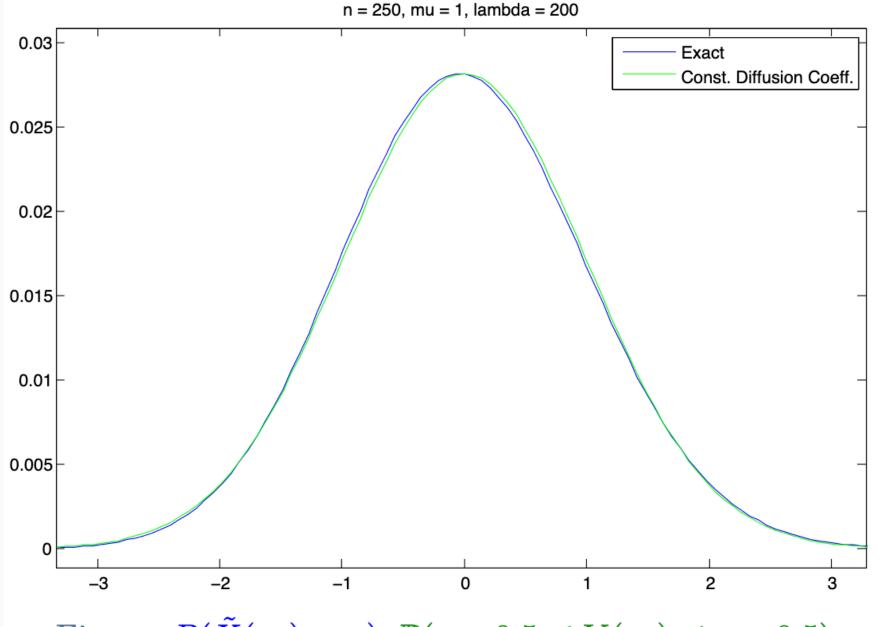


Figure: $P(\tilde{X}(\infty) = x)$, $\mathbb{P}(x - 0.5 \le Y(\infty) \le x + 0.5)$

Ingredient 1: Distances between distributions have variational definitions

$$d_{\mathcal{H}}(X,Y) = \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} |\mathbb{E}[h(X)] - \mathbb{E}[h(Y)]|$$

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- $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1) \iff \mathcal{A}g(x) = g'(x) xg(x)$
- What if X is the steady-state distribution of a Markov chain?

Ingredient 2: Every distribution X has a characterizing operator

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What about for $X(\infty) \equiv$ steady-state distribution of a birth-death chain?

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What about for $X(\infty) \equiv$ steady-state distribution of a birth-death chain?

- Let $\lambda(k)$, $\mu(k)$ be the birth/death rates of any state $k \in \mathbb{N}$, and

$$Ag(x) = \lambda(x)g(x+1) + \mu(x)g((x-1)^{+}) - g(x)$$

then

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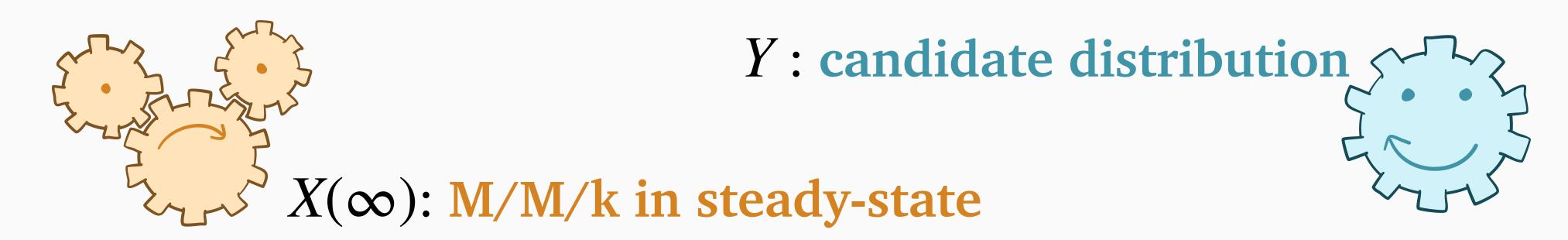
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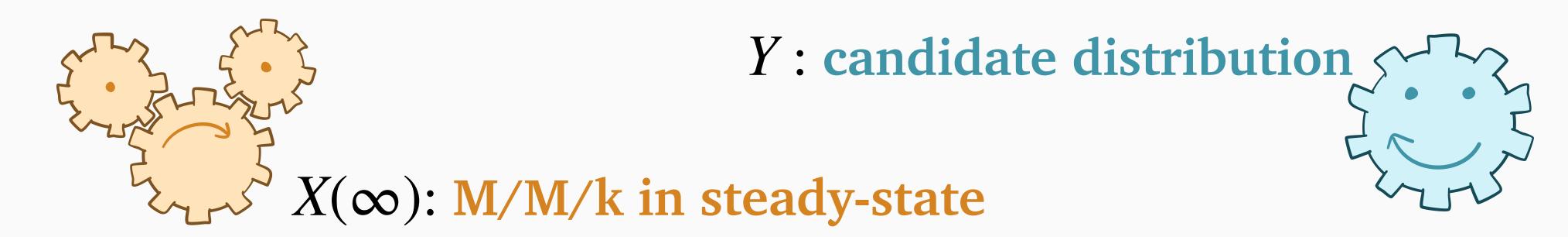
 $X \sim \text{steady-state of MC on } \mathbb{N} \text{ with generator } G \iff \mathcal{A}g(k) = G(g(0), g(1), \ldots)^T$



Recipe for bounding distances between $X(\infty)$, Y:

• For any $h \in \mathcal{H}$, find f such that $\mathcal{A}_Y f(z) = h(z) - \mathbb{E}[h(Y)]$

Stein's method

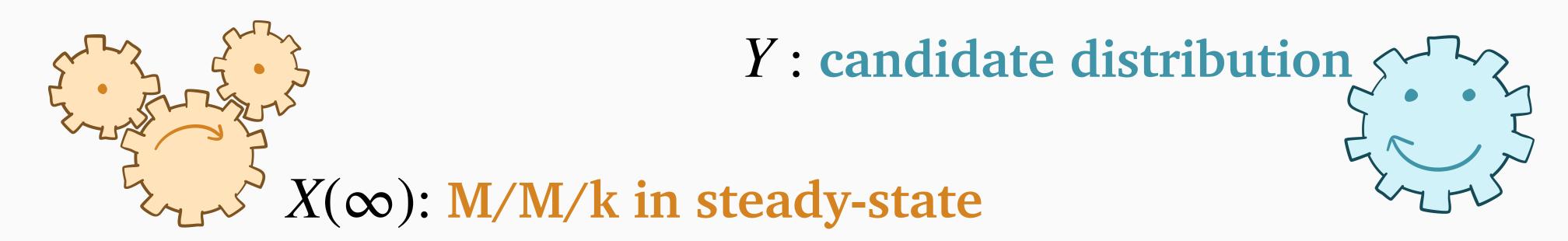


Poisson equation

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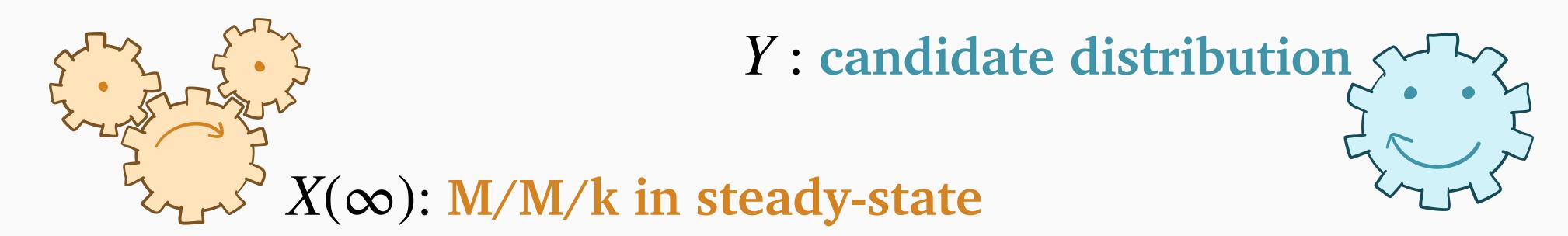
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Generator coupling: if A_X and A_Y are 'close', then the RHS is small

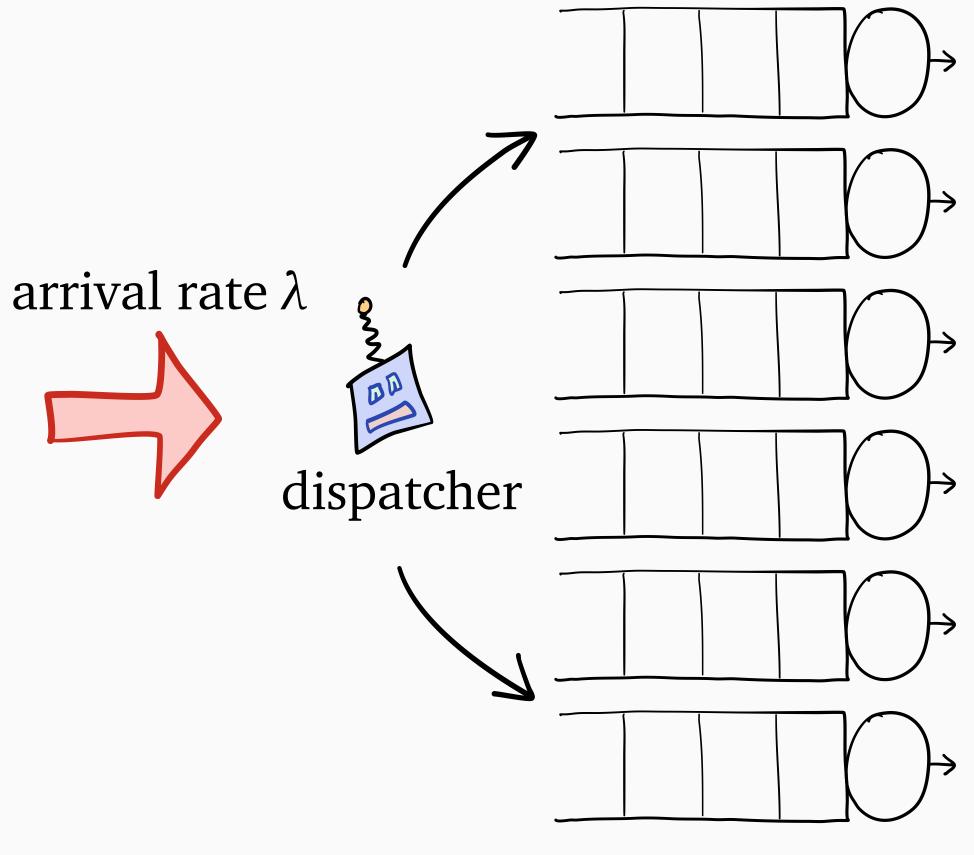
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Classifying coupling techniques

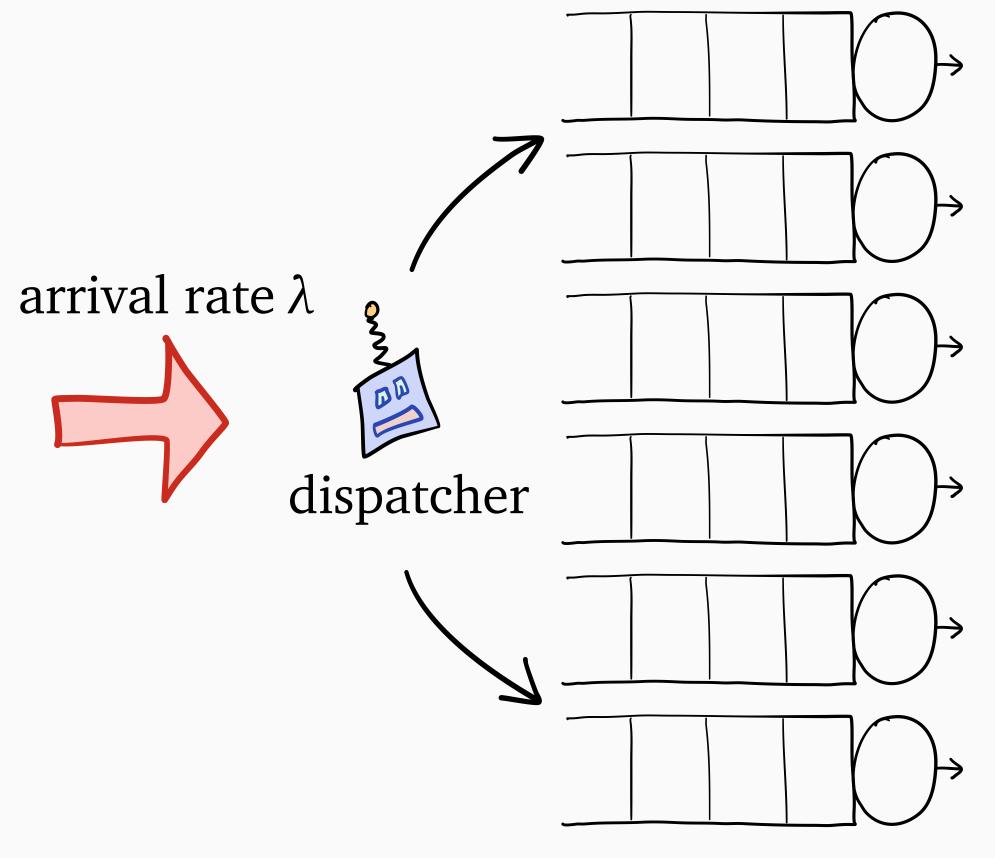
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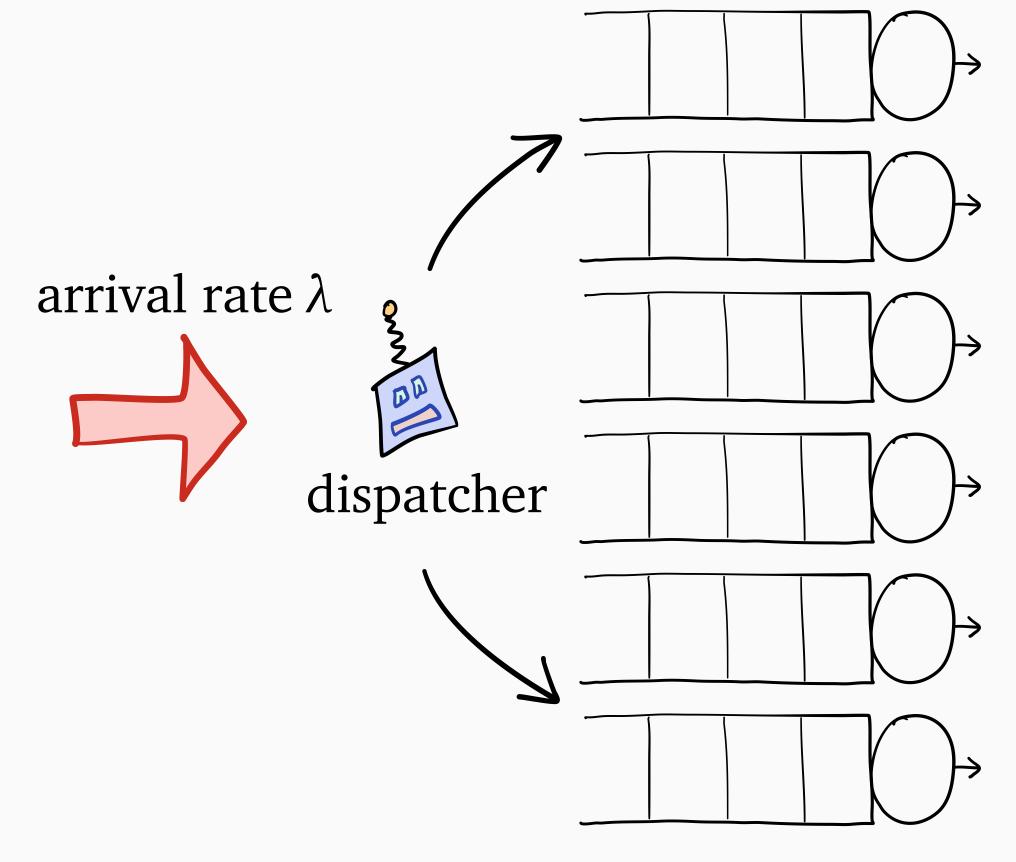


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Load: $\rho = \lambda/\mu$

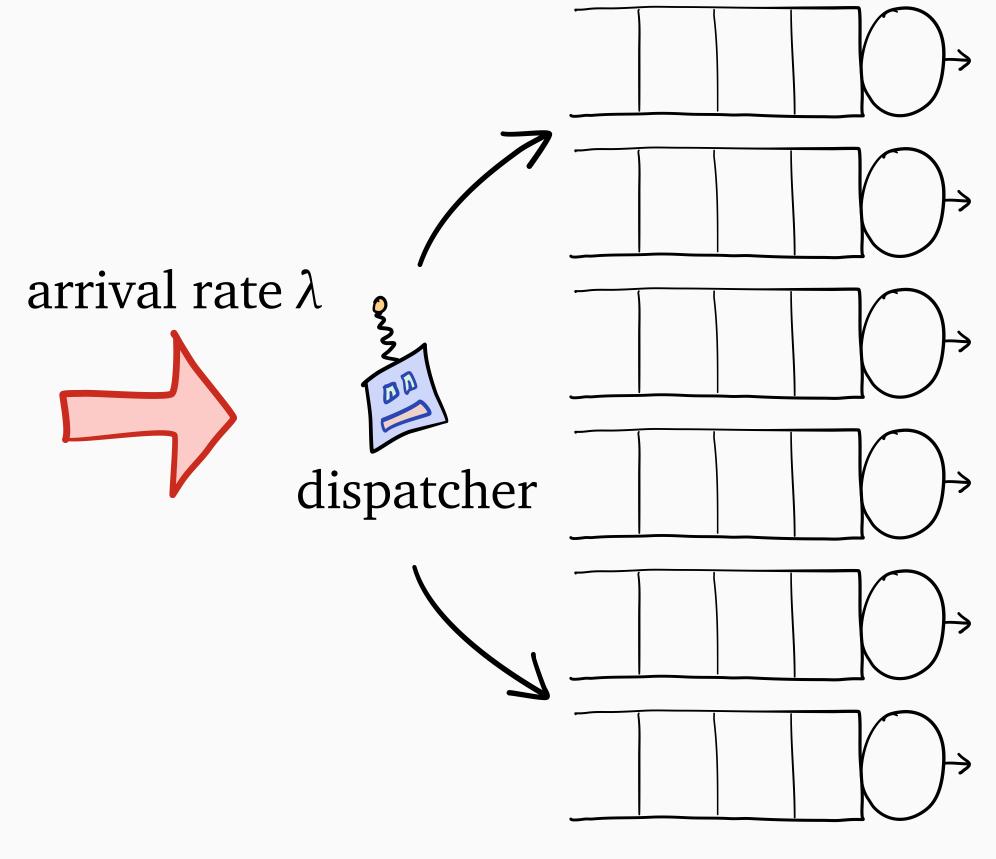


Join the Shortest Queue (JSQ):

always dispatch job to server with fewest jobs

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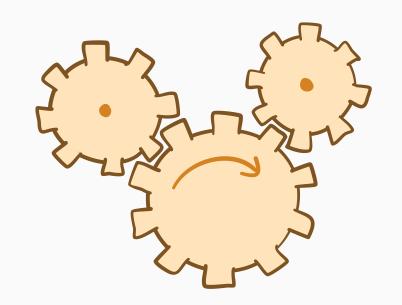
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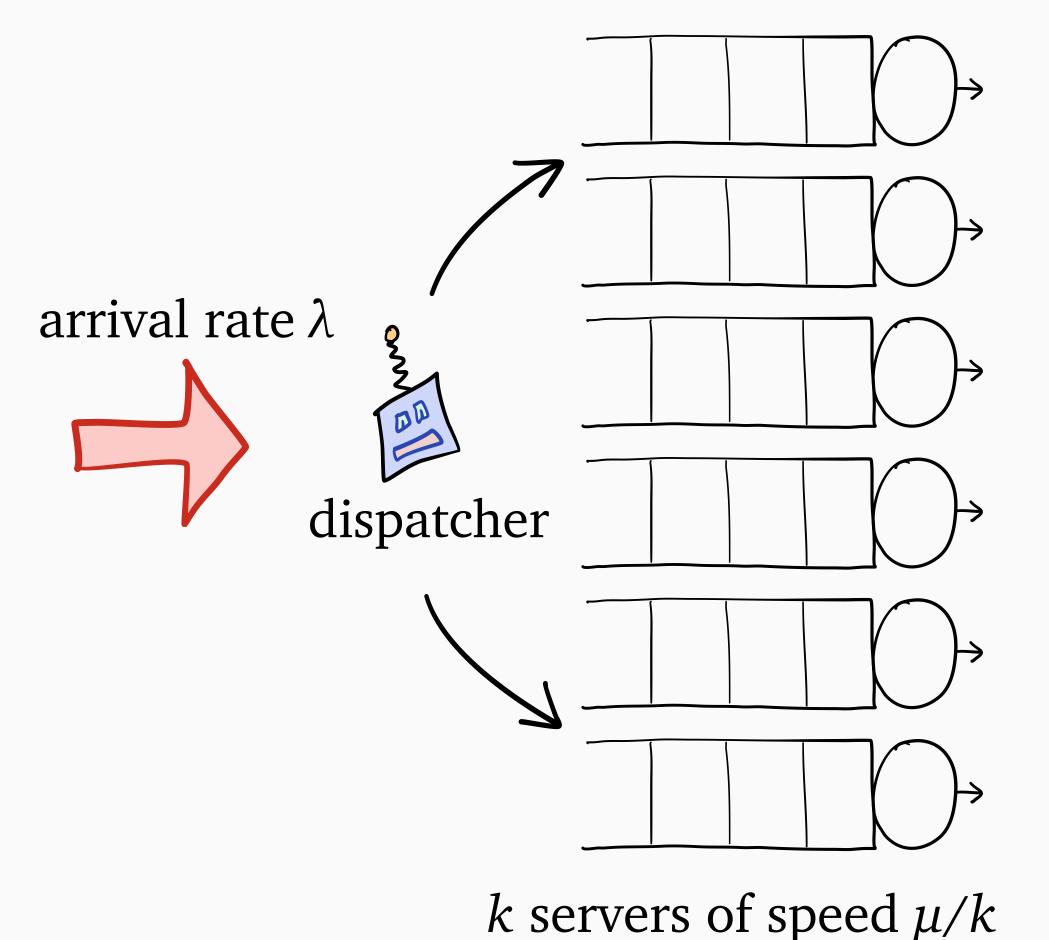
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With just 2 servers, already a famously hard Markov chain



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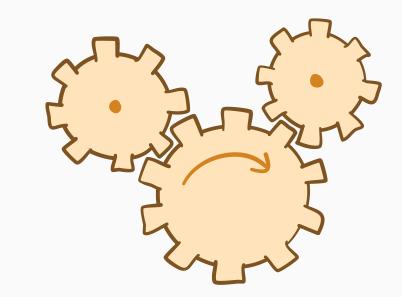


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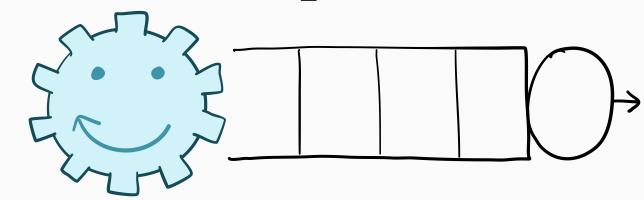
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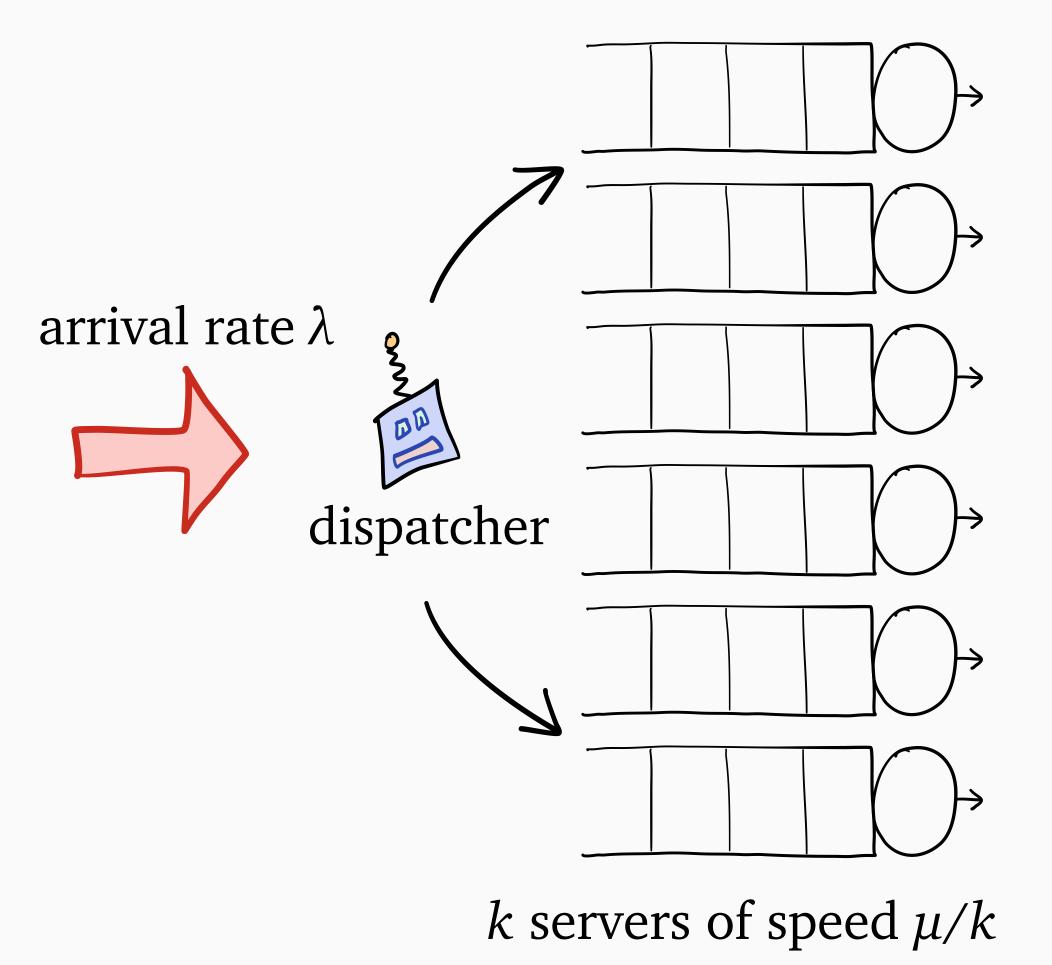
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M/M/1 is simple lower bound



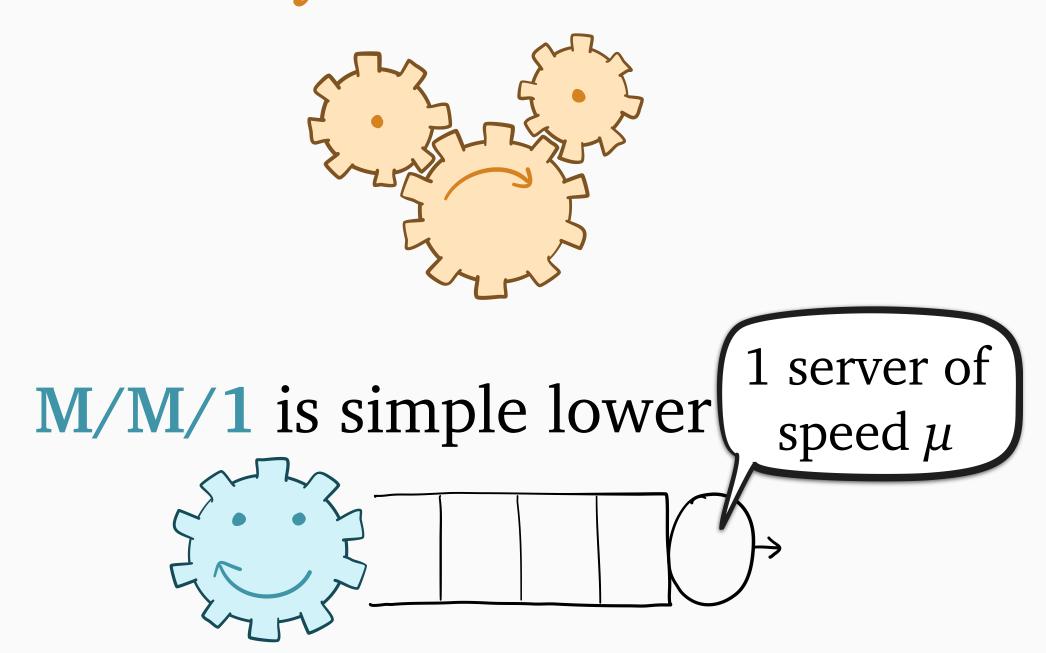


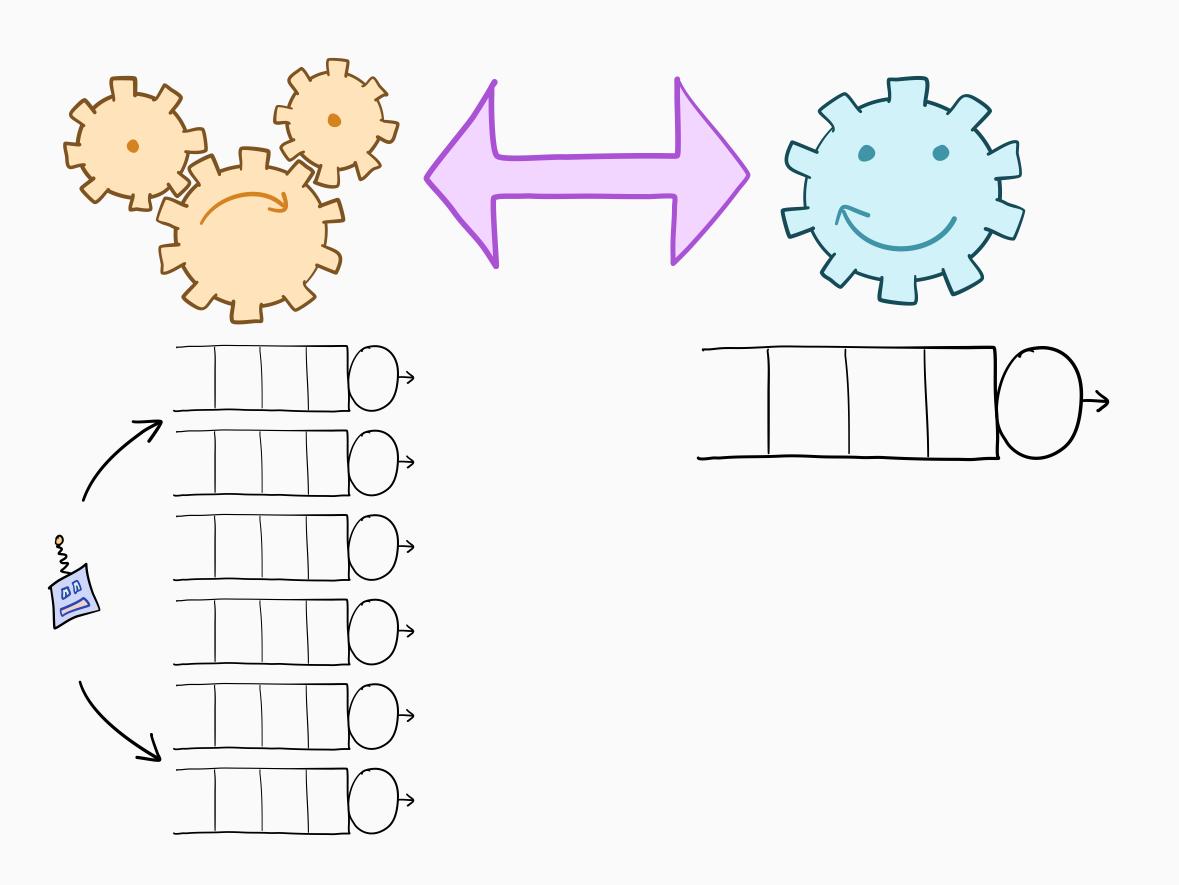
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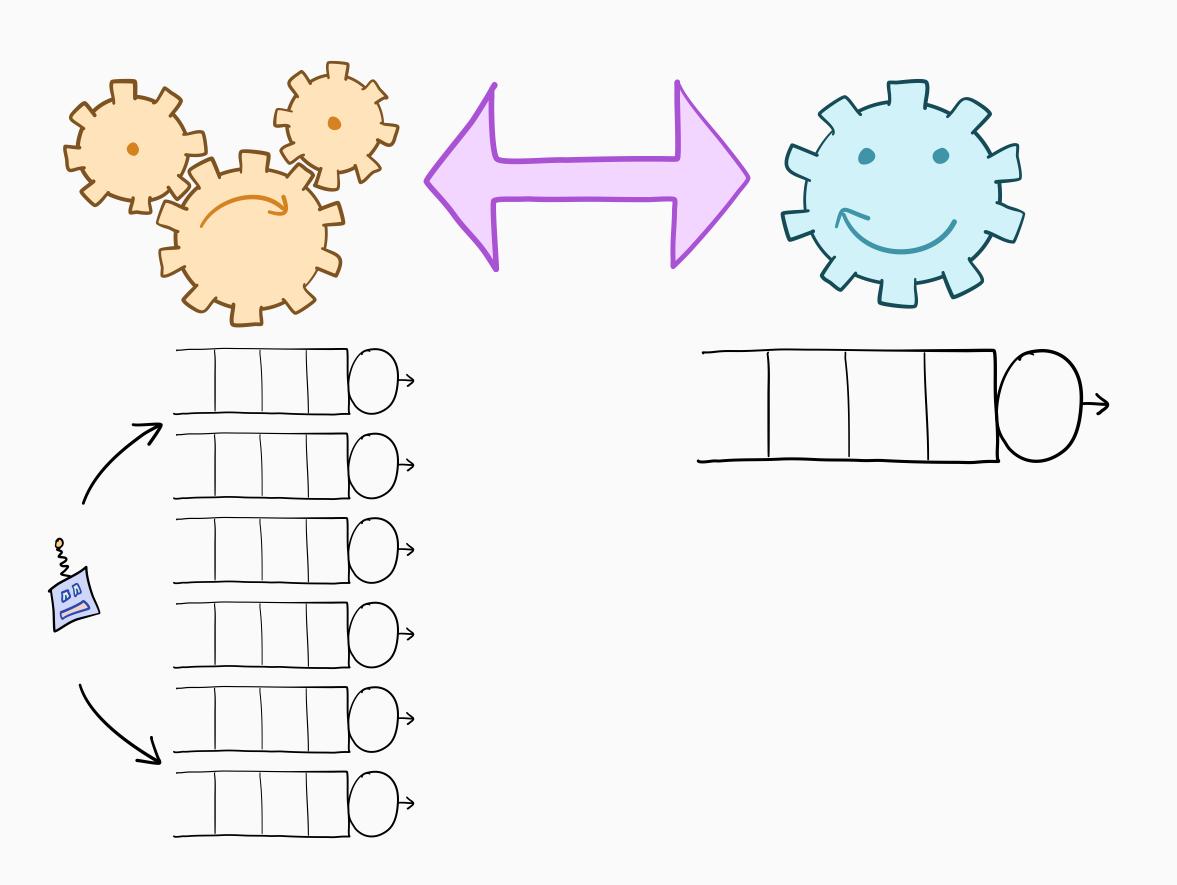
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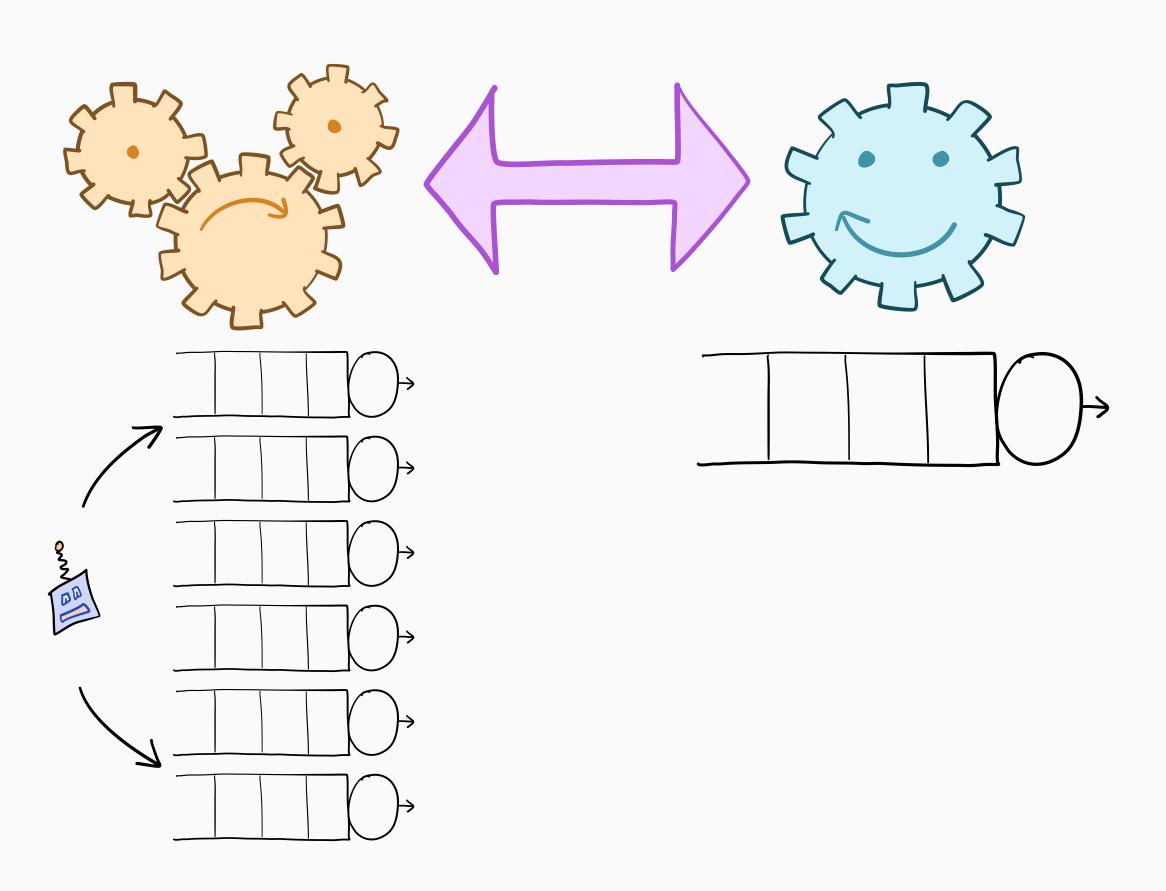
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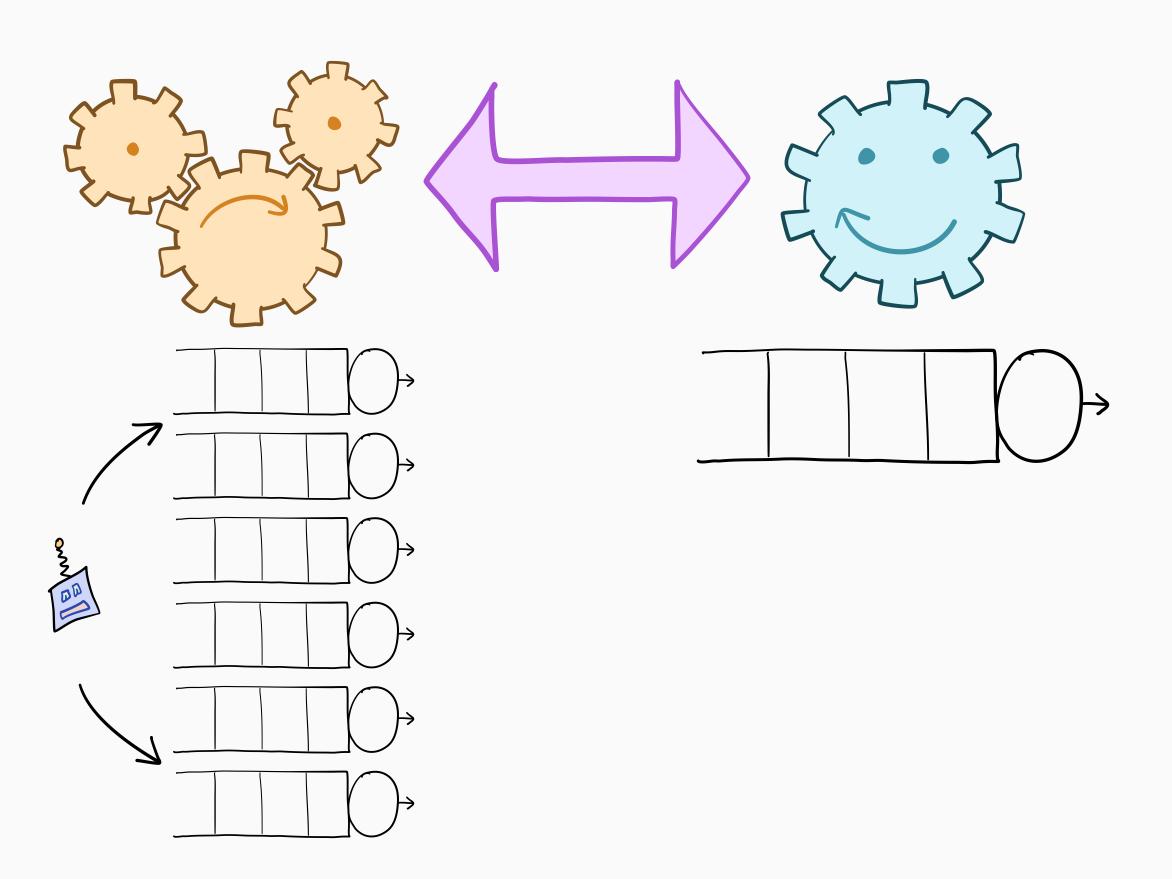




discrete time, but same idea

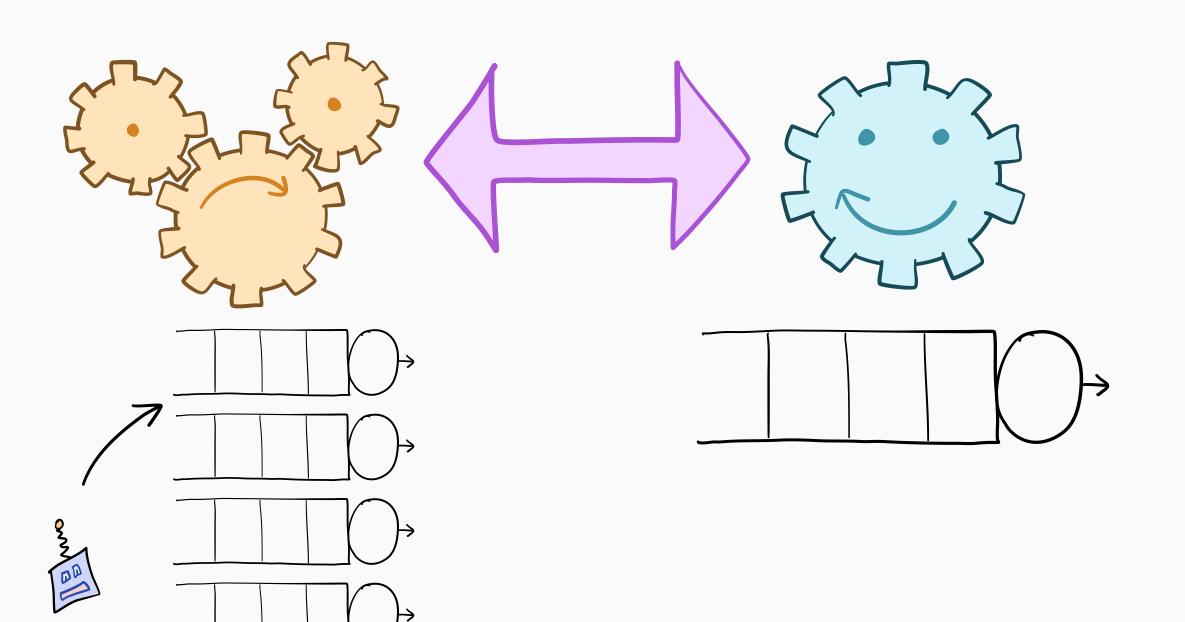


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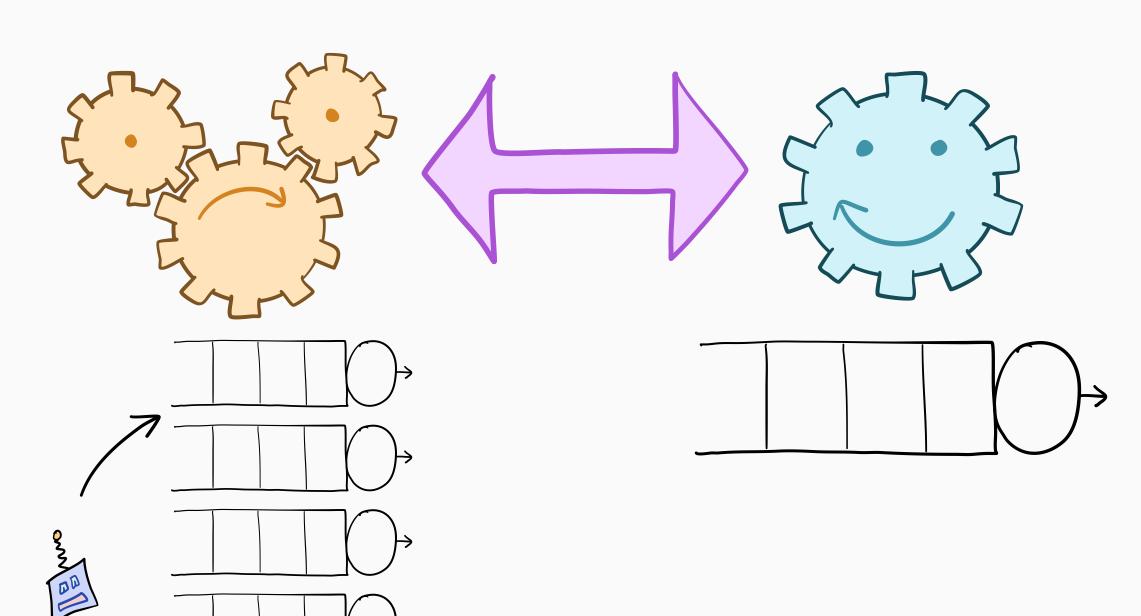
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Intuition: should be close to $E[N_1]$, because JSQ does a good job of keeping servers busy



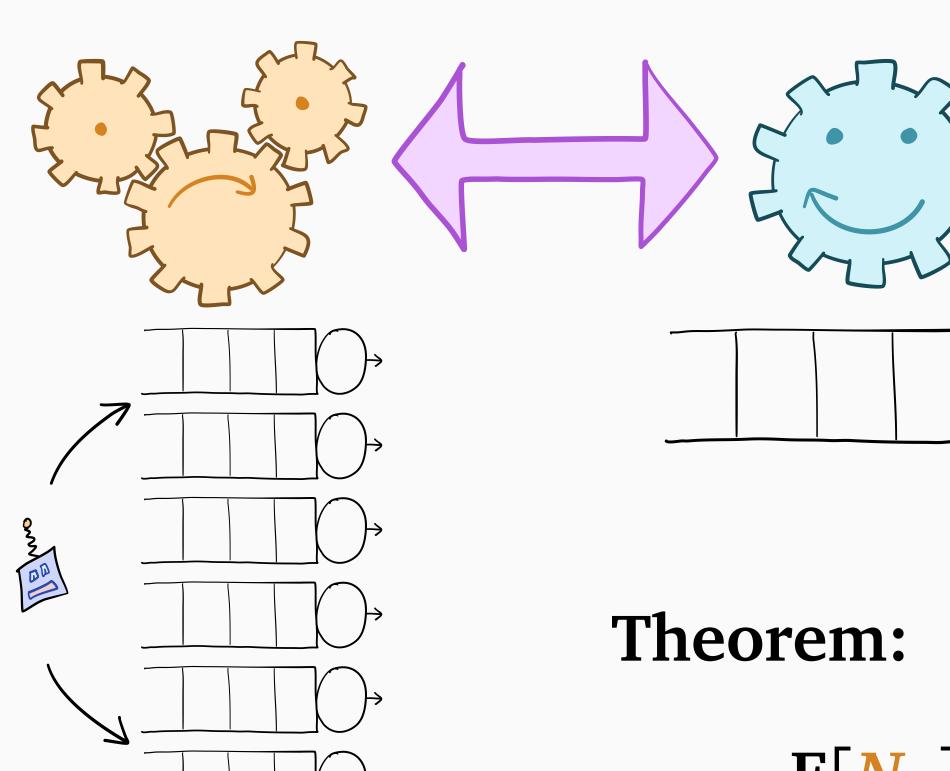
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Theorem:

$$\mathbf{E}[N_k] = \mathbf{E}[N_1] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[(1 - B_k)N_k]}{1 - \rho}$$

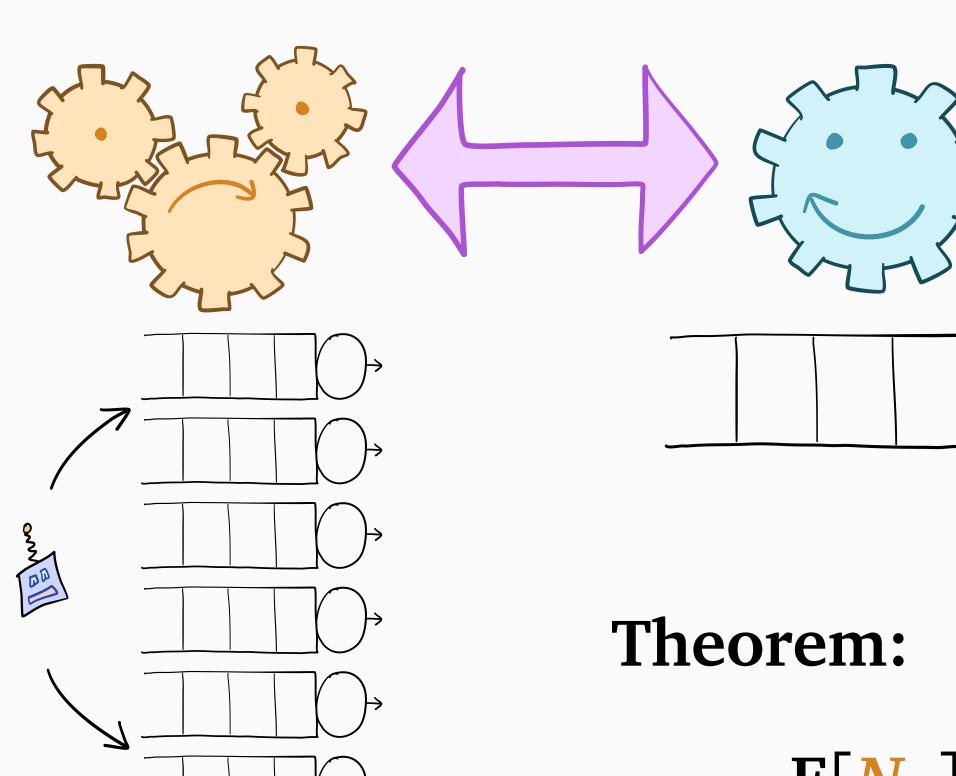


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Intuition: should be close to $E[N_1]$, because JSQ does a good job of keeping servers busy

$$\mathbf{E}[N_k] = \mathbf{E}[N_1] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[(1 - B_k)N_k]}{1 - \rho}$$



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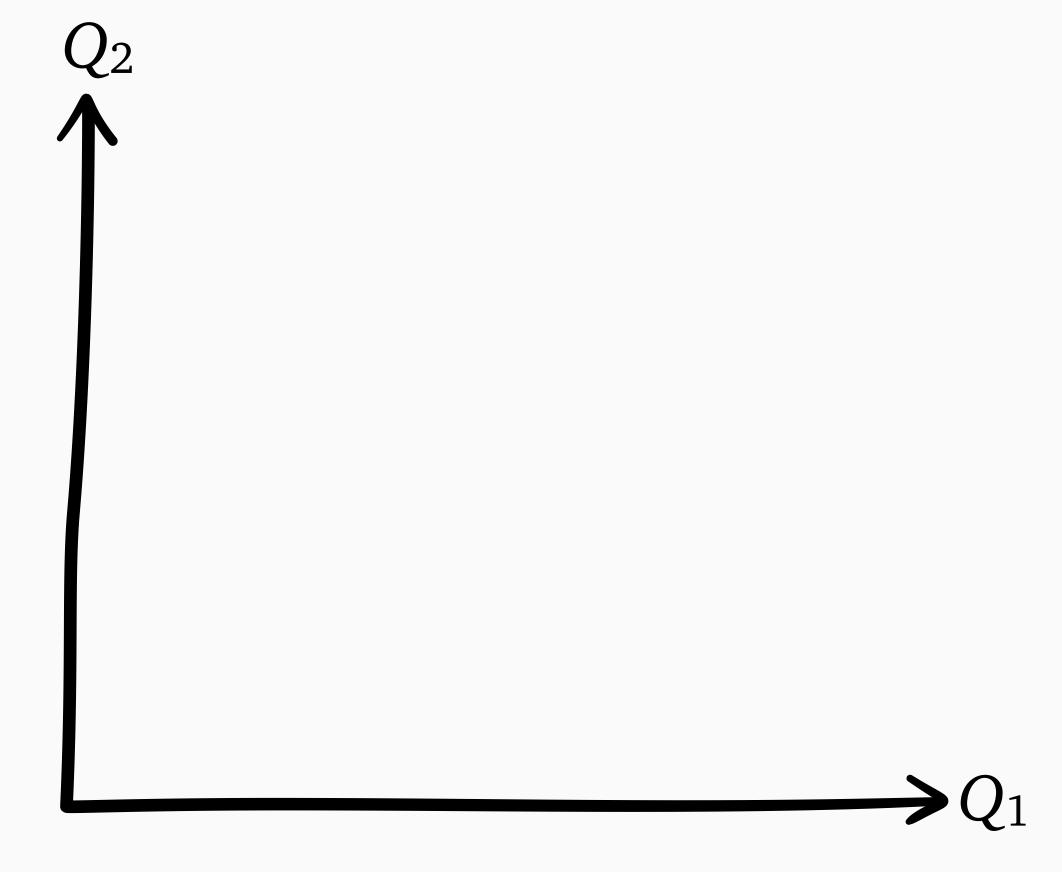
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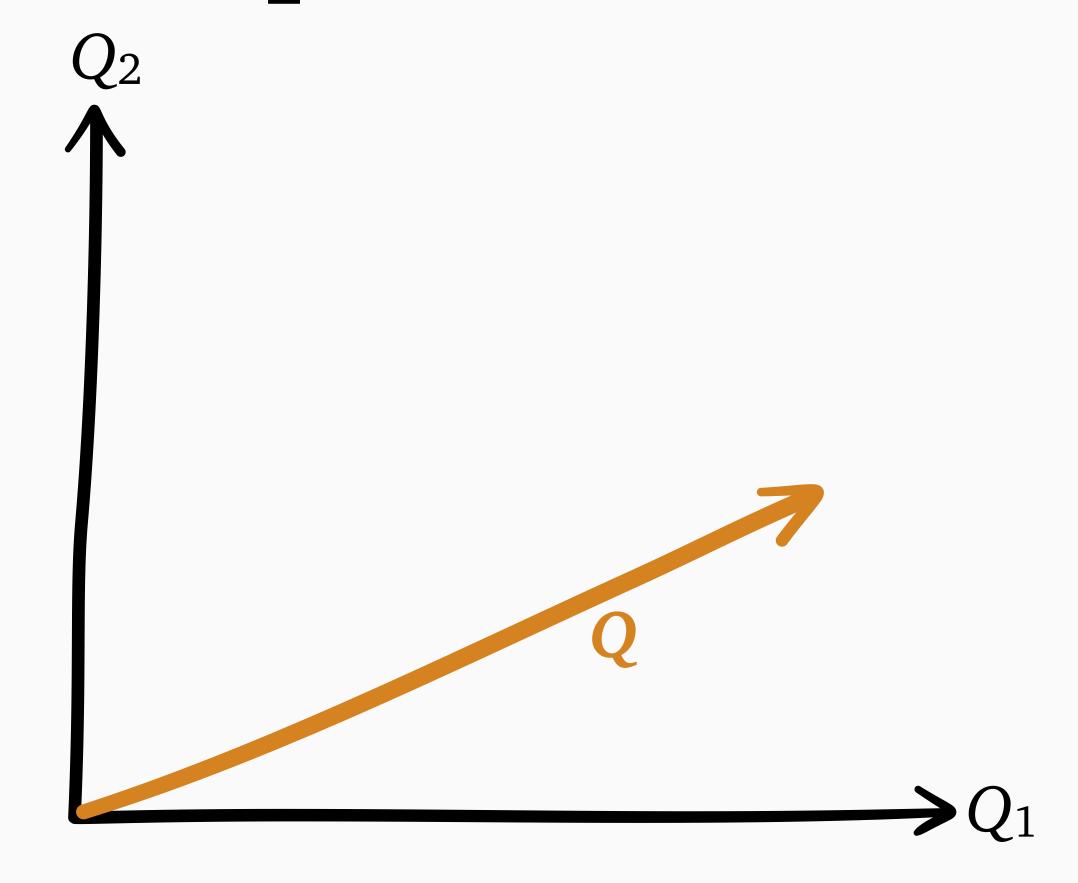
$$\leq \mathbf{E}[N_1] + \sqrt{\frac{\mathbf{E}[\text{"variance of queue lengths"}]}{1-\rho}}$$

 $Q_i = \#$ jobs at server i



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```

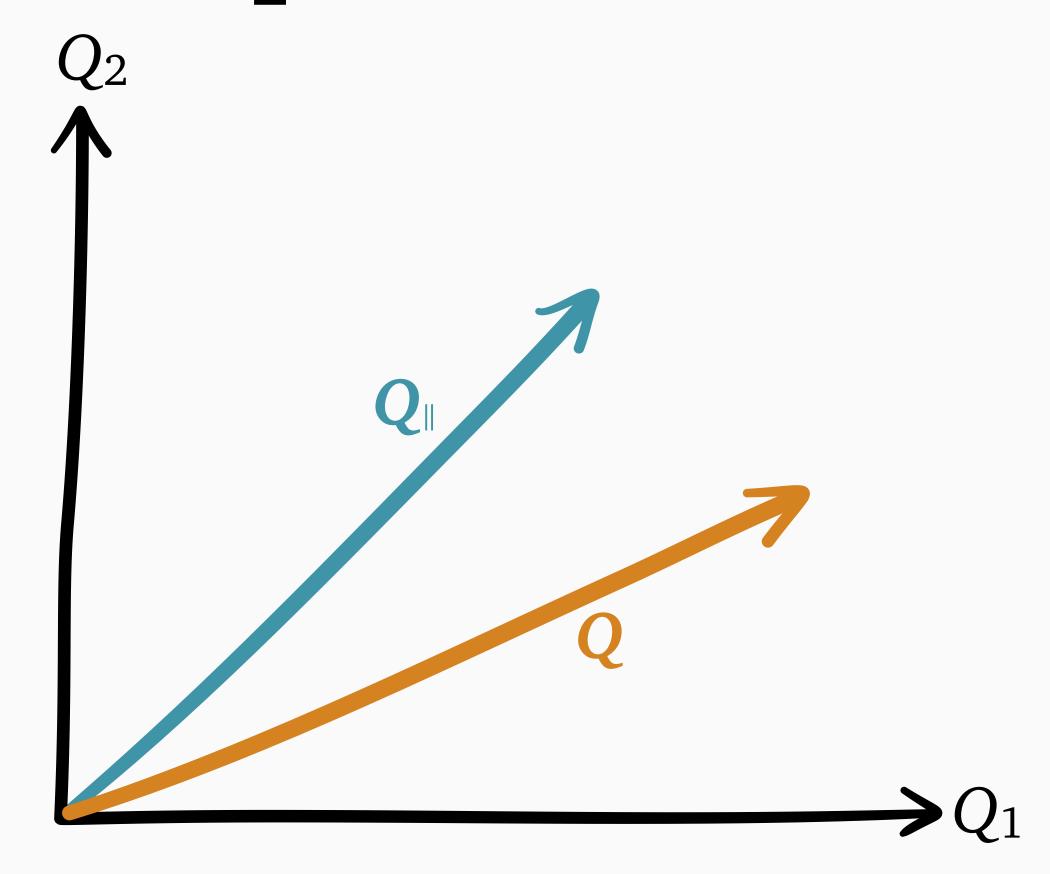
Q = system state vector



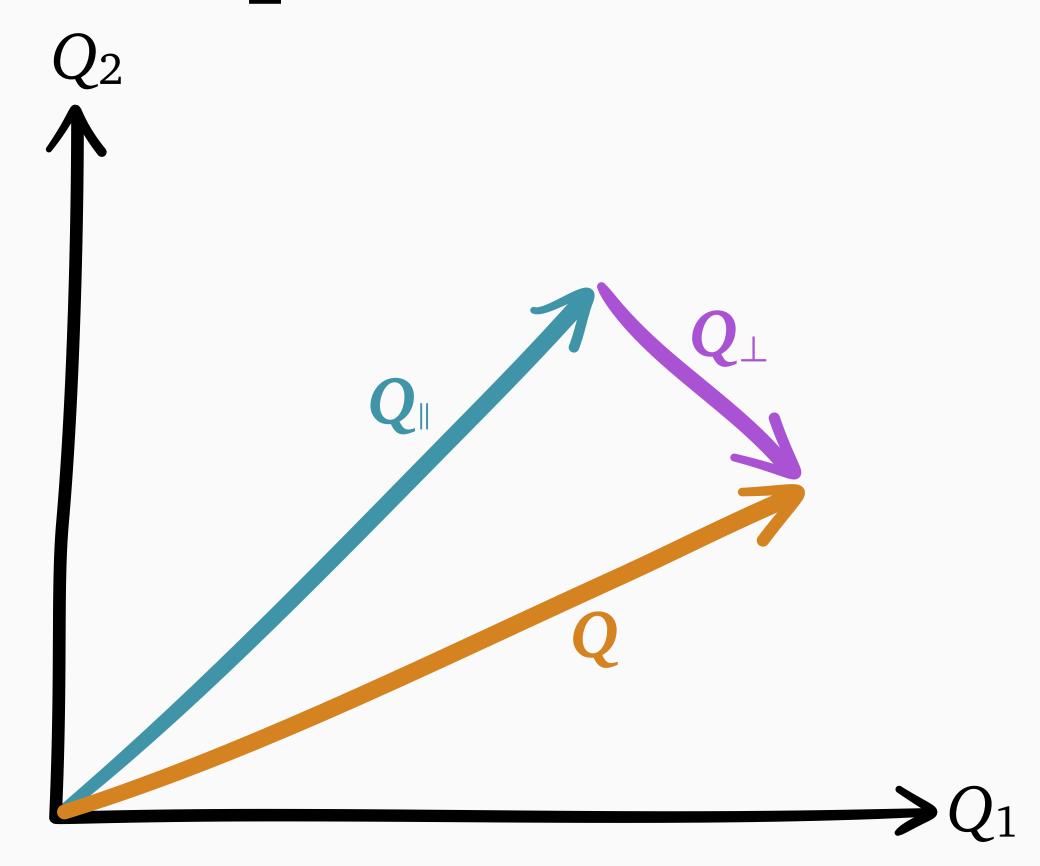
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Q = \text{system state vector}
Q_{\parallel} = \text{avg. } \# jobs per server = "M/M/1 part"
\|Q_{\perp}\|^2 = \text{"variance of queue lengths"}
```

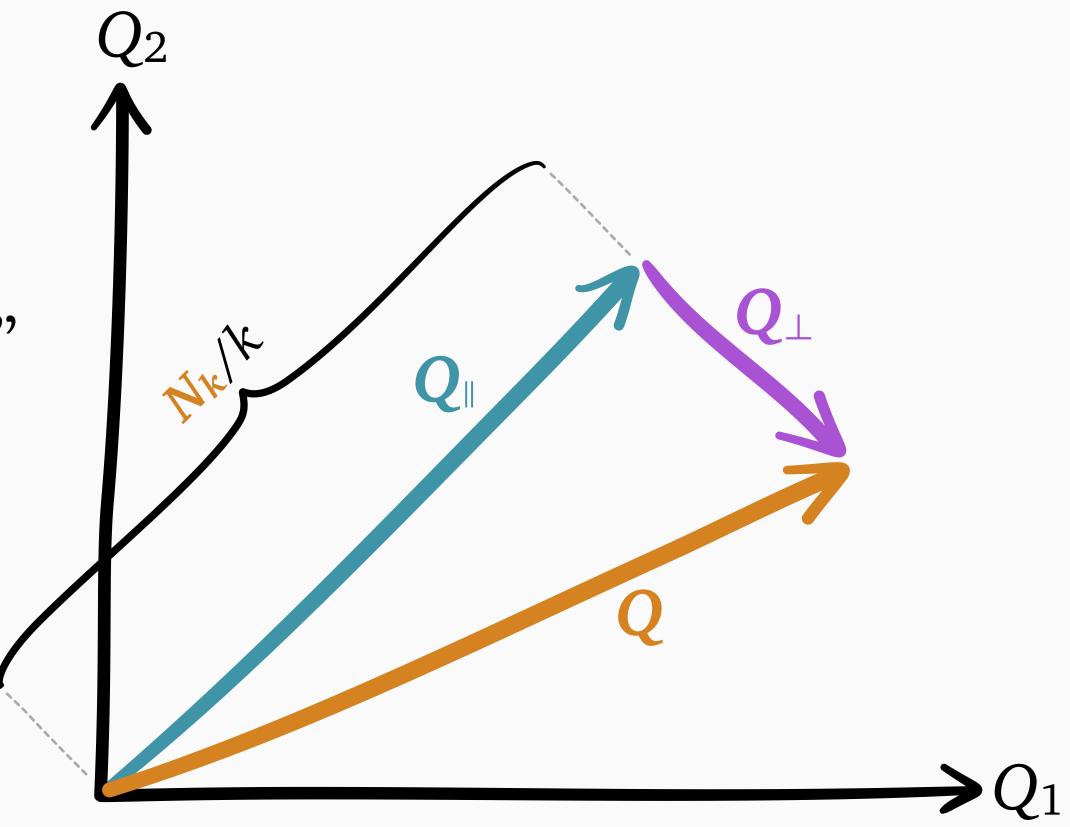


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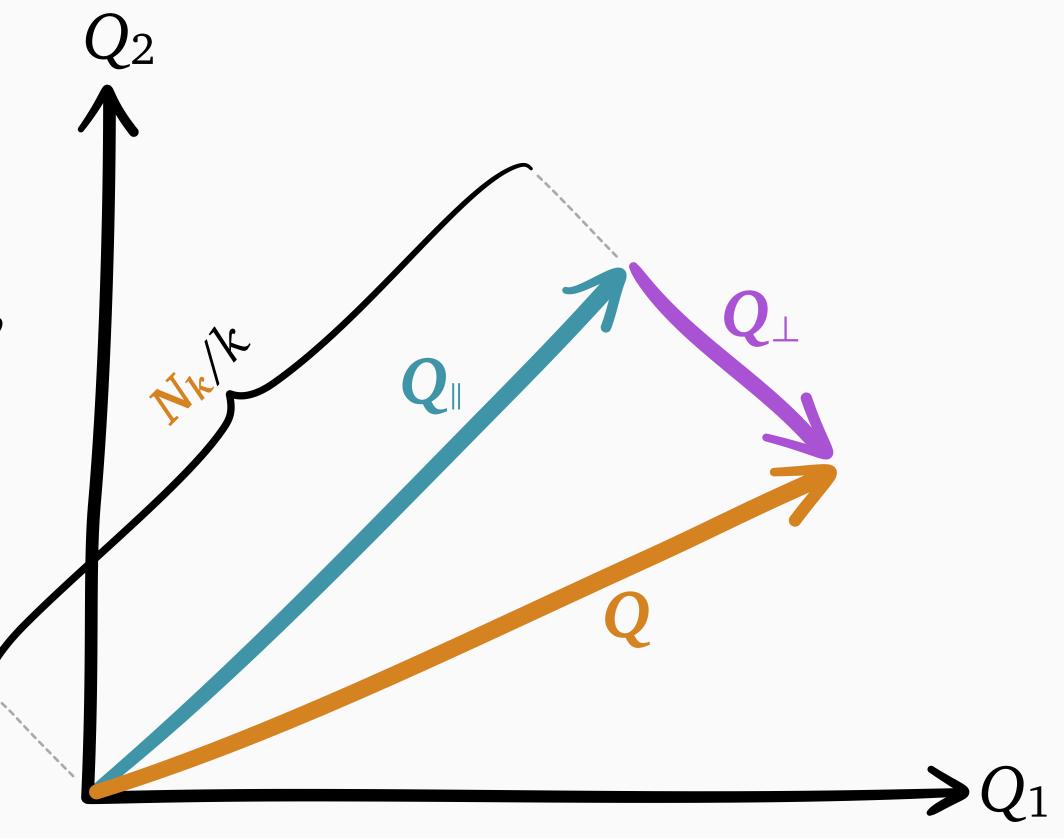
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Drift method: use a Lyapunov function to show $\mathbf{E}[\|\mathbf{Q}_{\perp}\|^2] = O(1)$ as $\rho \to 1$



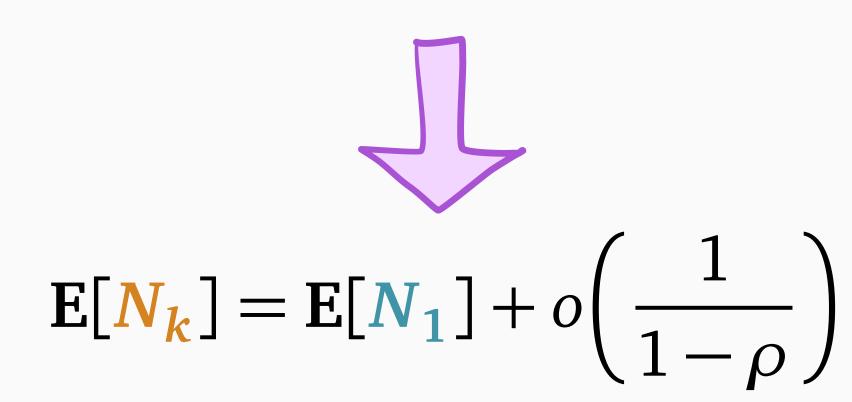
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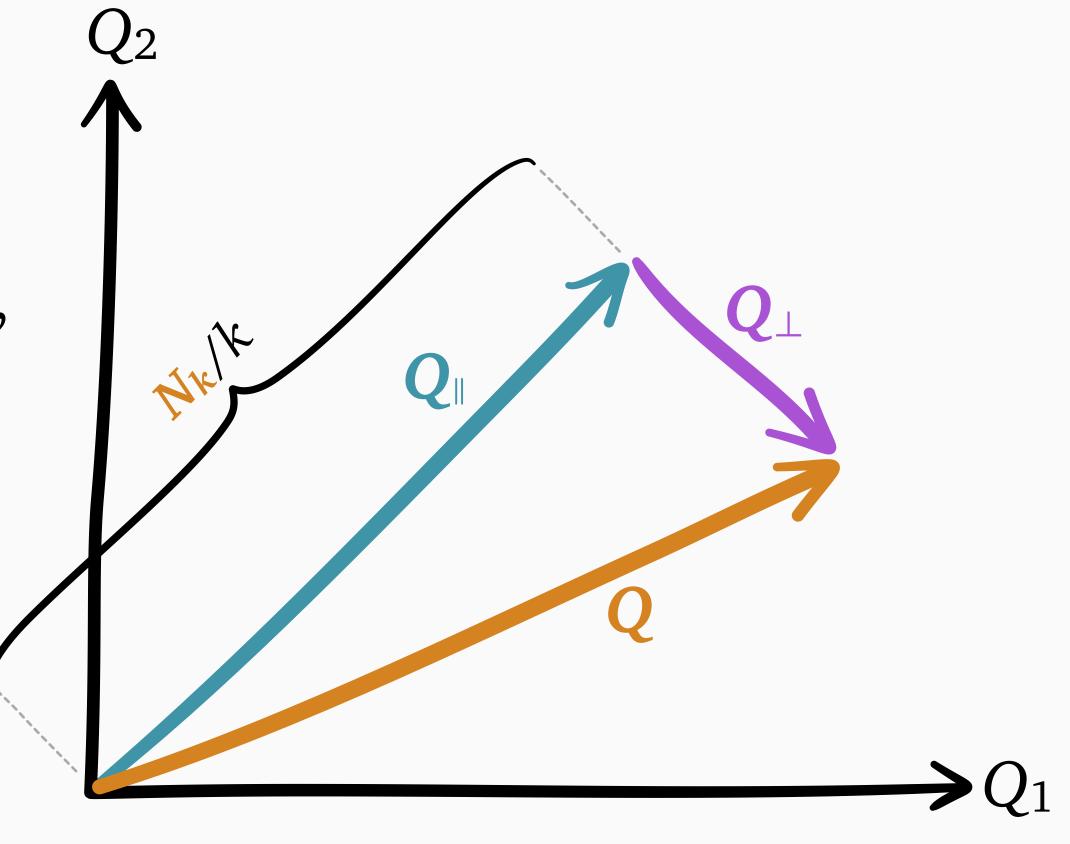
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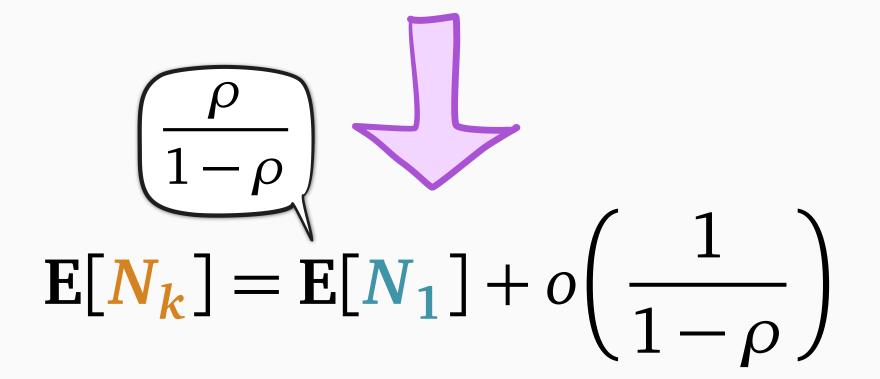
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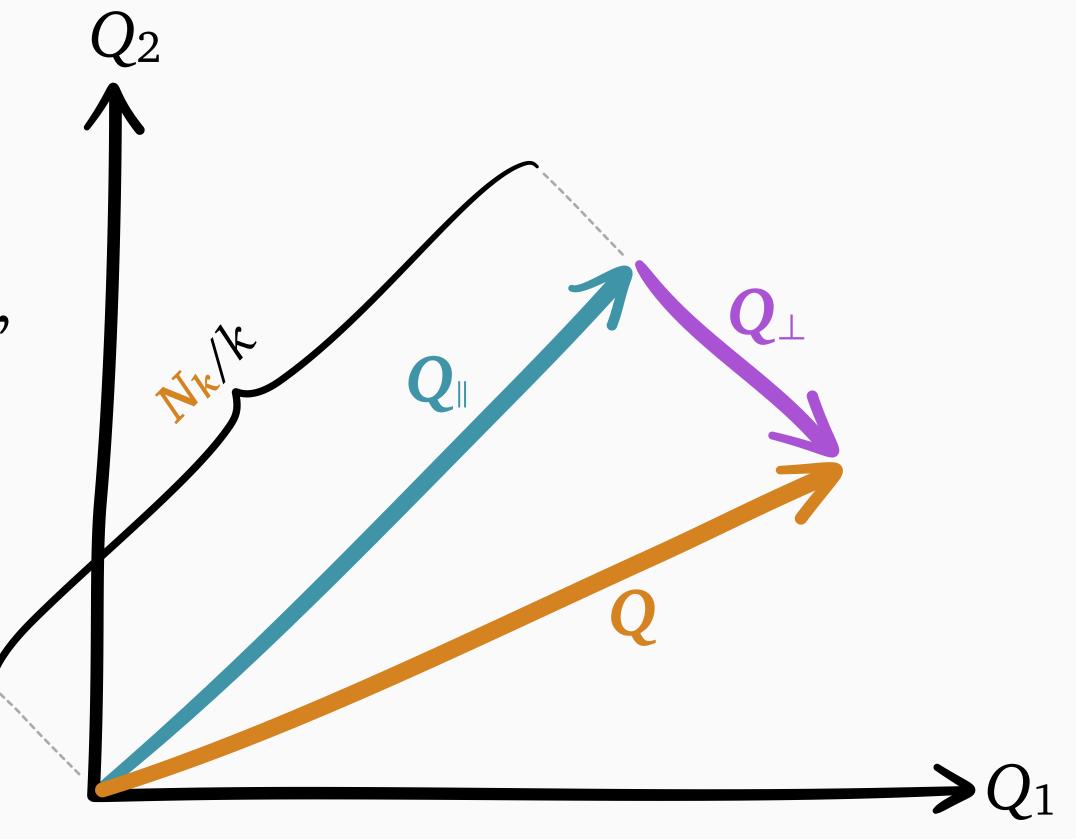
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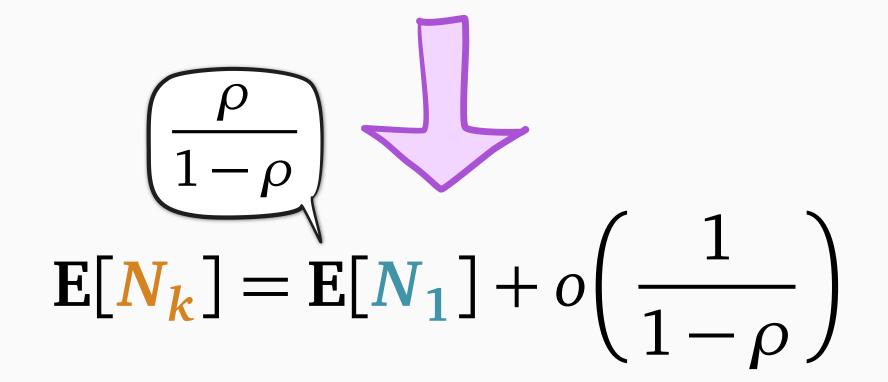
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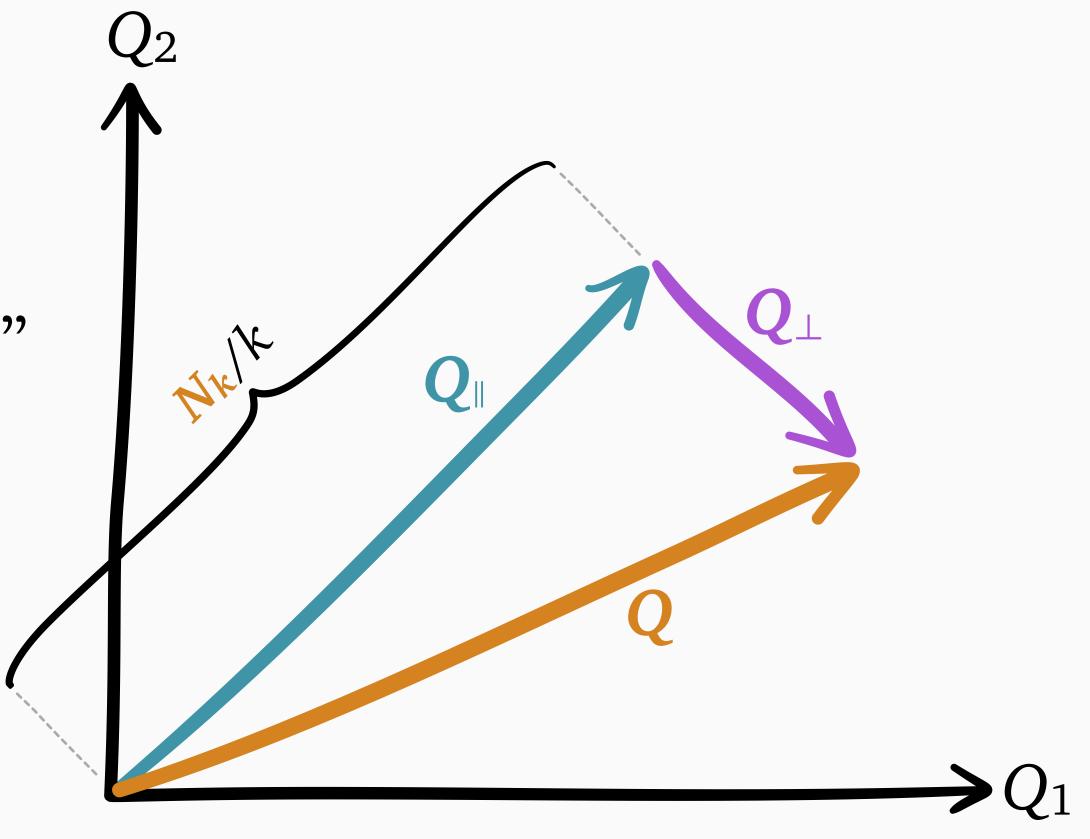
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Similar results in switch scheduling and more—see SIGMETRICS 2021 tutorial by Maguluri and Chen

Classifying coupling techniques

	A. Every sample path	B. Steady-state distribution
1. More information	BIG online knapsack (via compensated coupling)	B1
2. Fewer constraints	M/M/k vs. M/M/1 Online knapsack (via constraints-to-costs)	B2
3. Simpler dynamics	SIS epidemics Queues with redundancy	Stein's method

Classifying coupling techniques

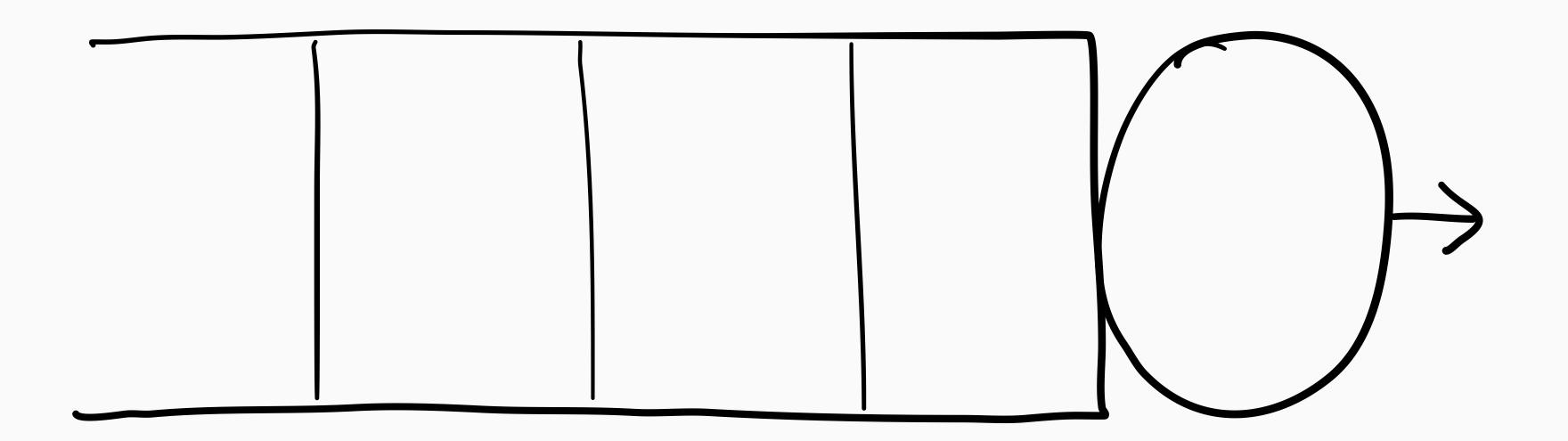
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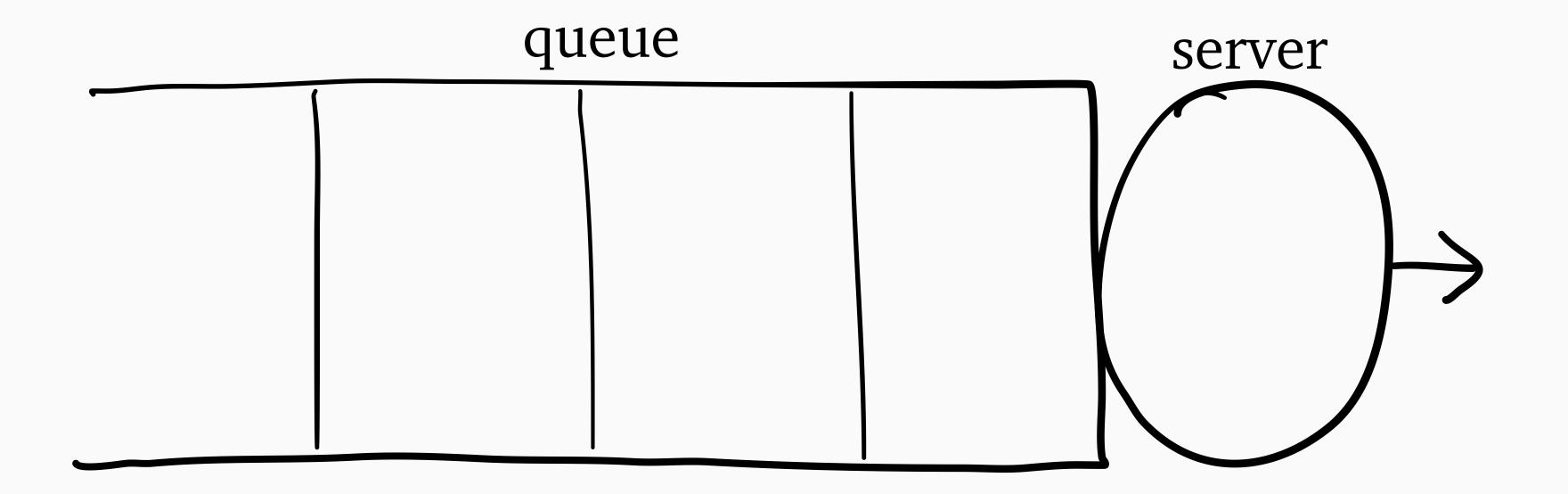


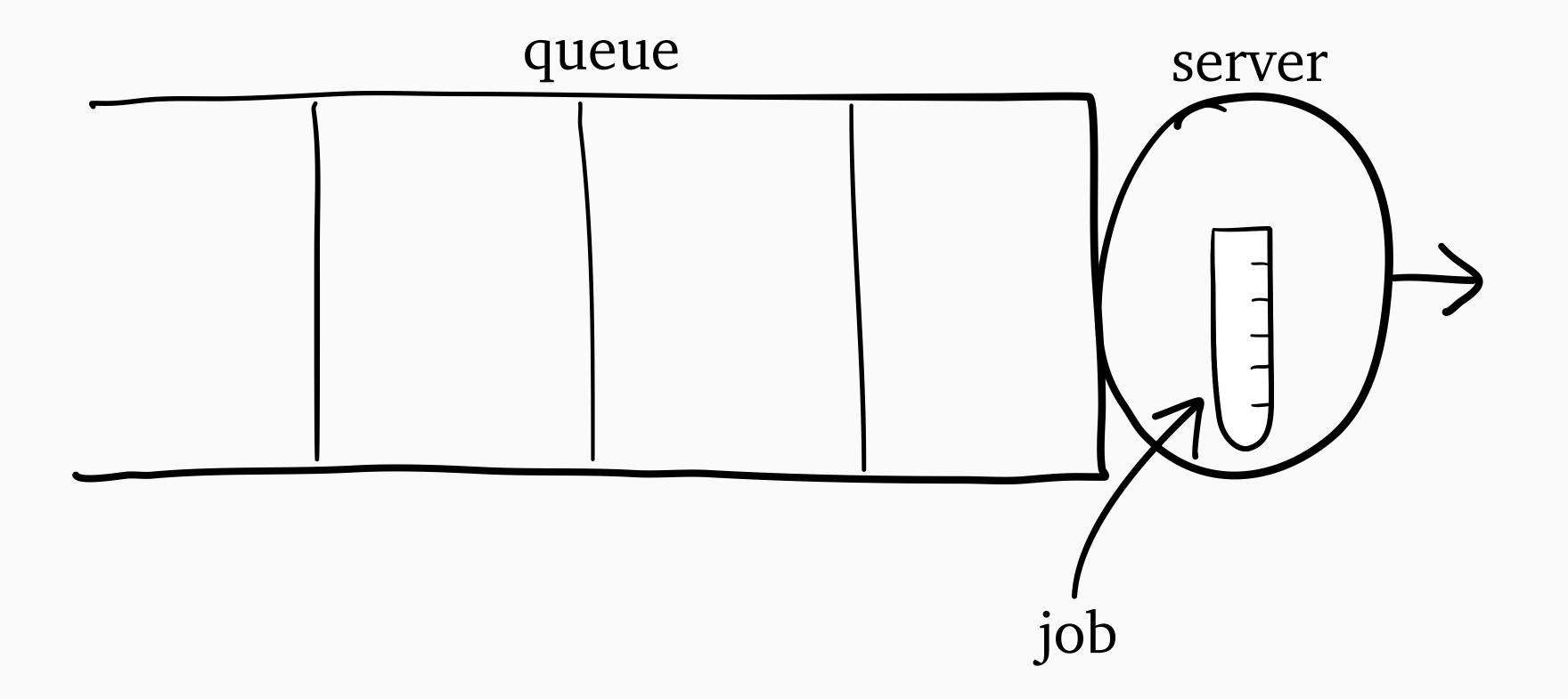
In-Depth Study 2: Gittins in the M/G/k

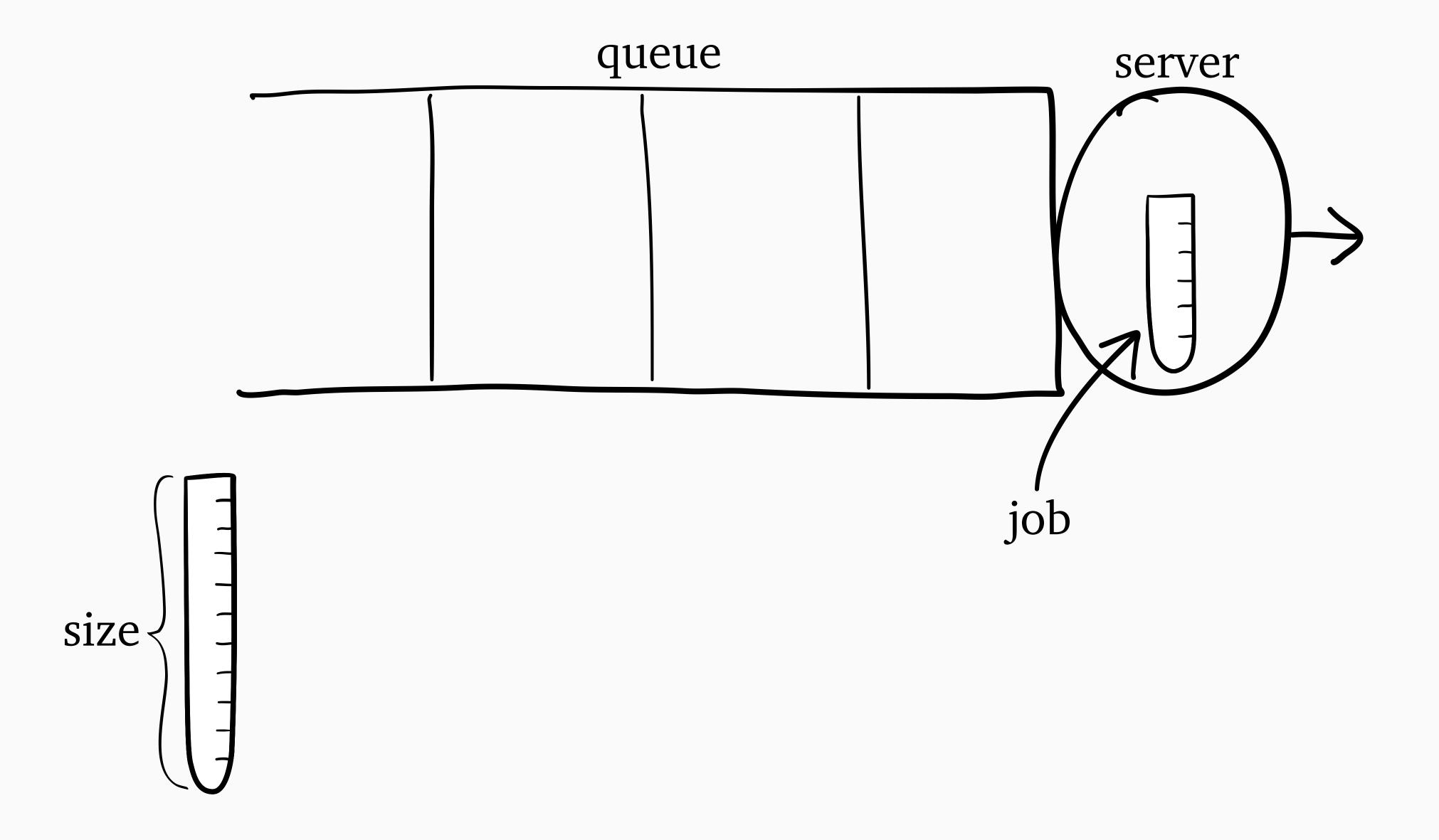


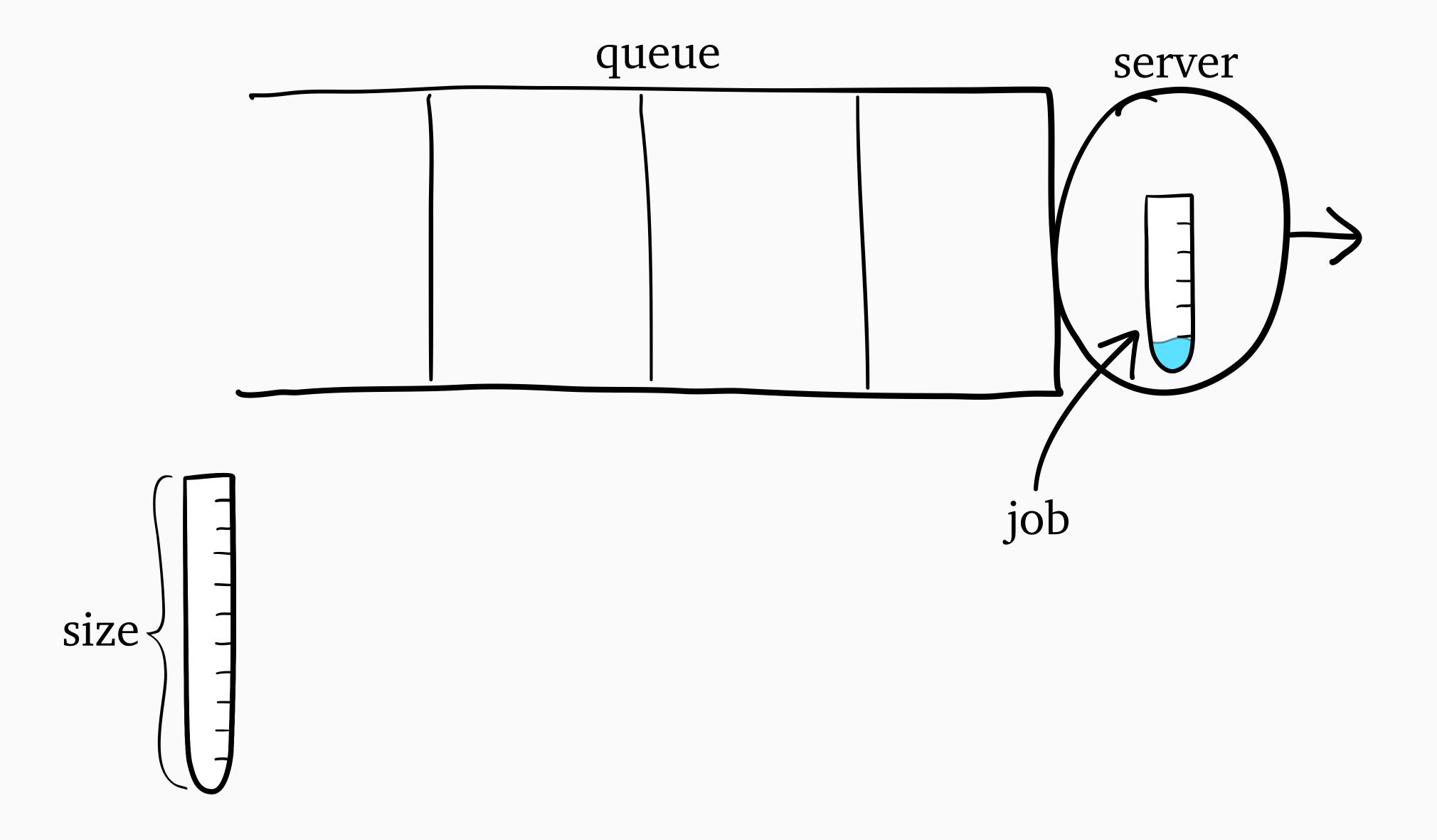
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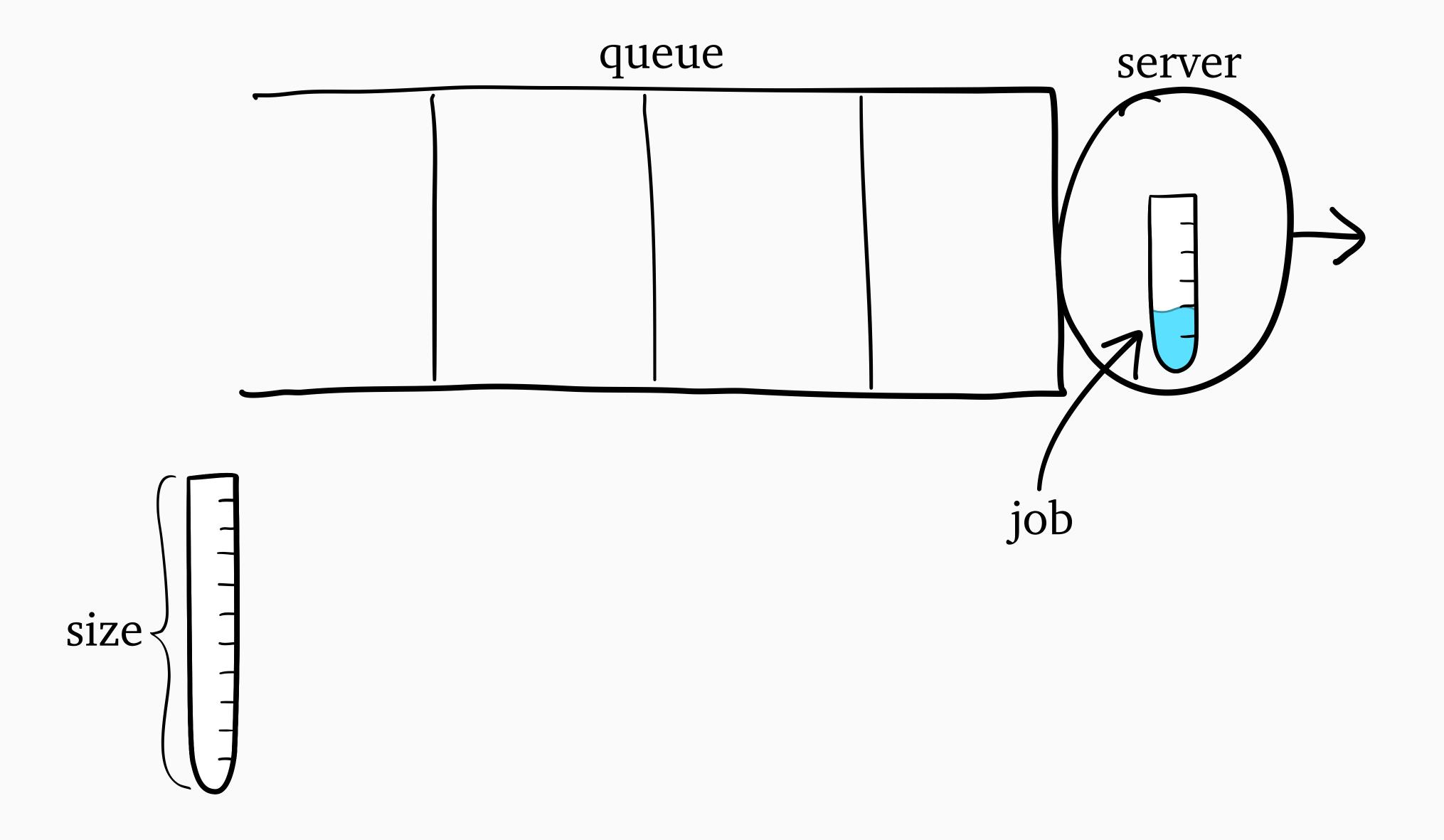


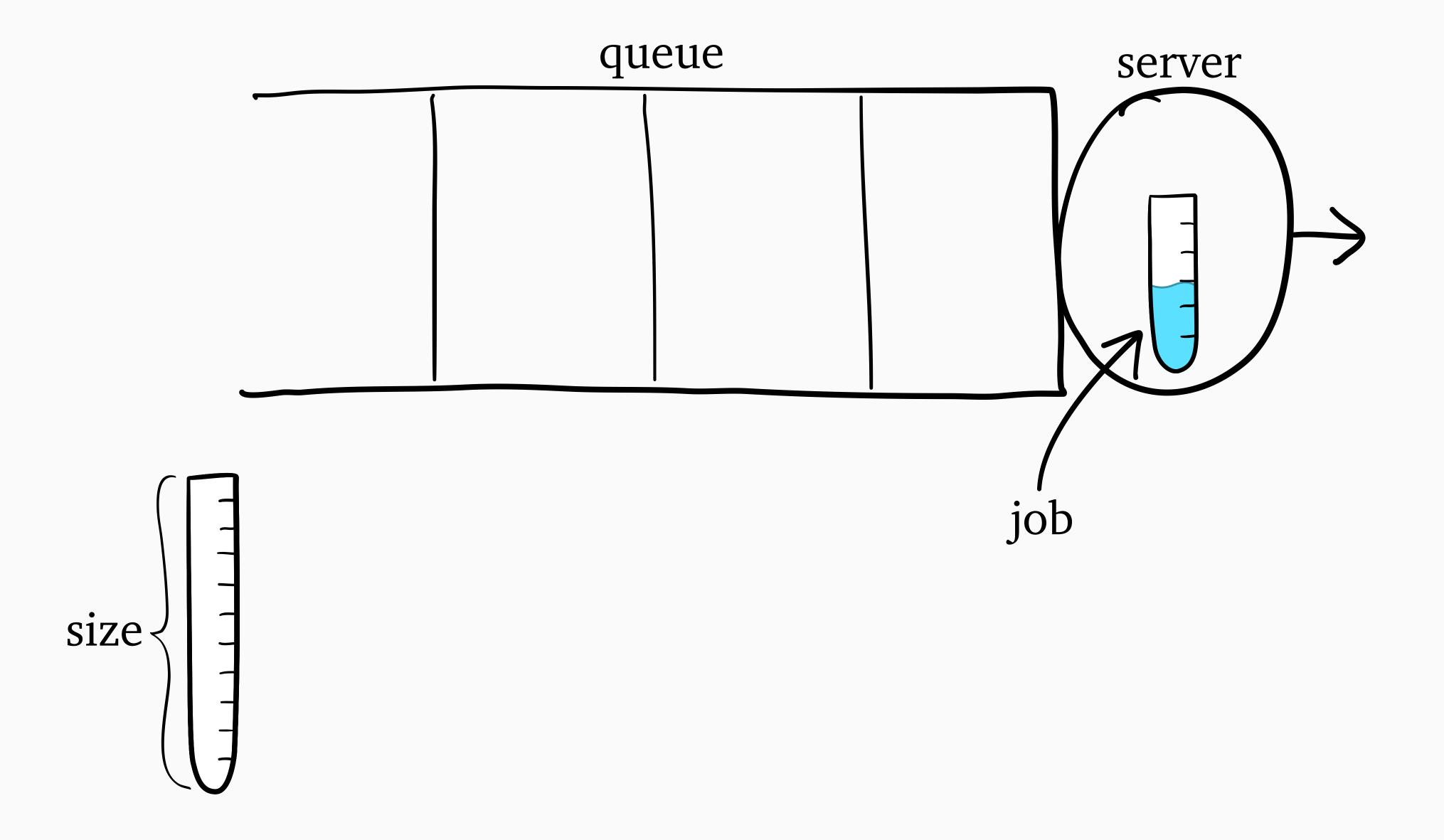


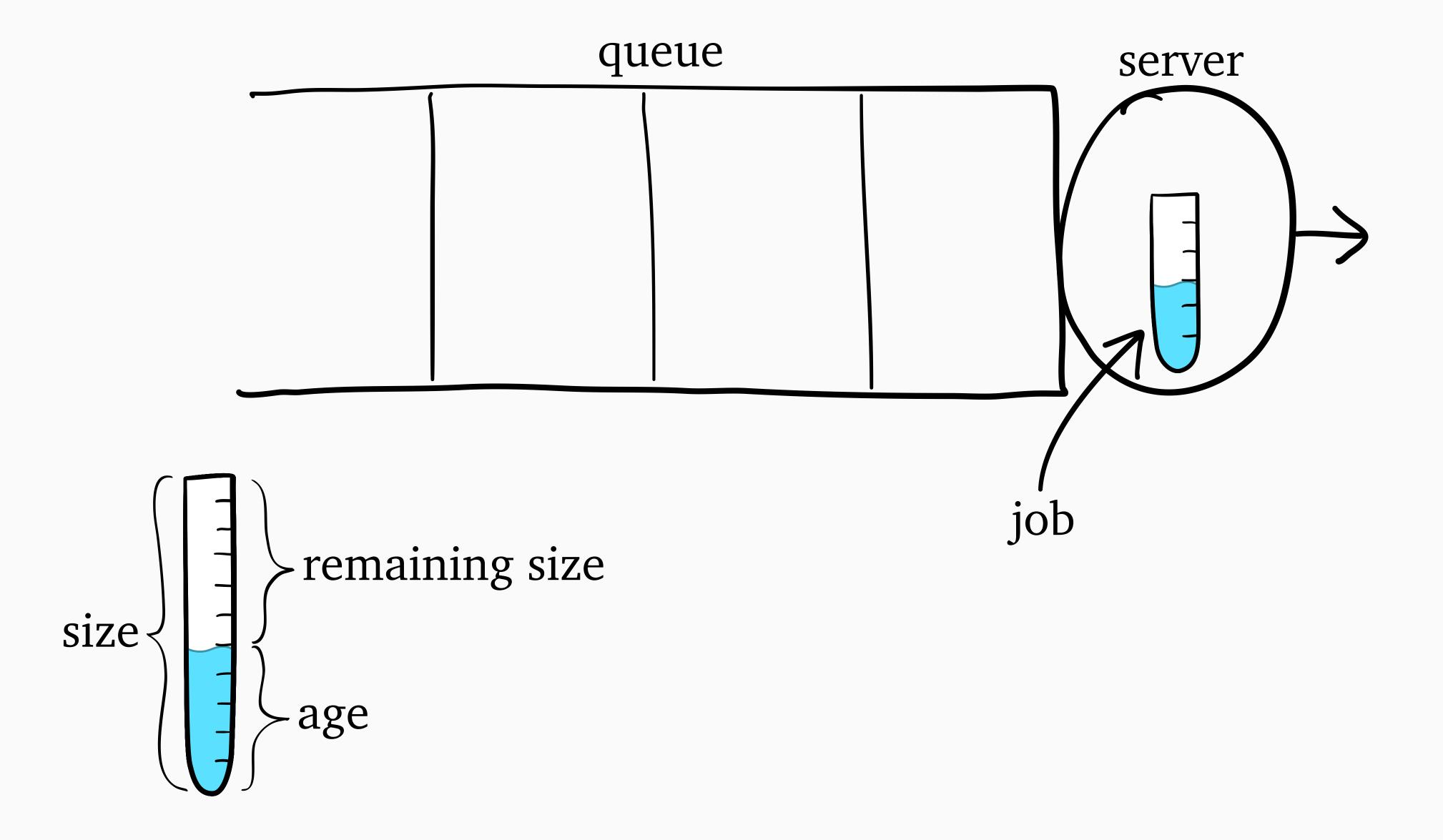


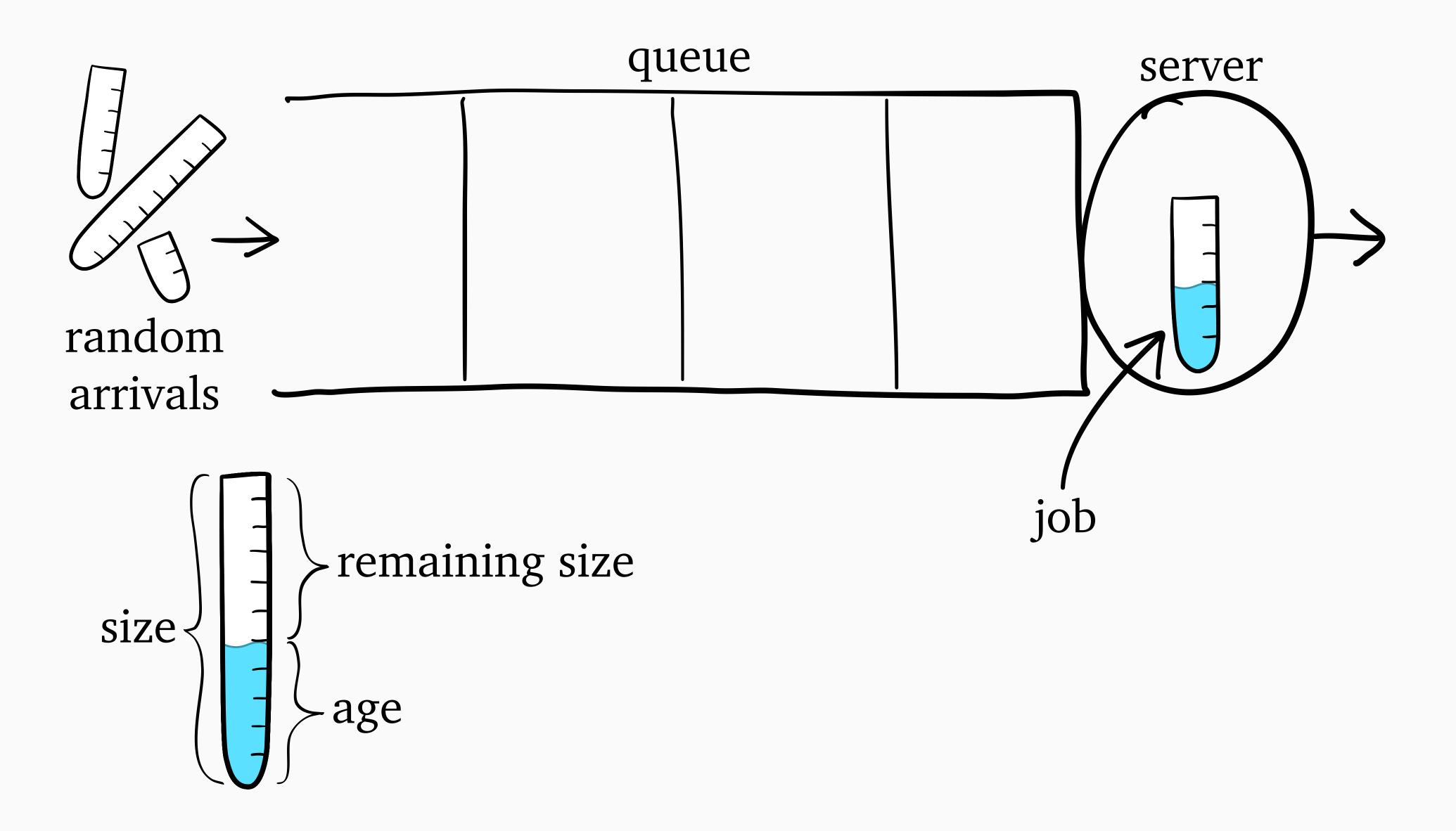


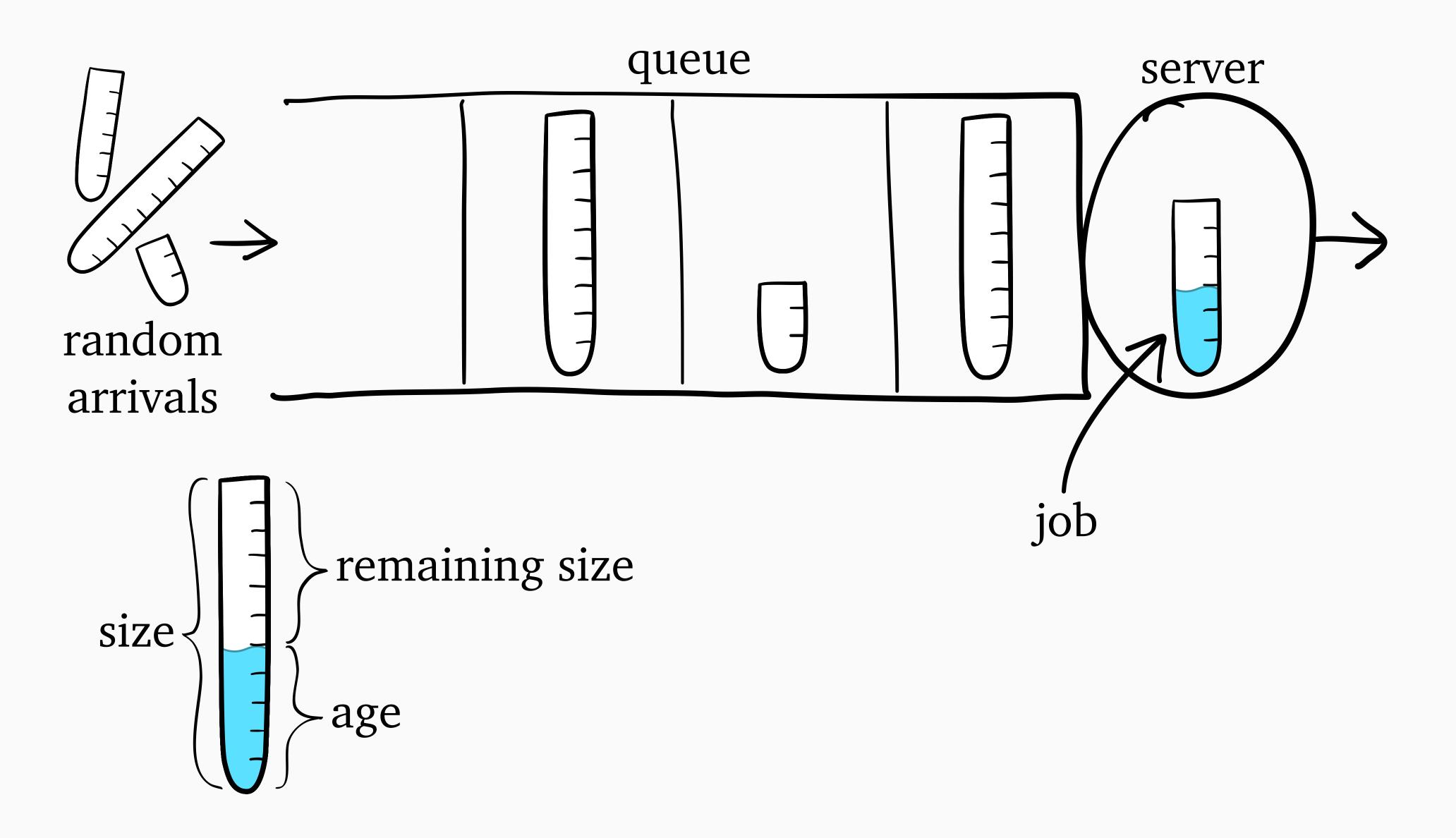


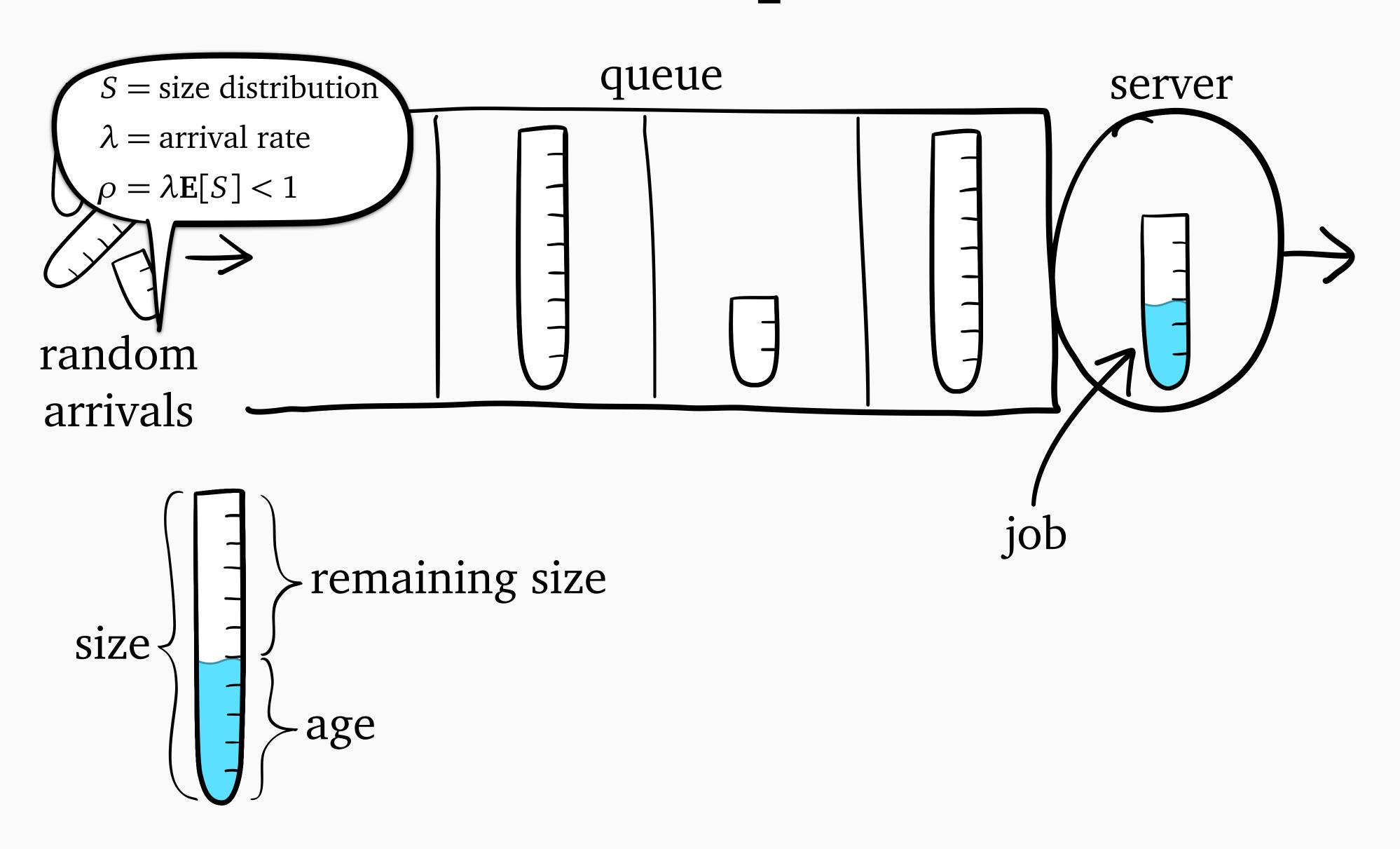


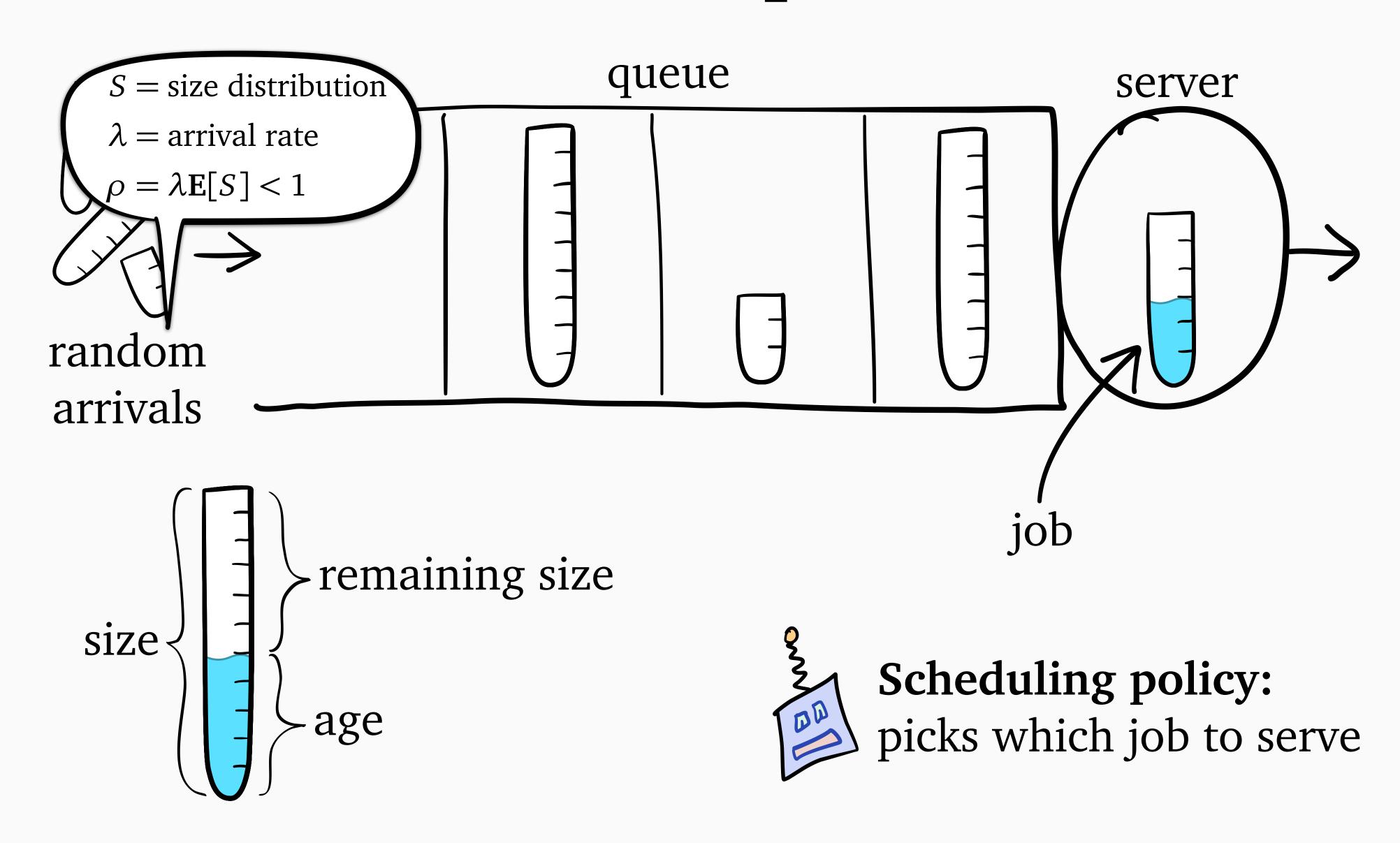


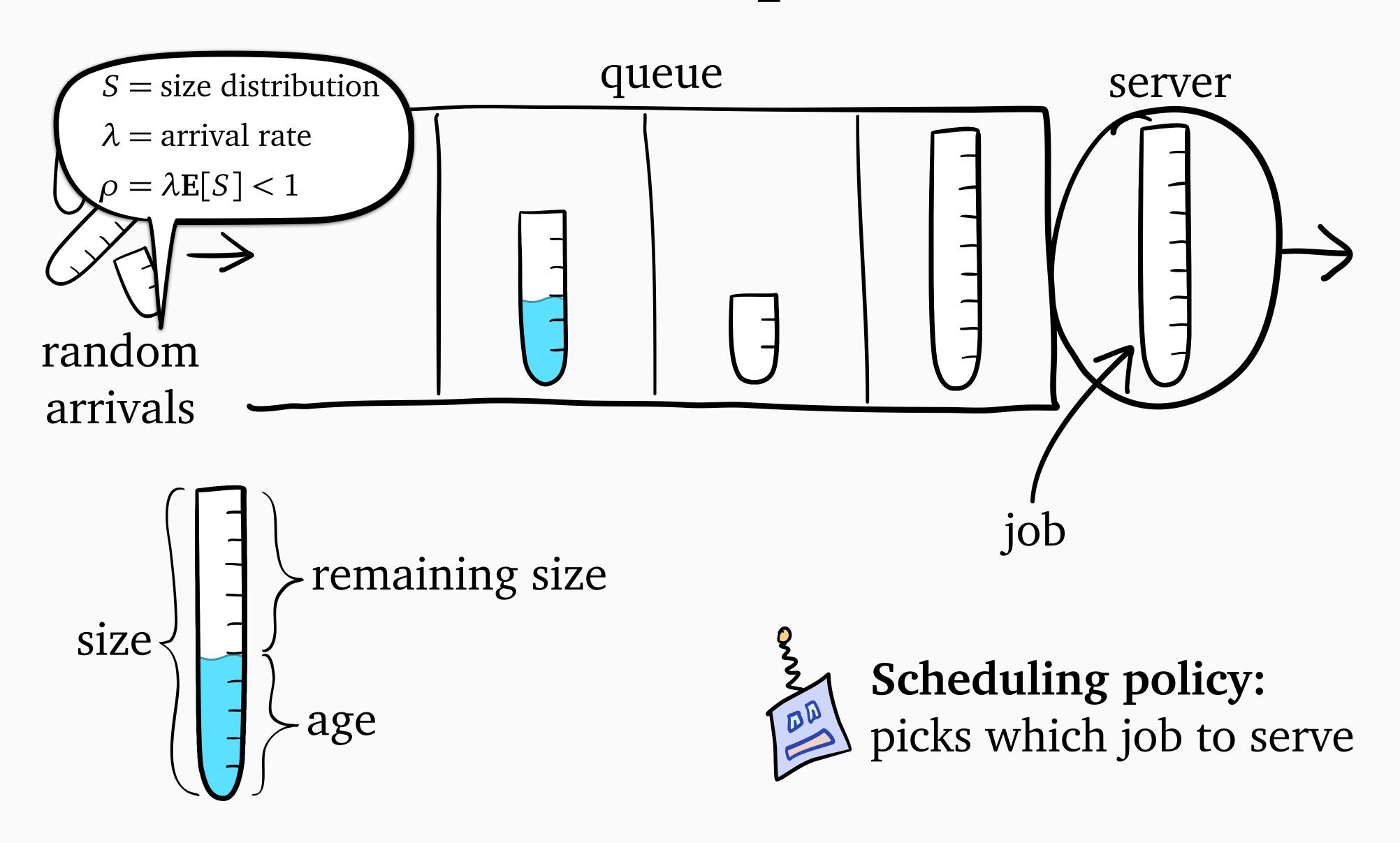


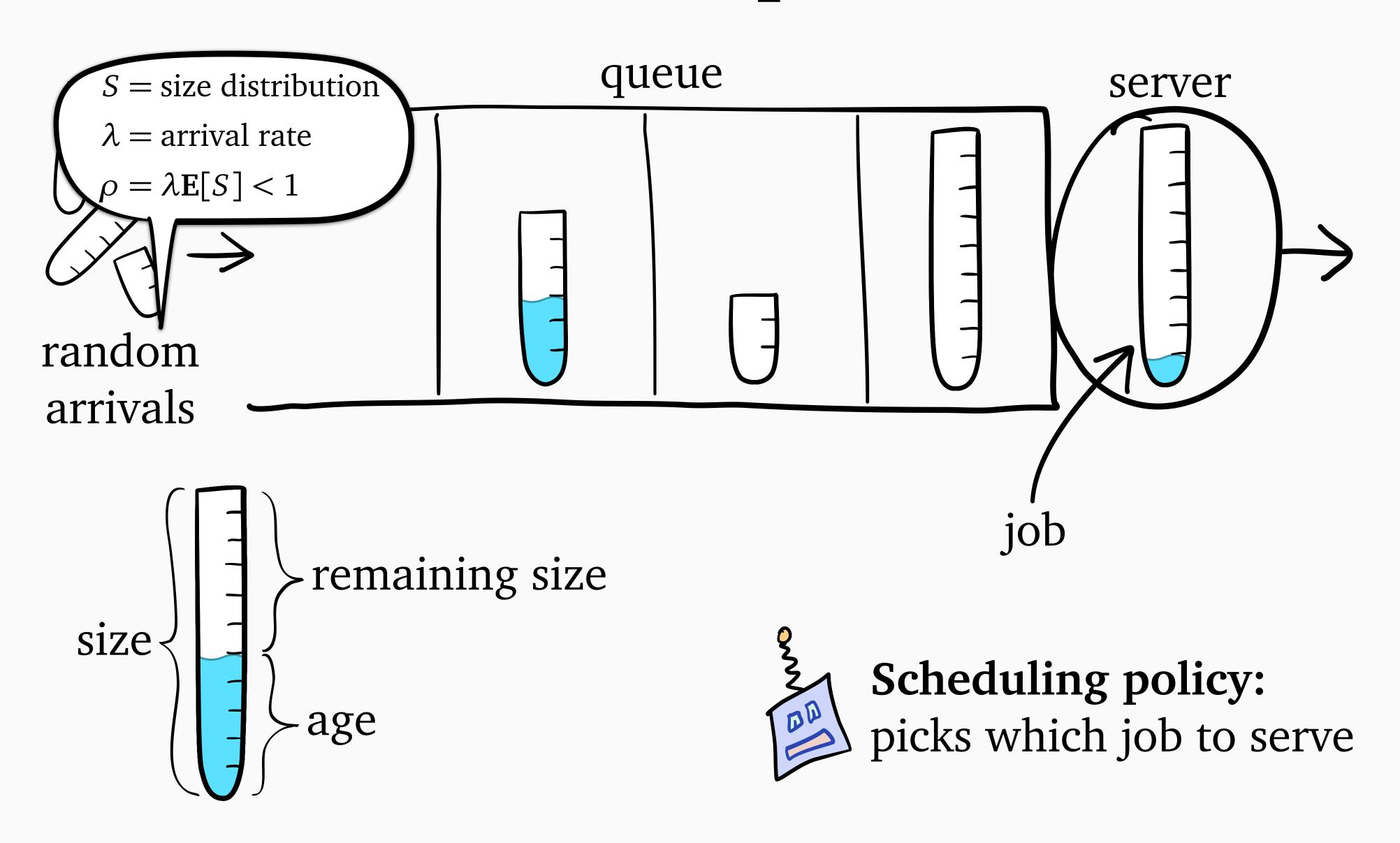


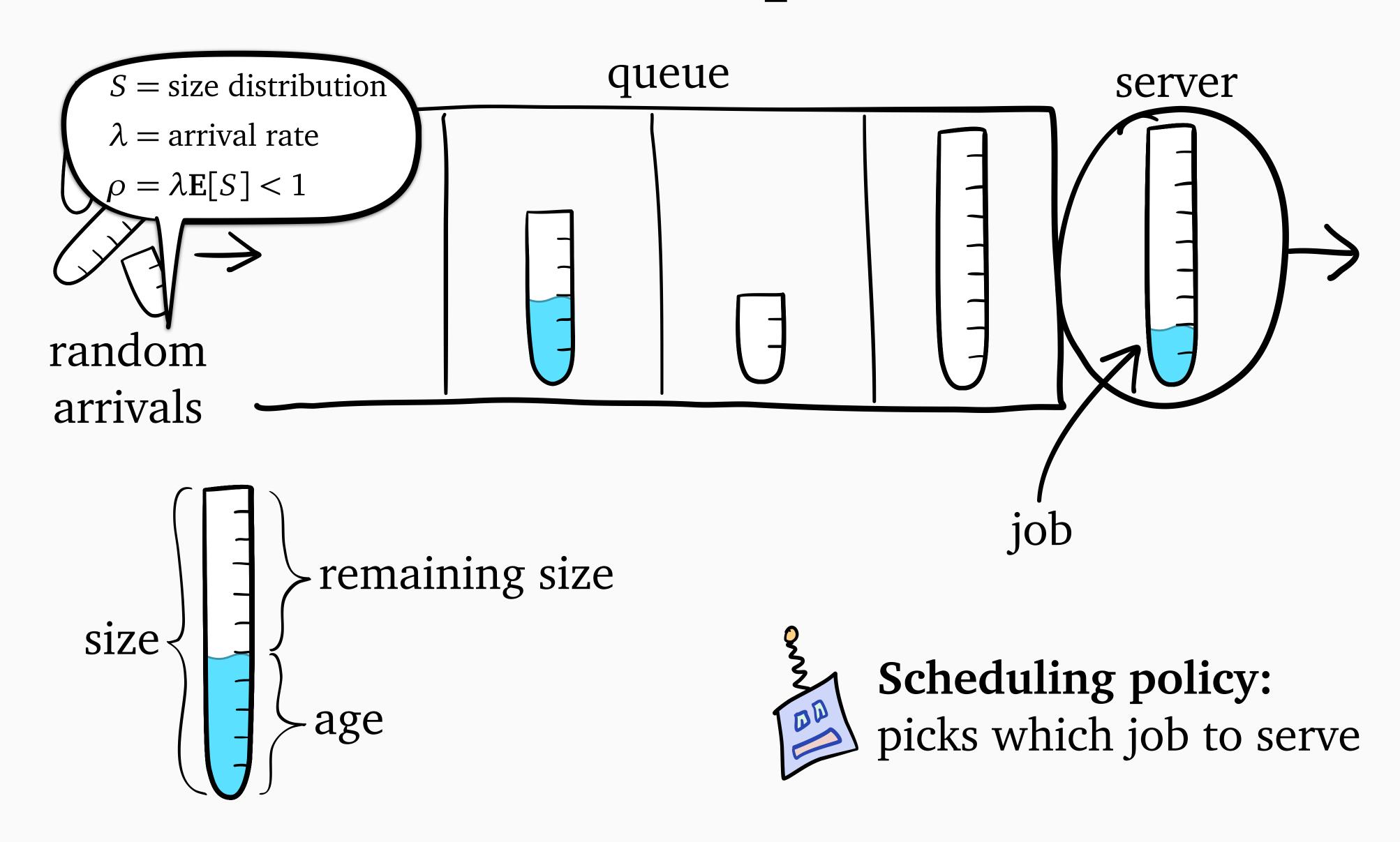


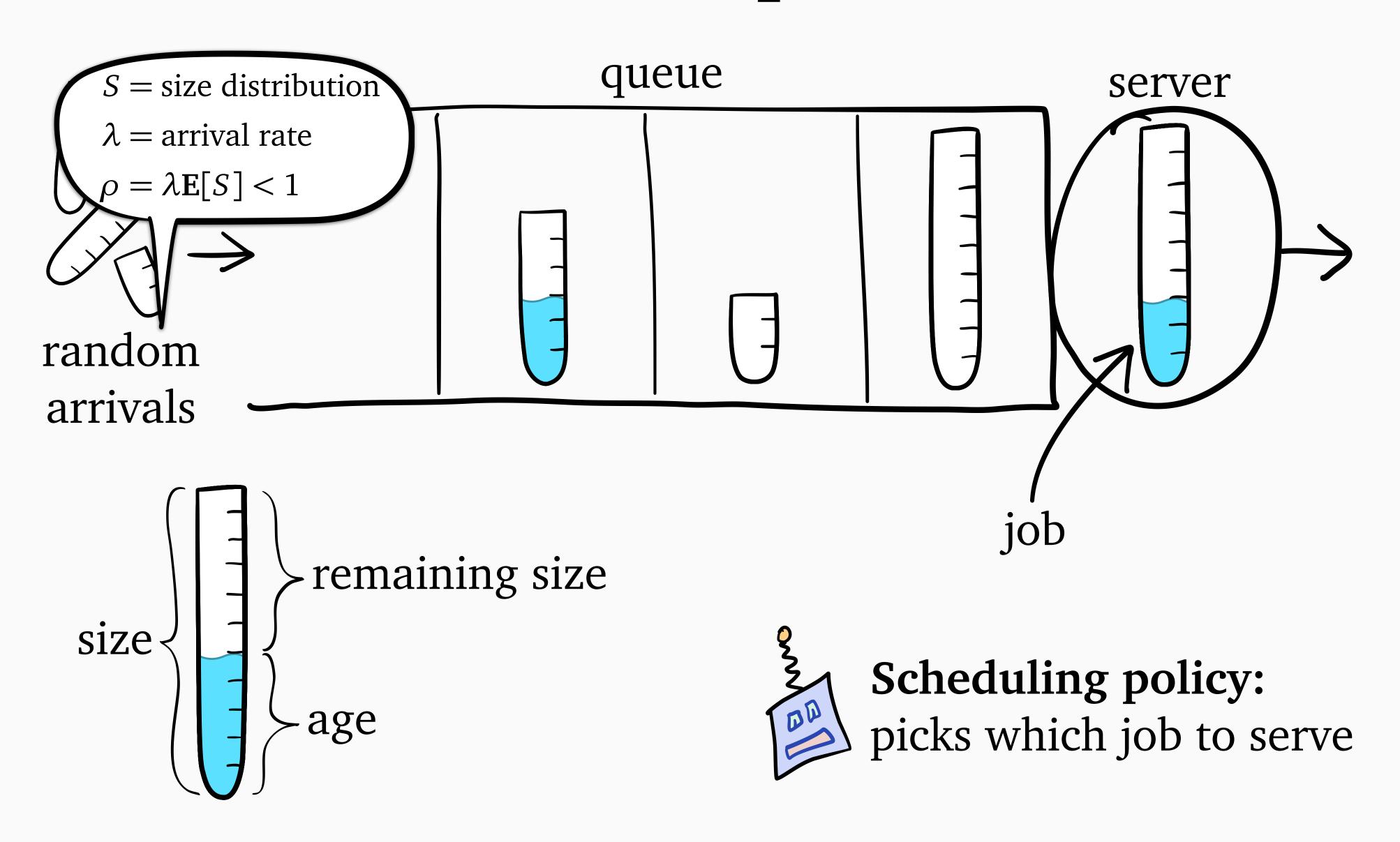


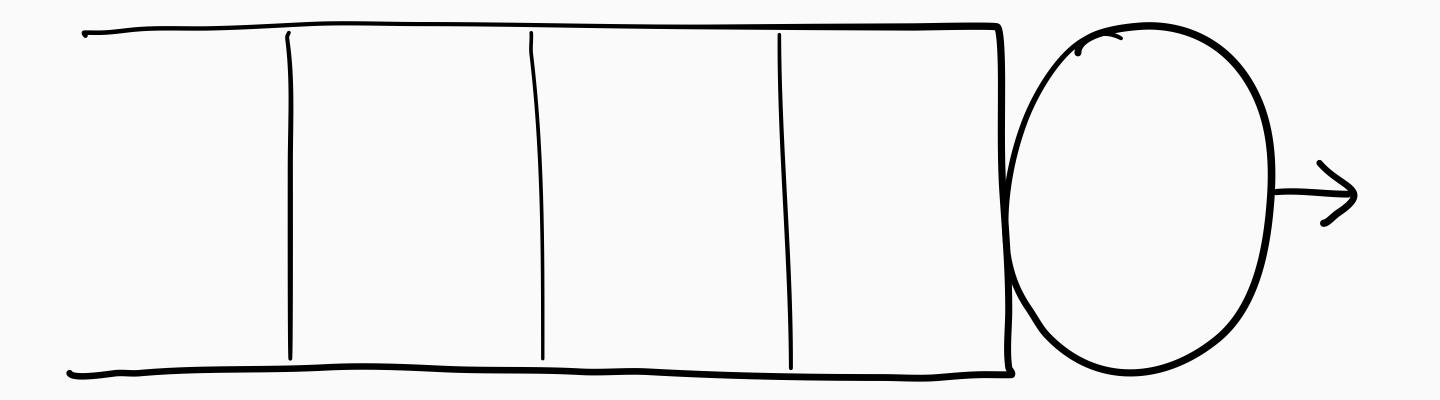


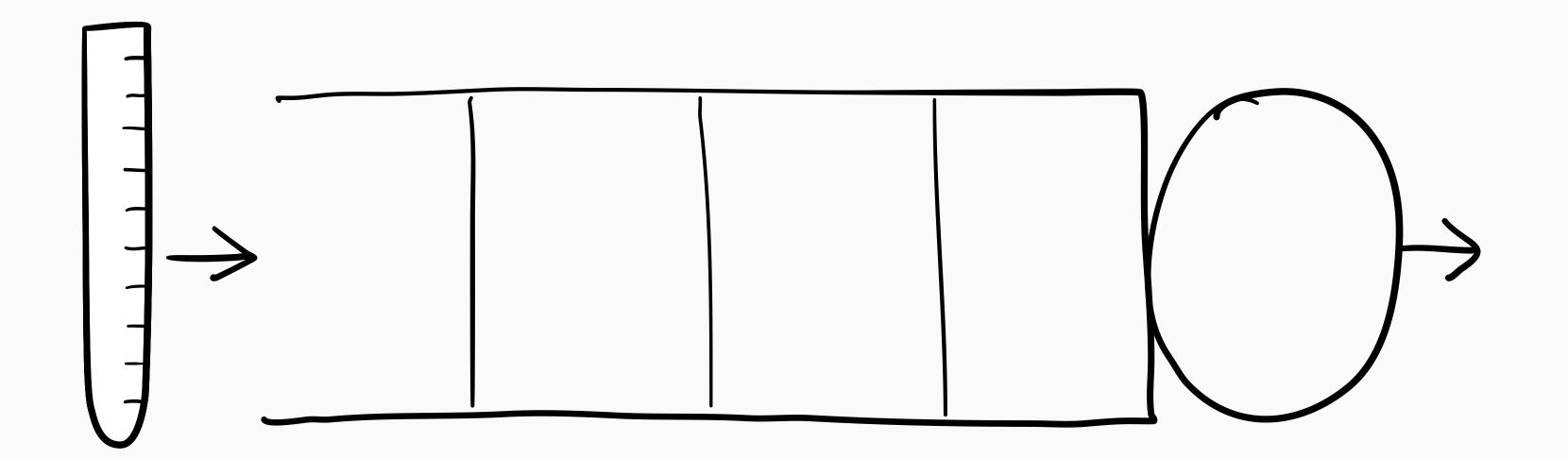


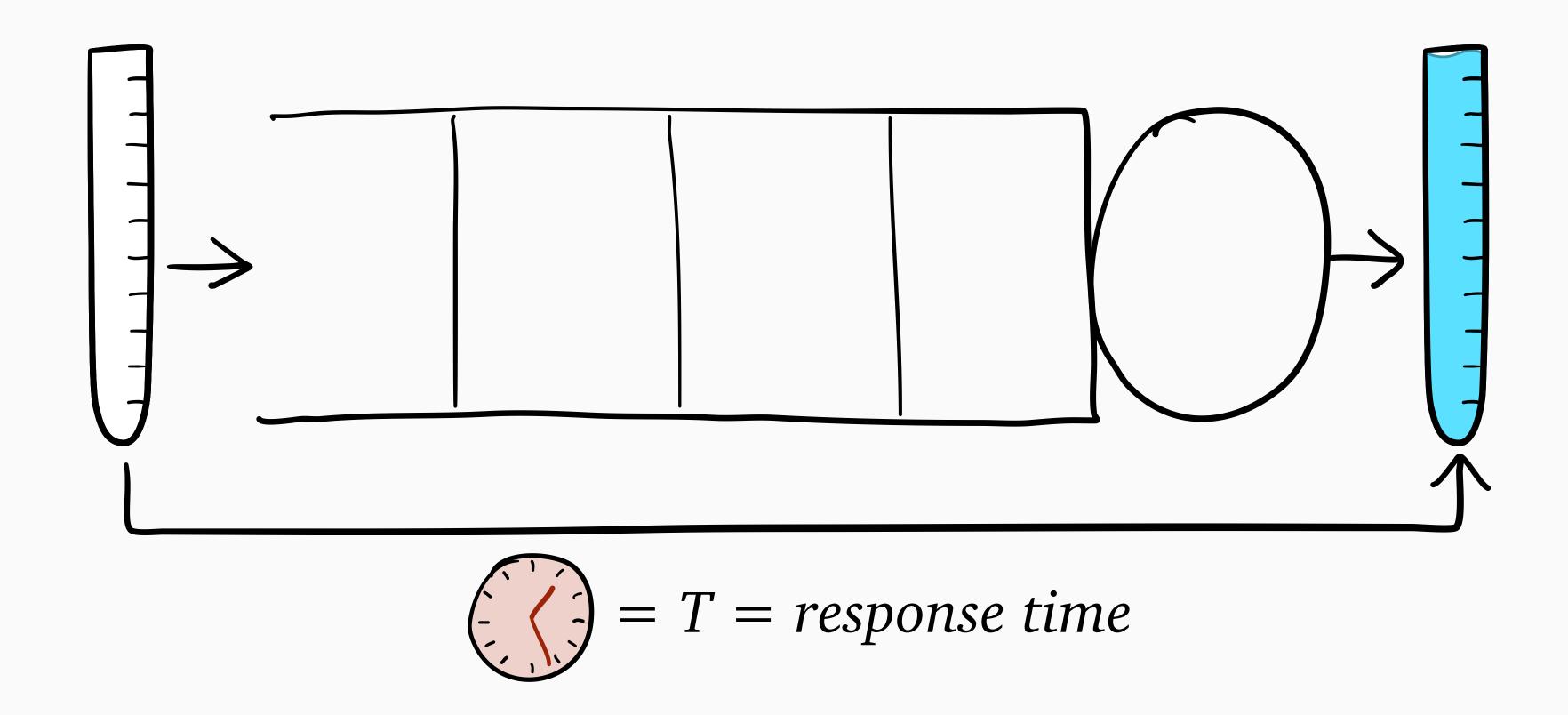


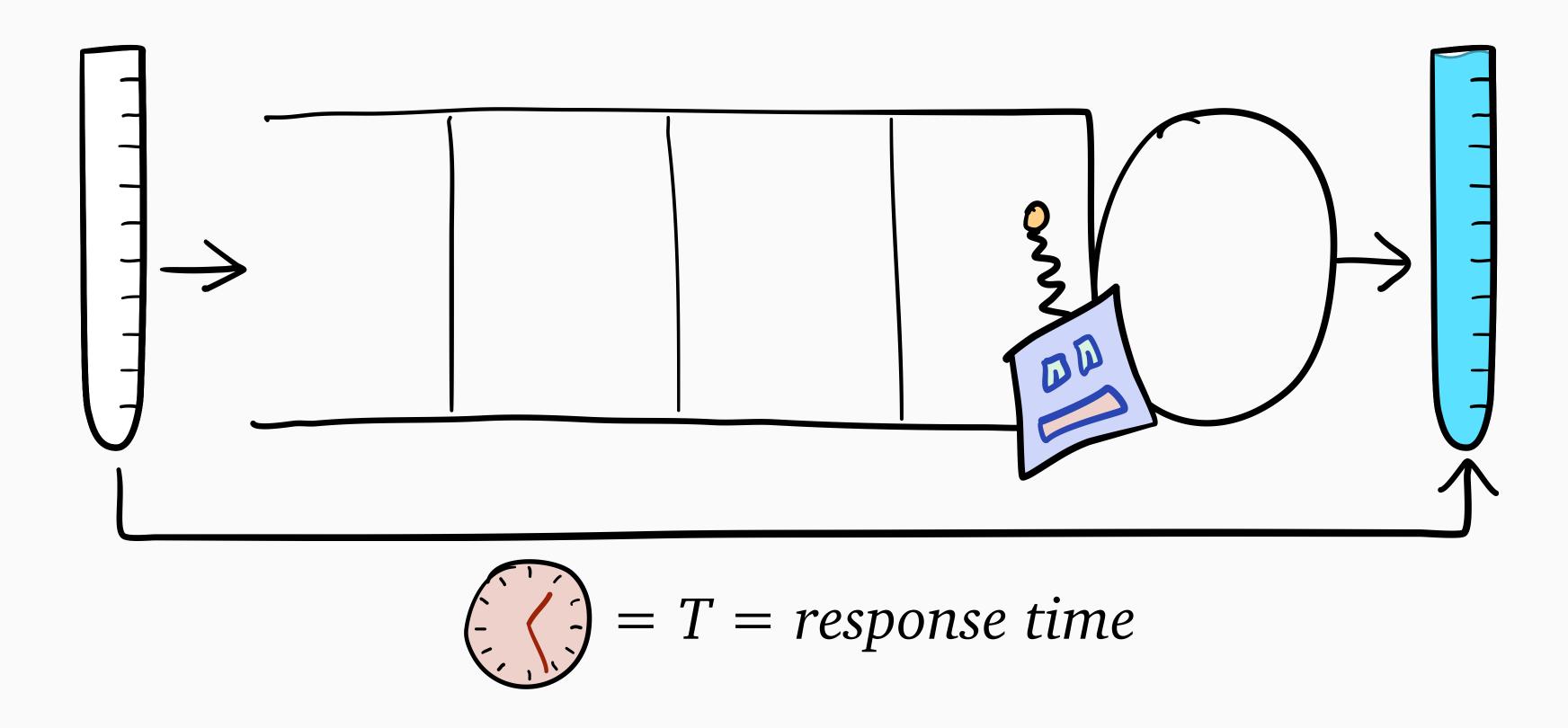


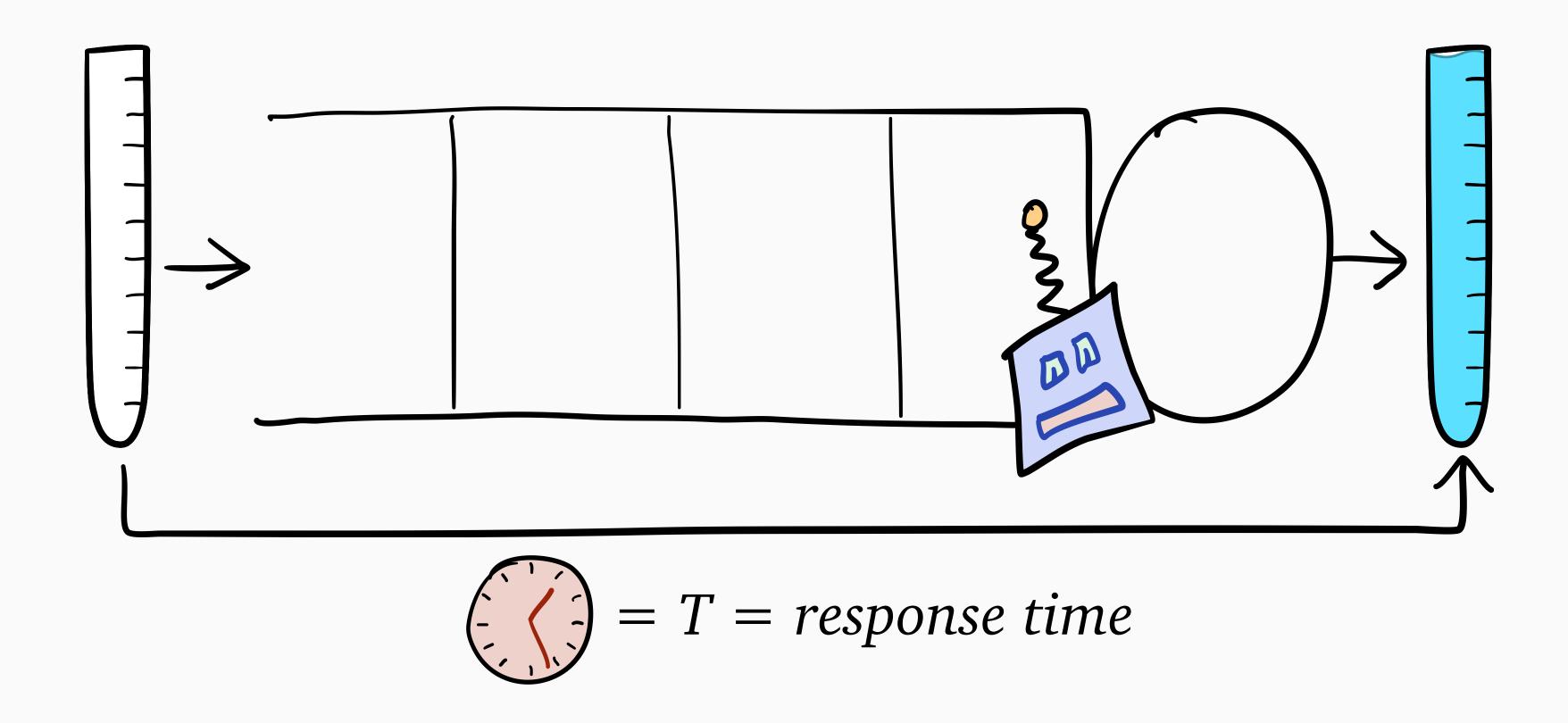




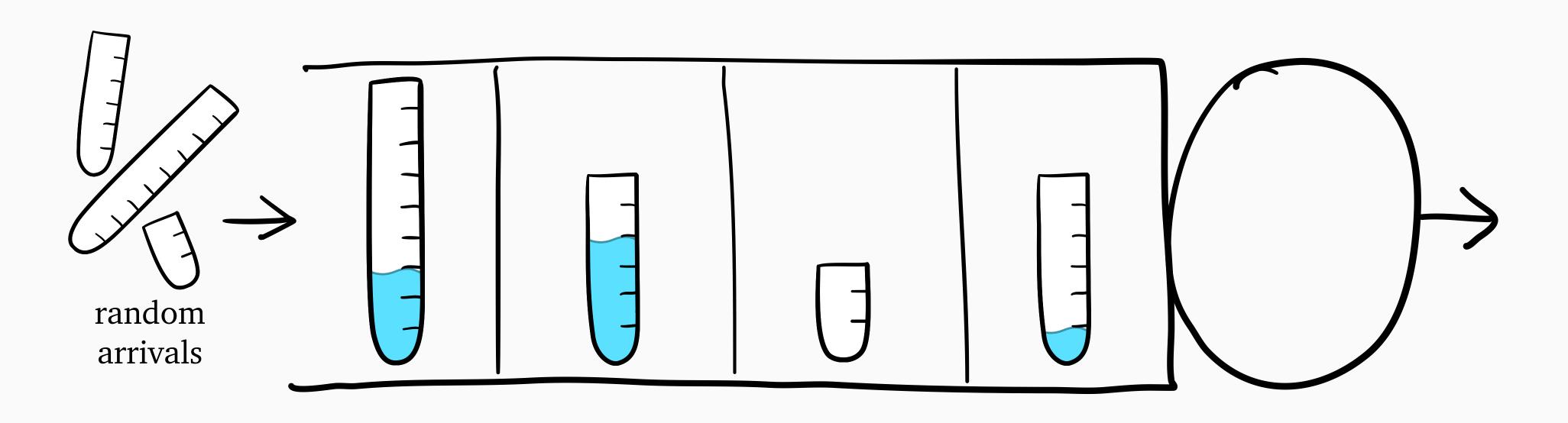


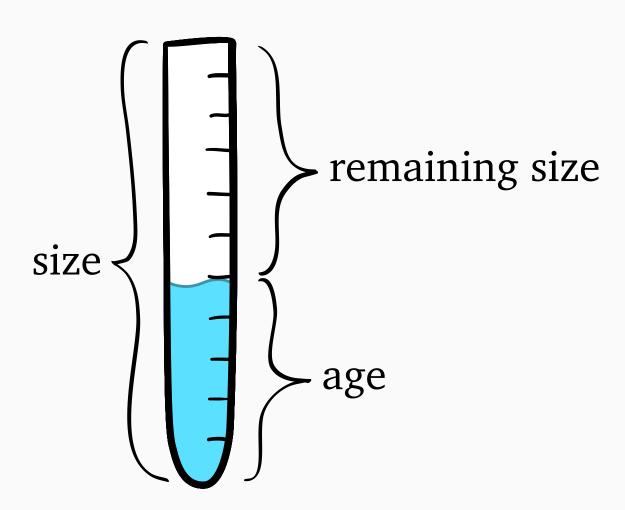


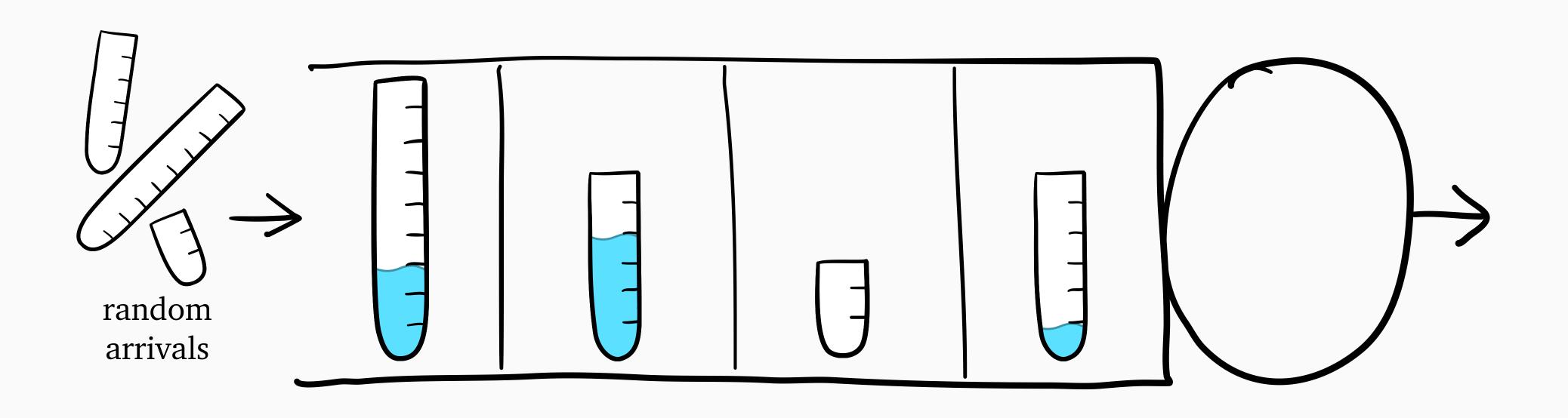


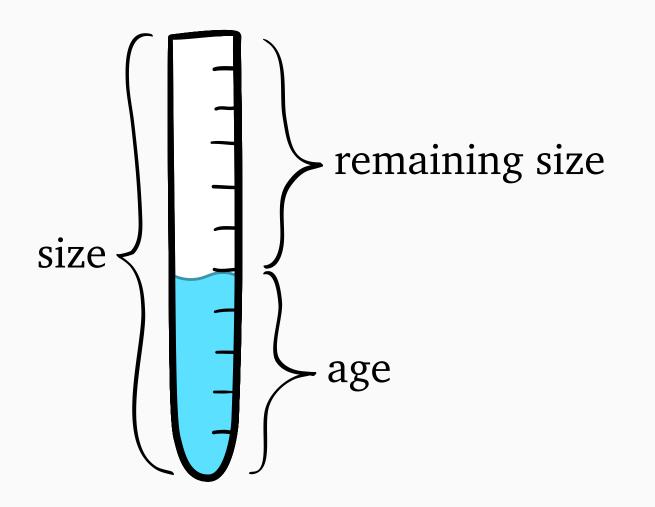


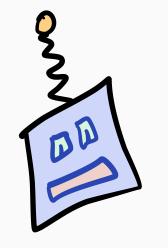
Goal: schedule to minimize $mean\ response\ time\ E[T]$



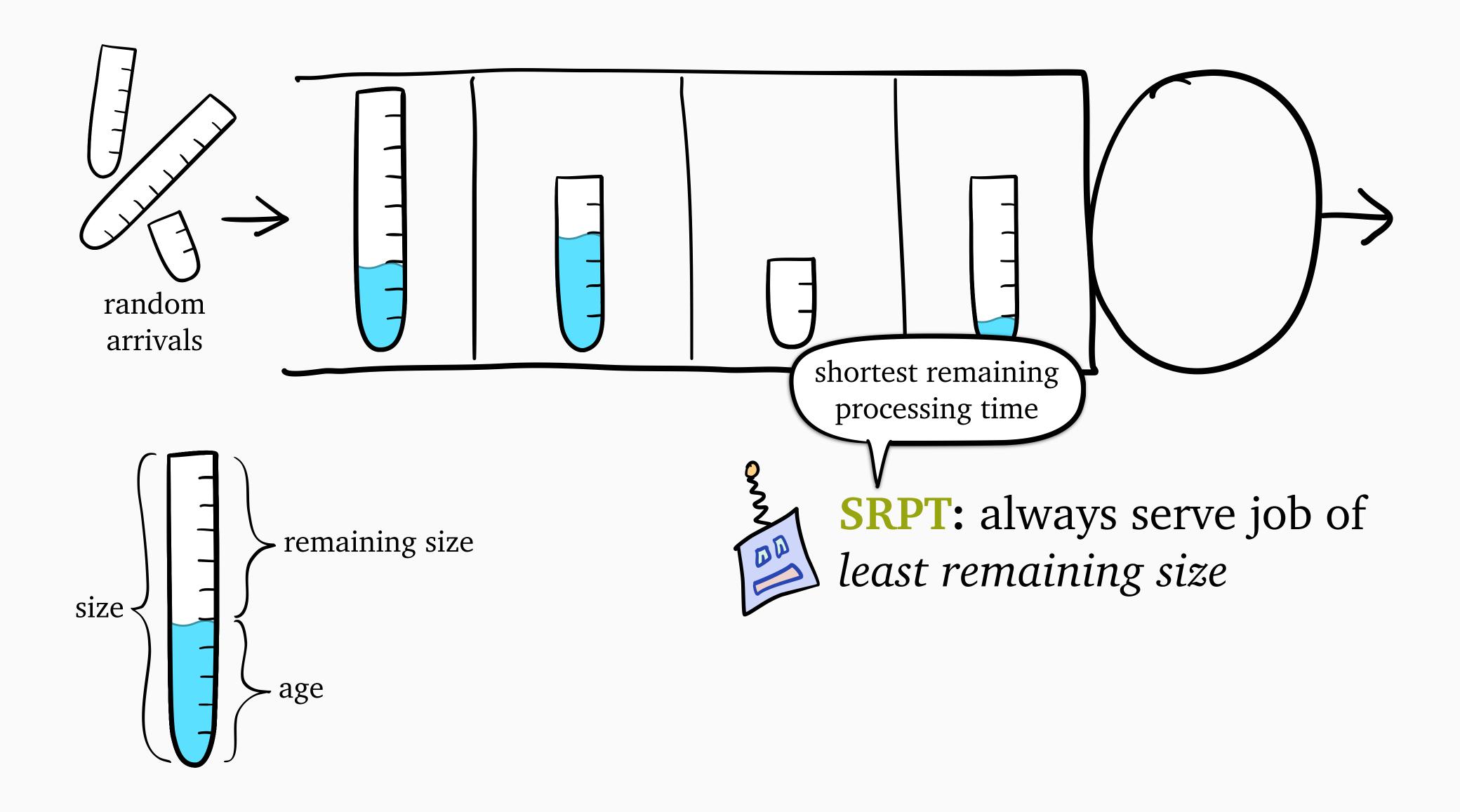


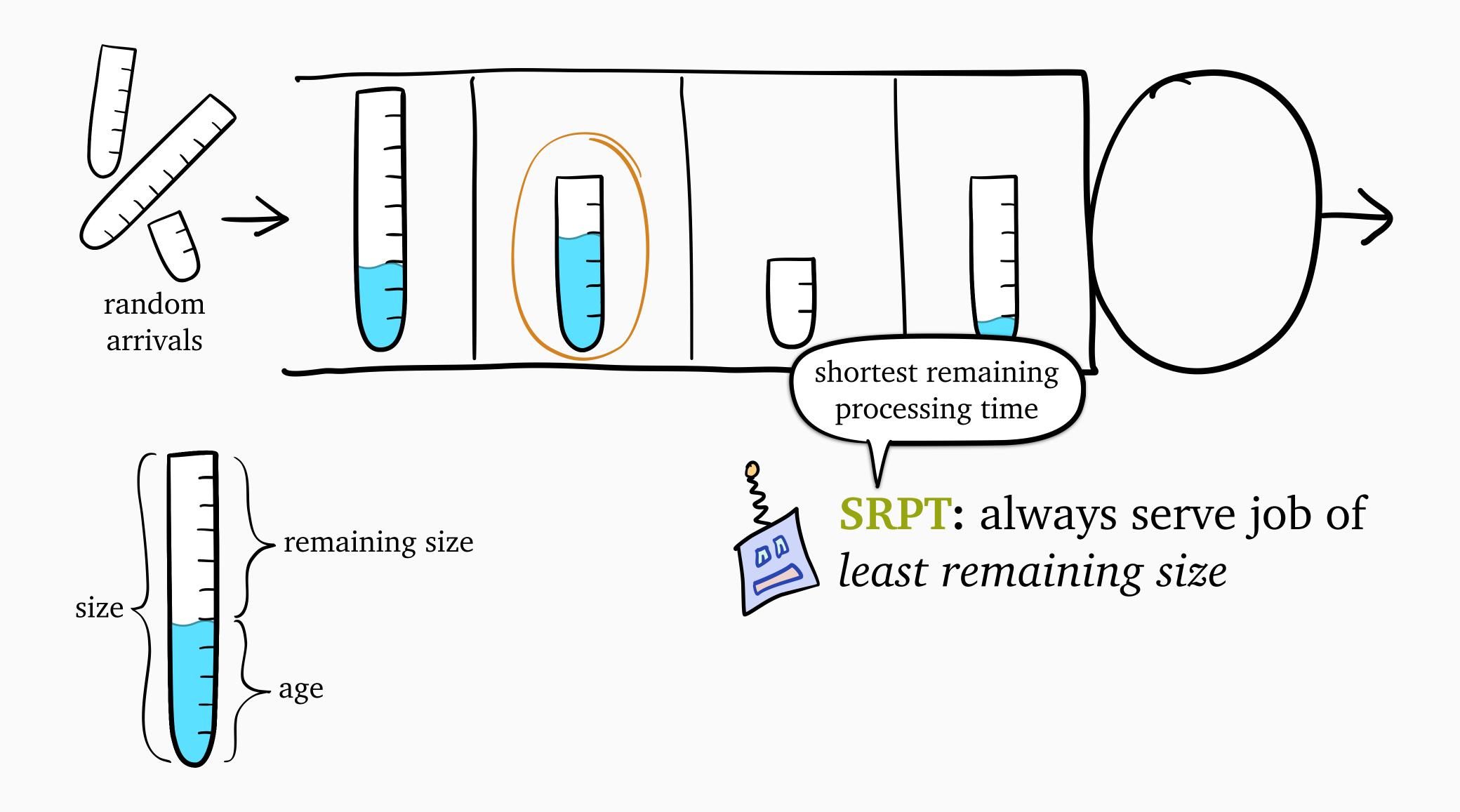


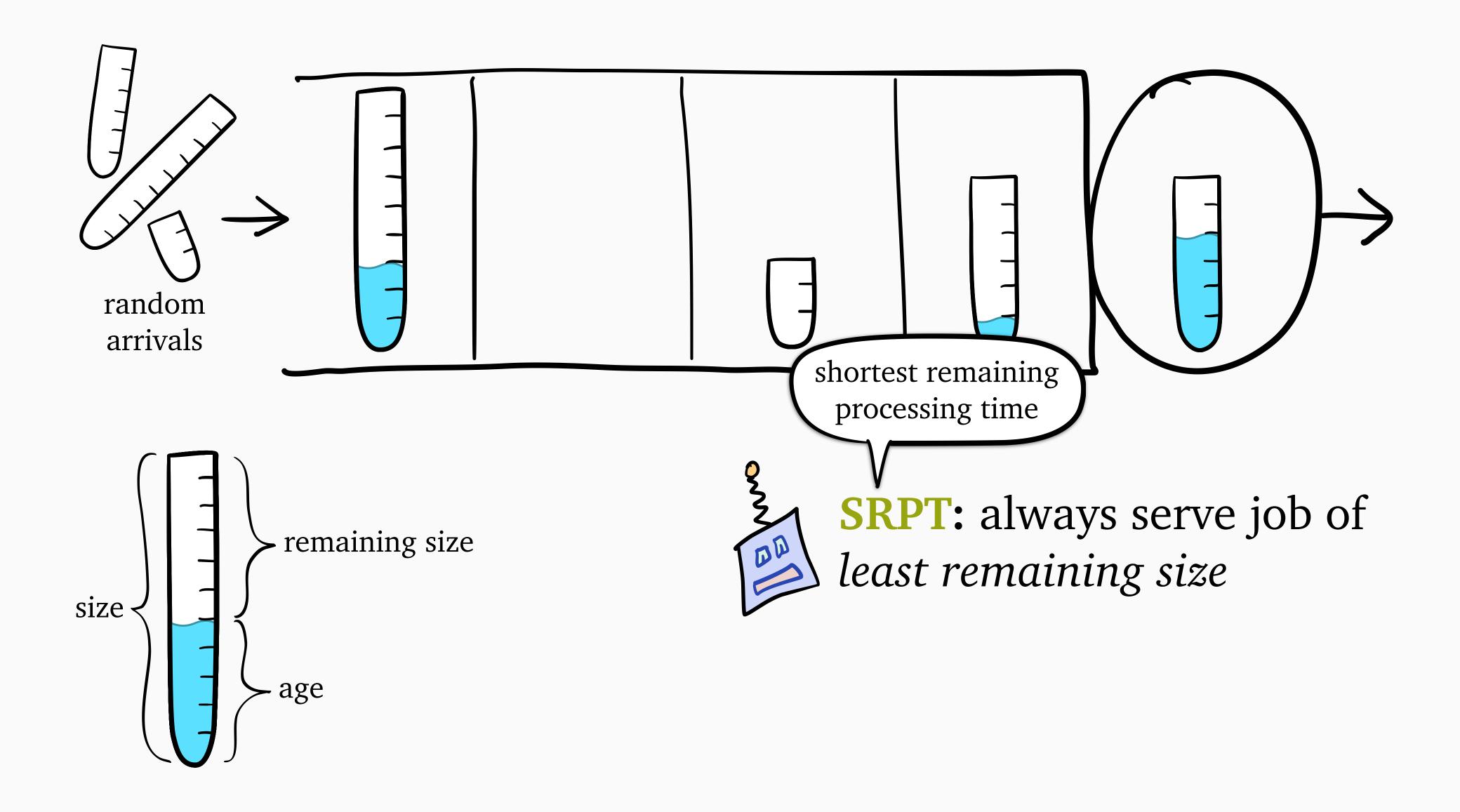


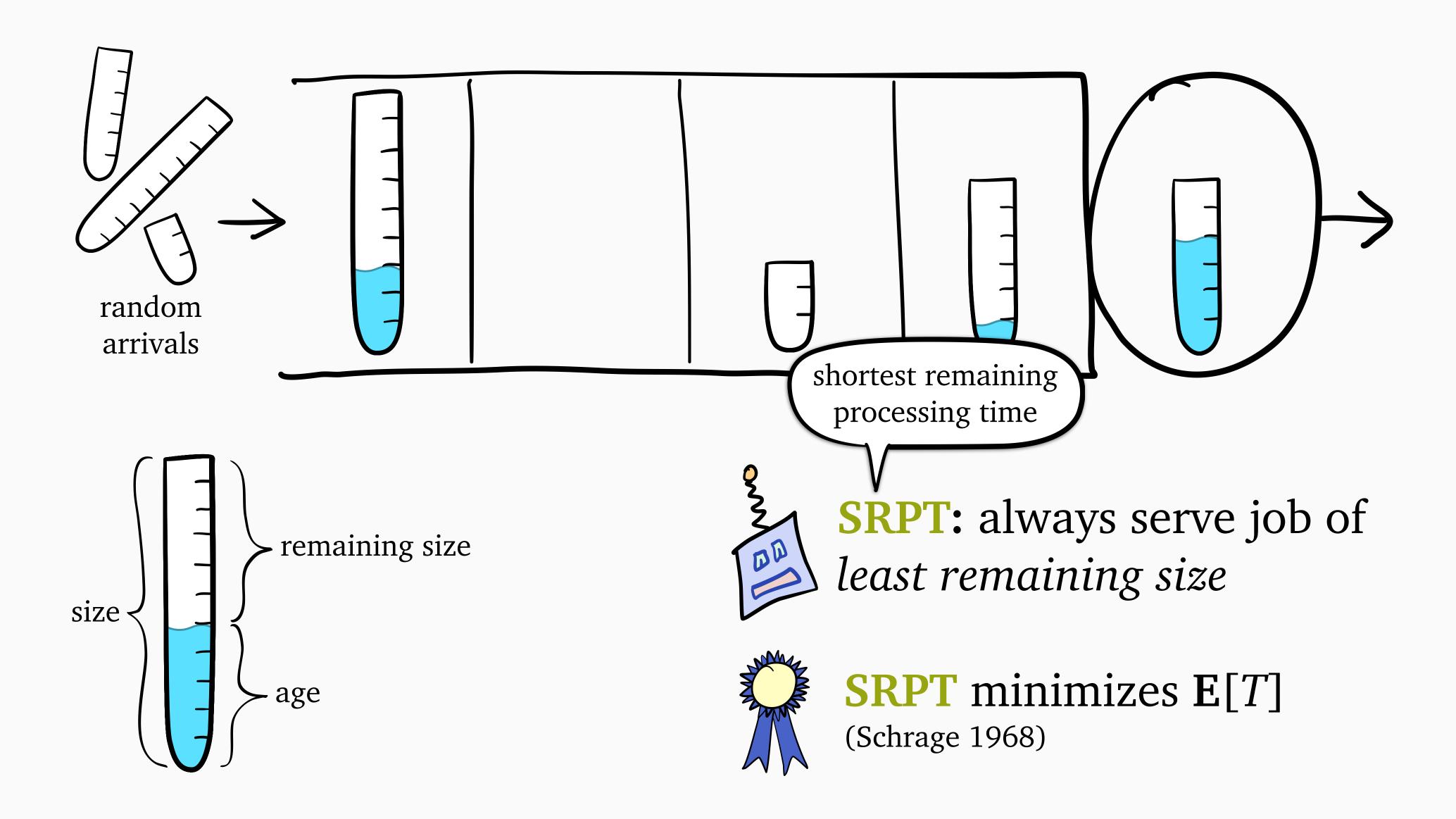


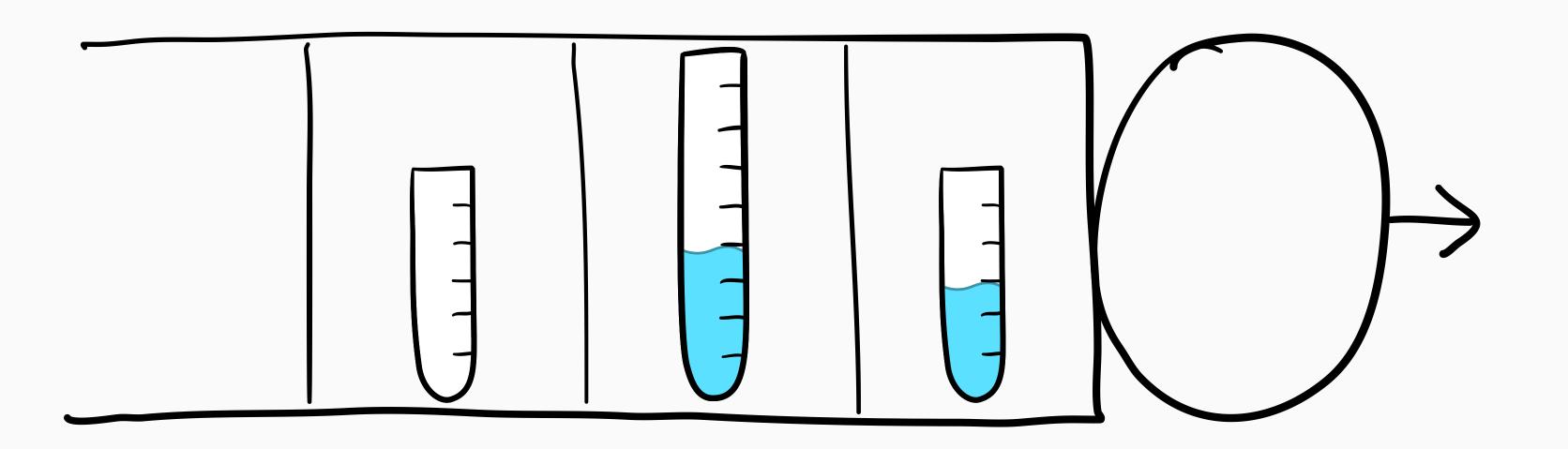
SRPT: always serve job of least remaining size

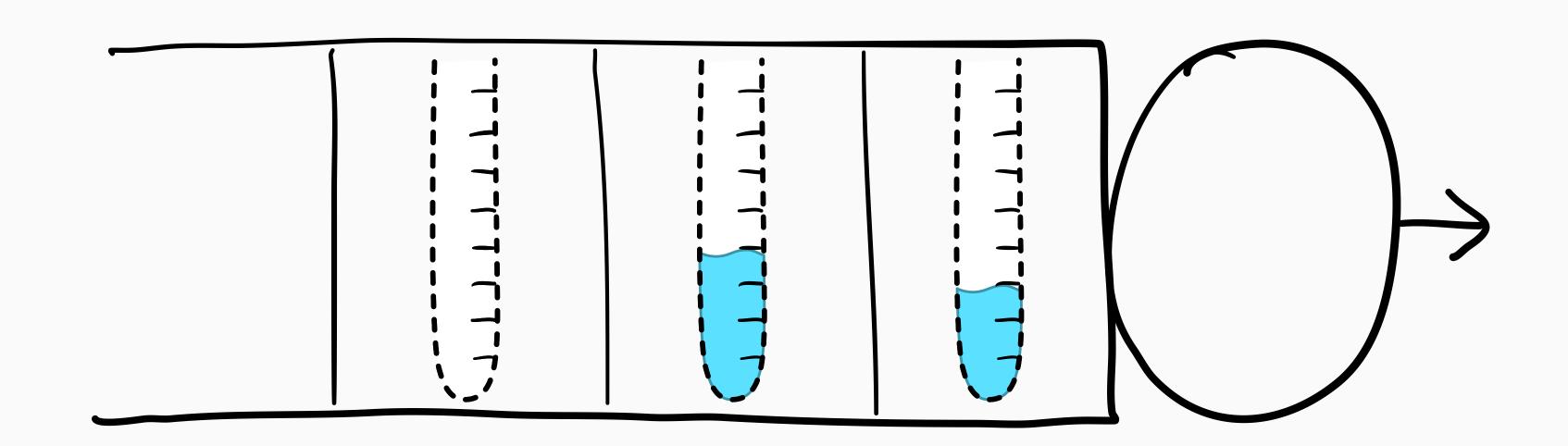


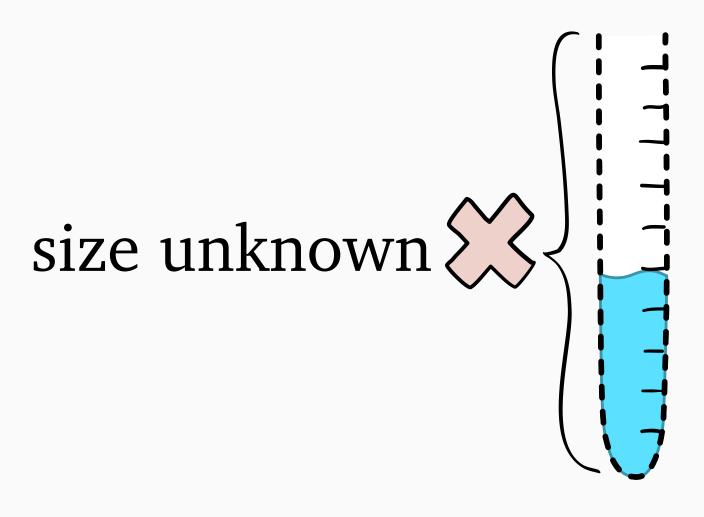


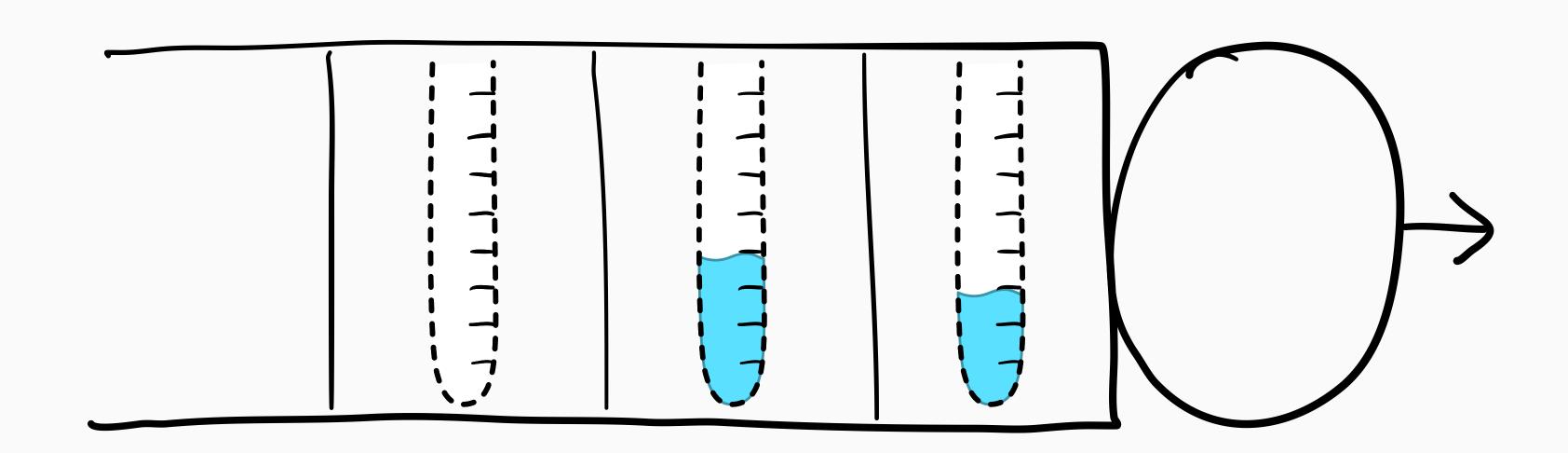


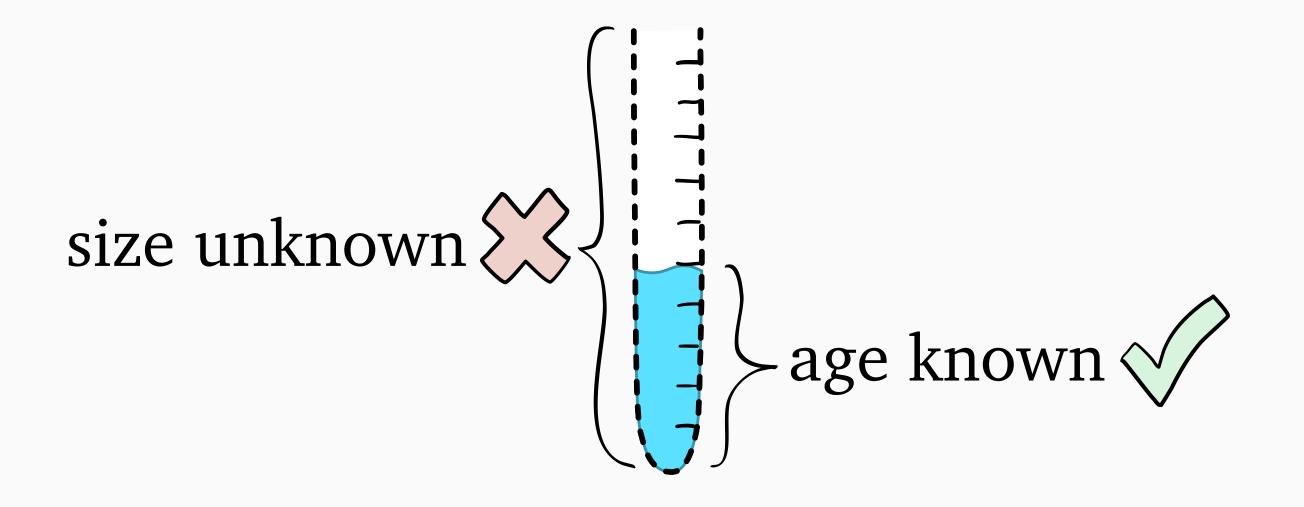


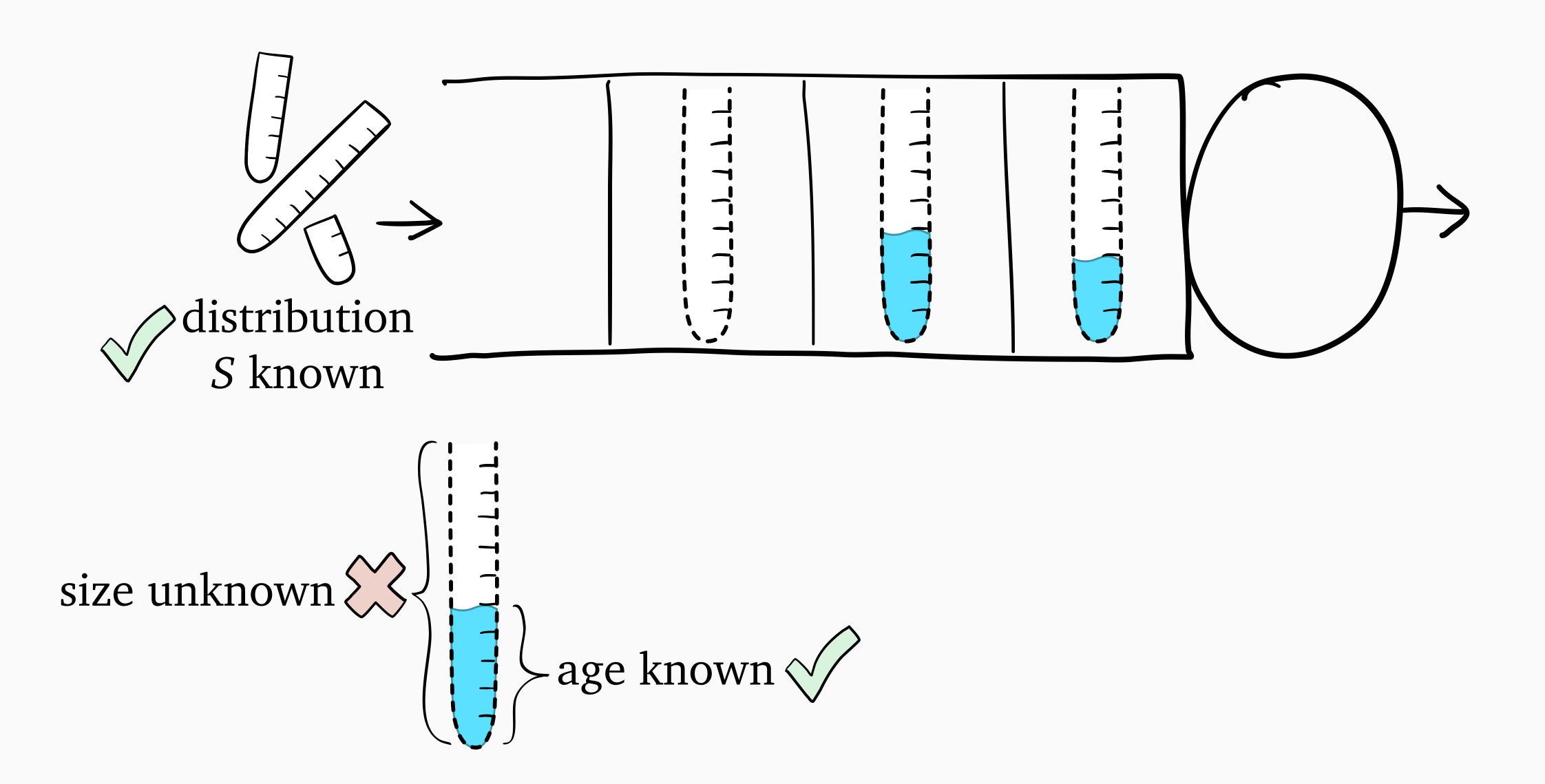


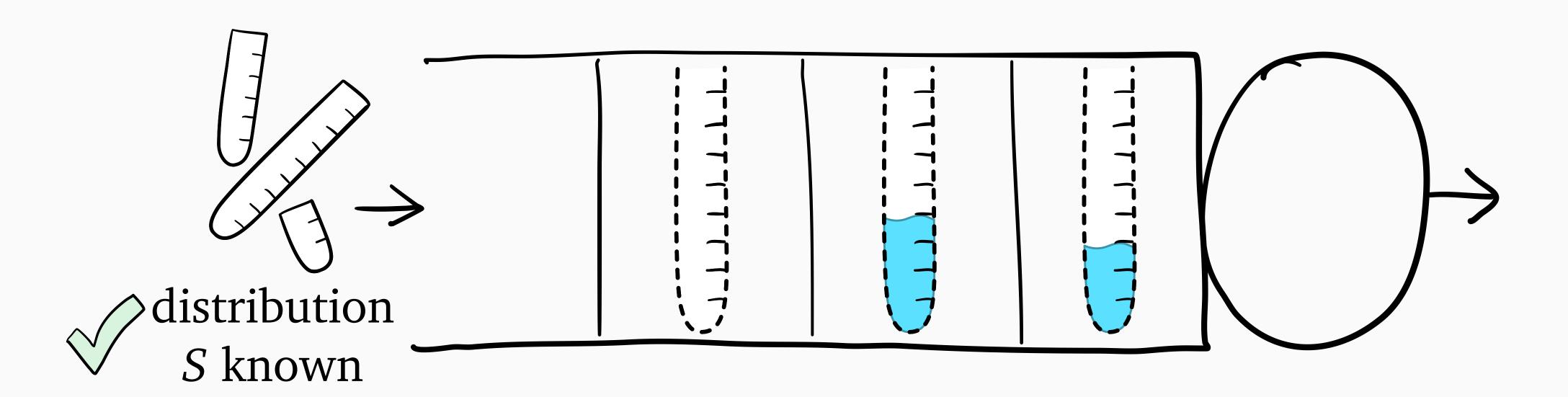


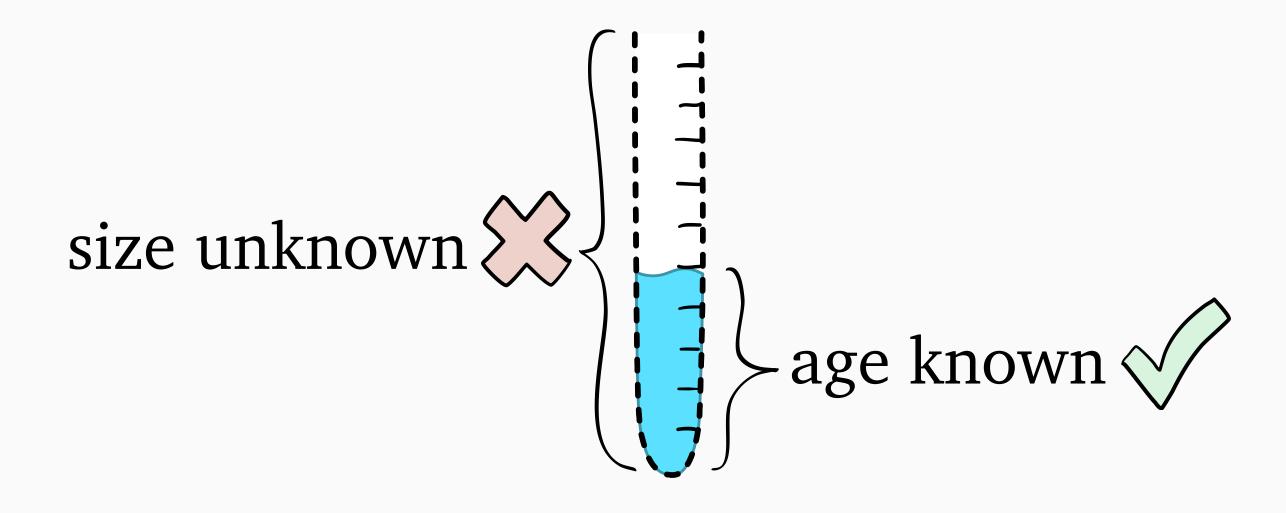


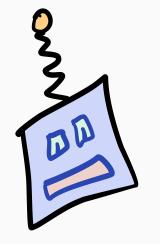




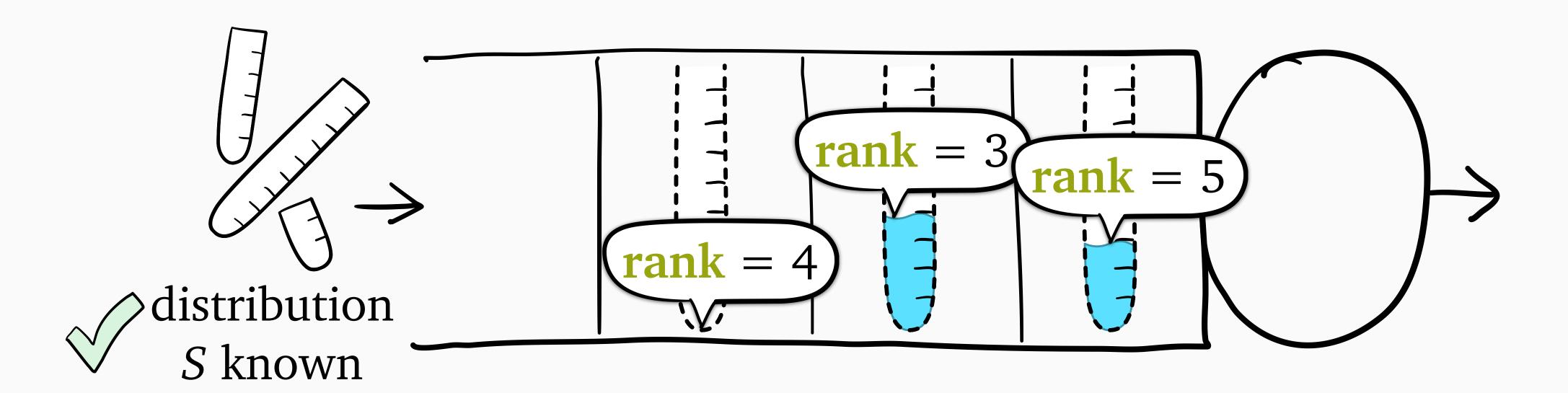


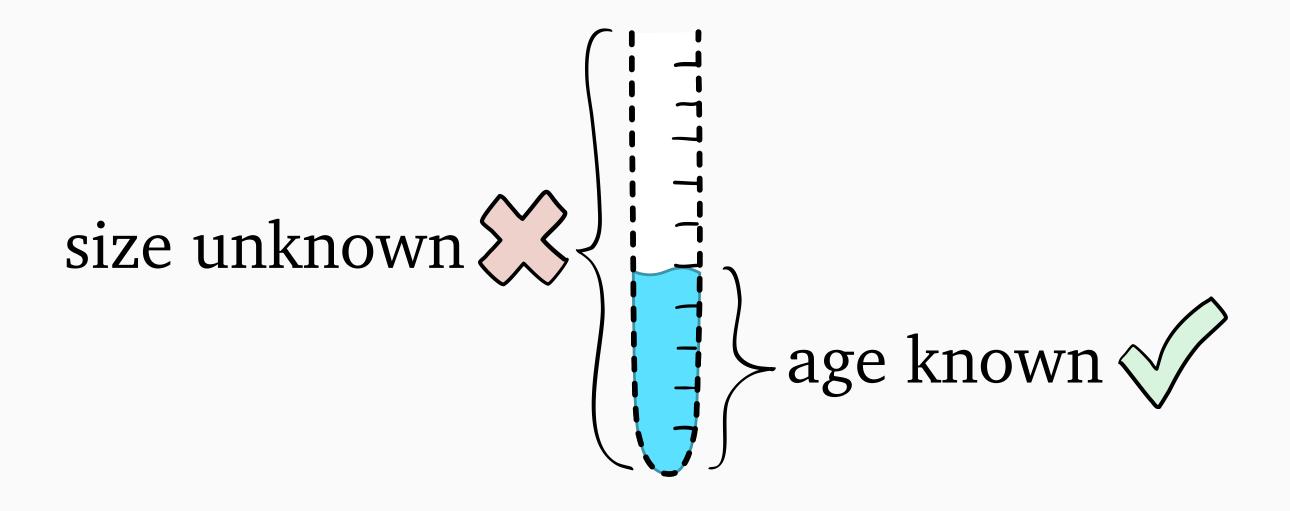


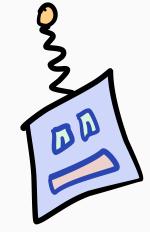




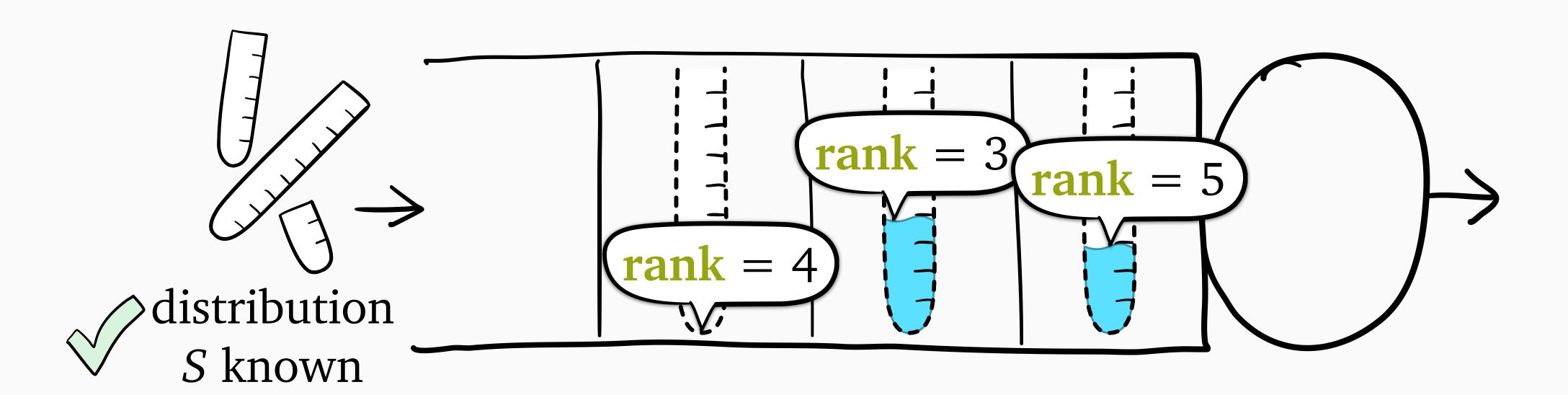
Gittins: assign each job a rank based on age and *S* (lower is better)

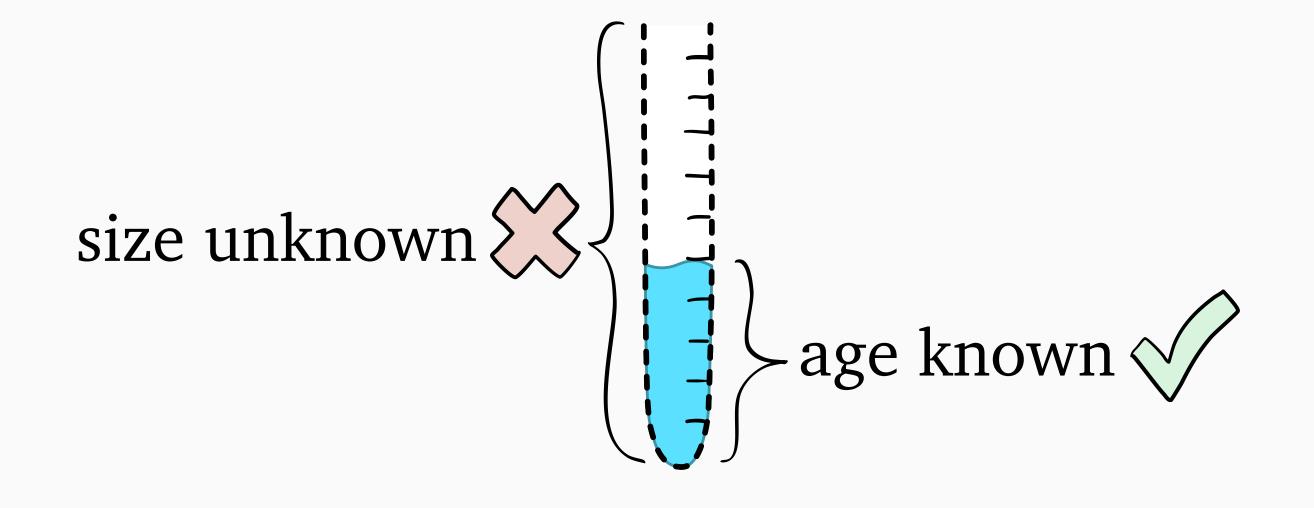






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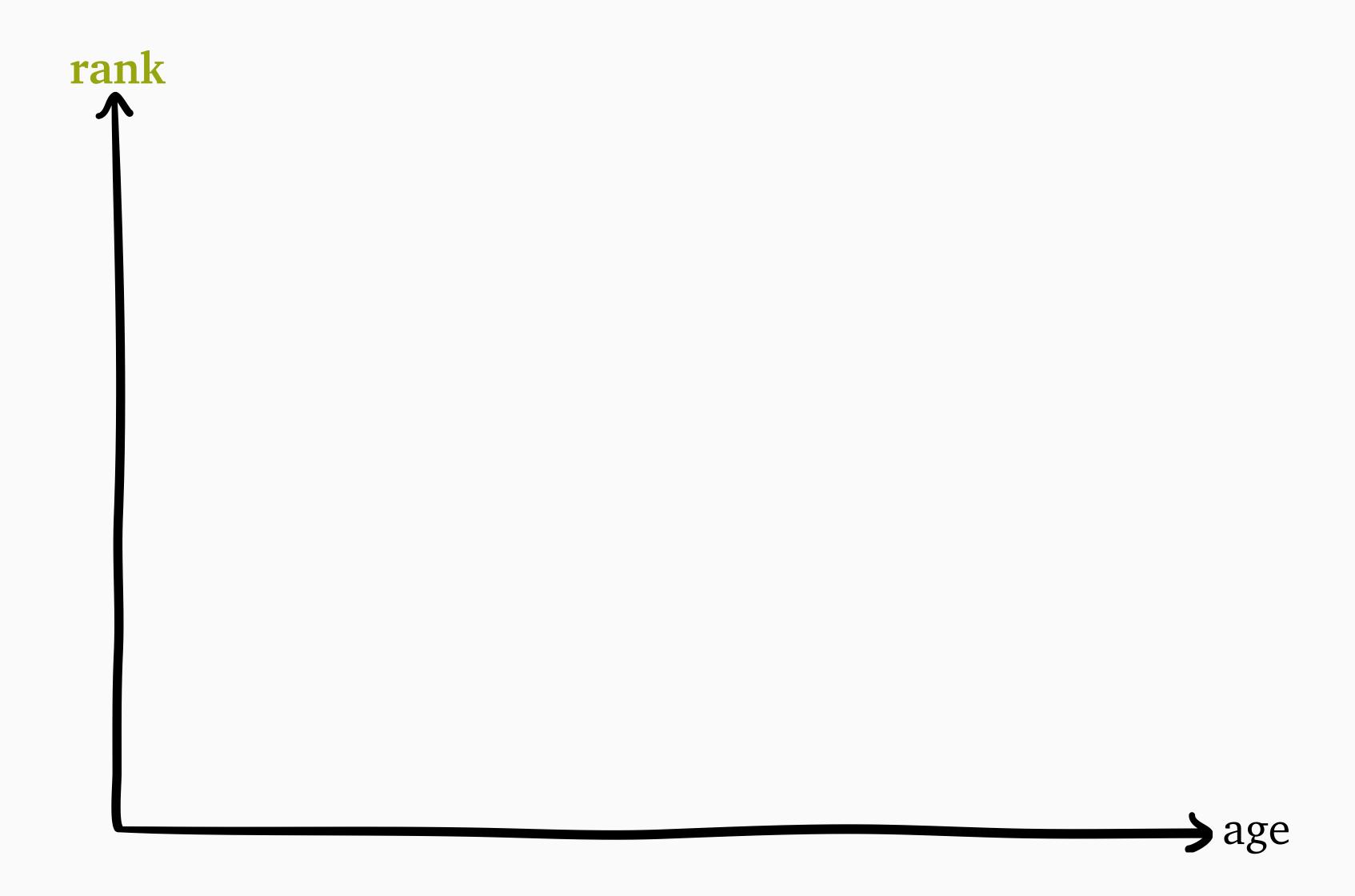




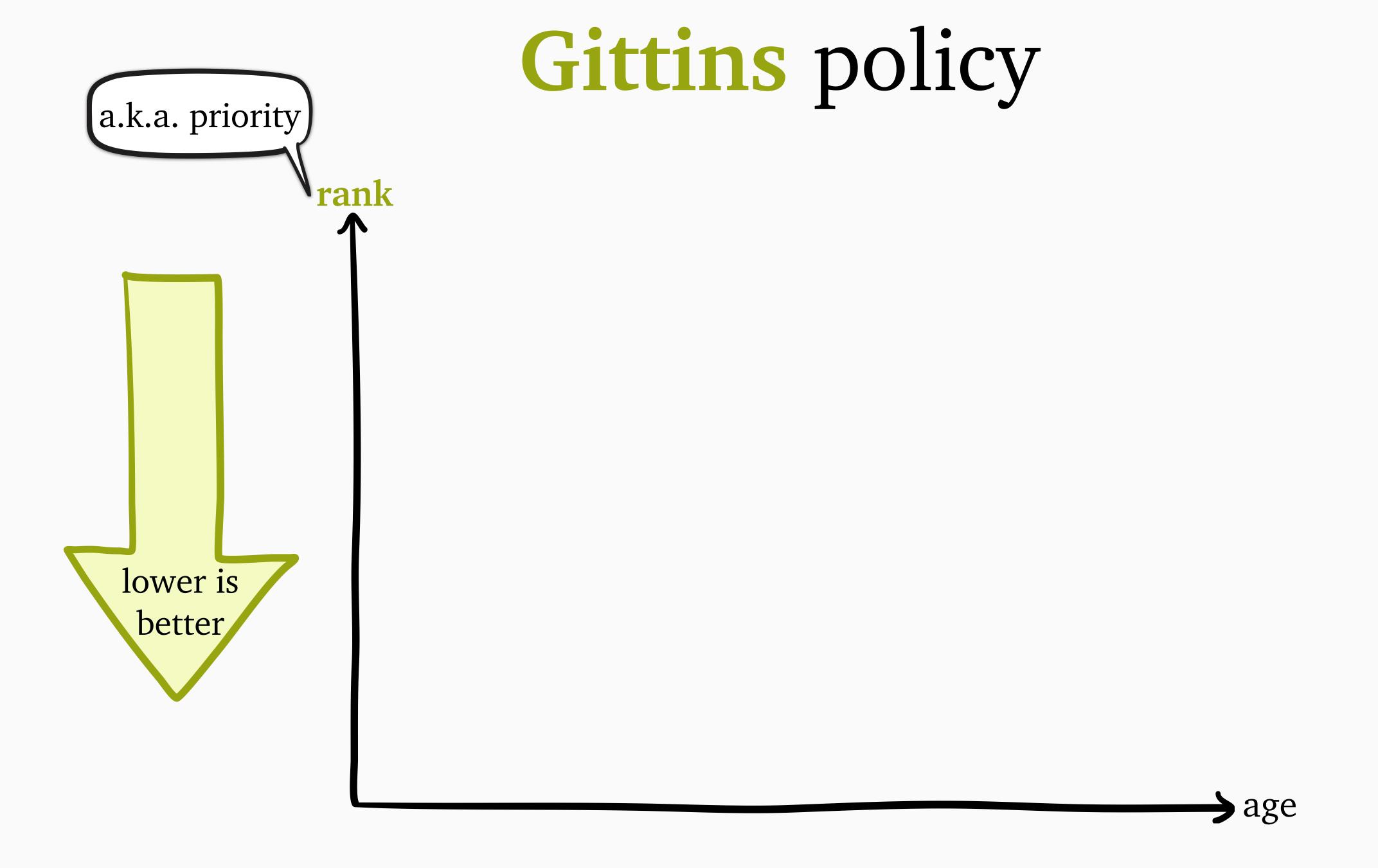
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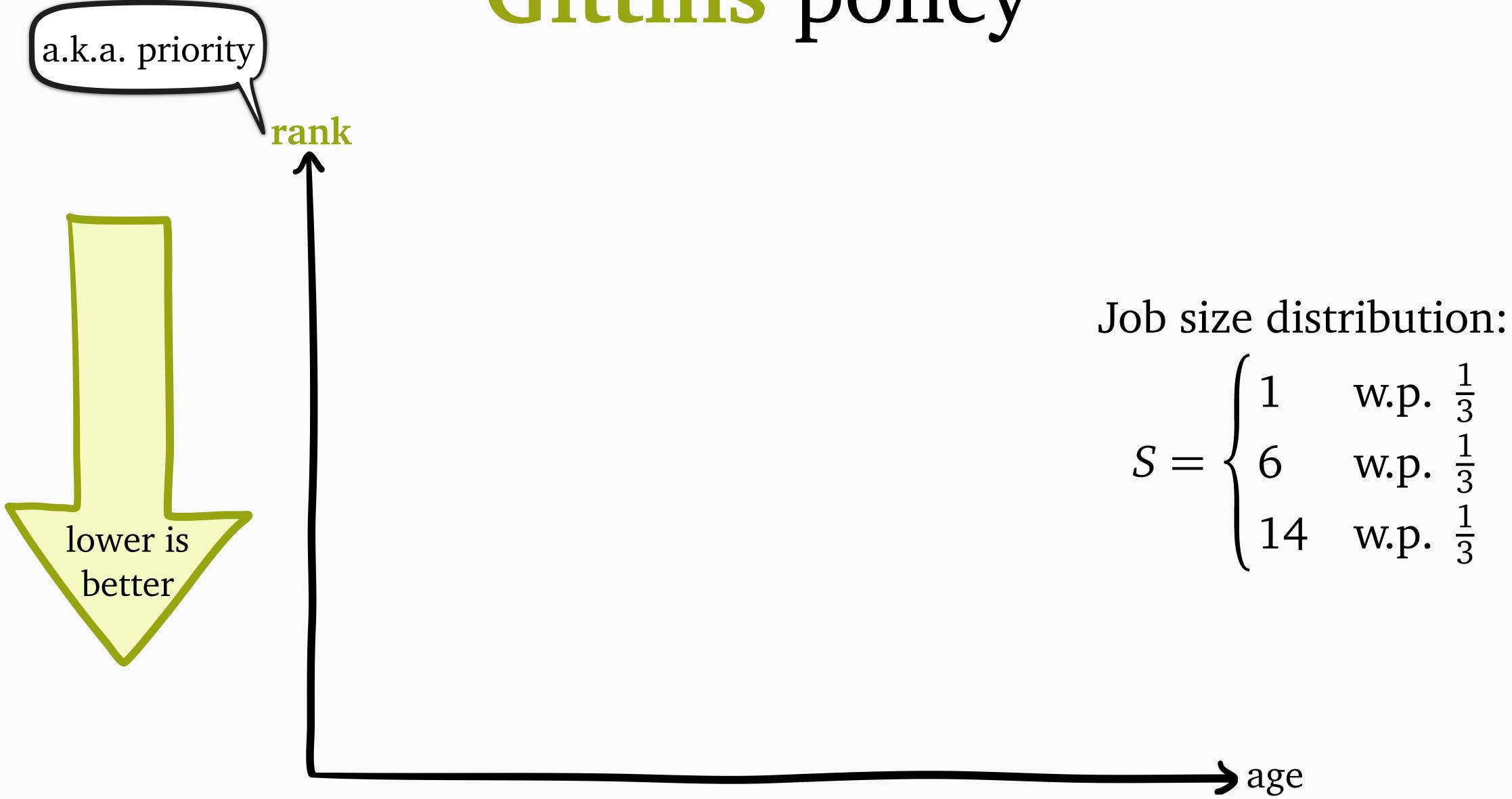


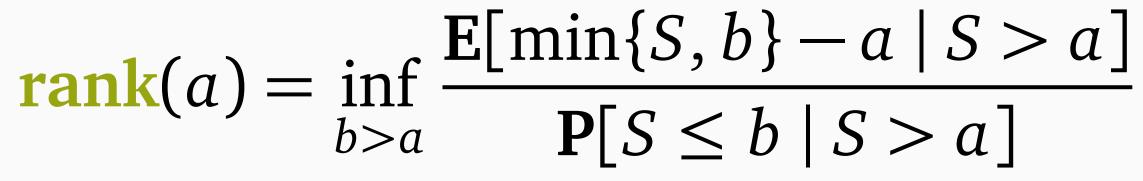
Gittins minimizes E[T] (Gittins 1989)





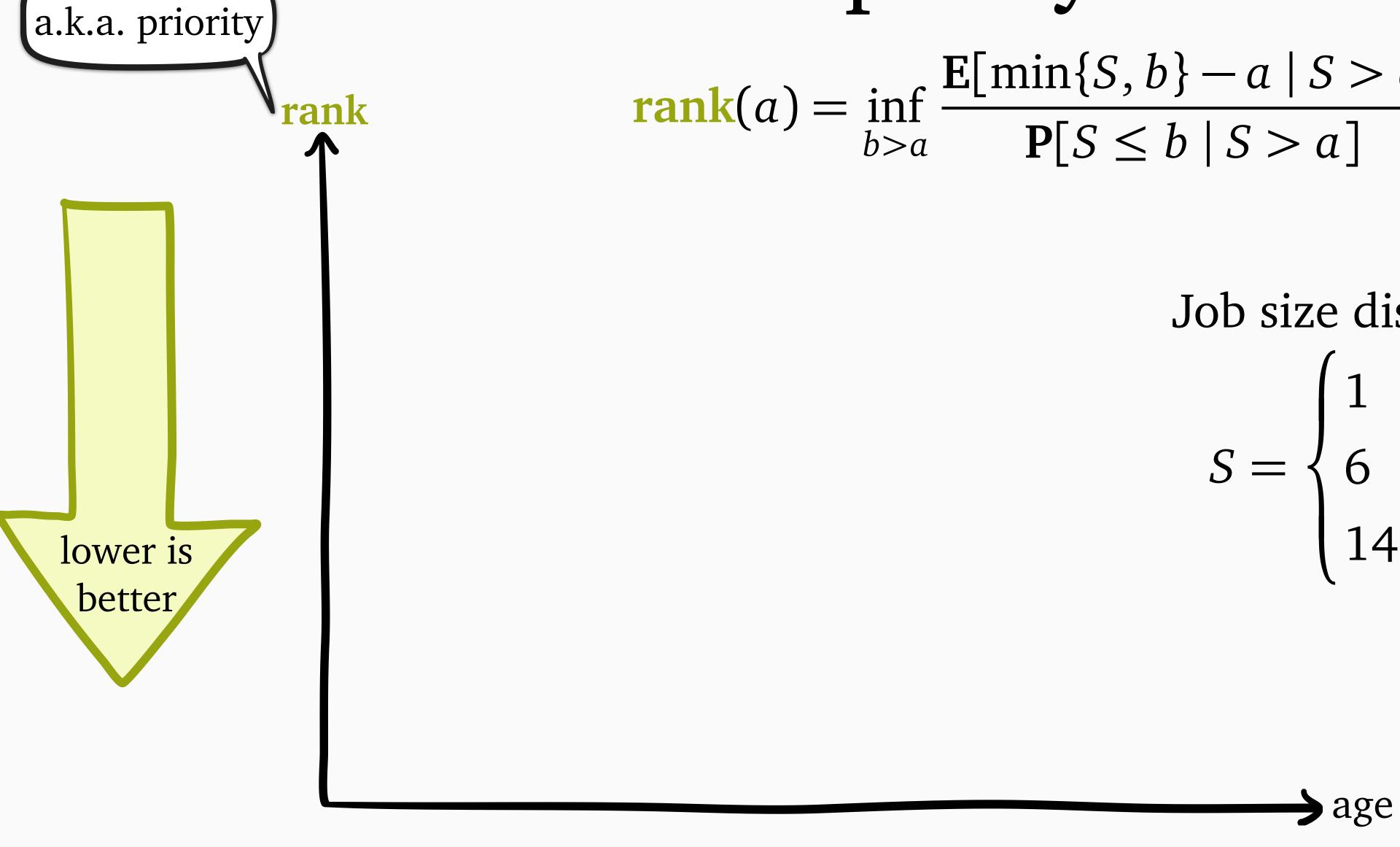


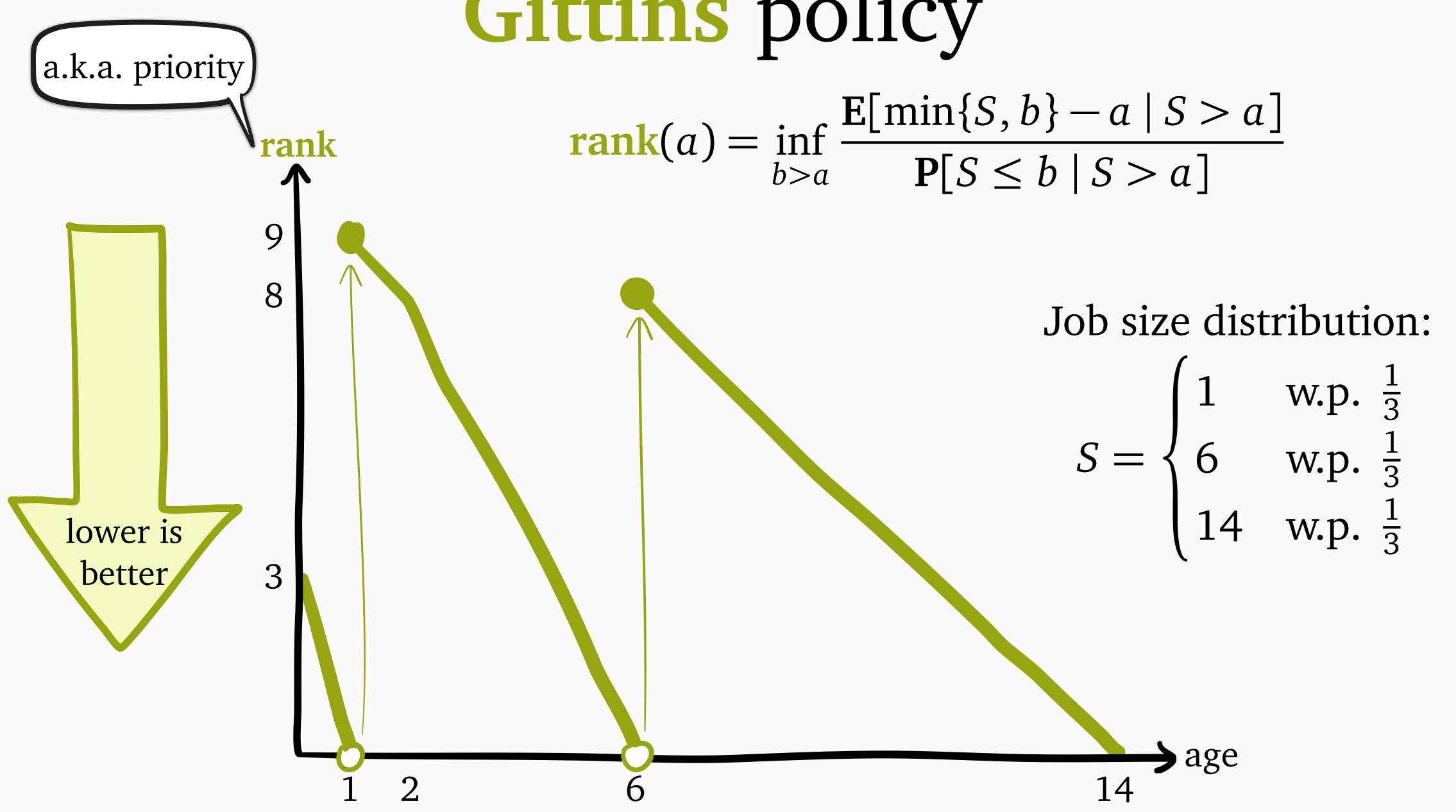




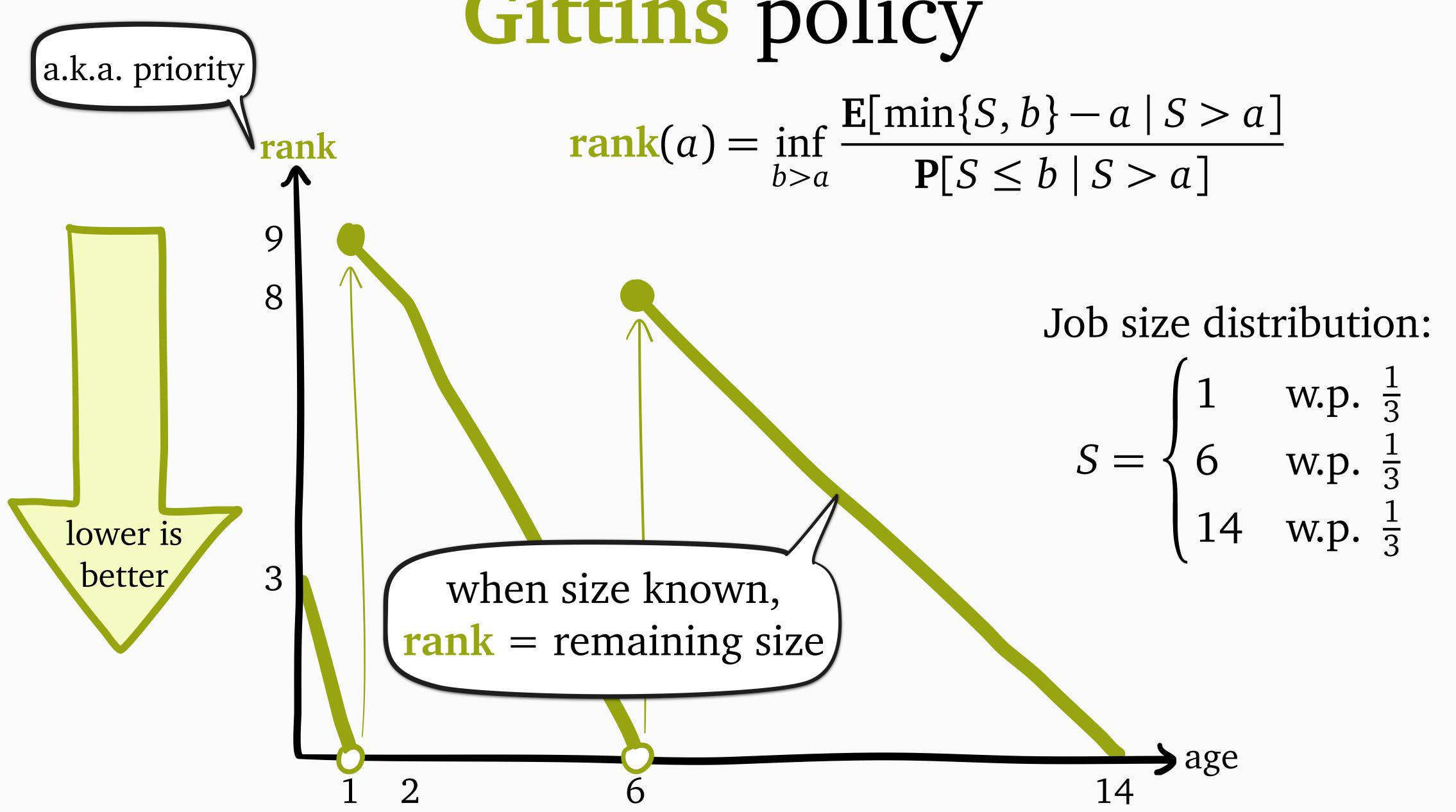
Job size distribution:

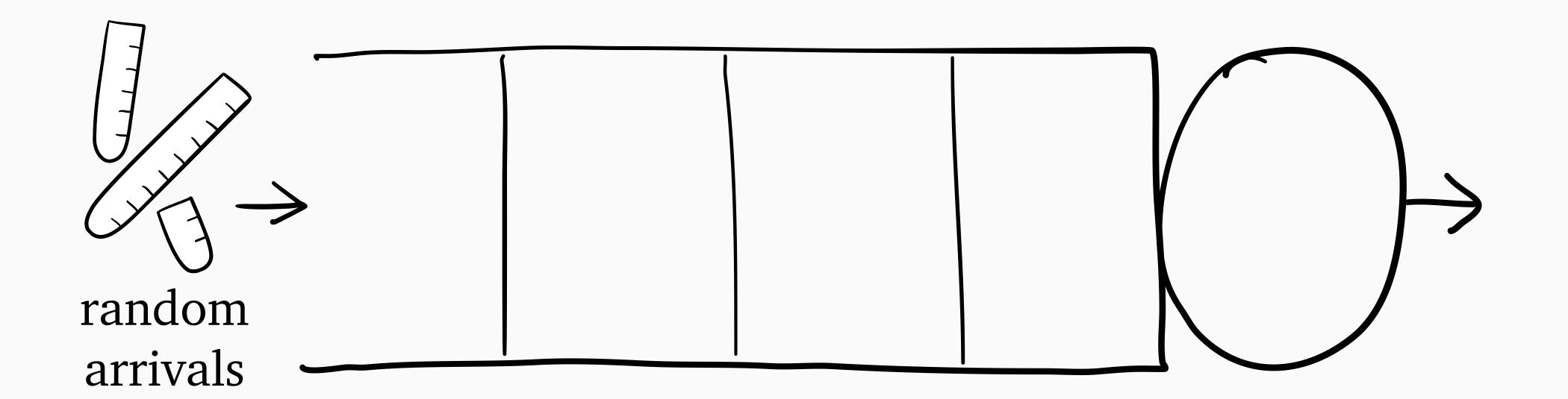
$$S = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \\ 6 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \\ 14 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \end{cases}$$

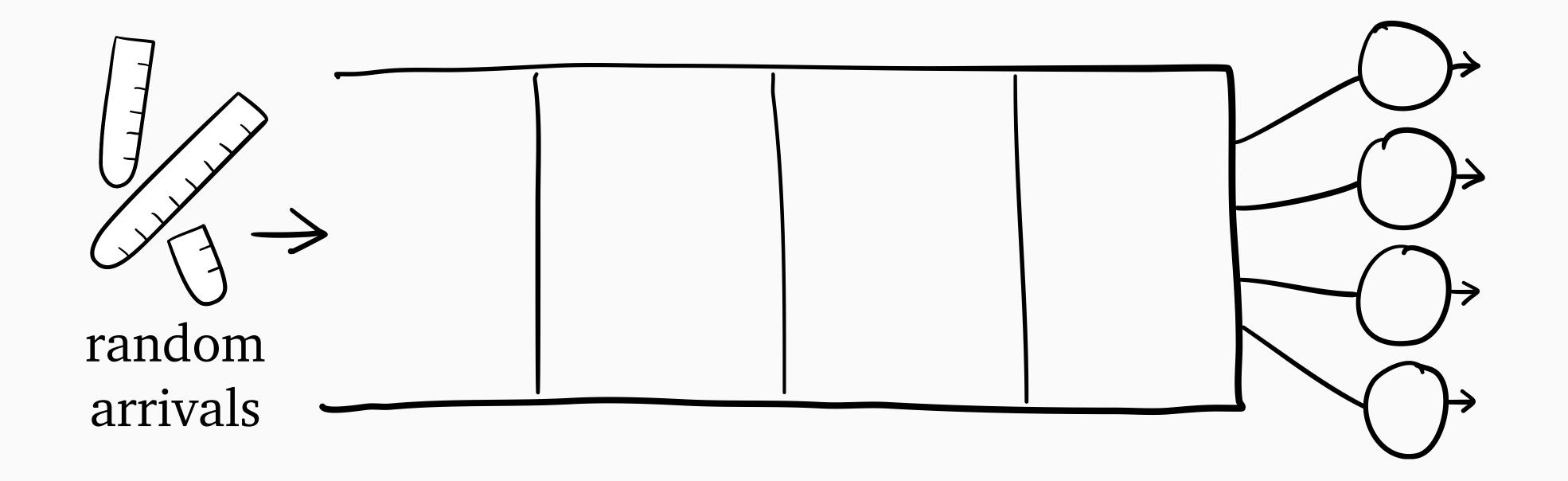


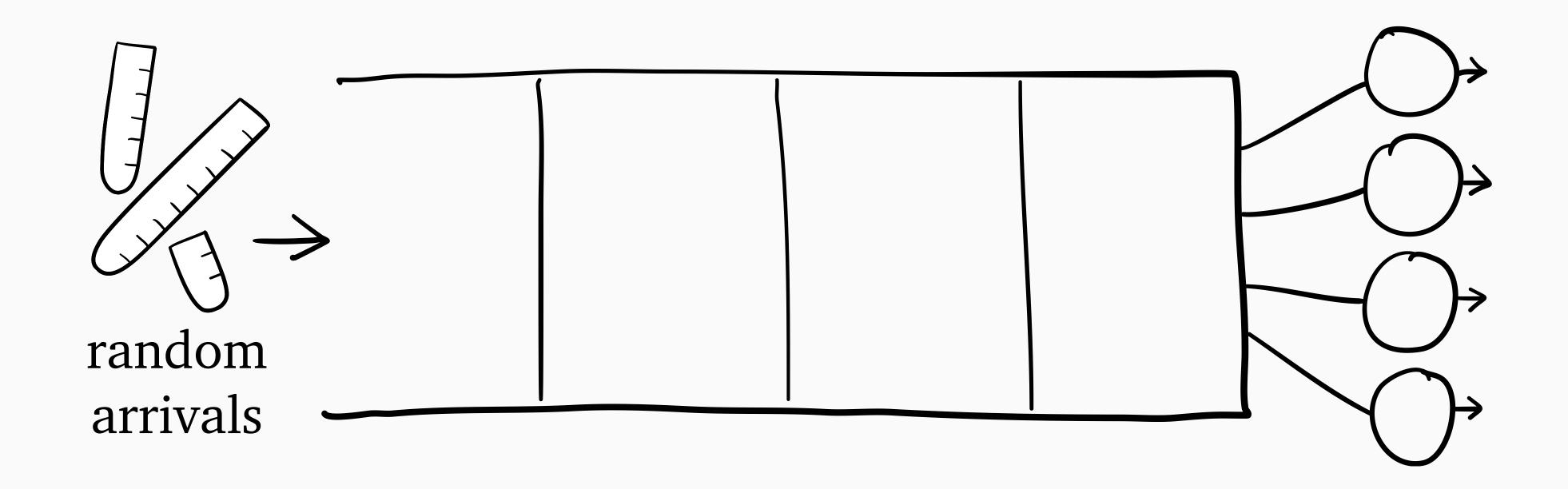


Gittins policy

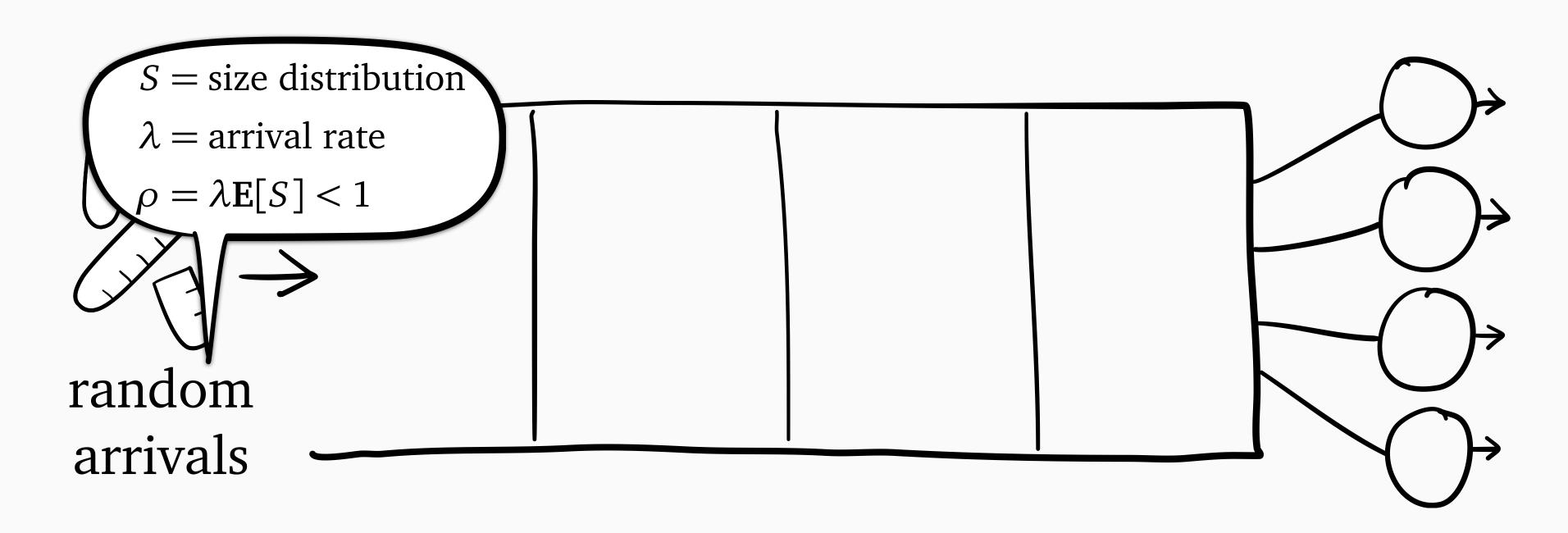




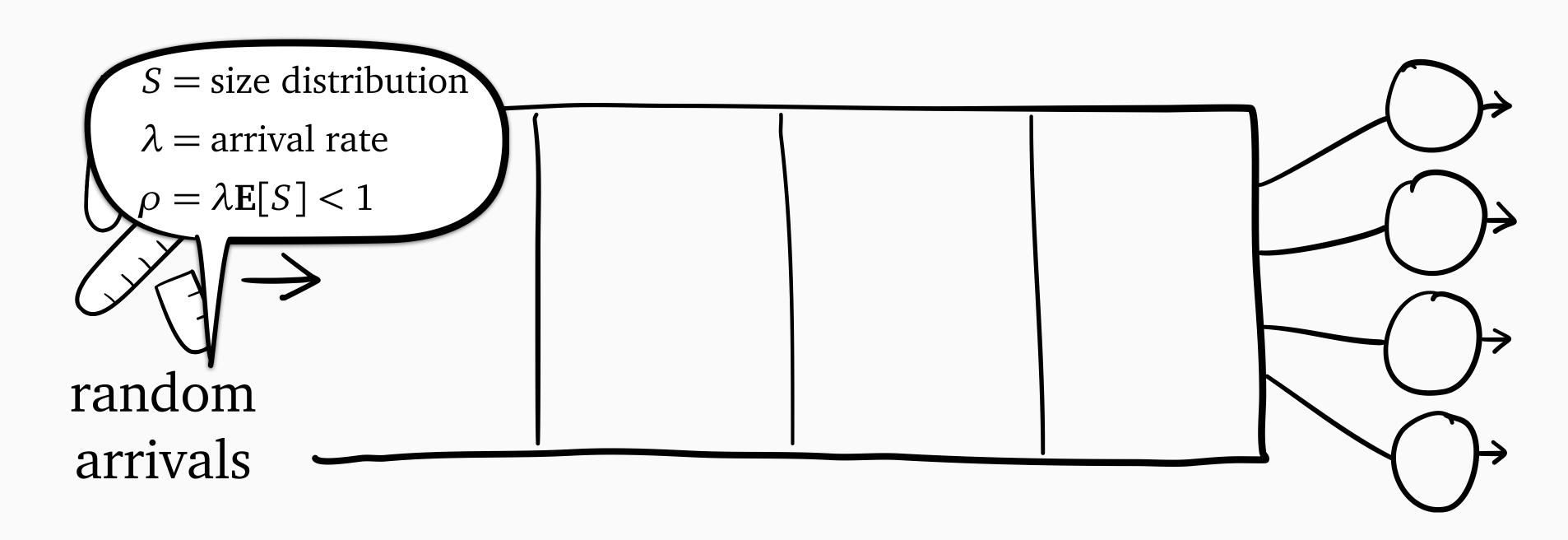




k servers, each speed 1/k

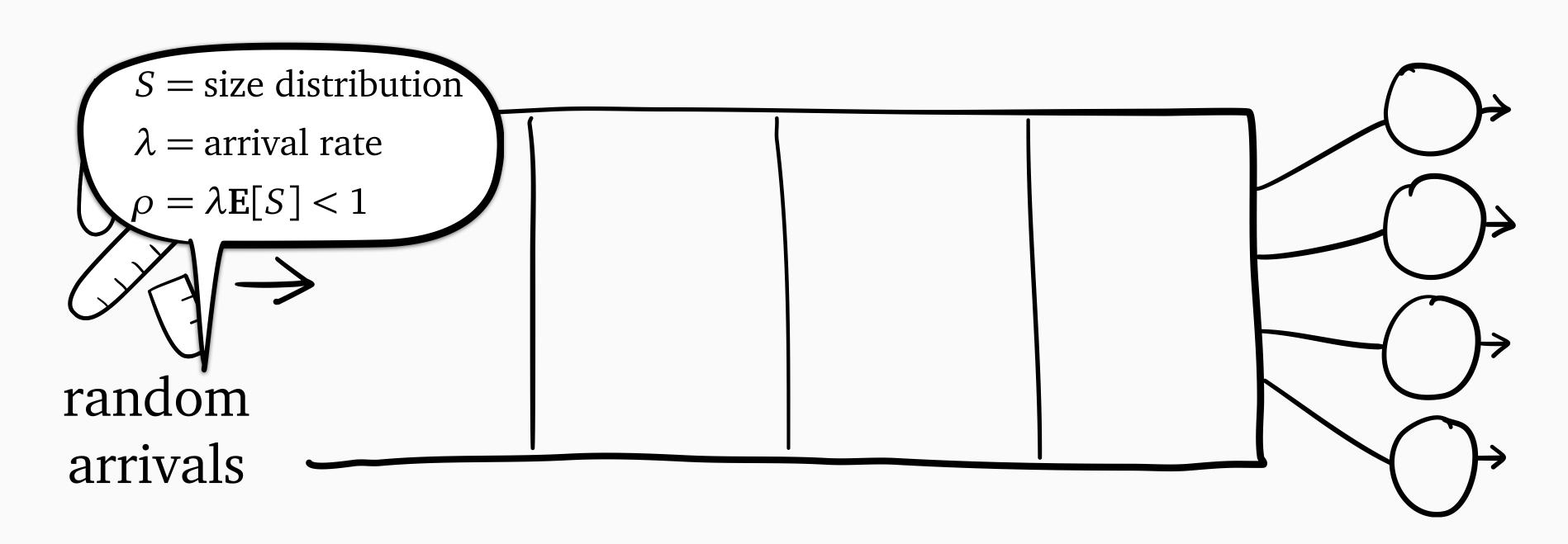


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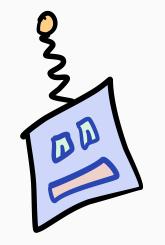


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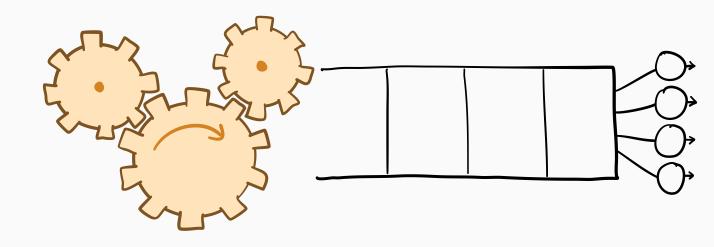
Scheduling policy:

picks which k jobs to serve

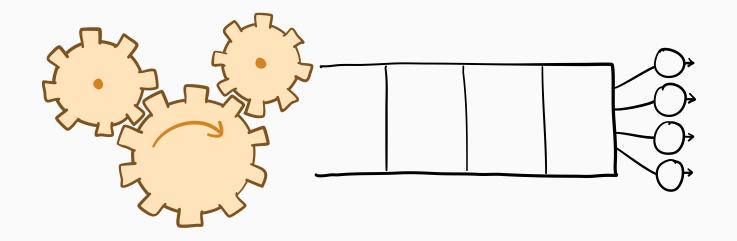
Multiserver Gittins:

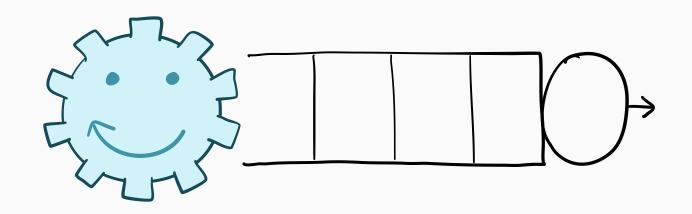
serves the *k* jobs with the *k* lowest ranks

M/G/k

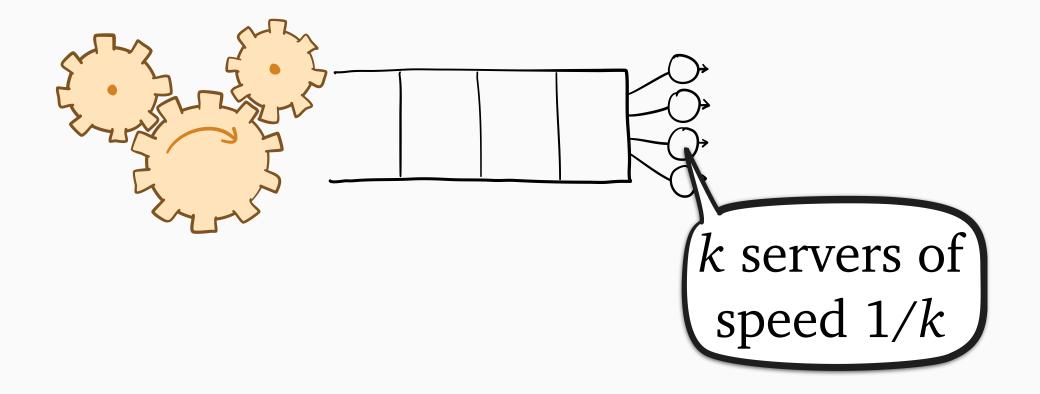


M/G/k

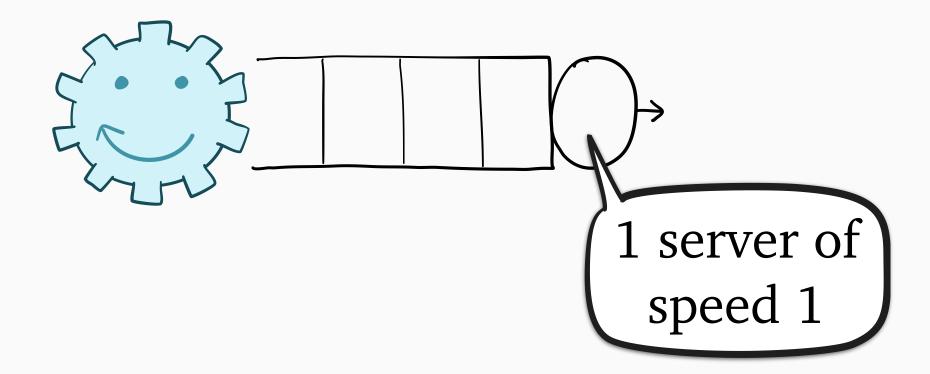


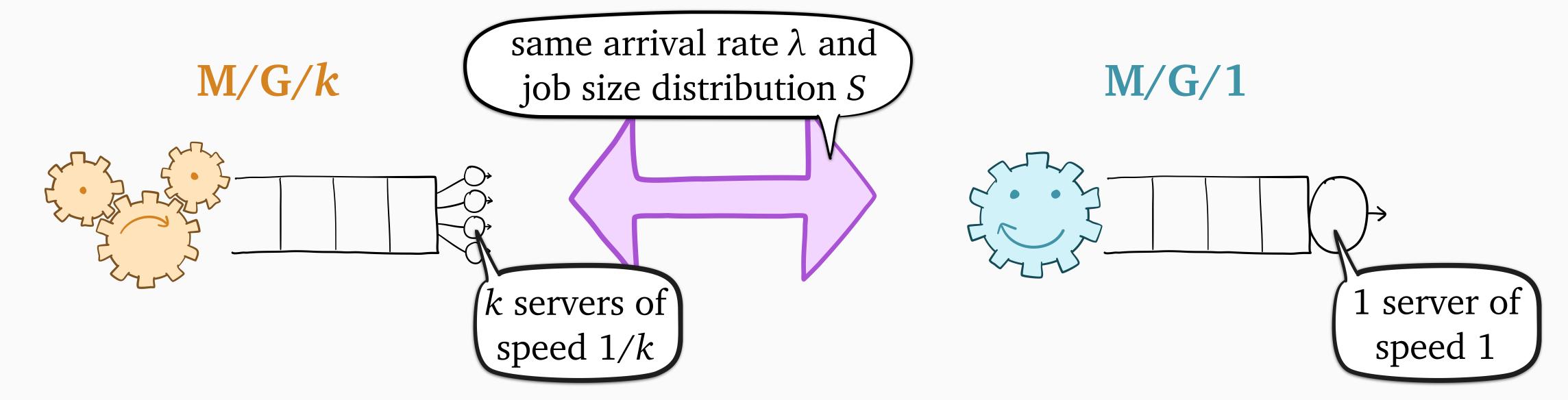


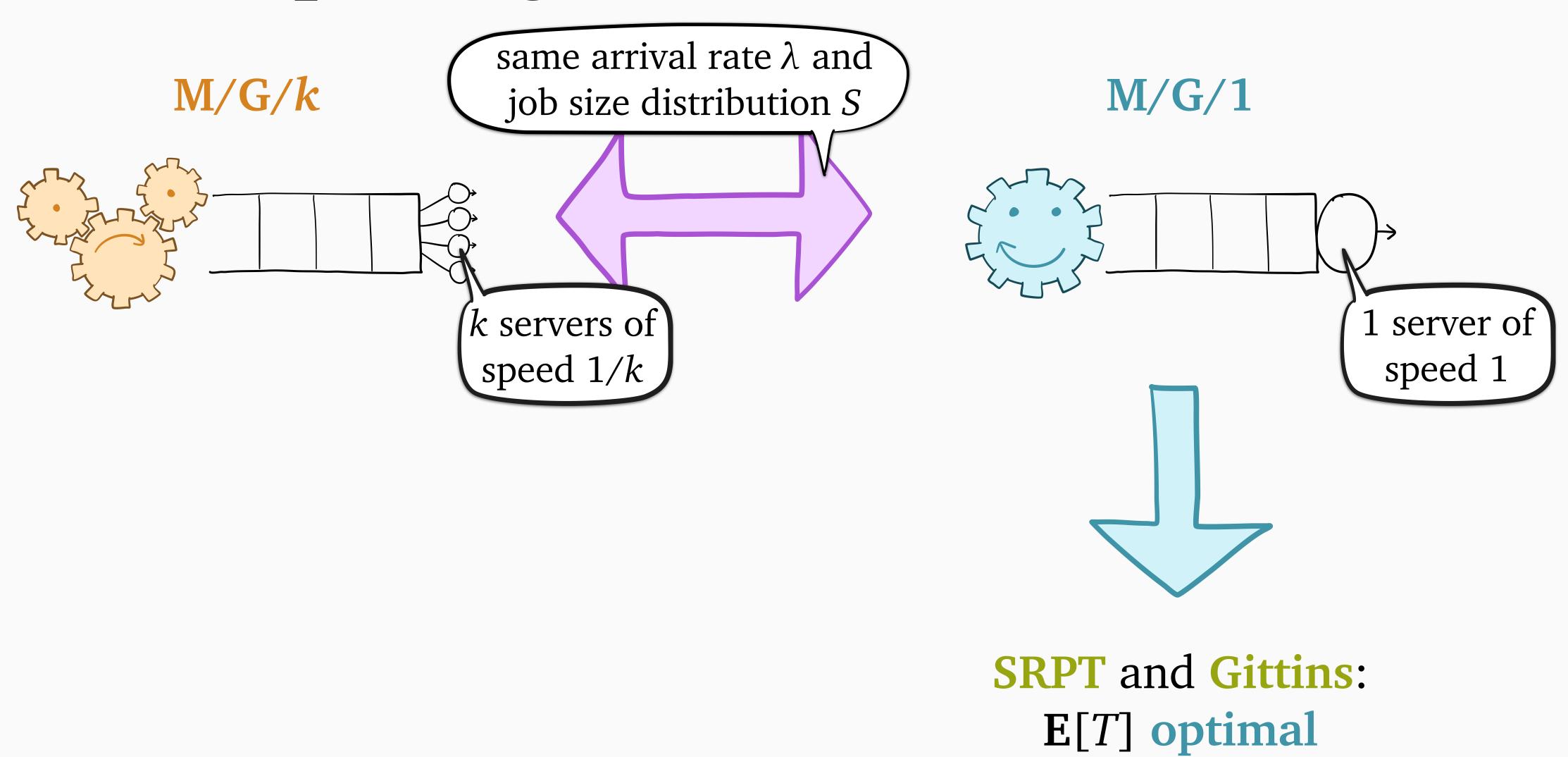
M/G/k

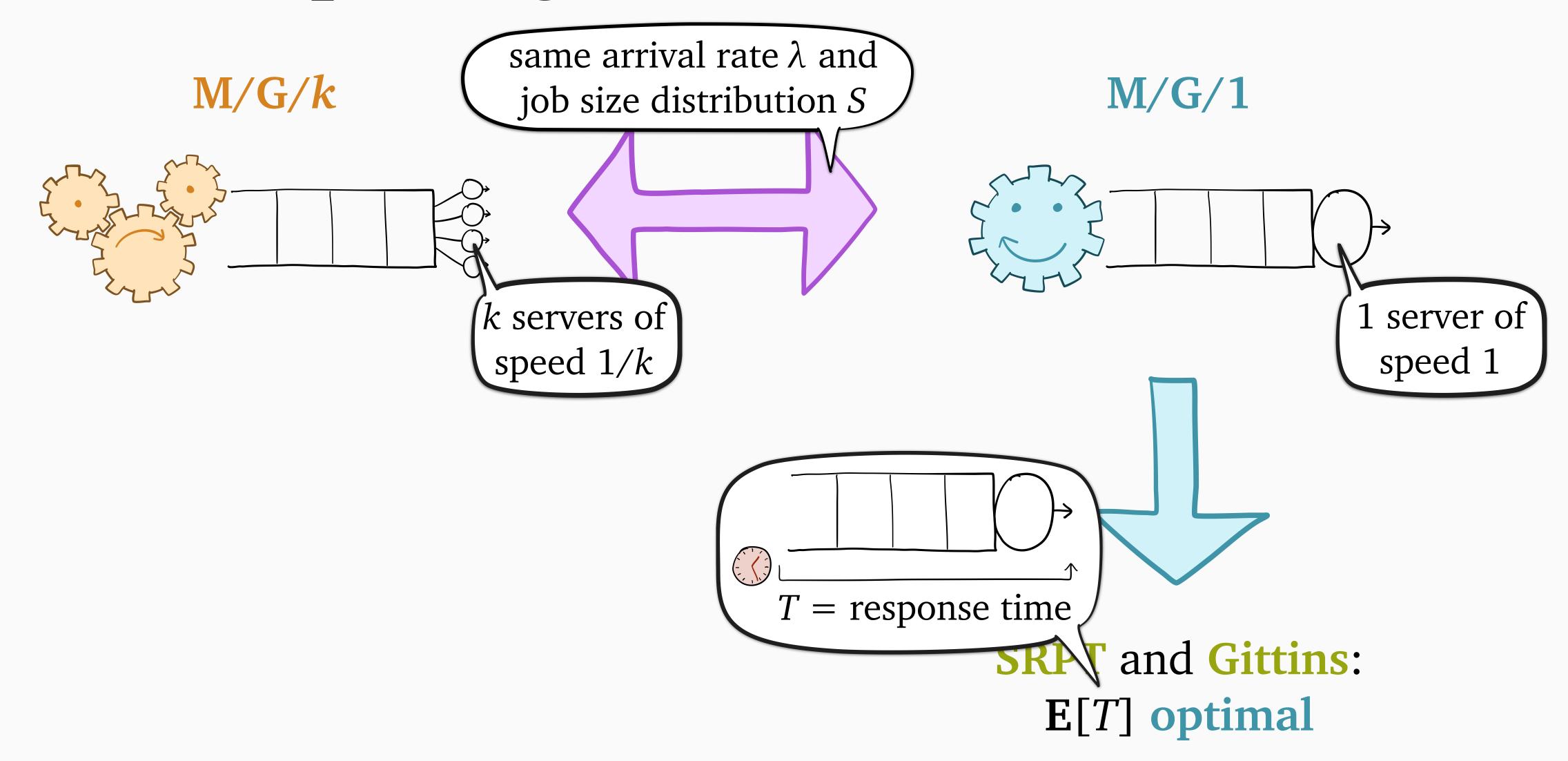


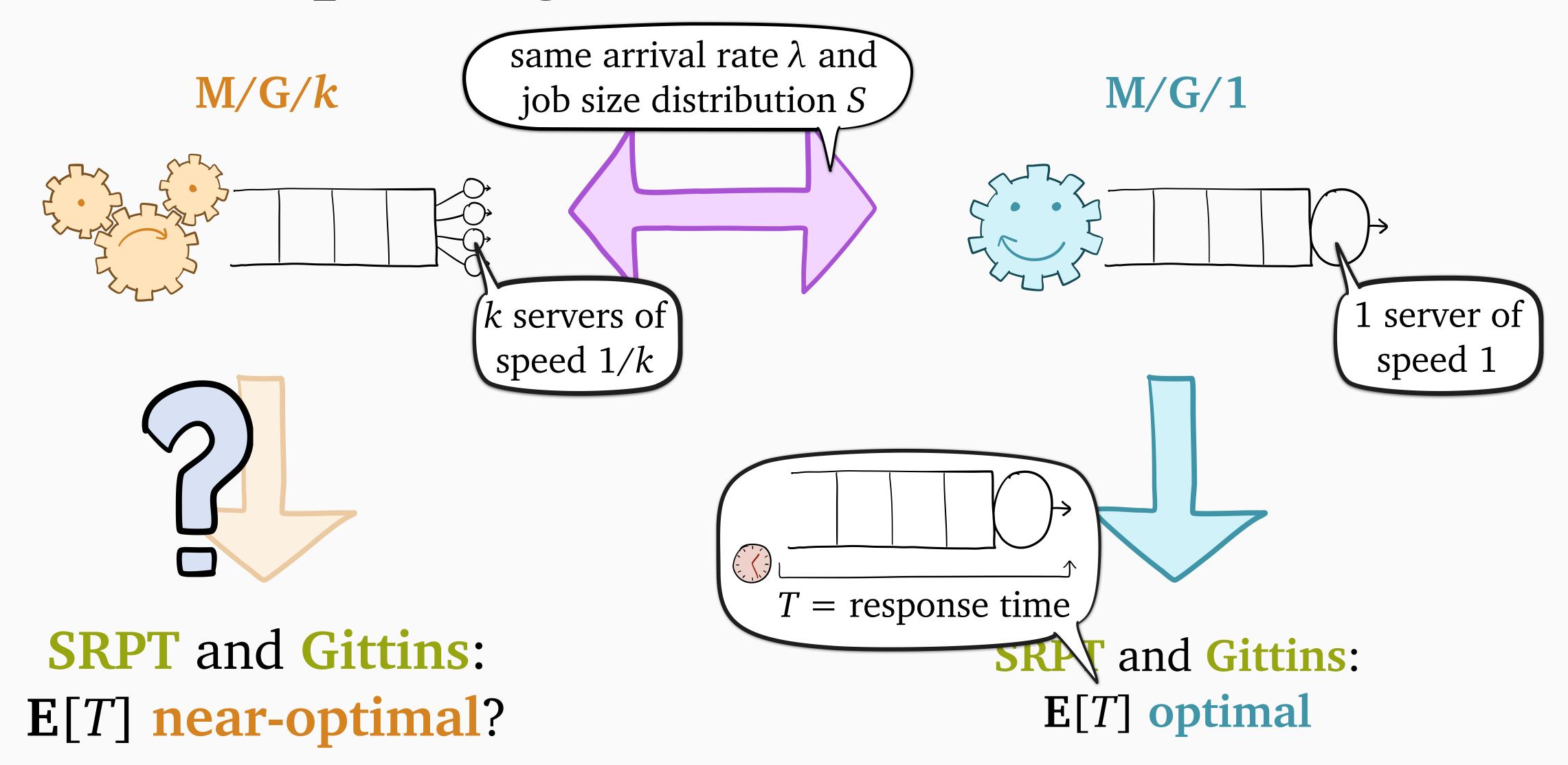
M/G/1











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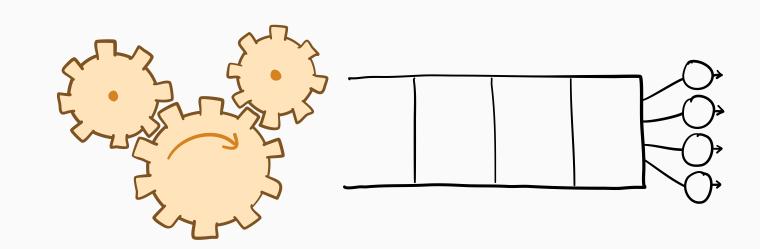
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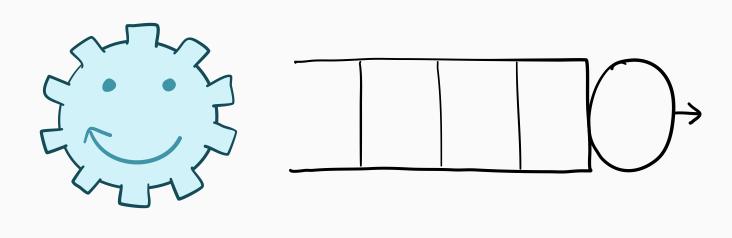
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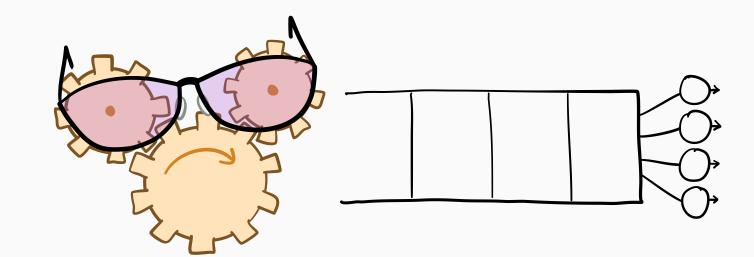


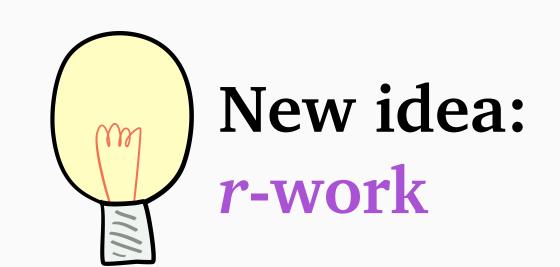
$$\lim_{\rho \to 1} \frac{\mathbf{E}[T_k]}{\mathbf{E}[T_1]} = 1 \quad \text{if } \mathbf{E}[S^2(\log S)^+] < \infty$$



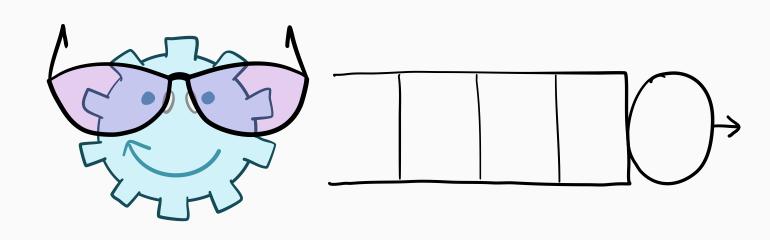
Theorem: under SRPT and Gittins,

$$\mathbf{E}[T_k] \le \mathbf{E}[T_1] + (k-1) \cdot O\left(\log \frac{1}{1-\rho}\right)$$





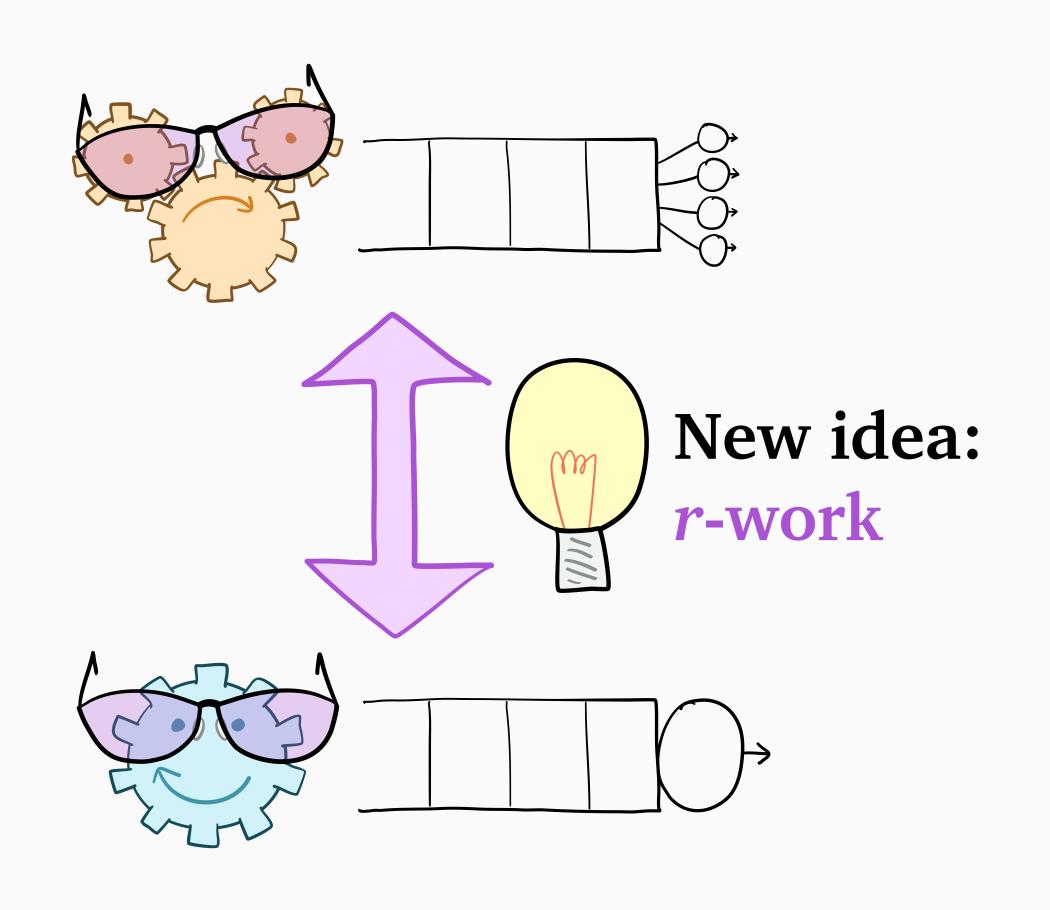
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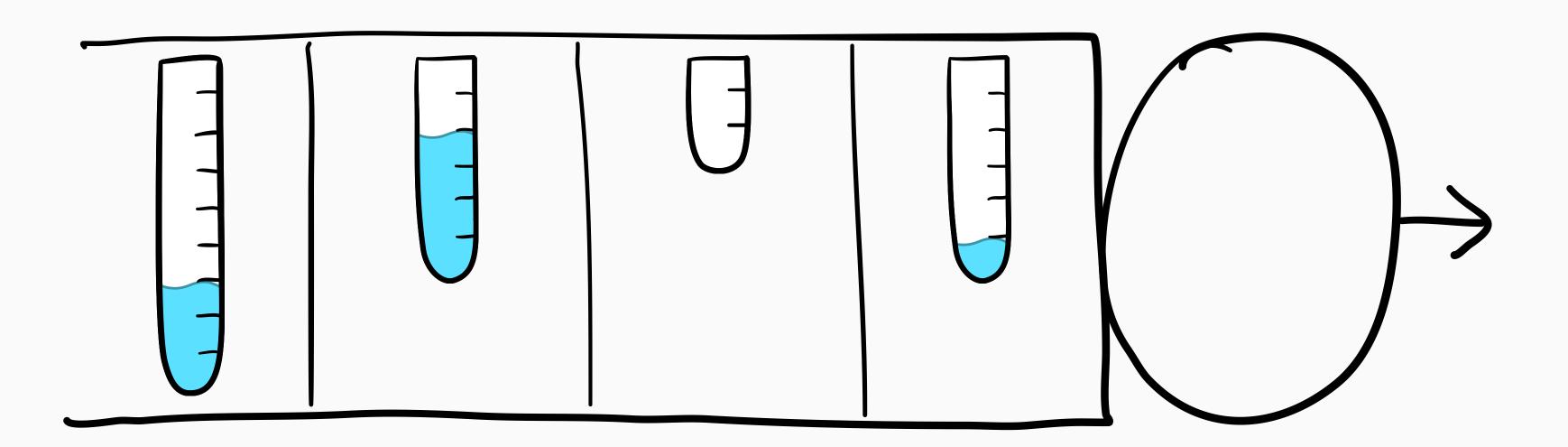
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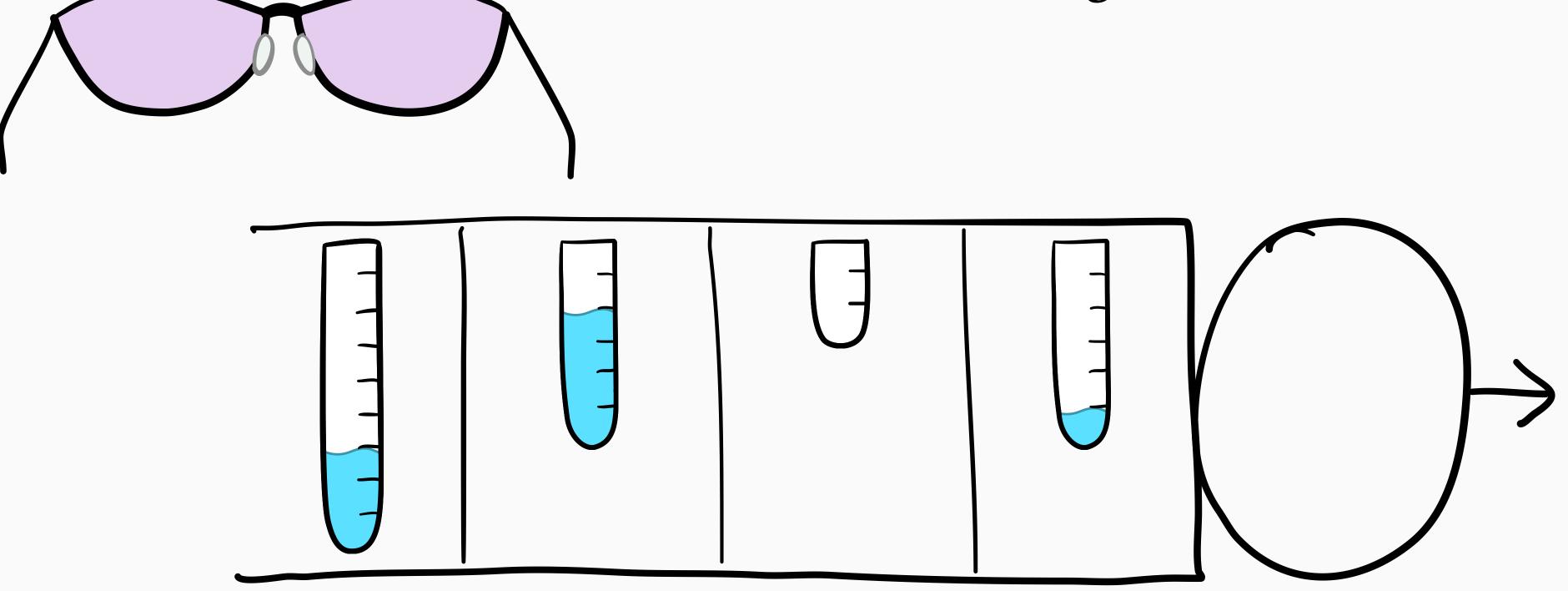


W = work = total remaining size of all jobs



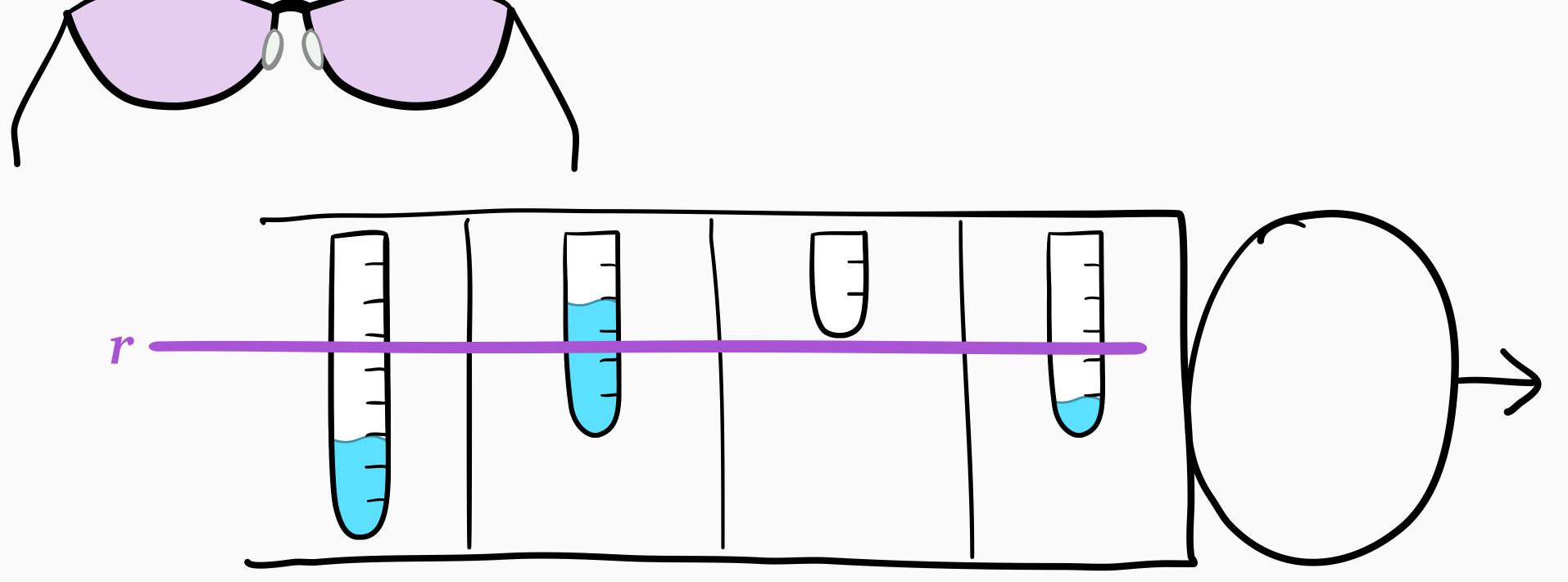
W = work = total remaining size of all jobs

W(r) = r-work = total remaining size of all jobs that have remaining size $\leq r$



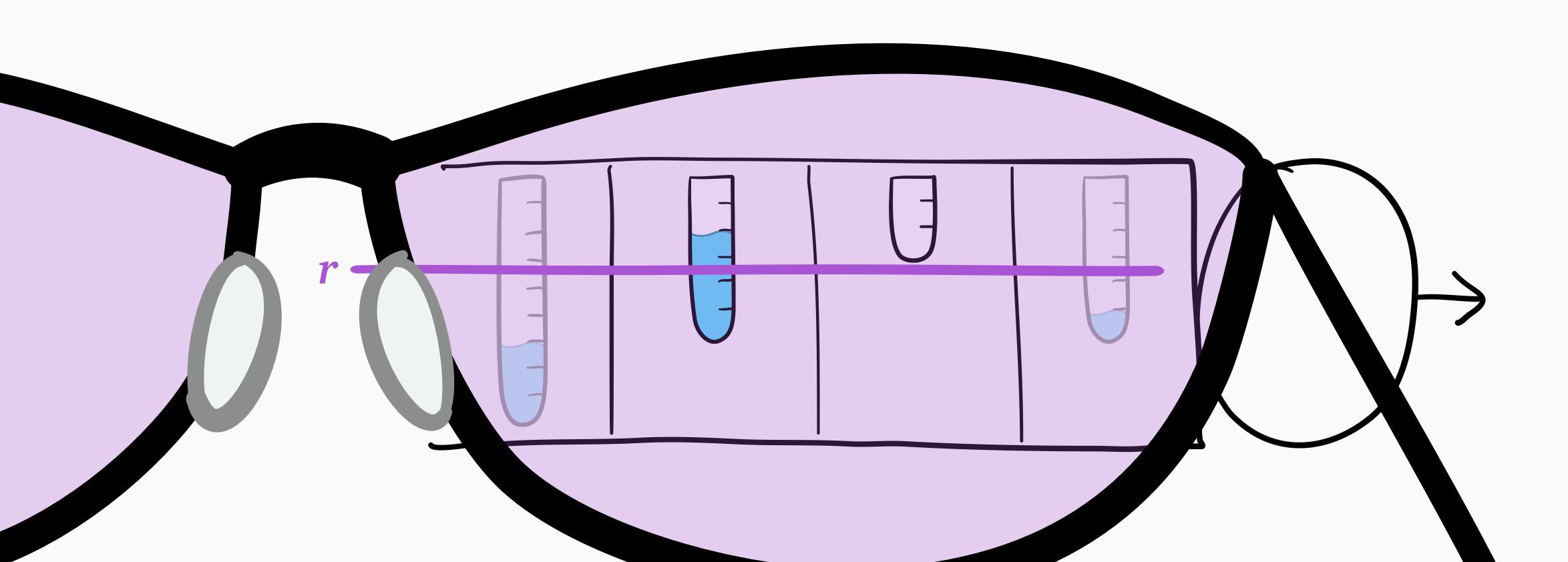
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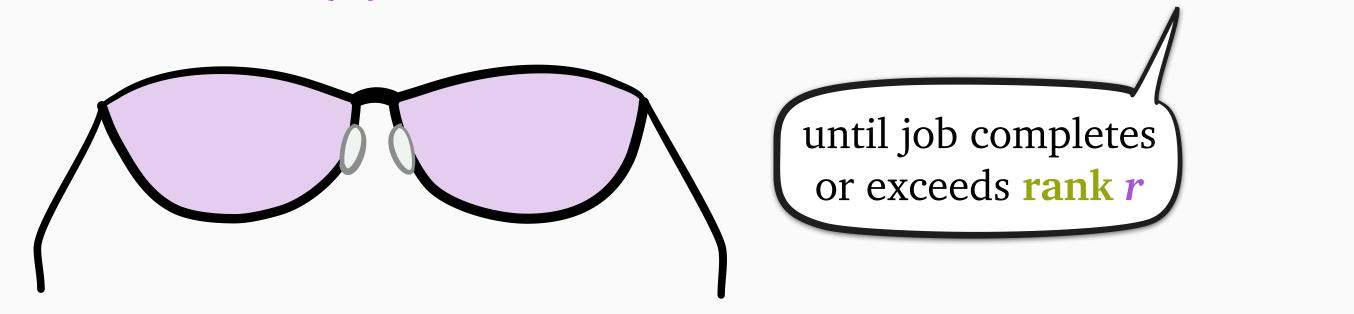


W = work = total remaining size of all jobs

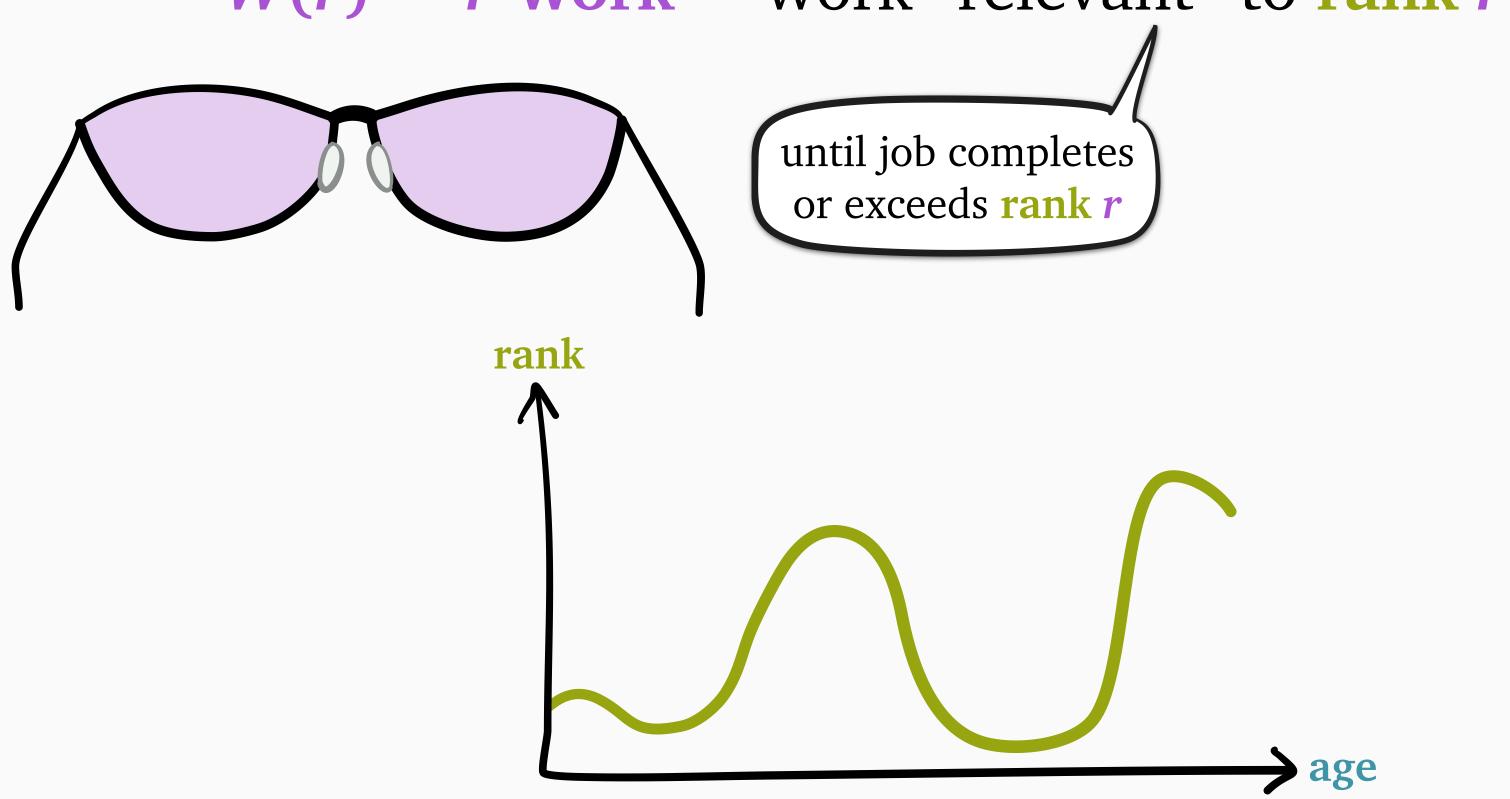
W = work = total remaining size of all jobs



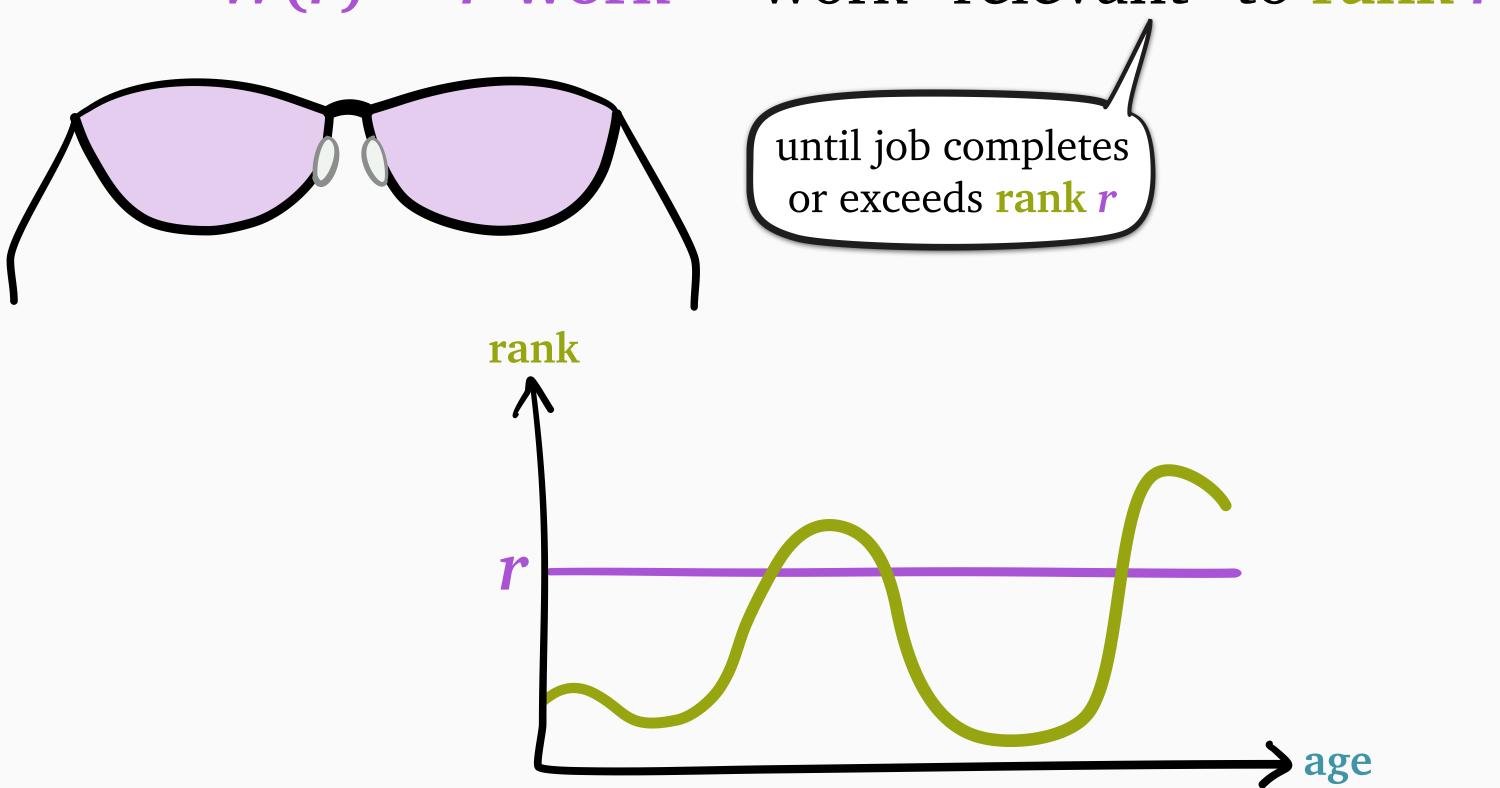
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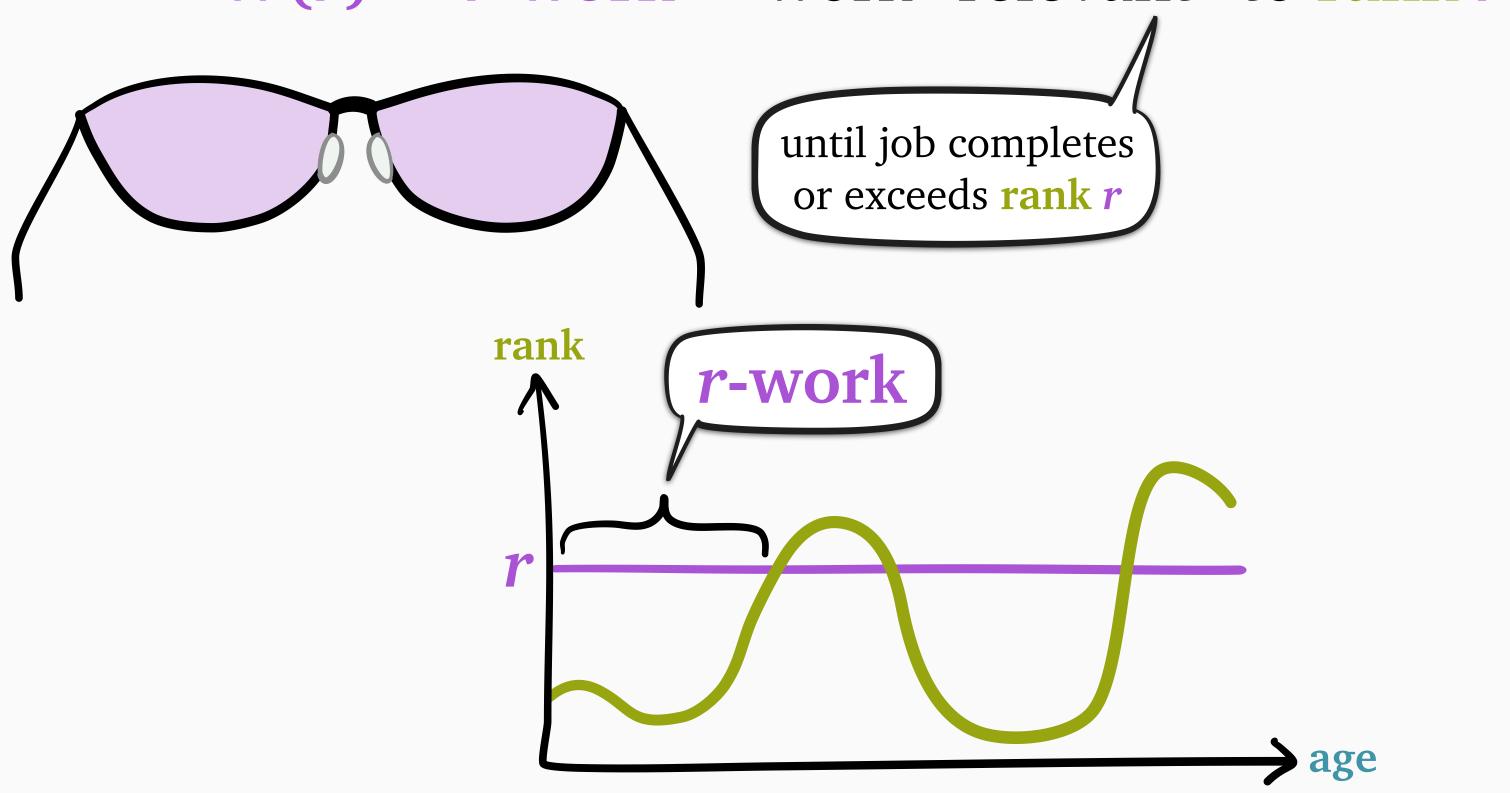
W = work = total remaining size of all jobs



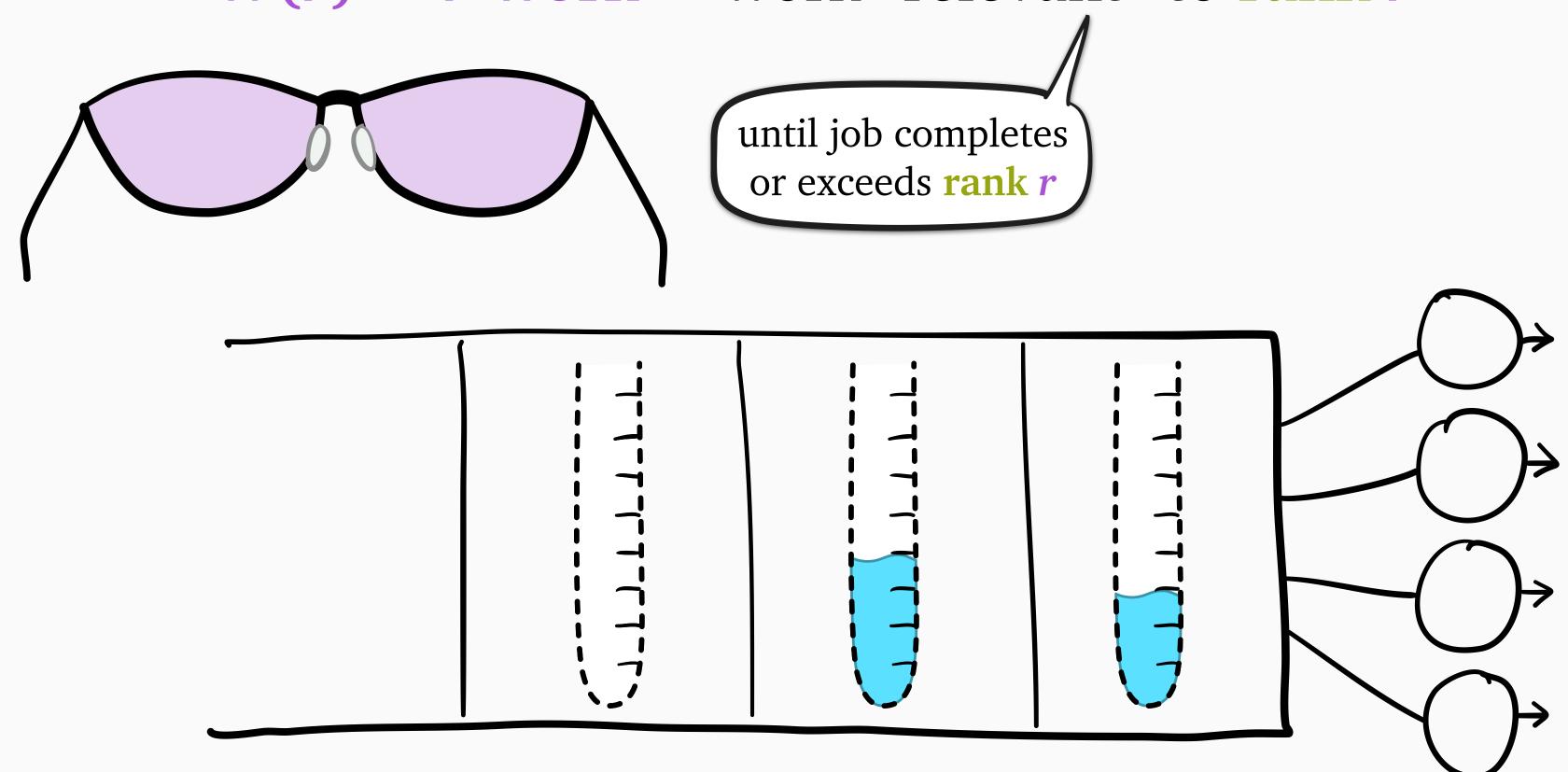
W = work = total remaining size of all jobs



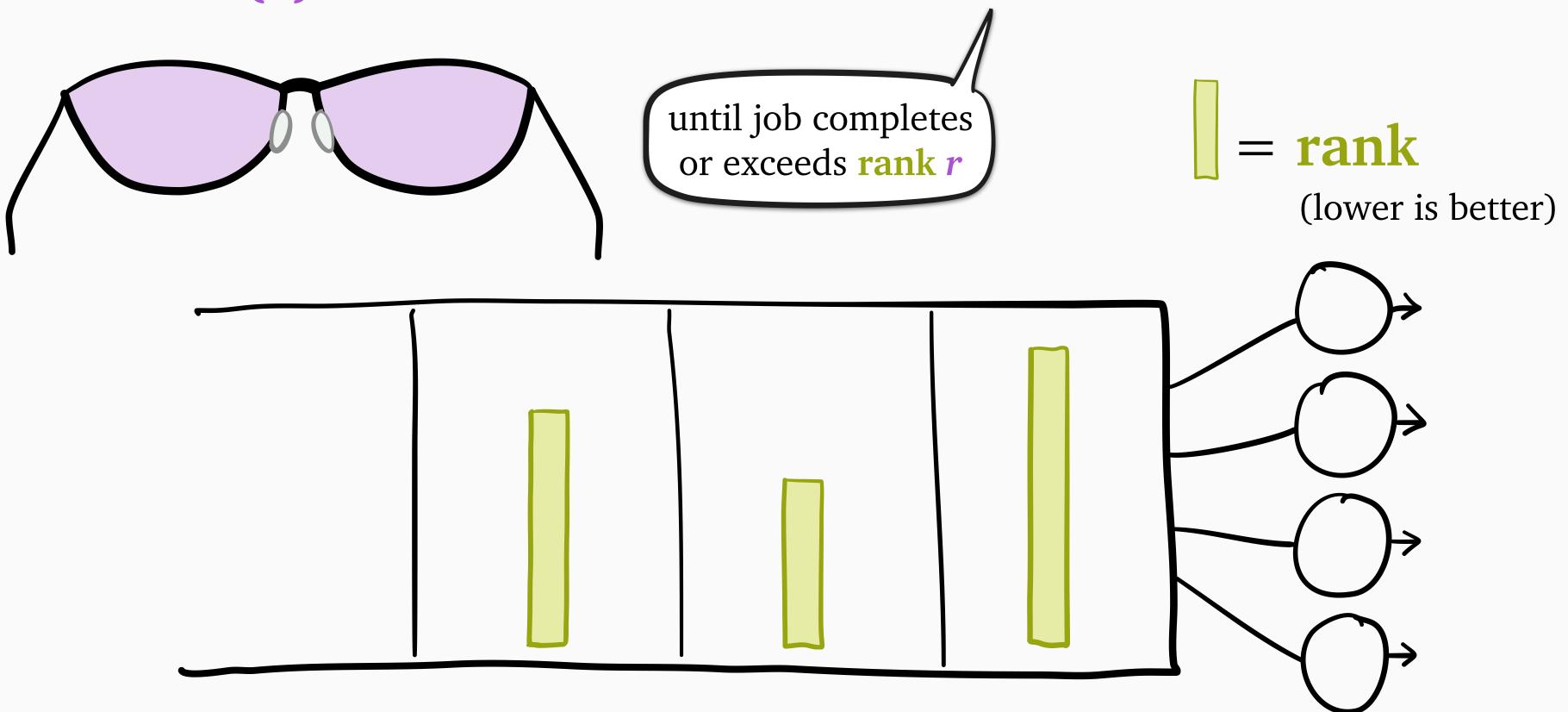
W = work = total remaining size of all jobs



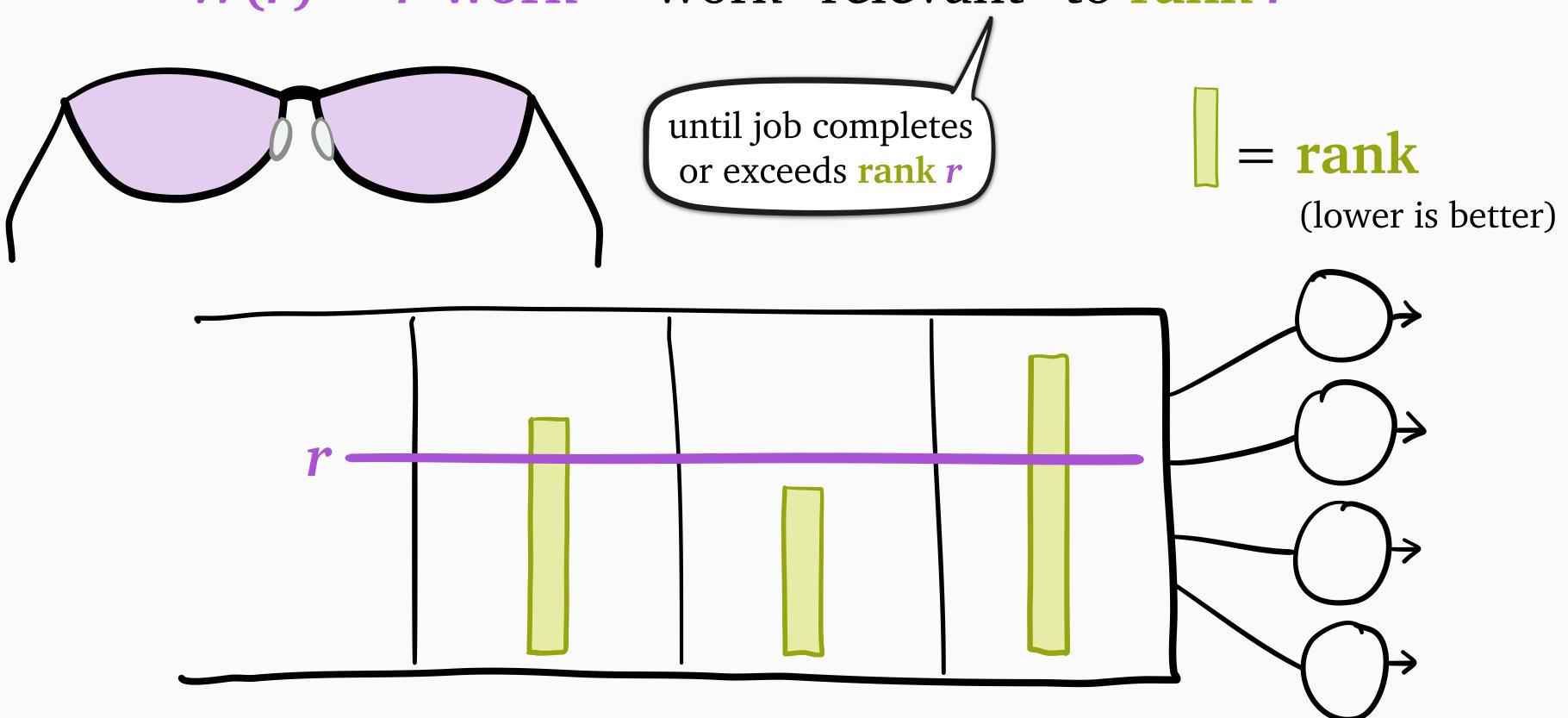
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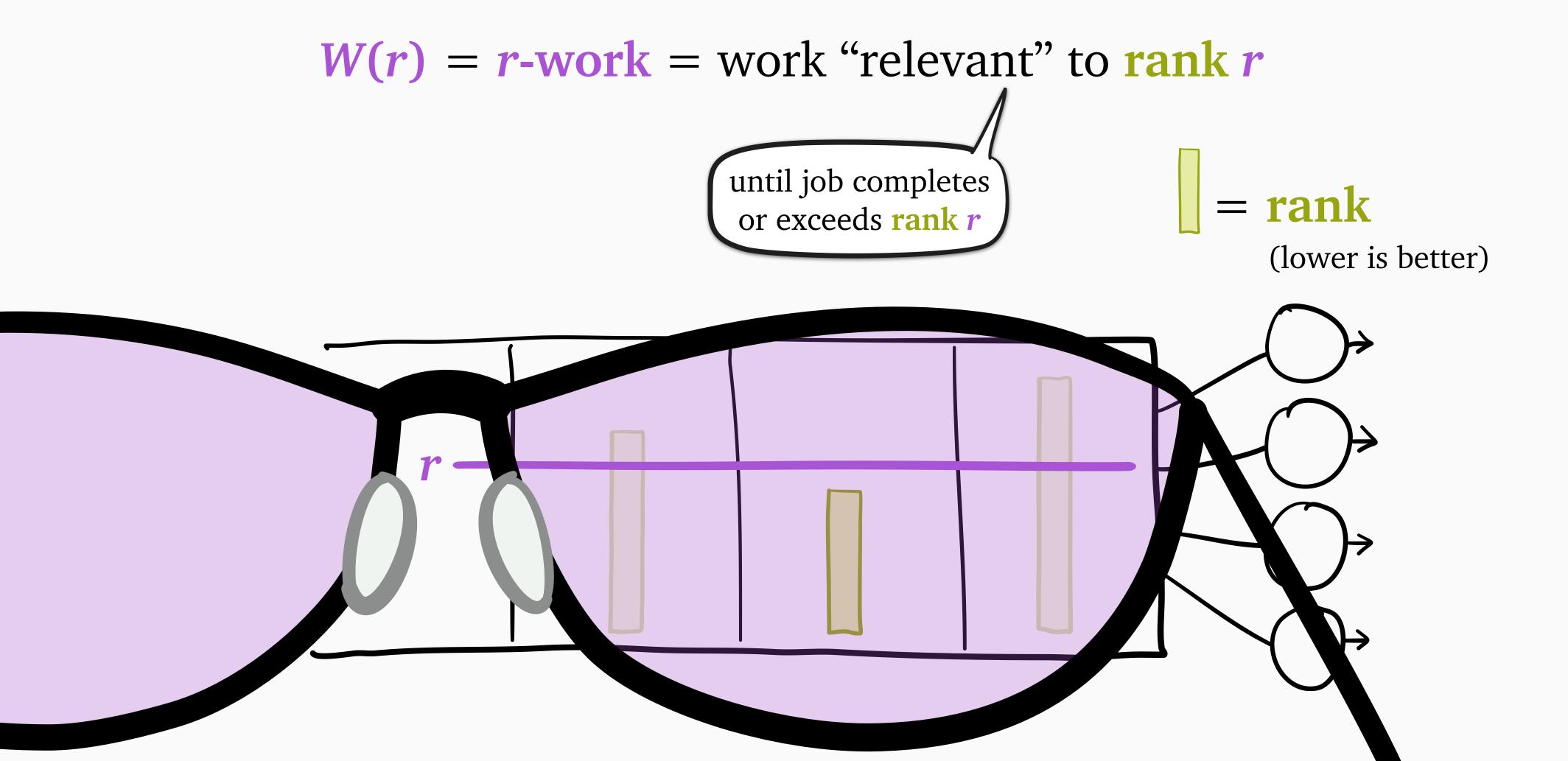
W = work = total remaining size of all jobs

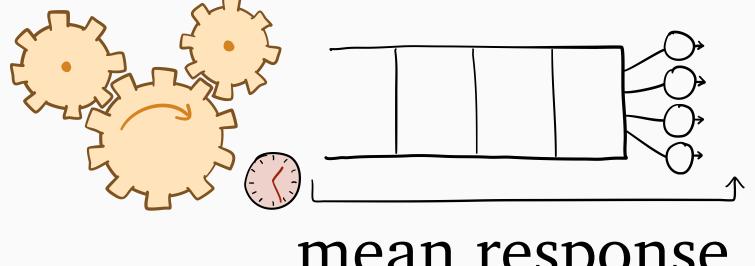


W = work = total remaining size of all jobs

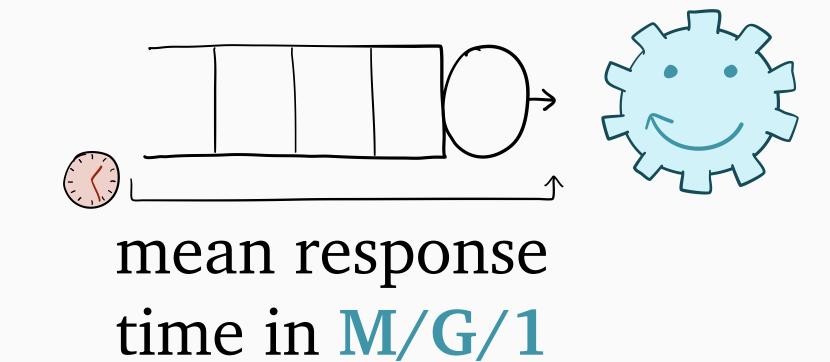


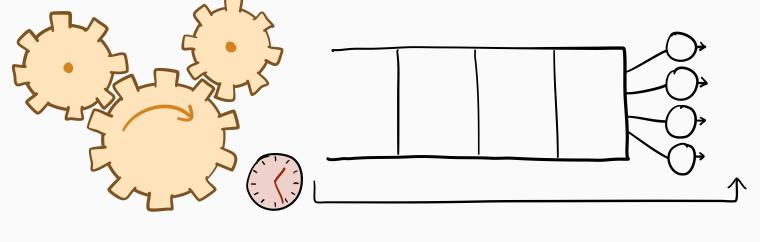
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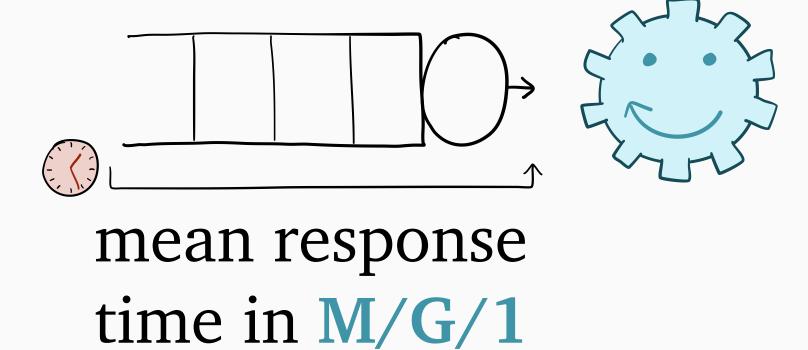


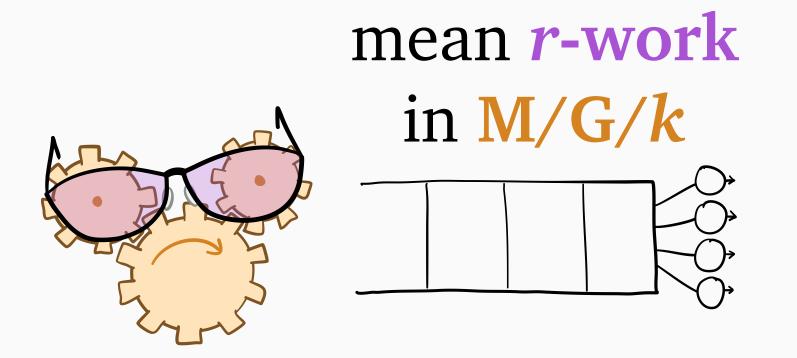
mean response time in M/G/k

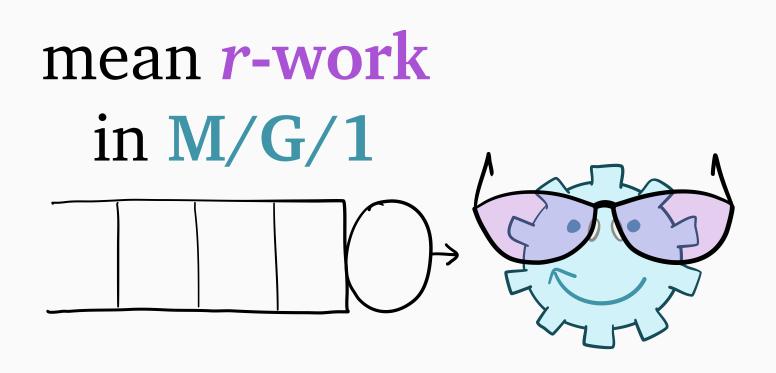


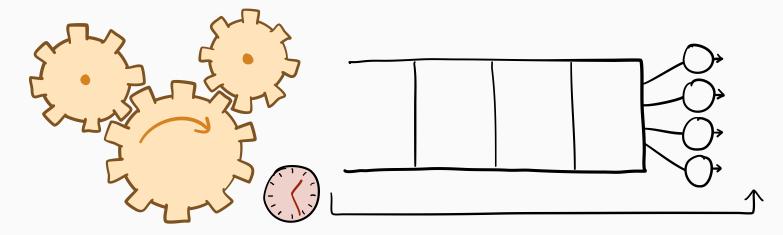


mean response time in M/G/k

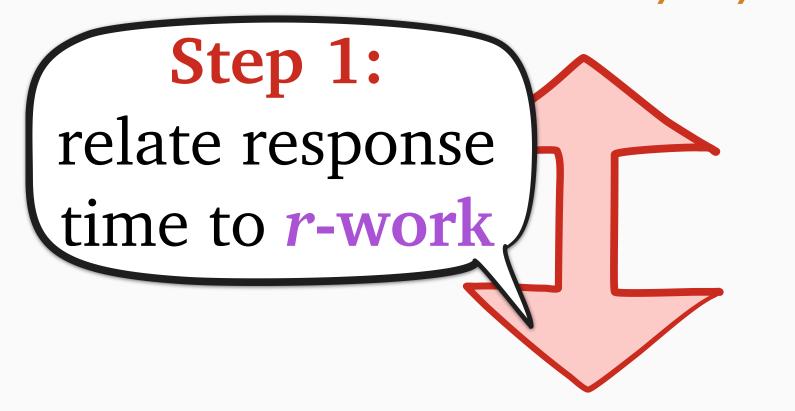


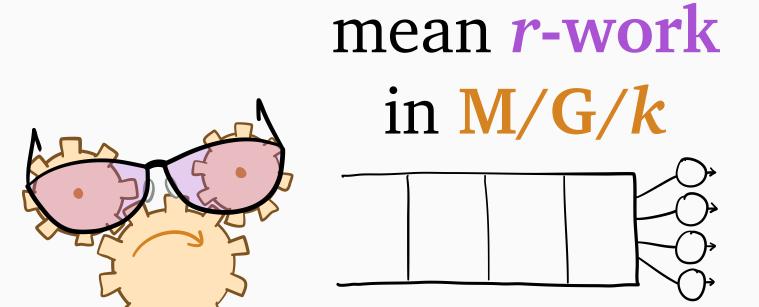


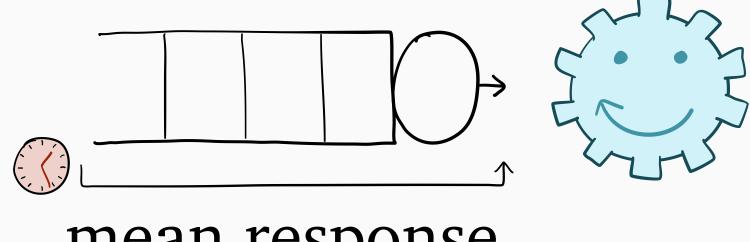




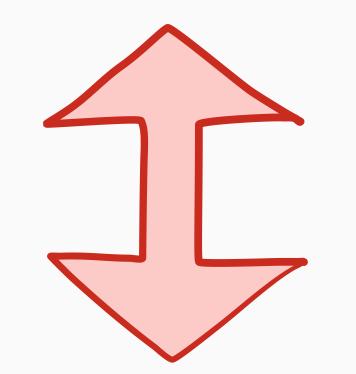
mean response time in M/G/k



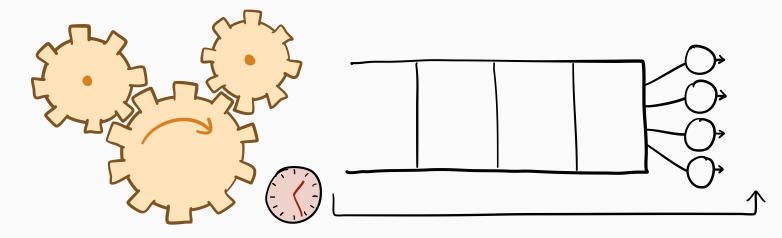




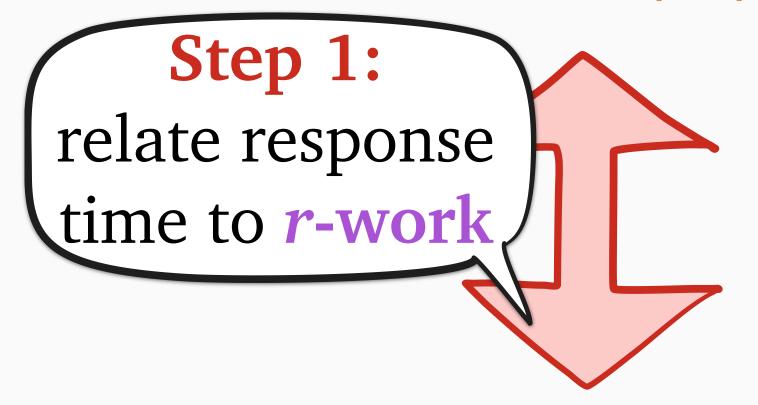
mean response time in M/G/1

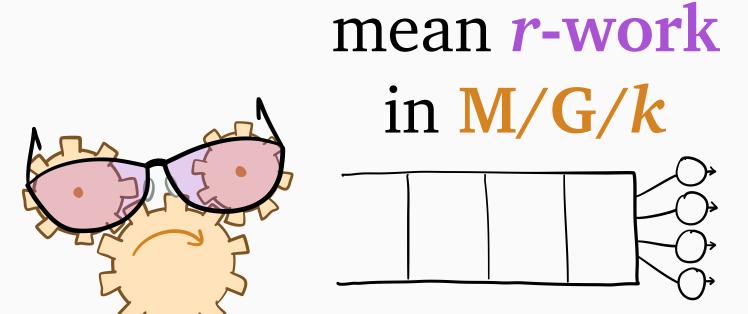


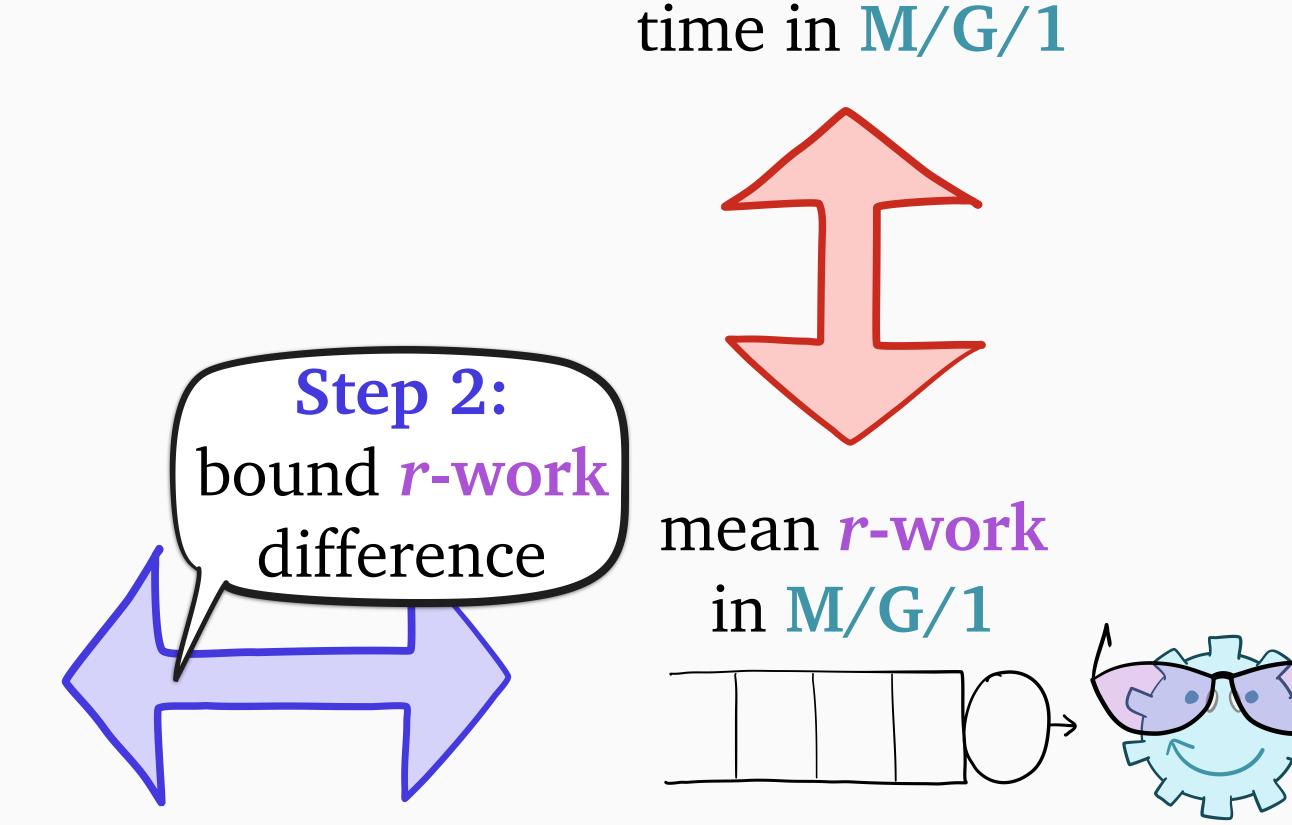
mean r-work
in M/G/1



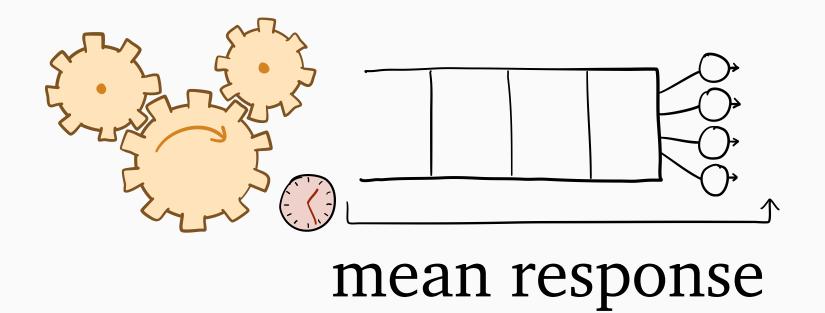
mean response time in M/G/k

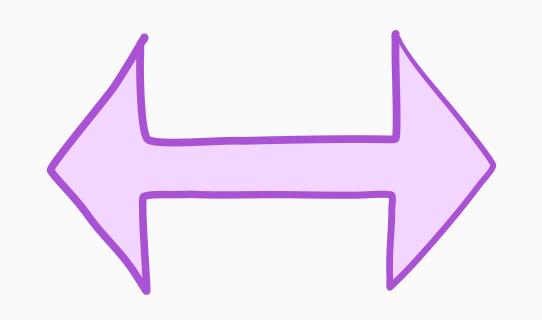


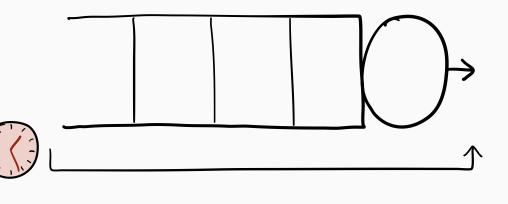


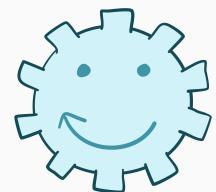


mean response

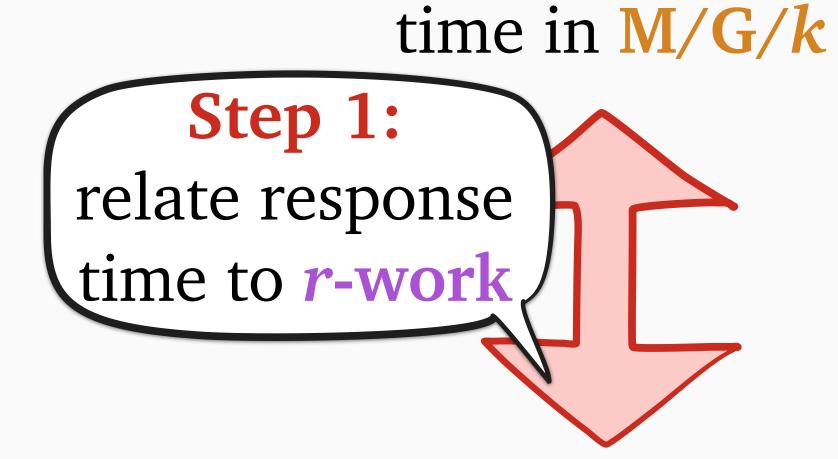


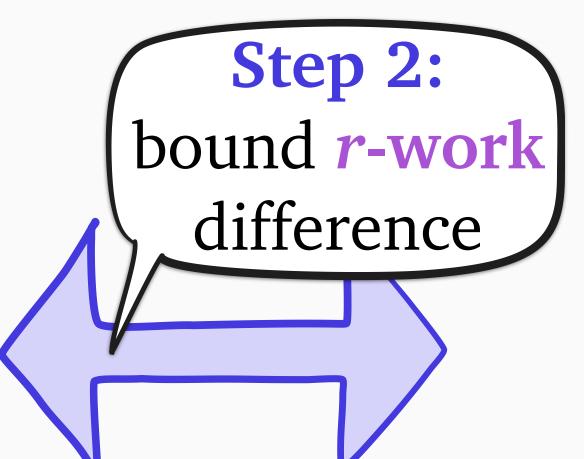


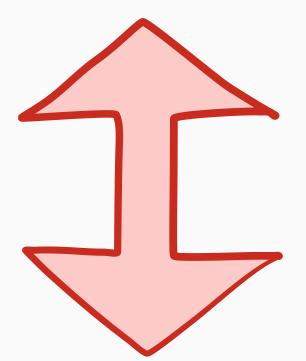




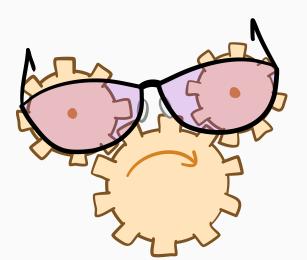
mean response time in M/G/1

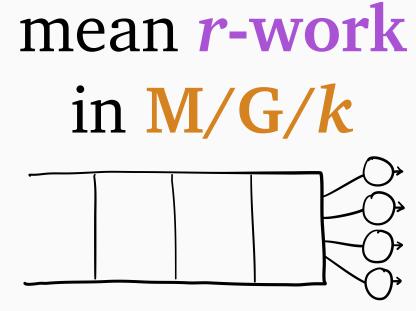


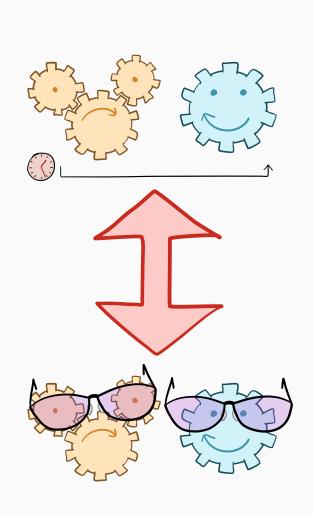




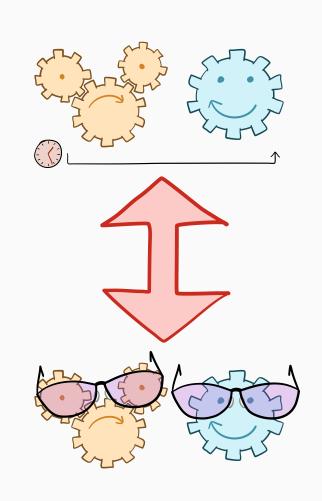
mean r-work
in M/G/1



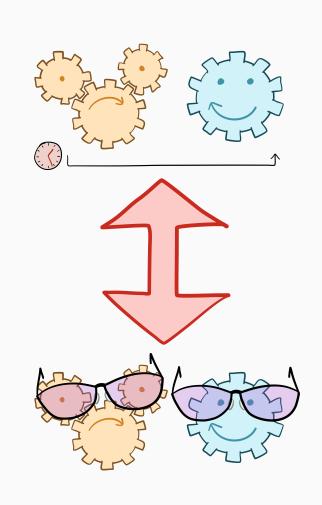




Theorem:
$$\mathbf{E}[T] = \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty \frac{\mathbf{E}[W(r)]}{r^2} dr$$

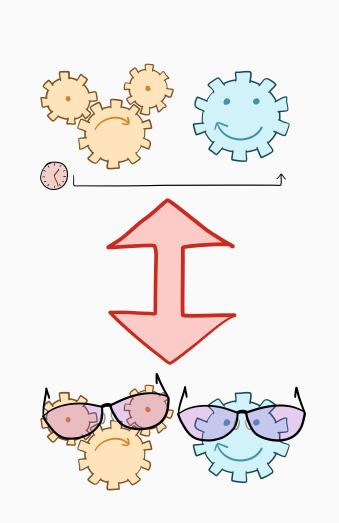


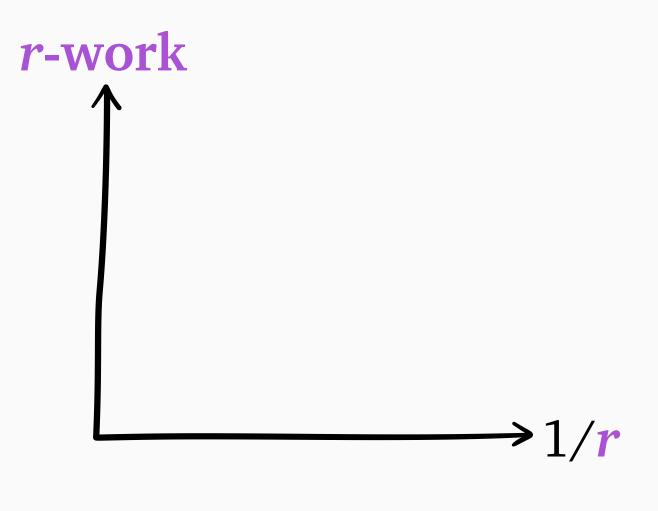
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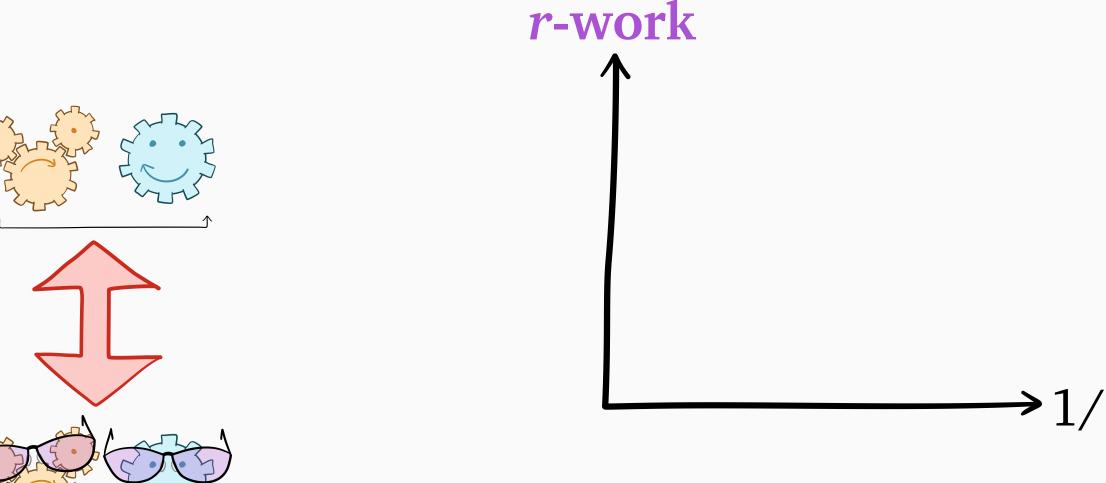
Proof:

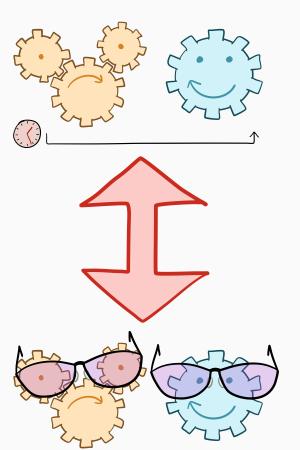




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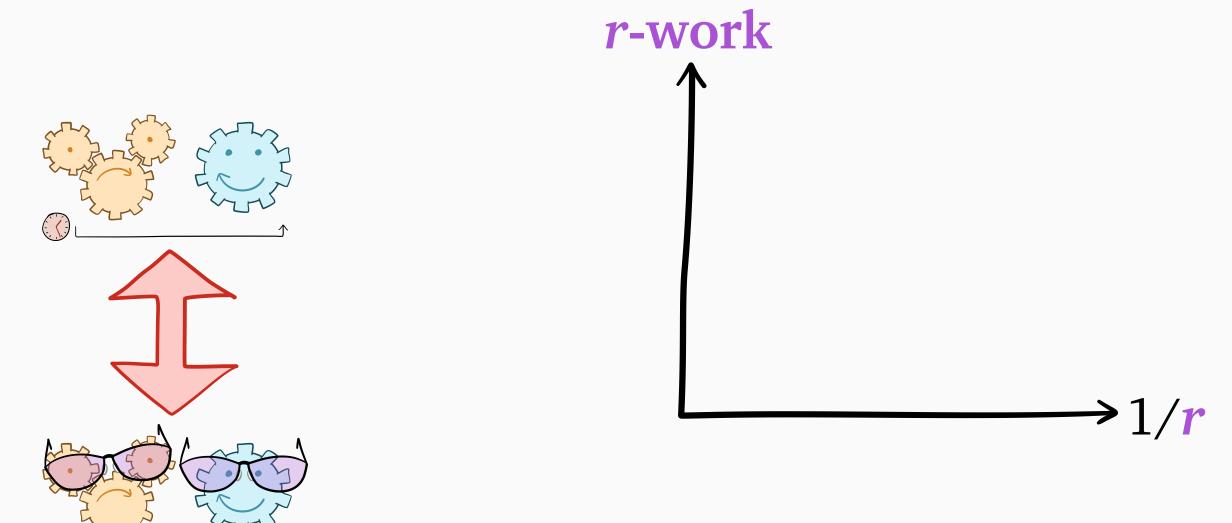


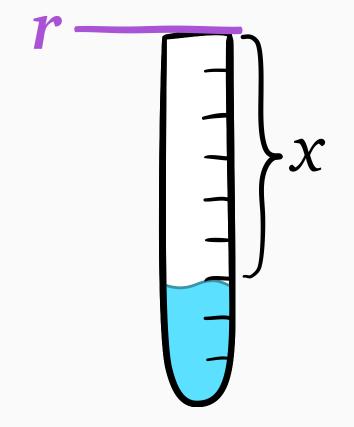




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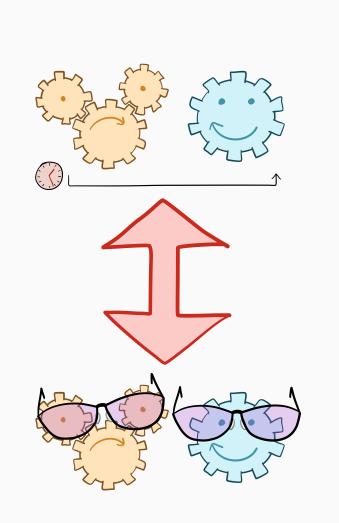
Proof: remaining size x

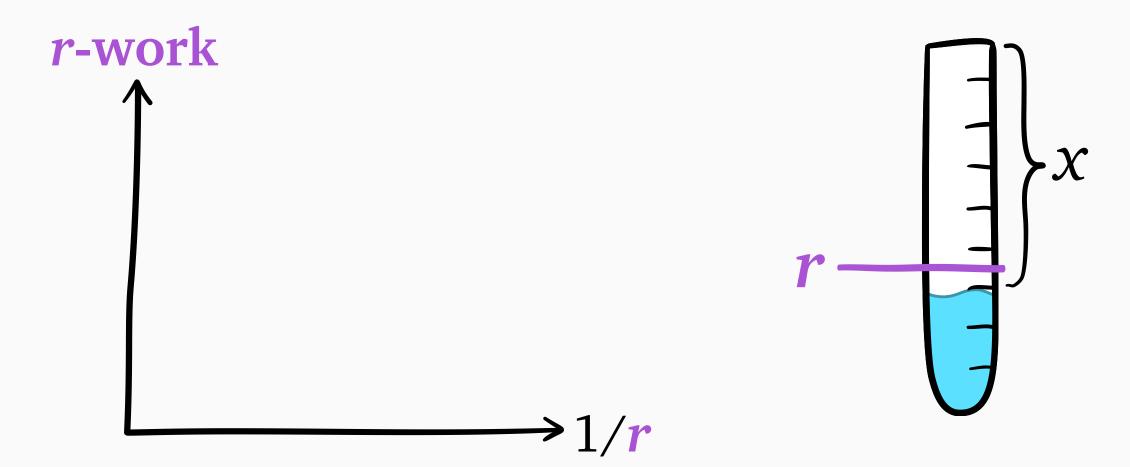




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Proof: remaining size x

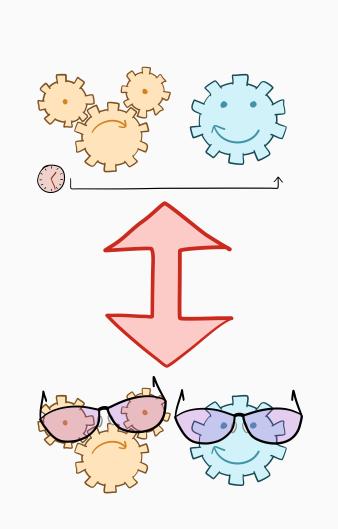


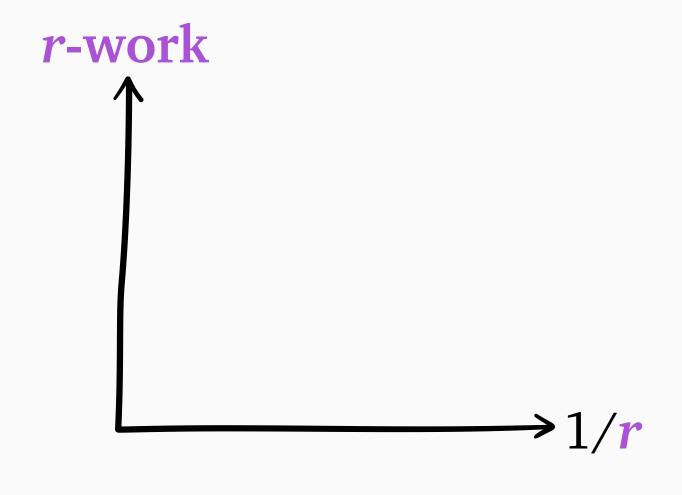


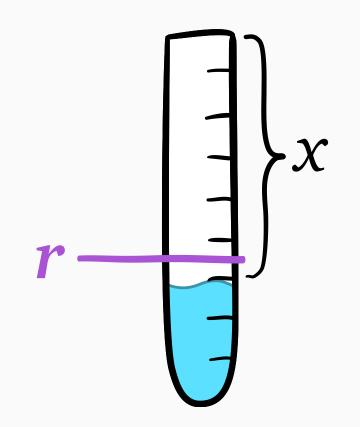
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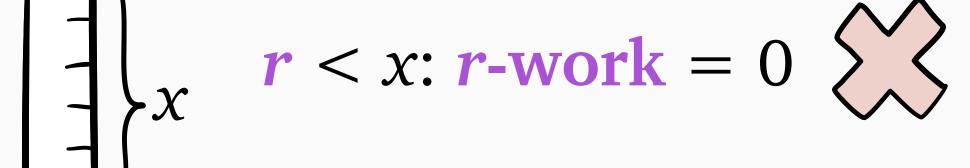
Proof:

remaining size x







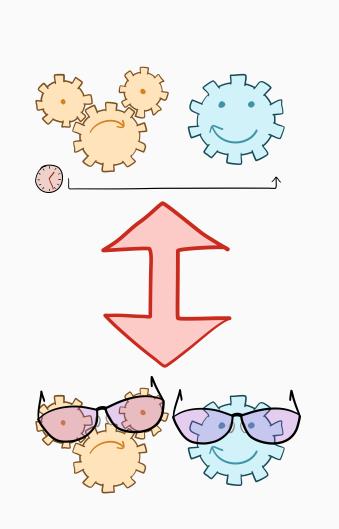


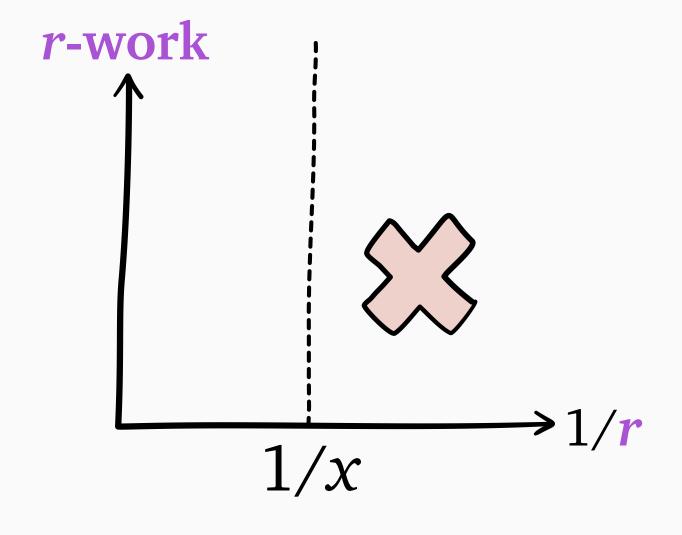
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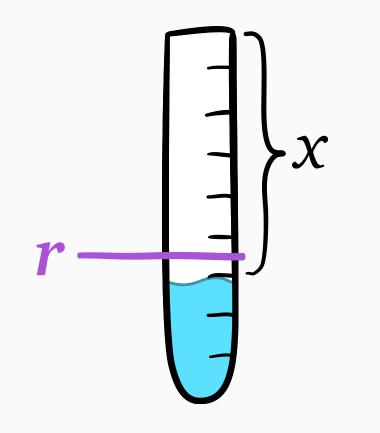
Proof:

remaining size x

One job's *r*-work:







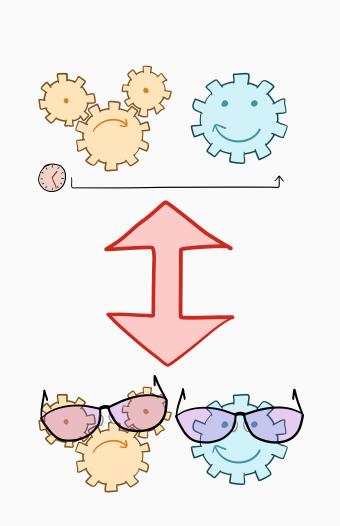
 $\frac{1}{2} x \quad r < x: r\text{-work} = 0$

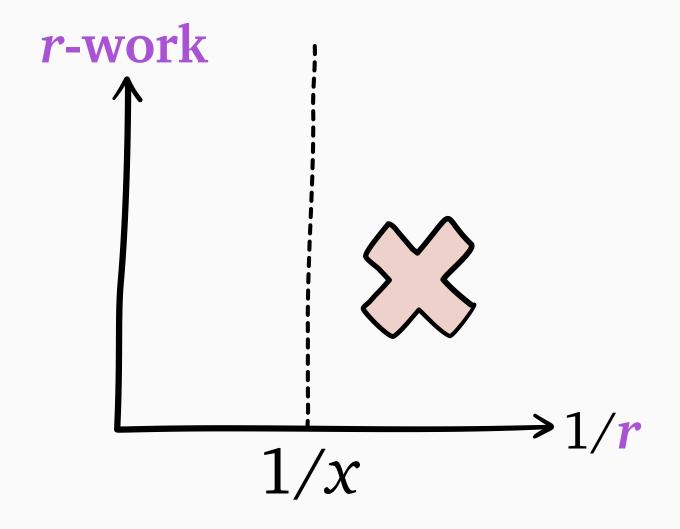


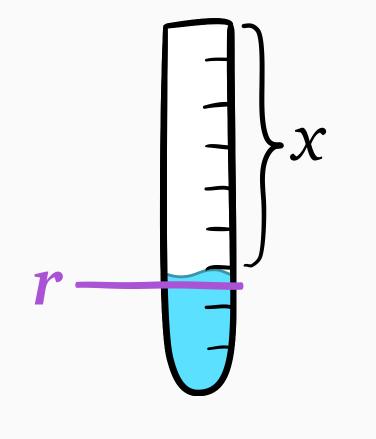
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$$\mathbf{E}[T] = \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty \frac{\mathbf{E}[W(r)]}{r^2} dr = \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^\infty \mathbf{E}[W(r)] d(1/r)$$

Proof: (remaining size x)

One job's *r*-work:







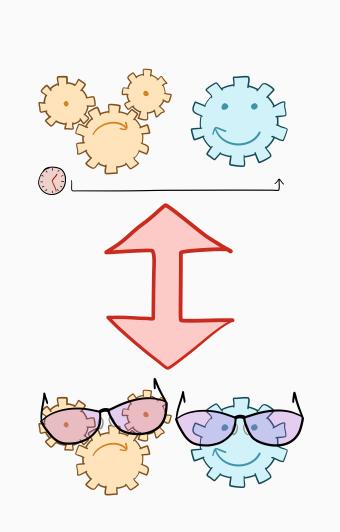
 $\frac{1}{x} \quad r < x: r\text{-work} = 0$

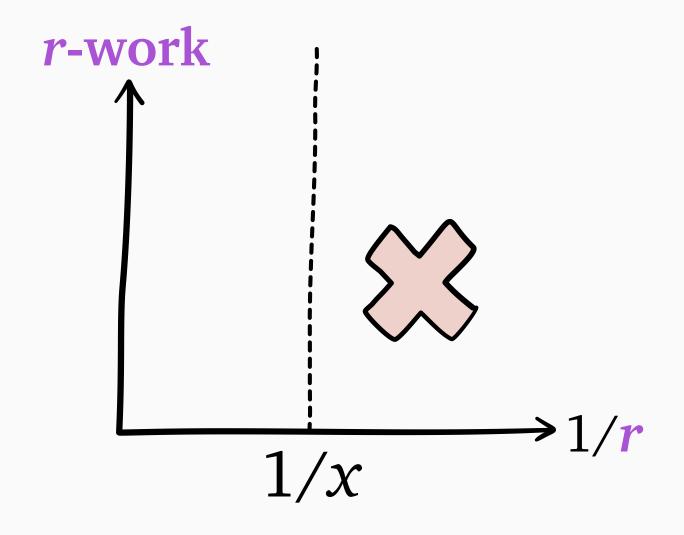


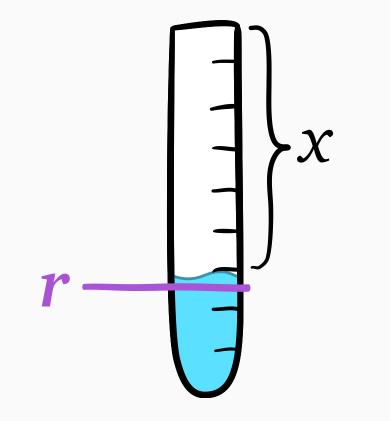
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Proof:

(remaining size x)







$$\begin{cases} x & r < x: r\text{-work} = 0 \end{cases}$$

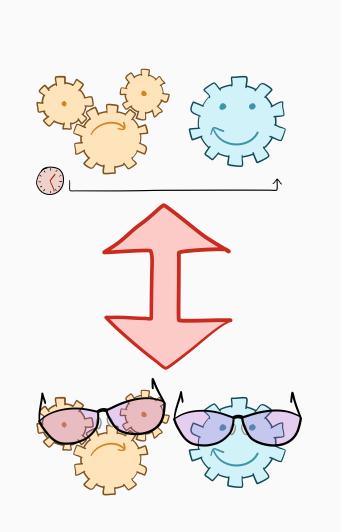


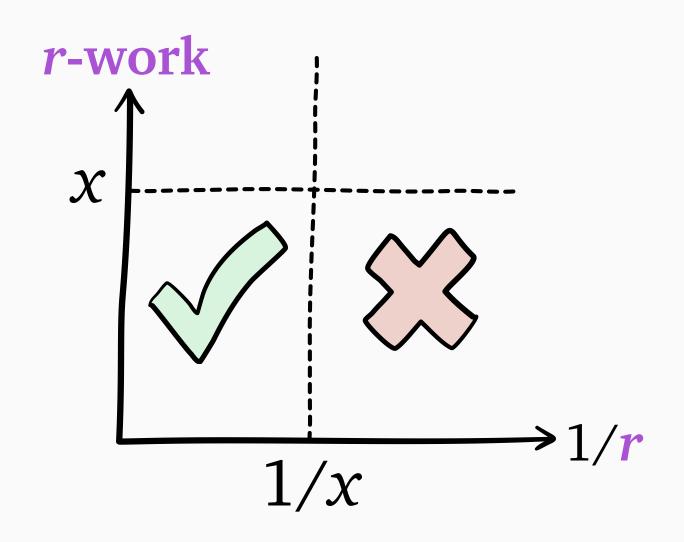


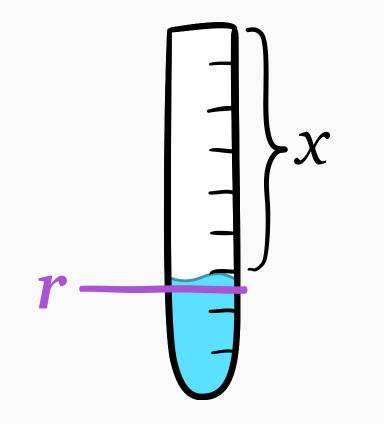
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Proof:

remaining size x







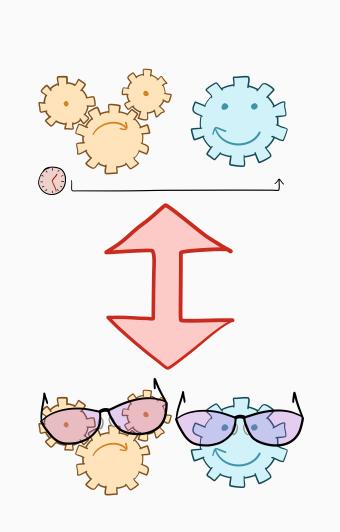


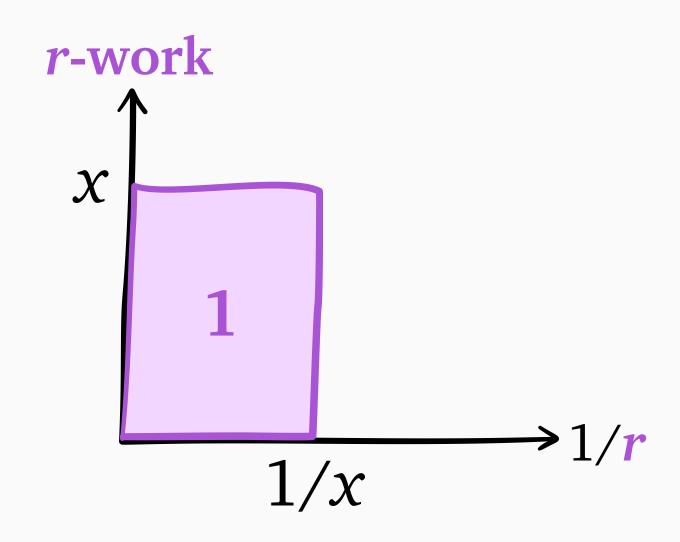


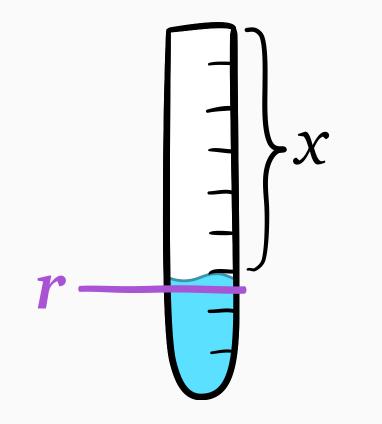
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Proof:

remaining size x







$$\begin{cases} x & r < x: r\text{-work} = 0 \end{cases}$$





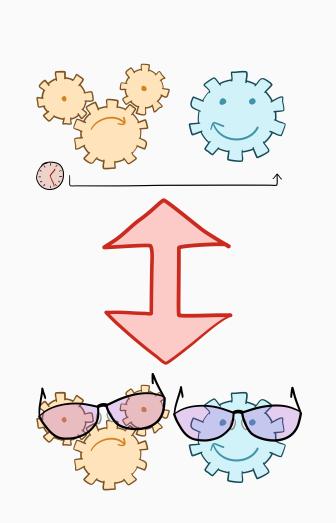
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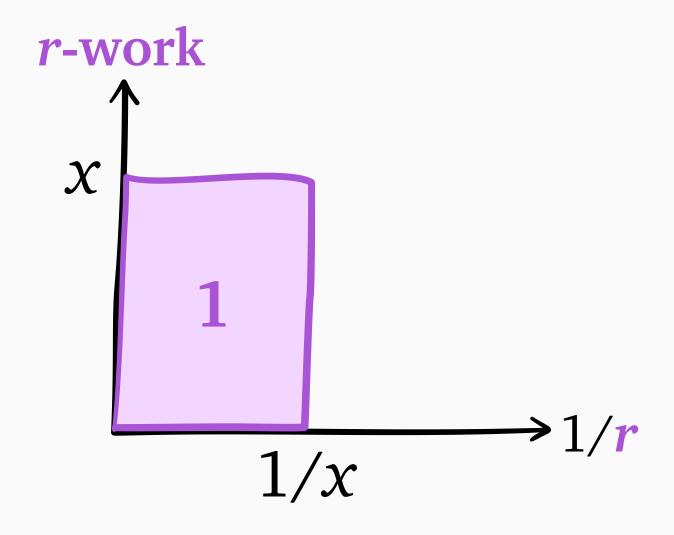
Proof:

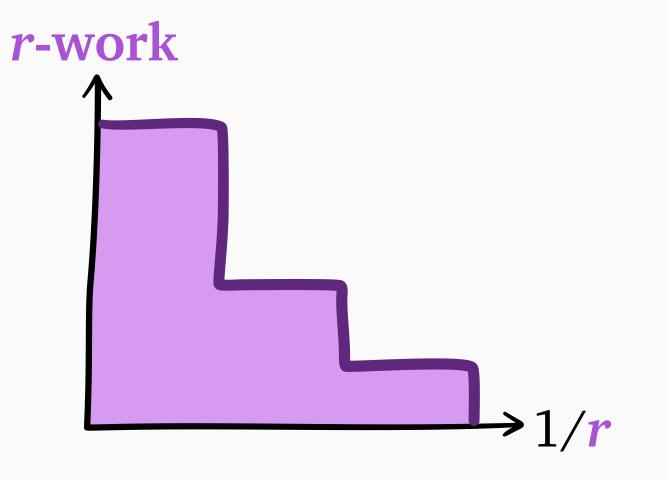
remaining size x

One job's *r*-work:

All jobs' *r*-work:







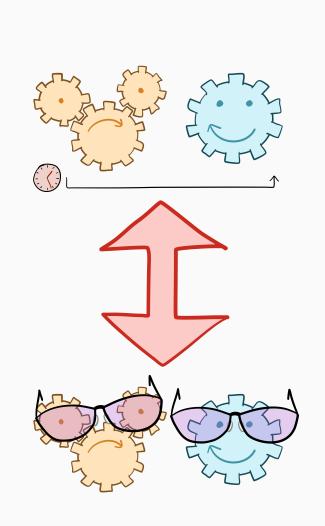
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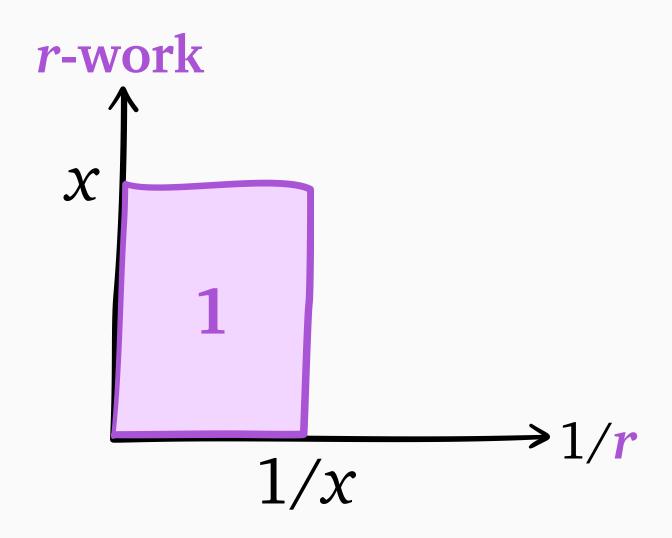
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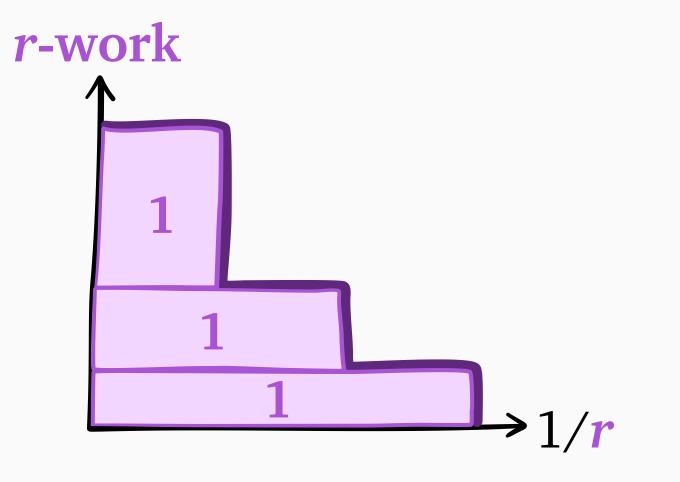
remaining size x

One job's *r*-work:

All jobs' r-work:





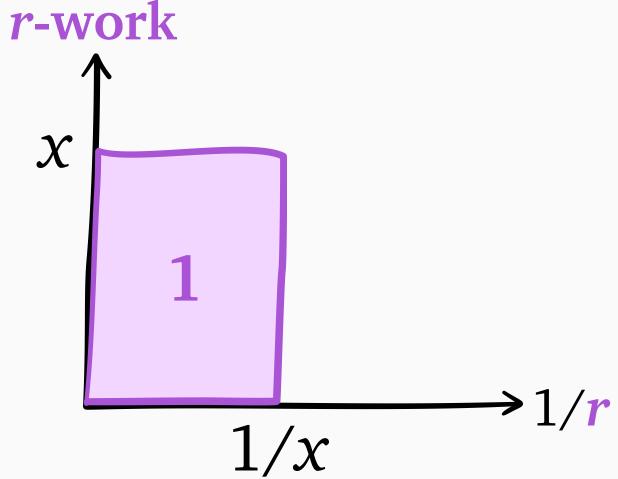


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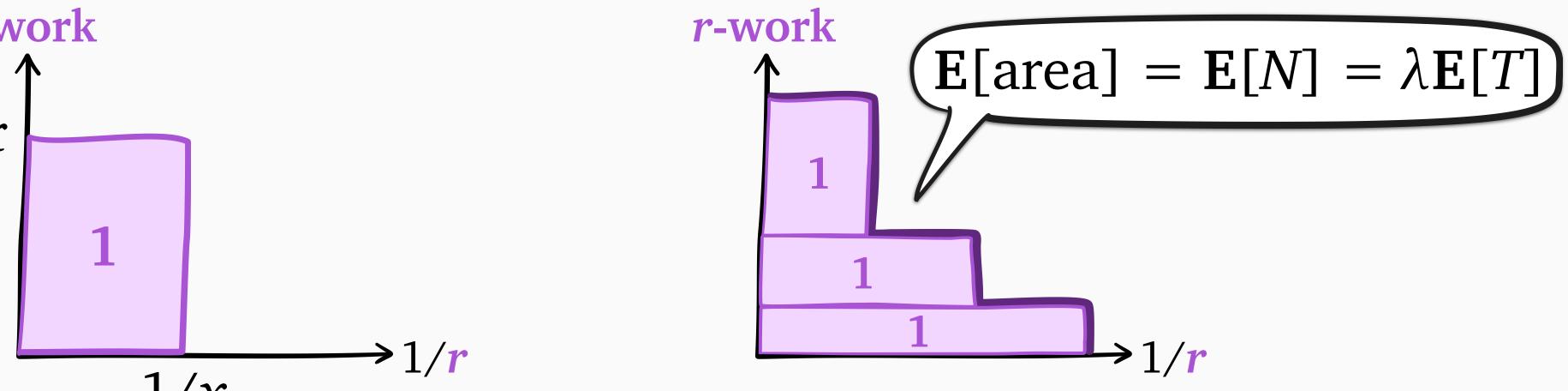
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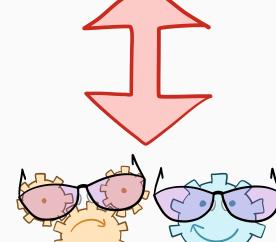
remaining size x)

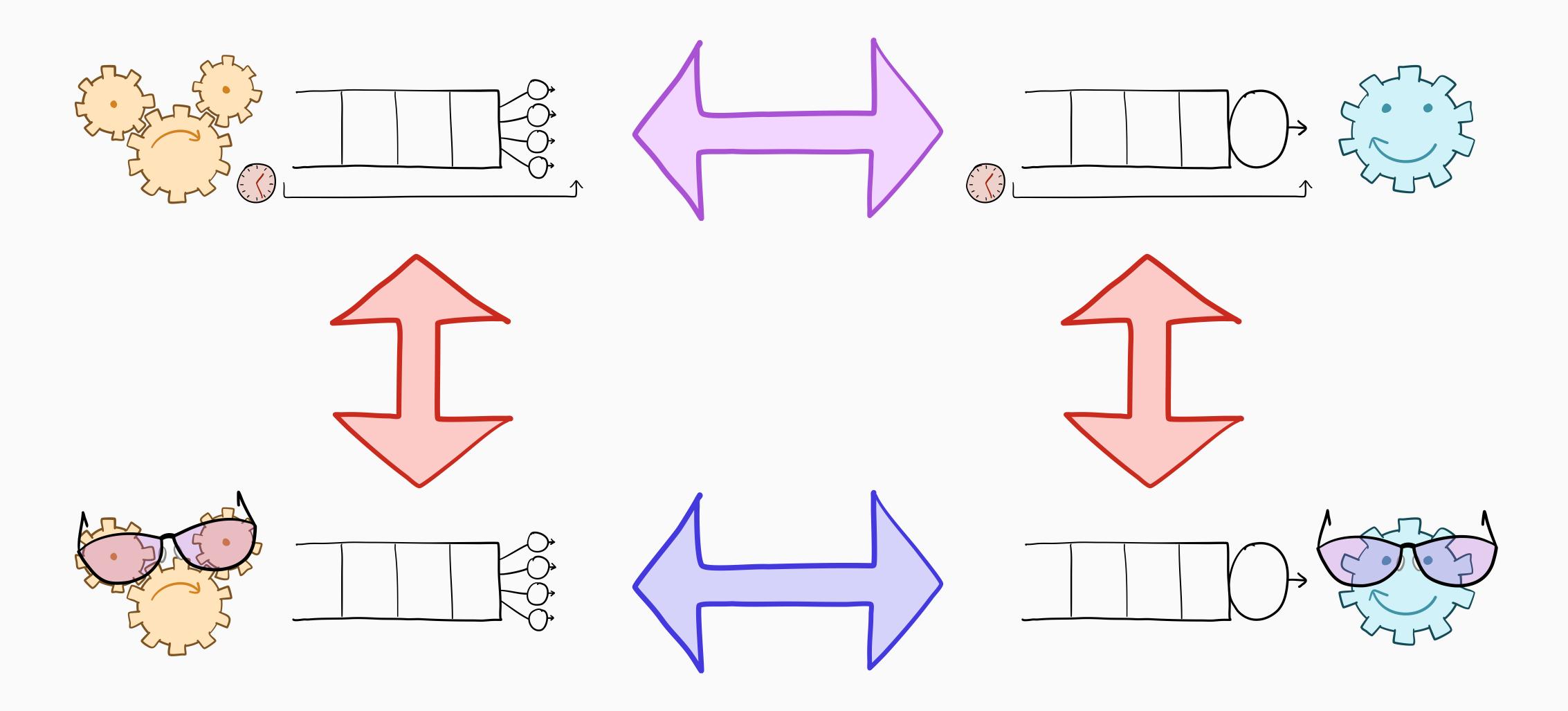
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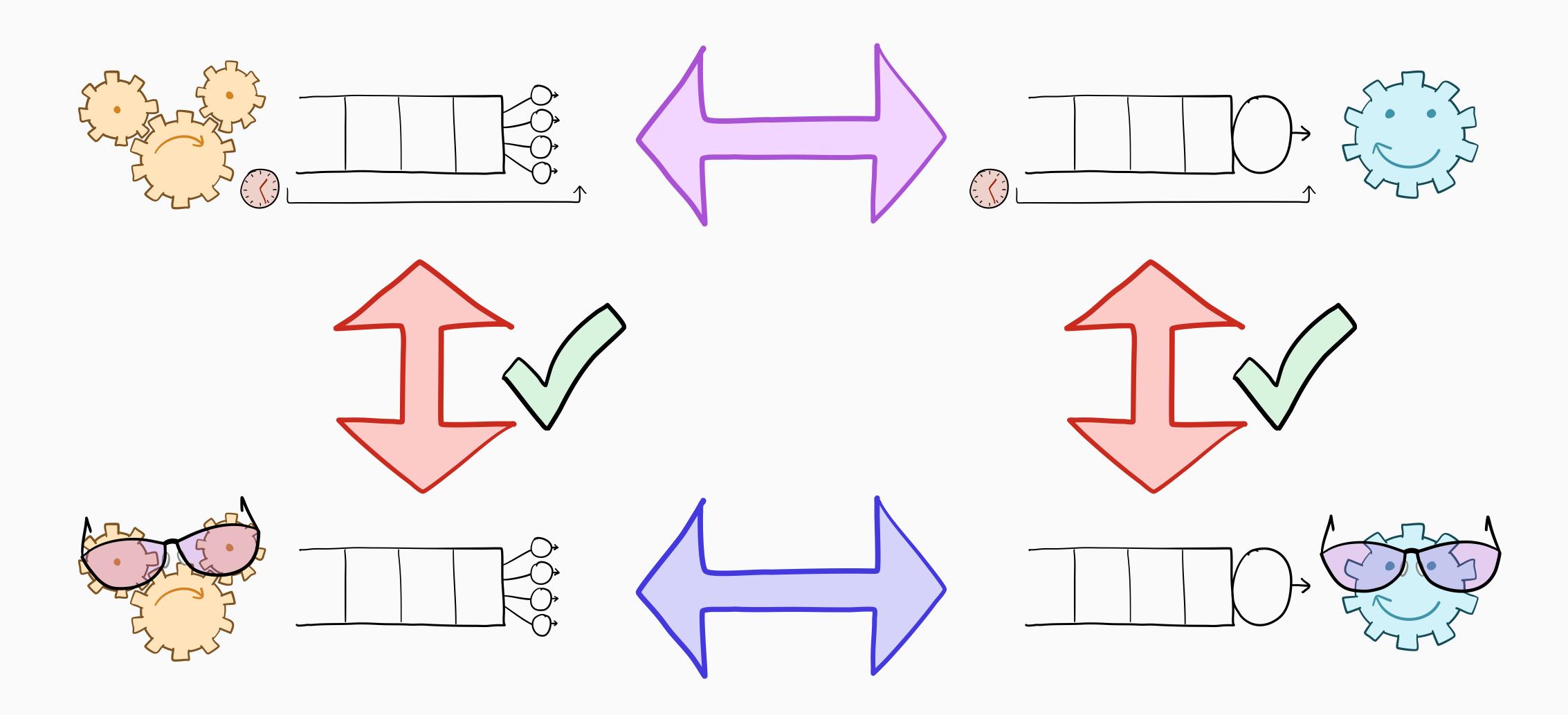


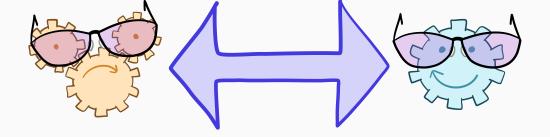
All jobs' r-work:

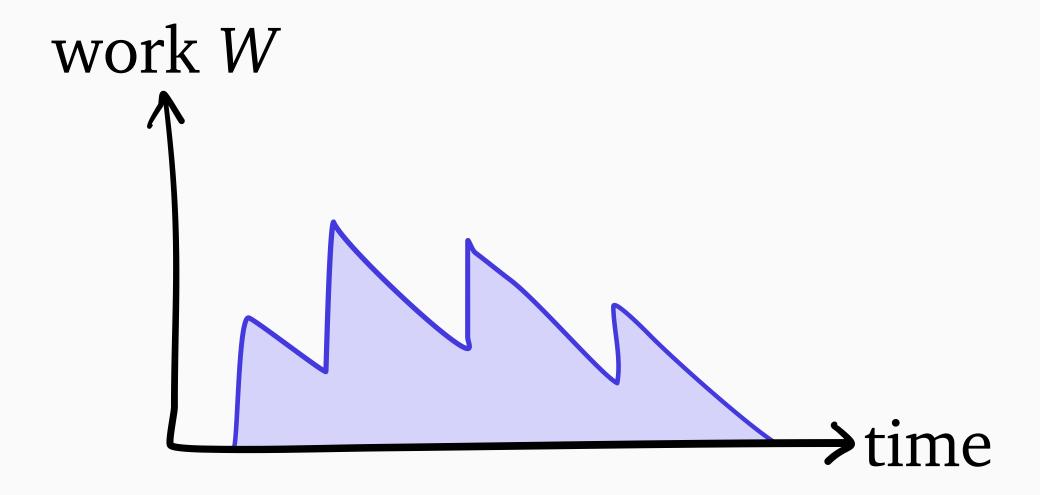


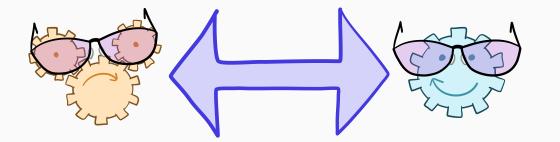


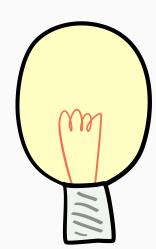




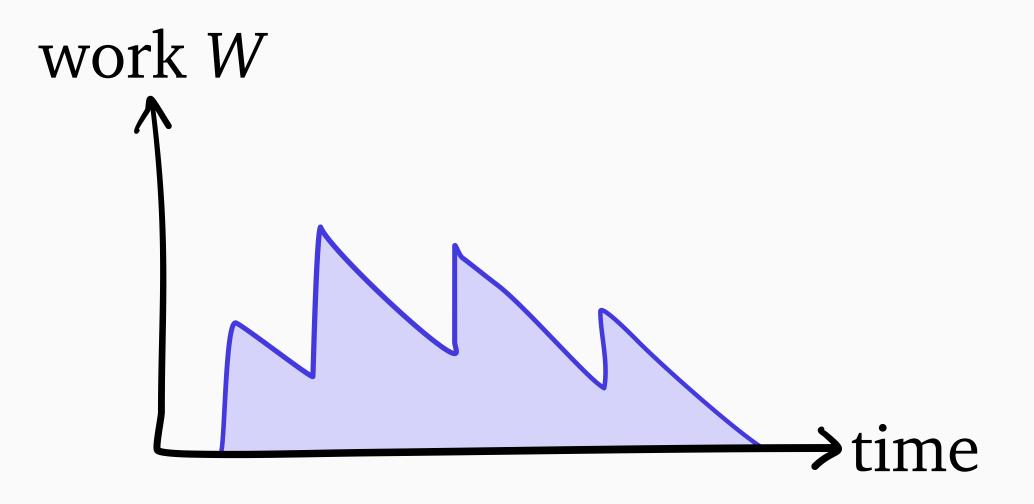


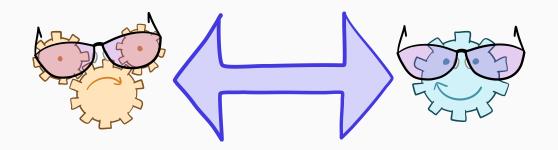


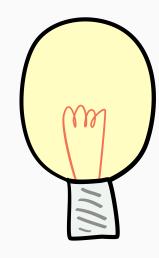




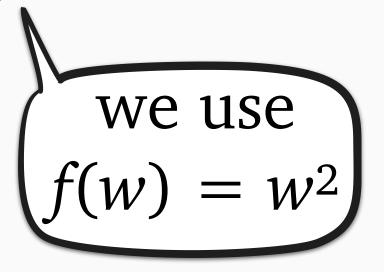
In steady-state system, for any f, $\mathbf{E}[f(W)]$ constant w.r.t. time

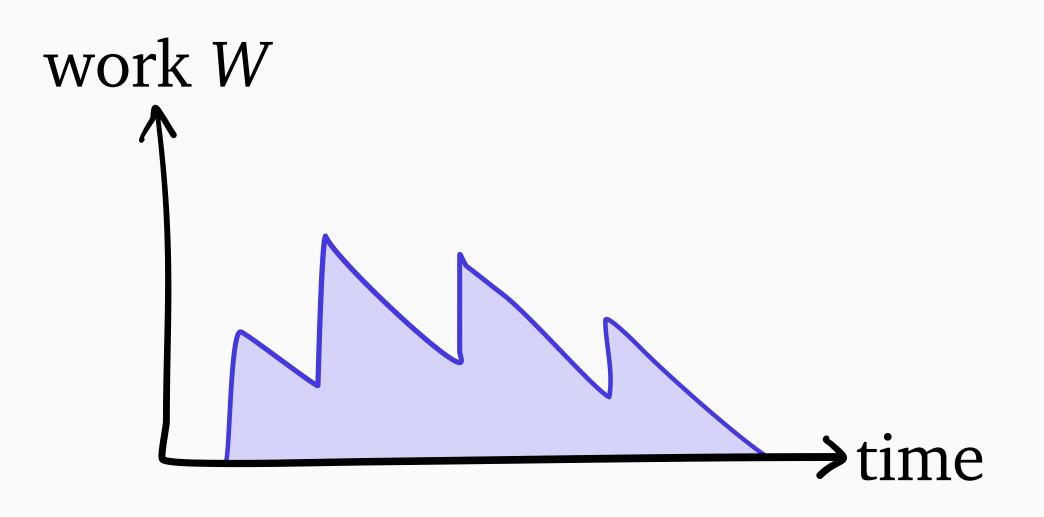


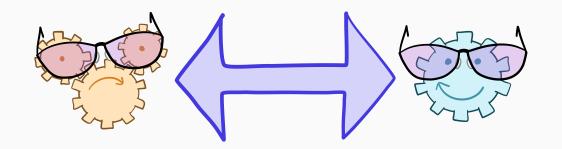


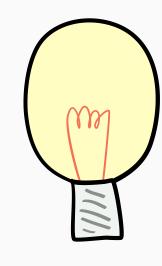


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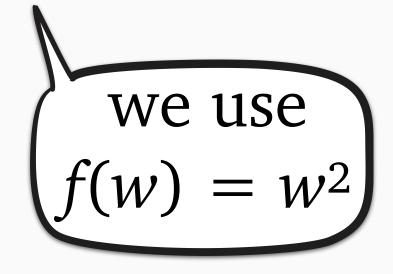


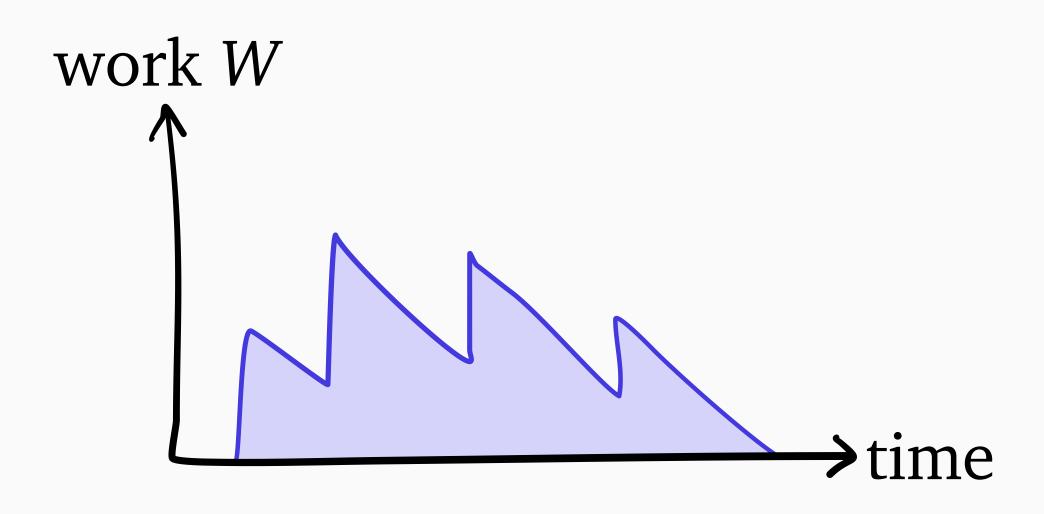






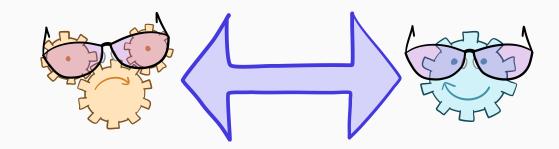
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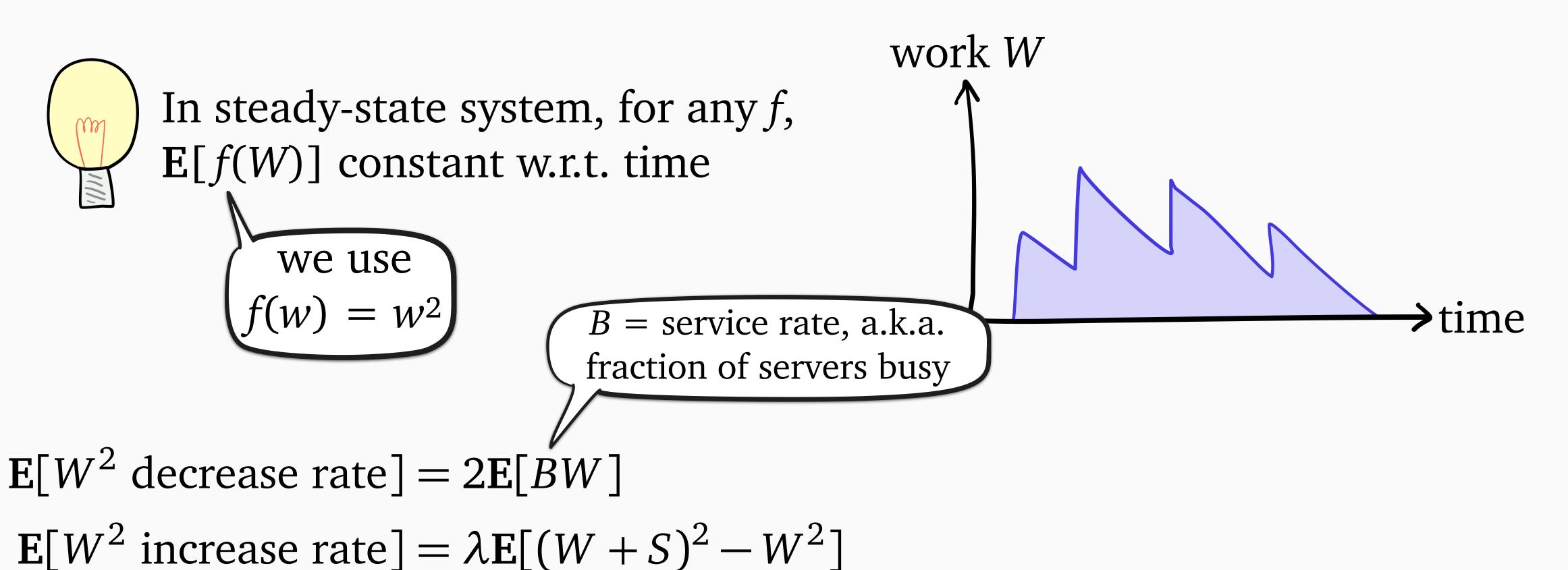


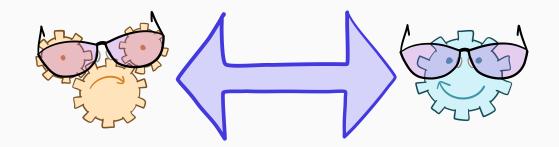


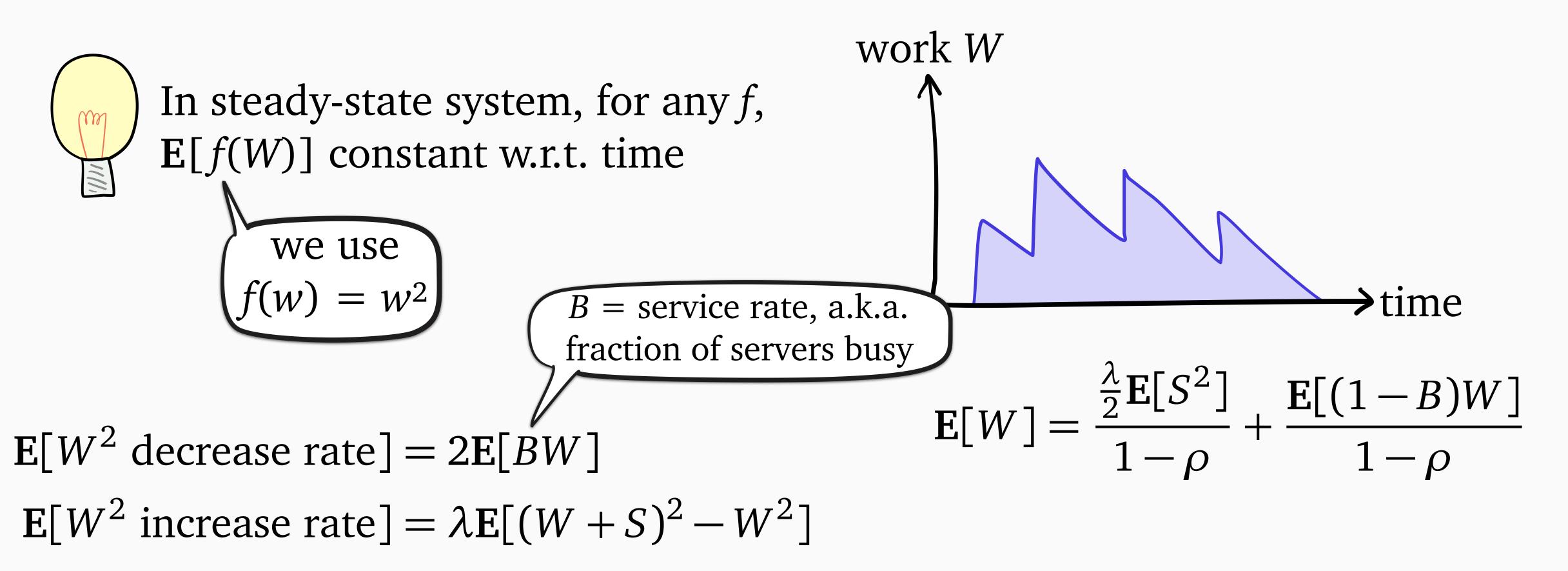
$$\mathbf{E}[W^2 \text{ decrease rate}] = 2\mathbf{E}[BW]$$

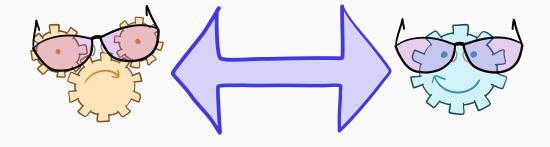
 $\mathbf{E}[W^2 \text{ increase rate}] = \lambda \mathbf{E}[(W + S)^2 - W^2]$

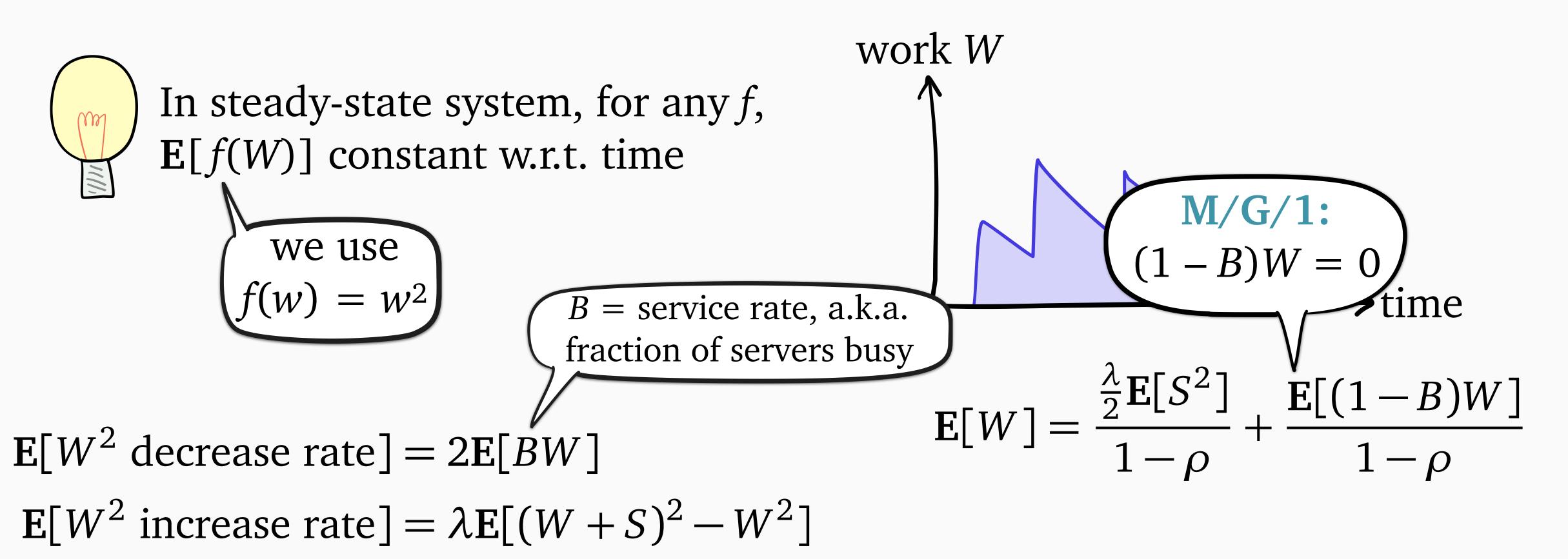


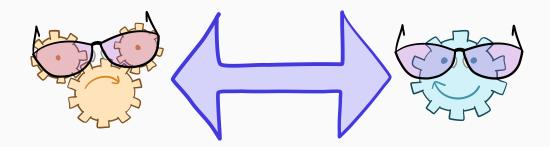


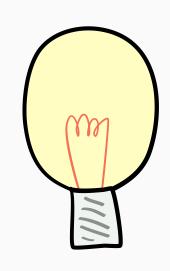






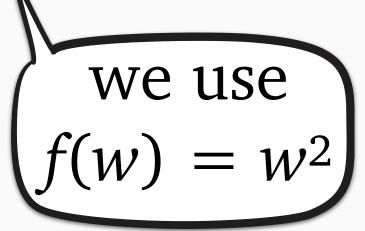






In steady-state system, for any f,

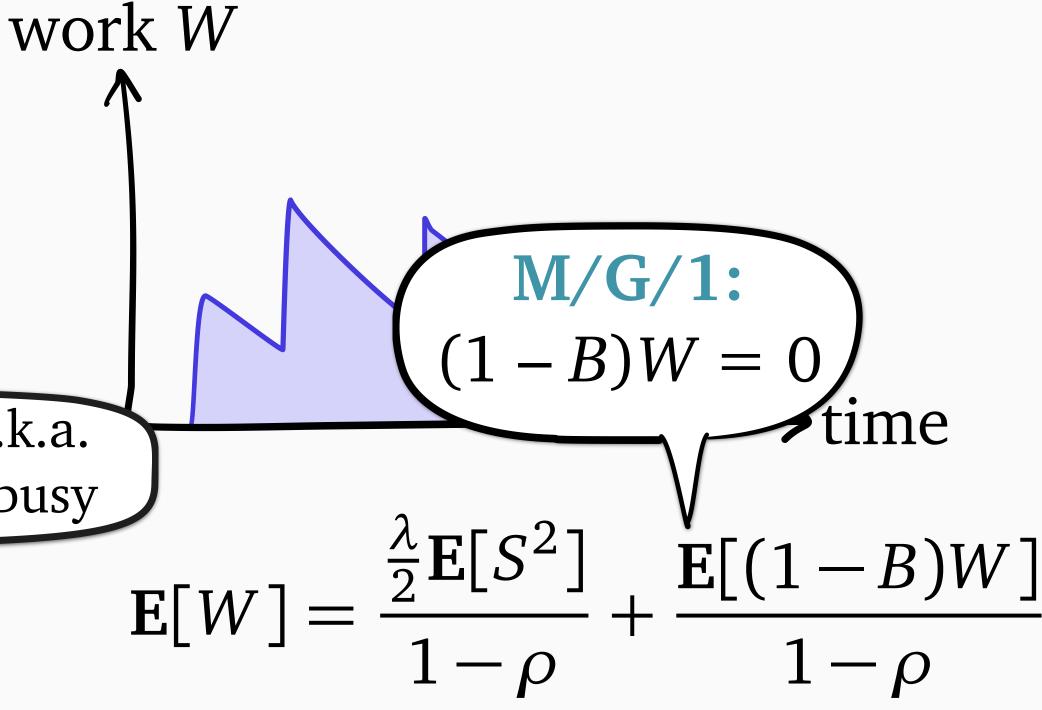
 $\mathbf{E}[f(W)]$ constant w.r.t. time



B =service rate, a.k.a. fraction of servers busy

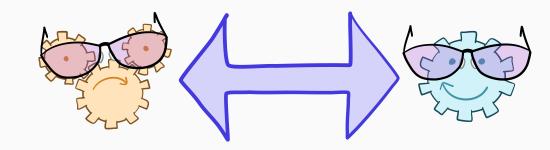
 $\mathbf{E}[W^2 \text{ decrease rate}] = 2\mathbf{E}[BW]$

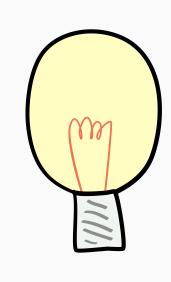
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Theorem:

$$\mathbf{E}[\mathbf{W}_k] = \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{W}_1] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[(1 - \mathbf{B}_k)\mathbf{W}_k]}{1 - \rho}$$





In steady-state system, for any f,

 $\mathbf{E}[f(W)]$ constant w.r.t. time

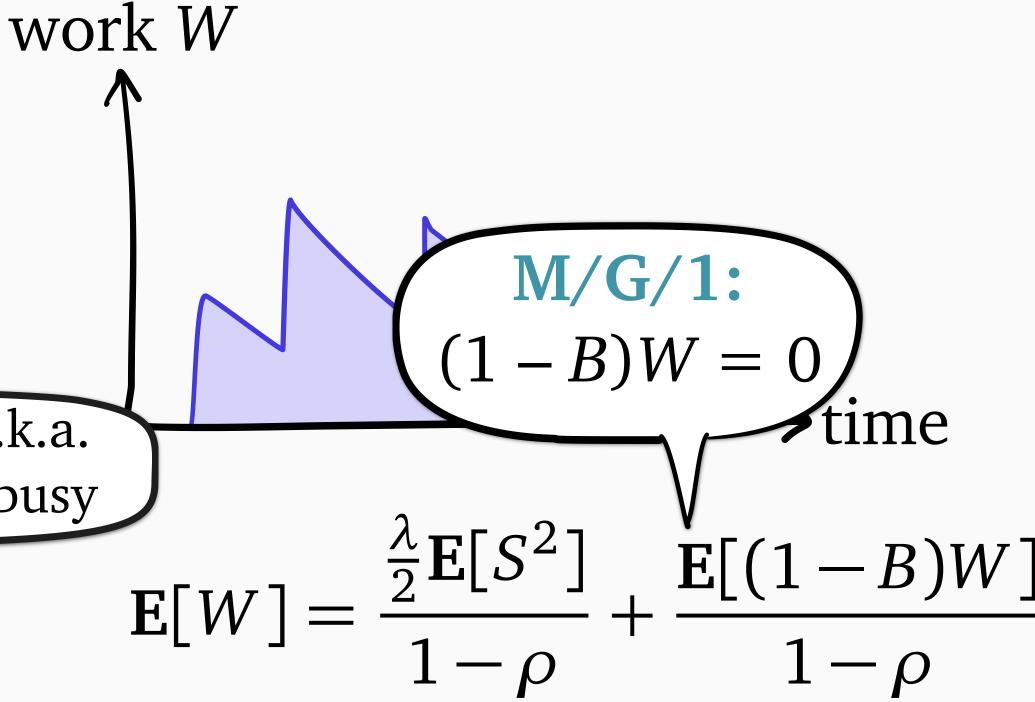
we use $f(w) = w^2$

B = service rate, a.k.a.

fraction of servers busy

 $\mathbf{E}[W^2 \text{ decrease rate}] = 2\mathbf{E}[BW]$

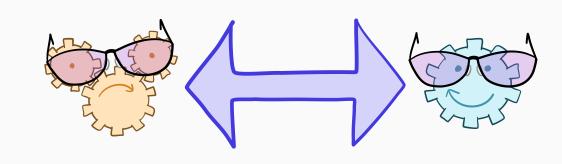
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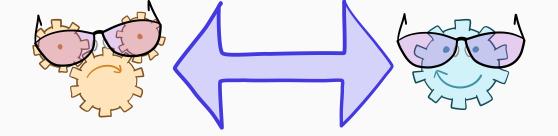
Theorem:

When S is exponential, compares $E[N_k]$ to $E[N_1]$

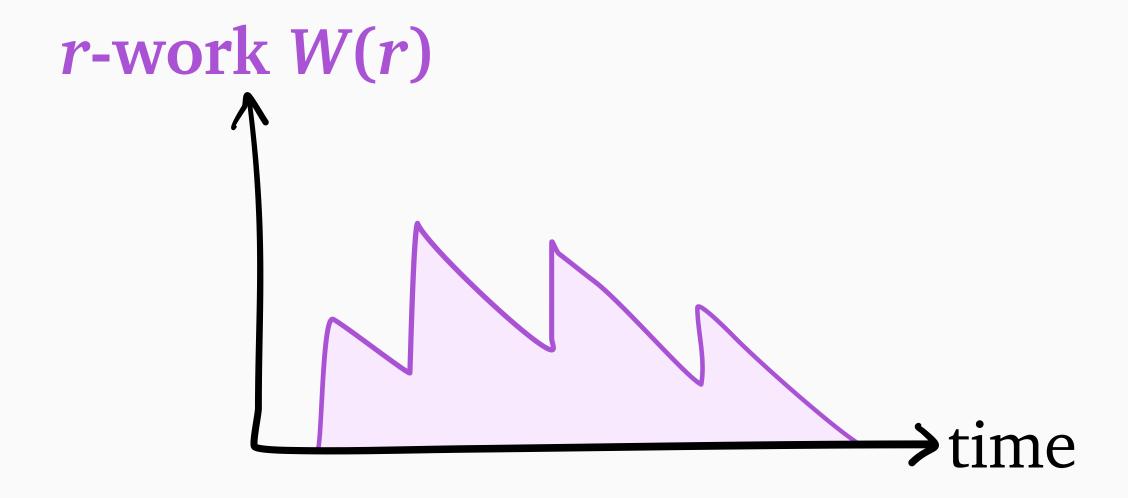
 $\mathbf{E}[\mathbf{W}_k] = \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{W}_1] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[(1 - \mathbf{B}_k)\mathbf{W}_k]}{1 - \rho}$

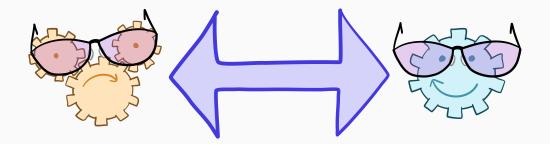


Step 2: E[W(r)] difference (SRPT)

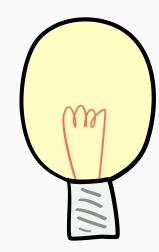


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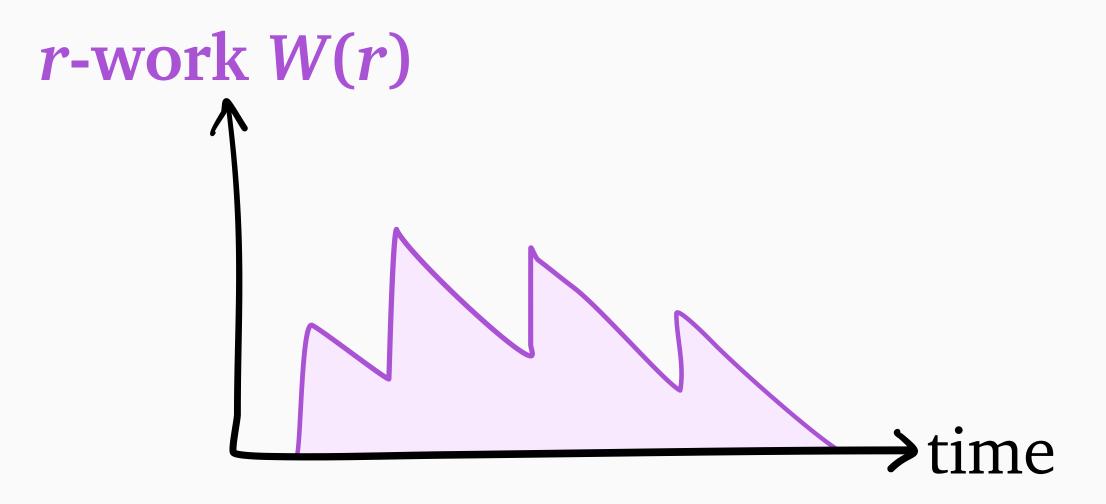


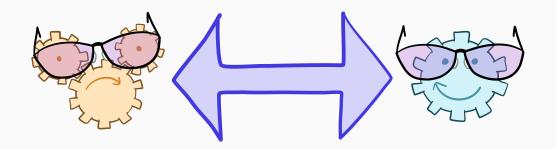


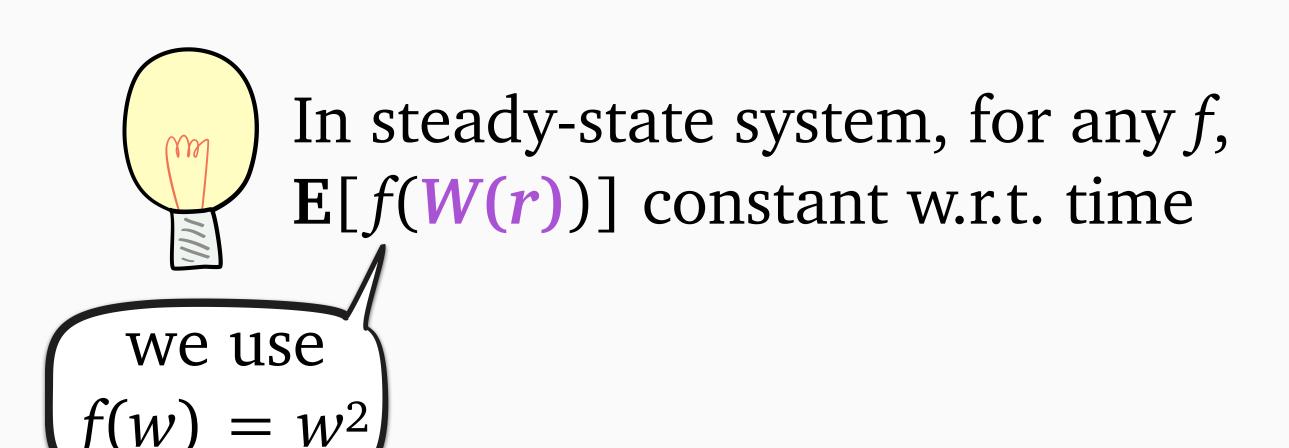
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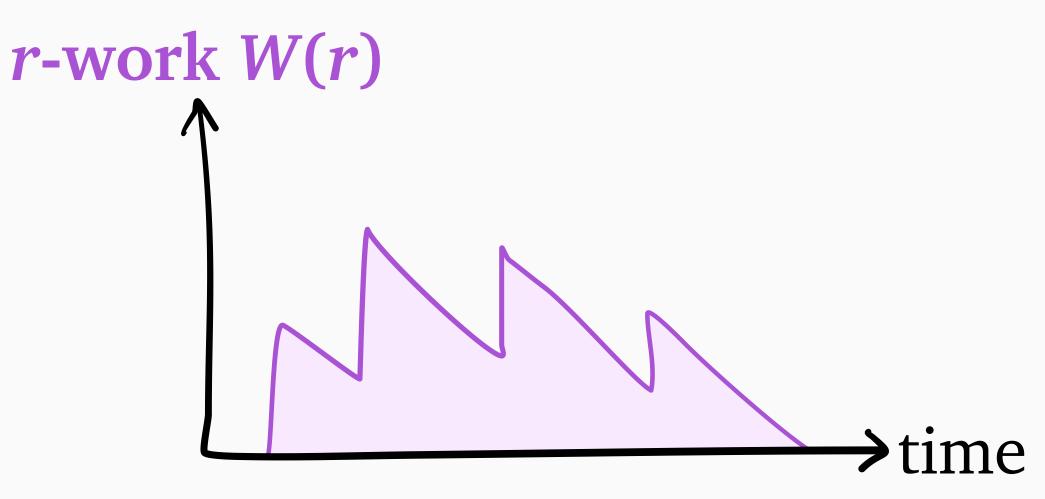


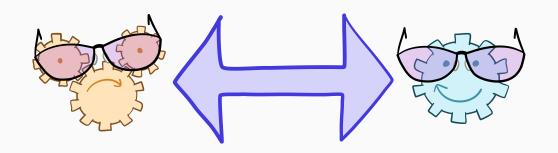
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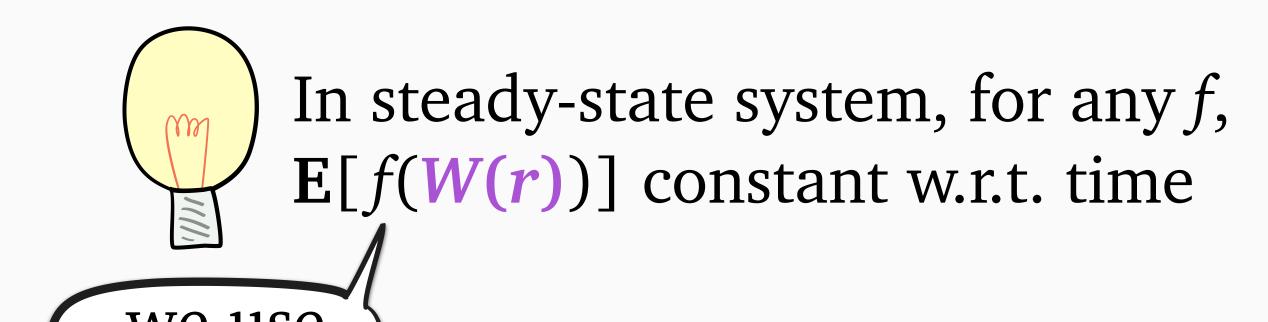


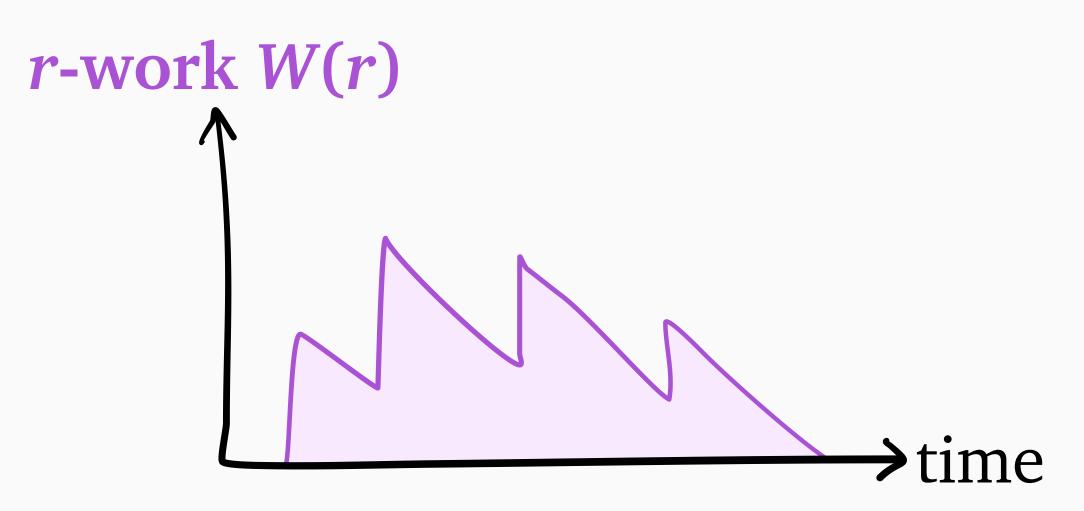






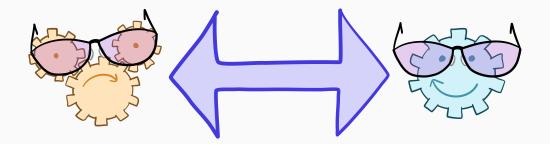


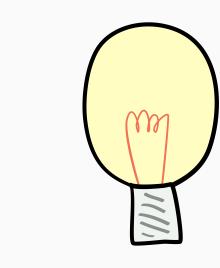




Theorem:

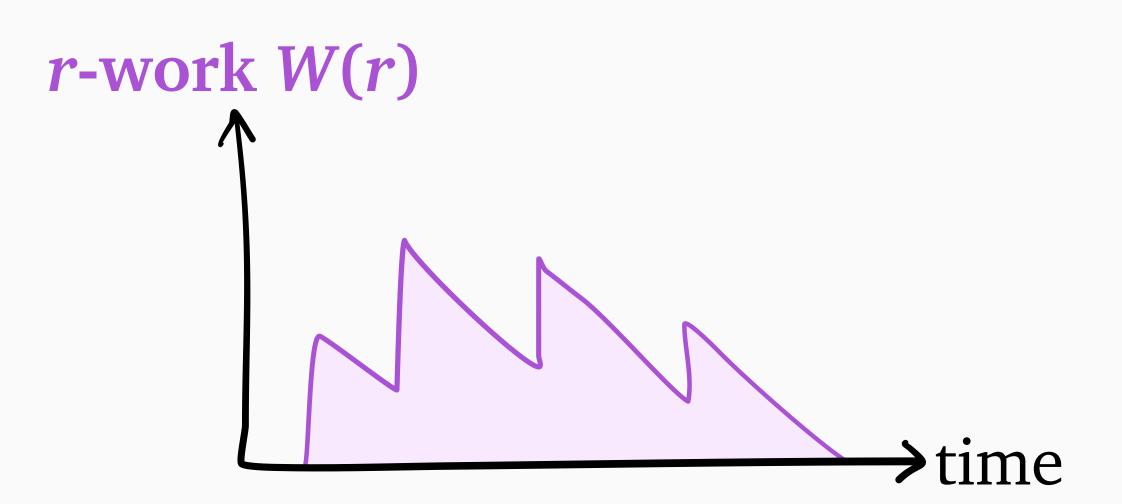
$$E[W_{k}(r)] = E[W_{1}(r)] + \frac{E[(1 - B_{k}(r))W_{k}(r)] + \lambda r P[S > r]E_{r}[W_{k}(r)]}{1 - \lambda E[S 1(S \le r)]}$$





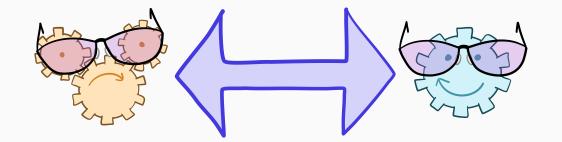
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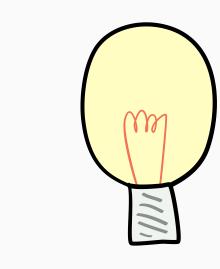
we use
$$f(w) = w^2$$



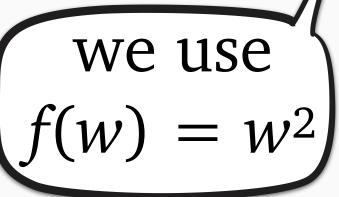
B(r) = service rate on jobsof remaining size $\leq r$ Theorem:

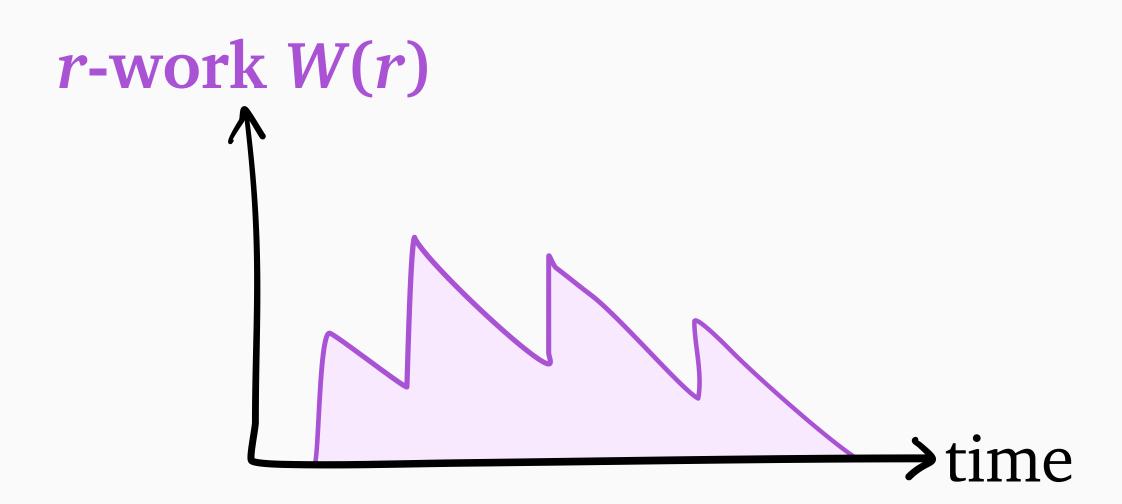
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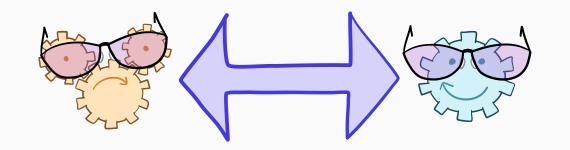
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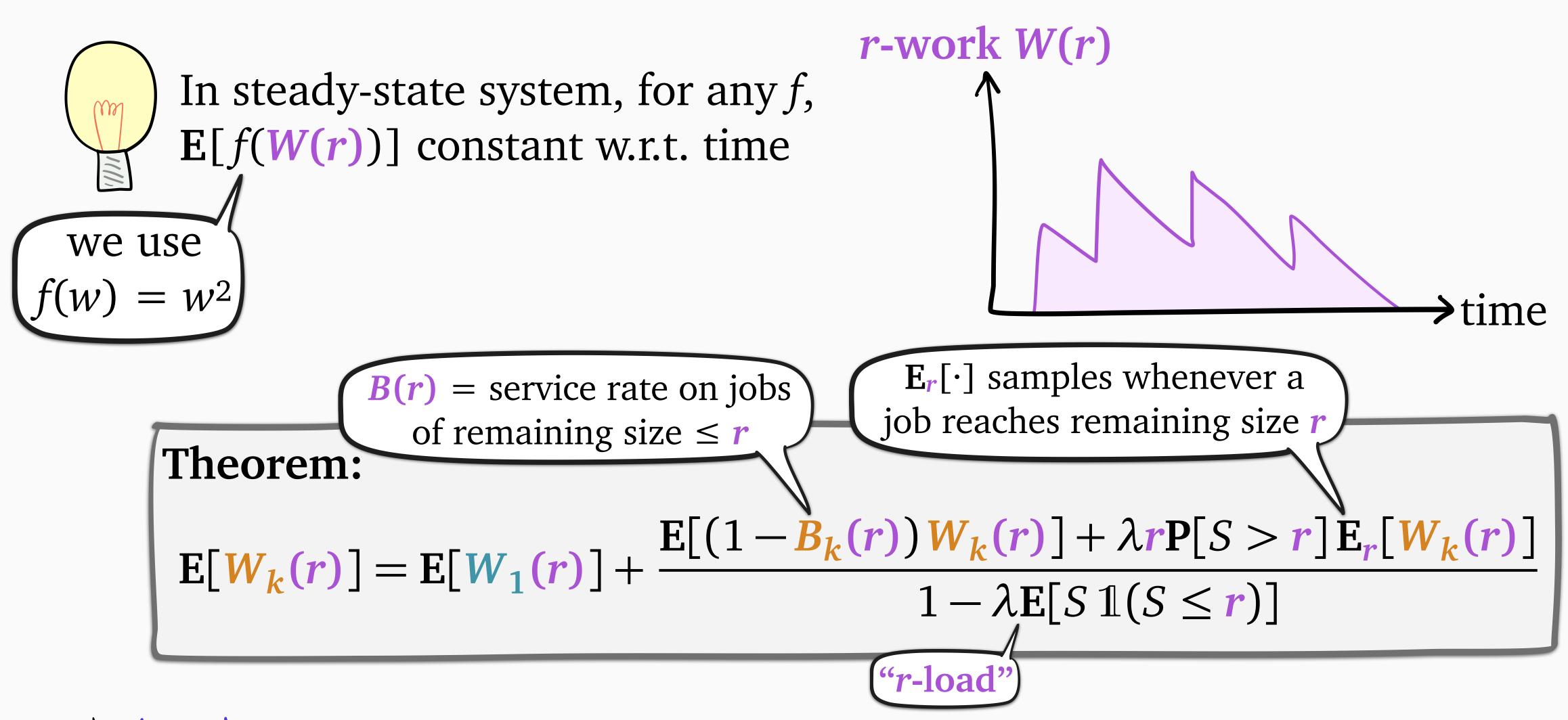


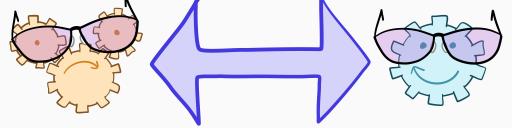


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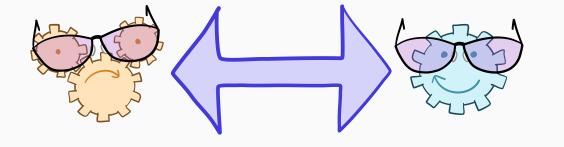
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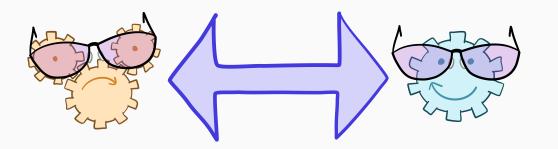


$$\mathbf{E}[\mathbf{W}_k] = \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{W}_1] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[(1 - \mathbf{B}_k)\mathbf{W}_k]}{1 - \rho}$$

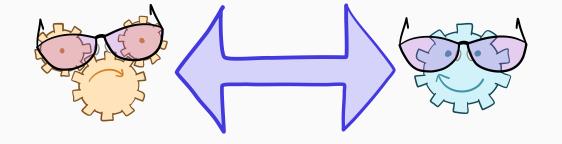


Suppose $S \leq s_{\text{max}}$ with probability 1

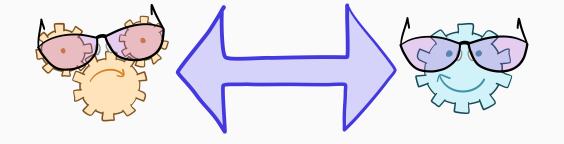
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Suppose
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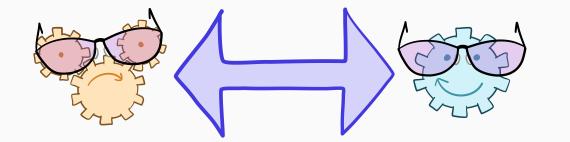


Suppose
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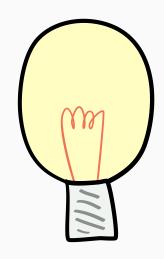


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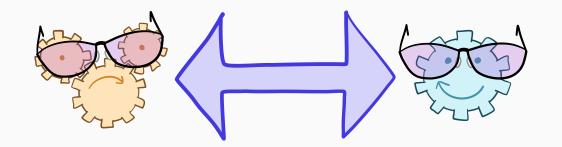
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SRPT: job's r-work is always $\leq r$

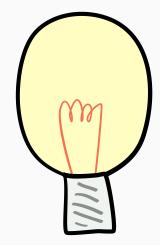


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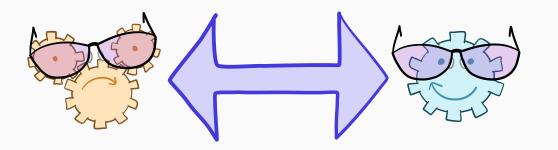
$$\leq \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{W}_1] + (k-1)s_{\text{max}}$$



SRPT: job's r-work is always $\leq r$

$$E[W_k(r)] = E[W_1(r)] + \text{"r-work of } \le k - 1 \text{ jobs"}$$

 $\le E[W_1(r)] + (k - 1)r$

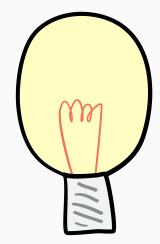


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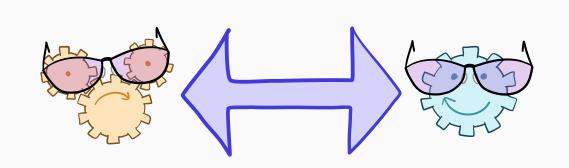


SRPT: job's r-work is always $\leq r$

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$$\stackrel{\text{see paper for better bound}}{}$$



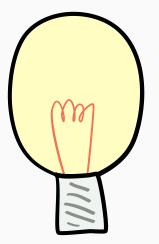
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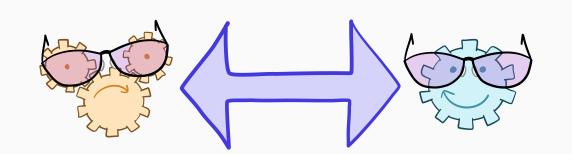
≤ **E**[V still true under **Gittins**, but only in expectation



SRPT: job's r-work is always $\leq r$

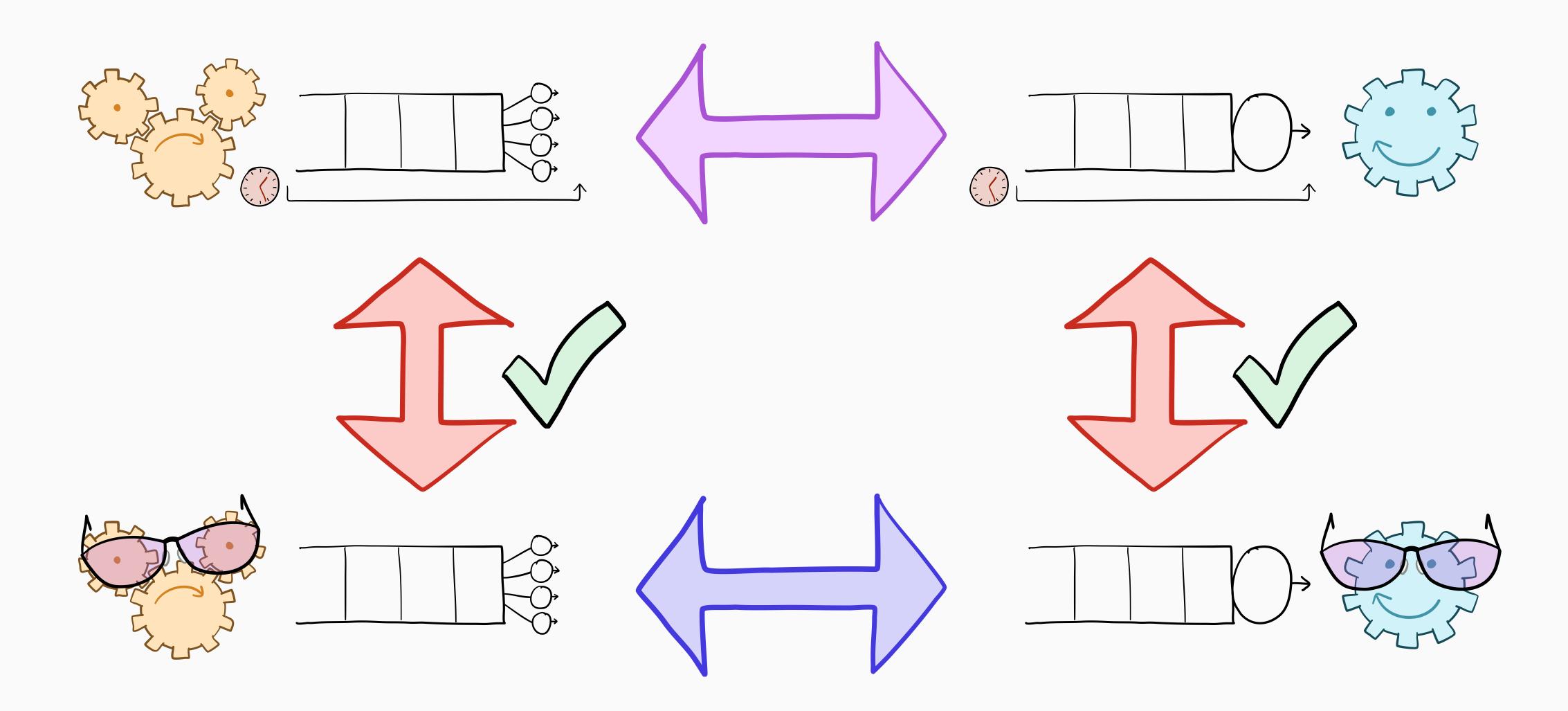
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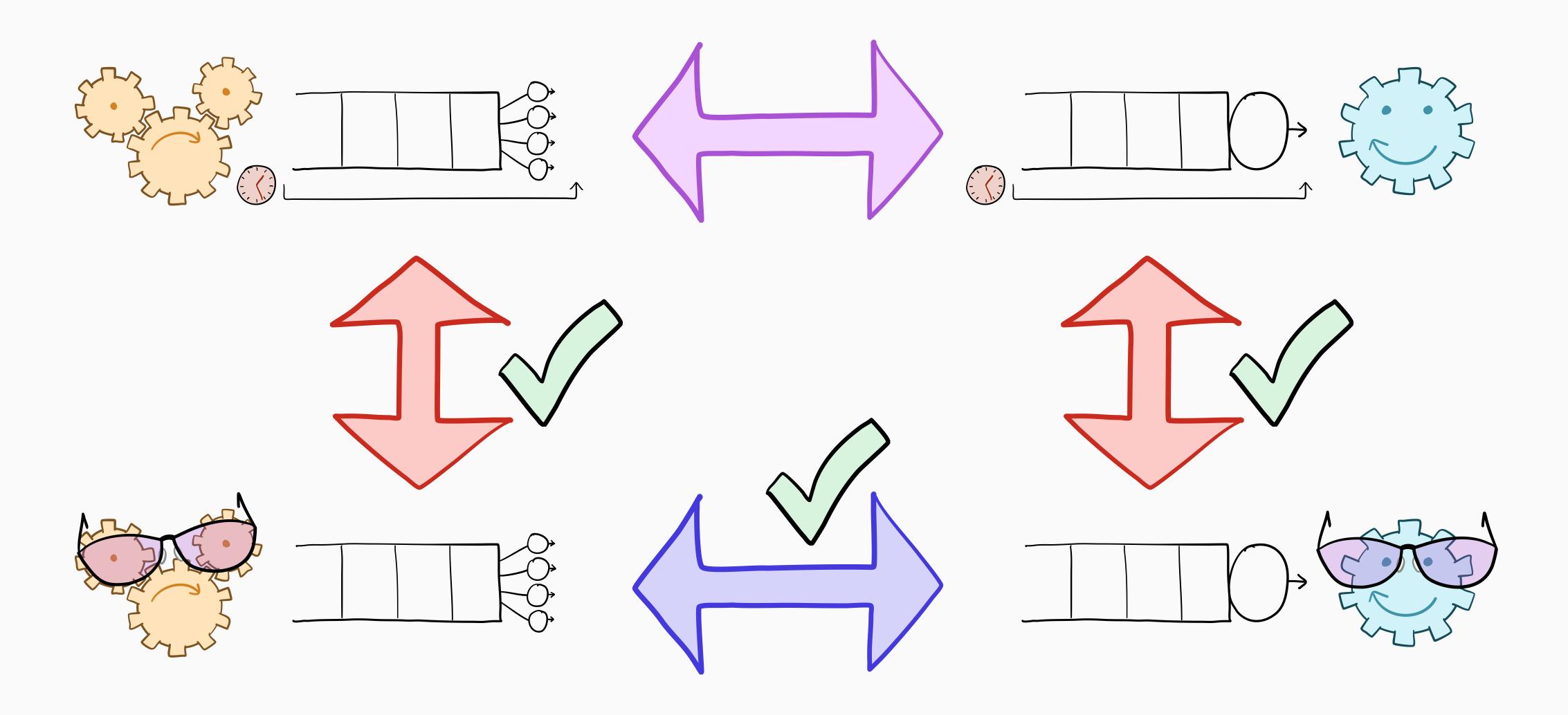


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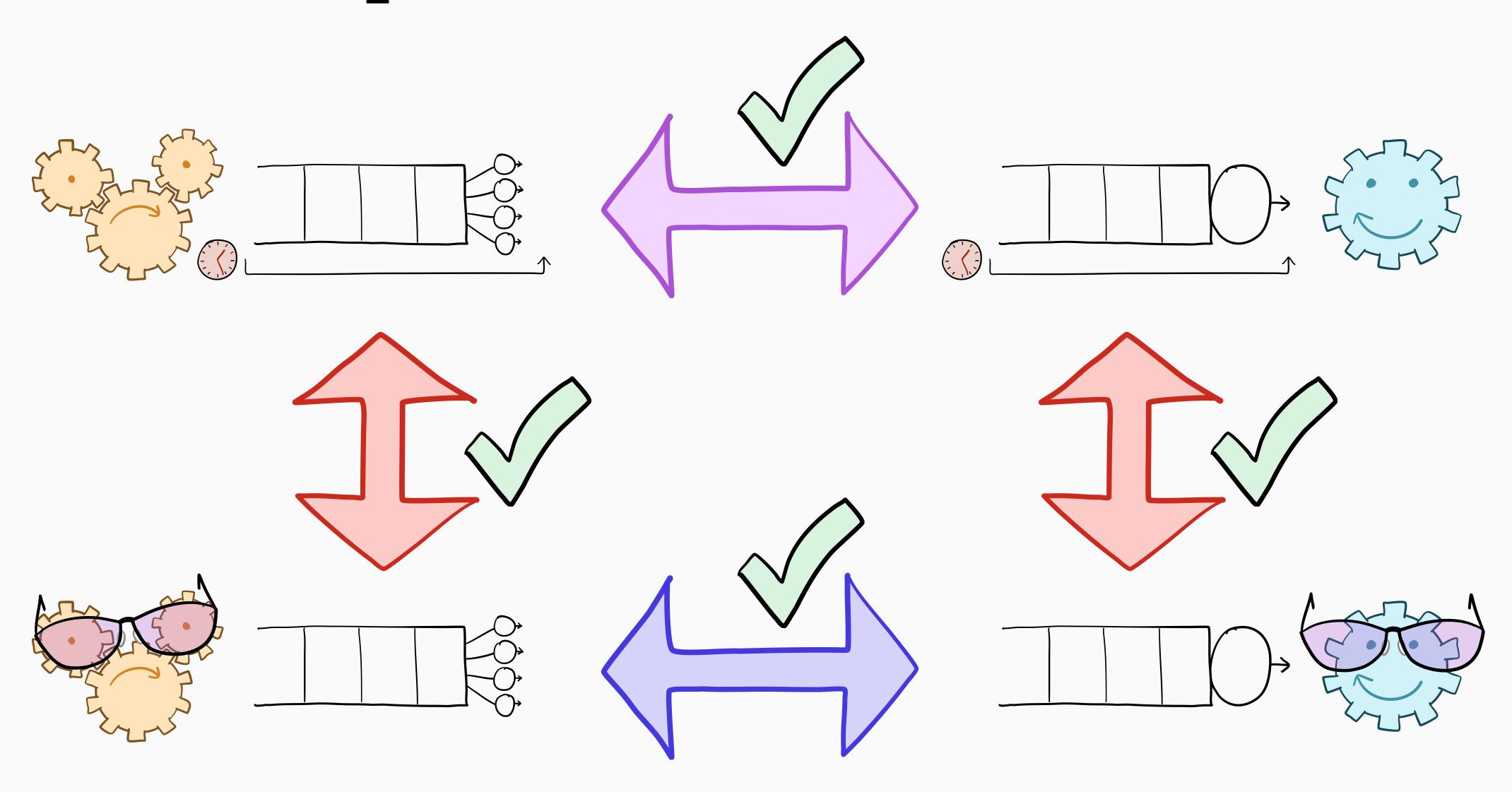
Response time via r-work



Response time via r-work



Response time via r-work



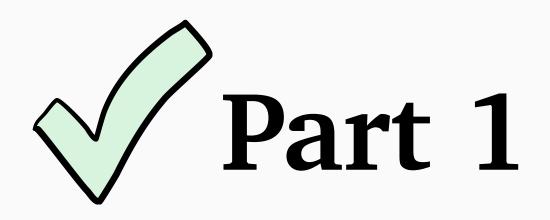
Classifying coupling techniques

	A. Every sample path	B. Steady-state distribution
1. More information	BIG online knapsack (via compensated coupling)	B1
2. Fewer constraints	M/M/k vs. M/M/1 Online knapsack (via constraints-to-costs)	State-space collapse (load balancing, switch scheduling)
3. Simpler dynamics	SIS epidemics Queues with redundancy	Stein's method

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Overview



Part 2



Survey 1: Sample-Path Coupling



Survey 2:
Steady-State Coupling

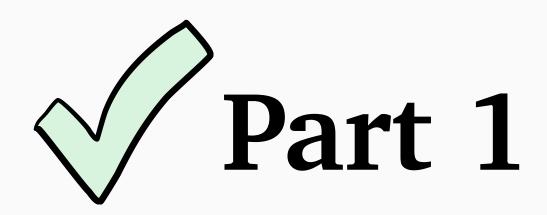


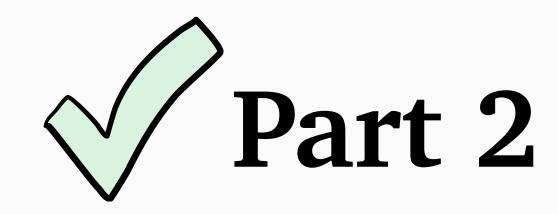
In-Depth Study 1:
Online Resource Allocation



In-Depth Study 2:
Gittins in the M/G/k

Overview







Survey 1: Sample-Path Coupling



Survey 2: Steady-State Coupling

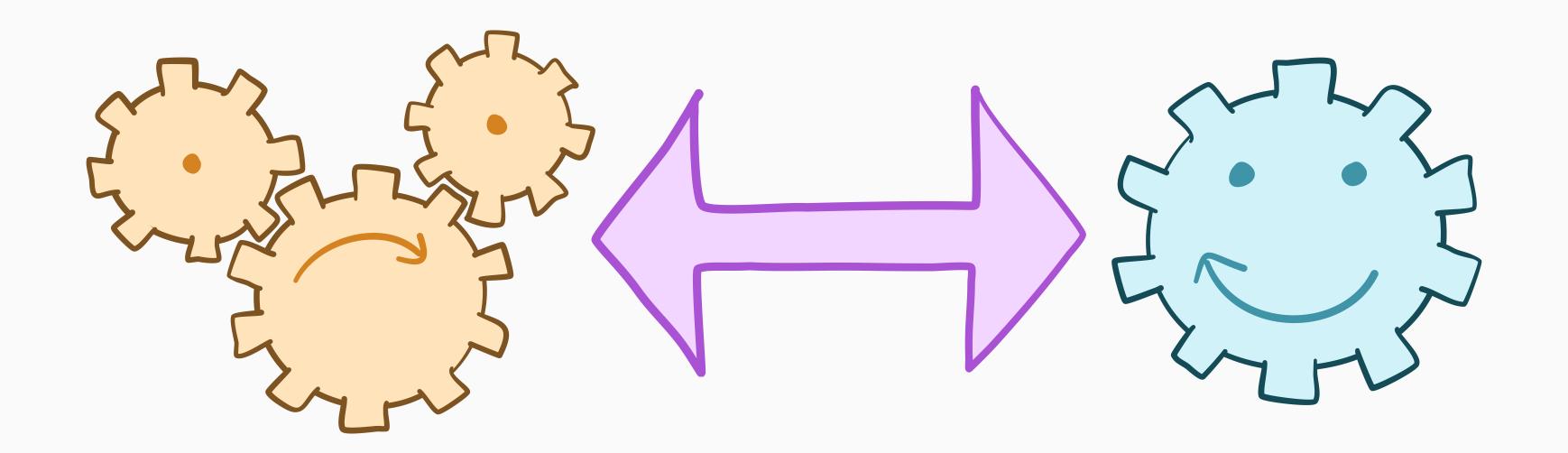


In-Depth Study 1:
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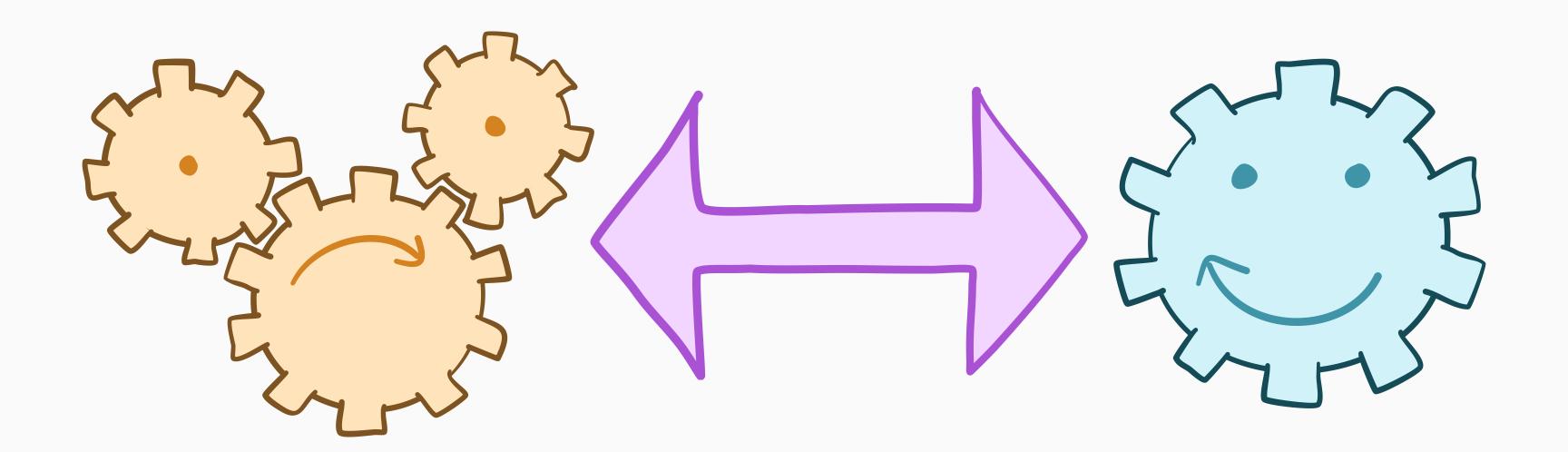


In-Depth Study 2:
Gittins in the M/G/k

Conclusion



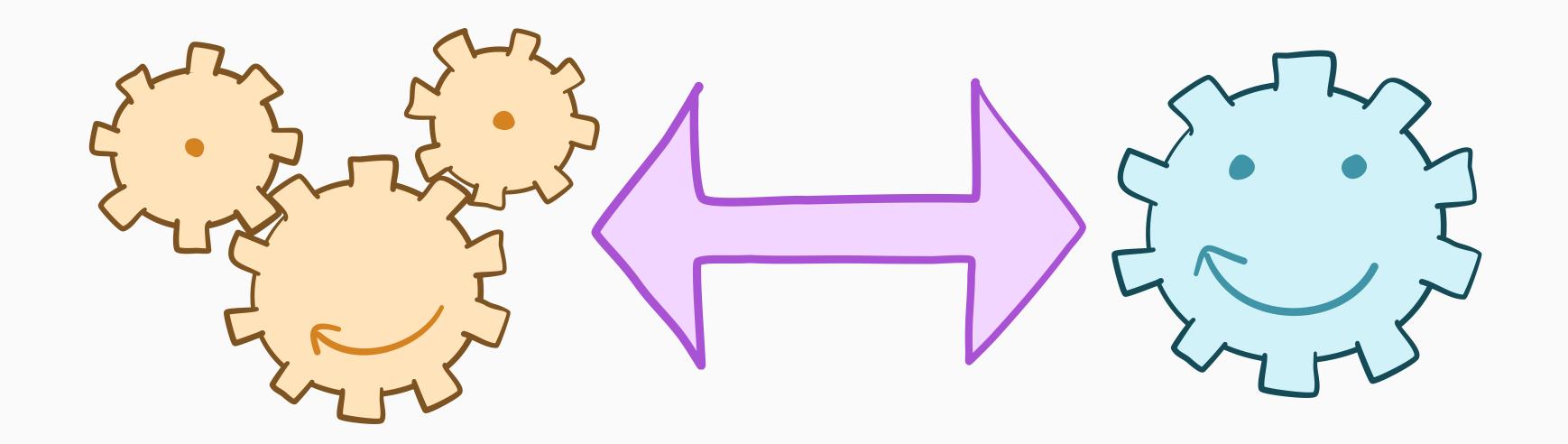
Conclusion



Ziv's email: zscully@cs.cmu.edu

Sid's email: sbanerjee@cornell.edu

Conclusion



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