

# Simple Near-Optimal Scheduling *for the $M/G/1$*

Ziv Scully

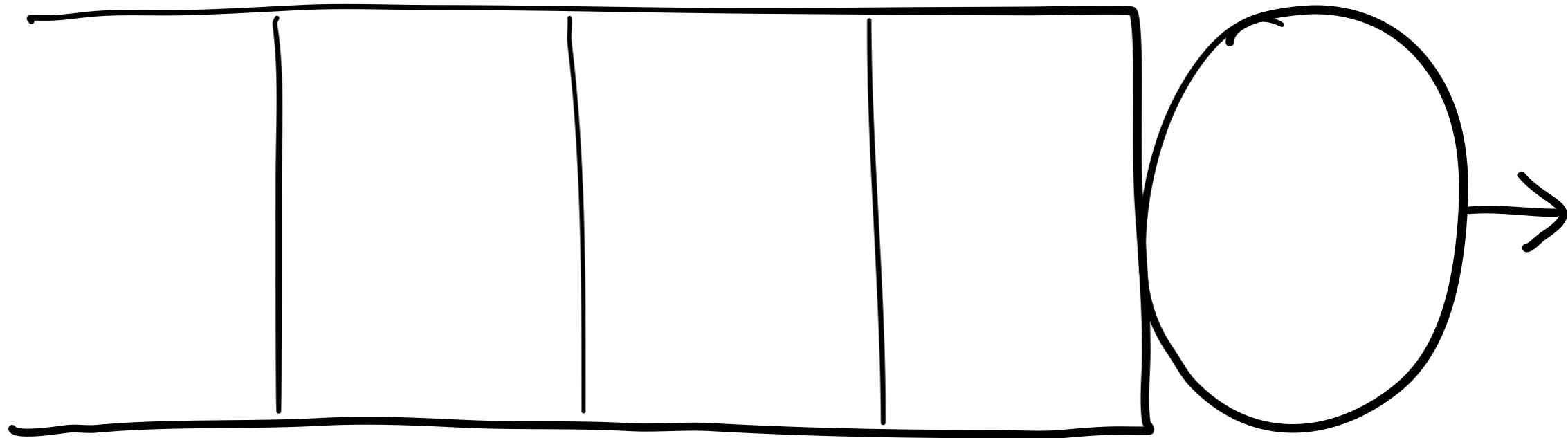
Mor Harchol-Balter

Alan Scheller-Wolf

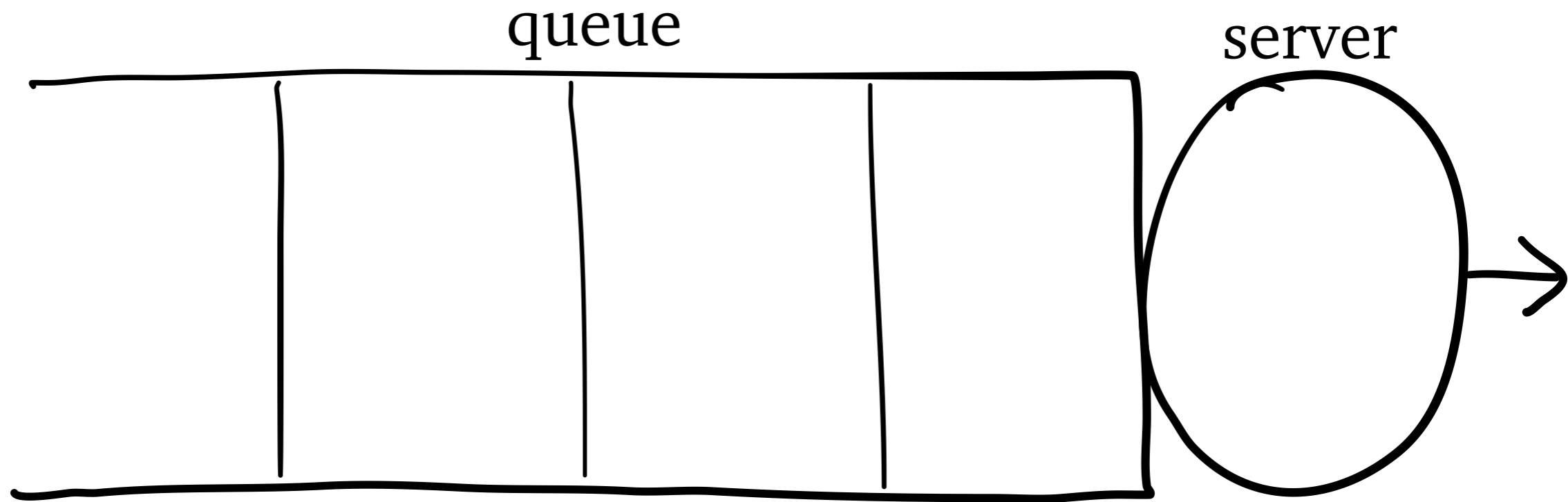
Carnegie Mellon University



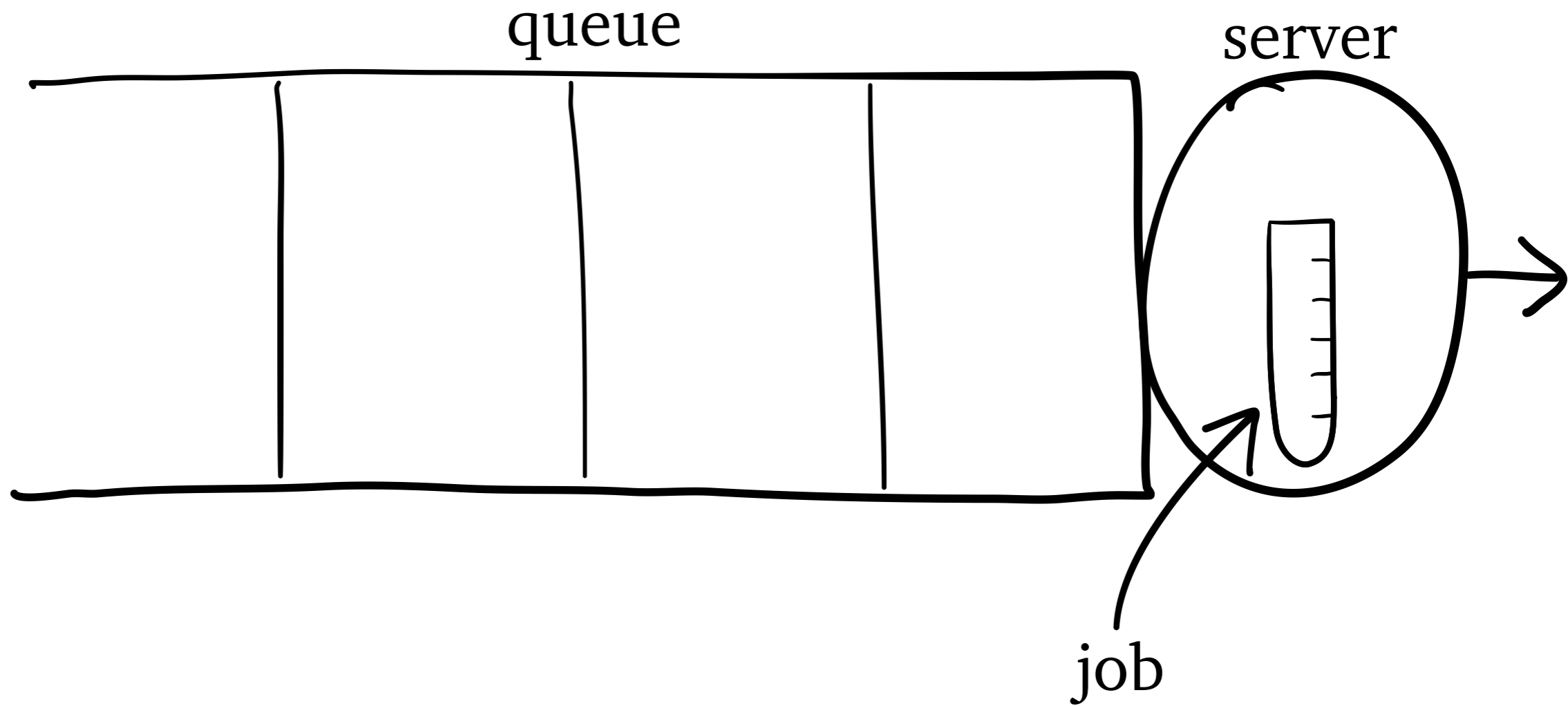
# M/G/1 Queue



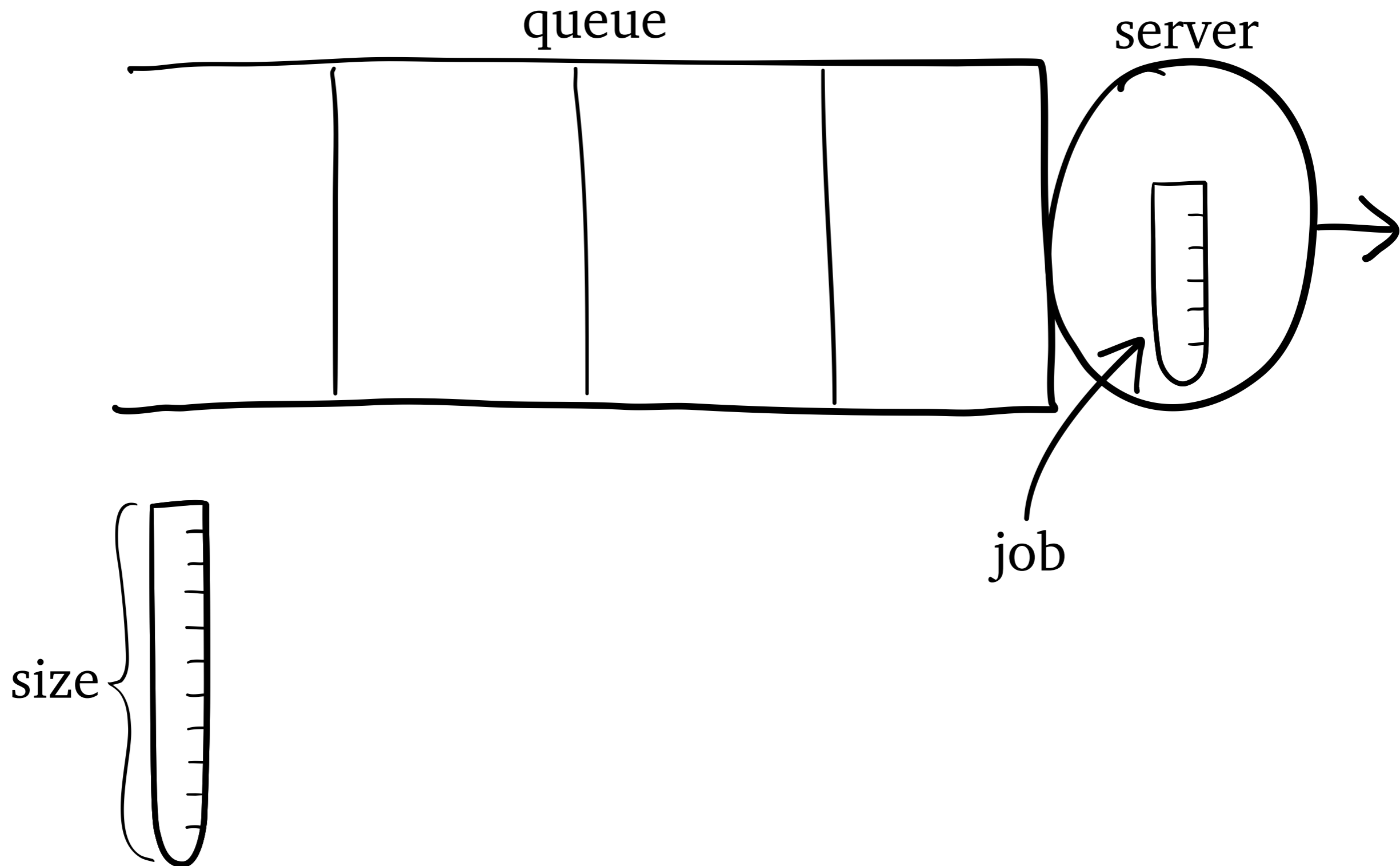
# M/G/1 Queue



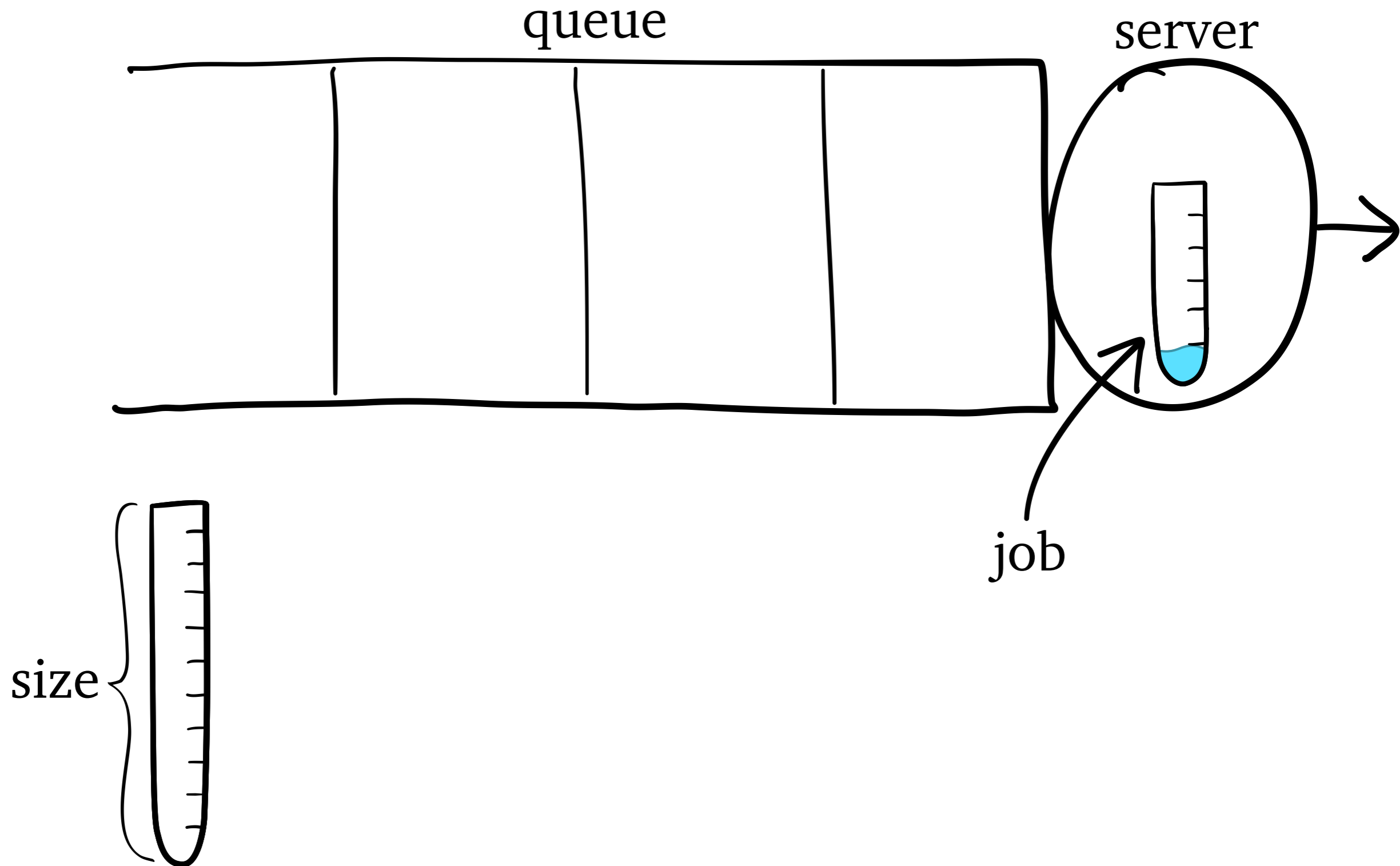
# M/G/1 Queue



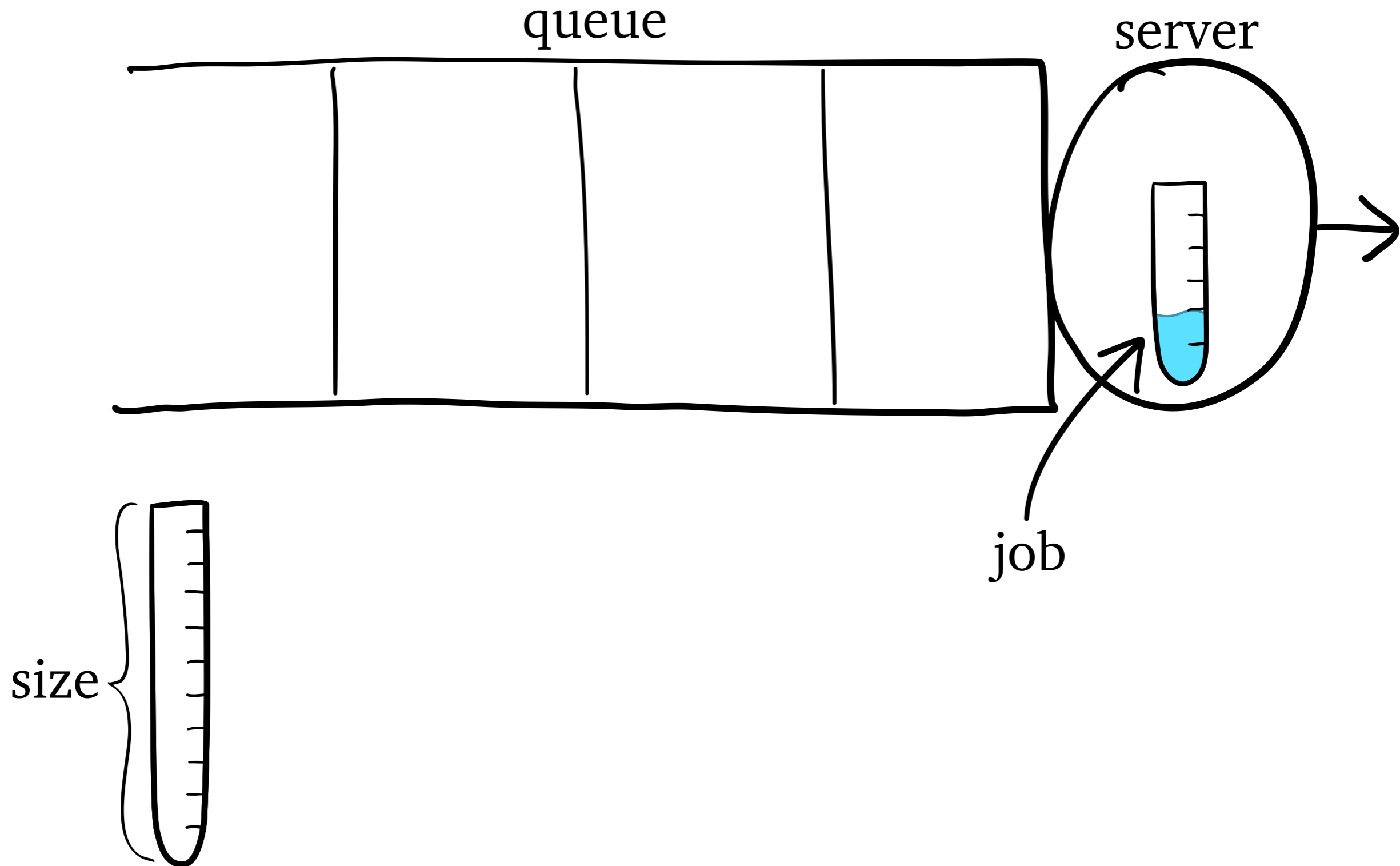
# M/G/1 Queue



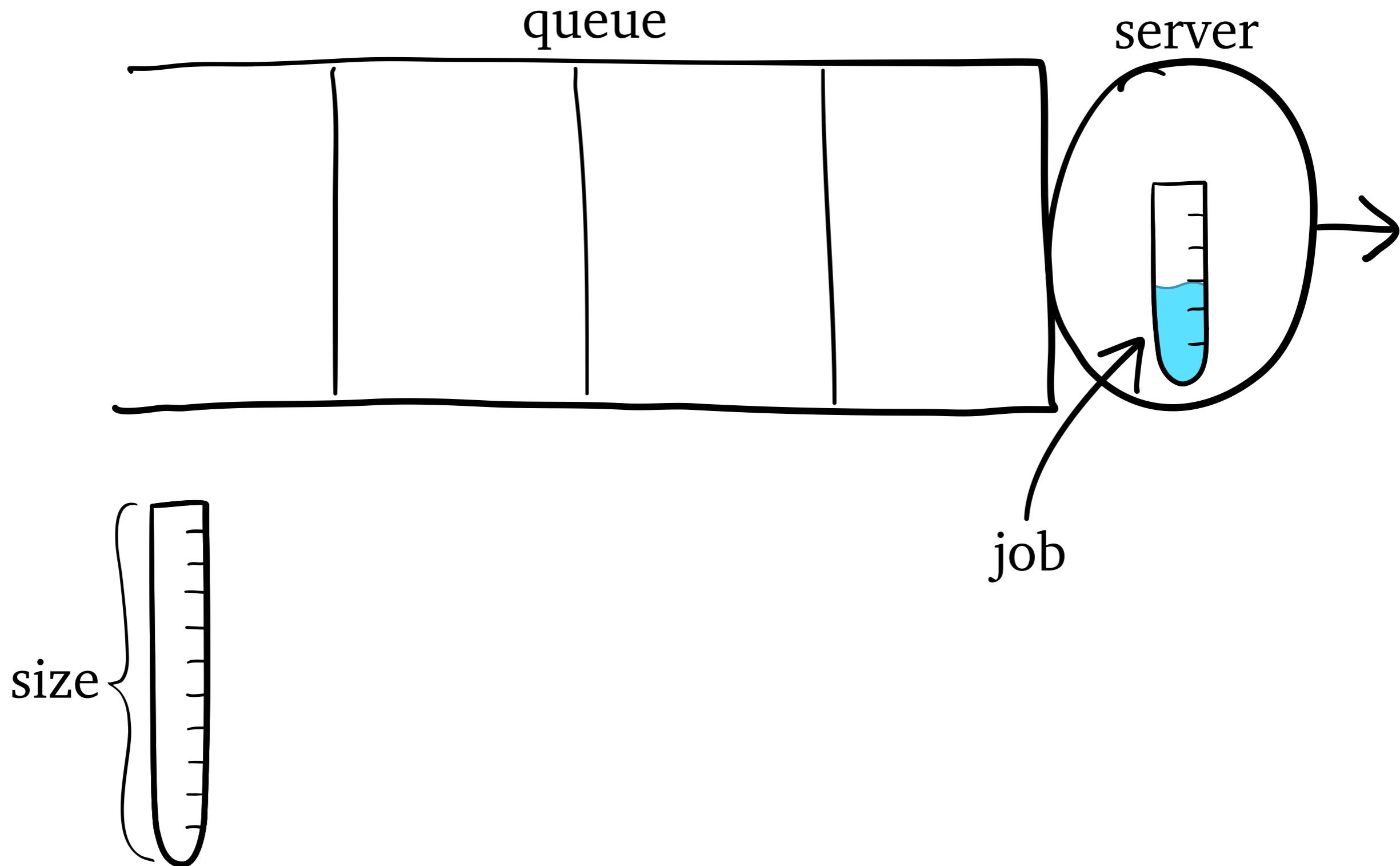
# M/G/1 Queue



# M/G/1 Queue

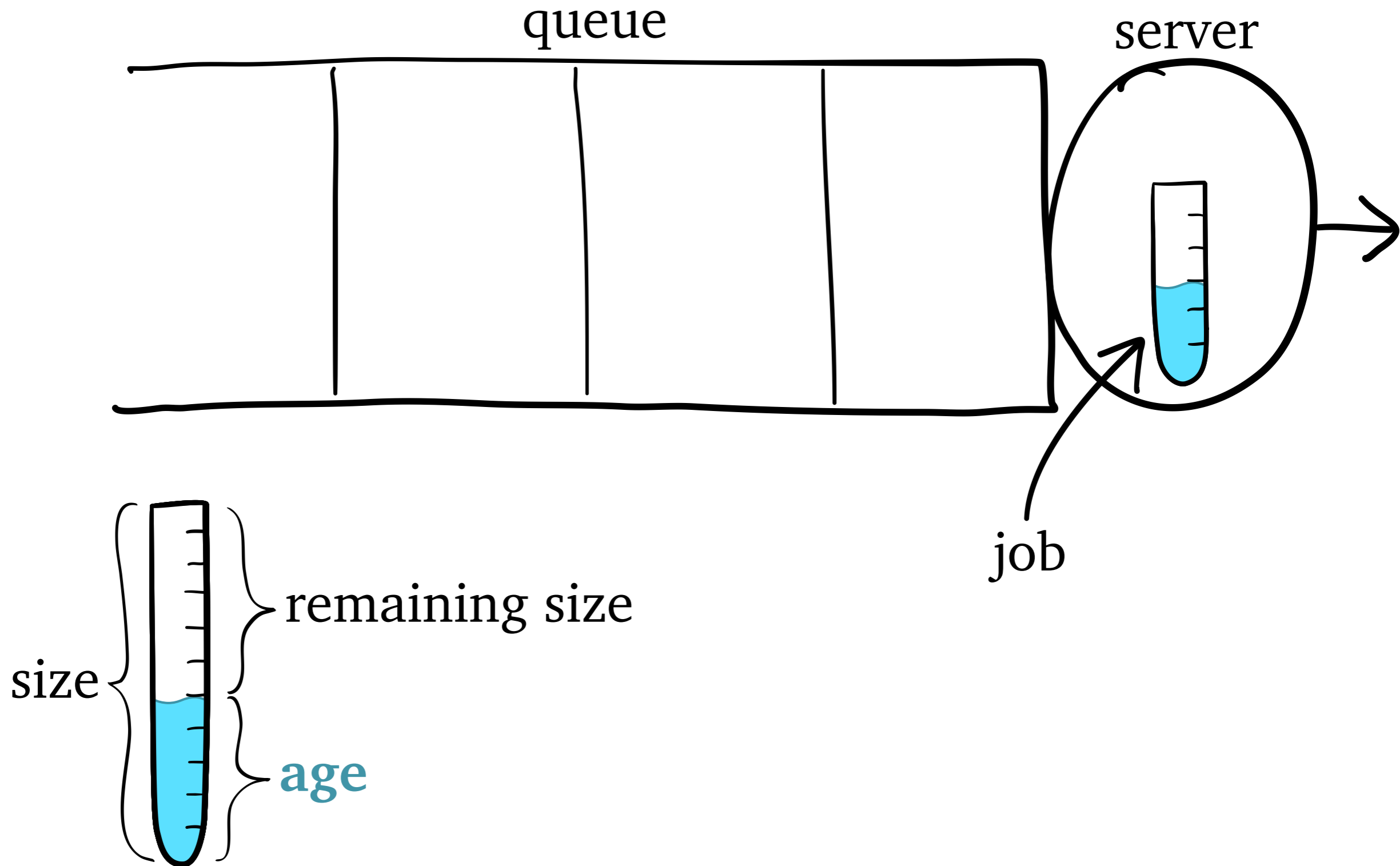


# M/G/1 Queue

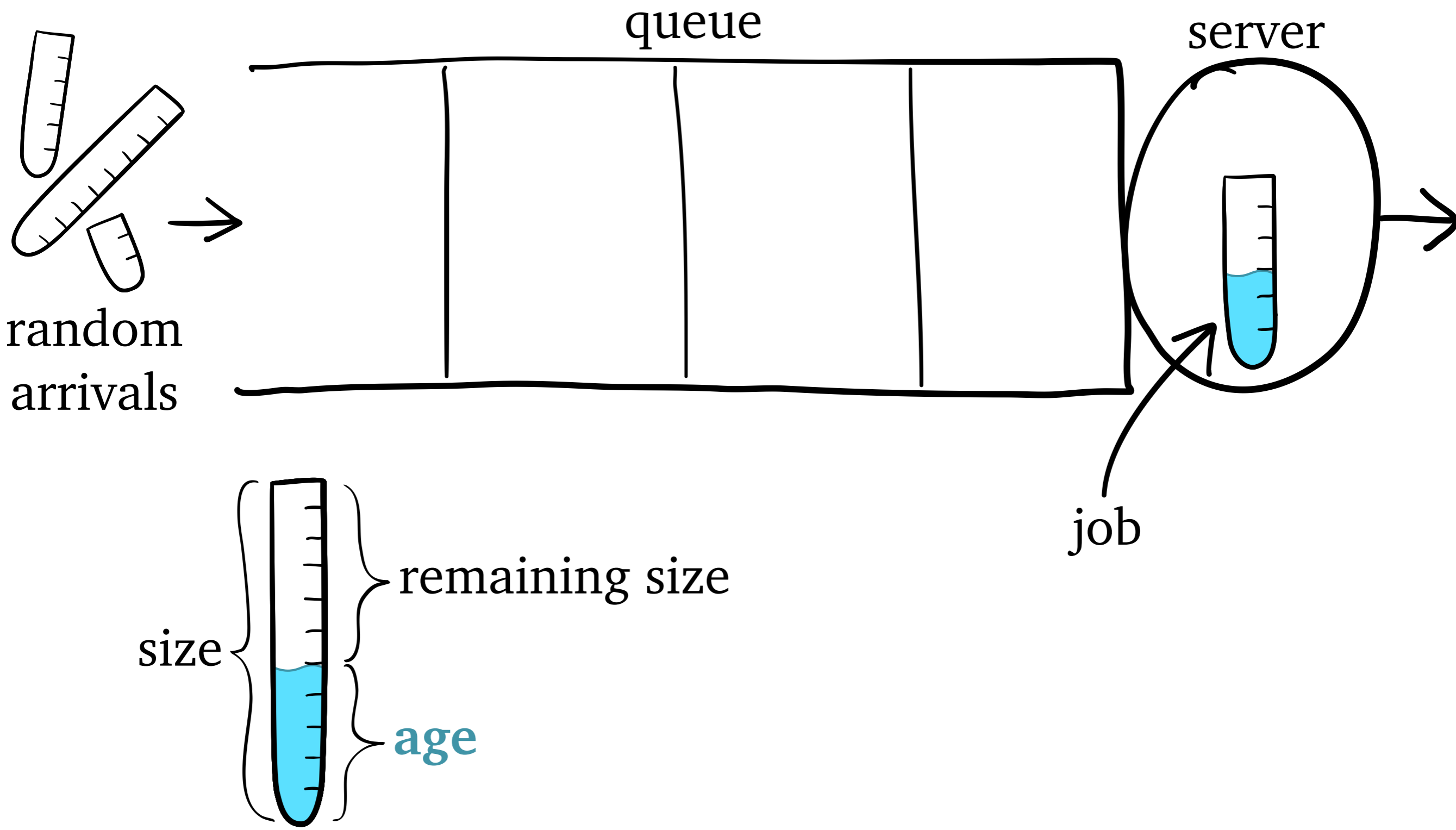




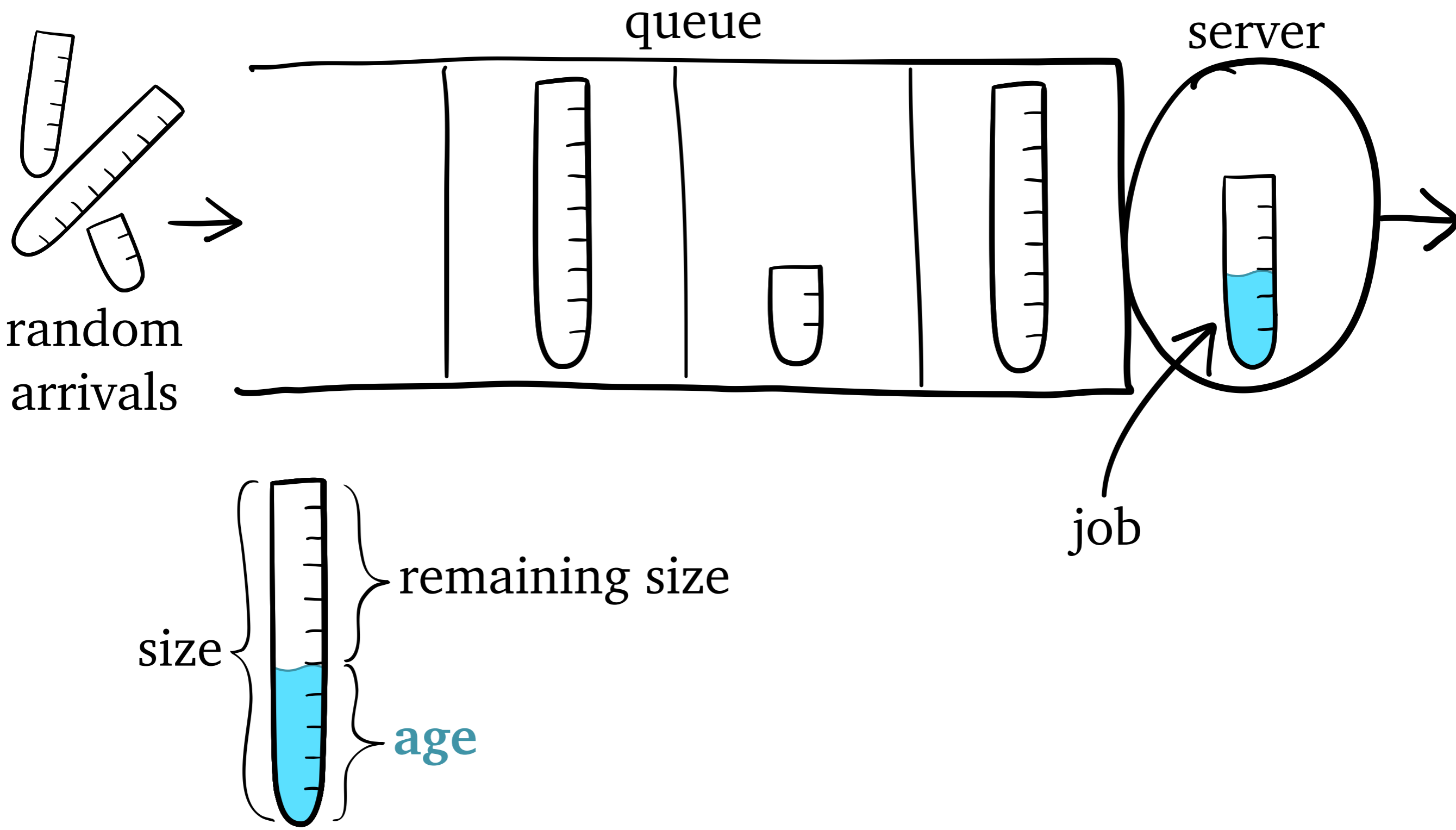
# M/G/1 Queue



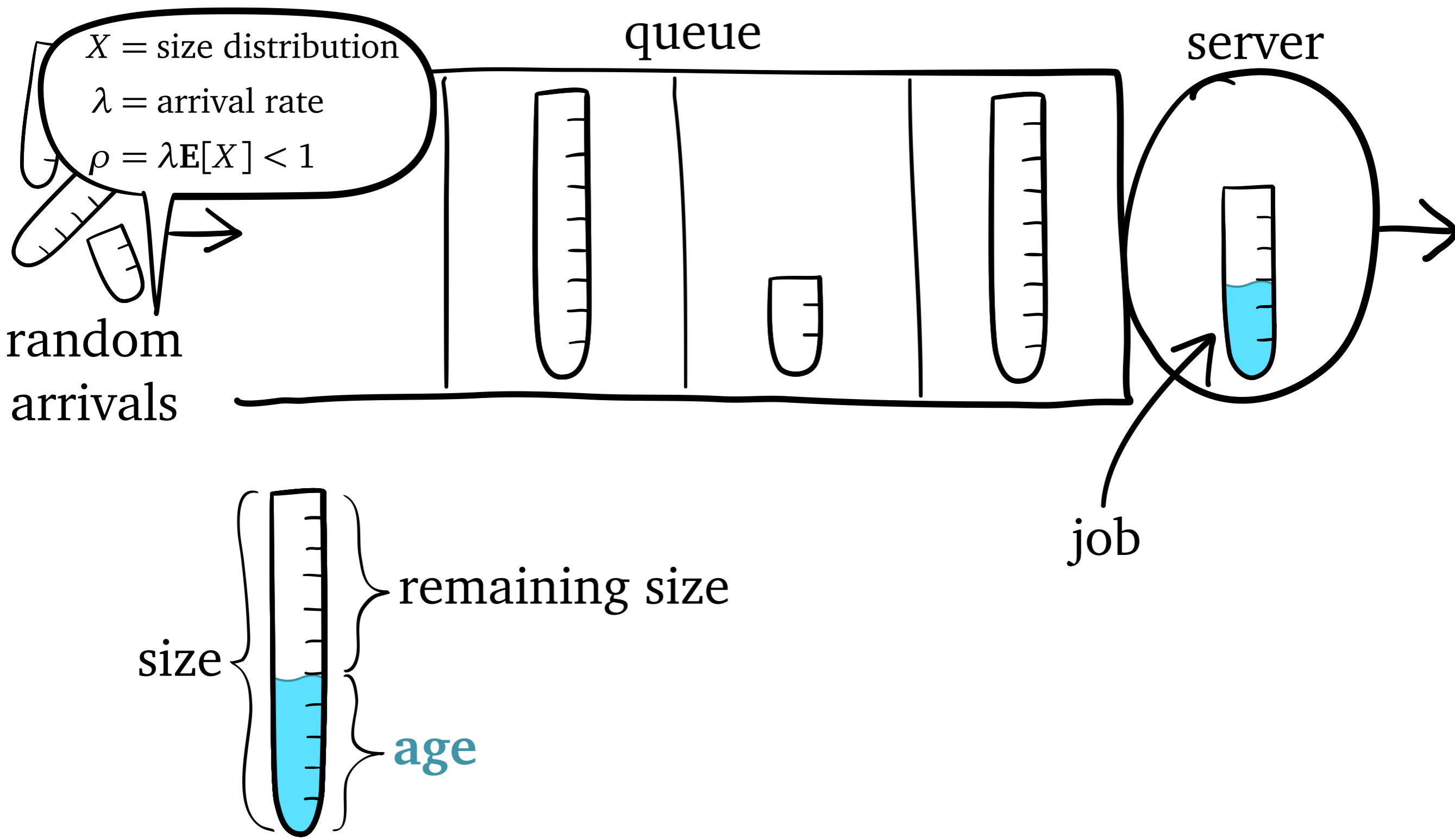
# M/G/1 Queue



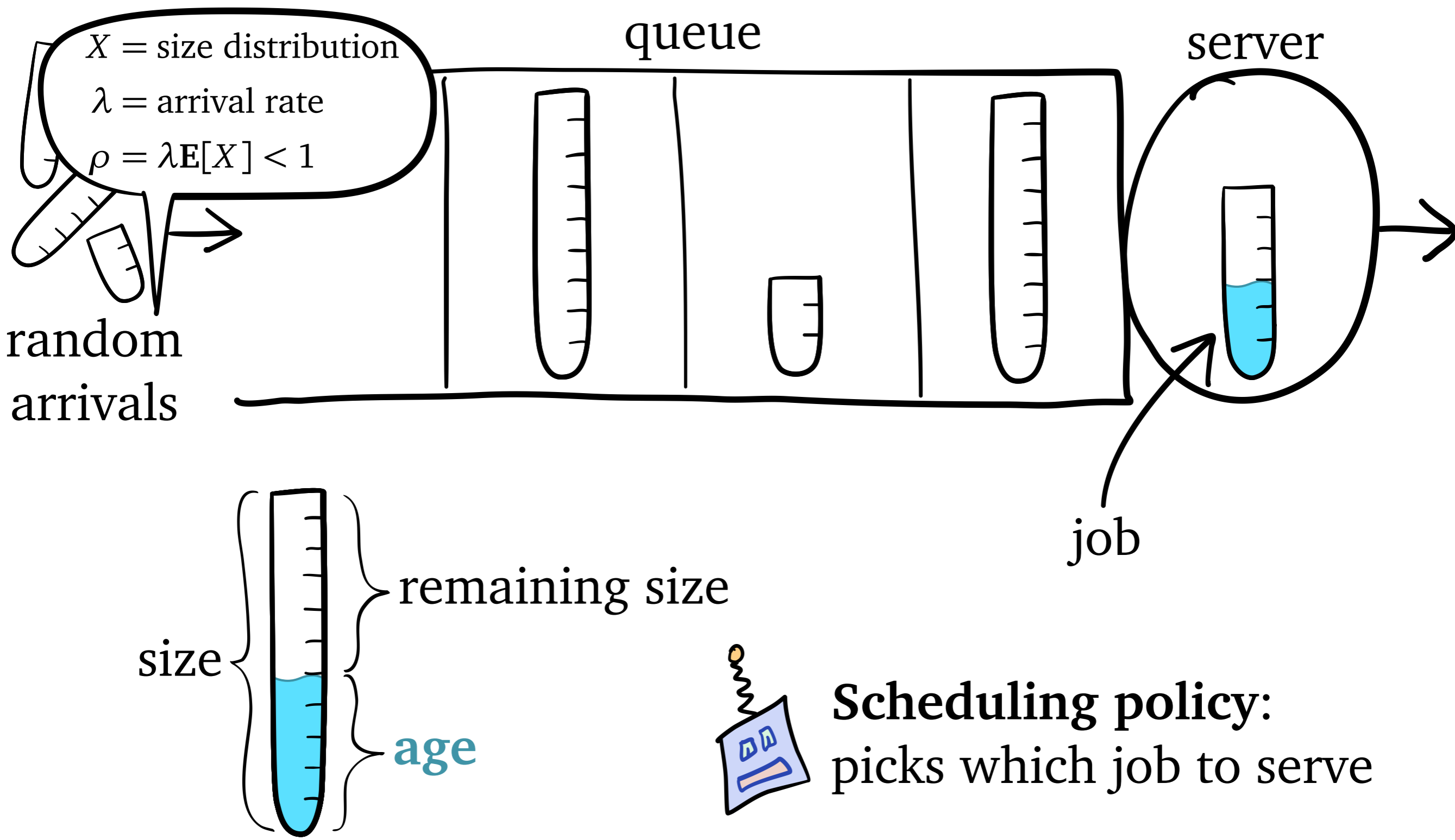
# M/G/1 Queue



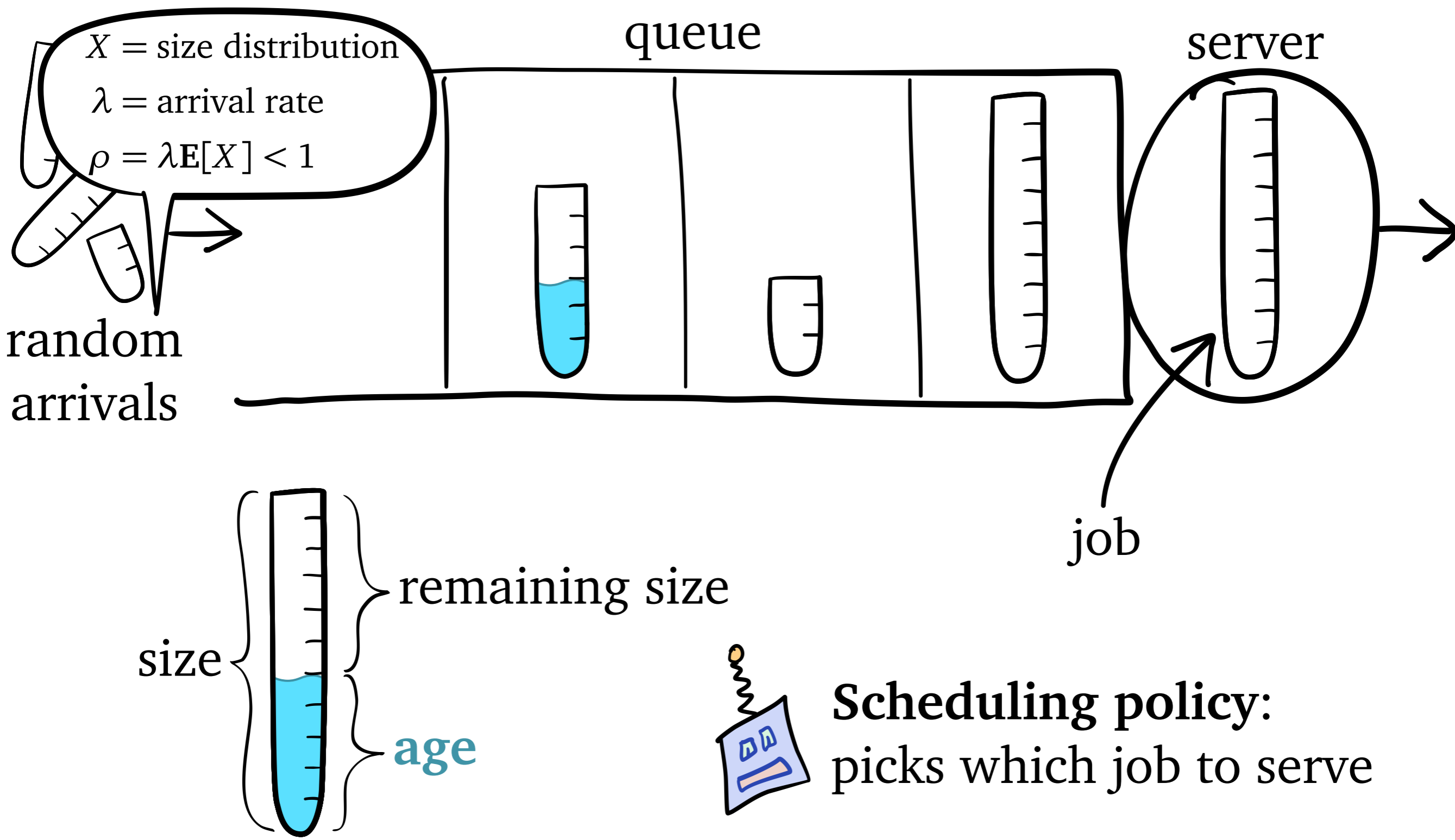
# M/G/1 Queue



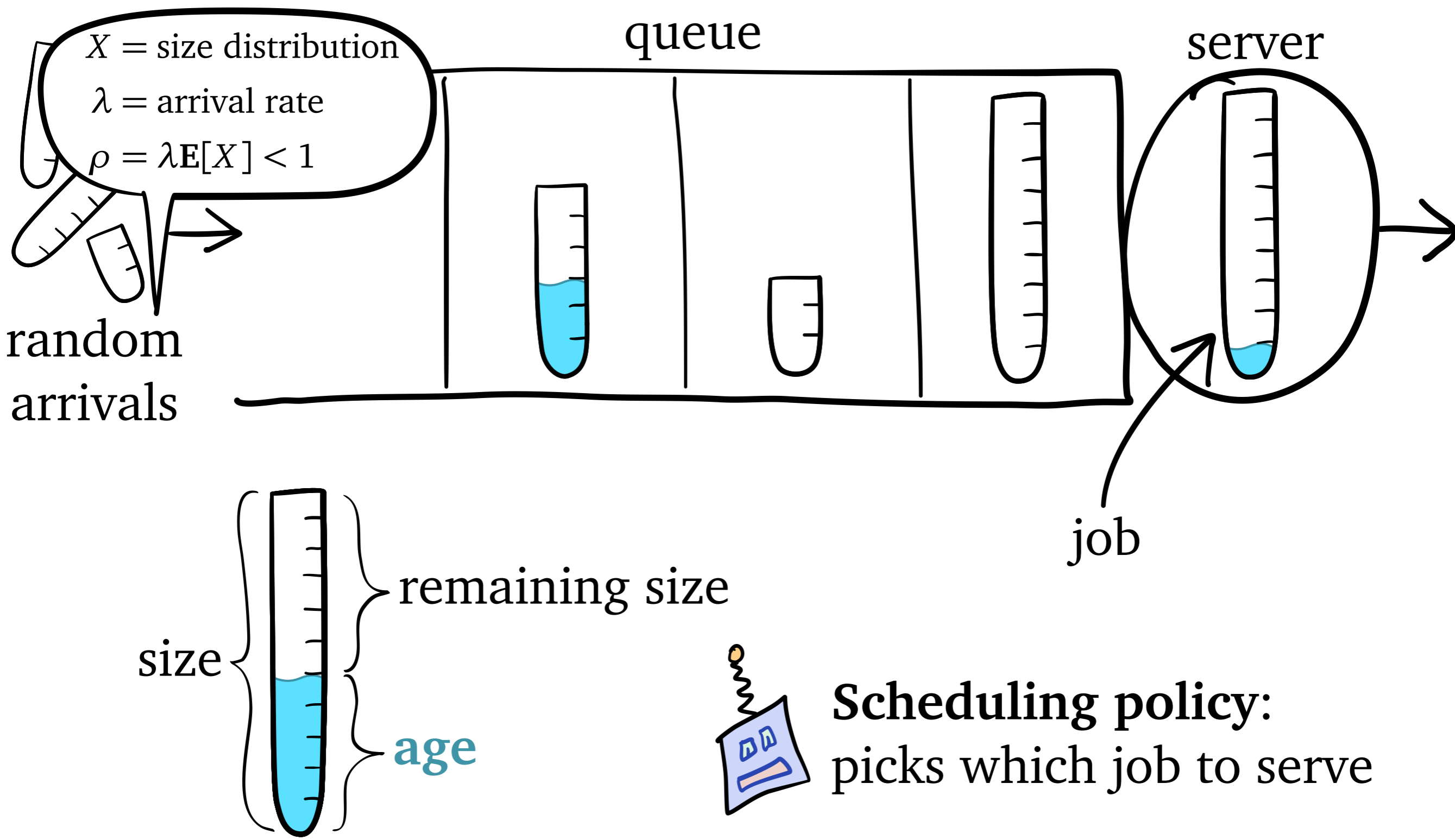
# M/G/1 Queue



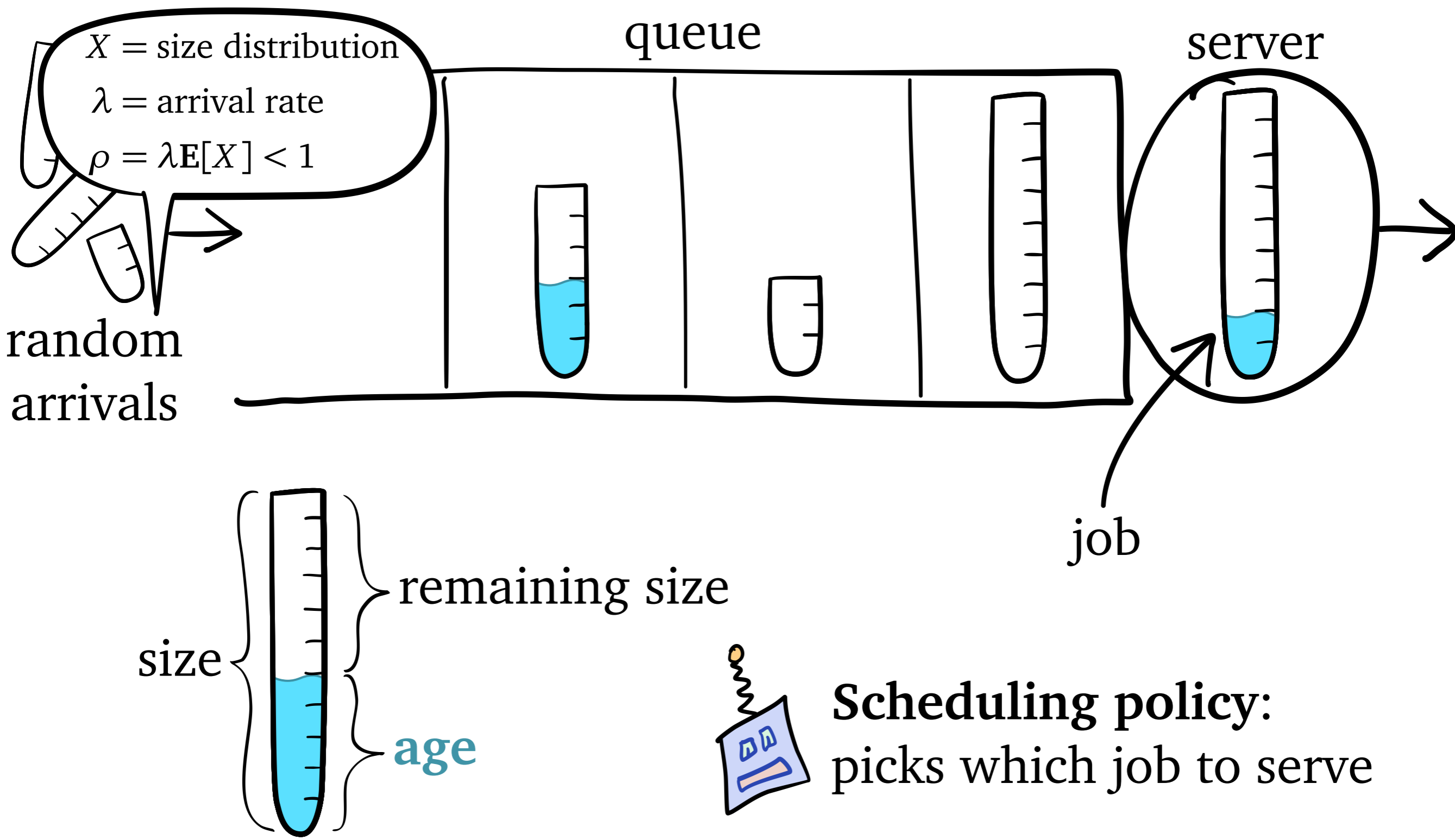
# M/G/1 Queue



# M/G/1 Queue

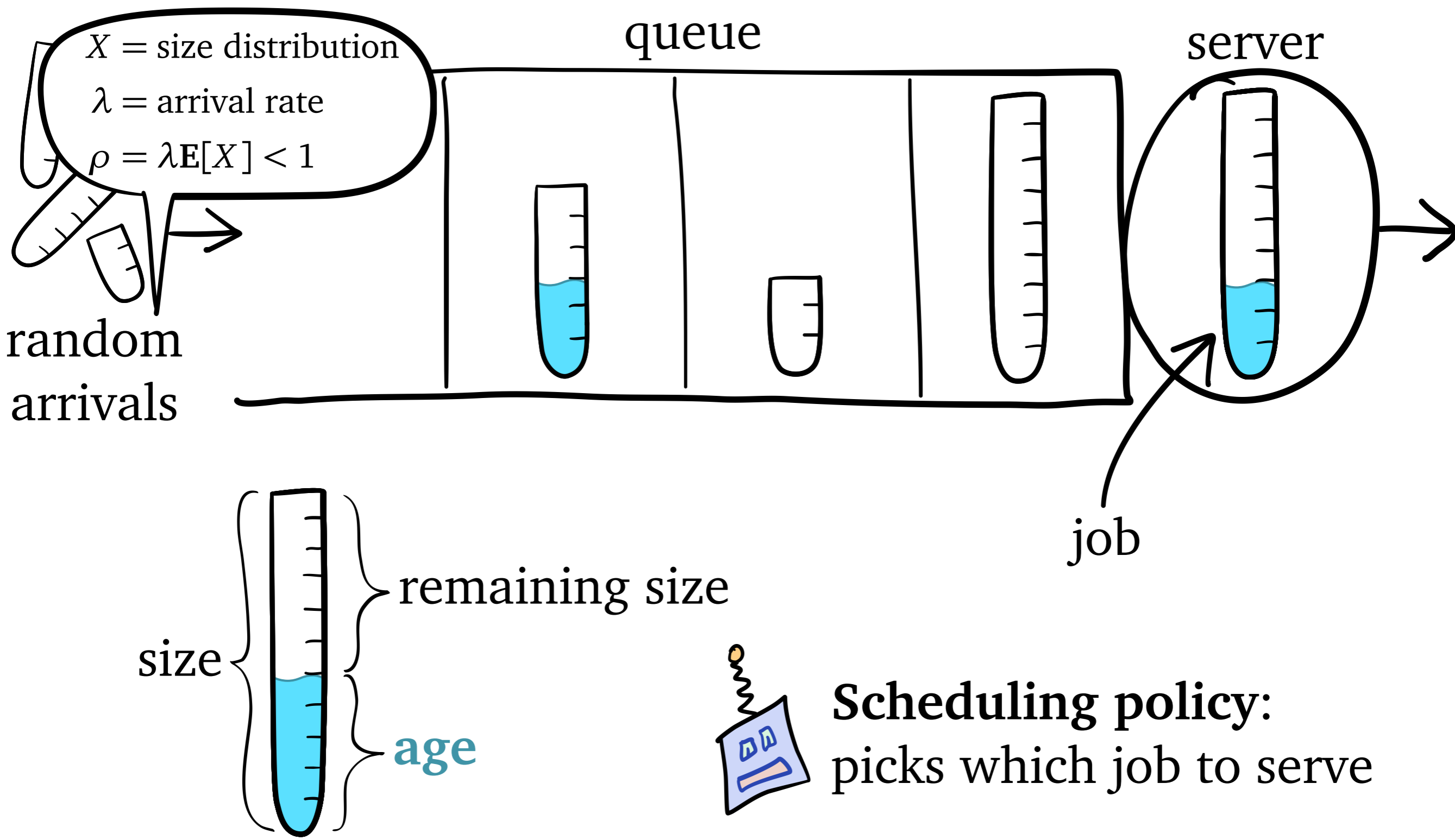


# M/G/1 Queue

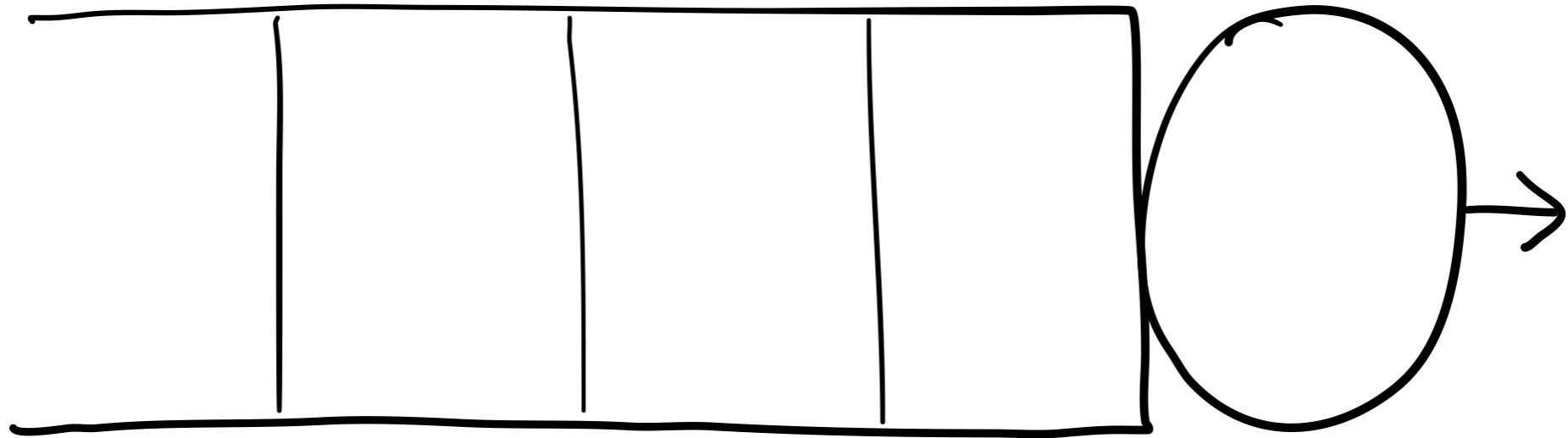




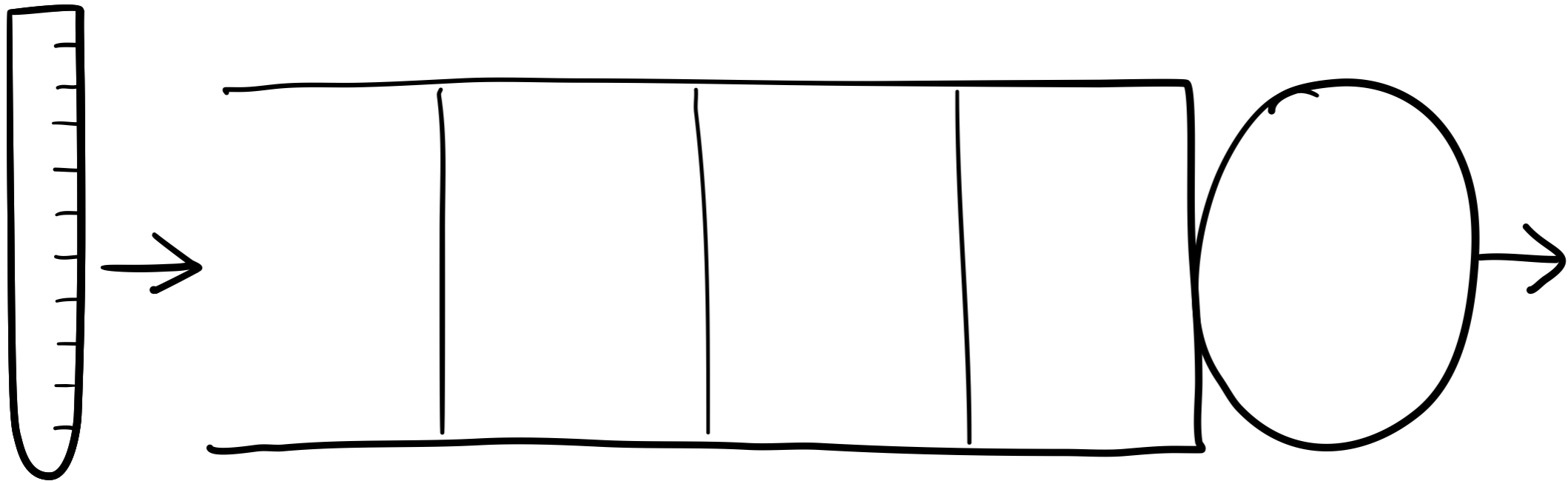
# M/G/1 Queue



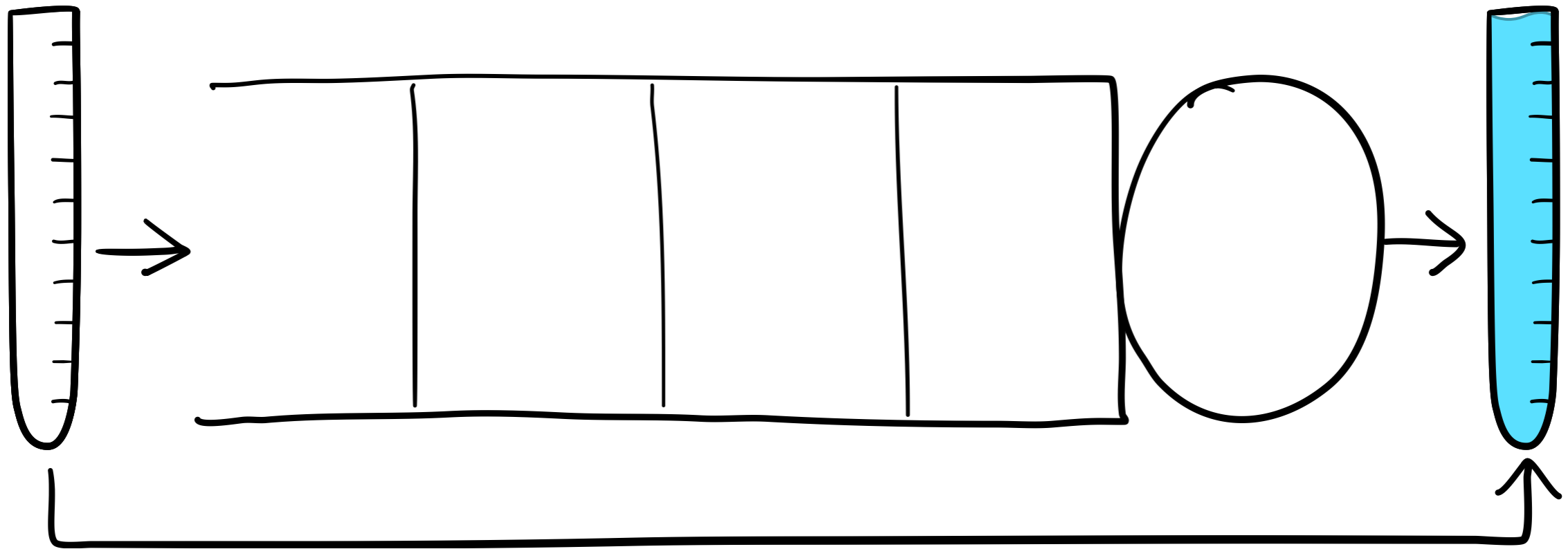
# Response Time




# Response Time

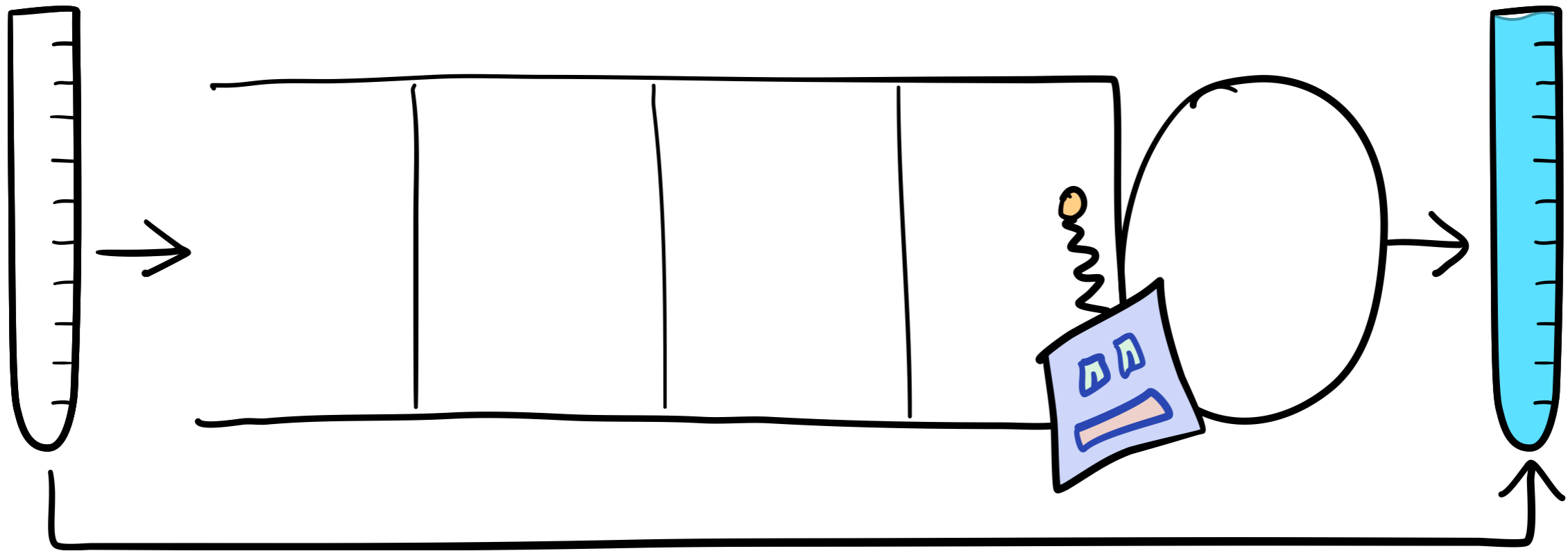



# Response Time



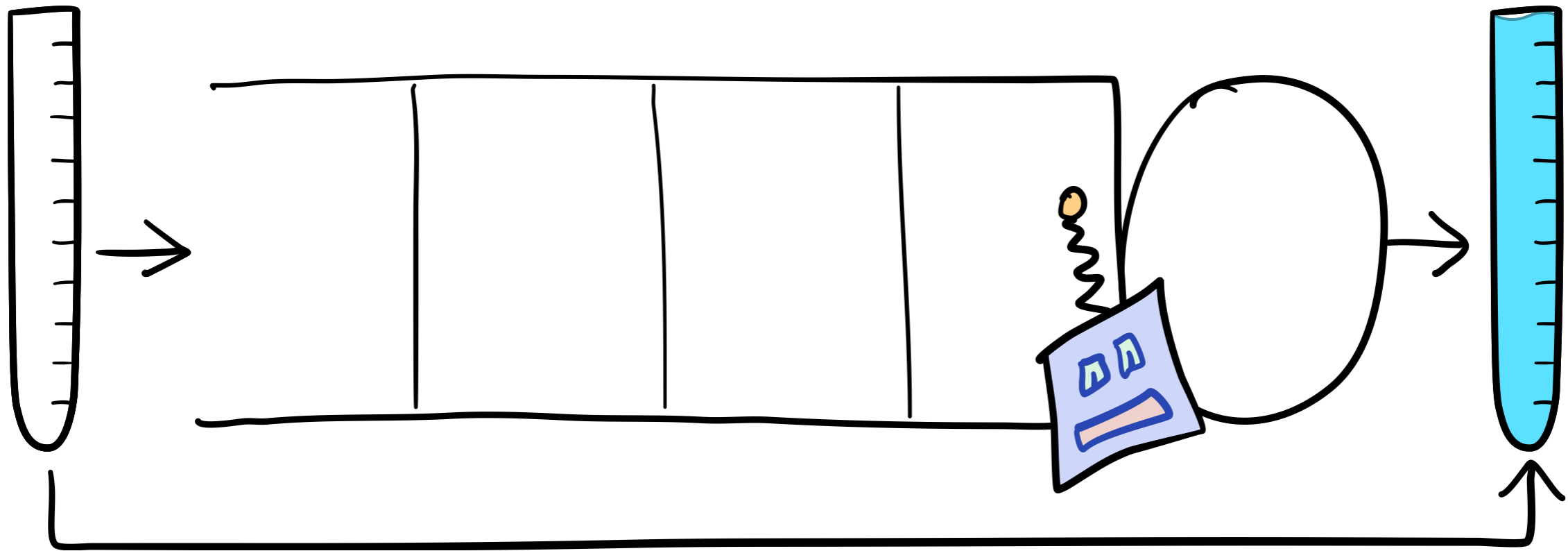
 =  $T$  = *response time*


# Response Time



 =  $T$  = *response time*

# Response Time



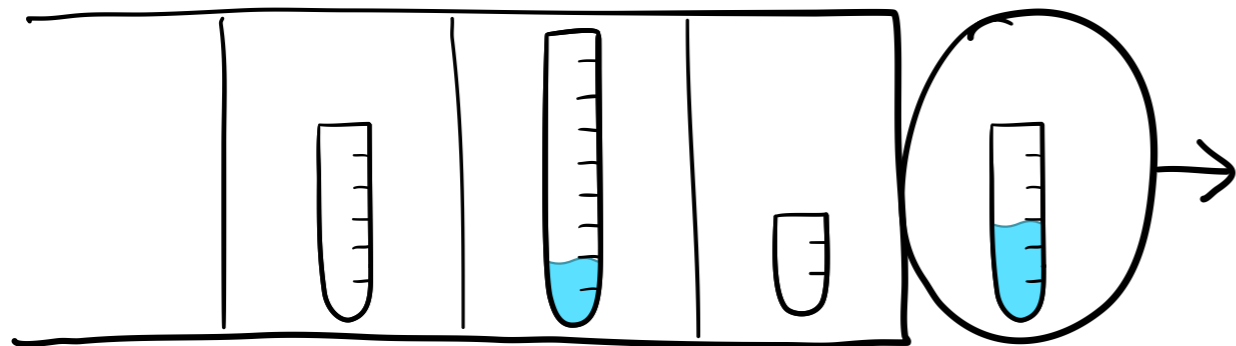
 =  $T$  = *response time*

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

# State of the Art

# State of the Art

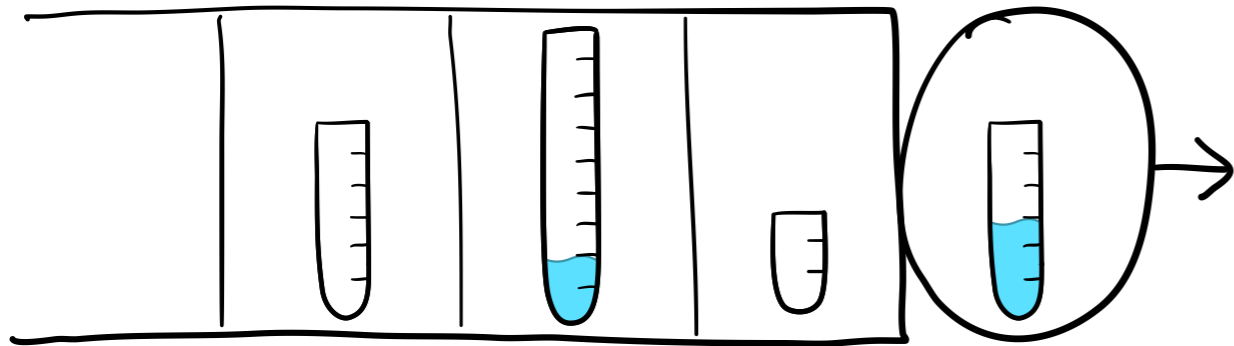
## Known Job Sizes





# State of the Art

## Known Job Sizes

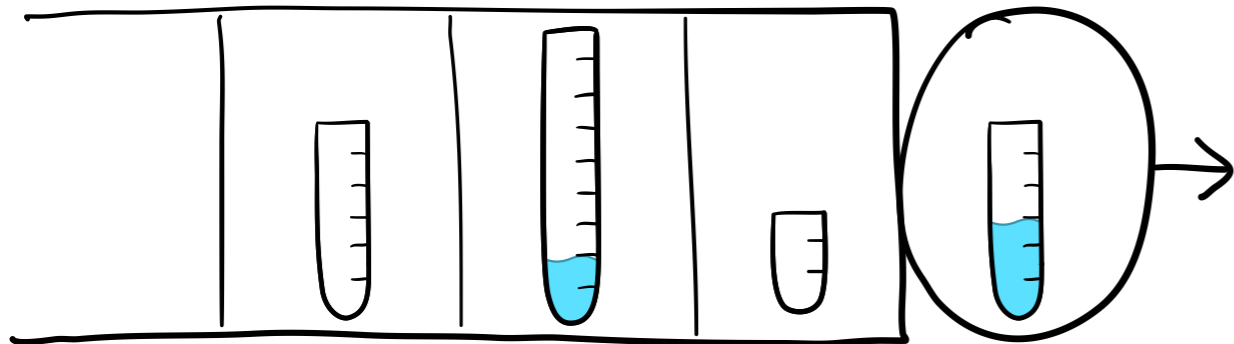


Optimal: **SRPT**

(serve job of least *remaining size*)

# State of the Art

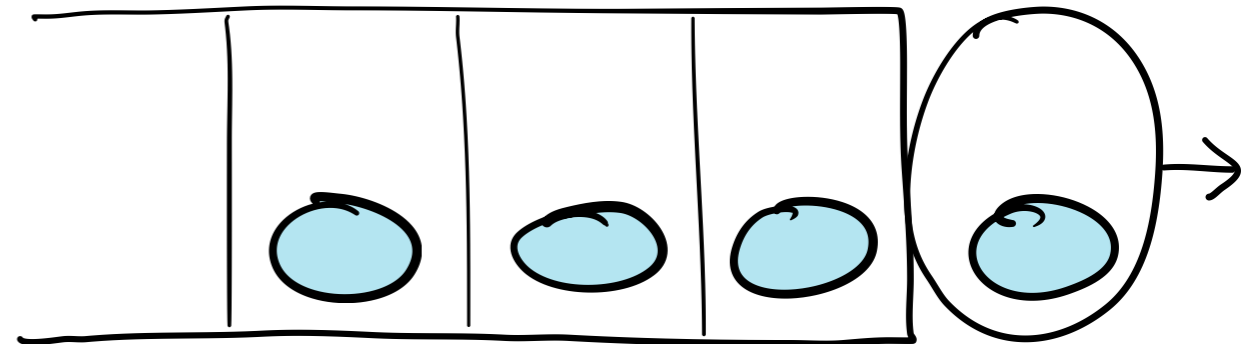
## Known Job Sizes



Optimal: **SRPT**

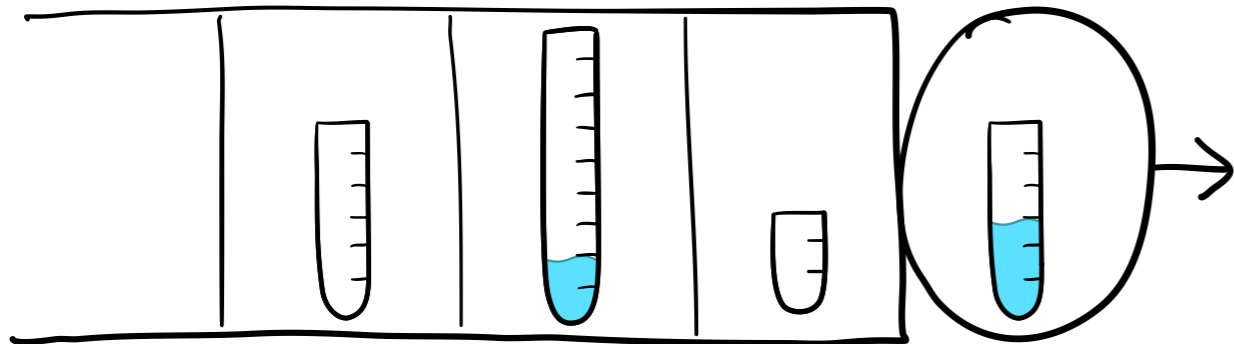
(serve job of least *remaining size*)

## Unknown Job Sizes



# State of the Art

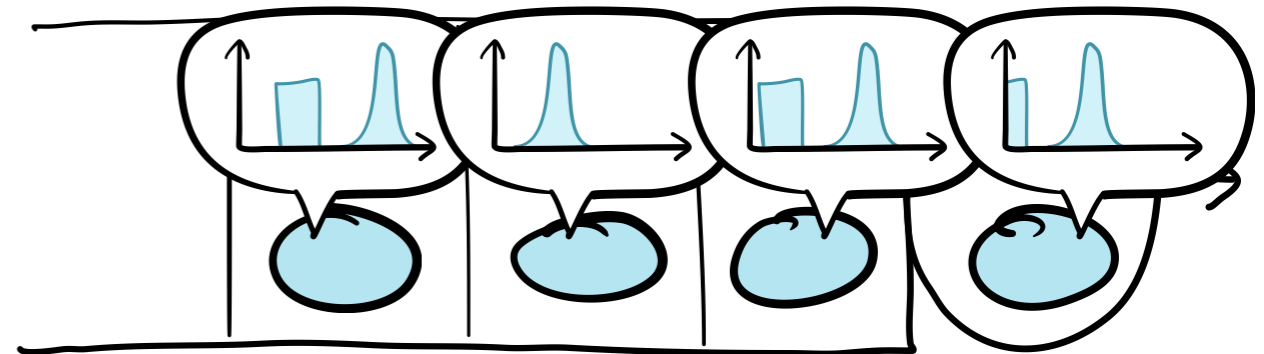
## Known Job Sizes



Optimal: **SRPT**

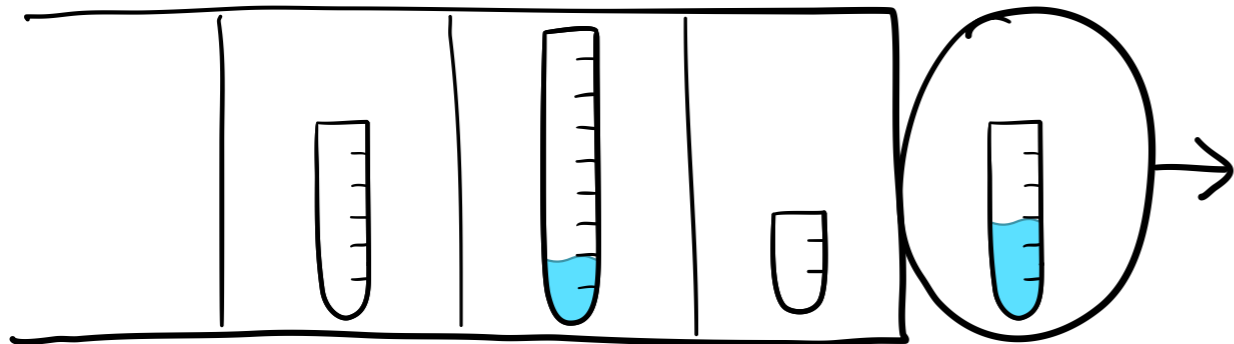
(serve job of least *remaining size*)

## Unknown Job Sizes



# State of the Art

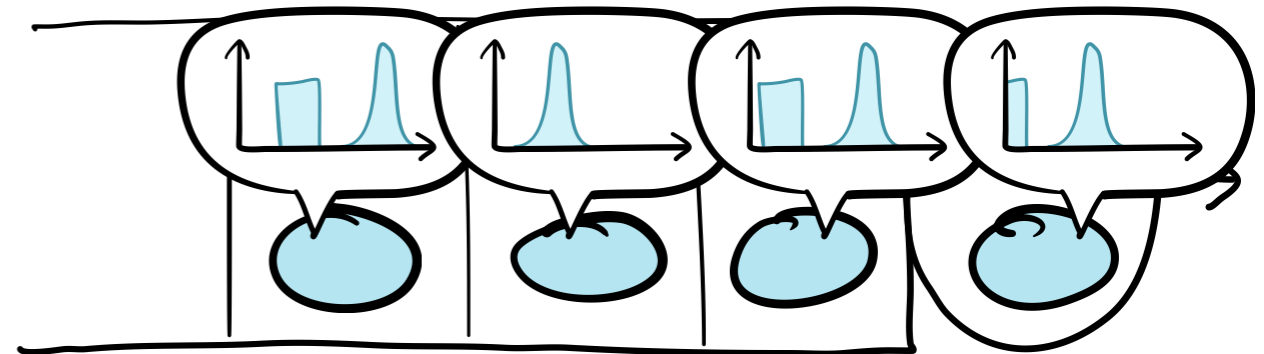
## Known Job Sizes



Optimal: **SRPT**

(serve job of least *remaining size*)

## Unknown Job Sizes

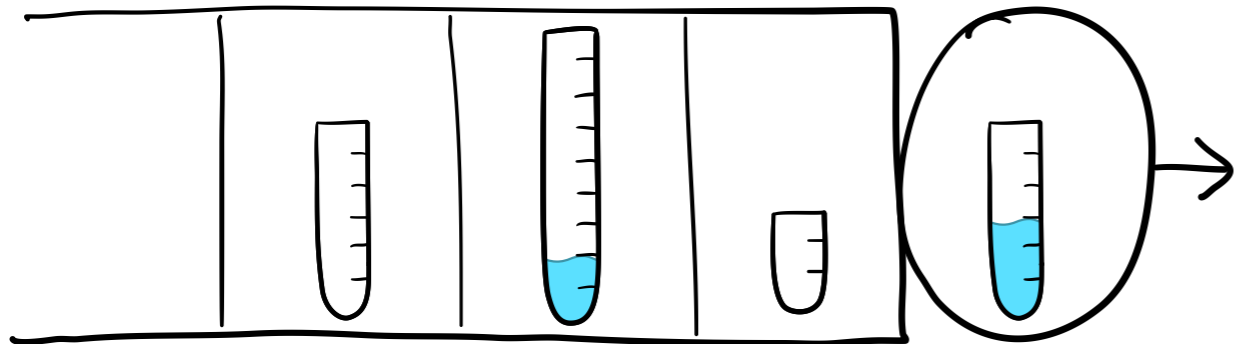


Seems good: **SERPT**

(serve job of least *expected remaining size*)

# State of the Art

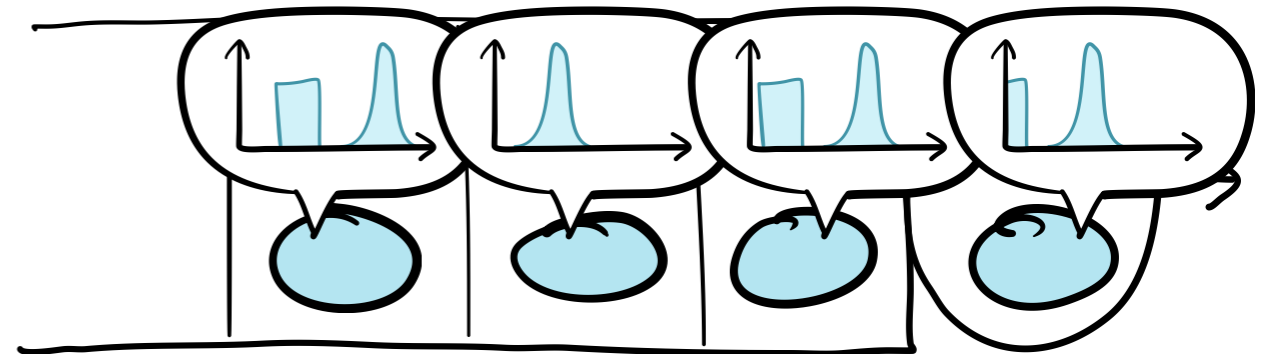
## Known Job Sizes



Optimal: **SRPT**

(serve job of least *remaining size*)

## Unknown Job Sizes



Seems good: **SERPT**

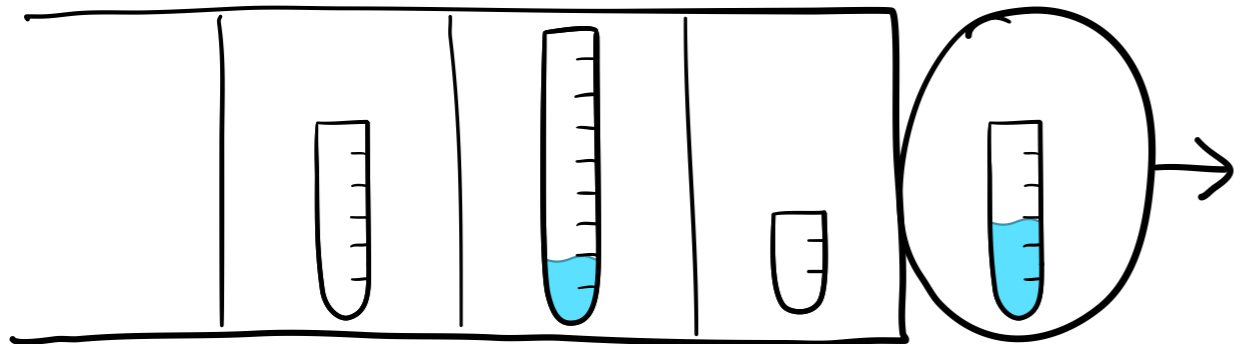
(serve job of least *expected remaining size*)

Optimal: **Gittins**

(serve job of least *Gittins rank*)

# State of the Art

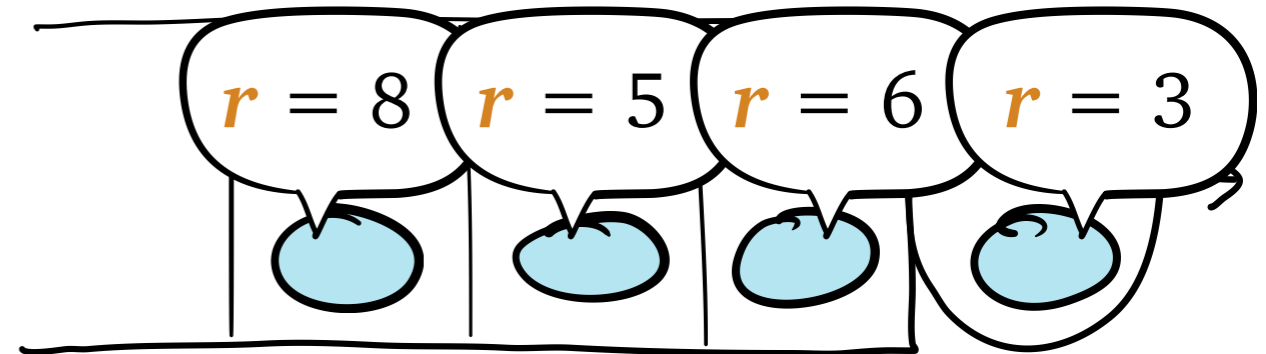
## Known Job Sizes



Optimal: **SRPT**

(serve job of least *remaining size*)

## Unknown Job Sizes



Seems good: **SERPT**

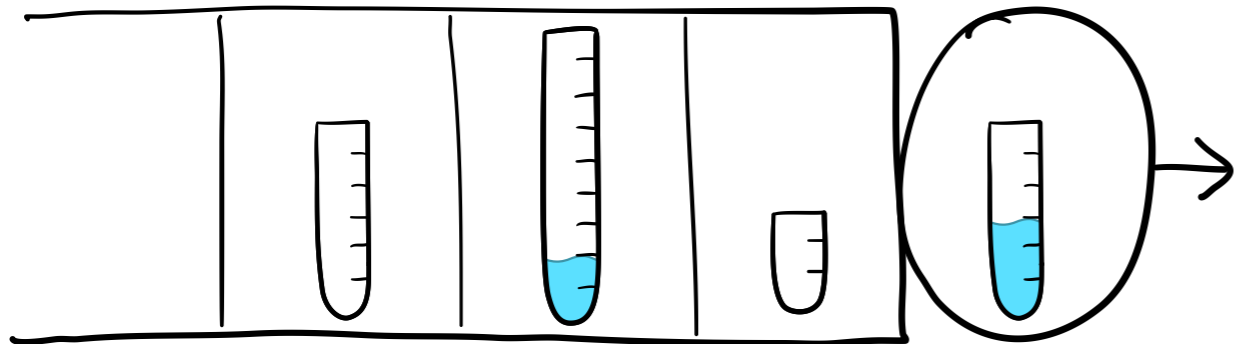
(serve job of least *expected remaining size*)

Optimal: **Gittins**

(serve job of least *Gittins rank*)

# State of the Art

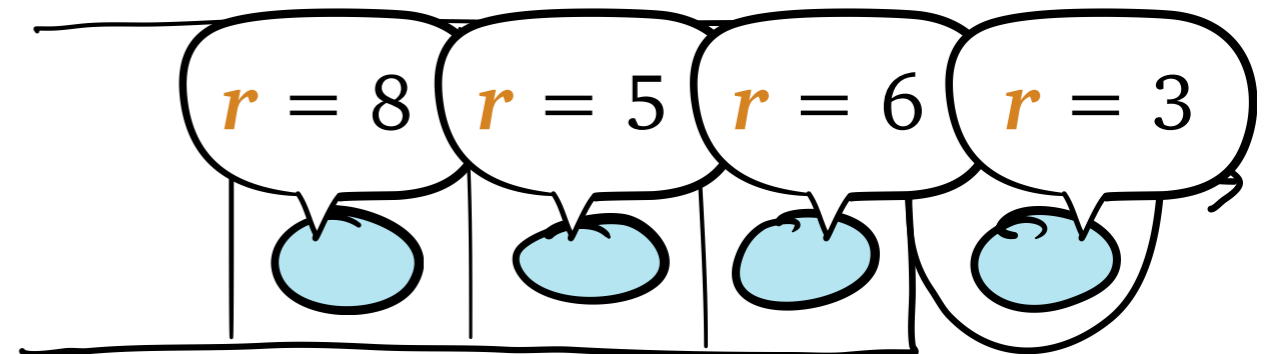
## Known Job Sizes



Optimal: **SRPT**

(serve job of least *remaining size*)

## Unknown Job Sizes



Seems good: **SERPT**

(serve job of least *expected remaining size*)

Optimal: **Gittins**

(serve job of least *Gittins rank*)



**Warning!**

- **Gittins** is hard to compute
- **SERPT** has no  $E[T]$  guarantee



I wish my policy had...

- *simple* definition like **SERPT**
- *provable* guarantee on  $E[T]$  like **Gittins**





I wish my policy had...

- *simple* definition like **SERPT**
- *provable* guarantee on  $E[T]$  like **Gittins**

Open problem:  
can we bound  $E[T]$   
of **SERPT**?



I wish my policy had...

- *simple* definition like **SERPT**
- *provable* guarantee on  $E[T]$  like **Gittins**



# M-SERPT

A new policy with both!

- *simple* definition like **SERPT**
- *provable* guarantee on  $E[T]$  like **Gittins**



# M-SERPT

A new policy with both!

- *simple* definition like **SERPT**
- *provable* guarantee on  $E[T]$  like **Gittins**

**First step:** background on **SERPT** and **Gittins**

# Background: **SERPT**

# Background: **SERPT**

Job size distribution:

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

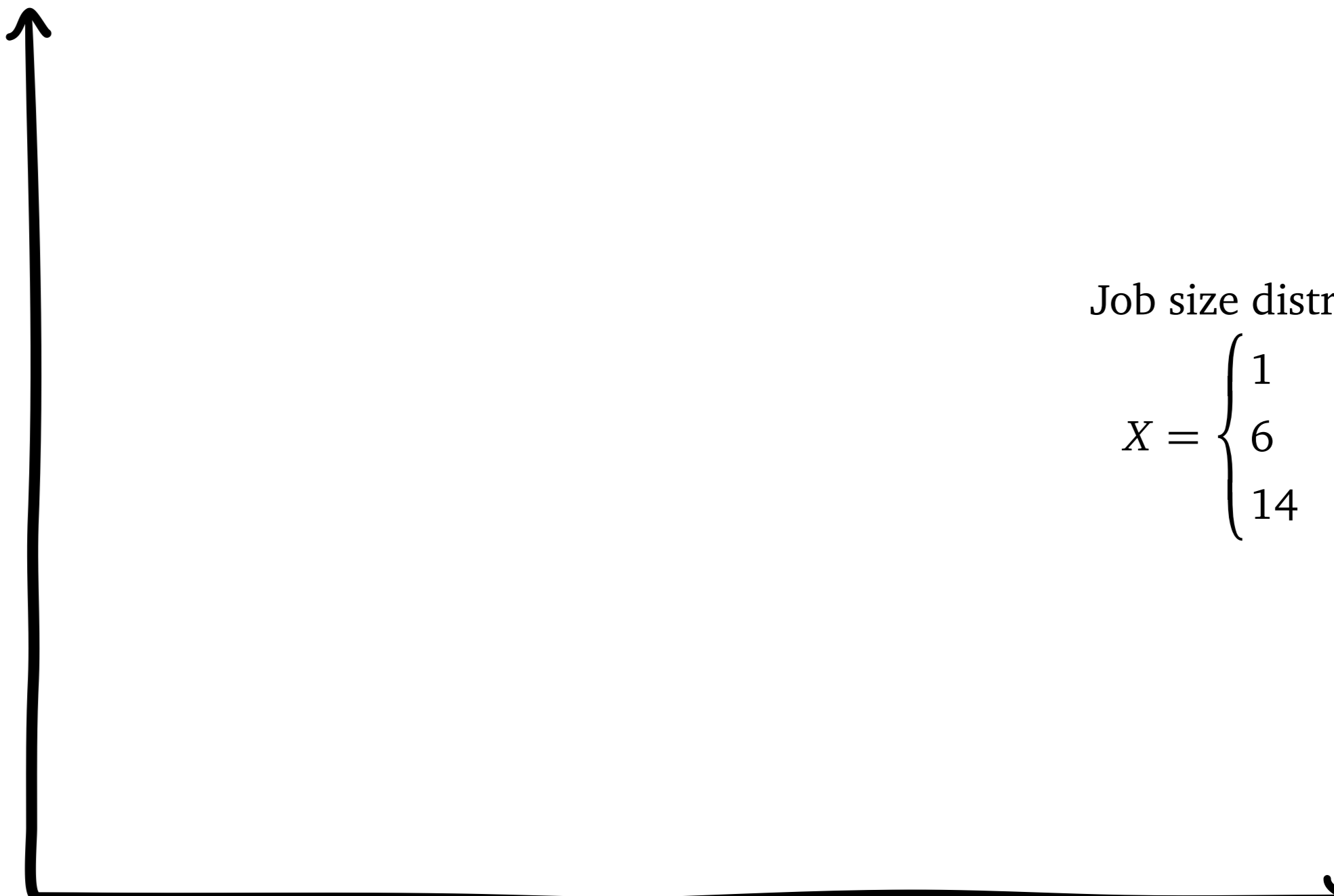
# Background: **SERPT**

Job size distribution:

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

# Background: **SERPT**

rank



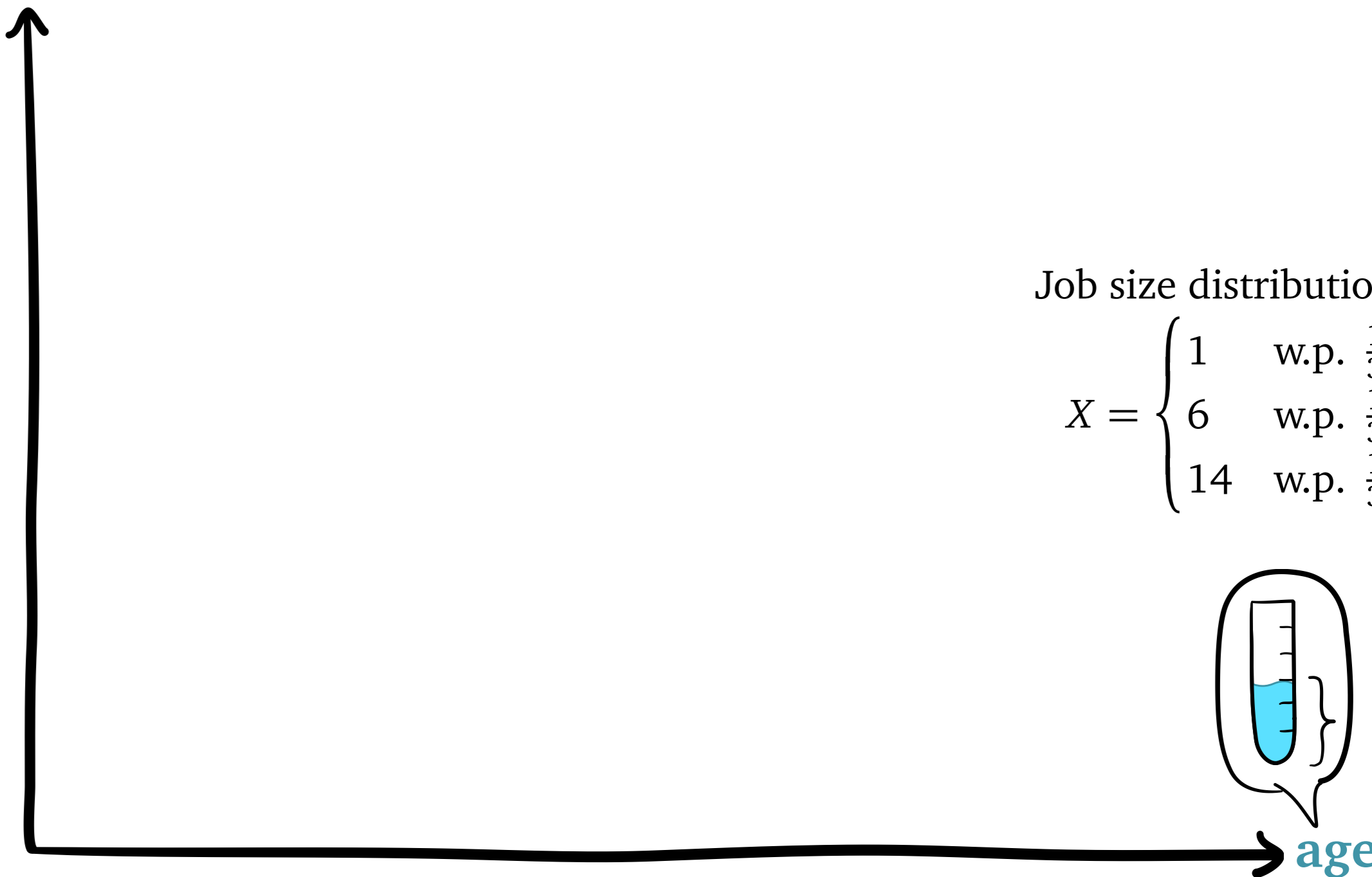
Job size distribution:

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



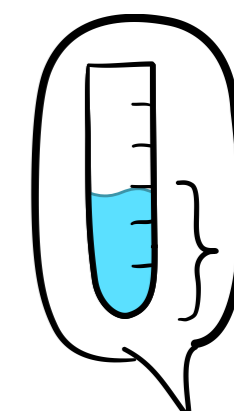
# Background: **SERPT**

rank



Job size distribution:

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



# Background: **SERPT**

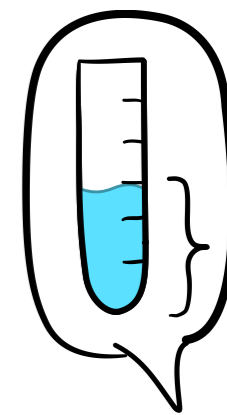
a.k.a. priority

rank



Job size distribution:

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



age

# Background: **SERPT**

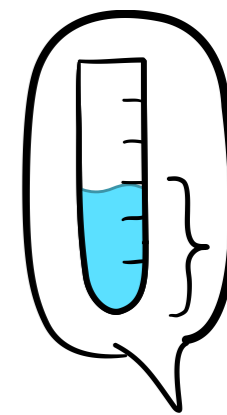
a.k.a. priority

rank

lower is  
better

Job size distribution:

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



age

# Background: **SERPT**

a.k.a. priority

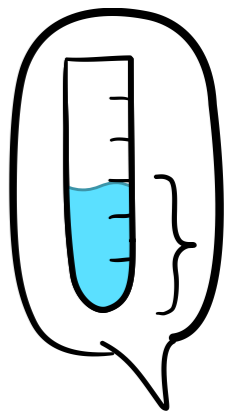
rank

$$r_{\text{SERPT}}(a) = \mathbf{E}[X - a \mid X > a]$$

lower is  
better

Job size distribution:

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



age

# Background: **SERPT**

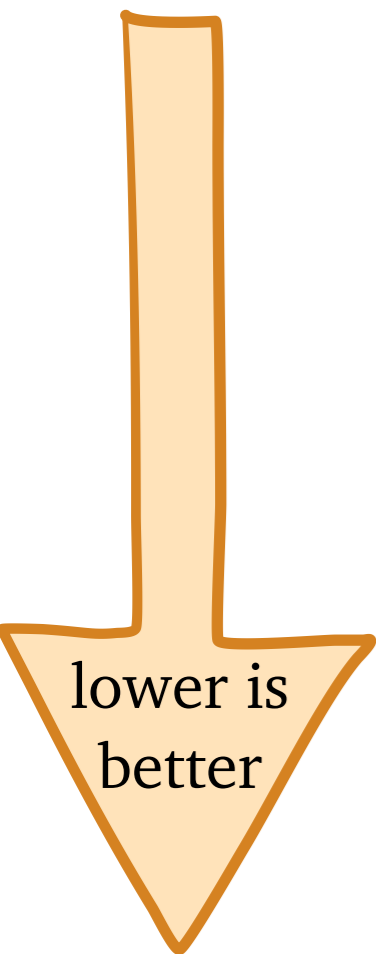
a.k.a. priority

rank

$$r_{\text{SERPT}}(a) = \mathbf{E}[X - a \mid X > a]$$

7

6



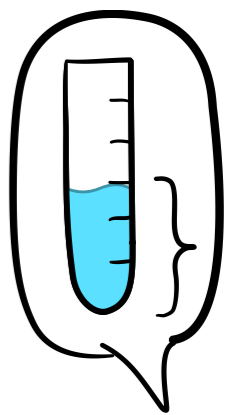
lower is  
better

1

age

Job size distribution:

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

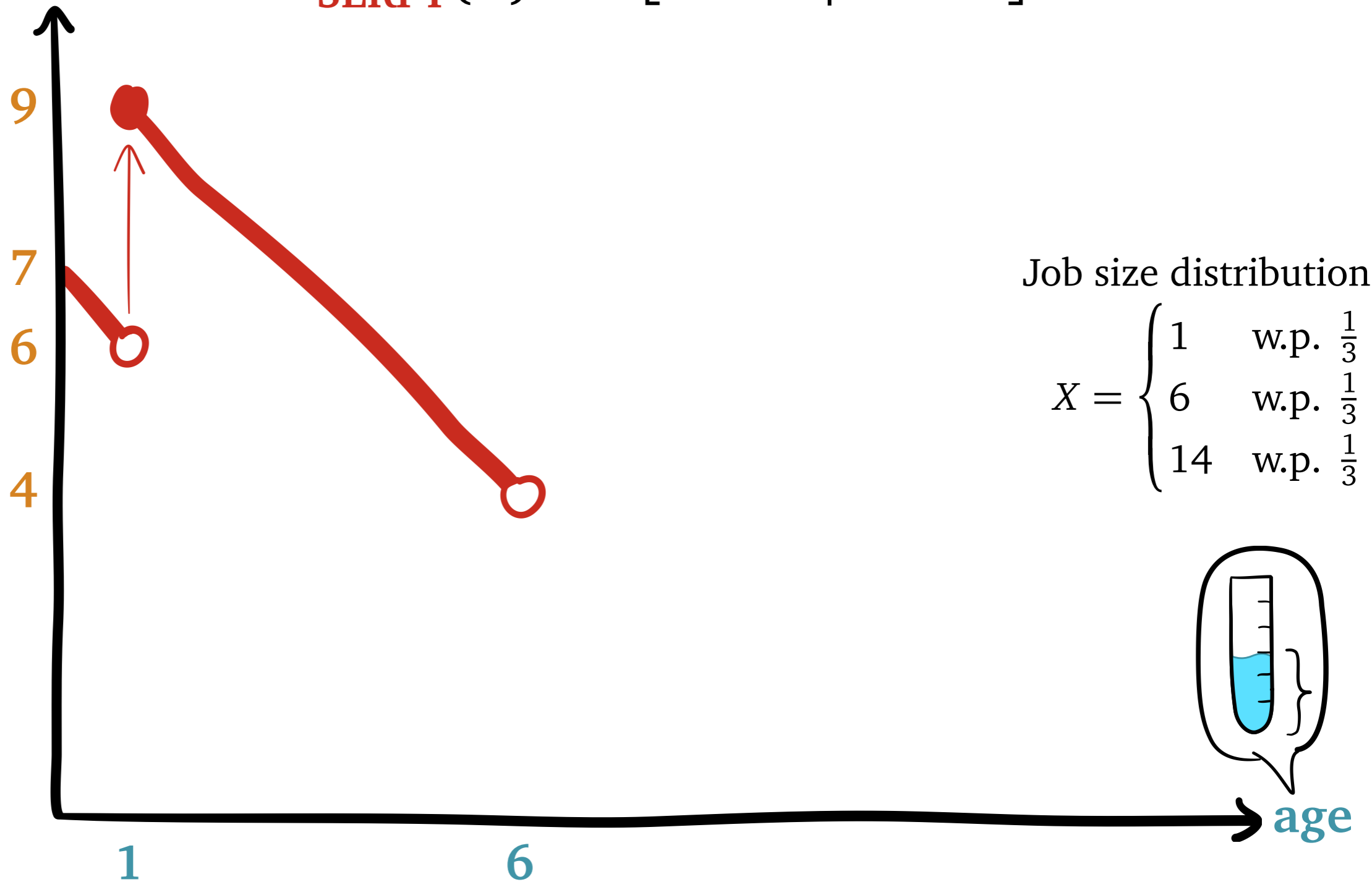
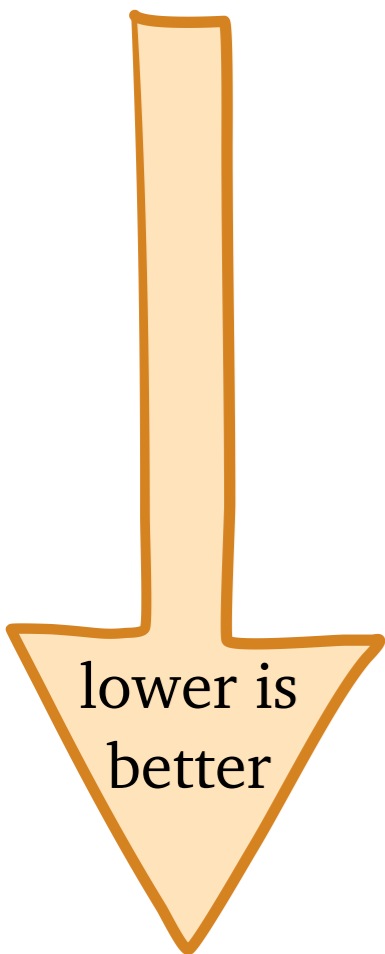


# Background: **SERPT**

a.k.a. priority

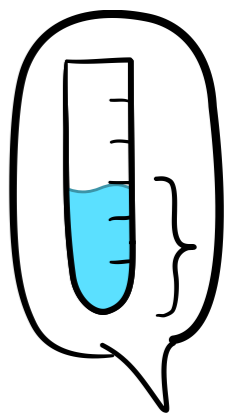
rank

$$r_{\text{SERPT}}(a) = \mathbf{E}[X - a \mid X > a]$$



Job size distribution:

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

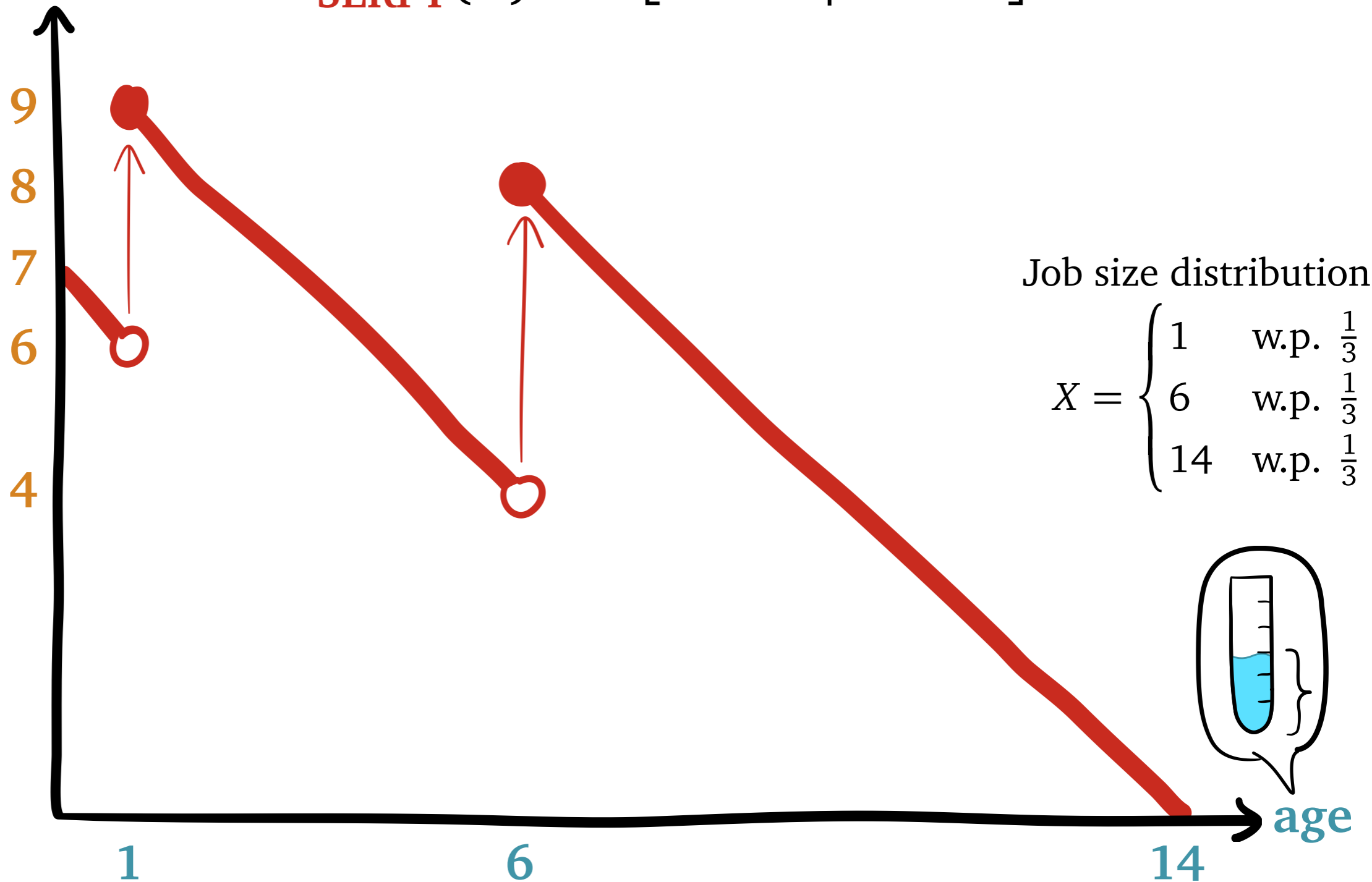
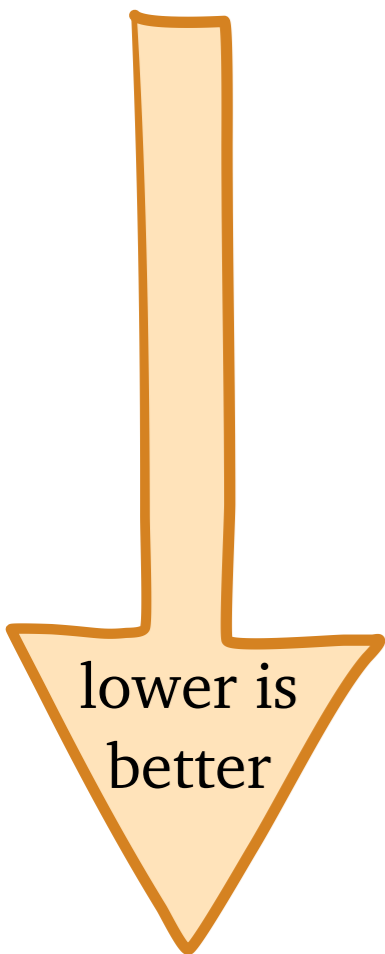


# Background: **SERPT**

a.k.a. priority

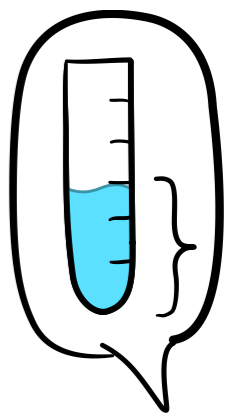
rank

$$r_{\text{SERPT}}(a) = \mathbf{E}[X - a \mid X > a]$$



Job size distribution:

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

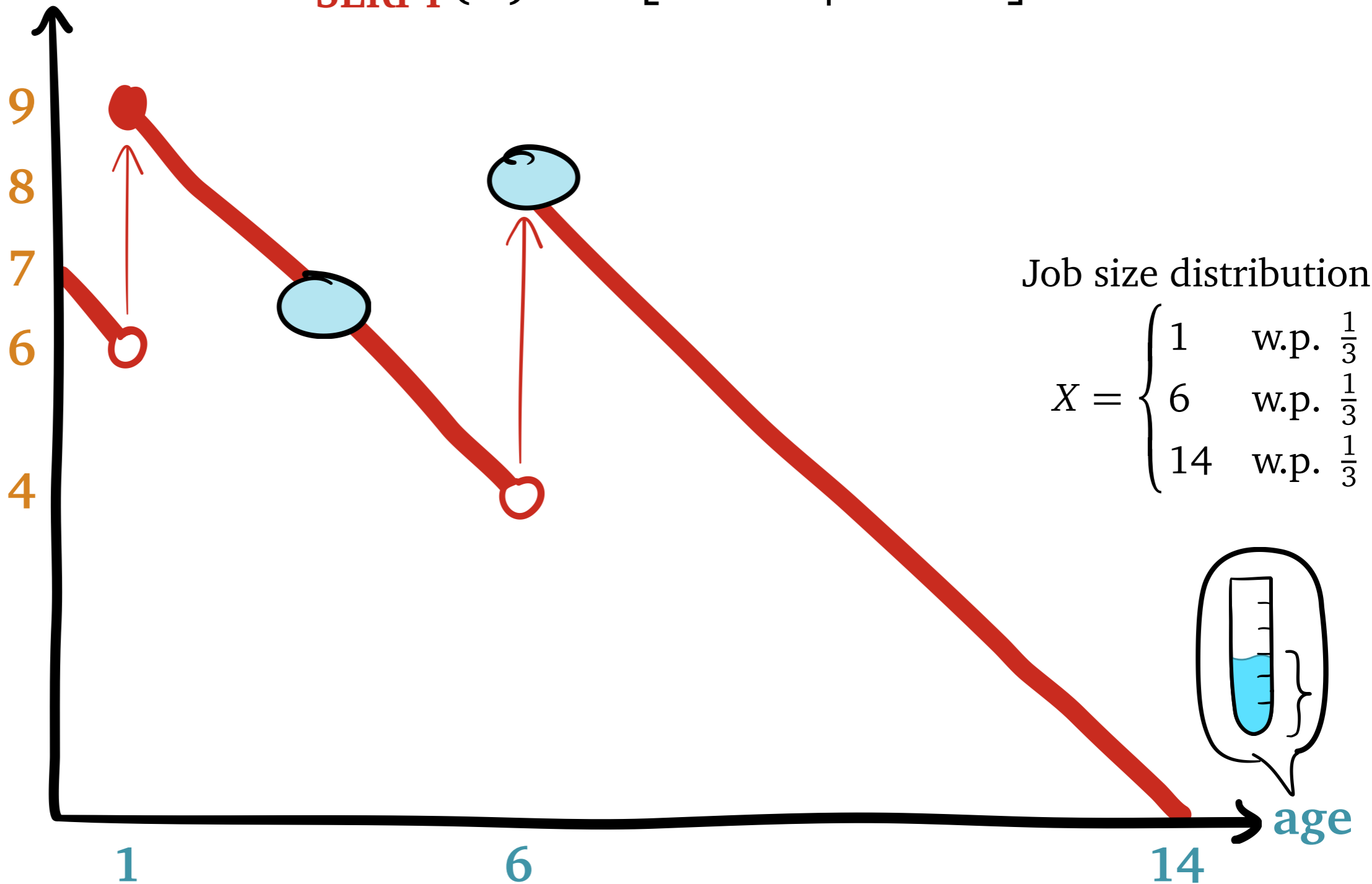


# Background: **SERPT**

a.k.a. priority

$$r_{\text{SERPT}}(a) = \mathbf{E}[X - a \mid X > a]$$

rank



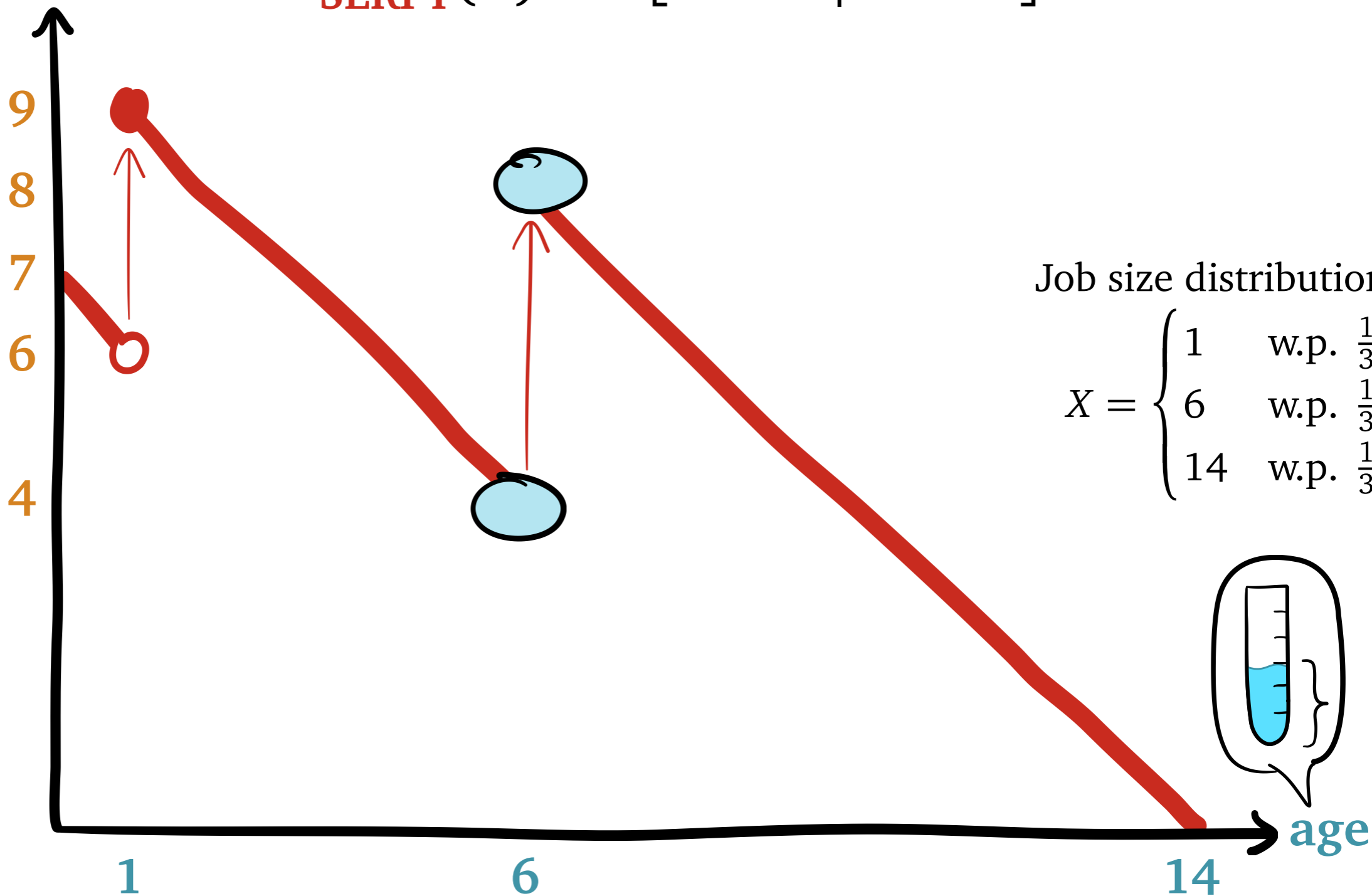
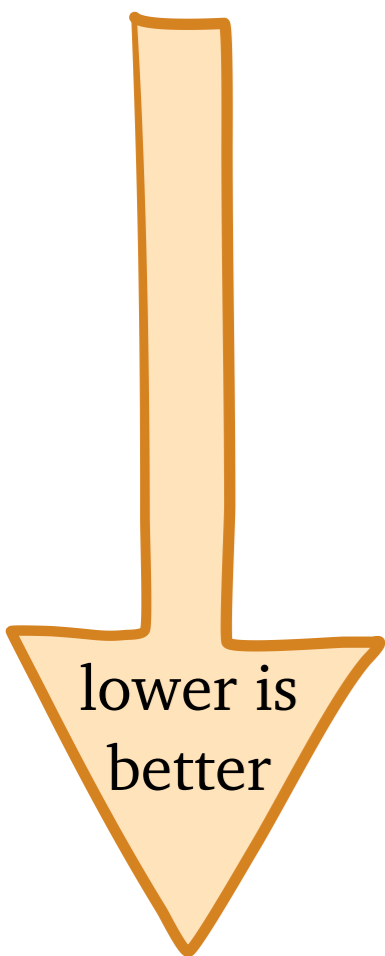


# Background: **SERPT**

a.k.a. priority

rank

$$r_{\text{SERPT}}(a) = \mathbf{E}[X - a \mid X > a]$$

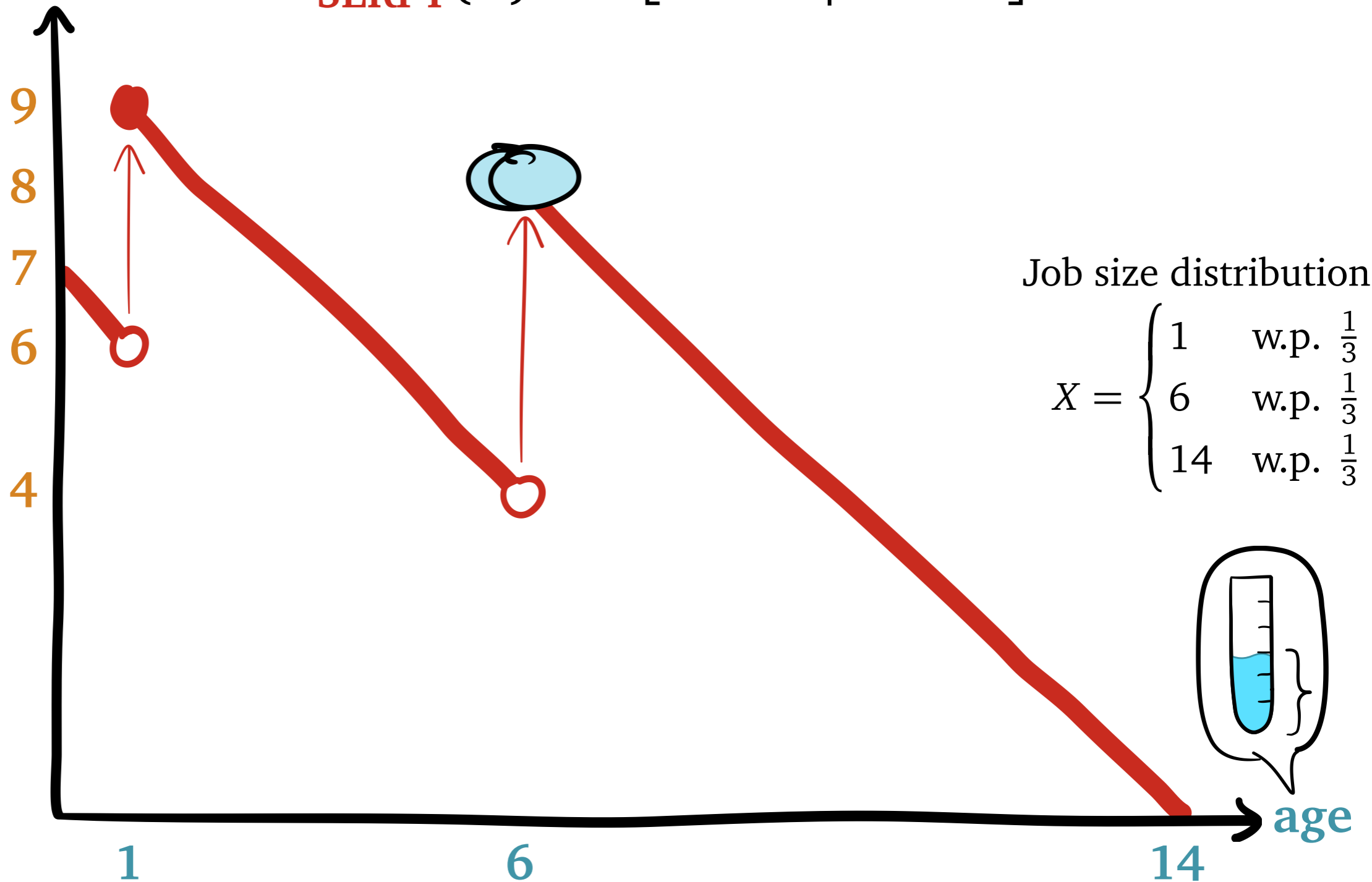
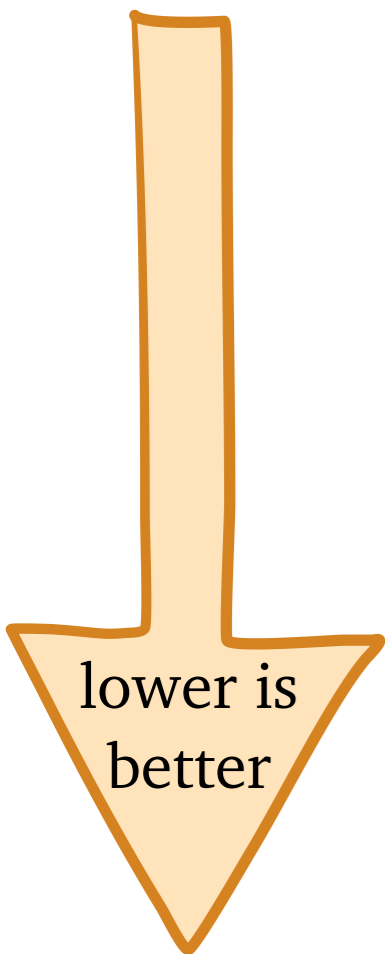


# Background: **SERPT**

a.k.a. priority

rank

$$r_{\text{SERPT}}(a) = \mathbf{E}[X - a \mid X > a]$$



Job size distribution:

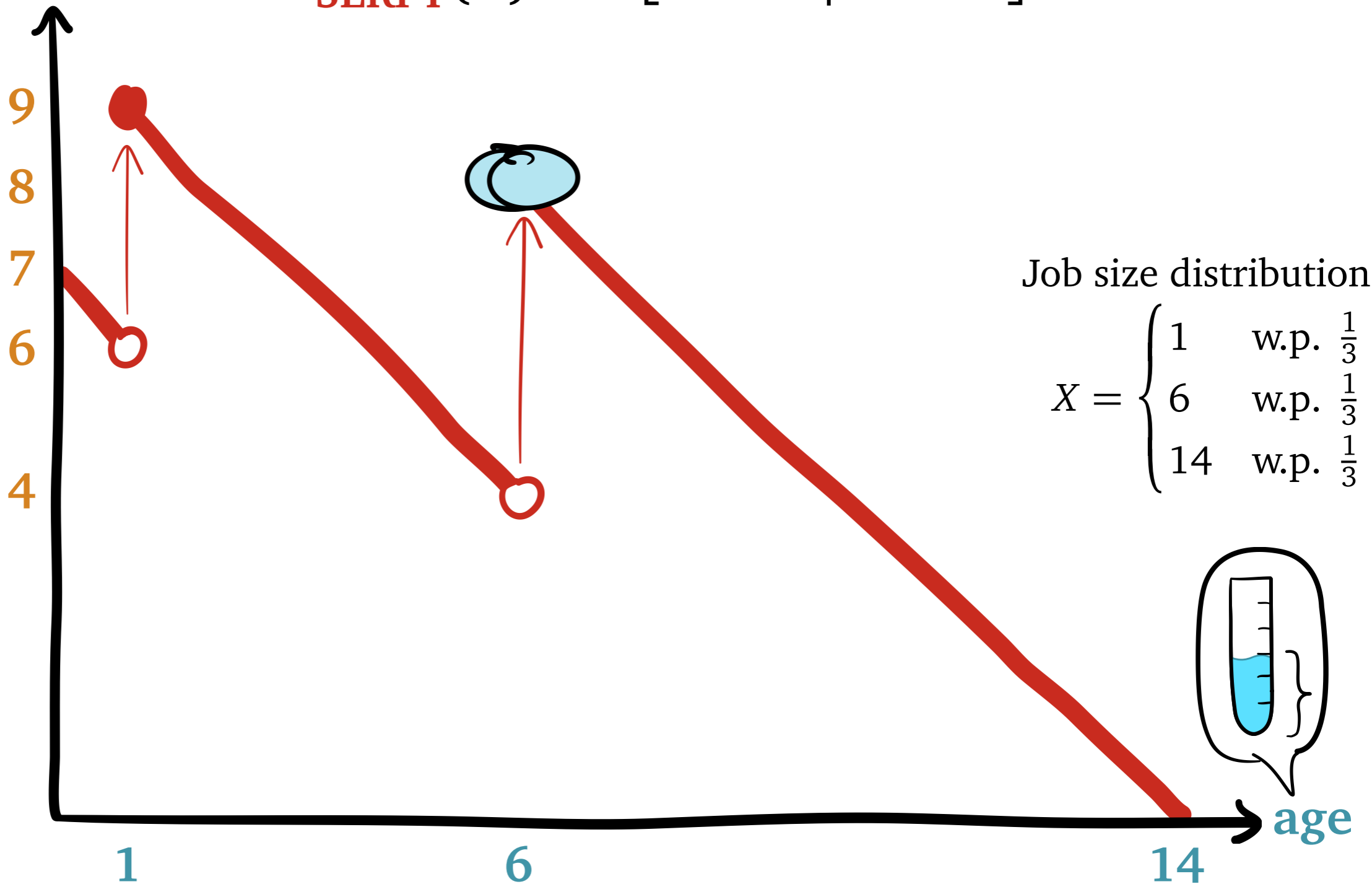
$$X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \\ 6 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \\ 14 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \end{cases}$$

# Background: **SERPT**

a.k.a. priority

$$r_{\text{SERPT}}(a) = \mathbf{E}[X - a \mid X > a]$$

rank



Job size distribution:

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

break ties FCFS

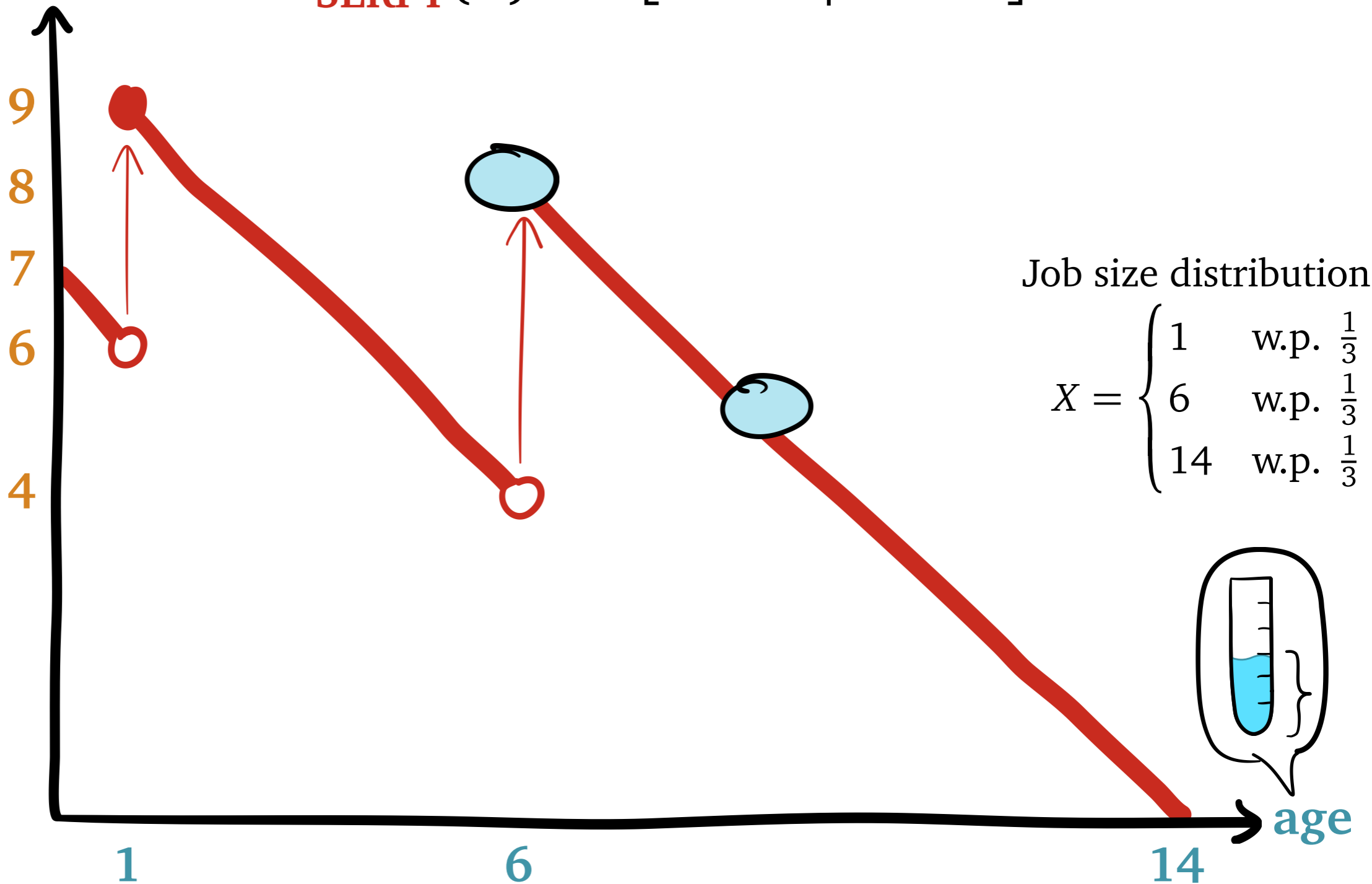
lower is better

# Background: **SERPT**

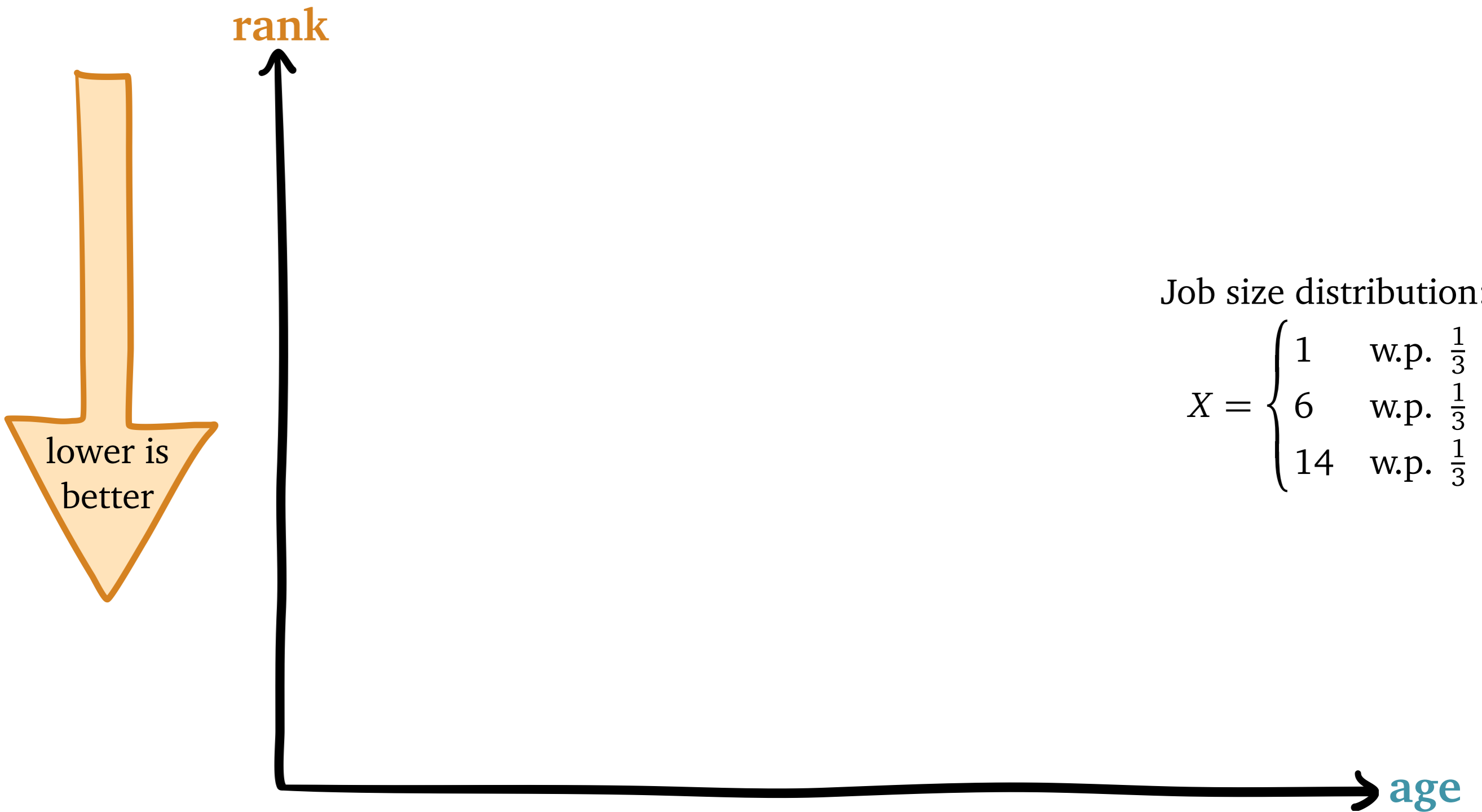
a.k.a. priority

$$r_{\text{SERPT}}(a) = \mathbf{E}[X - a \mid X > a]$$

rank



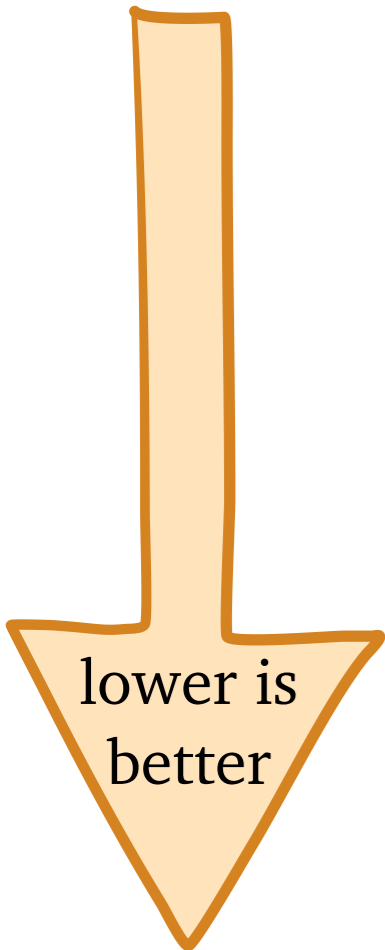
# Background: Gittins



# Background: **Gittins**

$$r_{\text{Gittins}}(a) = \inf_{\Delta > 0} \frac{\mathbf{E}[\min\{X - a, \Delta\} \mid X > a]}{\mathbf{P}[X - a \leq \Delta \mid X > a]}$$

rank



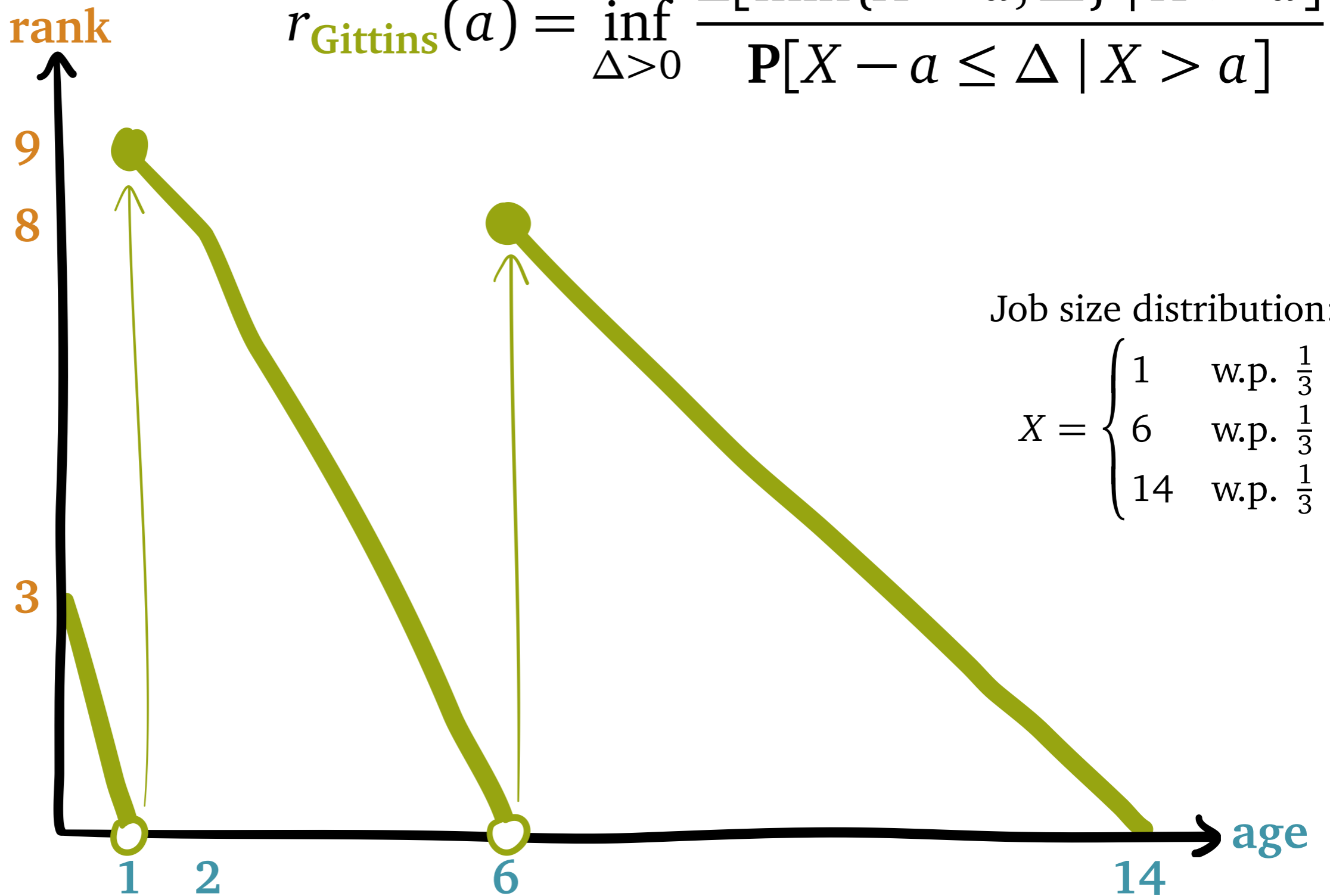
Job size distribution:

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

age

# Background: Gittins

$$r_{\text{Gittins}}(a) = \inf_{\Delta > 0} \frac{\mathbb{E}[\min\{X - a, \Delta\} \mid X > a]}{\mathbb{P}[X - a \leq \Delta \mid X > a]}$$



# Introducing M-SERPT

rank



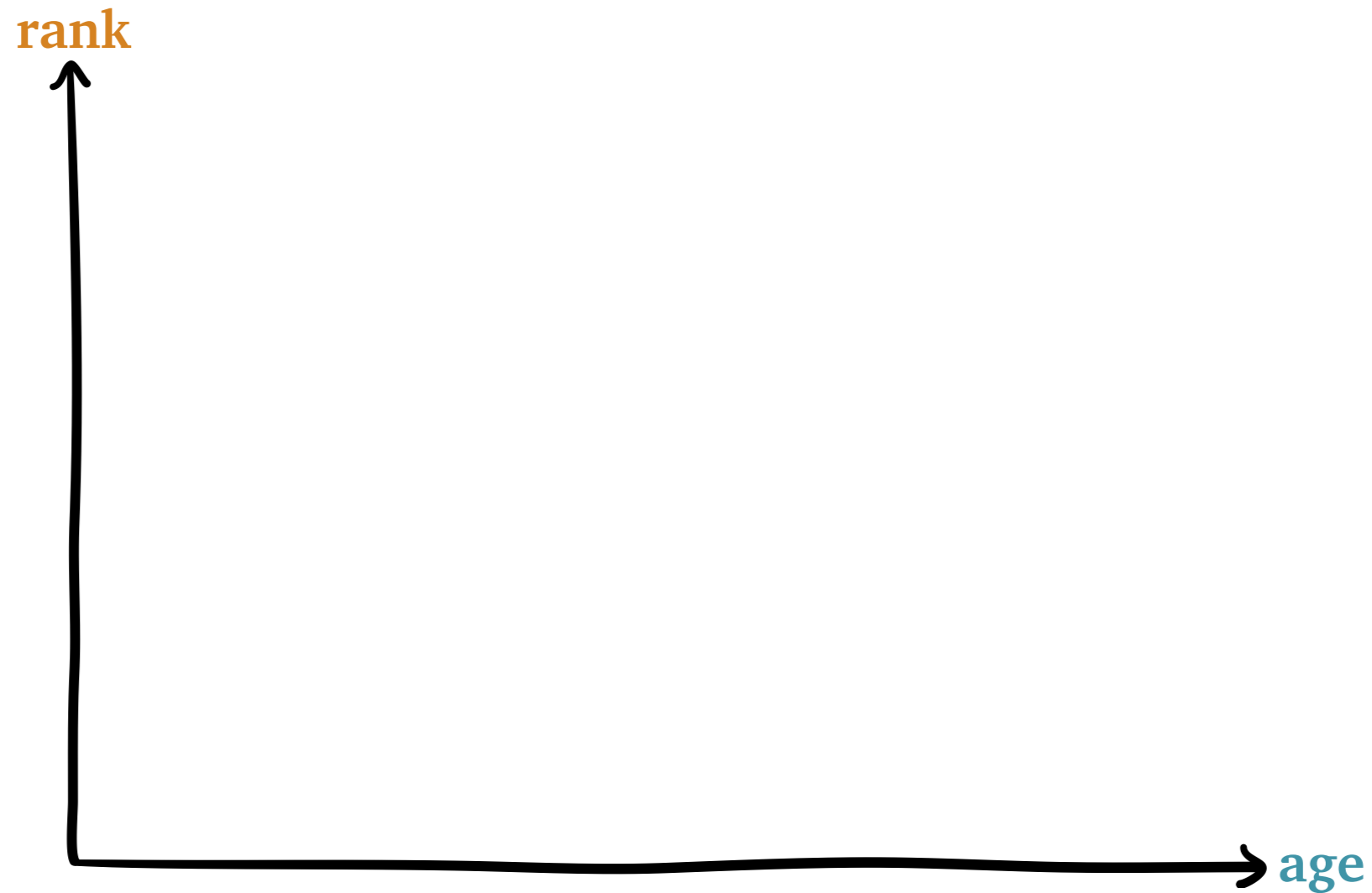
age





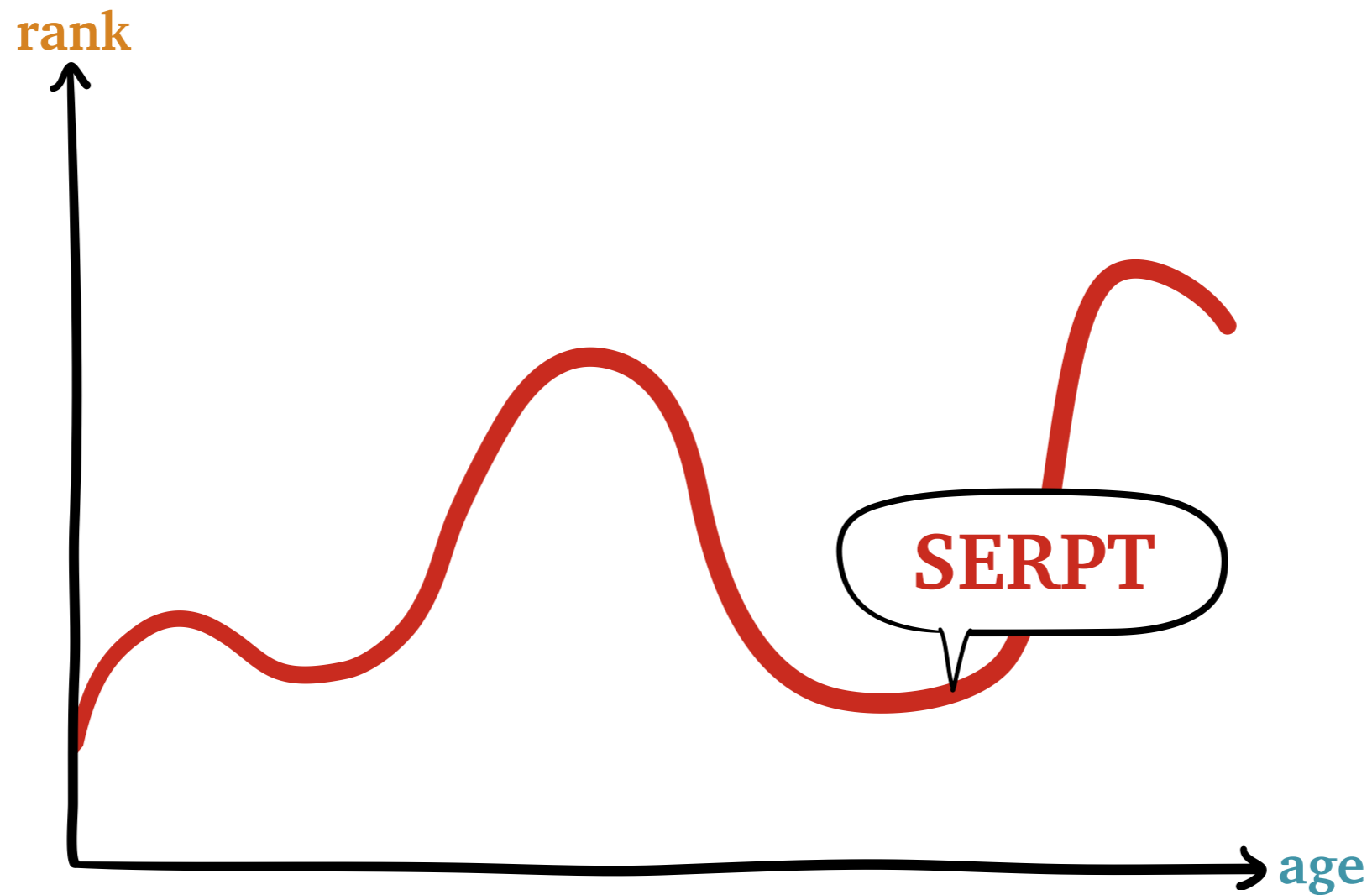
# Introducing **M-SERPT**

$$r_{\text{M-SERPT}}(a) = \max_{0 \leq b \leq a} r_{\text{SERPT}}(b)$$



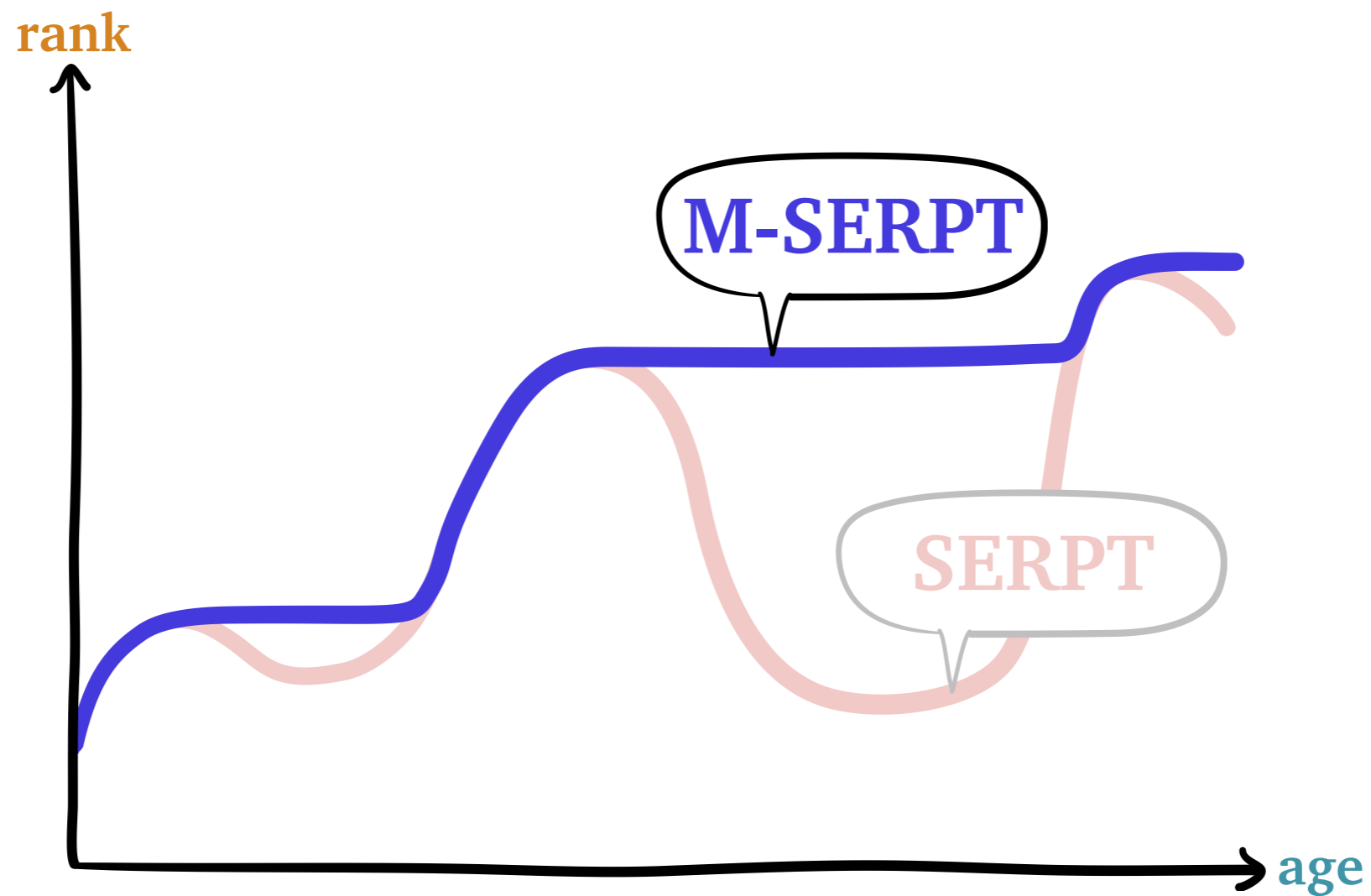
# Introducing **M-SERPT**

$$r_{\text{M-SERPT}}(a) = \max_{0 \leq b \leq a} r_{\text{SERPT}}(b)$$



# Introducing **M-SERPT**

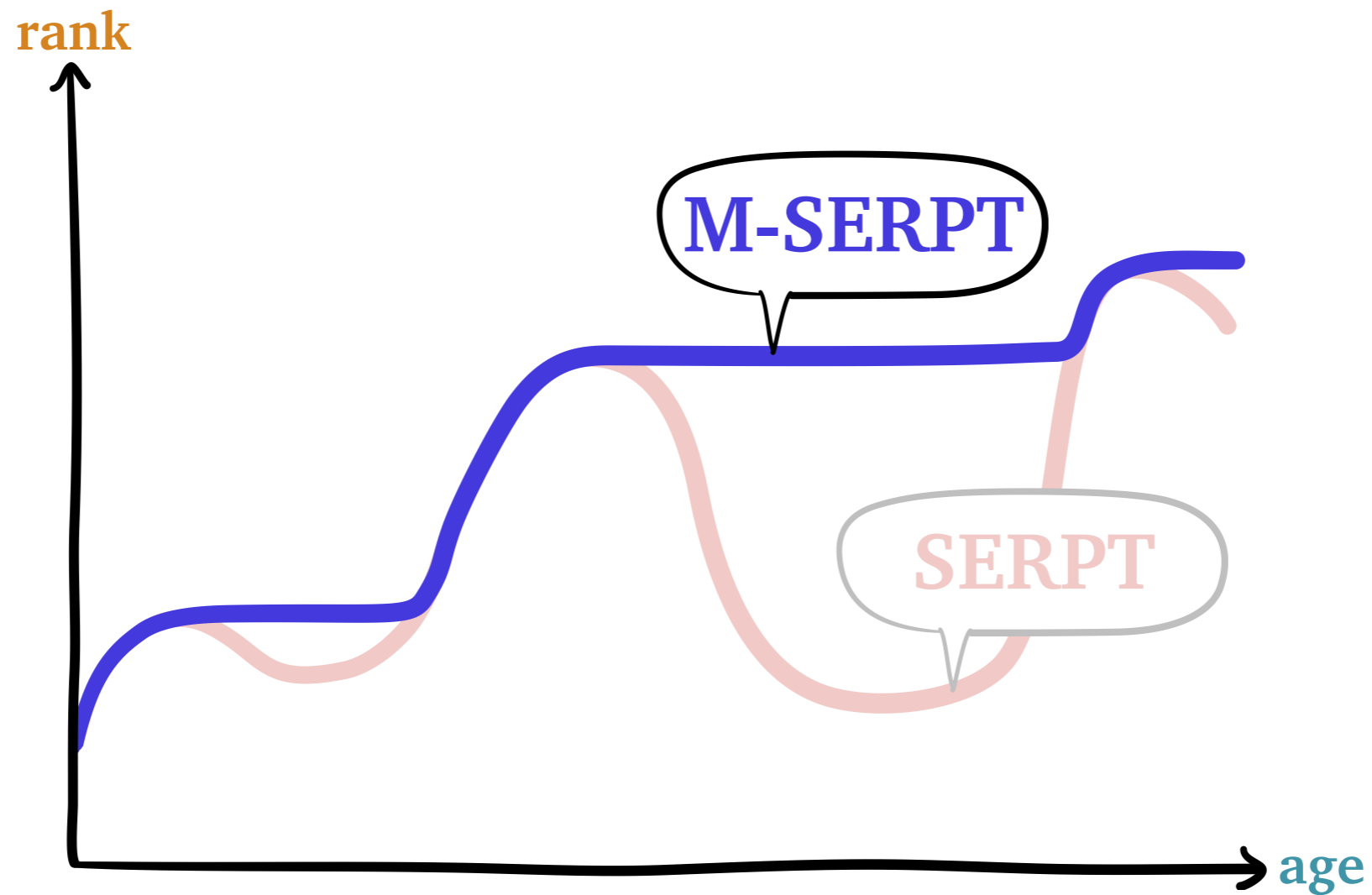
$$r_{\text{M-SERPT}}(a) = \max_{0 \leq b \leq a} r_{\text{SERPT}}(b)$$



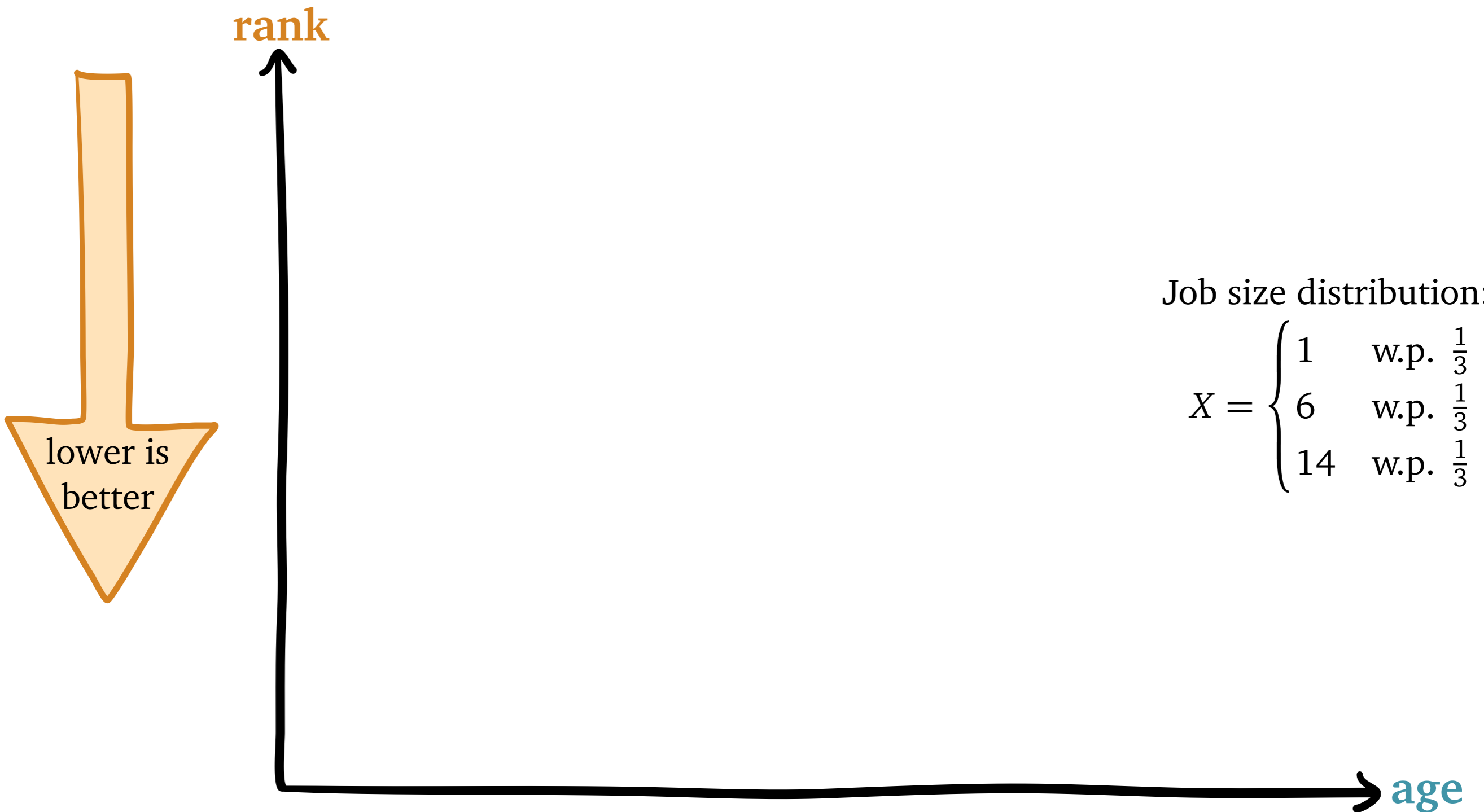
# Introducing **M-SERPT**

monotonic

$$r_{\text{M-SERPT}}(a) = \max_{0 \leq b \leq a} r_{\text{SERPT}}(b)$$



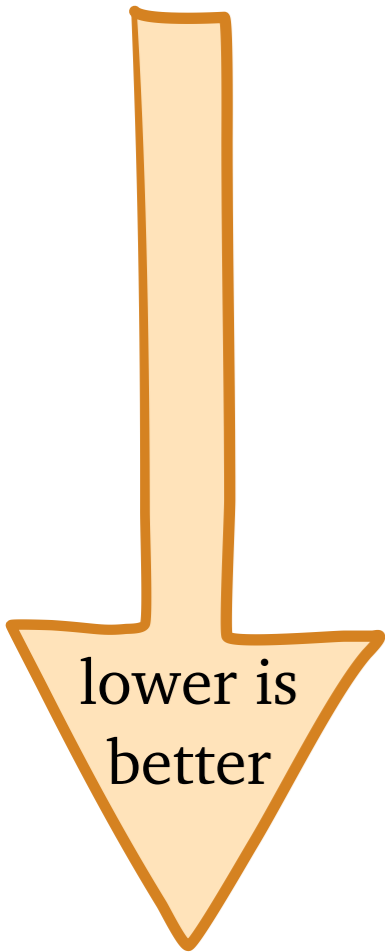
# M-SERPT Example



# M-SERPT Example

$$r_{\text{M-SERPT}}(a) = \max_{0 \leq b \leq a} r_{\text{SERPT}}(b)$$

rank

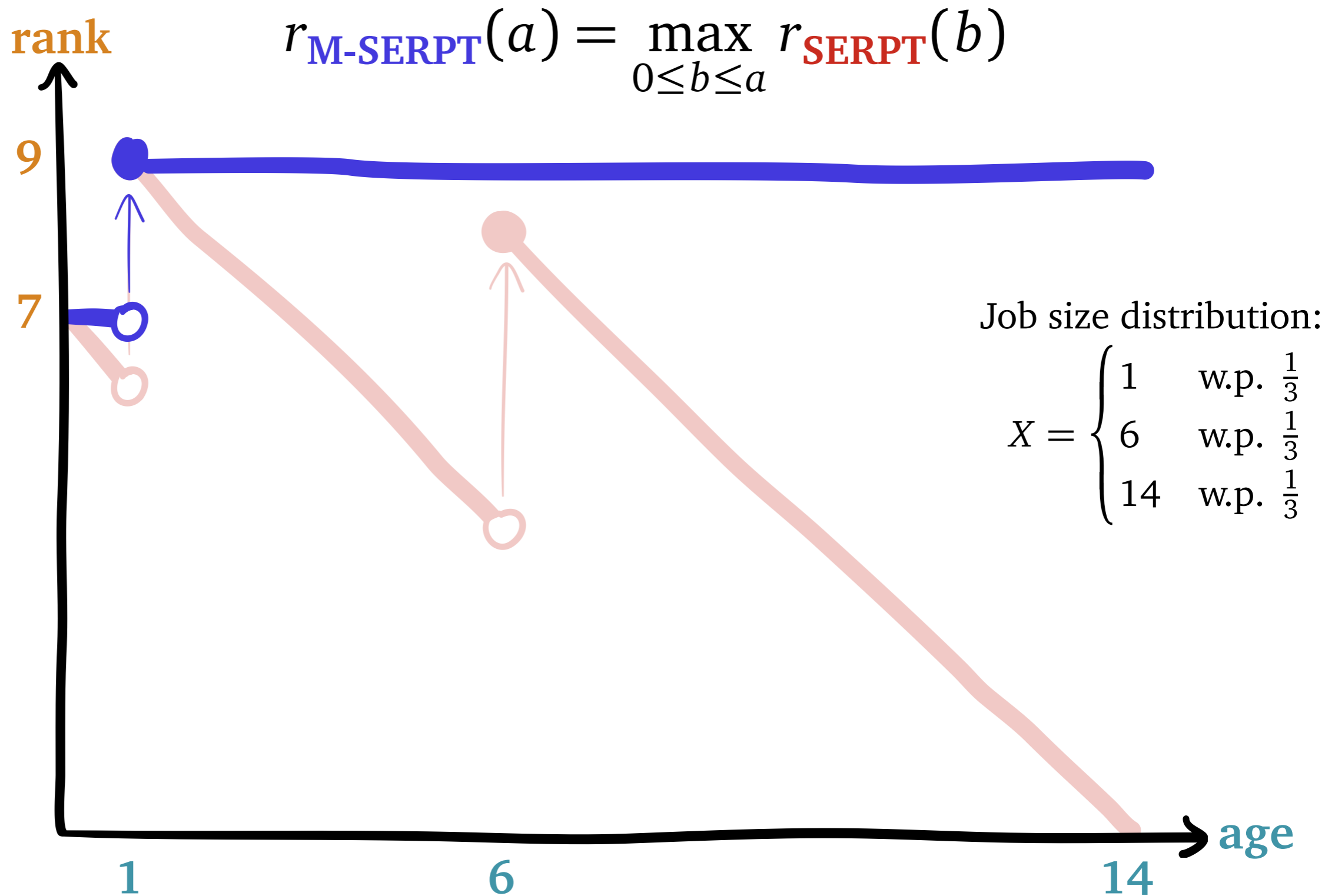


Job size distribution:

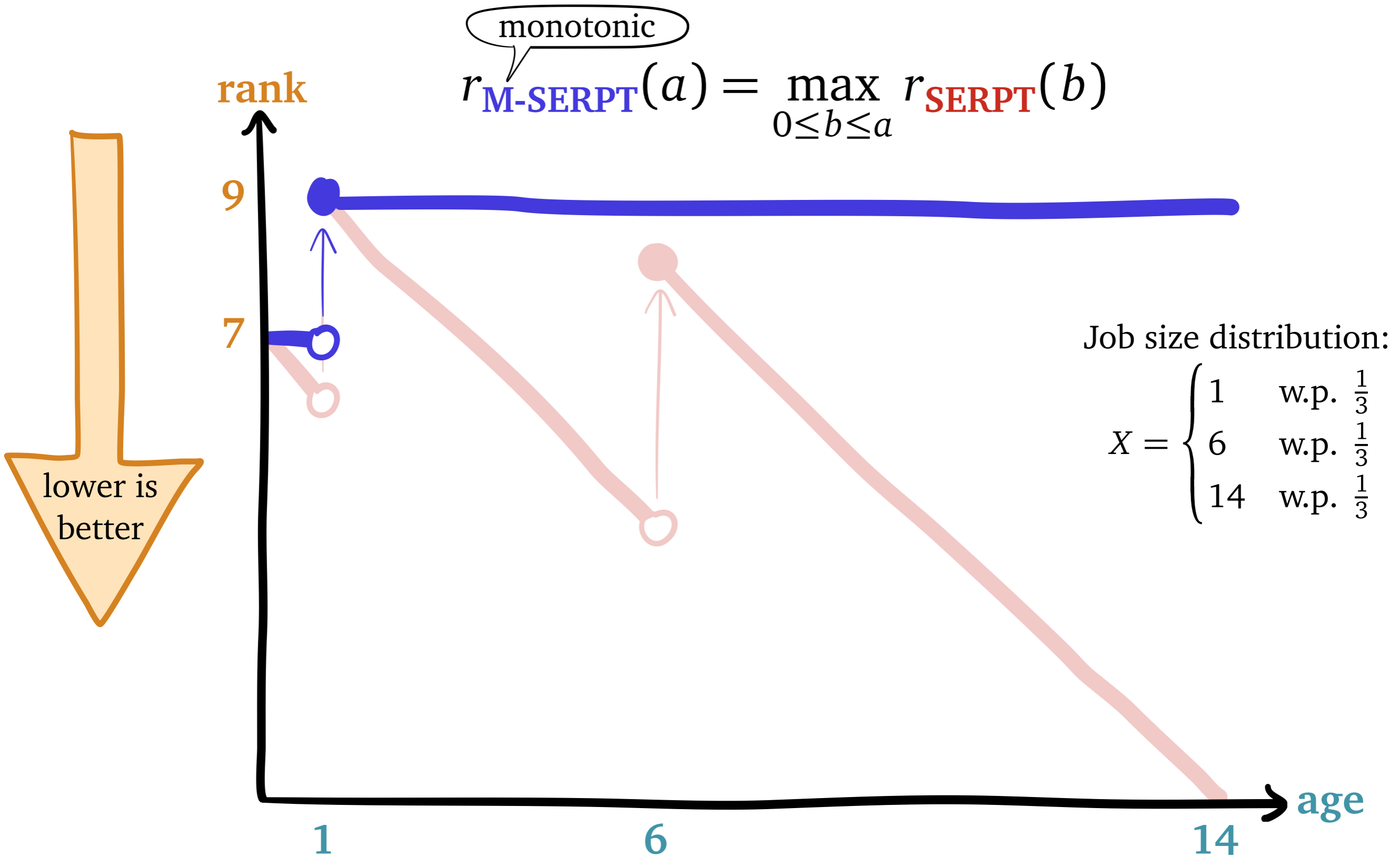
$$X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \\ 6 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \\ 14 & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \end{cases}$$

age

# M-SERPT Example



# M-SERPT Example



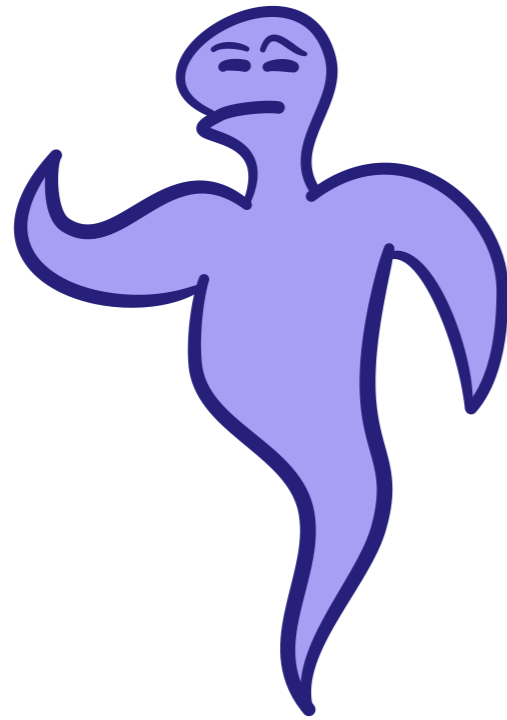




# M-SERPT

A new policy with both!

- *simple* definition like **SERPT**
- *provable* guarantee on  $E[T]$  like **Gittins**



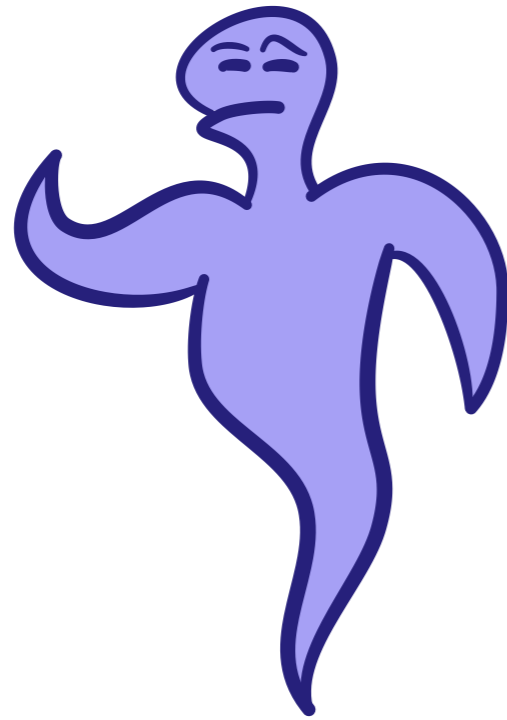
# M-SERPT

A new policy with both!

- *simple* definition like **SERPT**
- *provable* guarantee on  $E[T]$  like **Gittins**

**Definition:**

$$r_{\text{M-SERPT}}(a) = \max_{0 \leq b \leq a} r_{\text{SERPT}}(b)$$



# M-SERPT

A new policy with both!

- *simple* definition like **SERPT**
- *provable* guarantee on  $E[T]$  like **Gittins**

**Definition:**

$$r_{\text{M-SERPT}}(a) = \max_{0 \leq b \leq a} r_{\text{SERPT}}(b)$$

**Theorem:**

$$\frac{E[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{E[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq 5$$



# M-SERPT

A new policy with both!

- *simple* definition like **SERPT**
- *provable* guarantee on  $E[T]$  like **Gittins**

**Definition:**

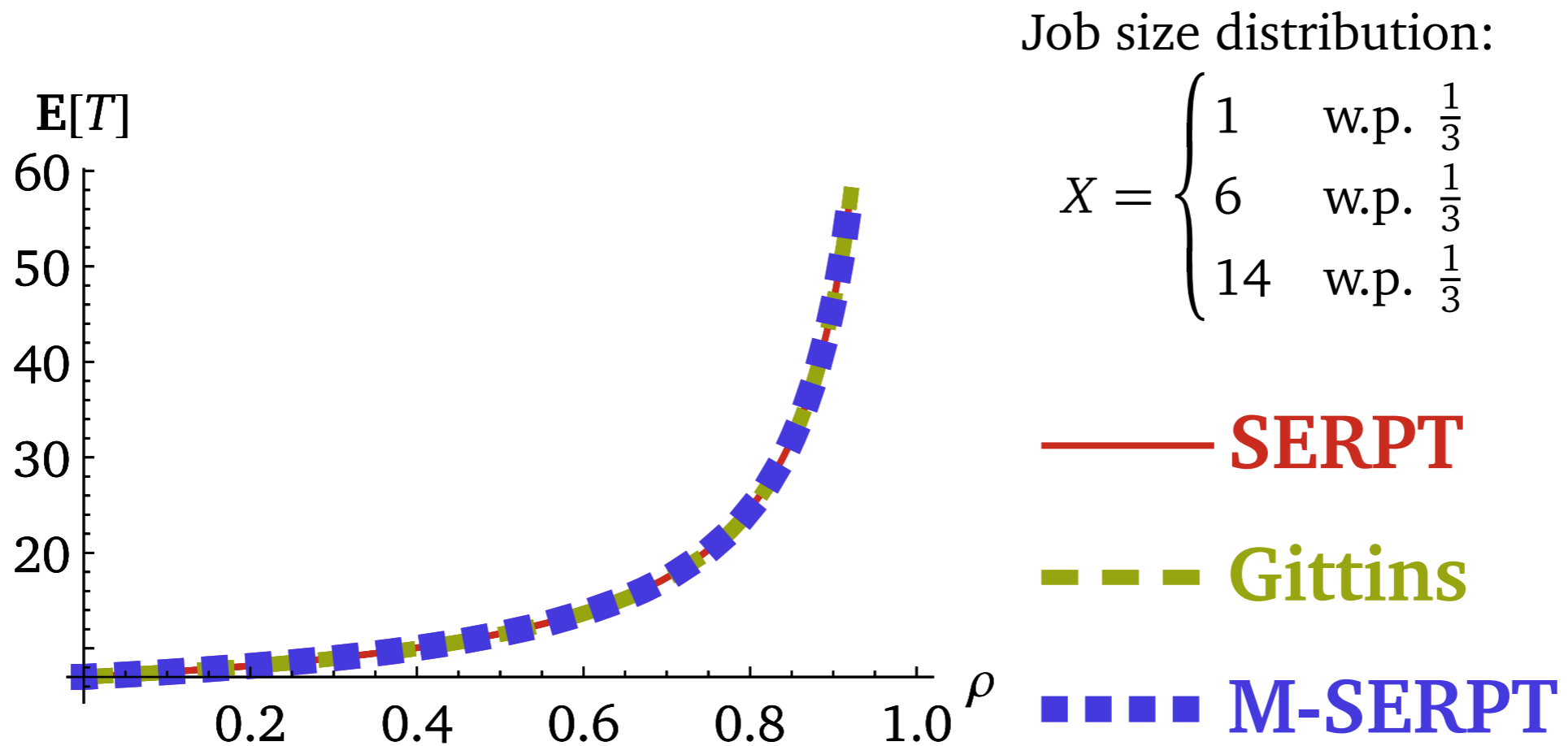
$$r_{\text{M-SERPT}}(a) = \max_{0 \leq b \leq a} r_{\text{SERPT}}(b)$$

**Th**

smaller at low load  
first constant ratio

$$\frac{E[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{E[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq 5$$

# M-SERPT Performance





## Questions:

1. Why **M-SERPT**? Why not **SERPT**?
2. Why the factor of 5?

# Response Time Decomposition

# Response Time Decomposition

$$T = Q + R$$



# Response Time Decomposition

$$T = Q + R$$

$T$  = response time

# Response Time Decomposition

“queue delay”

$$T = Q + R$$

$T$  = response time

# Response Time Decomposition

“*queue* delay”

$$T = Q + R$$

$T$  = response time

$Q$  = delays due to jobs in *queue*

# Response Time Decomposition

$$T = Q + R$$

“*queue* delay”

“*run* delay”

$T$  = response time

$Q$  = delays due to jobs in *queue*

# Response Time Decomposition

$$T = Q + R$$

“*queue* delay”

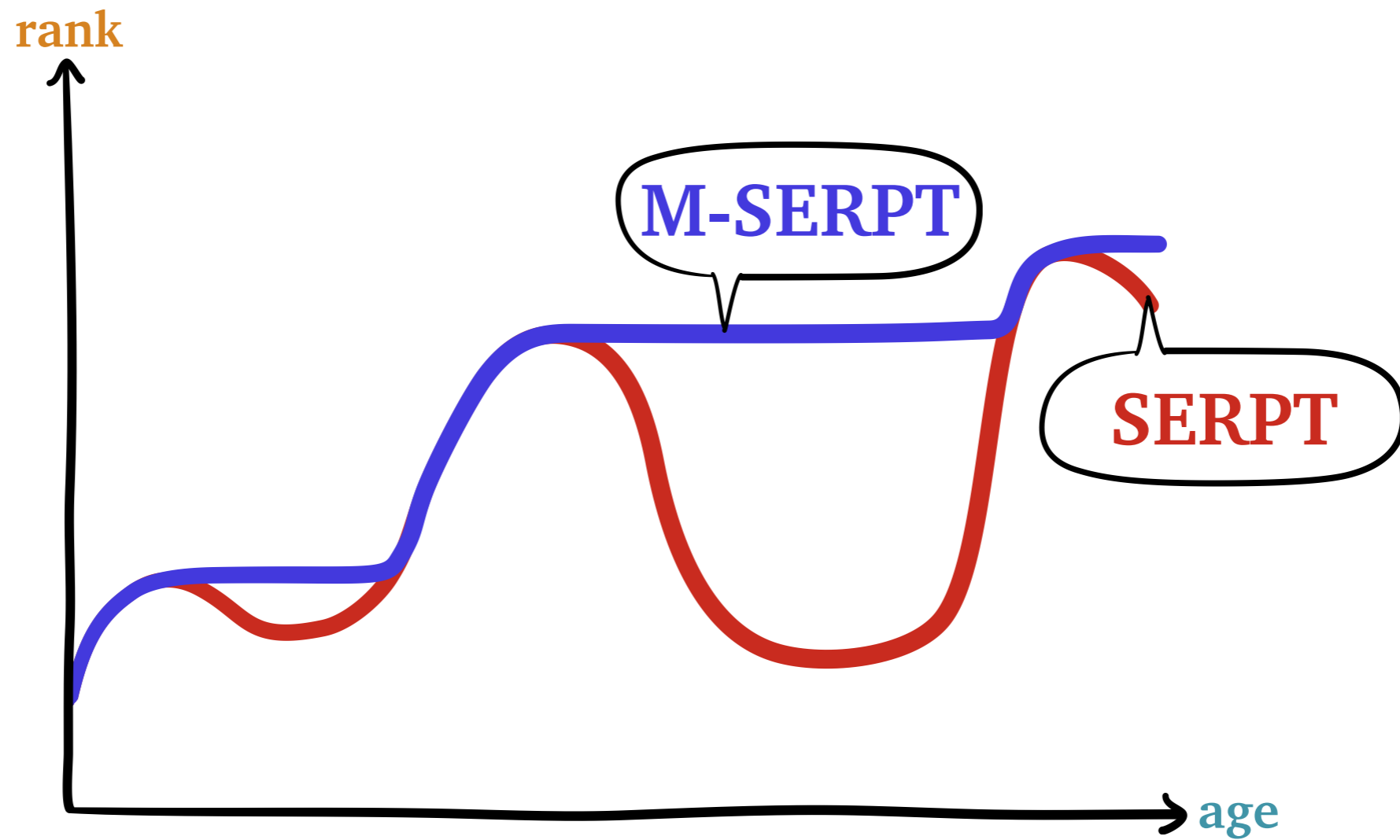
“*run* delay”

$T$  = response time

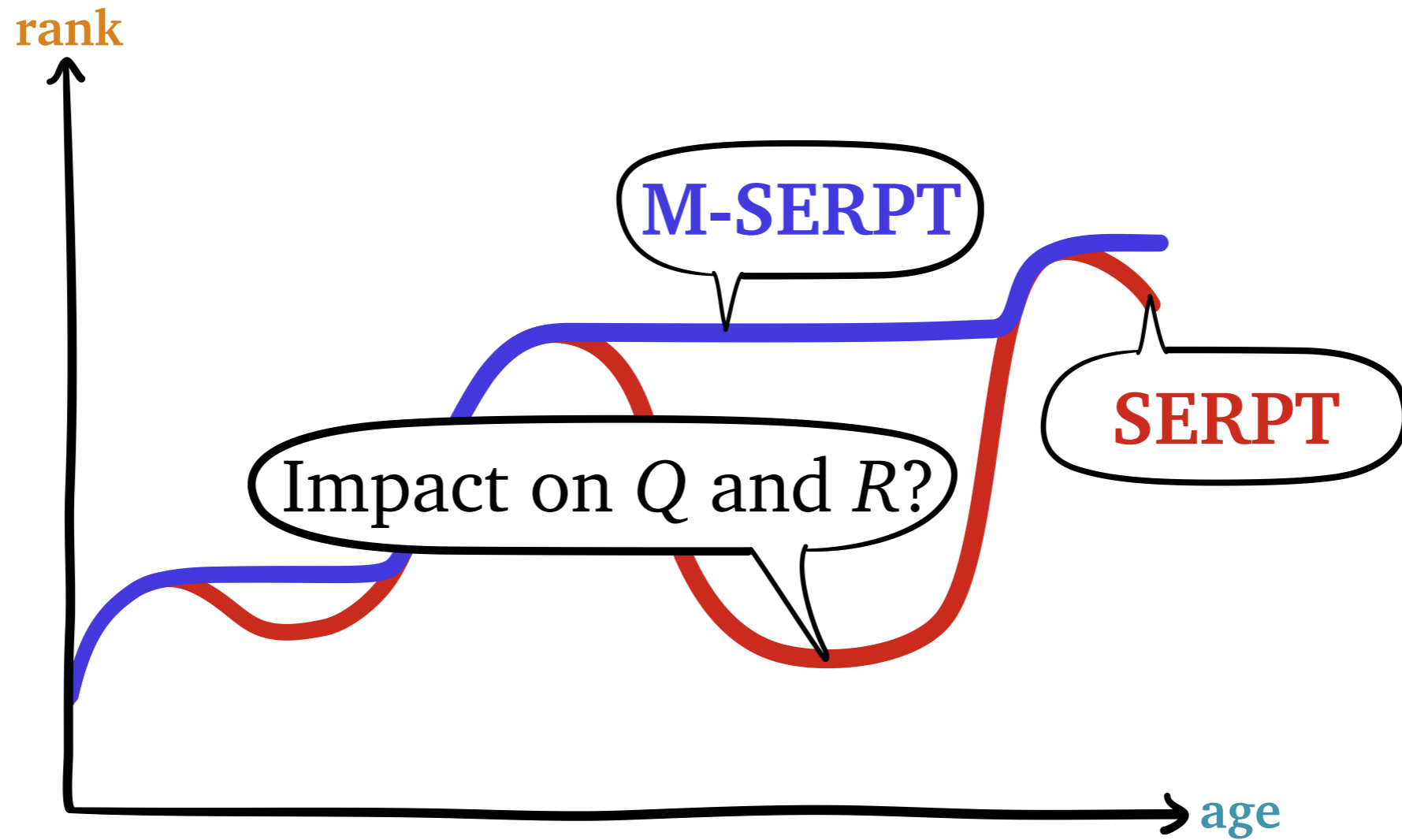
$Q$  = delays due to jobs in *queue*

$R$  = my size + delays while I'm *running*

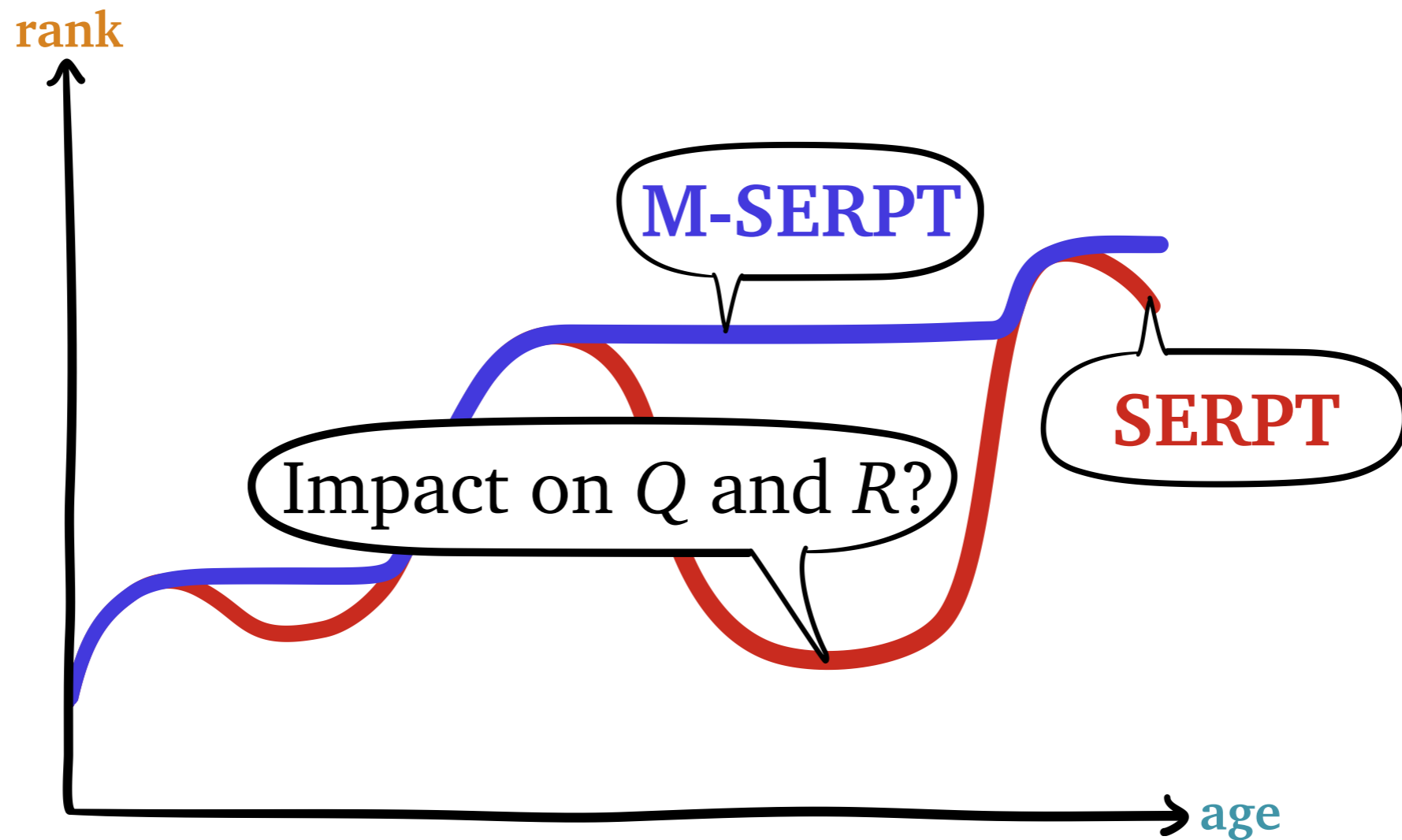
# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



# SERPT vs. M-SERPT

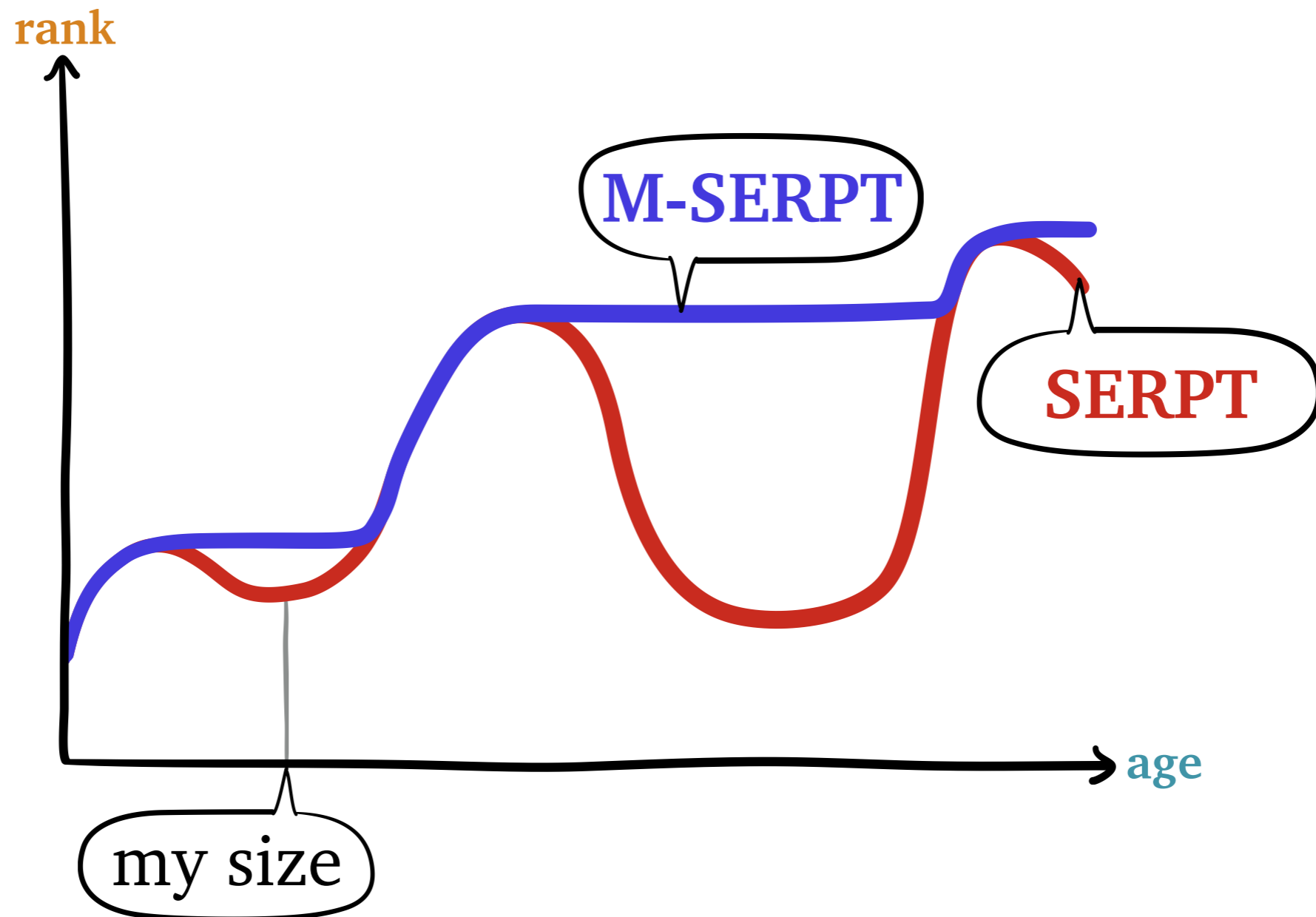


$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \text{ ? } E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \text{ ? } E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$



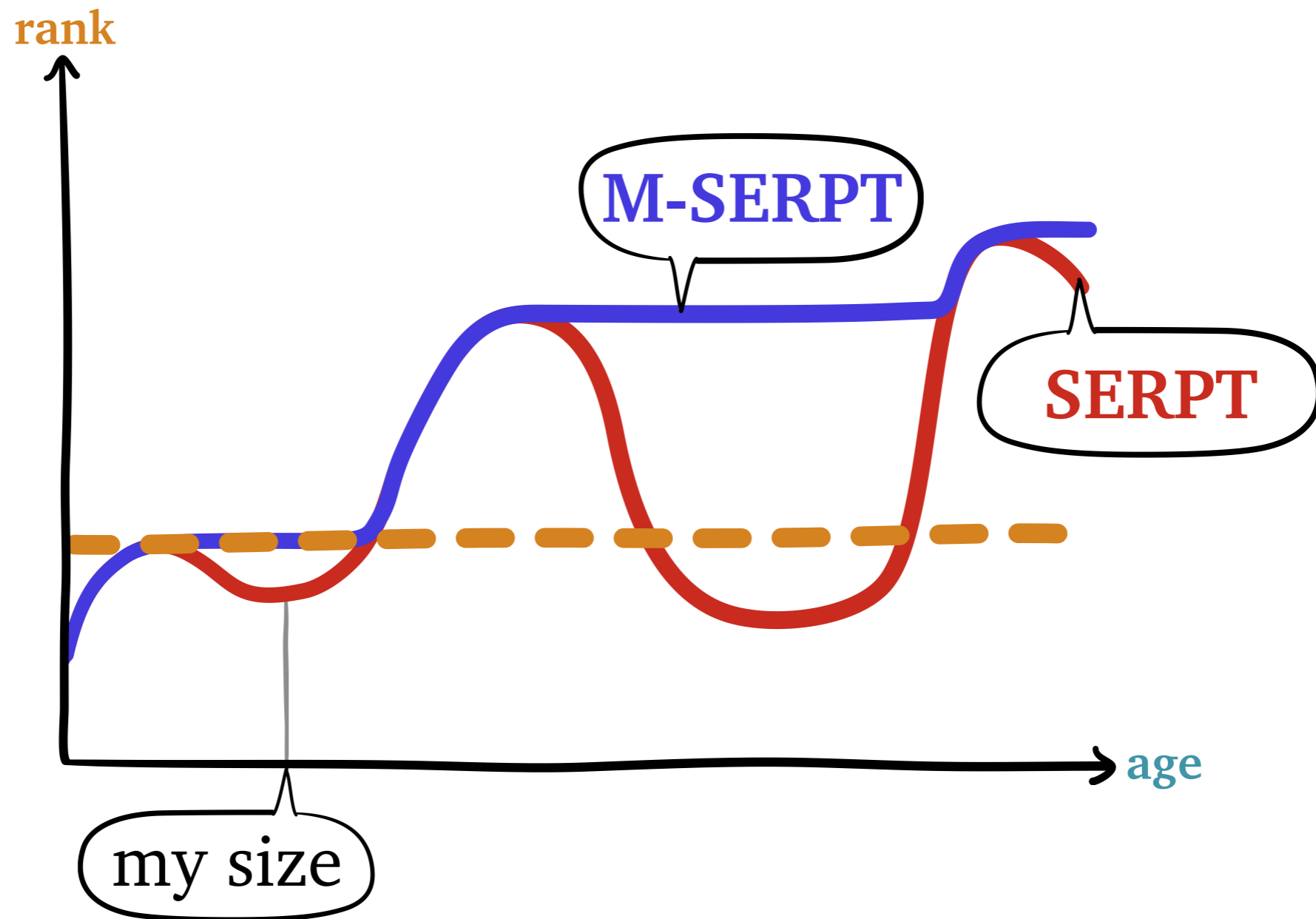
# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \quad ? \quad E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \quad ? \quad E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

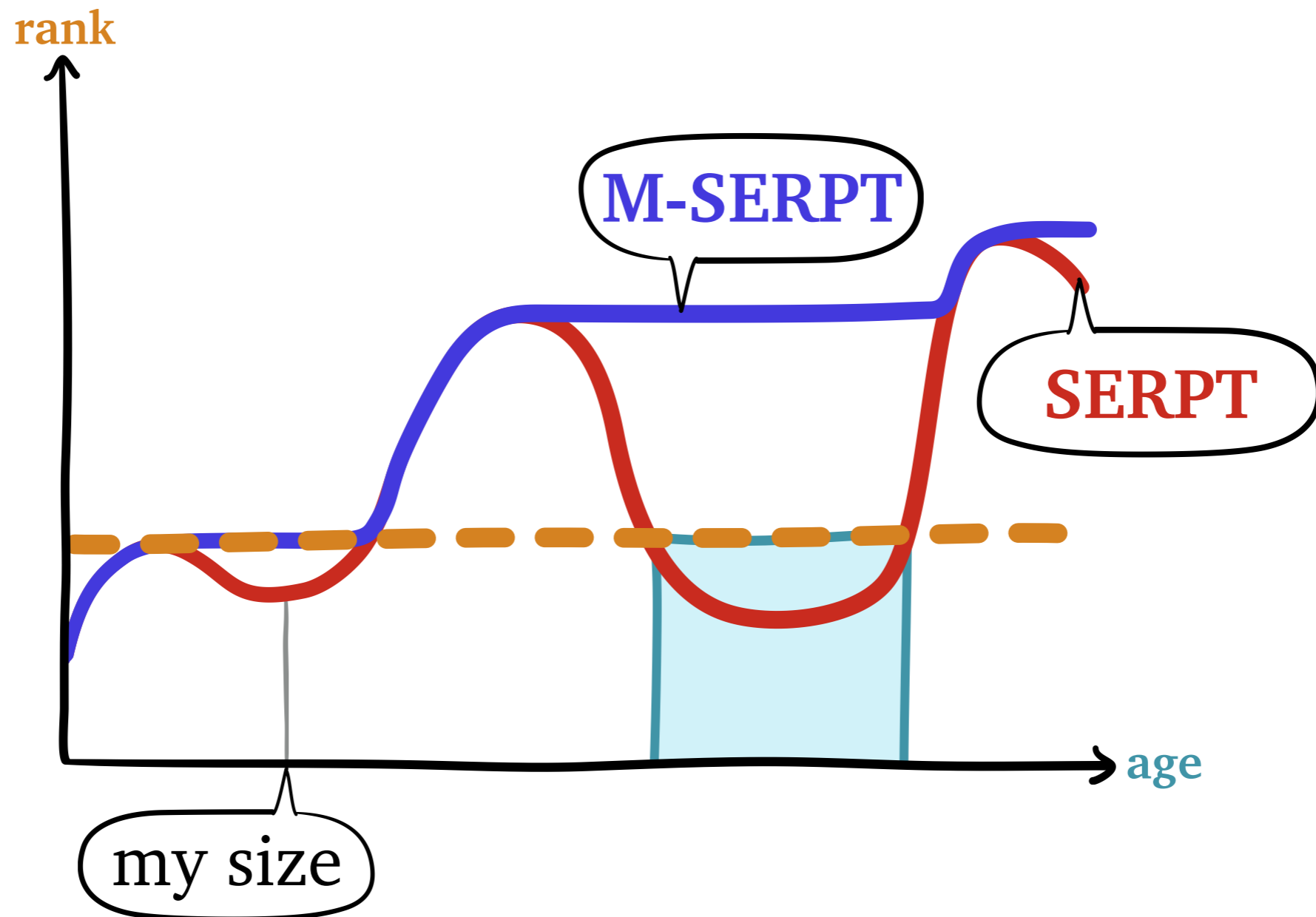
# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \quad ? \quad E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \quad ? \quad E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

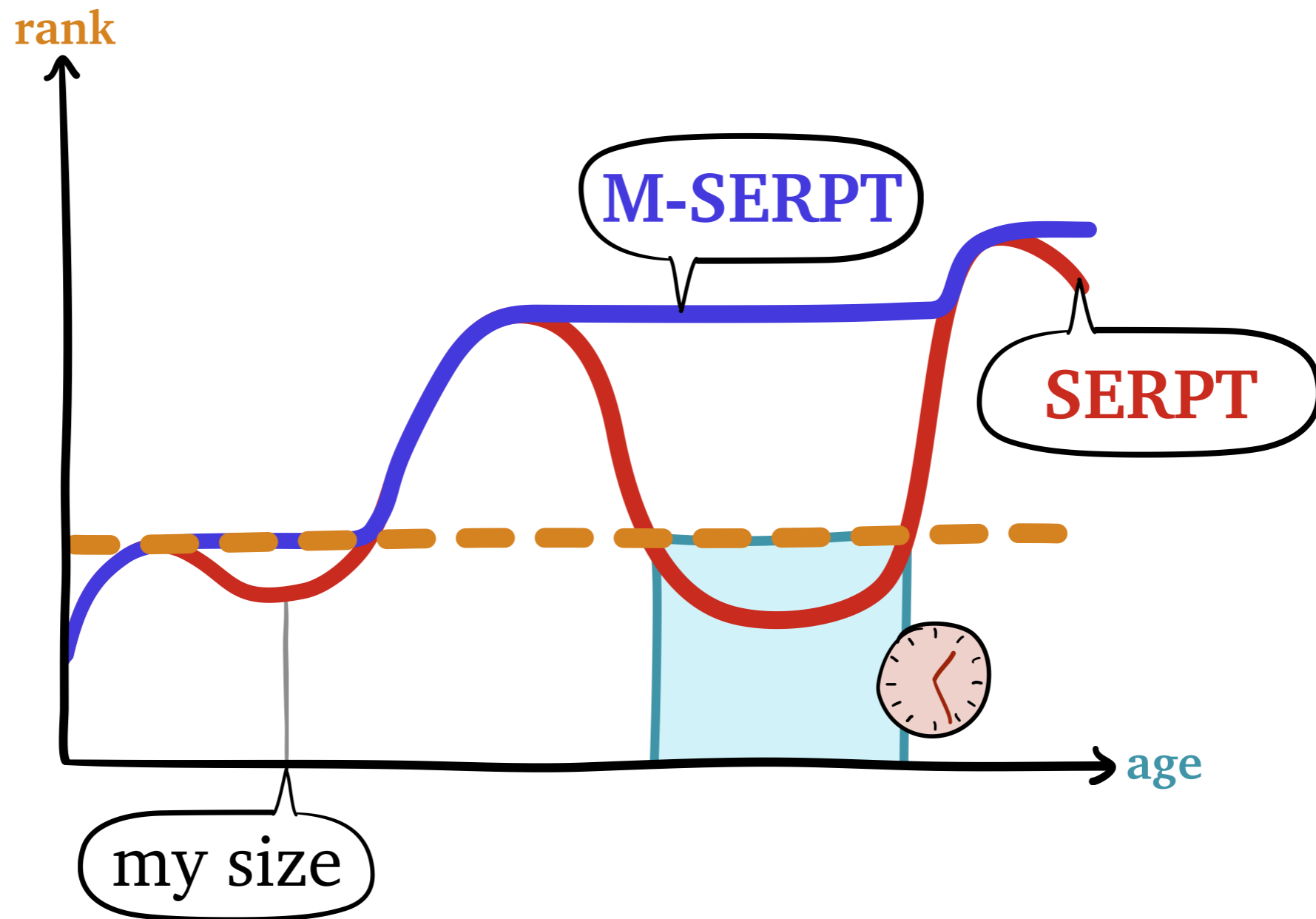
# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \quad ? \quad E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \quad ? \quad E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

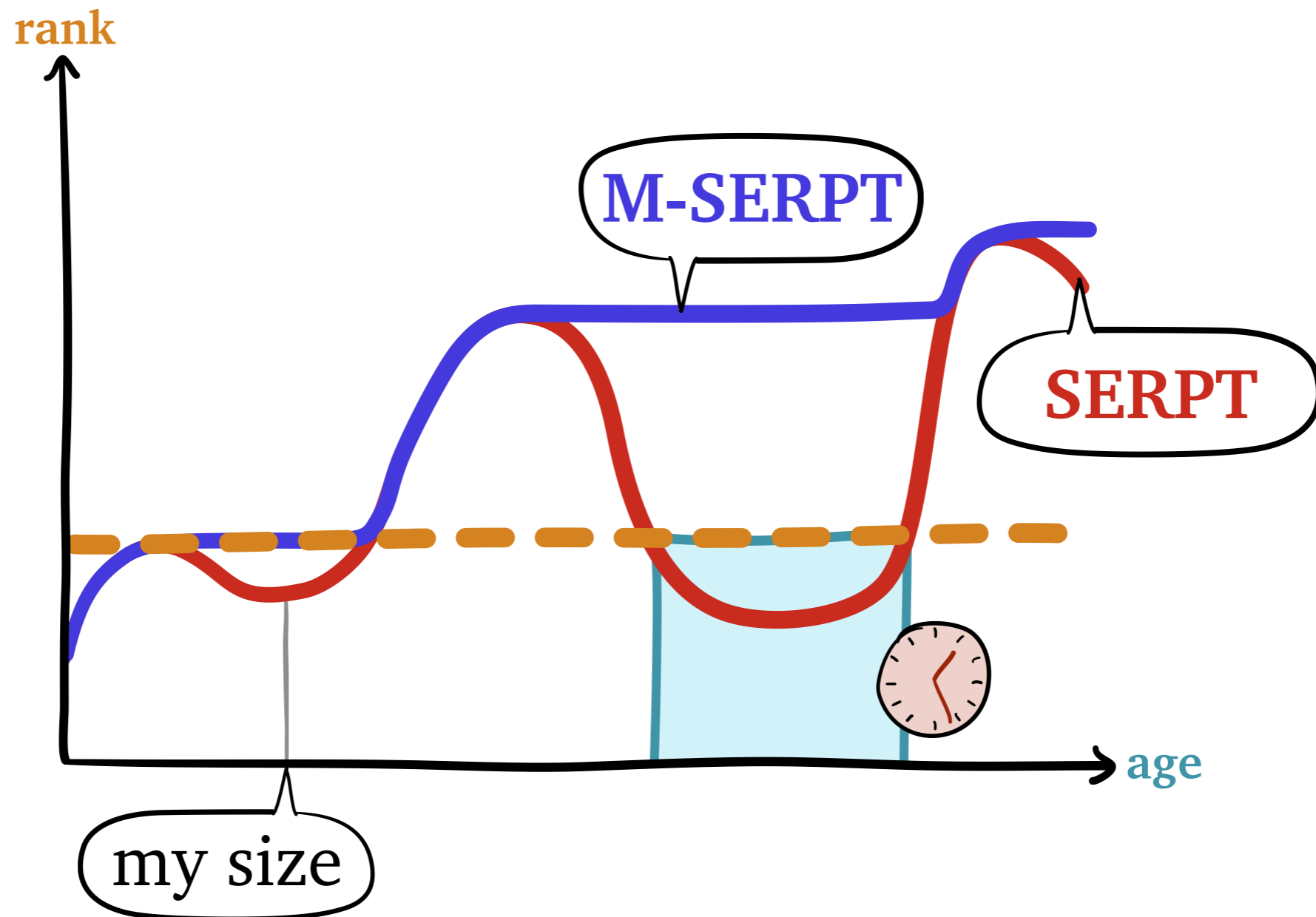
# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \text{ ? } E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \text{ ? } E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

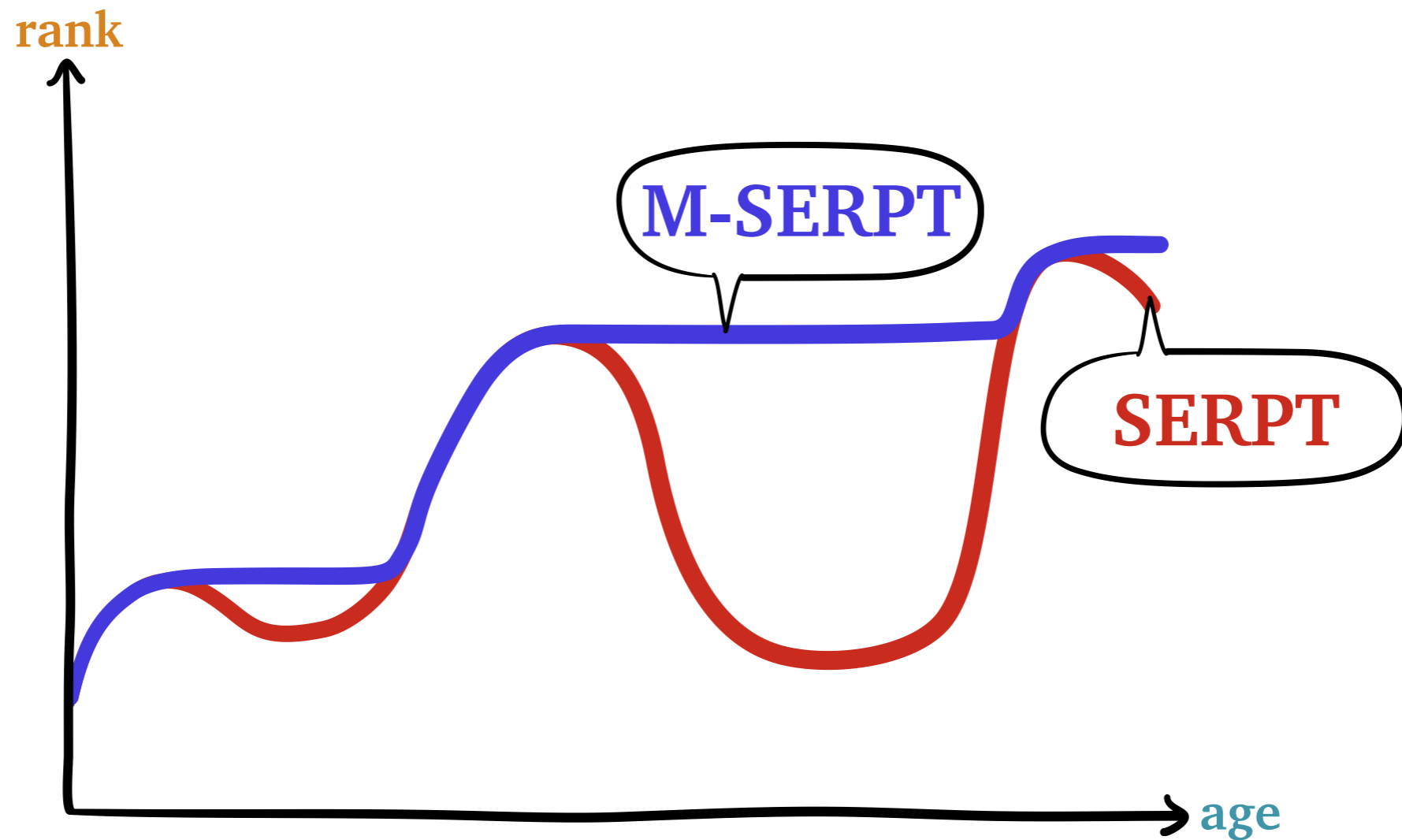
# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \geq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \text{ ? } E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

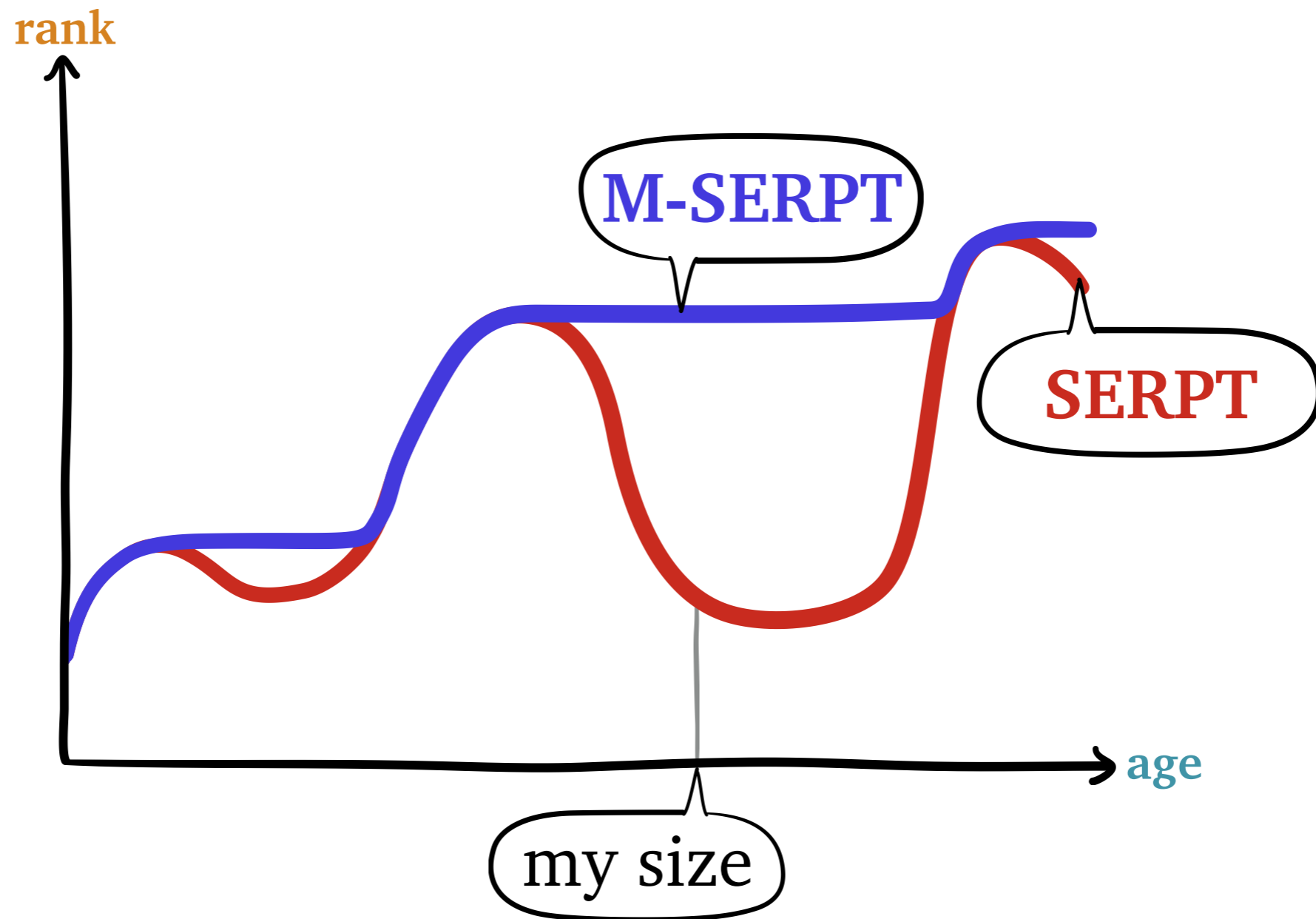
# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \geq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \text{ ? } E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

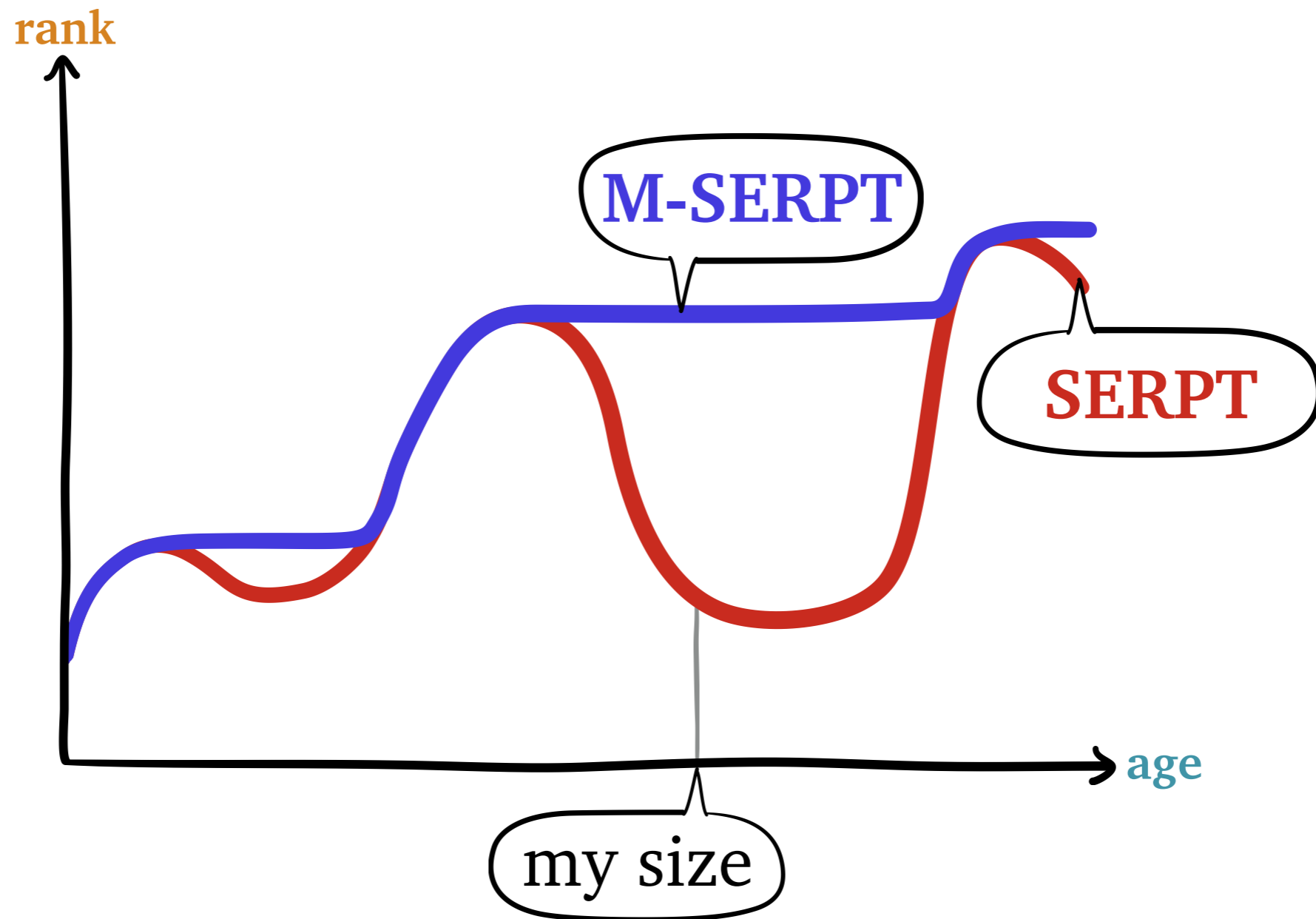
# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \geq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \text{ ? } E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

# SERPT vs. M-SERPT

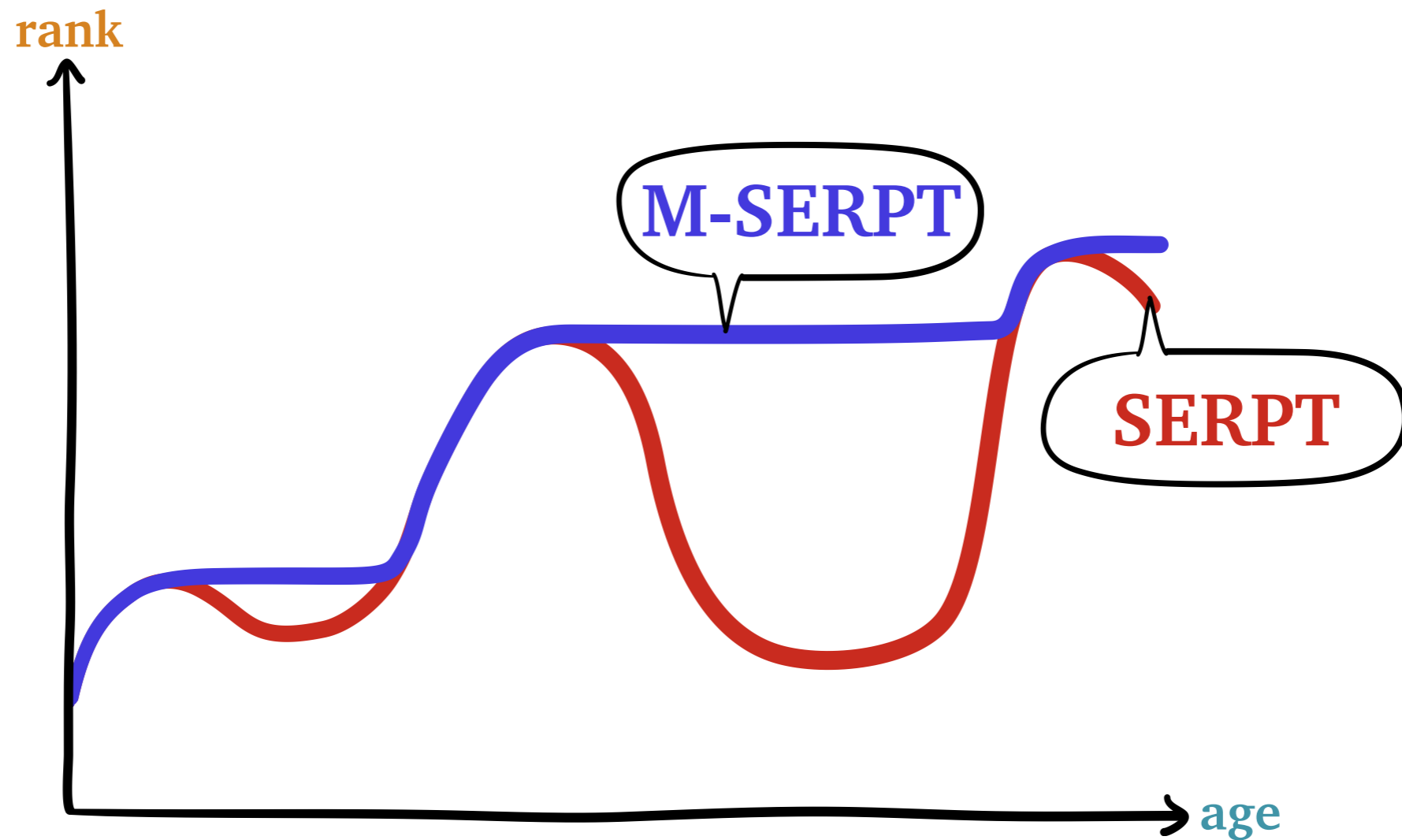


$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \geq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \leq E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$



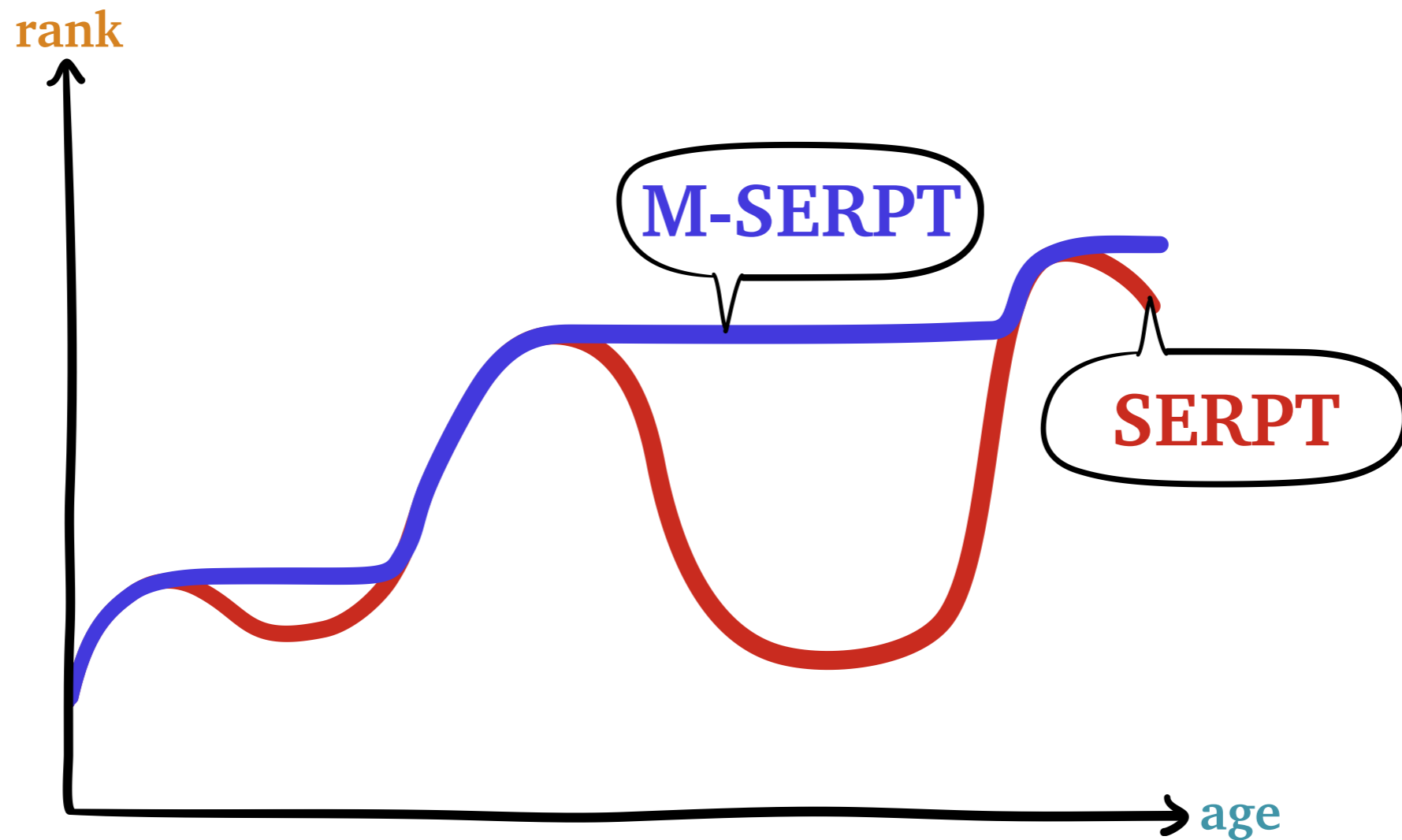
# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \geq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

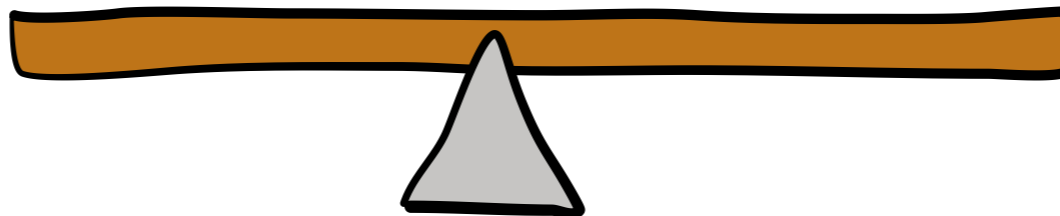
$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \leq E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

# SERPT vs. M-SERPT

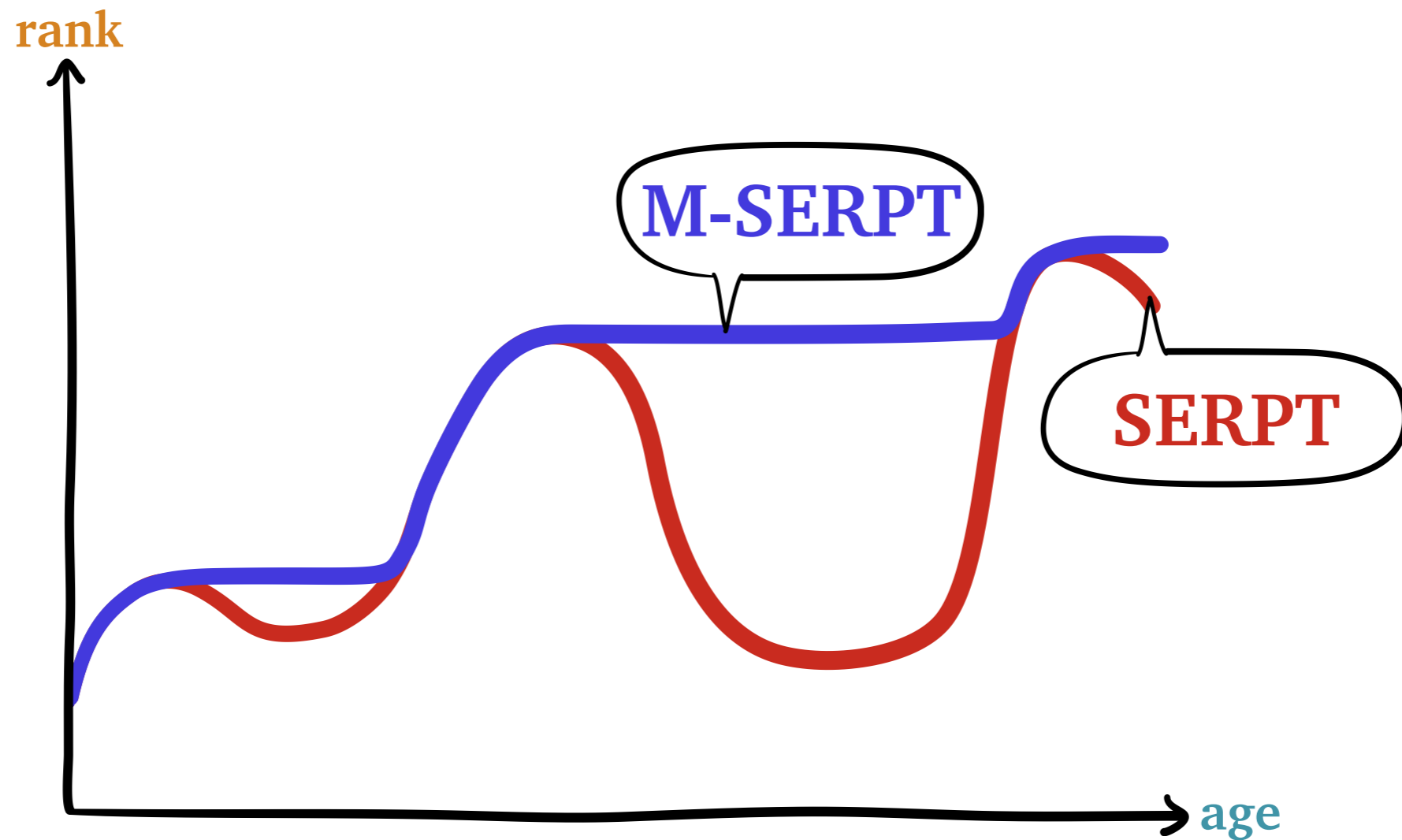


$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \geq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \leq E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

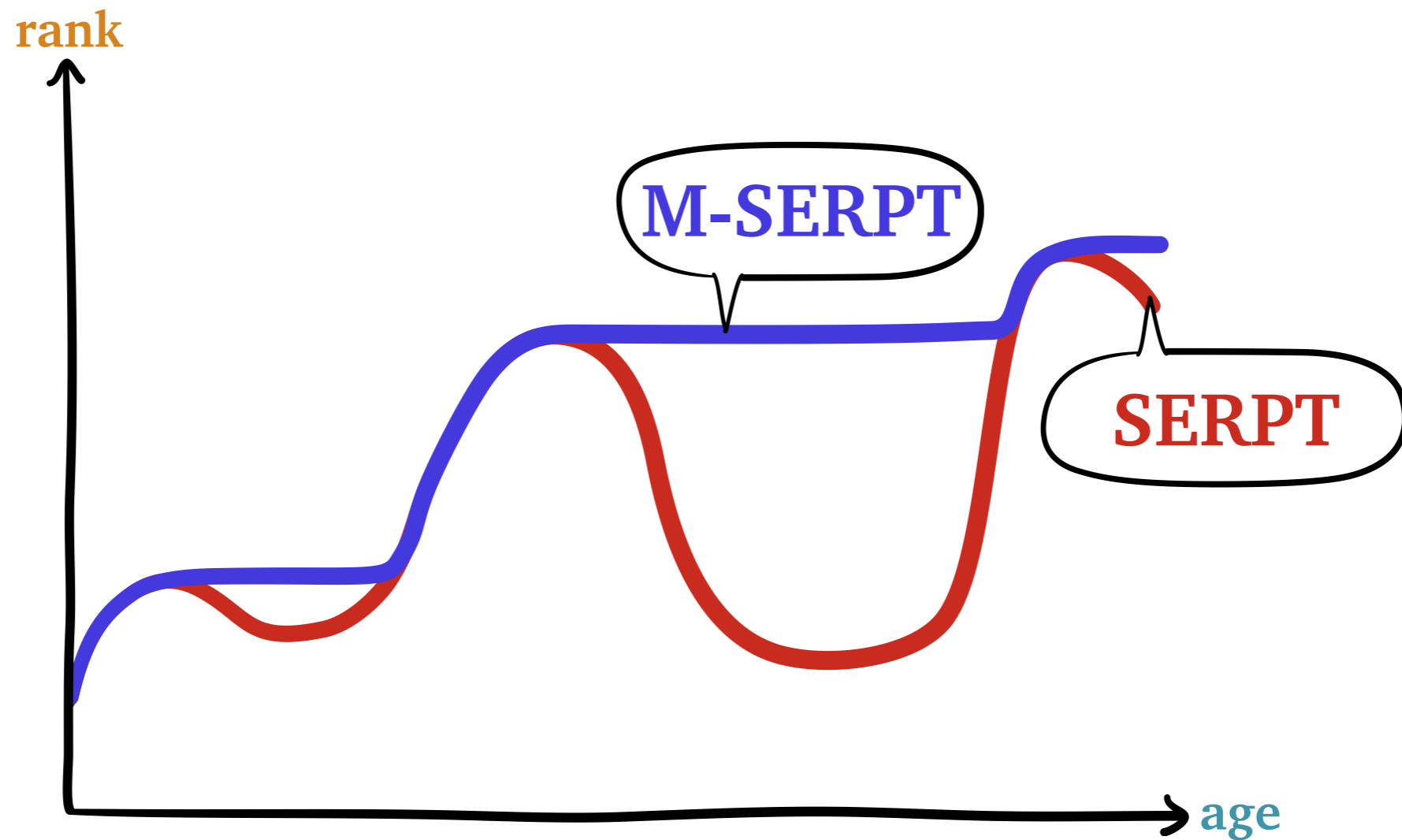


# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



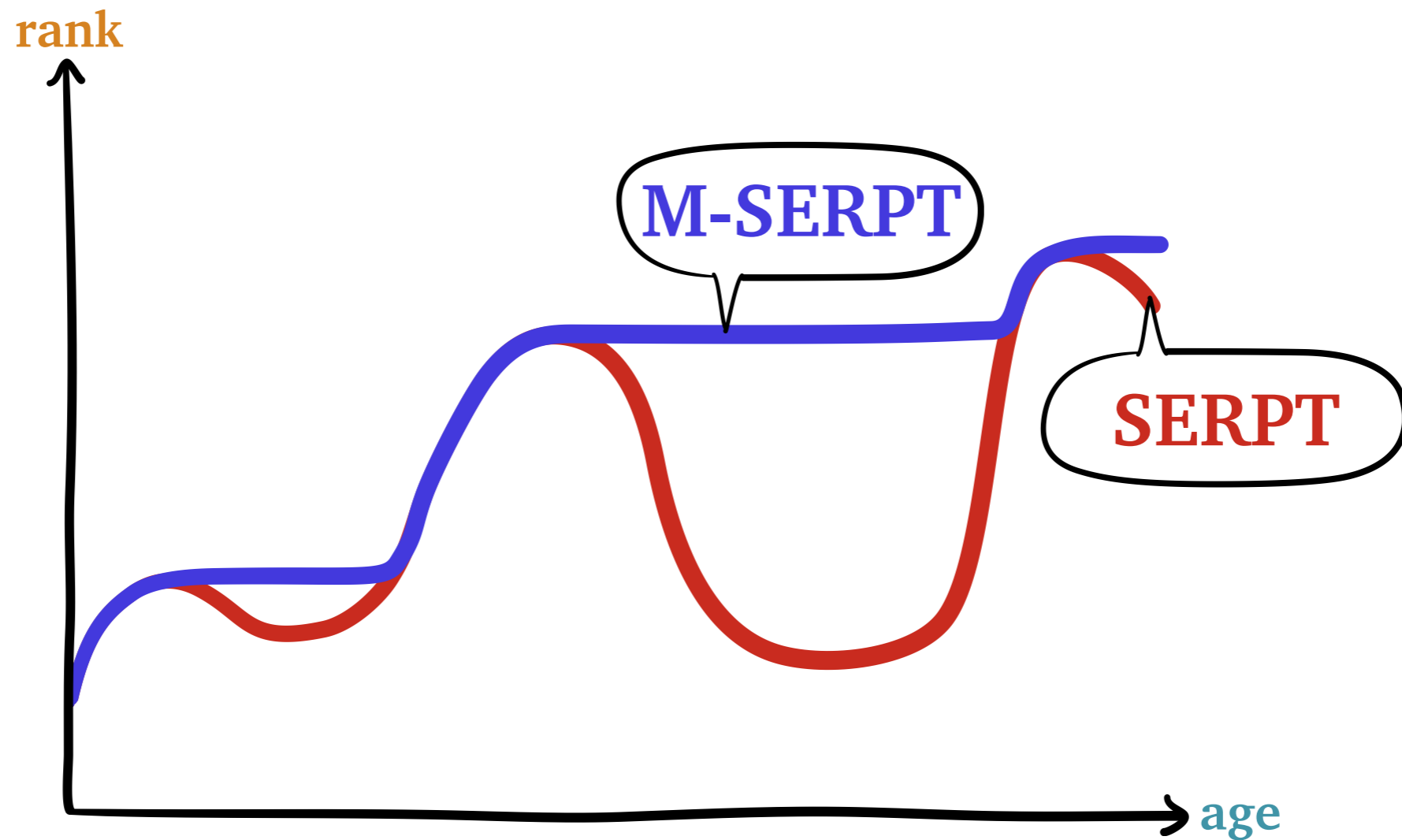
$$\begin{aligned} E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] &\geq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \\ E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] &\leq E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \end{aligned}$$

# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



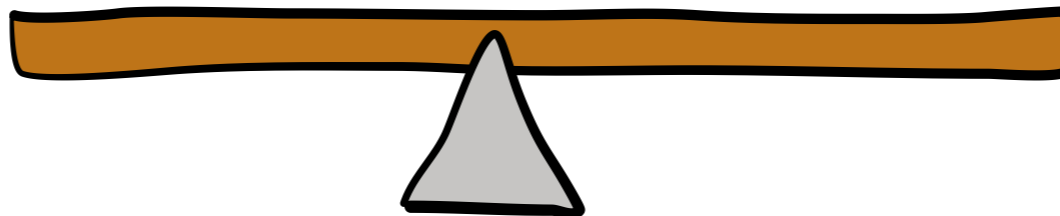
$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \geq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$   
 $E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \leq E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$

# SERPT vs. M-SERPT

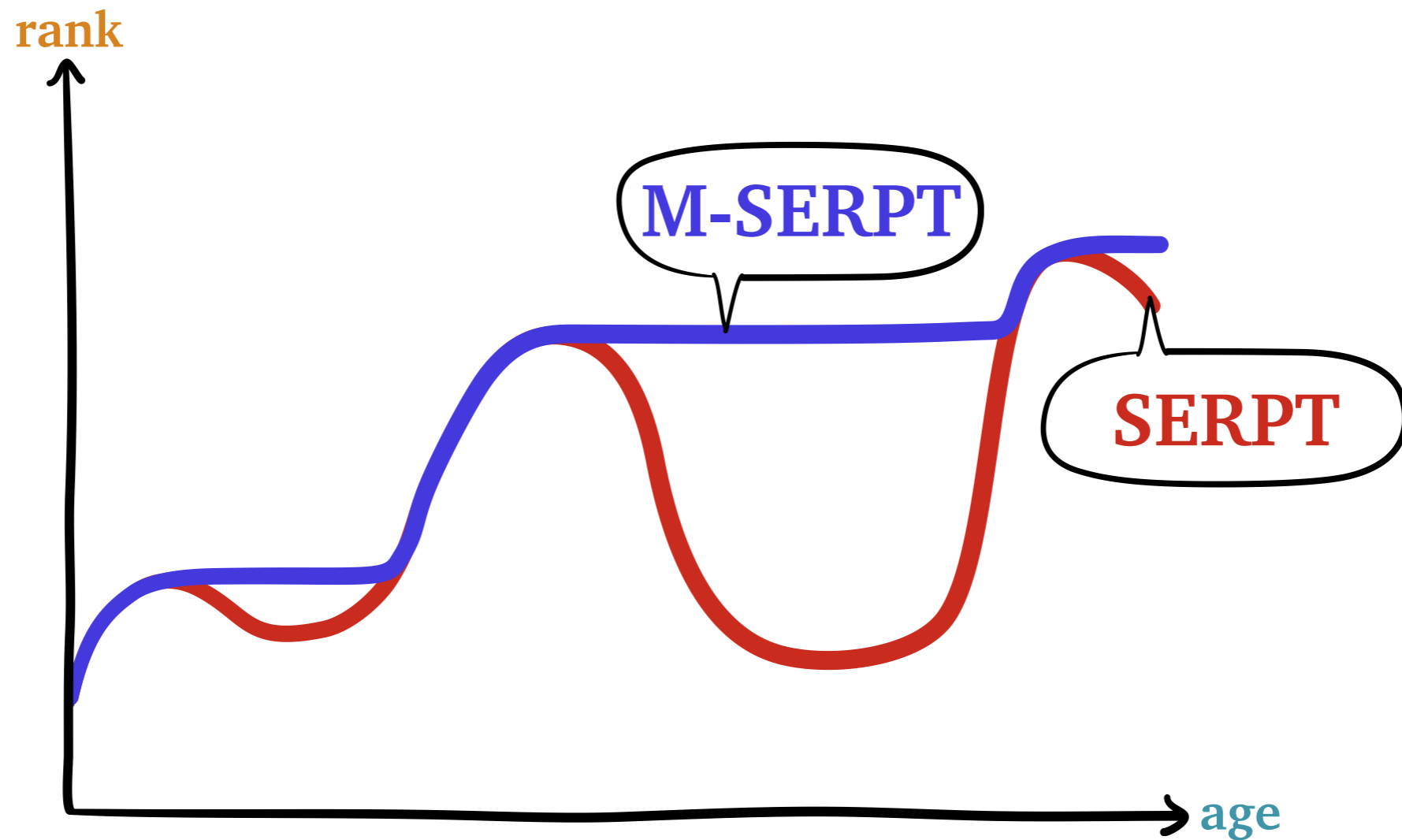


$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \geq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \leq E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

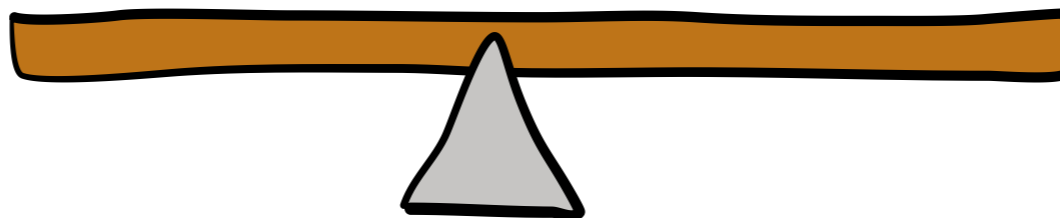


# SERPT vs. M-SERPT



$$E[Q_{\text{SERPT}}] \geq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{SERPT}}] \leq E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}]$$



# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

$$E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot E[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$



# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

$$\mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\mathbf{E}[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1-\rho}$$

# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

$$\mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] &\leq \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1-\rho} \\ &\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}] + \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{SRPT}}] \end{aligned}$$

# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

$$\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] &\leq \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1-\rho} \\ &\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}] + \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{SRPT}}] \end{aligned}$$

# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

$$\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] &\leq \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1-\rho} \\ &\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}] + \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{SRPT}}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

$$\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\mathbf{E}[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1-\rho}$$

$$\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}] + \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{SRPT}}]$$

$$\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\leq \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

$$\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\mathbf{E}[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1-\rho}$$

$$\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}] + \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{SRPT}}]$$

$$\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\leq \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq 2 + 2 + 1 = 5$$

# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

$$\mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] &\leq \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1-\rho} \\ &\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}] + \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{SRPT}}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq 2 + 2 + 1 = 5$$

# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

tight bound

$$\mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] &\leq \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1-\rho} \\ &\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}] + \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{SRPT}}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq 2 + 2 + 1 = 5$$



# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

tight bound

$$\mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] &\leq \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] + \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1-\rho} \\ &\leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}[Q_{\text{Gittins}}] + \mathbf{E}[T_{\text{SRPT}}] \end{aligned}$$

loose bound

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq 2 + 2 + 1 = 5$$

# M-SERPT's Factor of 5

tight bound

$$E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq 2 \cdot E[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

$$E[R_{\text{M-SERPT}}] \leq E[Q_{\text{M-SERPT}}] + \frac{E[X]}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1-\rho}$$

$$\leq 2 \cdot E[Q_{\text{Gittins}}]$$

loose bound

Open problem:  
 $\frac{E[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{E[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq 2?$

$$\frac{E[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{E[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq 2 + 2 + 1 = 5$$



# M-SERPT

first scheduling policy with

- simple rank function
- constant approximation ratio for  $\mathbf{E}[T]$



# M-SERPT

first scheduling policy with

- simple rank function
- constant approximation ratio for  $\mathbf{E}[T]$

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq 5$$



# M-SERPT

first scheduling policy with

- simple rank function
- constant approximation ratio for  $\mathbf{E}[T]$

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq \begin{cases} \frac{4}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \rho}} & 0 \leq \rho < 0.96 \\ \frac{1}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1 - \rho} & 0.96 \leq \rho < 0.99 \\ 1 + \frac{4}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \rho}} & 0.99 \leq \rho < 1 \end{cases}$$

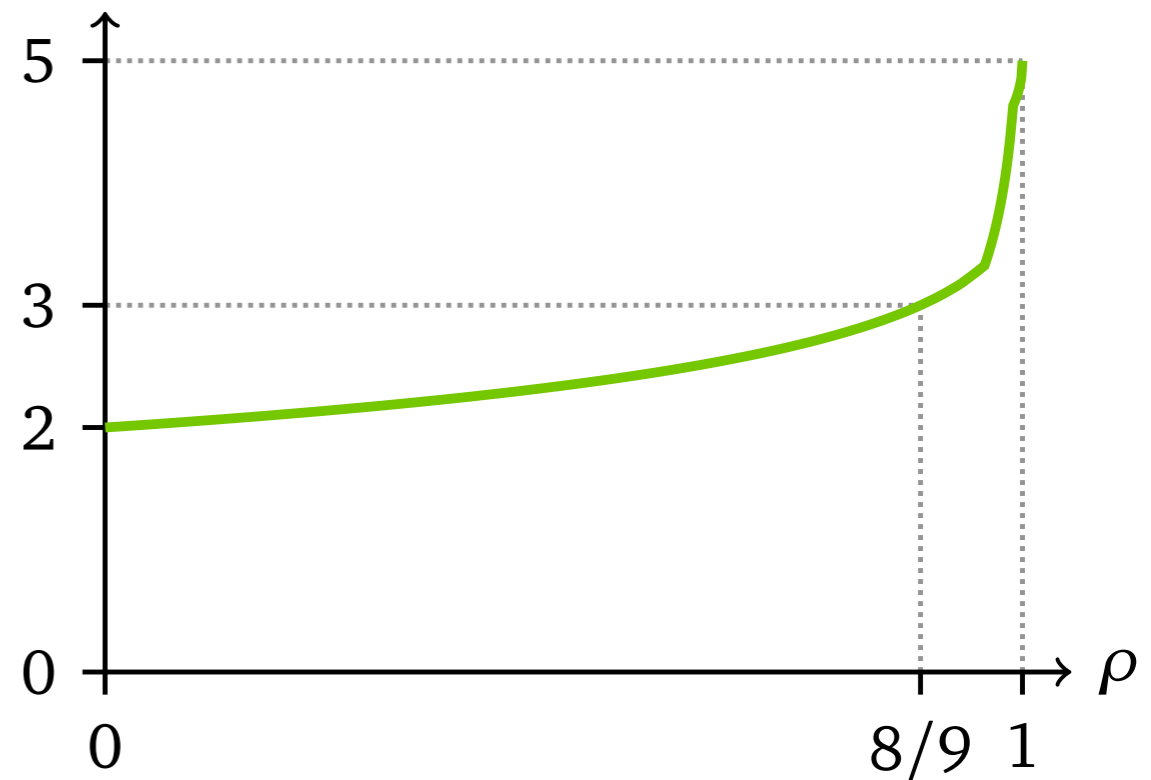


# M-SERPT

first scheduling policy with

- simple rank function
- constant approximation ratio for  $\mathbf{E}[T]$

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq \begin{cases} \frac{4}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \rho}} & 0 \leq \rho < 0.96 \\ \frac{1}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1 - \rho} & 0.96 \leq \rho < 0.99 \\ 1 + \frac{4}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \rho}} & 0.99 \leq \rho < 1 \end{cases}$$



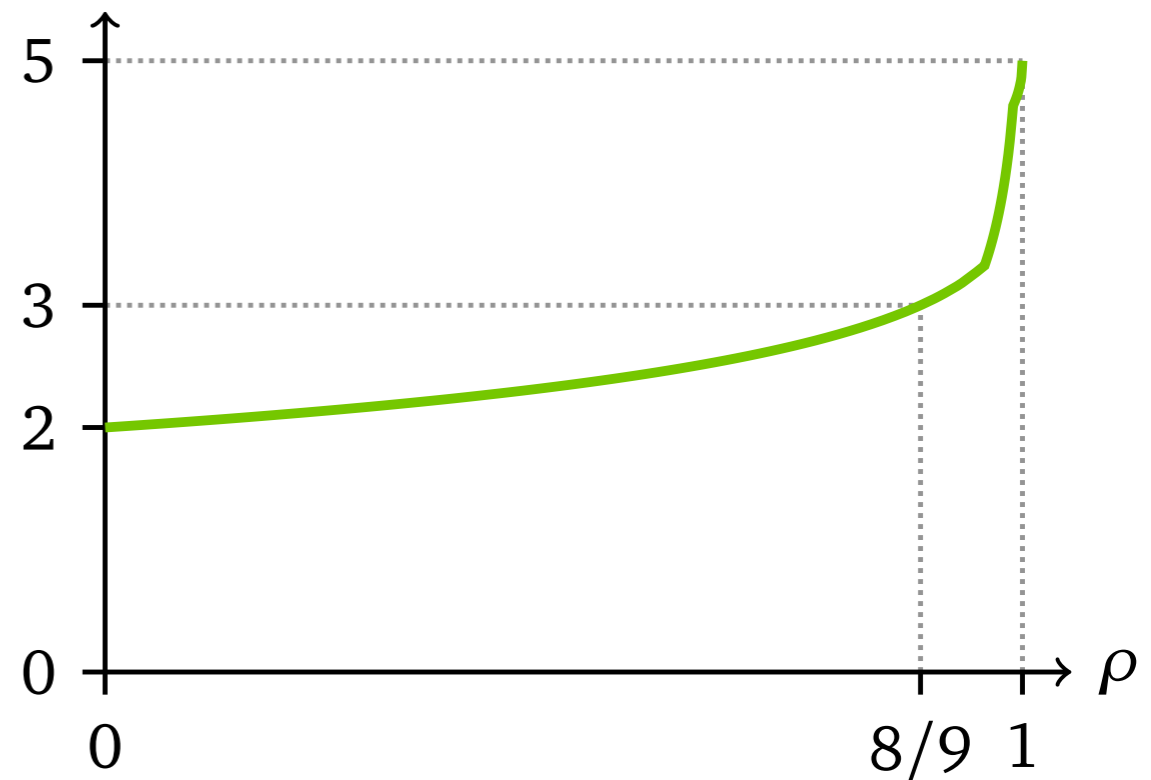


# M-SERPT

first scheduling policy with

- simple rank function
- constant approximation ratio for  $\mathbf{E}[T]$

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{M-SERPT}}]}{\mathbf{E}[T_{\text{Gittins}}]} \leq \begin{cases} \frac{4}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \rho}} & 0 \leq \rho < 0.96 \\ \frac{1}{\rho} \log \frac{1}{1 - \rho} & 0.96 \leq \rho < 0.99 \\ 1 + \frac{4}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \rho}} & 0.99 \leq \rho < 1 \end{cases}$$



Get in touch: [zscully@cs.cmu.edu](mailto:zscully@cs.cmu.edu)

# Bonus Slides



# What Makes **Gittins** Hard?

$$r_{\text{Gittins}}(a) = \inf_{\Delta > 0} \frac{\mathbf{E}[\min\{X - a, \Delta\} \mid X > a]}{\mathbf{P}[X - a \leq \Delta \mid X > a]}$$

# What Makes **Gittins** Hard?

$$r_{\text{Gittins}}(a) = \inf_{\Delta > 0} \frac{\mathbf{E}[\min\{X - a, \Delta\} \mid X > a]}{\mathbf{P}[X - a \leq \Delta \mid X > a]}$$

Need to optimize  $\Delta$  at every age  $a$

# What Makes **Gittins** Hard?

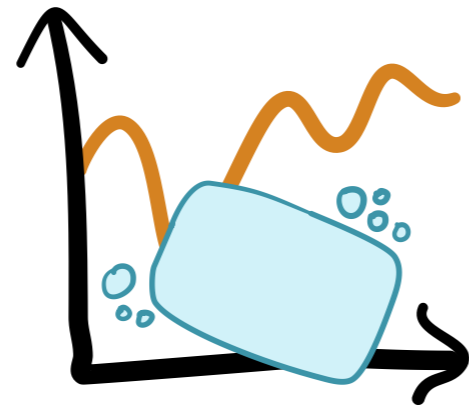
$$r_{\text{Gittins}}(a) = \inf_{\Delta > 0} \frac{\mathbf{E}[\min\{X - a, \Delta\} \mid X > a]}{\mathbf{P}[X - a \leq \Delta \mid X > a]}$$

Need to optimize  $\Delta$  at every age  $a$

Takes  $\Omega(n^2)$  time for  $n$  support points

# Proof Approach

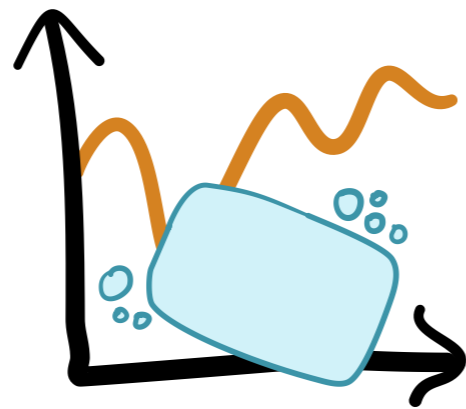
# Proof Approach



**SOAP**

Scully, Harchol-Balter,  
Scheller-Wolf (2018)

# Proof Approach



## SOAP

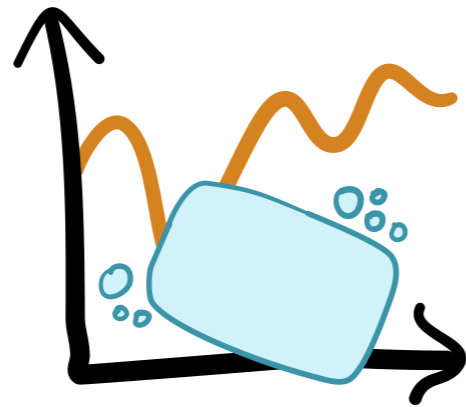
Scully, Harchol-Balter,  
Scheller-Wolf (2018)

job size distribution  $X$   
rank function  $r$



expression for  $E[T]$

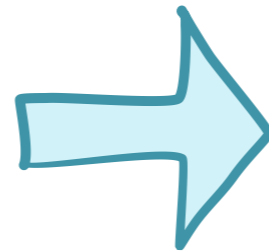
# Proof Approach



## SOAP

Scully, Harchol-Balter,  
Scheller-Wolf (2018)

job size distribution  $X$   
rank function  $r$

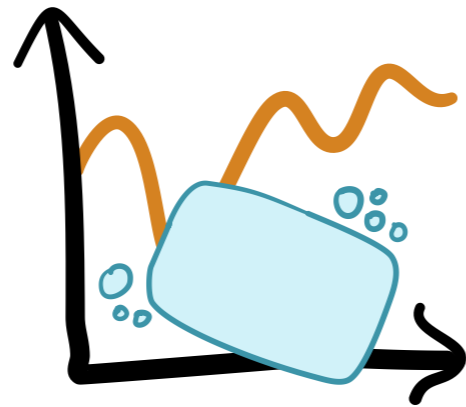


expression for  $E[T]$



For **M-SERPT** and **Gittins**,  
can't write  $E[T]$  nicely

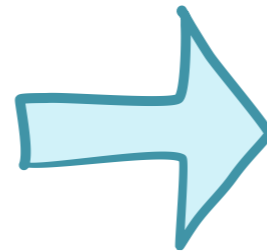
# Proof Approach



## SOAP

Scully, Harchol-Balter,  
Scheller-Wolf (2018)

job size distribution  $X$   
rank function  $r$



expression for  $E[T]$

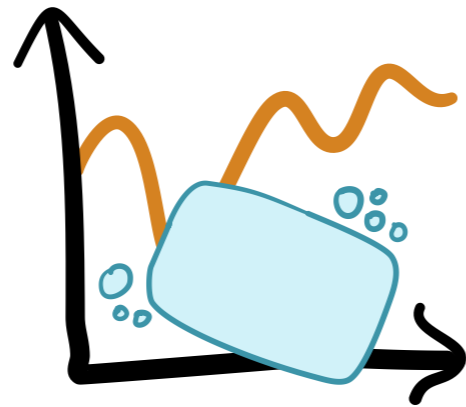
$r$  depends on  $X$



For **M-SERPT** and **Gittins**,  
can't write  $E[T]$  nicely



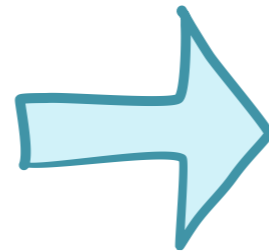
# Proof Approach



## SOAP

Scully, Harchol-Balter,  
Scheller-Wolf (2018)

job size distribution  $X$   
rank function  $r$

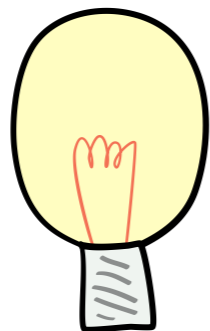


expression for  $E[T]$

$r$  depends on  $X$



For **M-SERPT** and **Gittins**,  
can't write  $E[T]$  nicely



Compare  $E[T]$  expressions  
to each other