

# Speculatively Parallelized Temperature Accelerated Dynamics (SpecTAD)

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Max Planck Institute for Physics of Complex Systems  
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# Acknowledgments

Stephan Eidenbenz (ISTI, LANL)

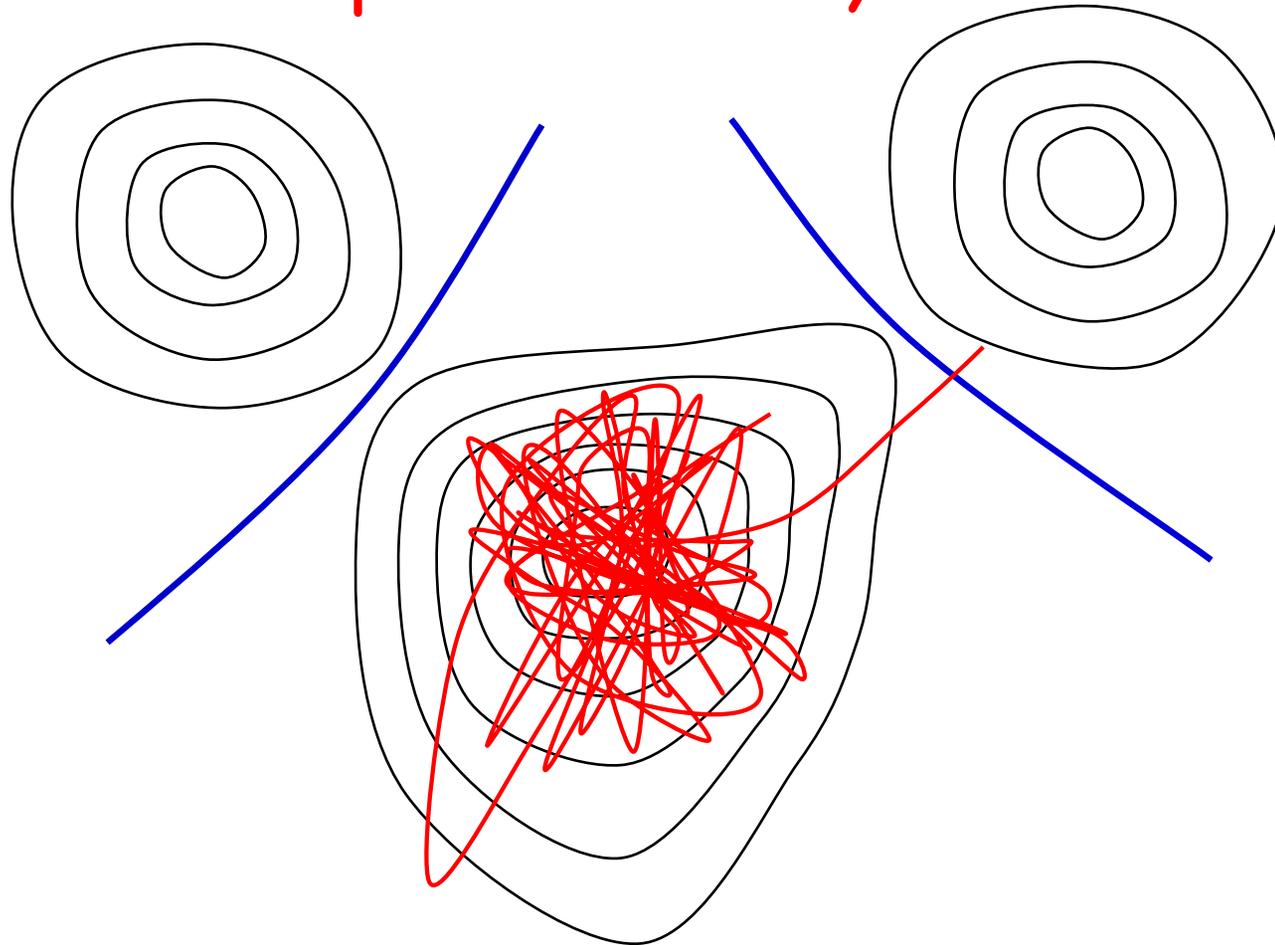
Nandu Santhi (CCS, LANL)

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Sue Mniszewski (CCS, LANL)

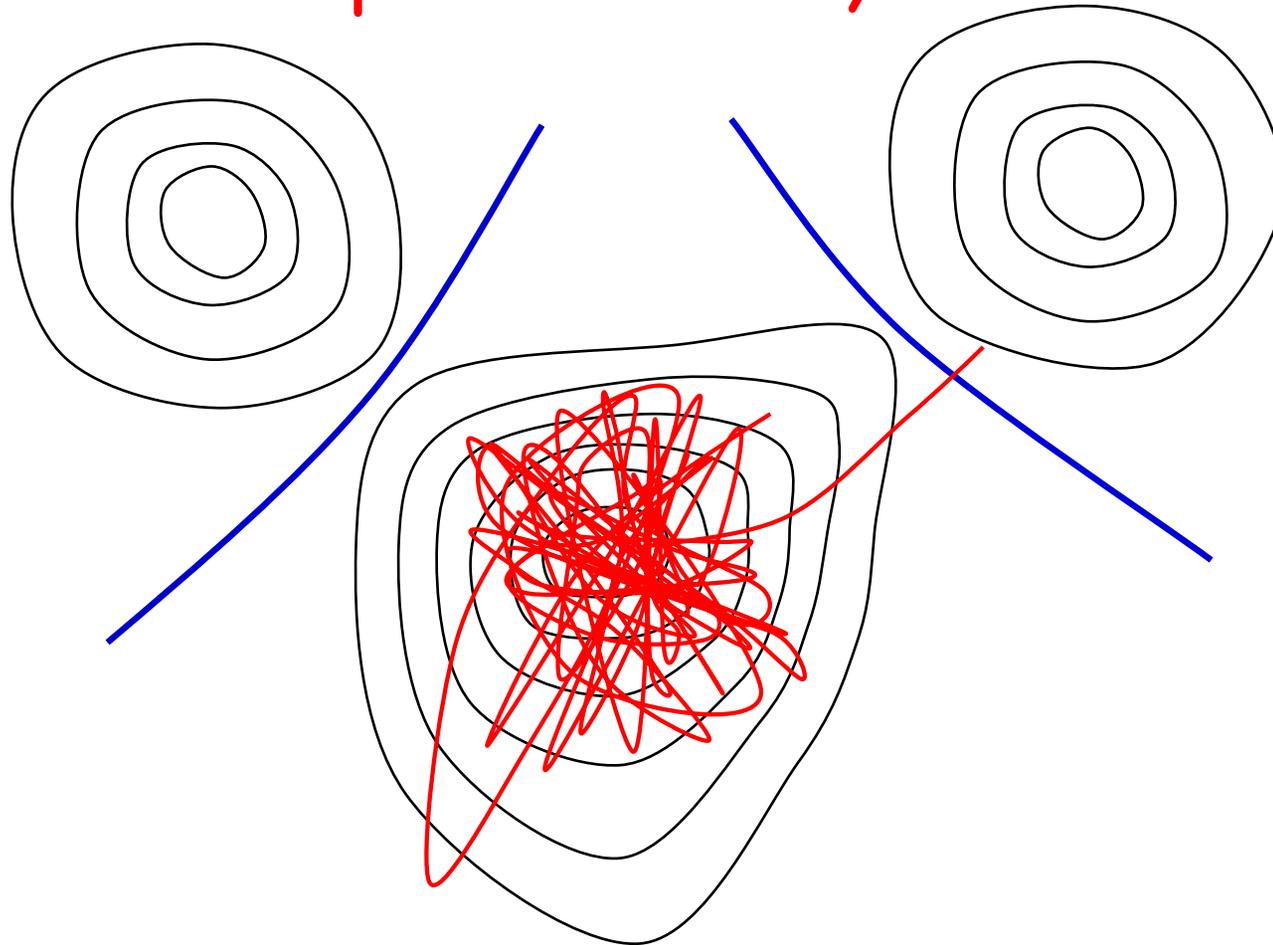
*DOE Office of Basic Energy Sciences  
Los Alamos LDRD*

# Accelerated molecular dynamics approach for infrequent-event systems



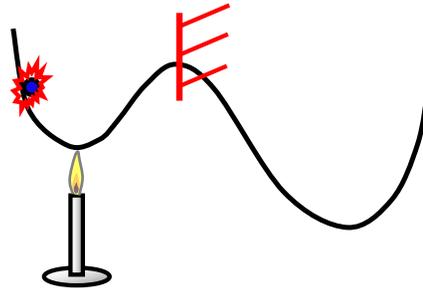
The trajectory finds an appropriate way out (i.e., proportional to the rate constant) without knowing about any of the escape paths except the one it first sees.

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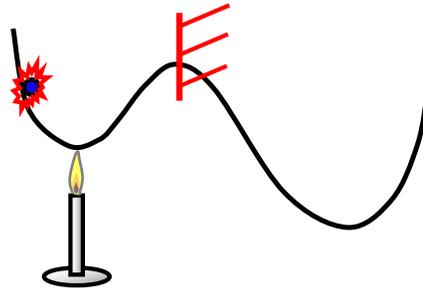
The trajectory finds an appropriate way out (i.e., proportional to the rate constant) without knowing about any of the escape paths except the one it first sees. In AMD, we trick the system into doing this more quickly, trying very hard not to corrupt the relative escape probabilities.

# Temperature Accelerated Dynamics (TAD)



[Sørensen and Voter, J. Chem. Phys. 112, 9599 (2000)]

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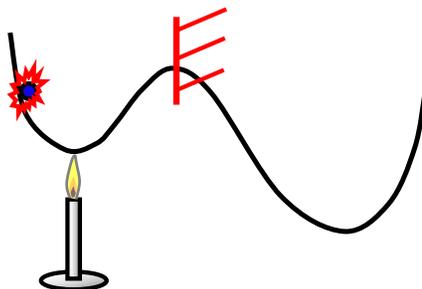


## Concept:

Raise temperature of system to make events occur more frequently. Filter out the events that should not have occurred at the lower temperature.

[Sørensen and Voter, J. Chem. Phys. 112, 9599 (2000)]

# Temperature Accelerated Dynamics (TAD)



## Concept:

Raise temperature of system to make events occur more frequently. Filter out the events that should not have occurred at the lower temperature.

## Assumptions:

- infrequent-event system
- transition state theory (no correlated events)
- harmonic transition state theory (gives Arrhenius behavior)

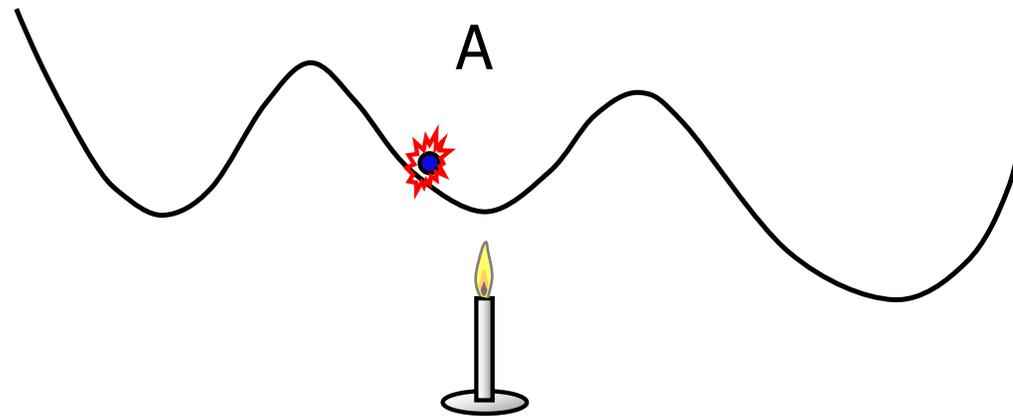
$$k = \nu_0 \exp[-\Delta E/k_B T]$$

- all preexponentials ( $\nu_0$ ) are greater than  $\nu_{\min}$

[Sørensen and Voter, J. Chem. Phys. 112, 9599 (2000)]

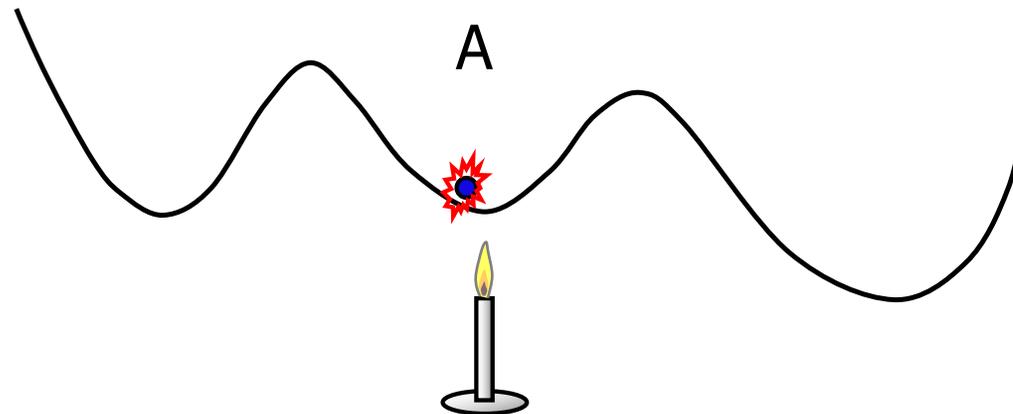
# TAD Procedure

- Run MD at elevated temperature ( $T_{\text{high}}$ ) in state A.
- Intercept each attempted escape from basin A
  - find saddle point (and hence barrier height)  
(e.g., using nudged elastic band method of Jonsson et al).
  - extrapolate to predict event time at  $T_{\text{low}}$ .
- Reflect system back into basin A and continue.
- When safe, accept transition with shortest time at  $T_{\text{low}}$ .
- Go to new state and repeat.



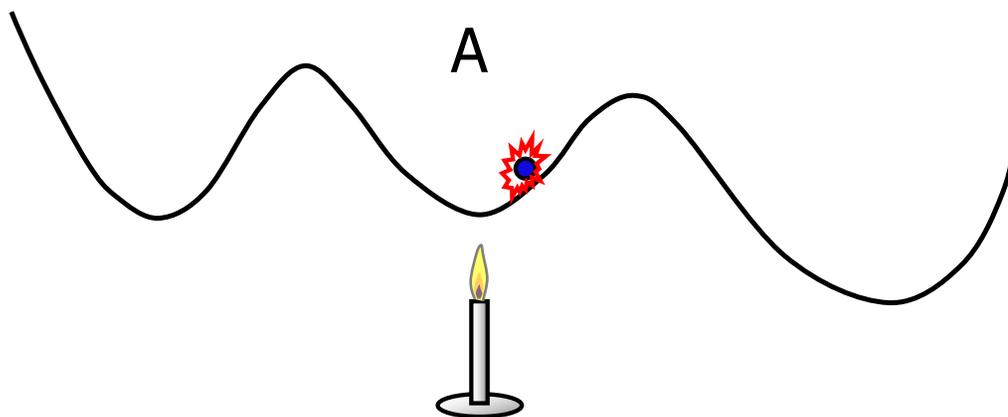
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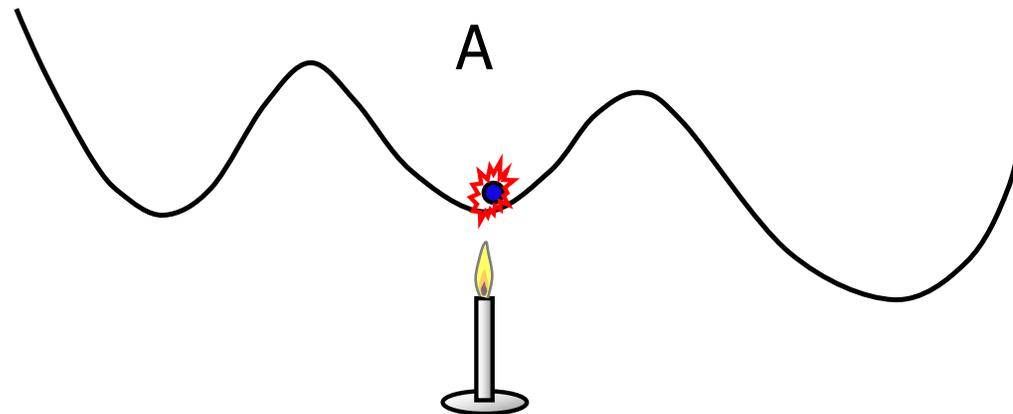
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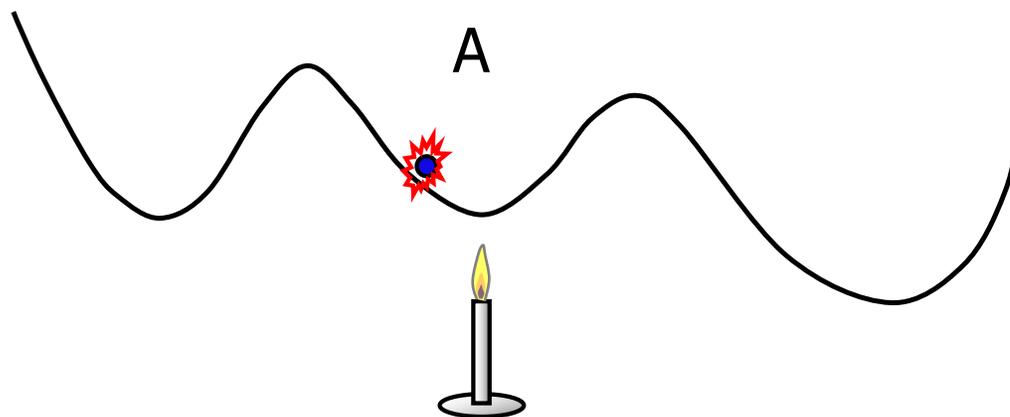
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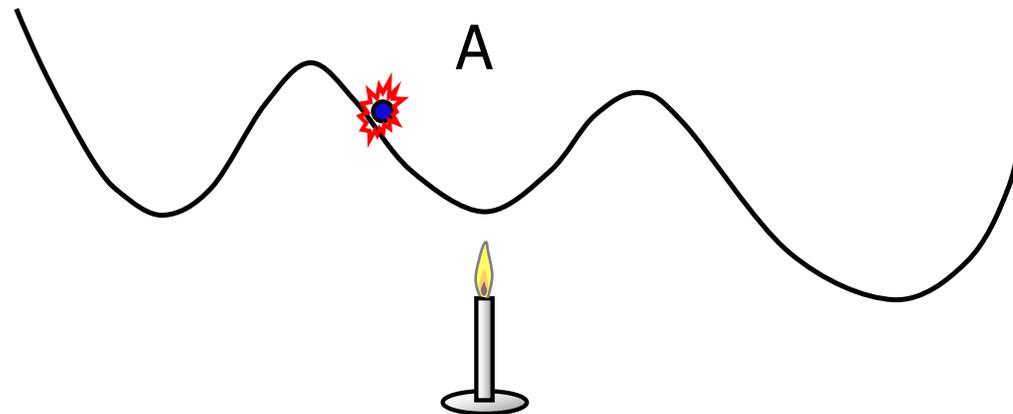
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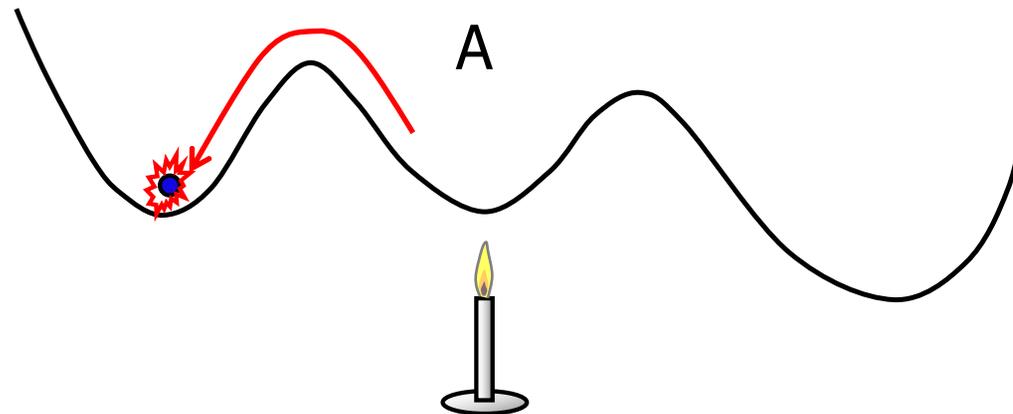
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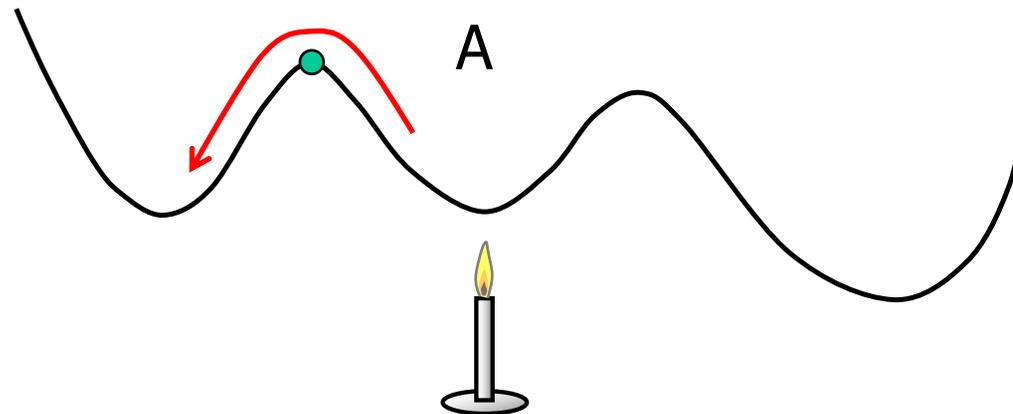
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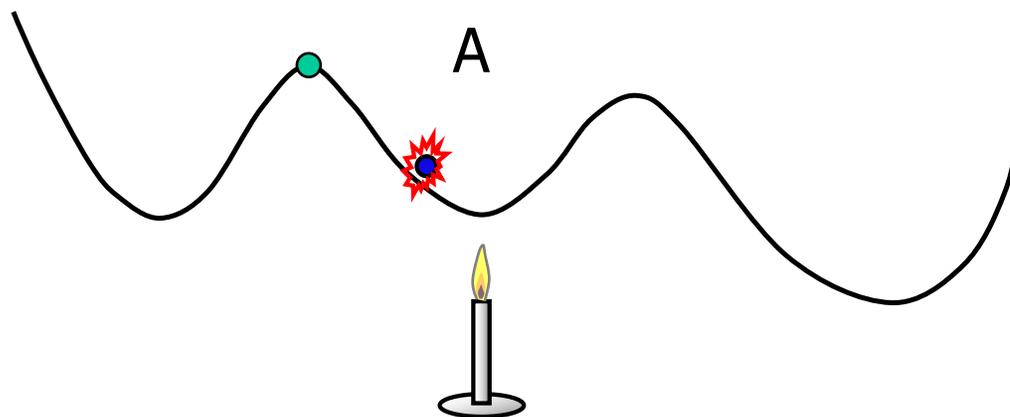
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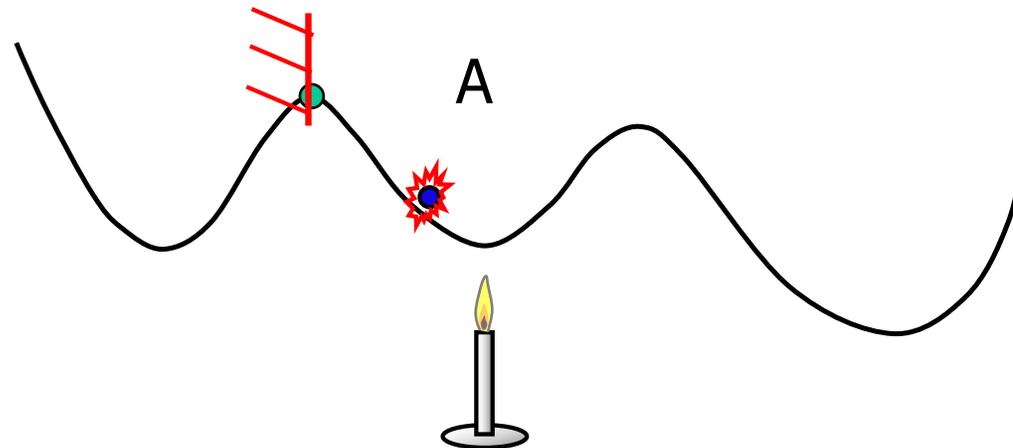
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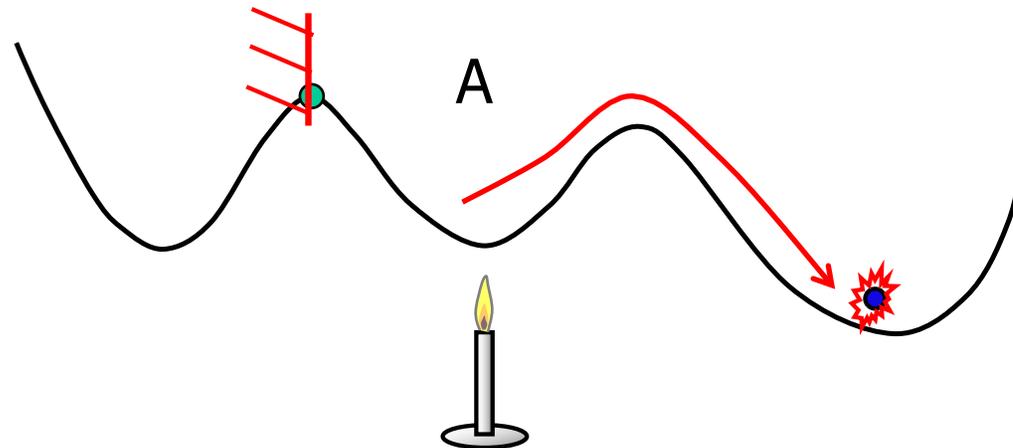
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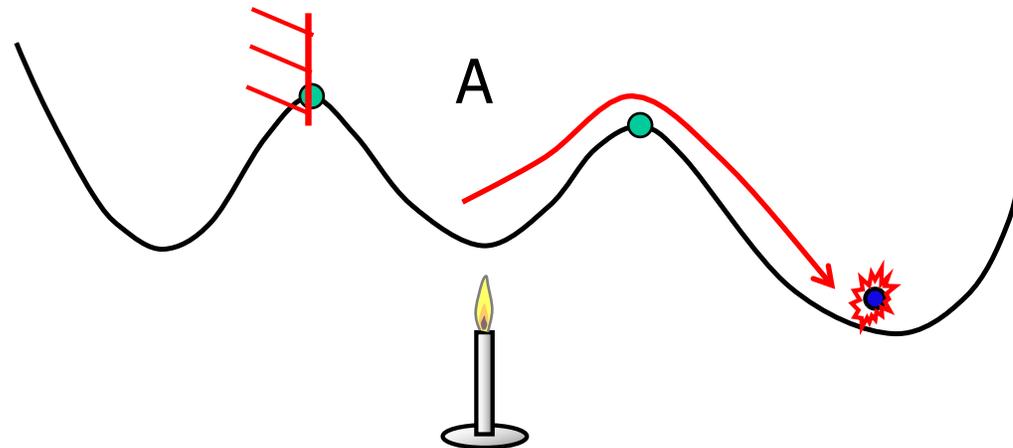
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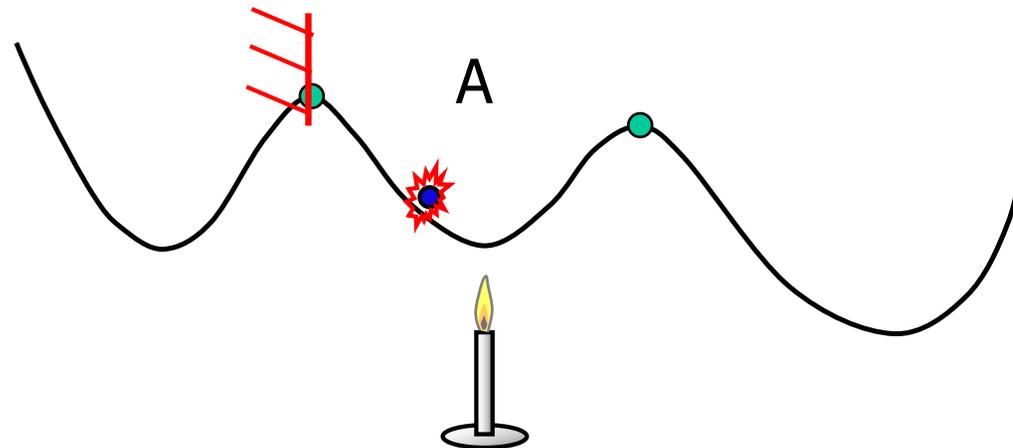
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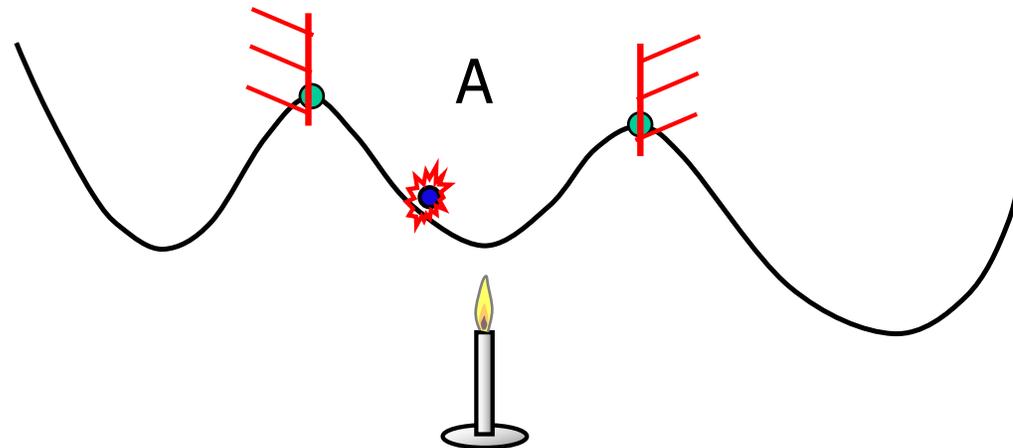
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# TAD temperature-extrapolated time

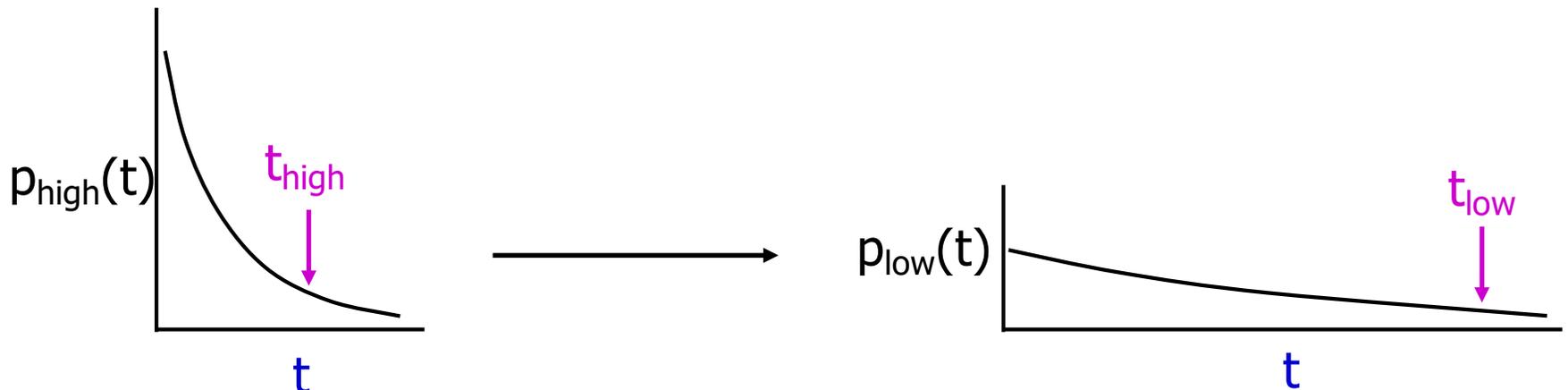
Because each rate is assumed to be Arrhenius,

$$k = v_0 \exp[-\Delta E/k_B T] ,$$

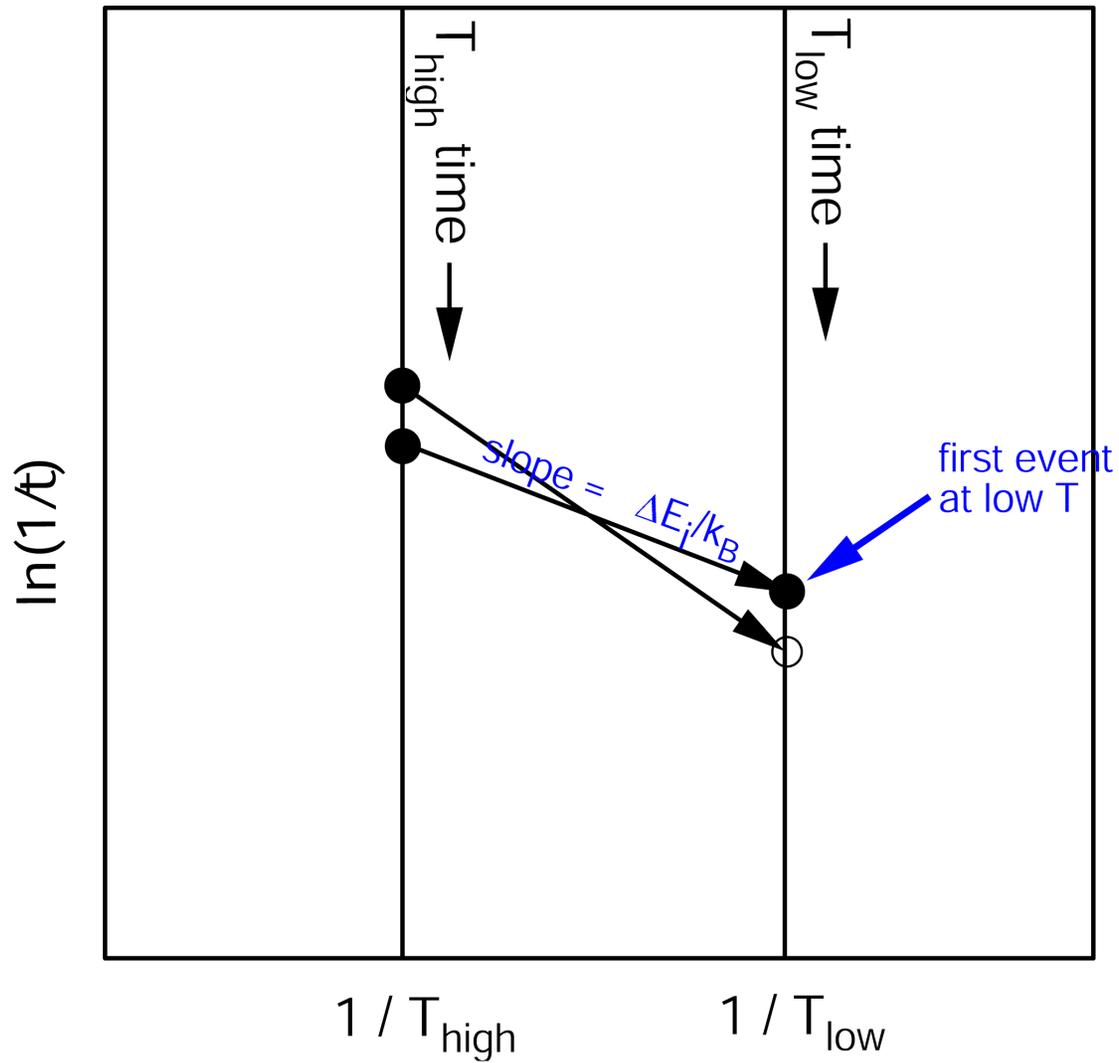
the time for each particular event at high T can be extrapolated to low T:

$$t_{\text{low}} = t_{\text{high}} \exp[\Delta E(1/k_B T_{\text{low}} - 1/k_B T_{\text{high}})] .$$

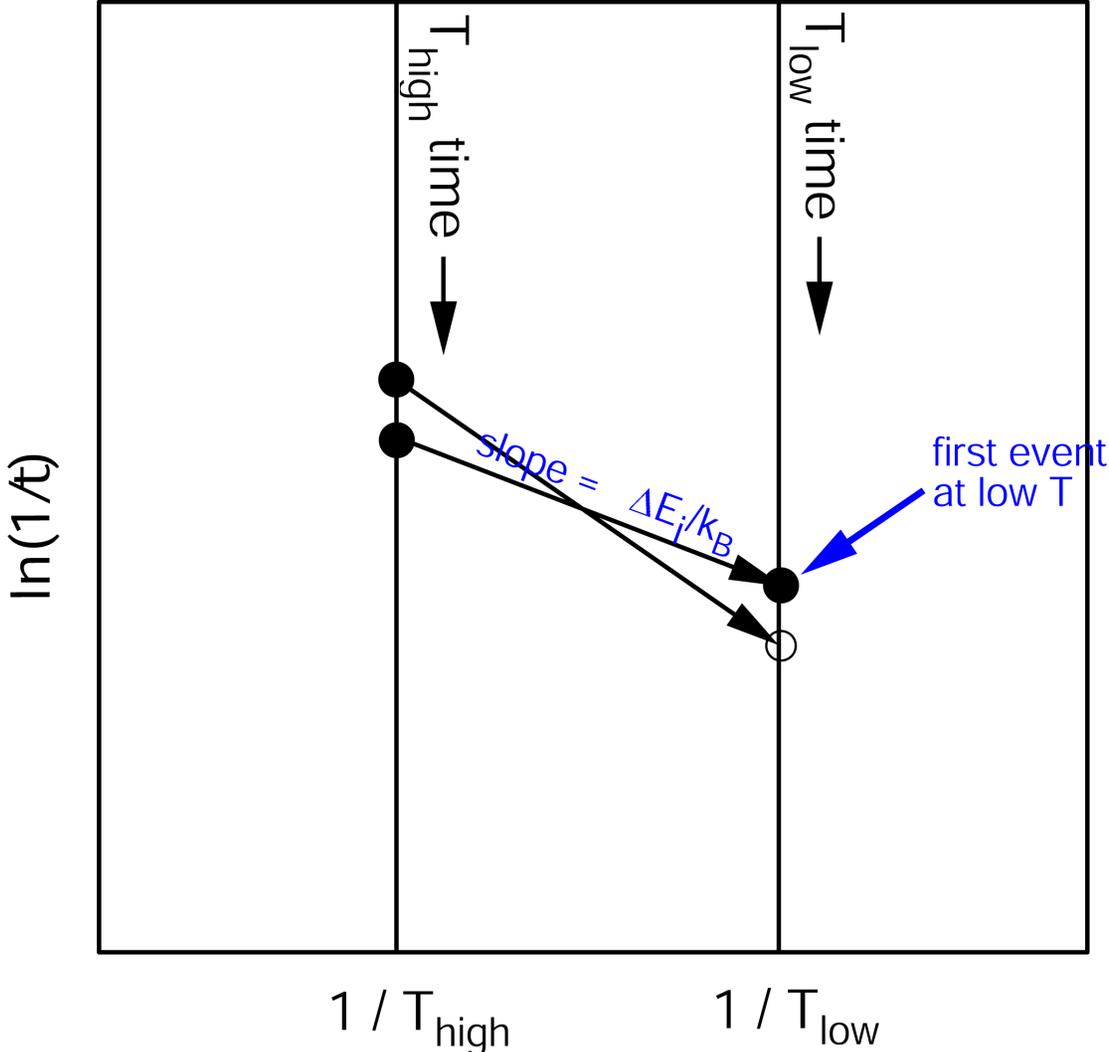
This time is sampled correctly from the exponential distribution at low T, mapped from the high T sample:



# The Arrhenius view



# The Arrhenius view



when can we stop?

# The confidence line

For a pathway with rate  $k$ , the MD time  $\tau$  required to be certain with confidence  $1-\delta$  that at least one escape will occur is

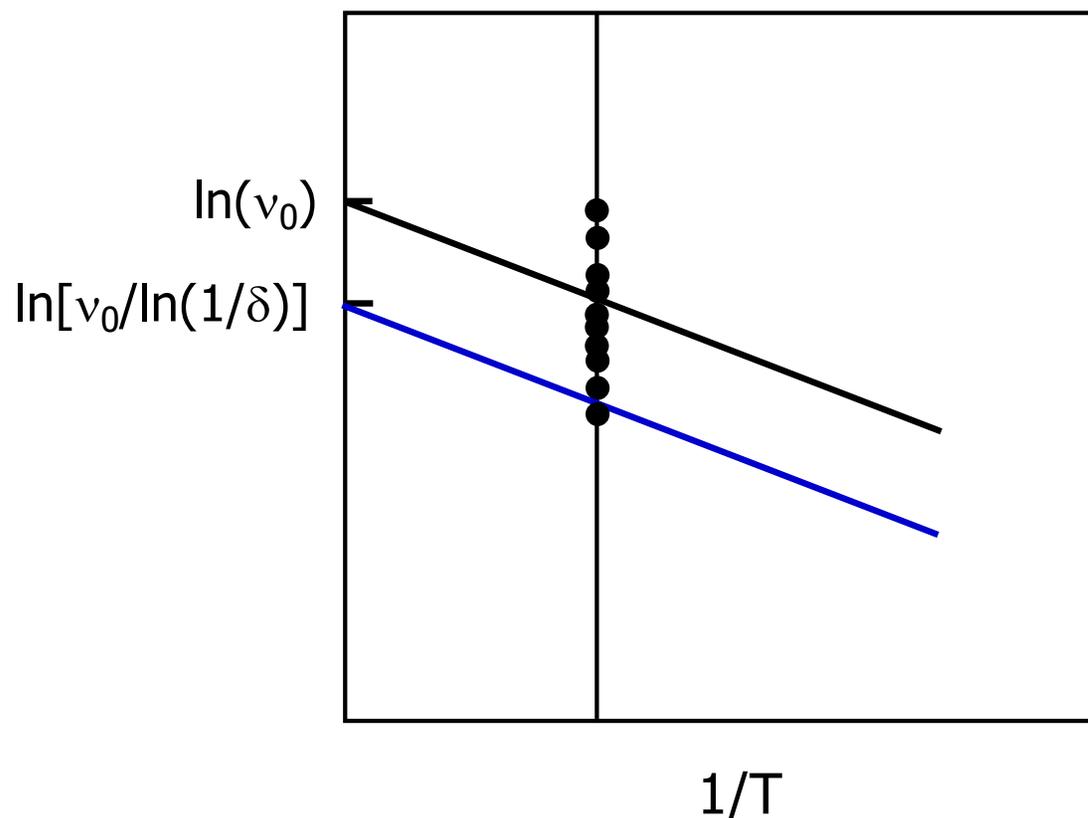
$$\tau = (1/k) \ln(1/\delta)$$

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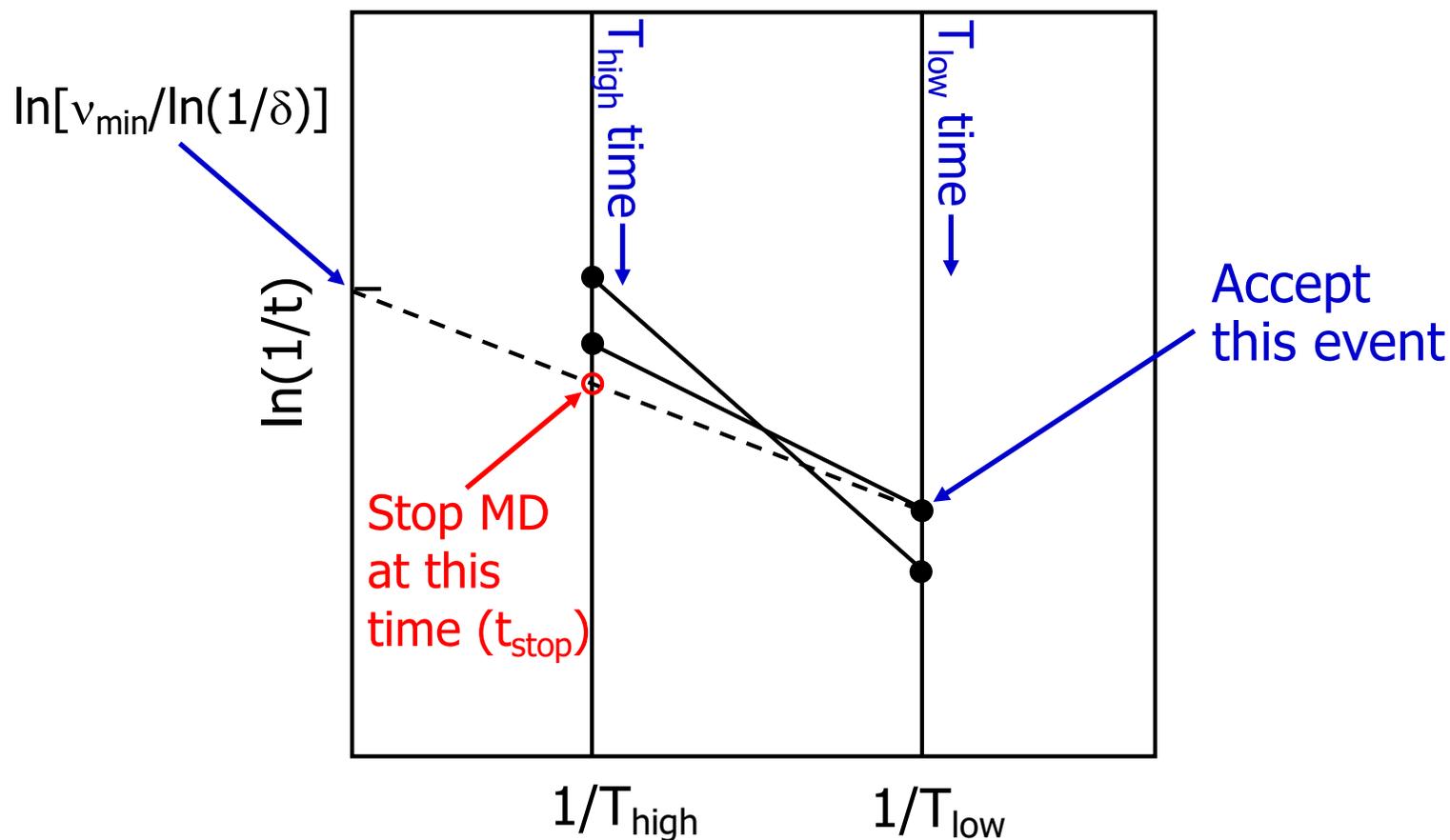
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For an Arrhenius rate,  $k = v_0 \exp(-E_a/k_B T)$ , all but fraction  $\delta$  of the first escapes will occur above the line with slope  $E_a$  and intercept  $\ln[v_0/\ln(1/\delta)]$



# TAD - when can we stop the MD and accept an event?

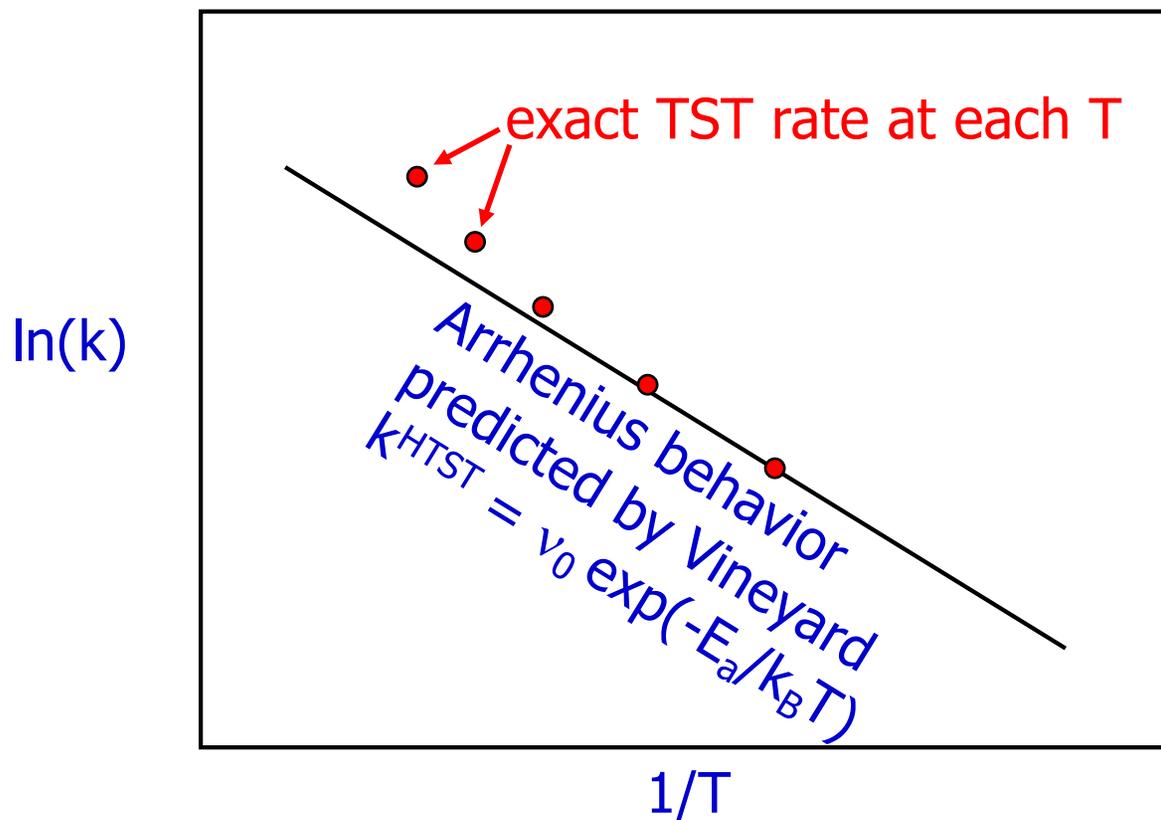


After time  $t_{\text{stop}}$ , with confidence  $1-\delta$ , no event can replace shortest-time event seen at low  $T$ .

Move system to this state and start again.

Correct dynamics, assuming harmonic TST,  $v_{\text{min}}$ , uncertainty  $\delta$ . *Los Alamos*

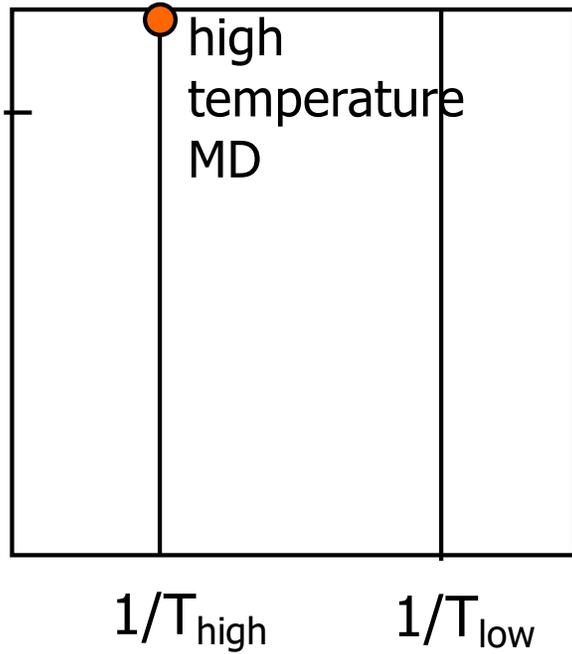
# Effects of Anharmonicity



This error will be carried down to the low temperature

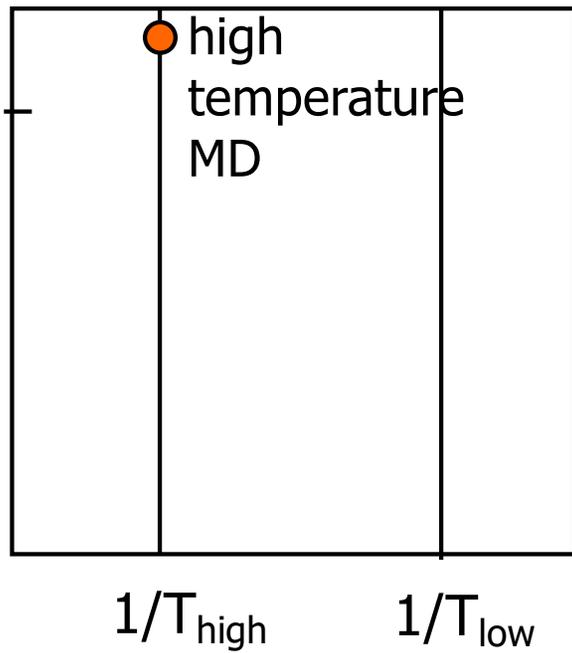
# TAD procedure

● = current  $t_{\text{high}}$



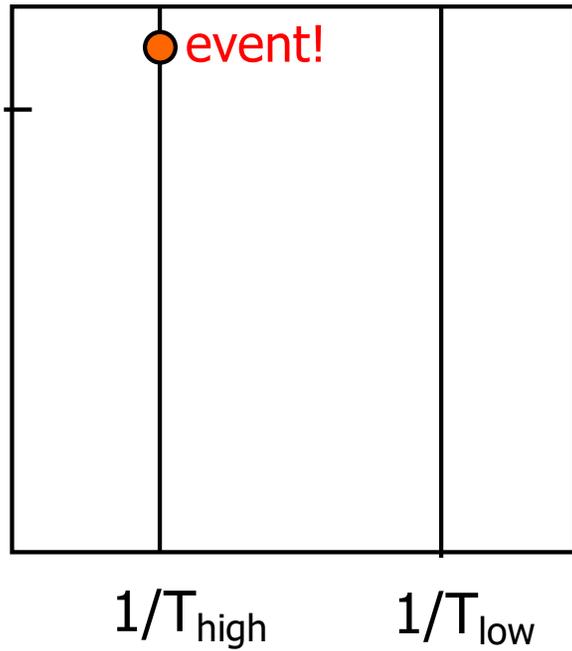
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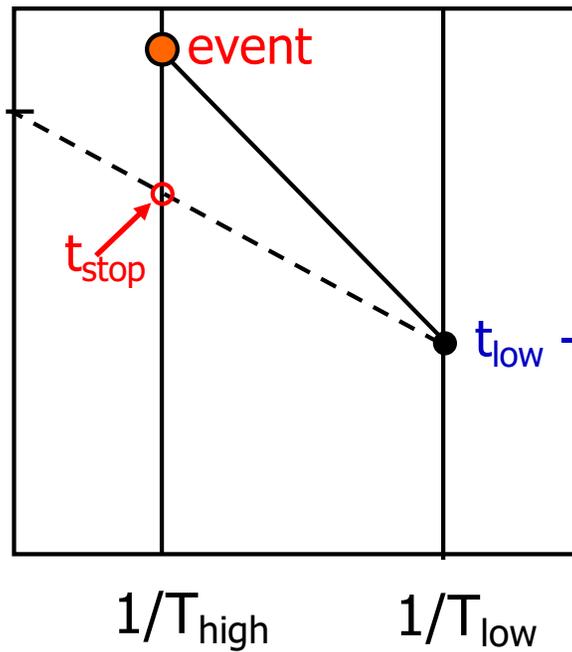
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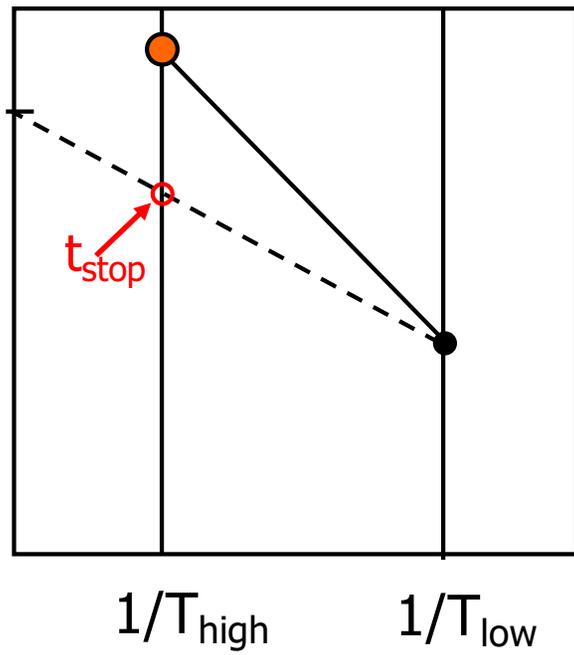
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- when this event would have occurred at low temperature

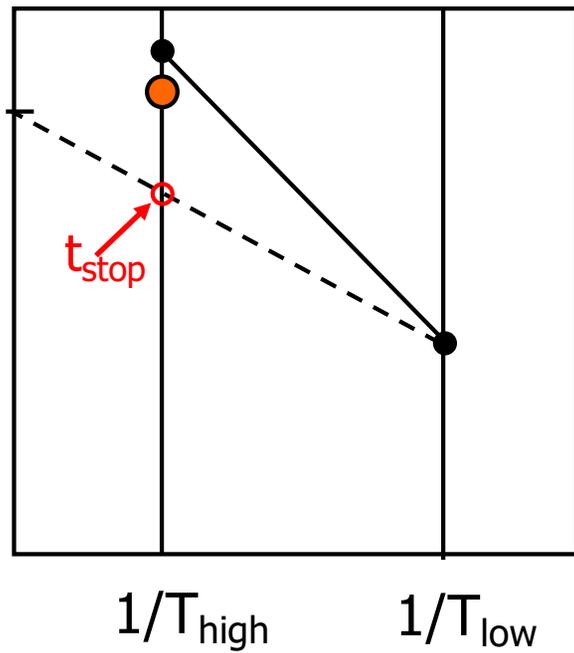
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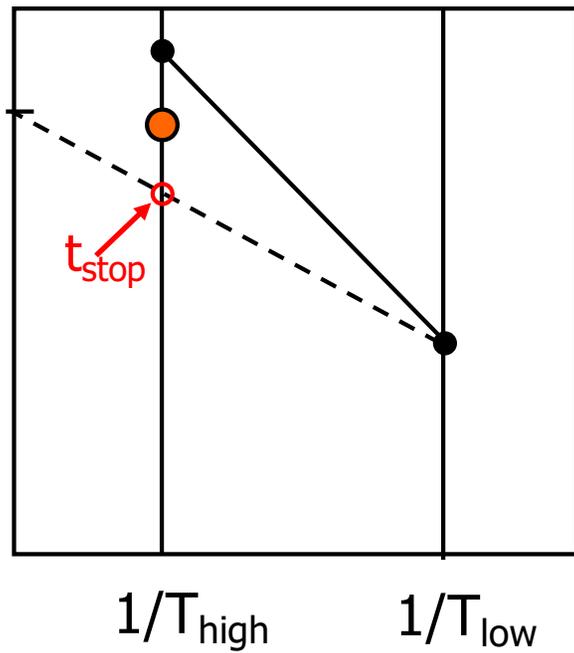
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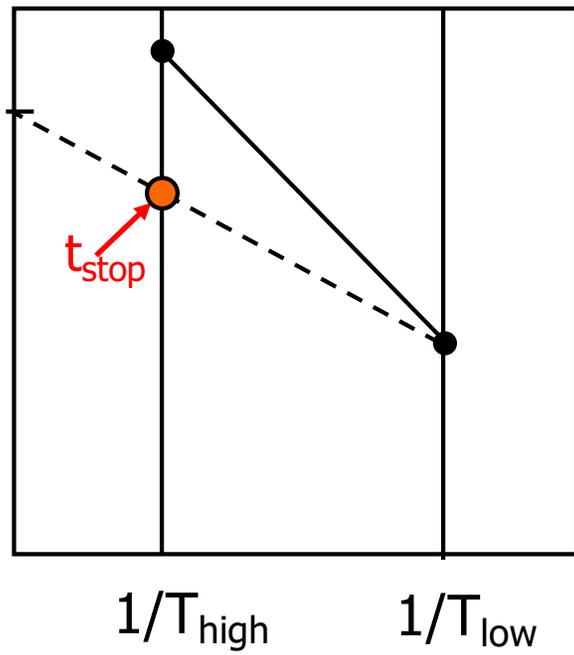
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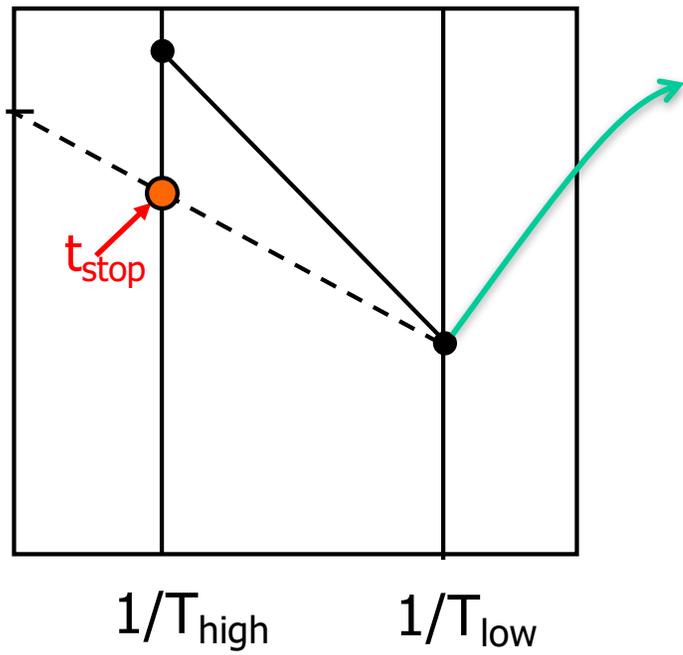
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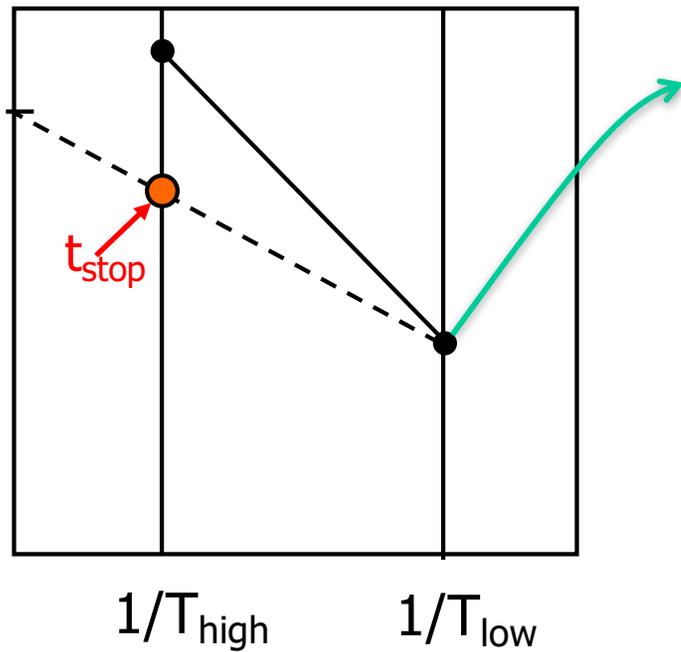
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- advance time by  $t_{\text{low}}$
- start TAD again in new state

# Speculative-transition TAD (SpecTAD)

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A way to parallelize TAD

R.J. Zamora, B.P. Uberuaga, D. Perez, A.F. Voter, Ann. Rev. Chem. Biomol. Eng. (2016);  
Zamora, Voter, Perez, Perriot, Uberuaga, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 2016.

*Los Alamos*

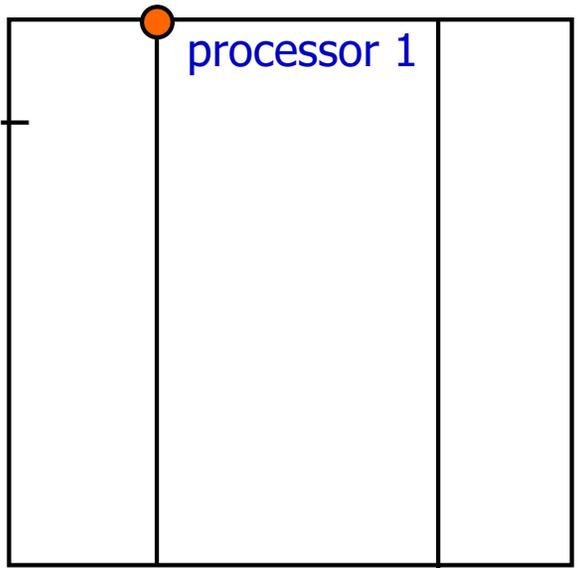
# Speculative-transition TAD (SpecTAD)

A way to parallelize TAD

- TAD sub-simulation is spawned as soon as each transition is seen.
- Branch continues until/unless it becomes clear that this transition is not the one that will be accepted.

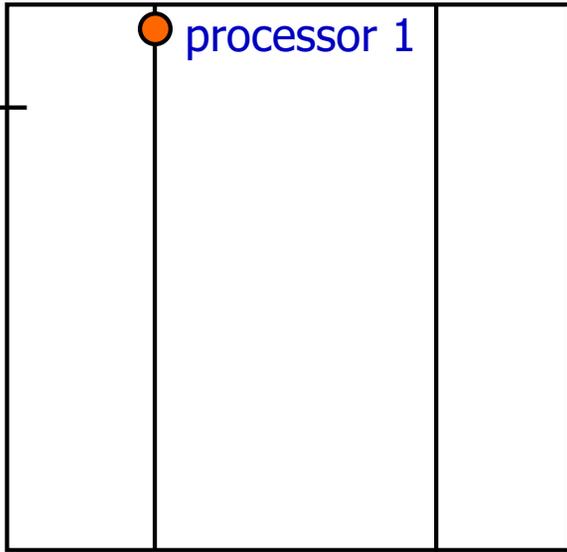
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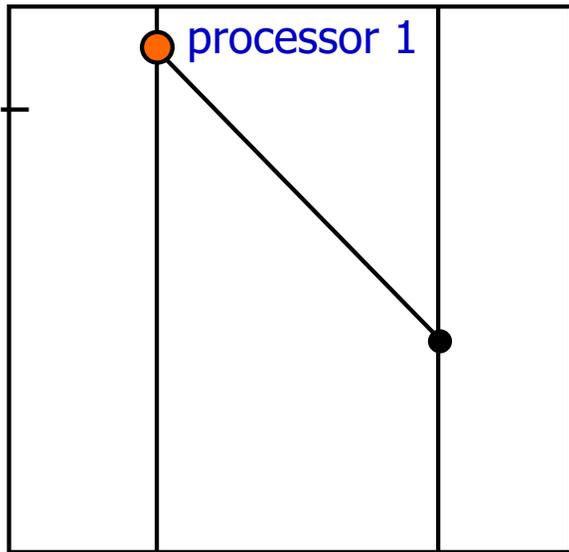
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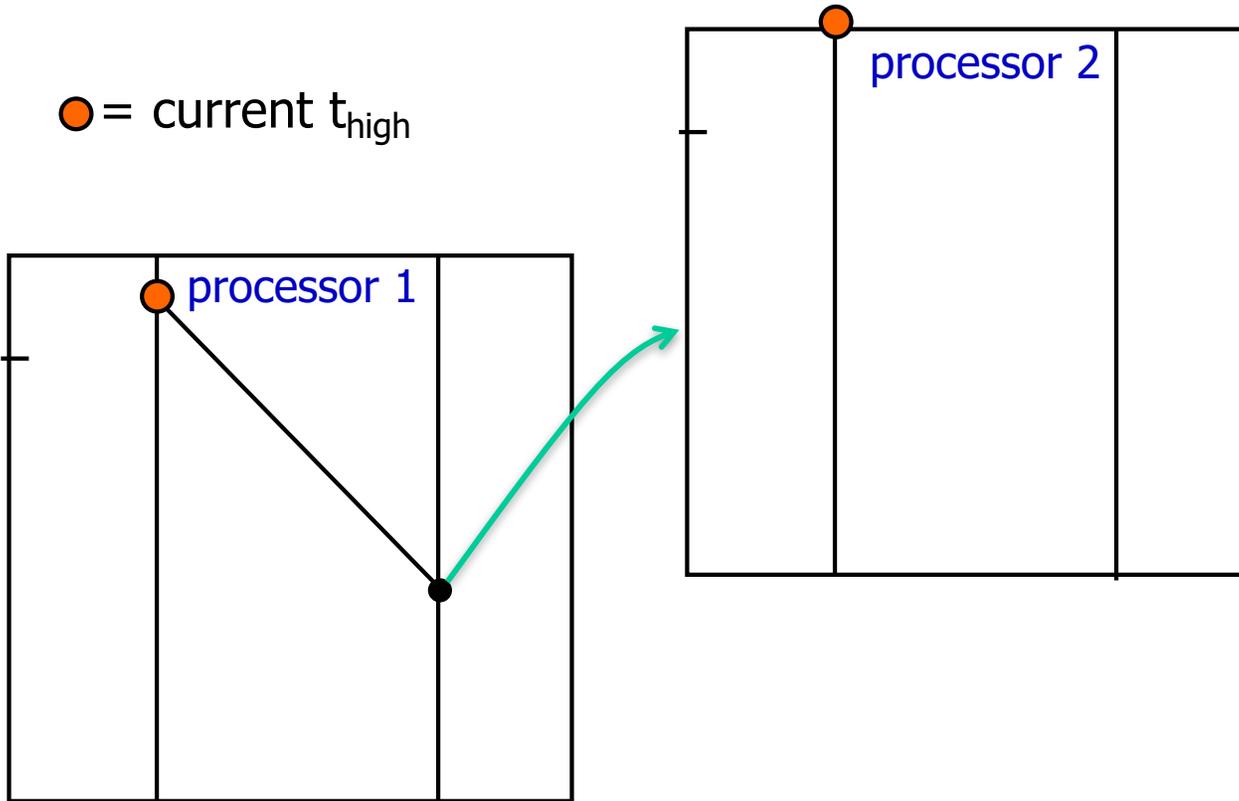
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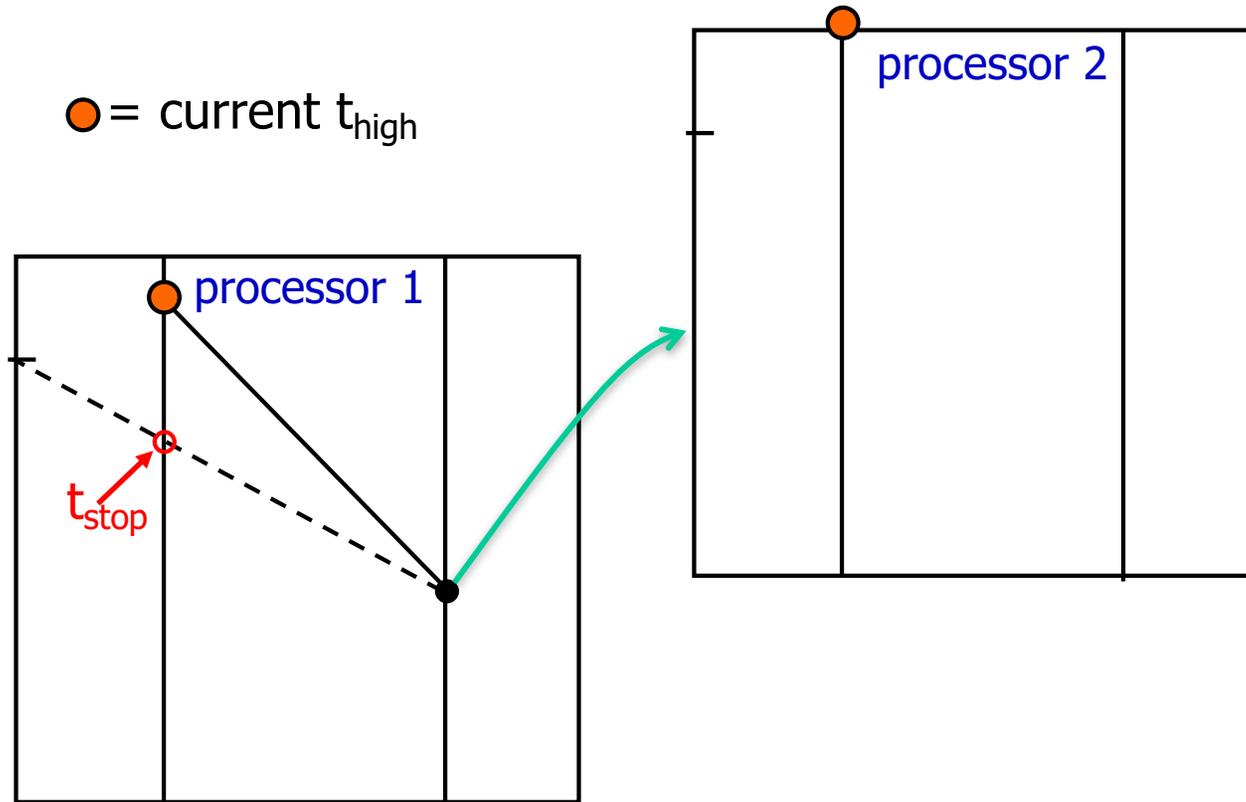


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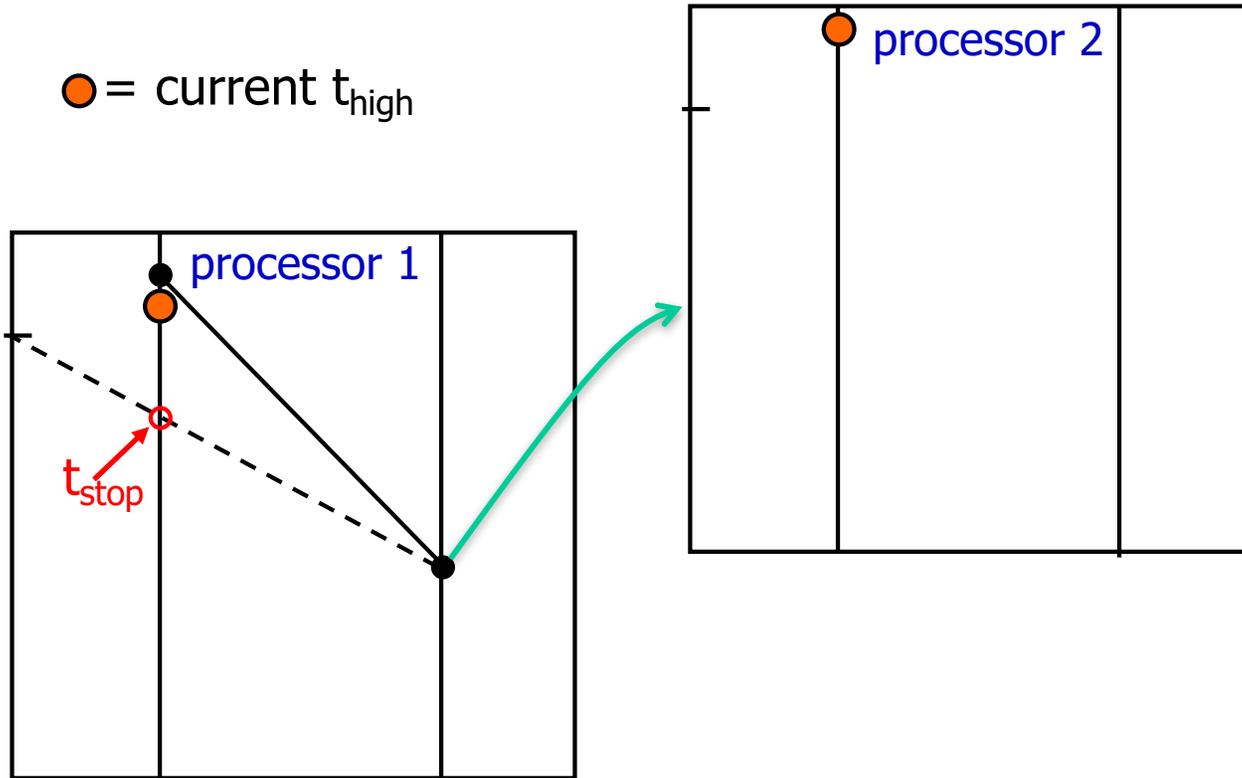


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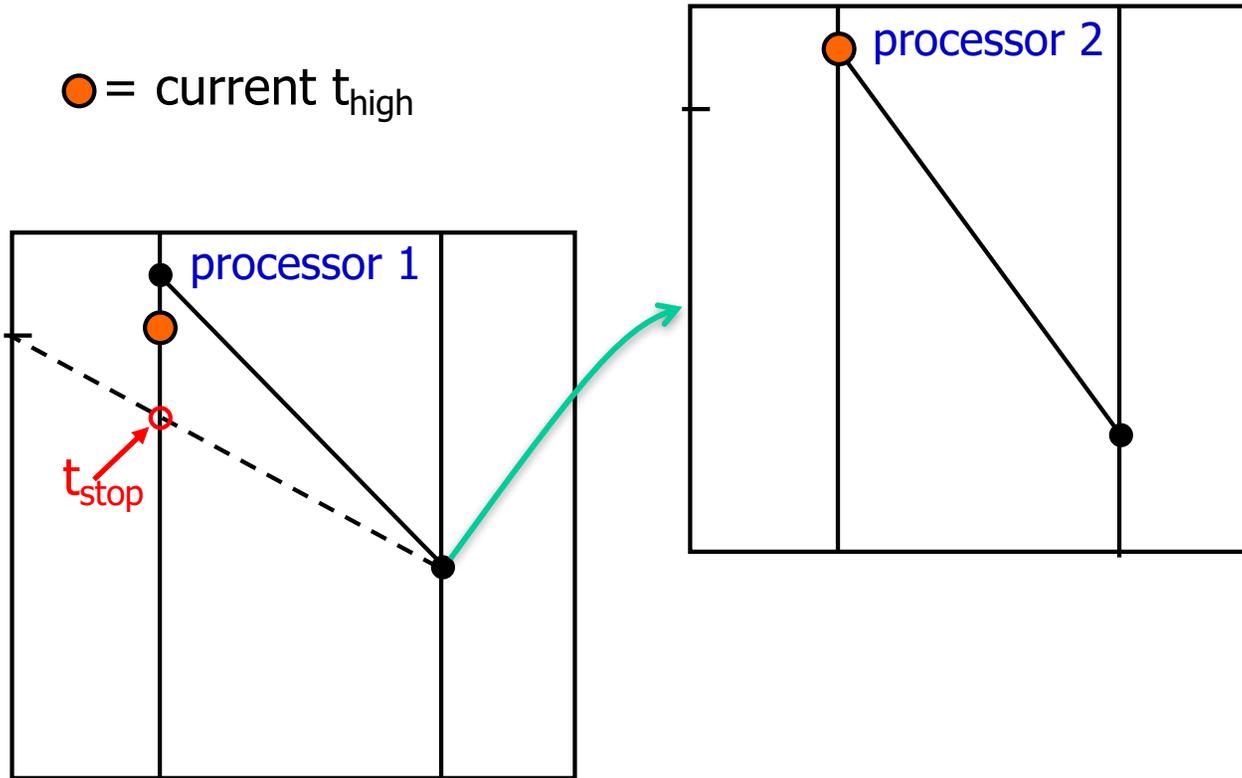
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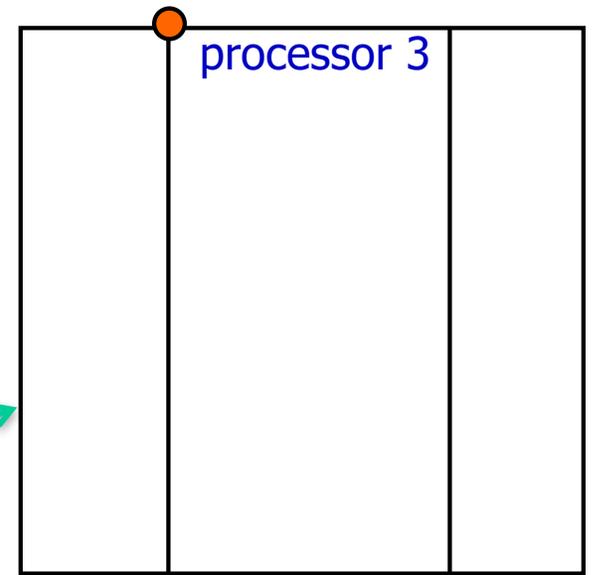
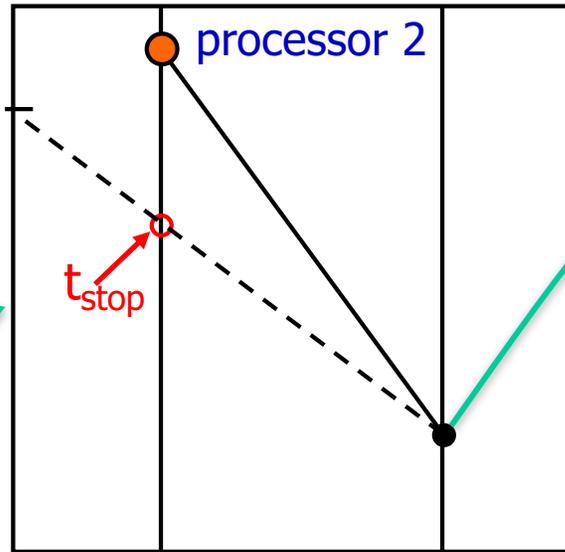
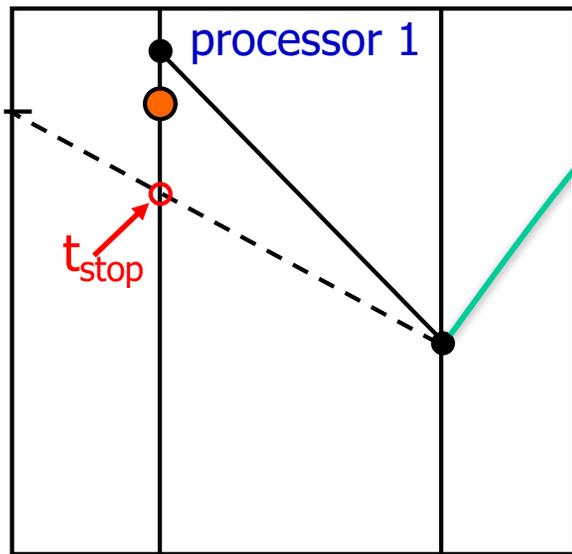
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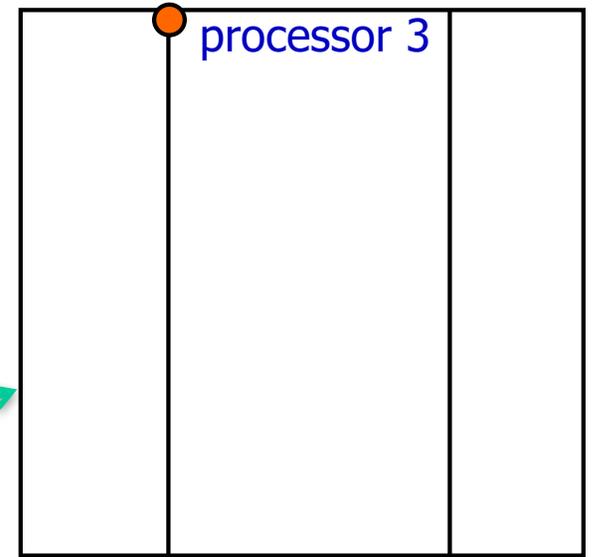
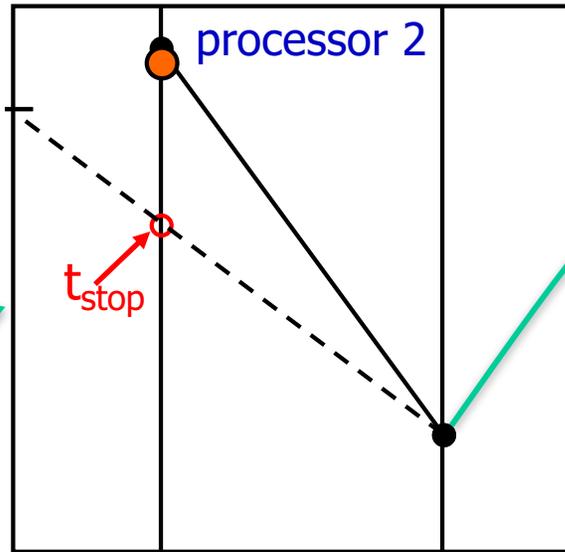
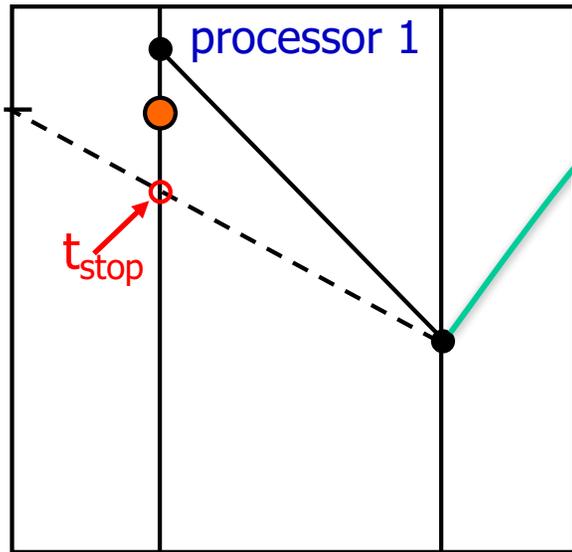
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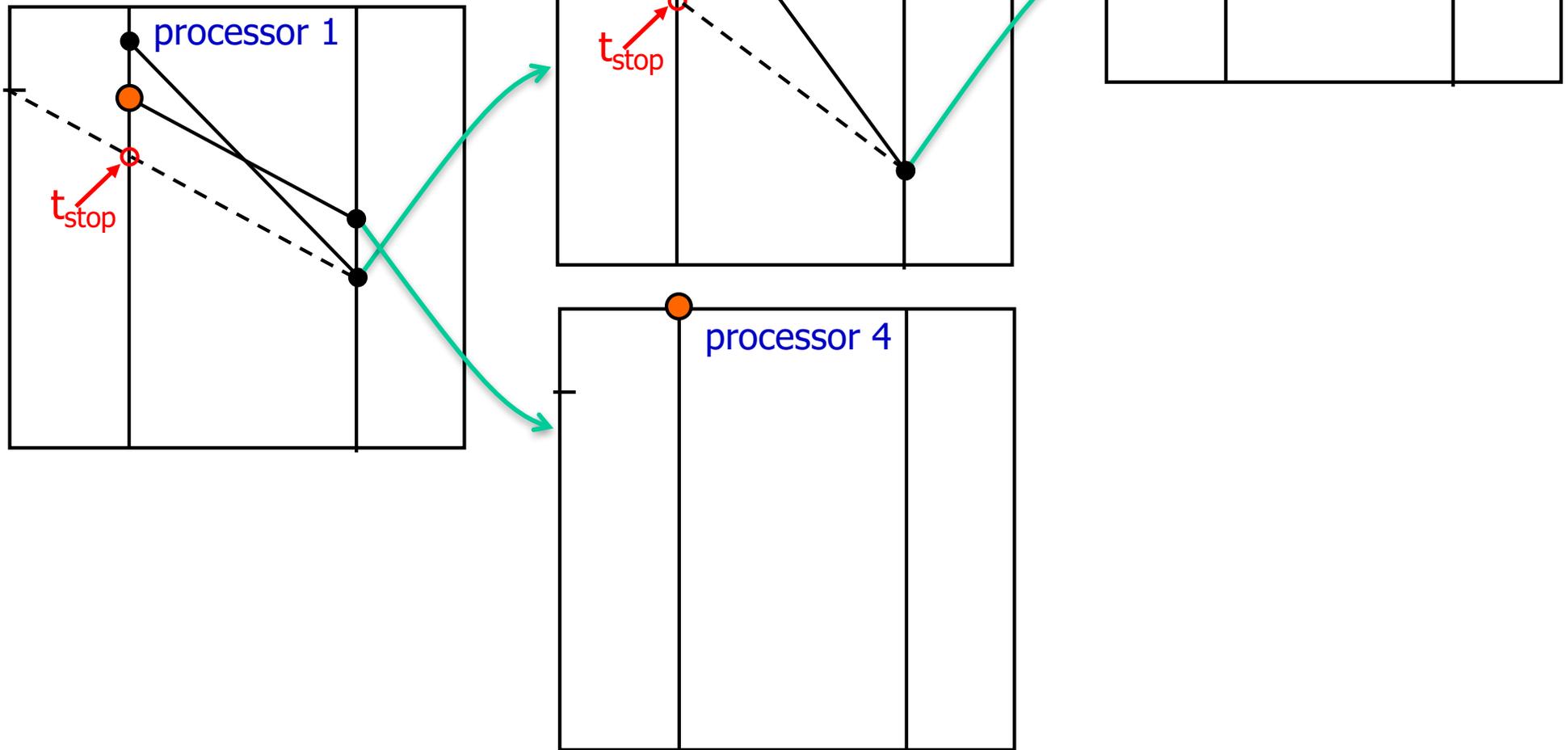
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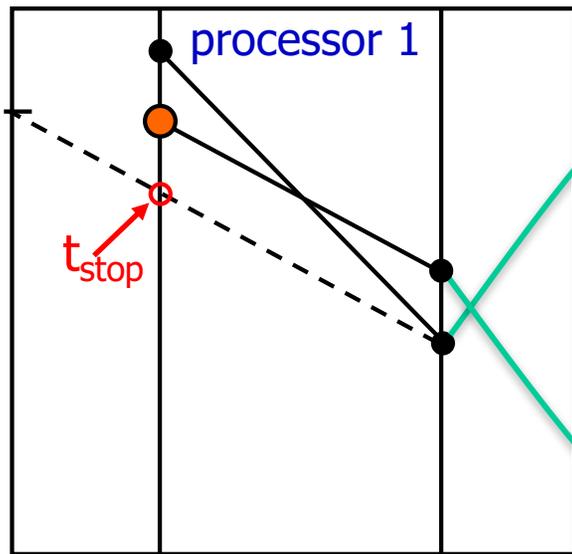
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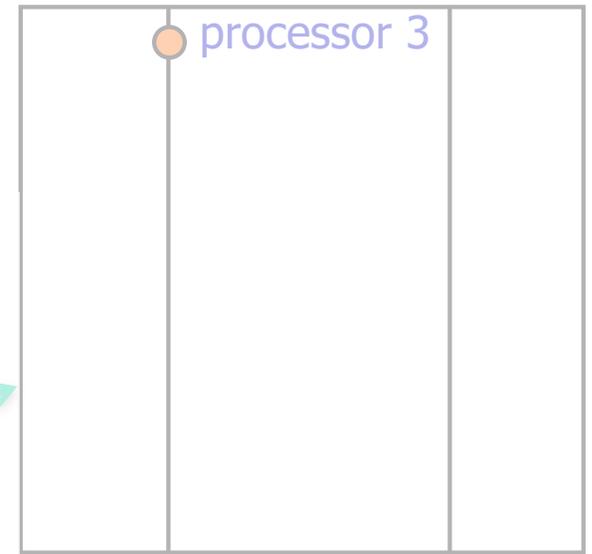
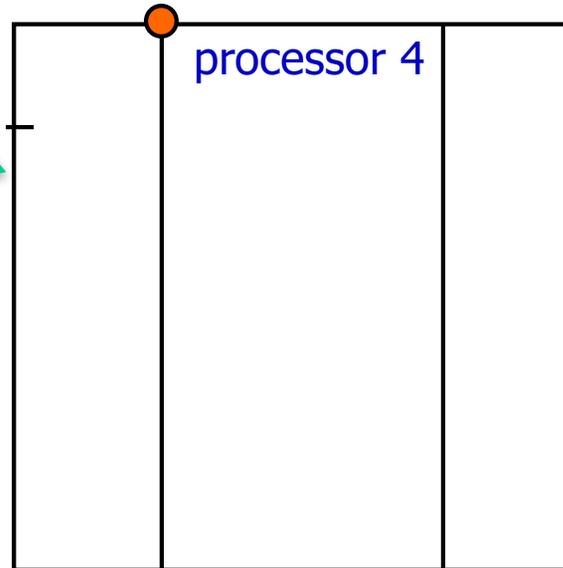
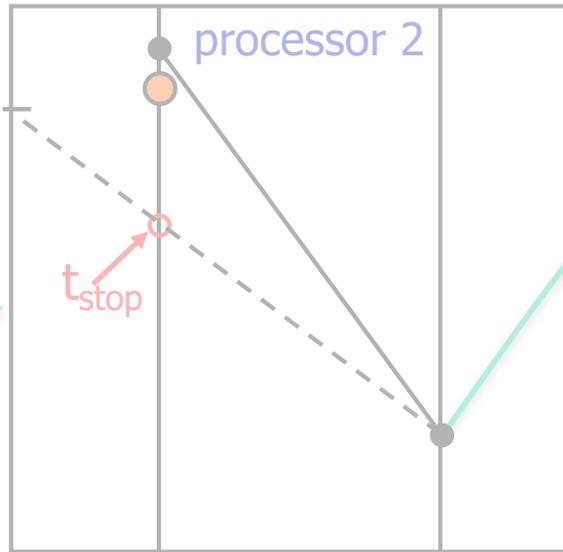


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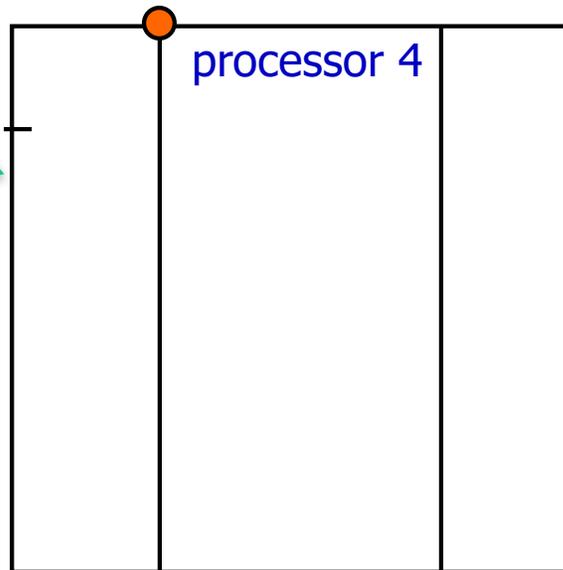
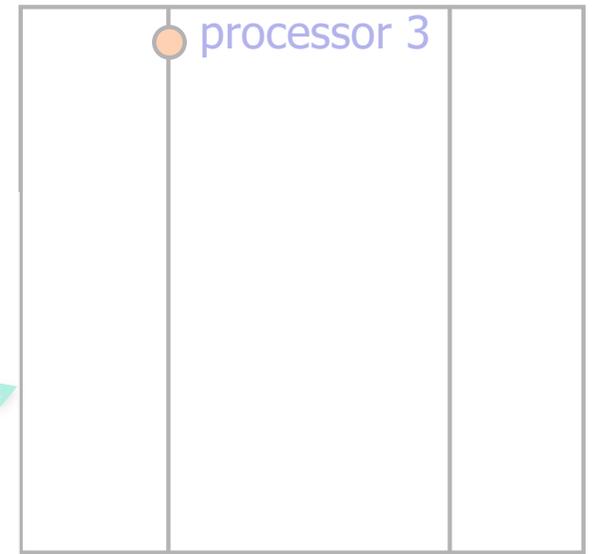
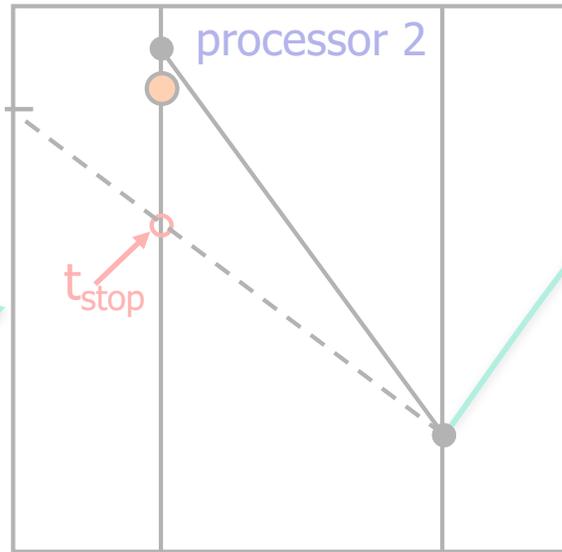
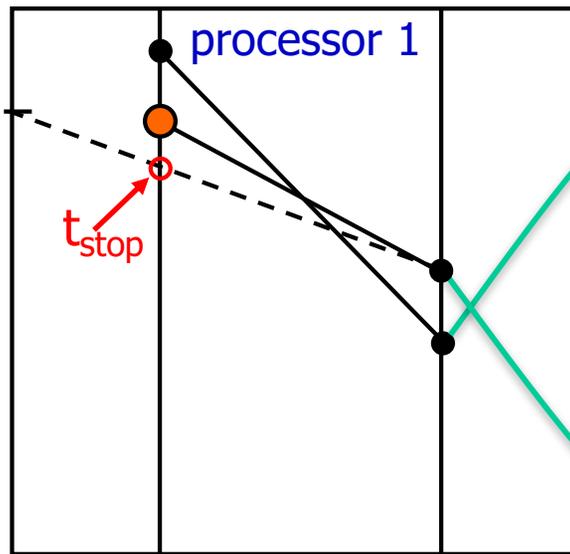


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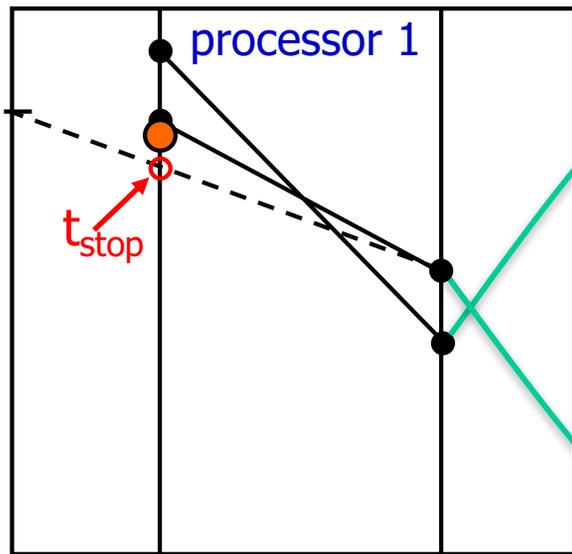
# Speculative Transition Acceptance

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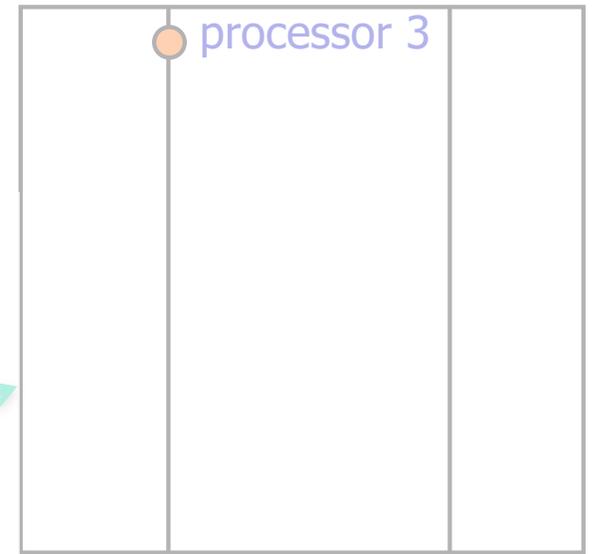
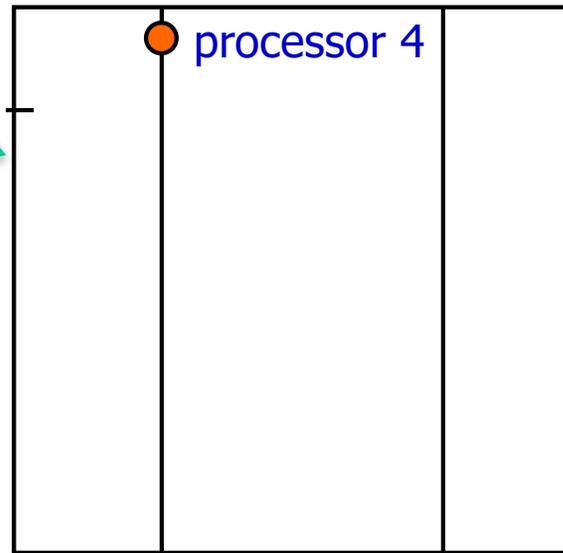
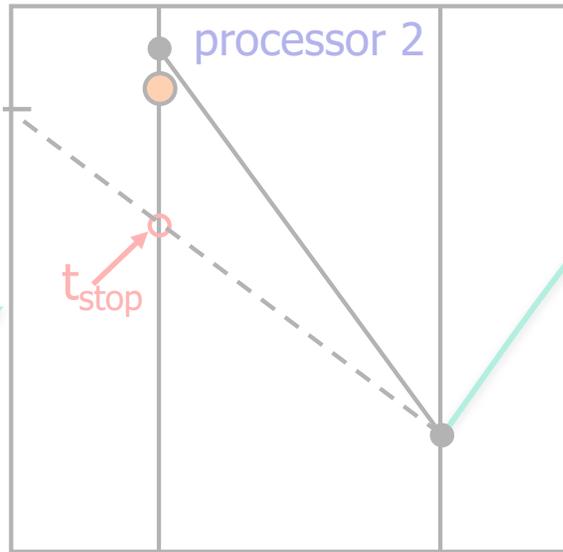


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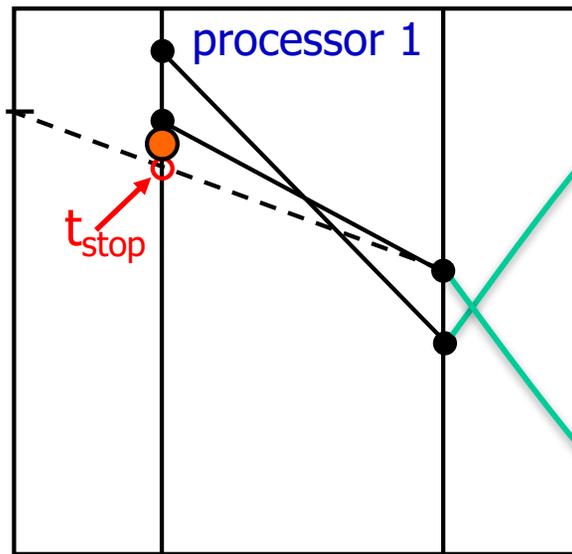


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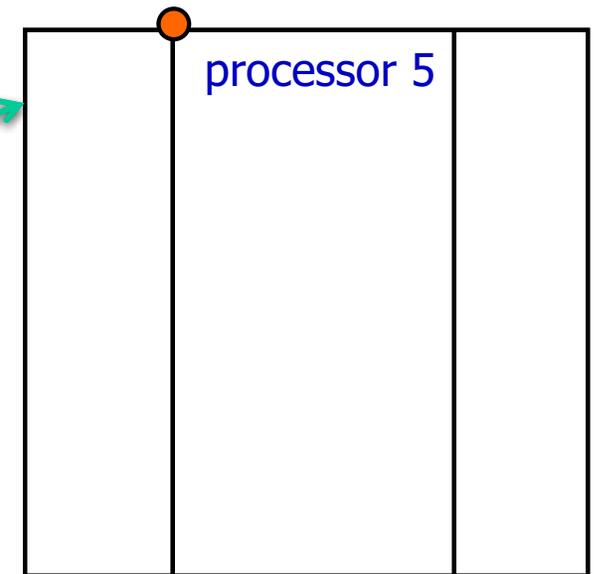
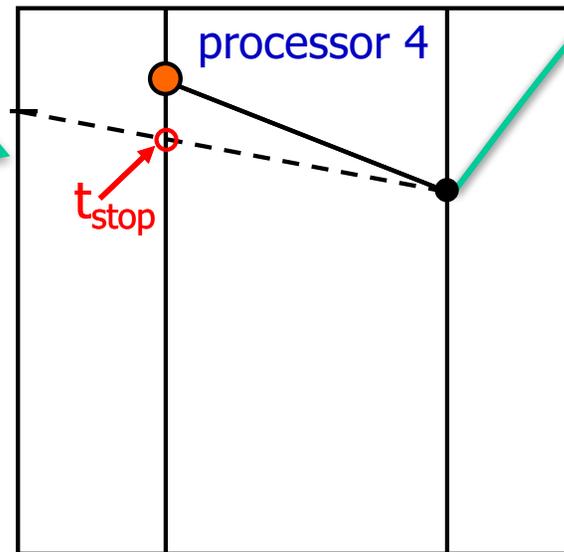
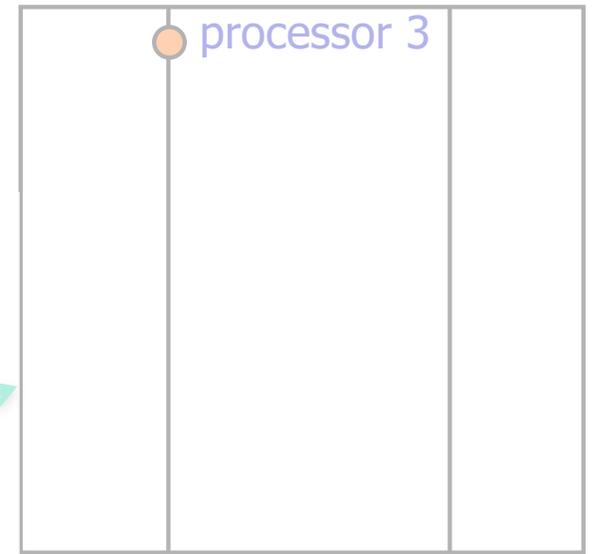
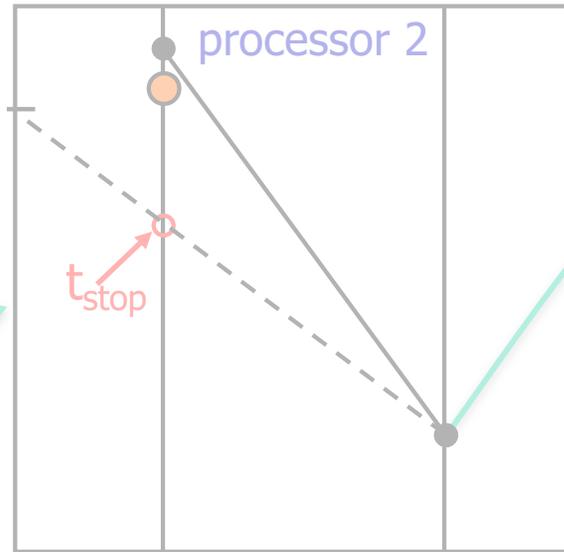


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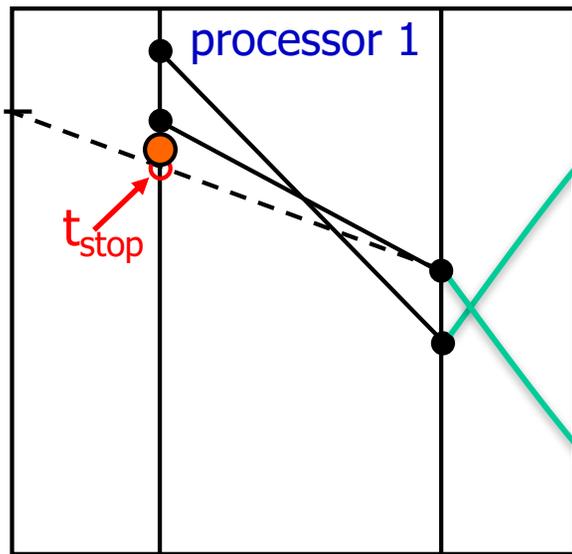


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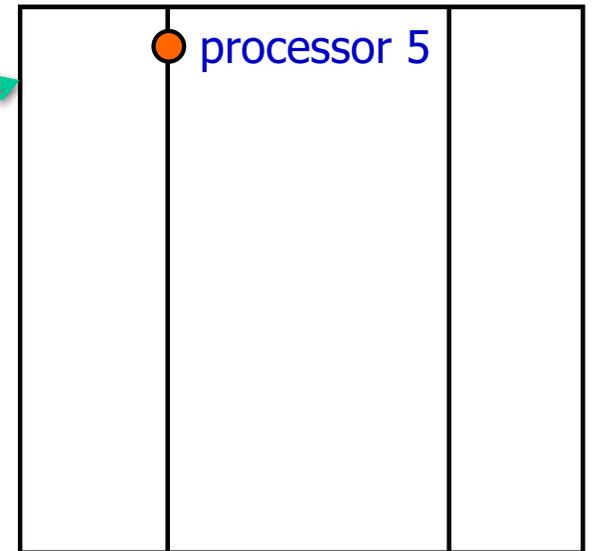
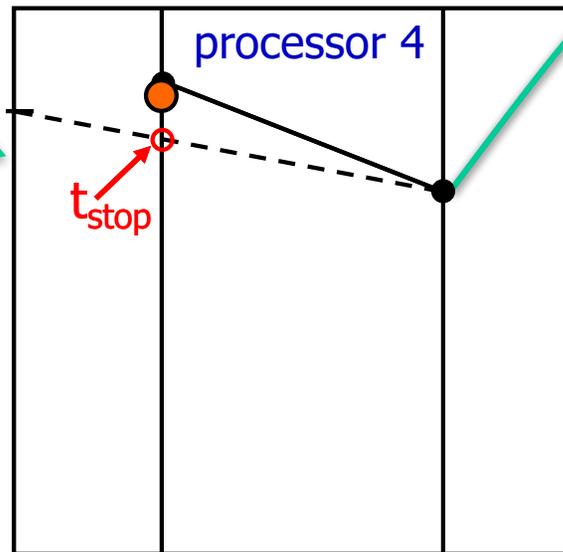
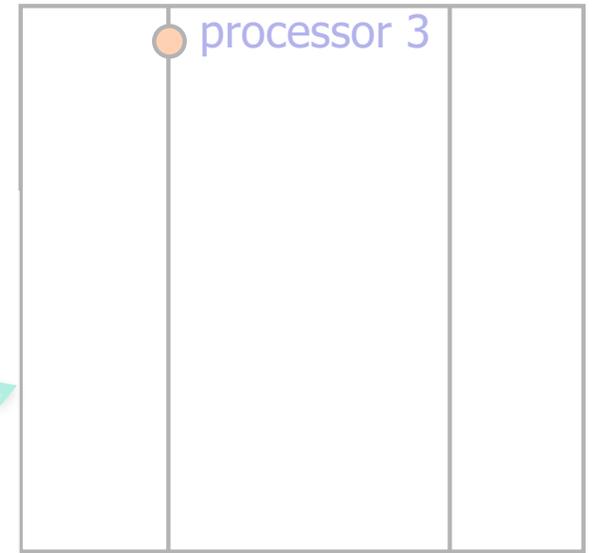
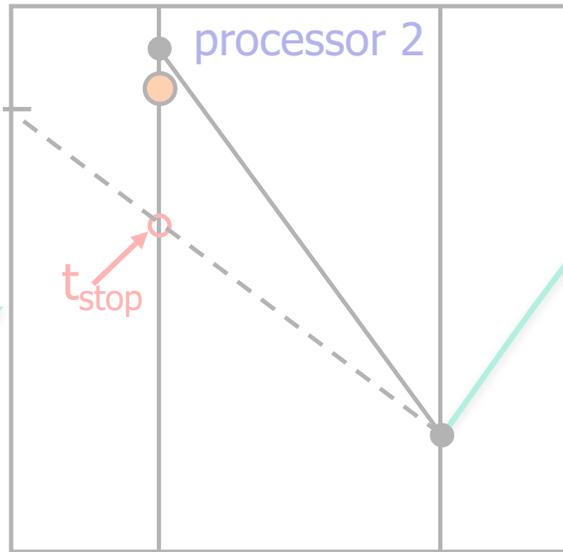


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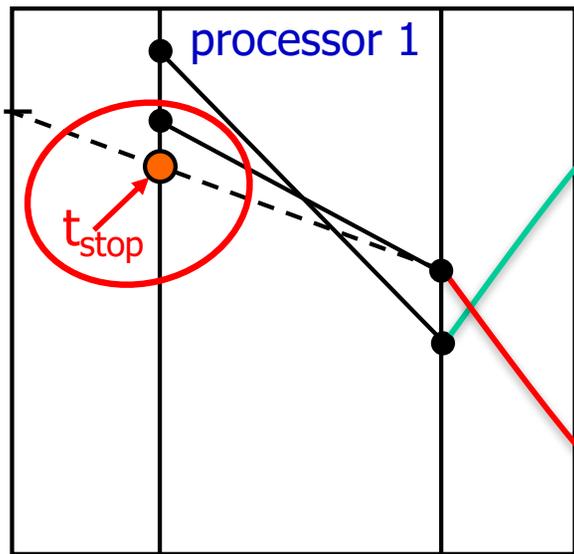


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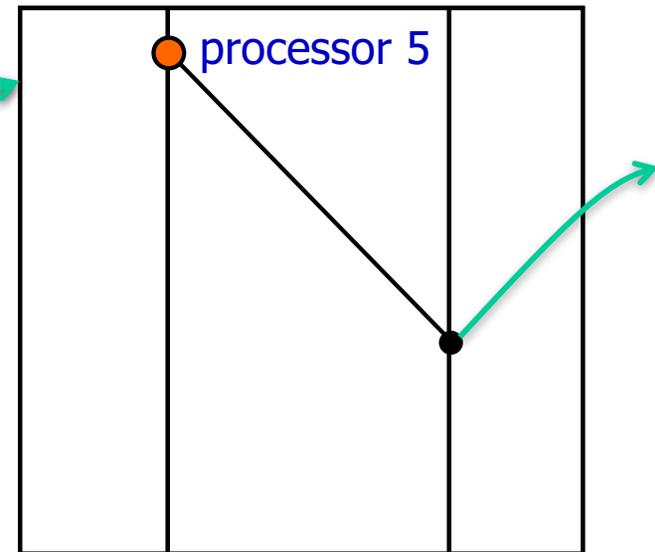
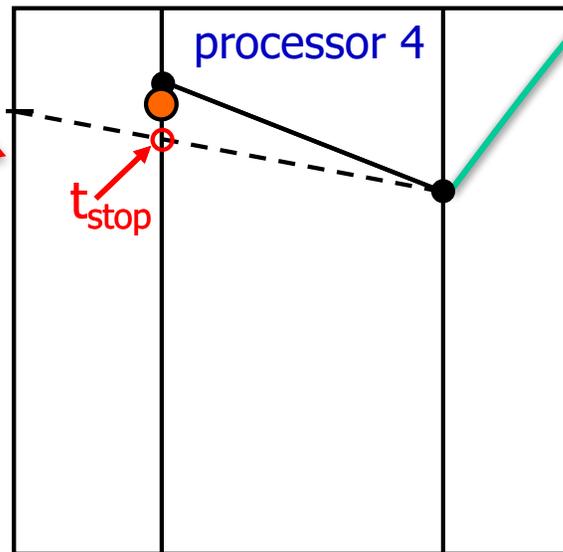
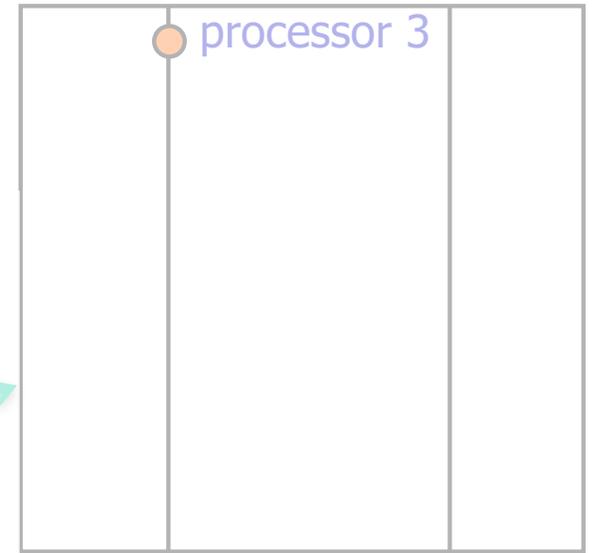
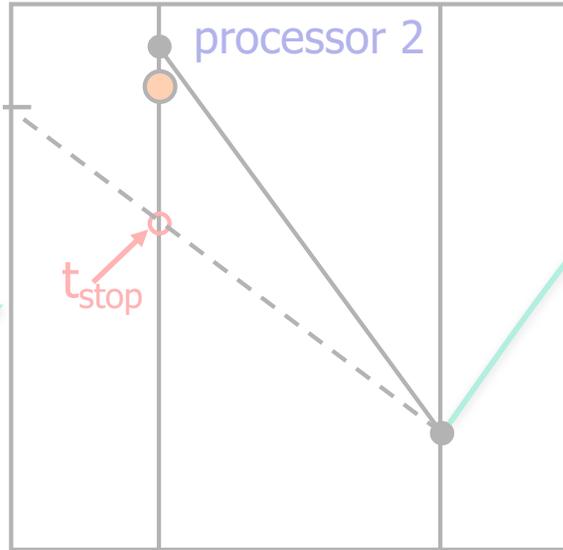


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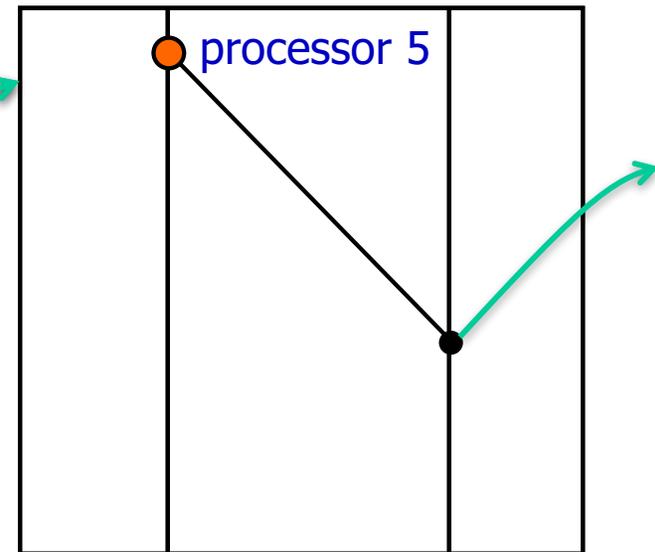
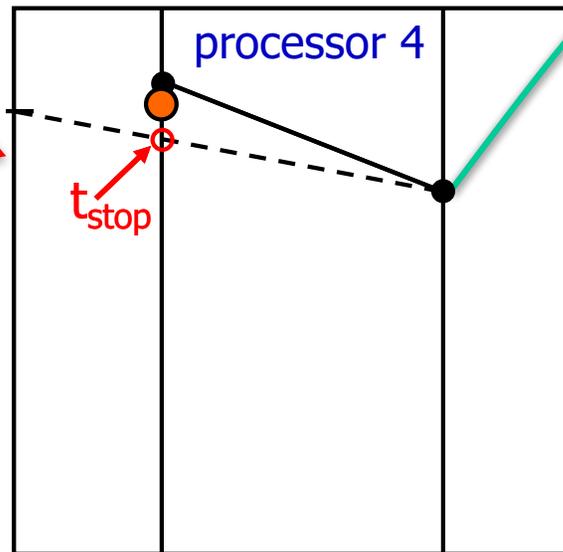
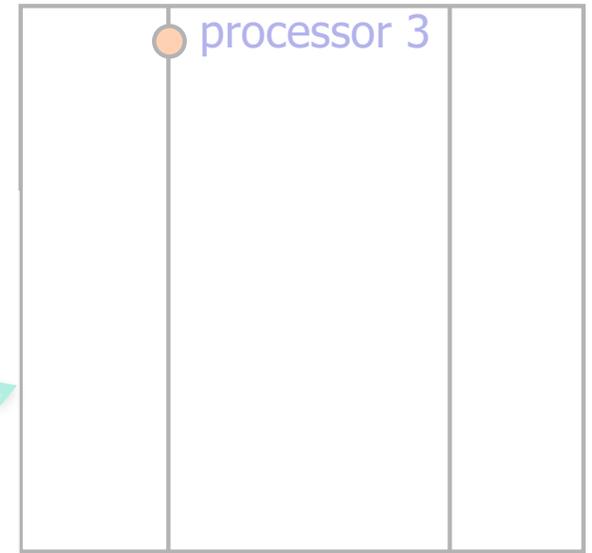
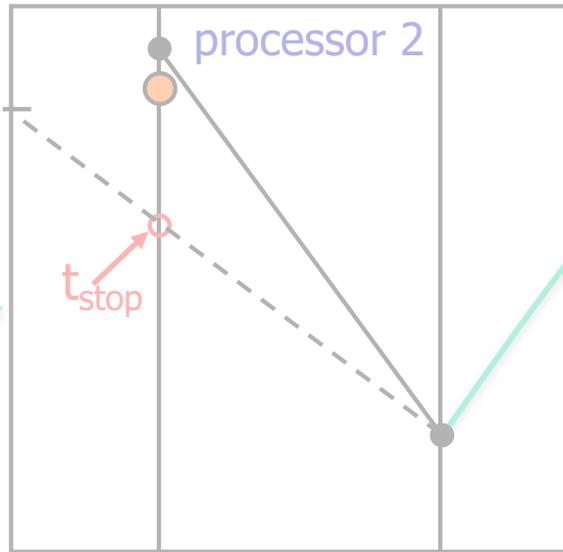
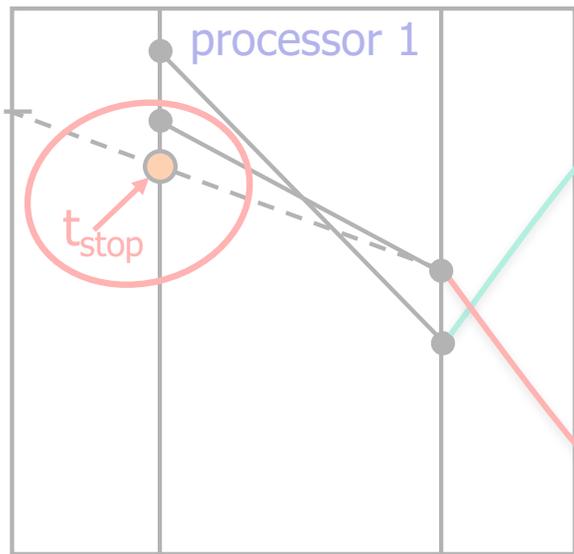


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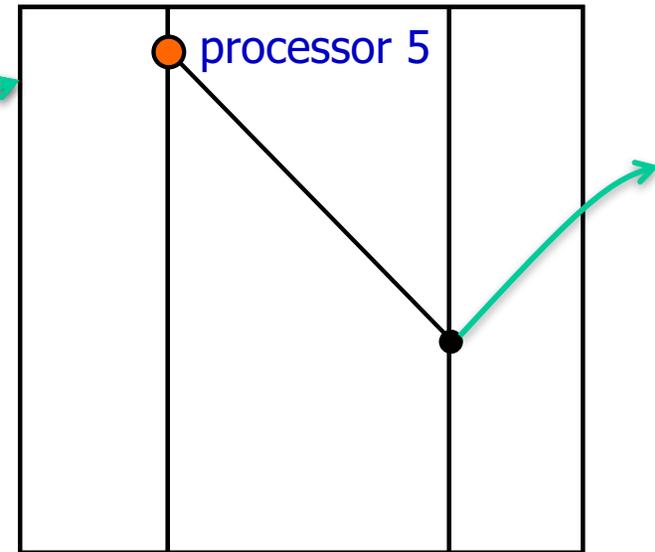
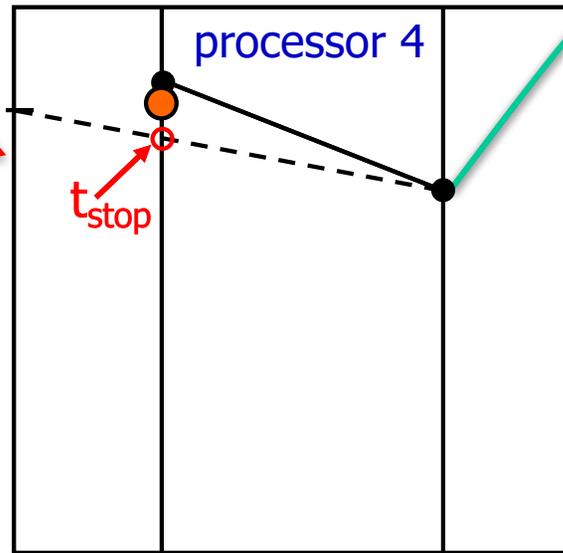
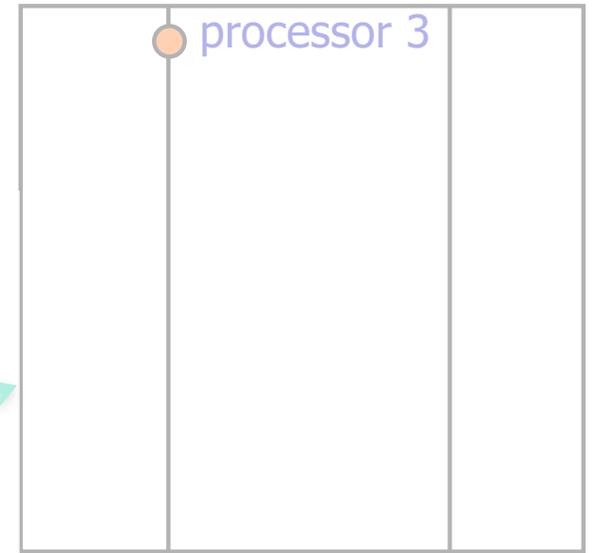
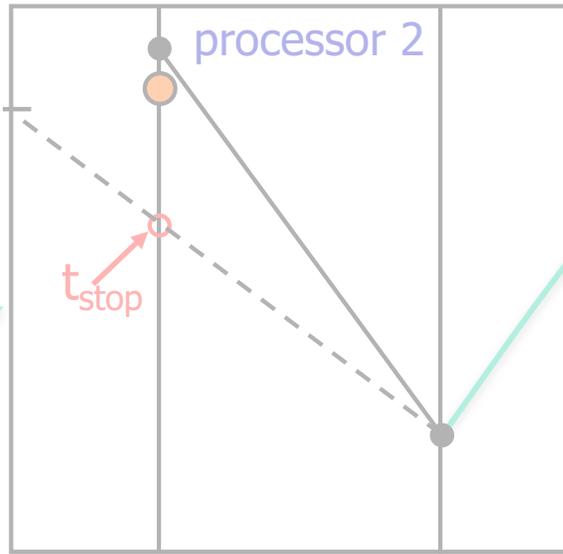
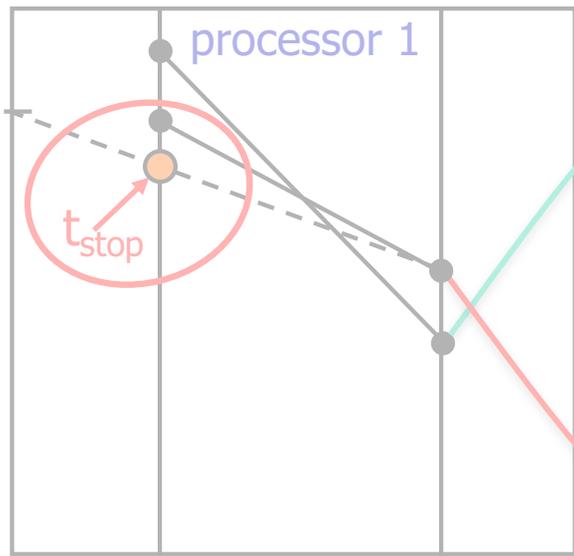
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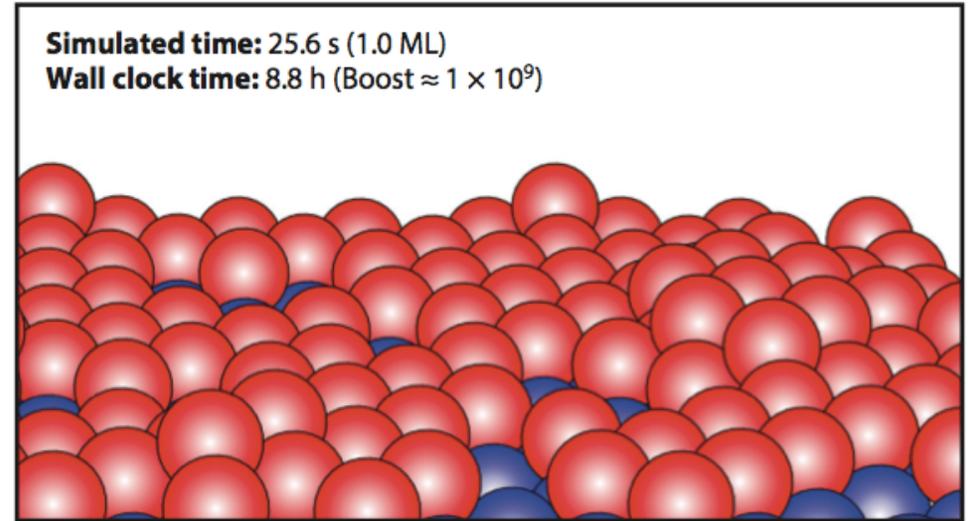
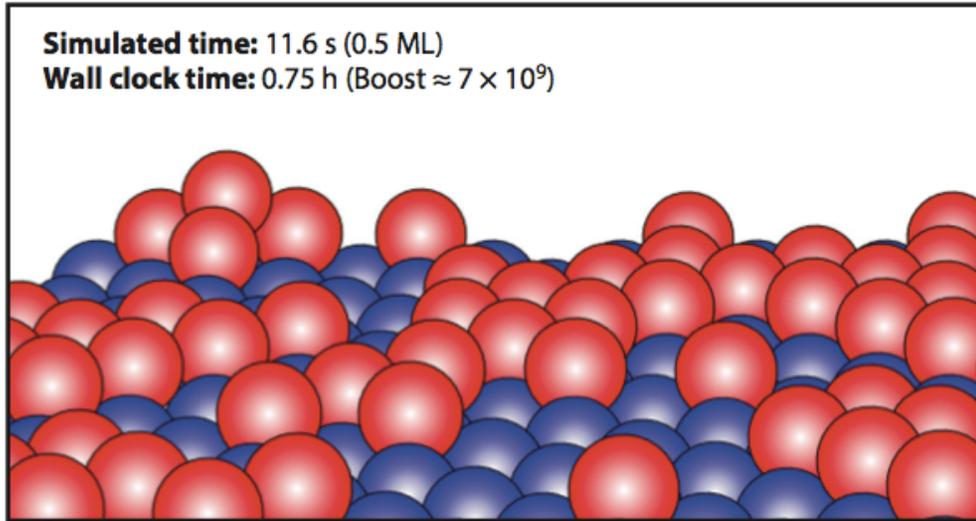
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Theoretically, SpecTAD can achieve the full speed of a high-T trajectory making only the correct low-T transitions.

# SpecTAD example - vapor deposition

Cu/Ag(100),  $T=77\text{K}$ ,  $0.04\text{ ML/s}$ , 128 cores



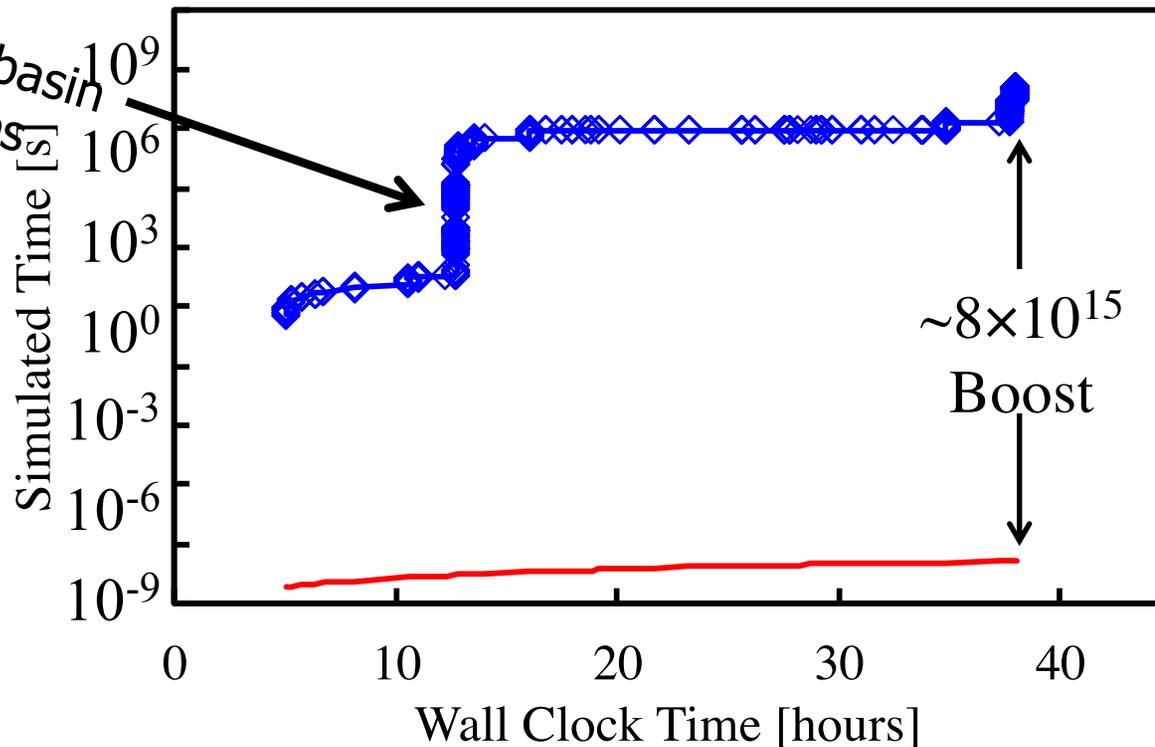
It took  $\sim 1$  year to grow 1.5 ML with serial TAD  
[Sprague et al, Phys. Rev. B 66, 205415 (2002)]

# MgAl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> Spinel

diffusion of small defect cluster (O vac + Mg vac)

"synthetic mode"  
speedup in superbasin  
of connected states

SpecTAD vs. MD Performance



With regular TAD, we probably would not have reached the synthetic-mode jump in time.

# Discrete Event Simulation (DES) of Performance

Simulation of a simulation - runs much faster than a real simulation – can explore complicated parameter space.

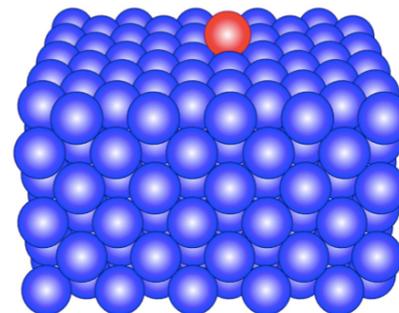
Counts up the force calls (the most expensive part of TAD).

Properly accounts for communication lag, serial vs. overlapping parallel occurrences, etc.

Employs a simple hardware model.

Parameterized for Ag/Ag(100) case:

- cpu time for a force call
- rates and barriers for all pathways
- no. of forces to converge NEB
- anharmonicity in rate w/  $T_{\text{high}}$

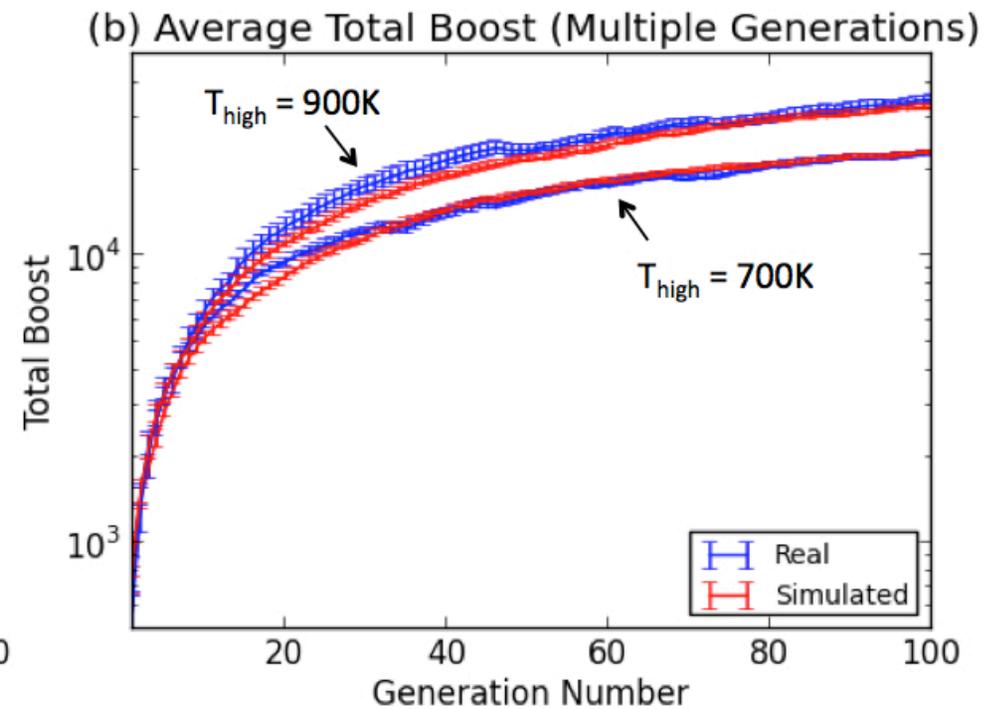
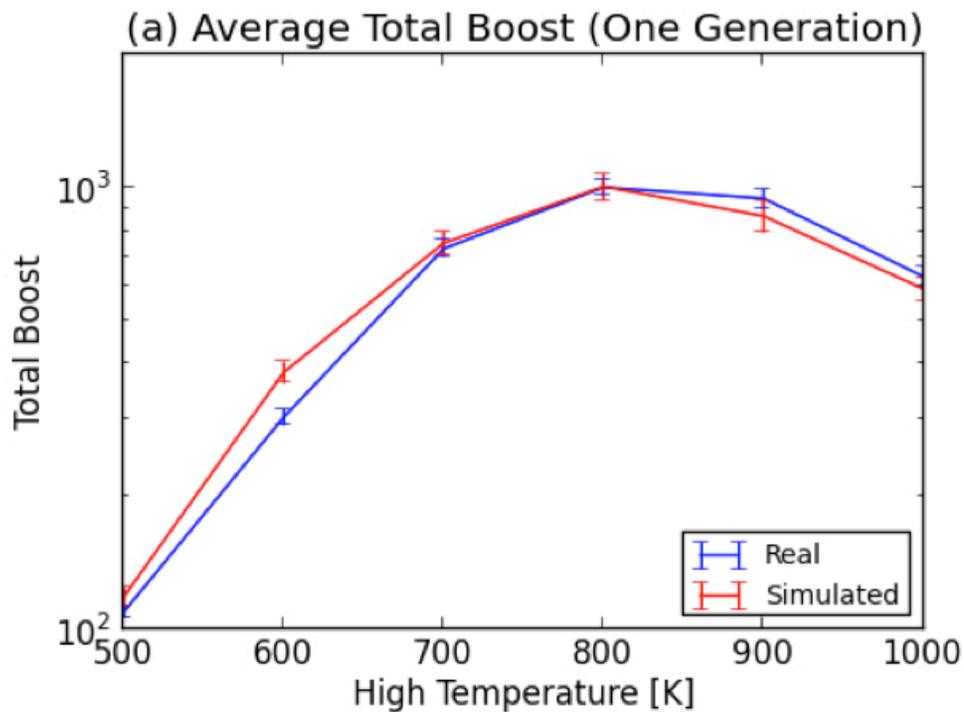


Collaboration with Stephan Eidenbenz, Nandu Santhi, Sunil Thulasidasan, and Sue Mniszewski

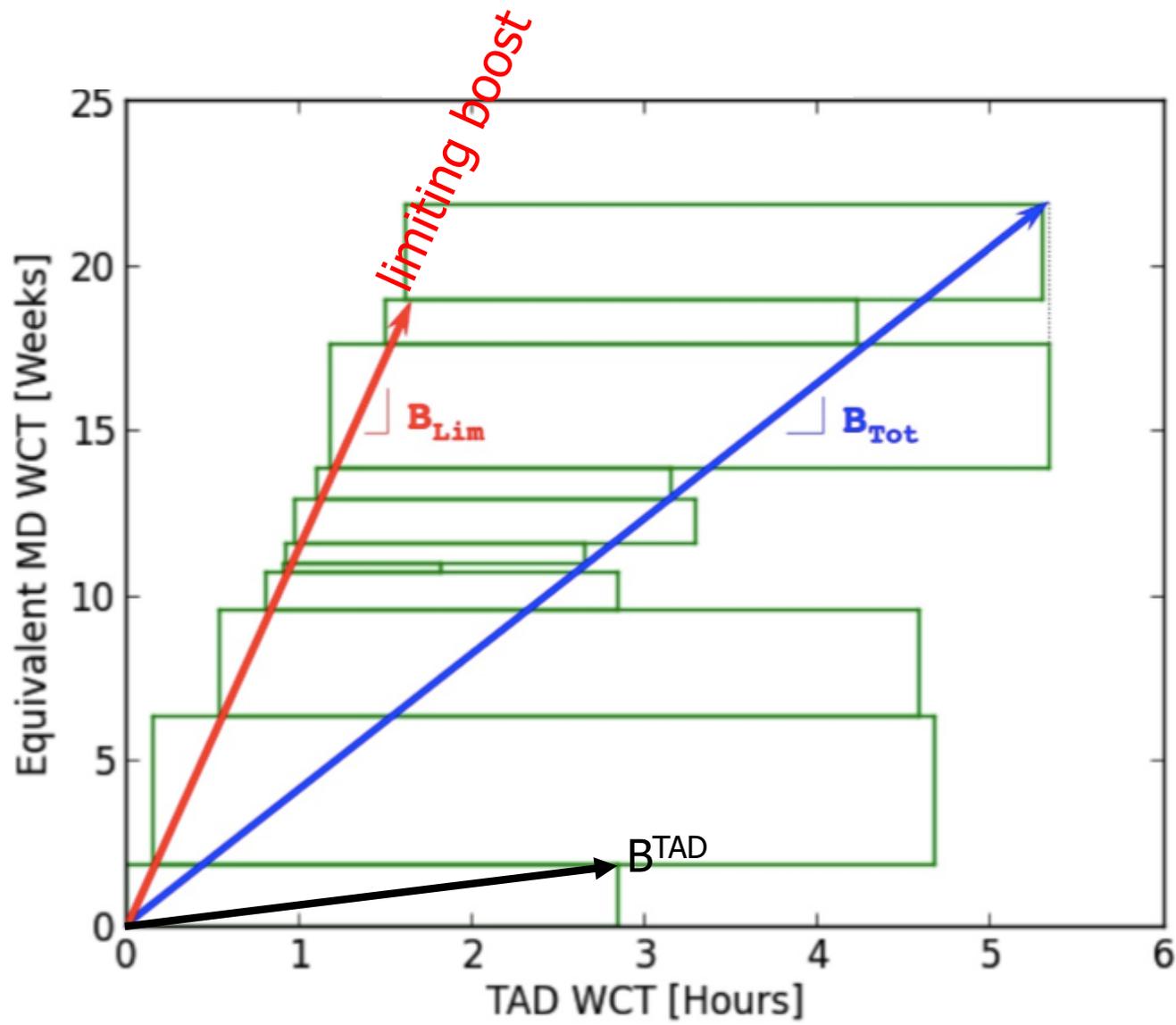
Zamora et al, submitted

# SpecTADSim Validation

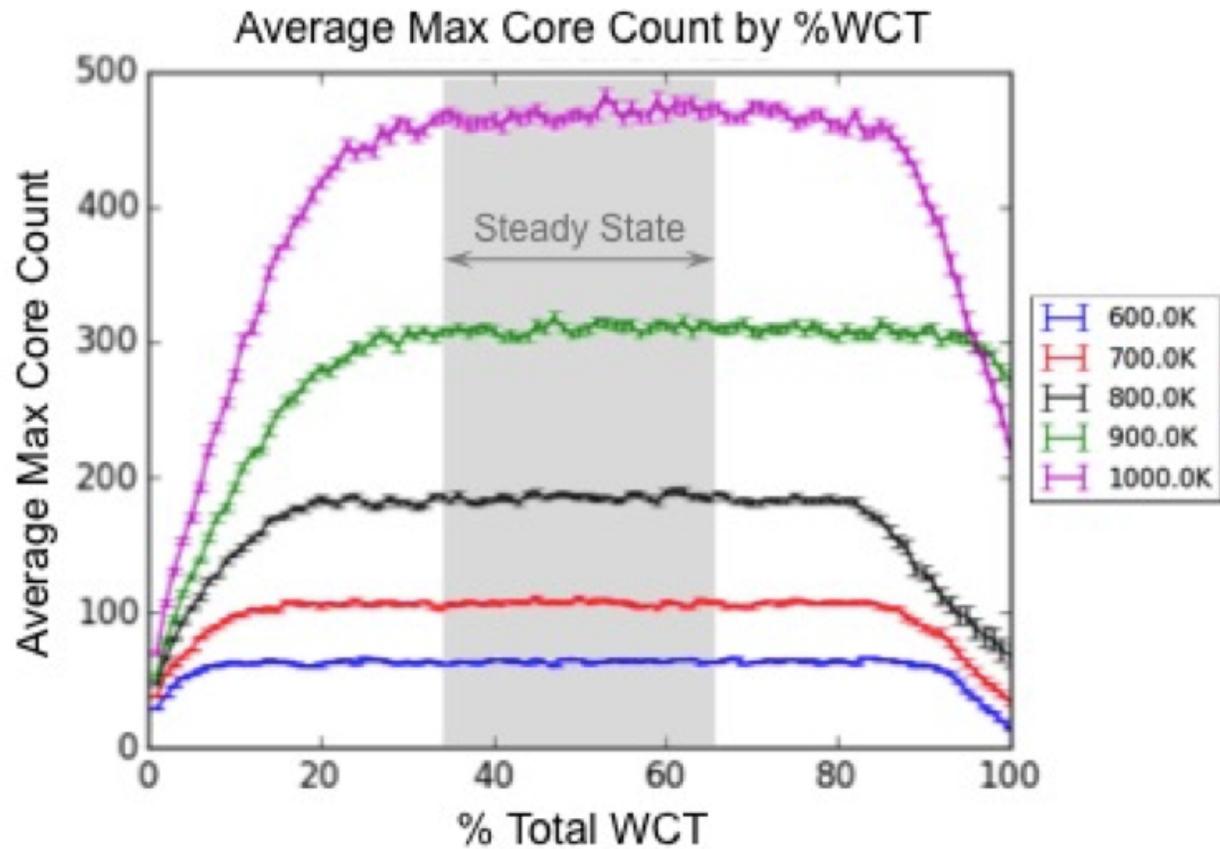
Validation of SpecTADSim using authentic TAD and SpecTAD software



# Boost in SpecTAD



# Initial (and final) transient in core count and boost



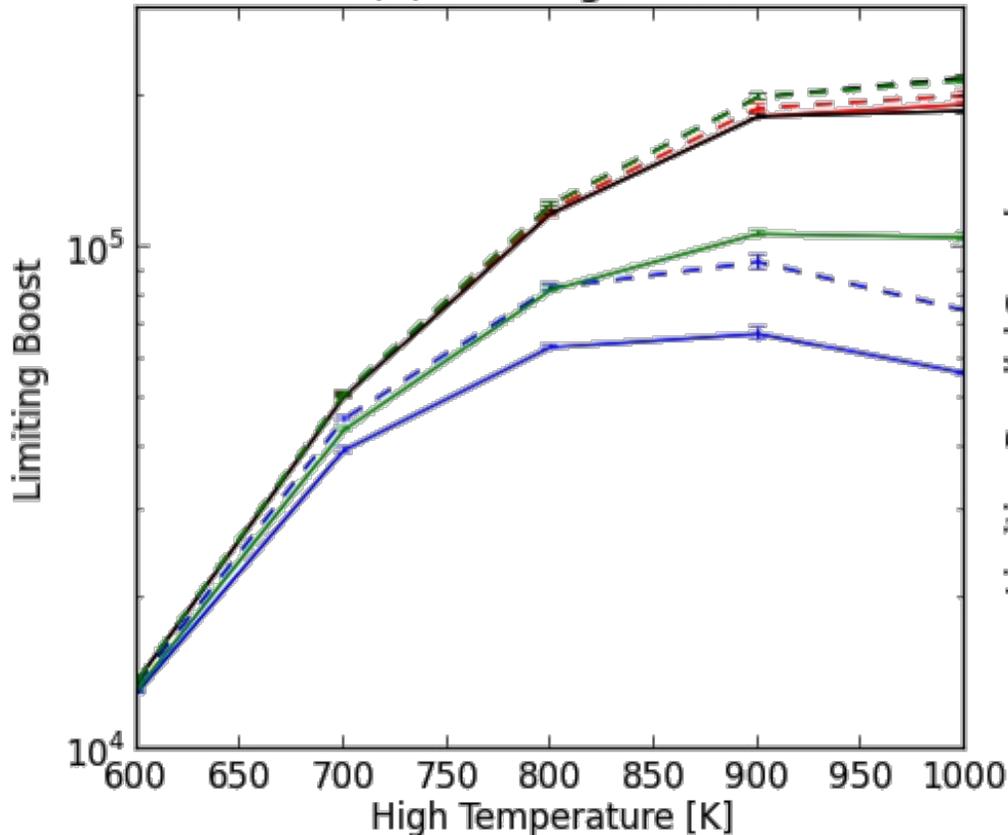
# SpecTADSim Limiting Boost Results

Best settings produce  $>300$  times parallel speedup

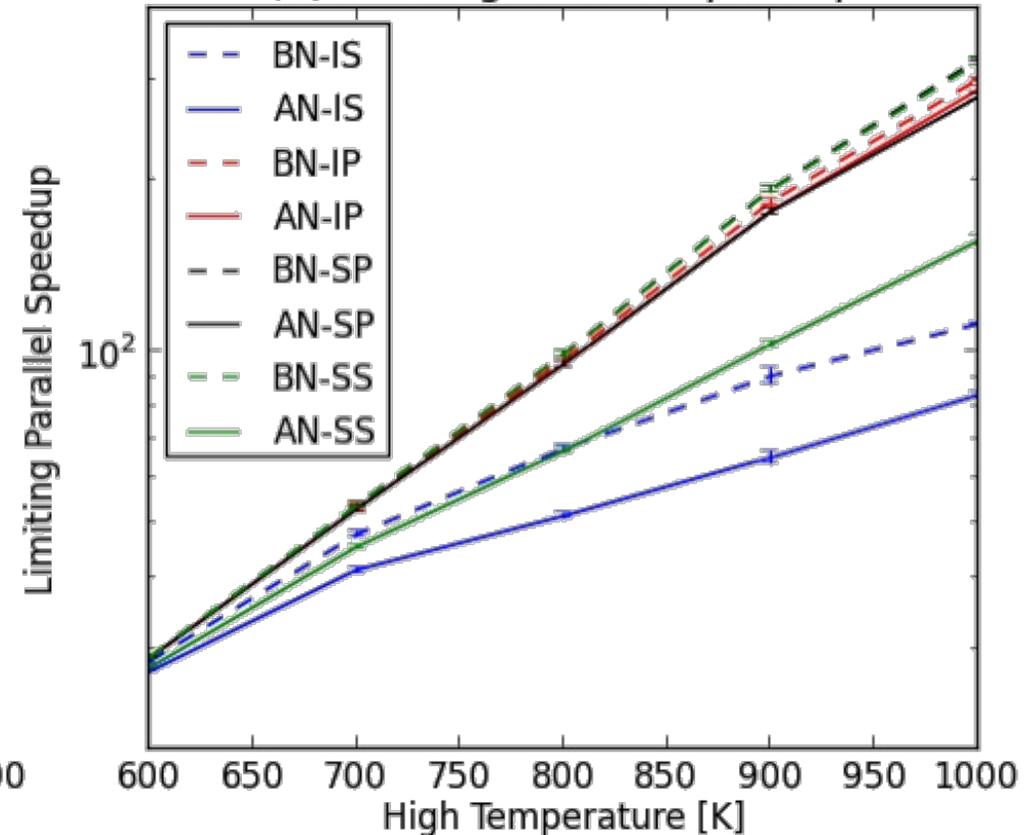
Worst settings produce  $\sim 3-8$  times parallel speedup

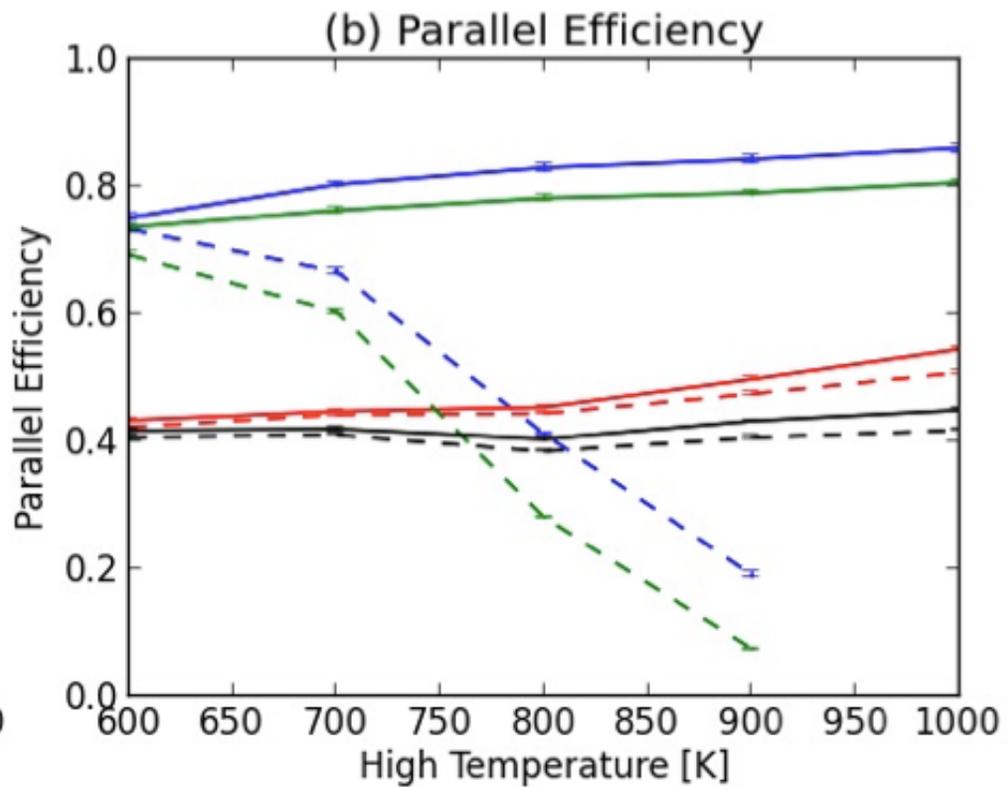
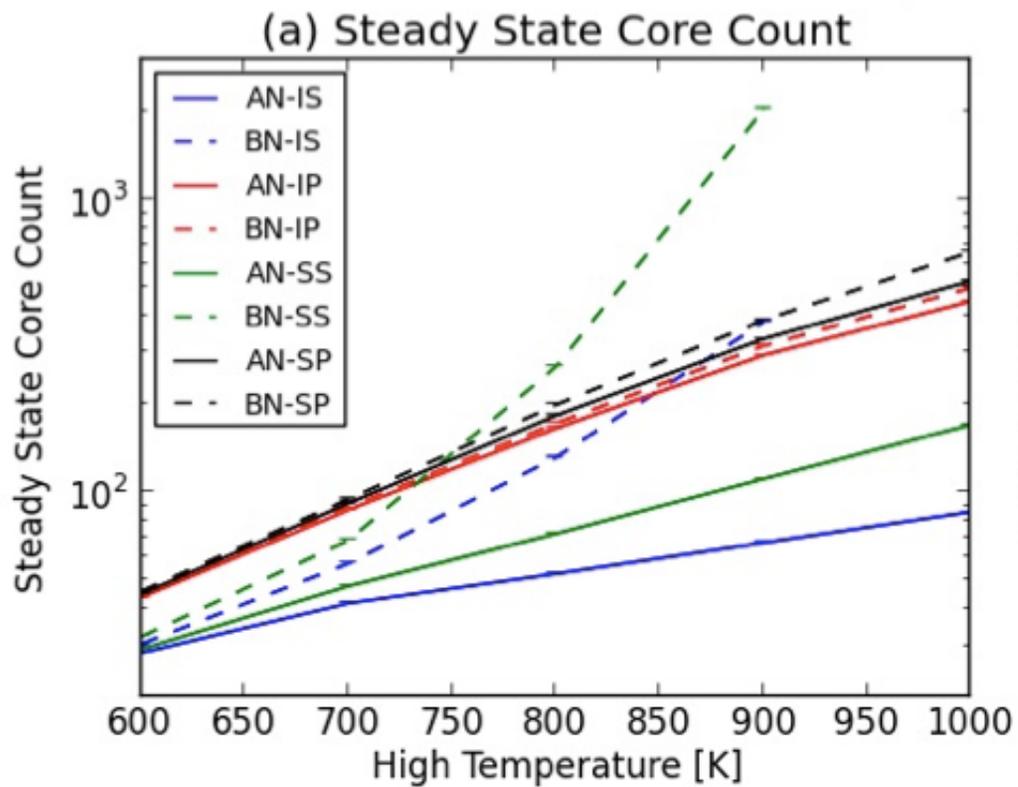
BN = *BeforeNEB* branching (dashed lines) – good speedup, but uses many cores

(a) Limiting Boost

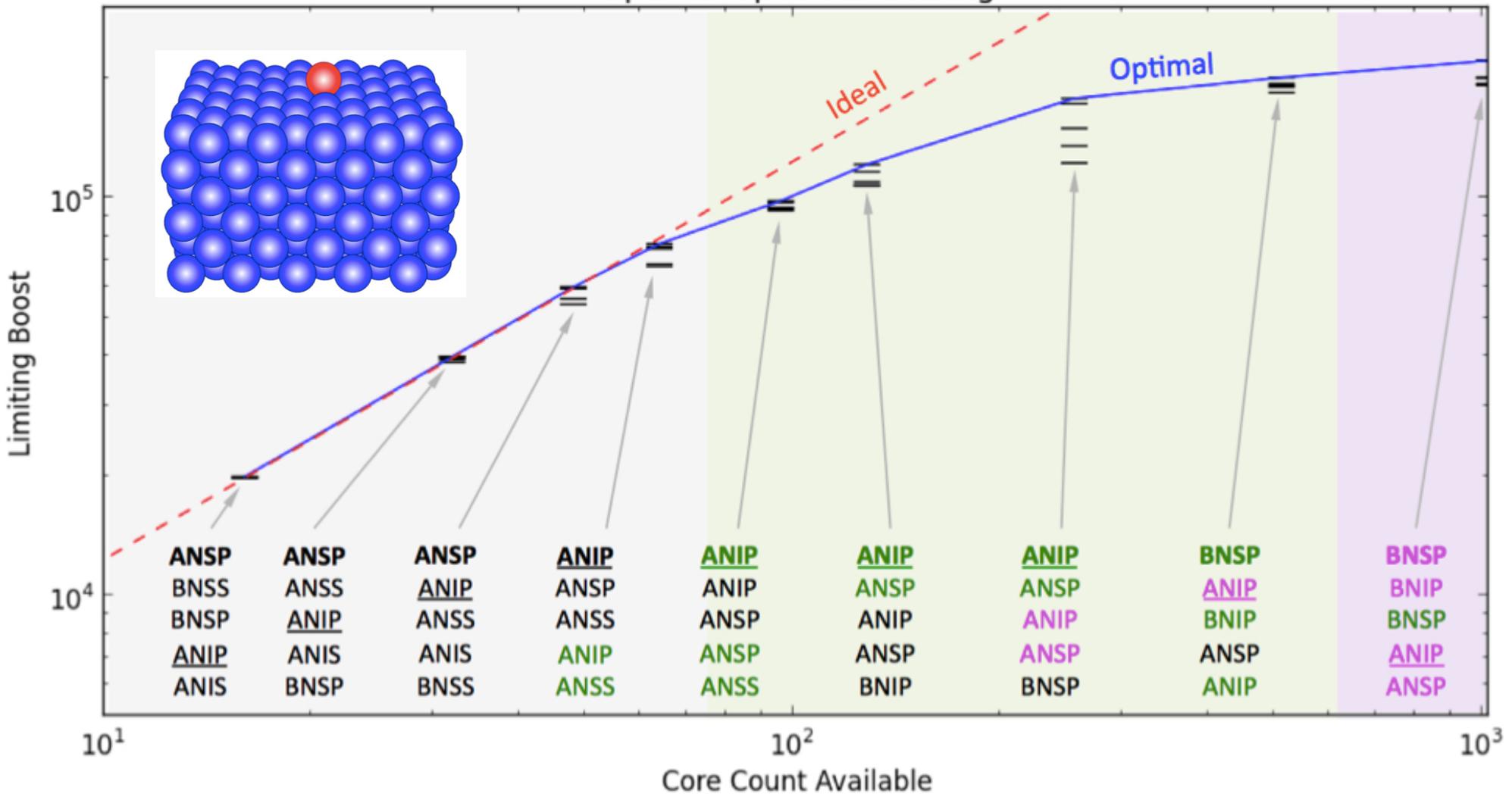


(b) Limiting Parallel Speedup



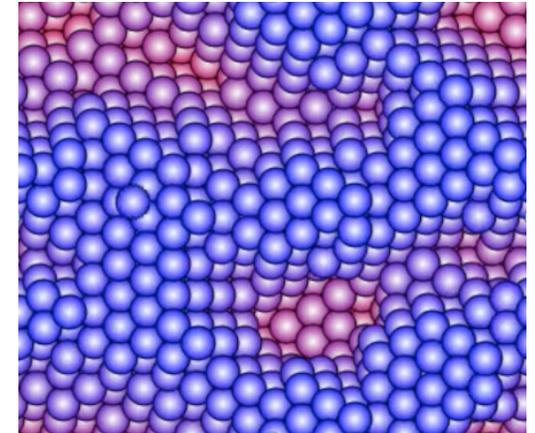
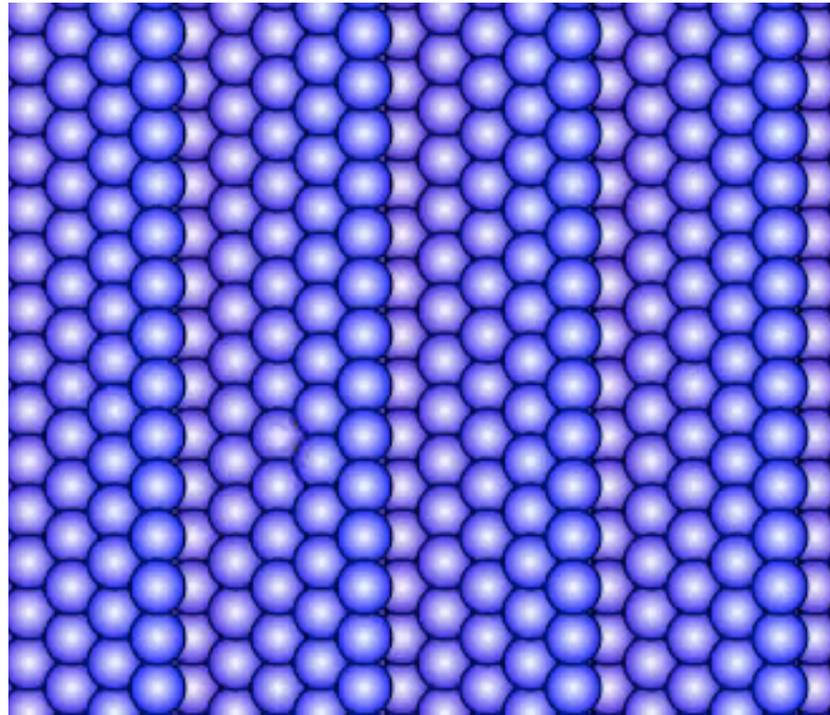
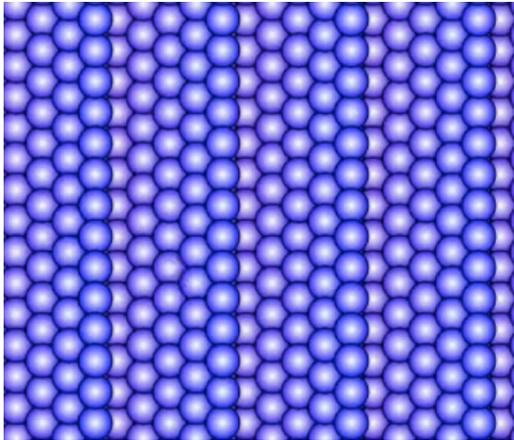


# Optimal SpectTAD Scaling



# Vicinal Surface Growth

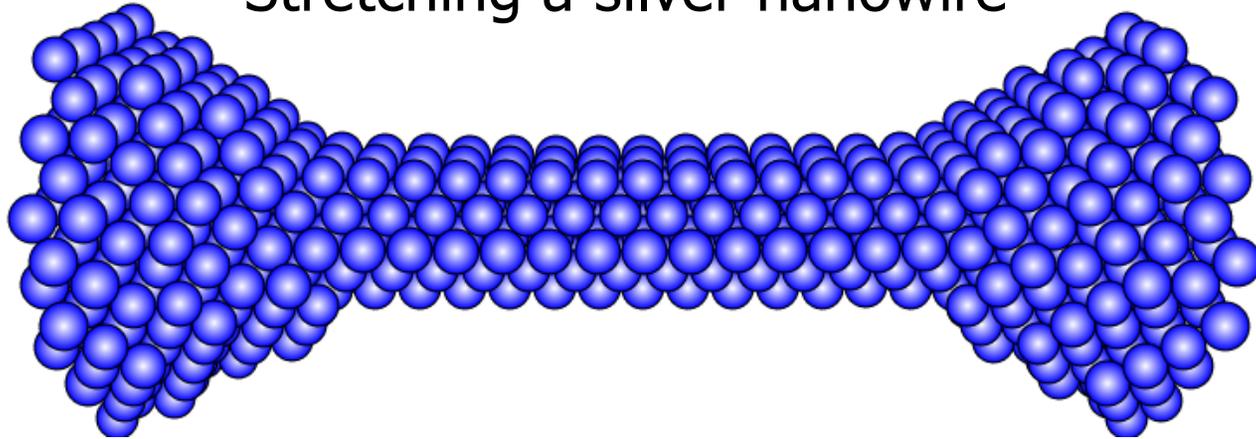
Cu(223)



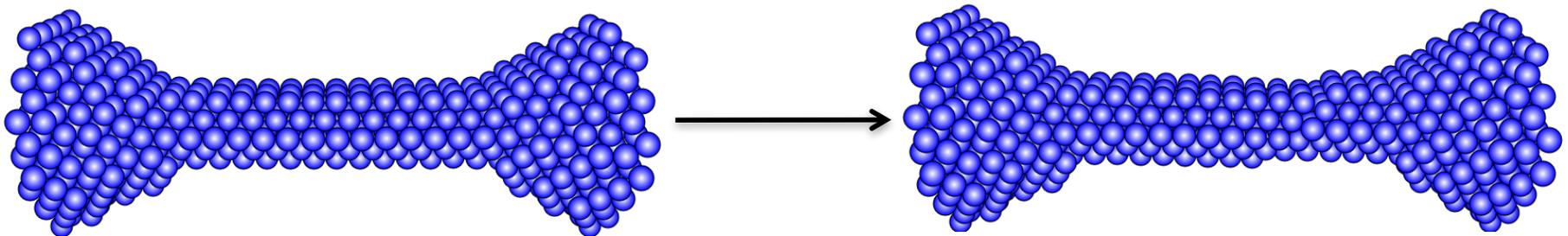
$\sim 10.5$  min (0.005 ML/s), 77K  
0.1 eV incident energy

# A case TAD cannot do

Stretching a silver nanowire



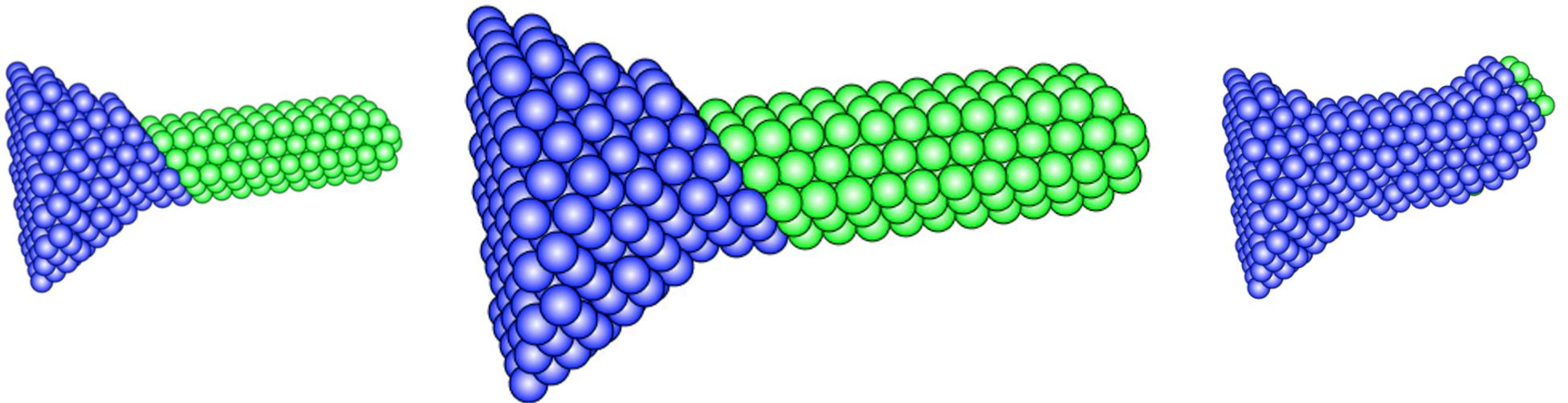
Surprisingly small pre-exponential factor for first slip event:



$$k = \nu_0 \exp(-E_a/k_b T) \quad \nu_0 \sim 10^9 \text{ Hz! (or much lower!)}$$

We find these very large or very small prefactors for systems under strain.

# Small Ag nanopillar



*~36 ms, 300K*

# Ways to parallelize TAD

Use speculation (SpecTAD) (as just described).

Use a spatially parallel force call (e.g., as in LAMMPS).

Use parallel replica dynamics (ParRep) to parallelize the high-temperature time.

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*Our latest code  
combines these.*

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Ready for release soon - contact us if you would like to use it.

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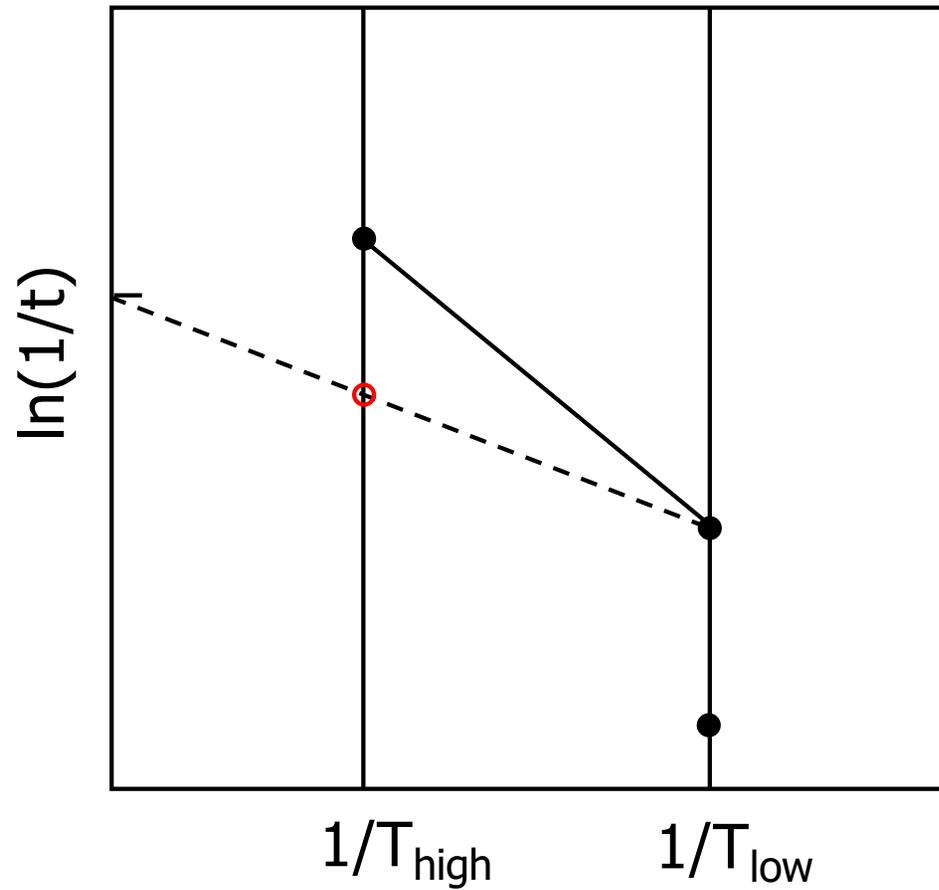
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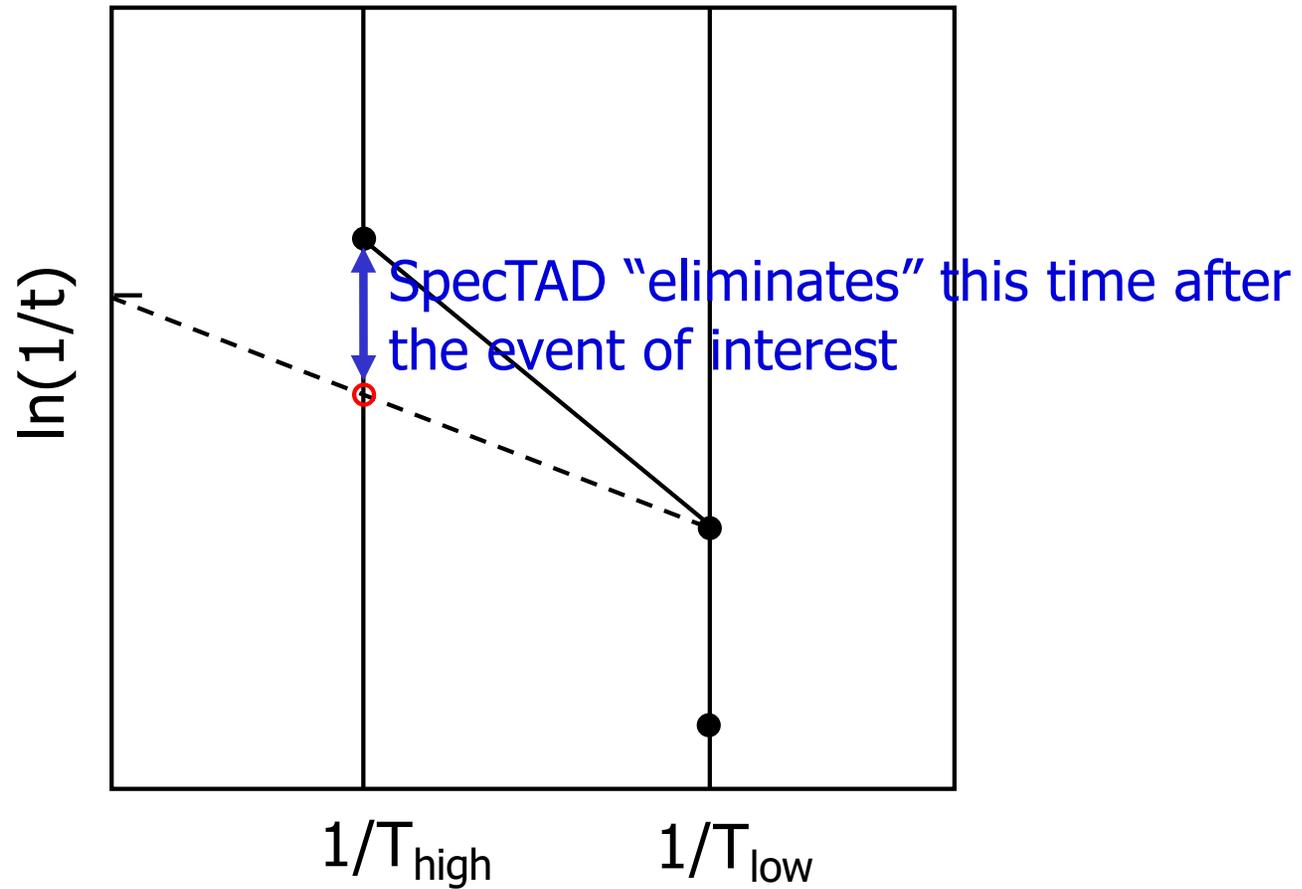
Use parallel trajectory splicing (ParSplice) instead of ParRep to parallelize even further (see Danny Perez's talk).

Spatially parallelize using synchronous sub-lattice method [Shim, Amar, Uberuaga, Voter, Phys. Rev. B, (2007)]

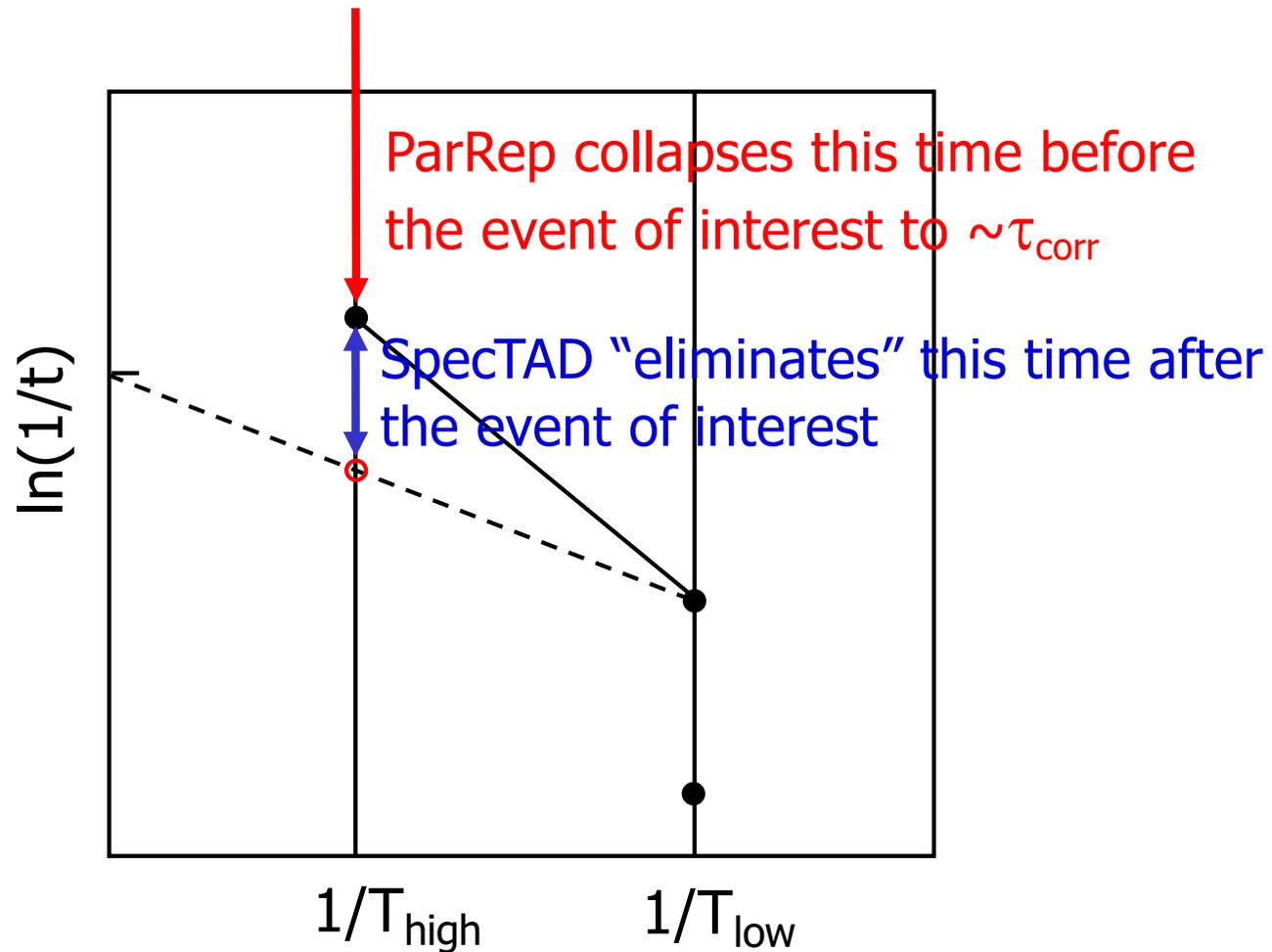
# Combining SpecTAD and ParRep



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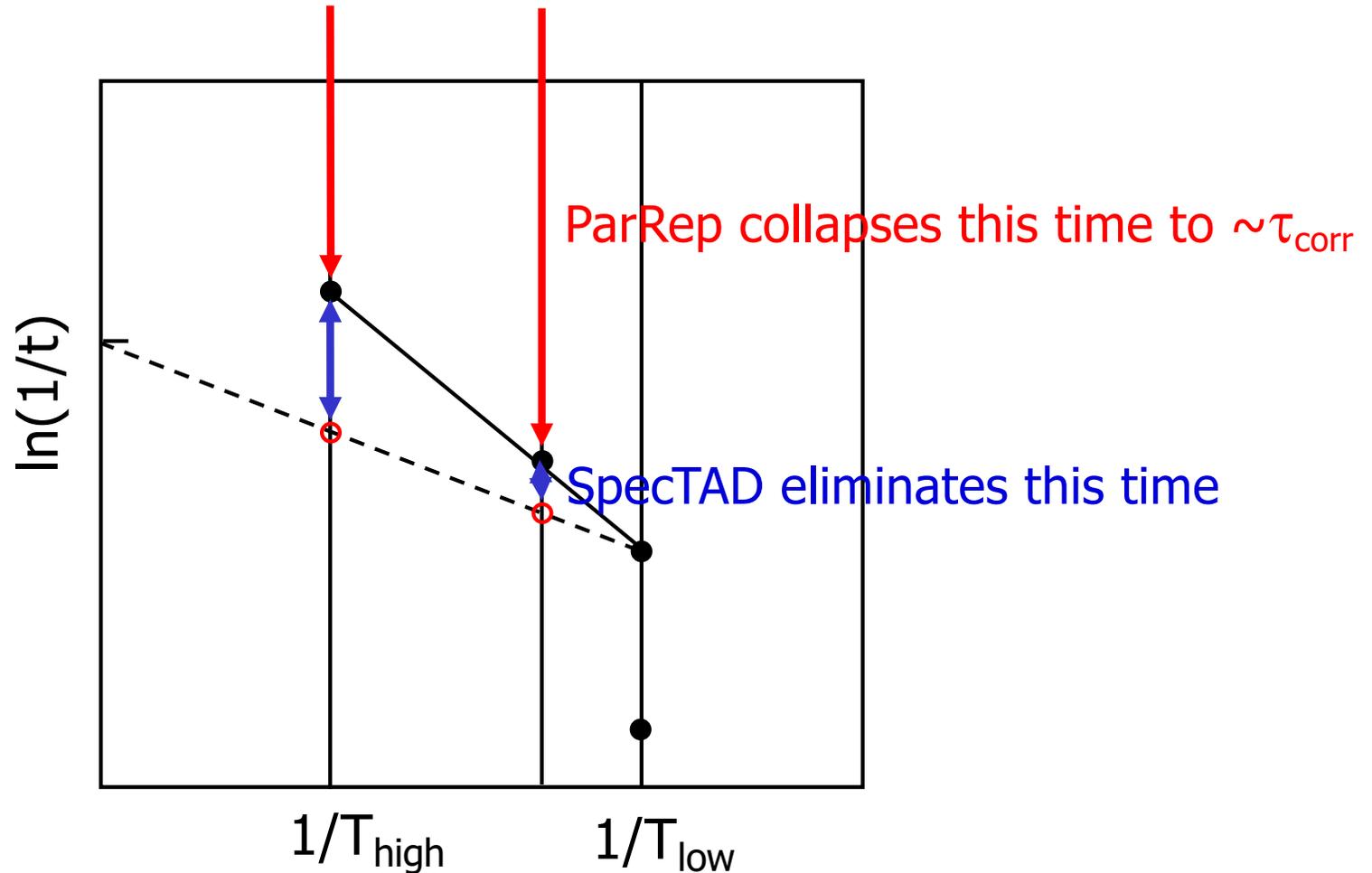


# Combining SpecTAD and ParRep



- Escape from any basin in time  $\sim\tau_{\text{corr}}$  (e.g.,  $\sim 1$  ps for metal)

# Combining SpecTAD and ParRep



- Escape from any basin in time  $\sim\tau_{\text{corr}}$  (e.g.,  $\sim 1$  ps for metal)
- Can also use this for higher TAD accuracy at same wall clock cost
- ParSplice will do even better...

## Some final points

- Speculation can be used effectively to increase parallelization.
- Discrete event simulation (DES) is a powerful way to examine the parameter space, and sometimes there are unexpected relationships.
- With unlimited number of processors, the fastest approach is to spawn the new TAD process as soon as the transition is observed at high T and also spawn a NEB to find the saddle.
- With finite number of processors, it can be just as fast (maybe faster) to wait until NEB is finished before spawning. Parallelizing the NEB is then important.
- In a superbasin, SpecTAD in synthetic mode becomes so fast that even one force call slows down the state-to-state rate.