

# Rebound effect in High Performance Computing

*Denis Trystram*

*Nguyen Kim Thang*

*LIG, Grenoble INP, UGA*

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Improve the performance of a technology  
but it turns out to be worse

# DES SOLUTIONS MAIS ATTENTION À L'EFFET REBOND...



Src: Idris, Rafael Medeiros – ORAP – 2021

L'effet rebond caractérise un effet pervers et paradoxal des progrès en matière d'efficacité énergétique.

*Christophe Biernacki,  
Frugalis 2024*

# Rebound effect in High Performance Computing

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# Rebound effect in High Performance Computing

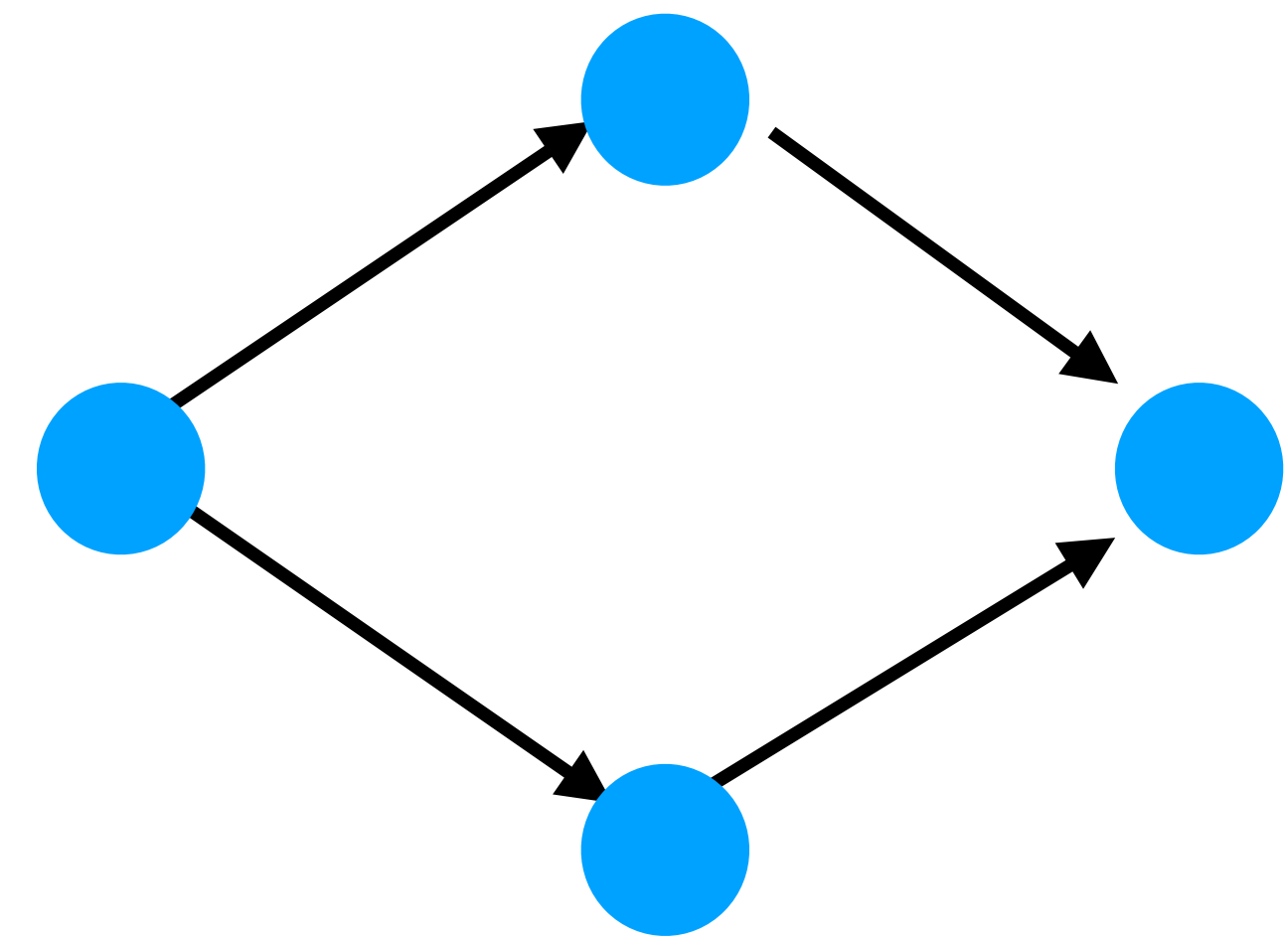
Improve the performance of a technology  
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- Principle cause: usage

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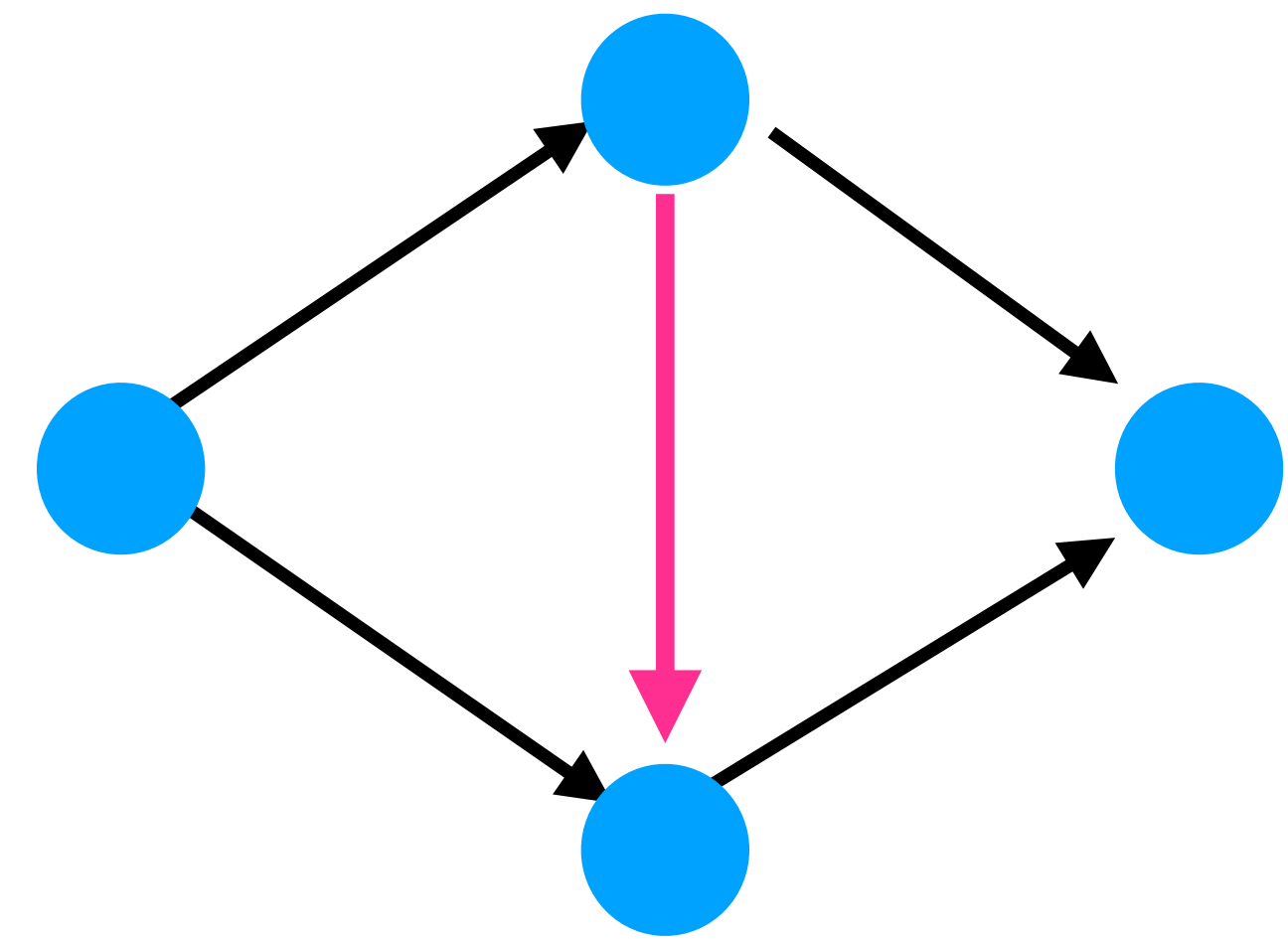


*Braess paradox  
(transportation in Seoul, New York,  
electronic networks, electron systems)*

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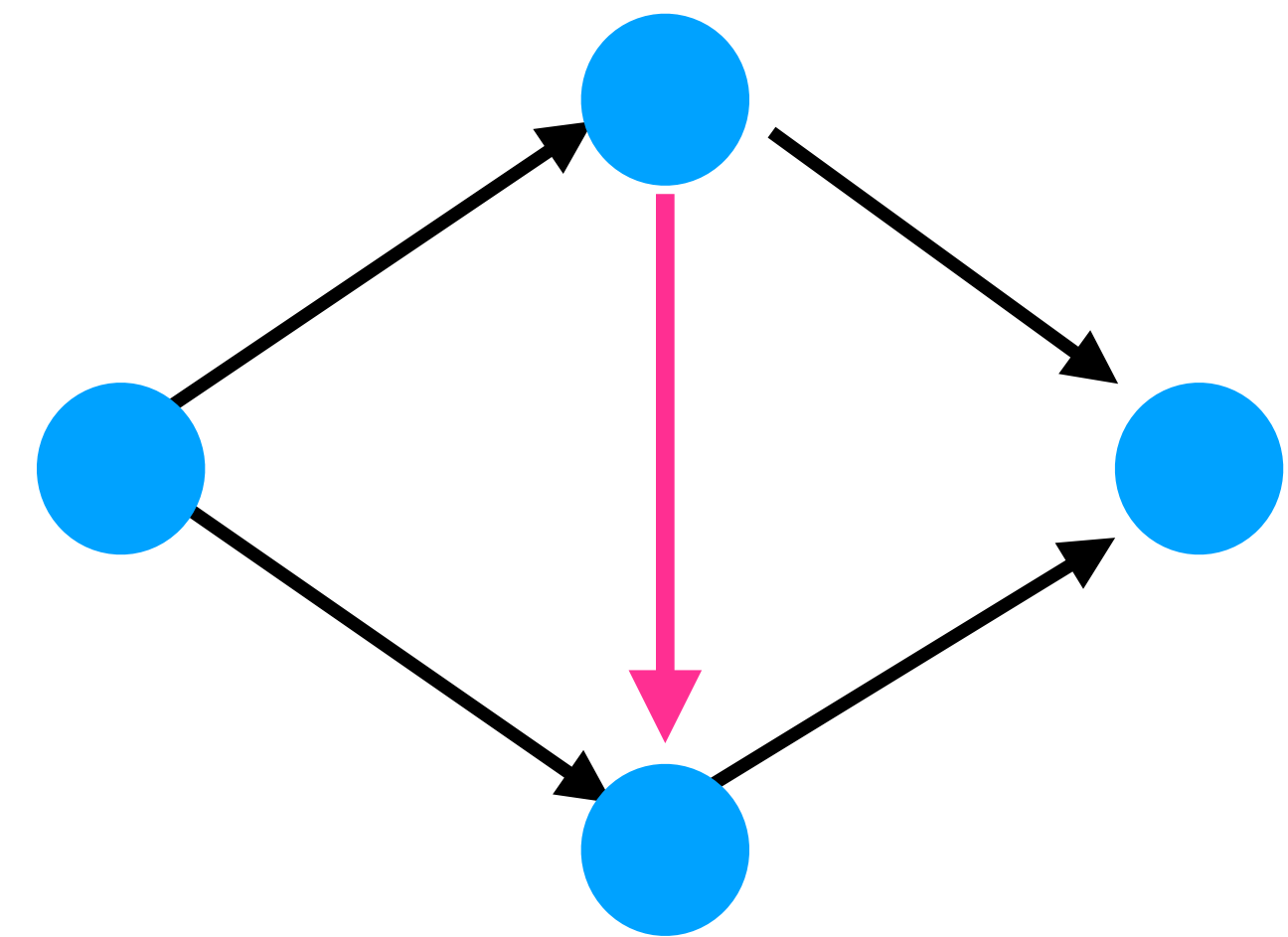


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# Rebound effect in High Performance Computing

Improve the performance of a technology  
but it turns out to be worse

- Principle cause: usage
- Model + Theoretical Analysis:  
Scheduling + Game Theory



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# Model

- $n$  jobs and  $m$  machines
- each job: work quantity, release date and required deadline
- **social objective:** minimize the energy

Machines: energy =  $\int_0^{\infty} s(t)^{\alpha} dt, (2 \leq \alpha \leq 3)$



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New technology:  
decrease  $\alpha$

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Jobs: rational, i.e., minimizes

its own cost: **energy + deadline**



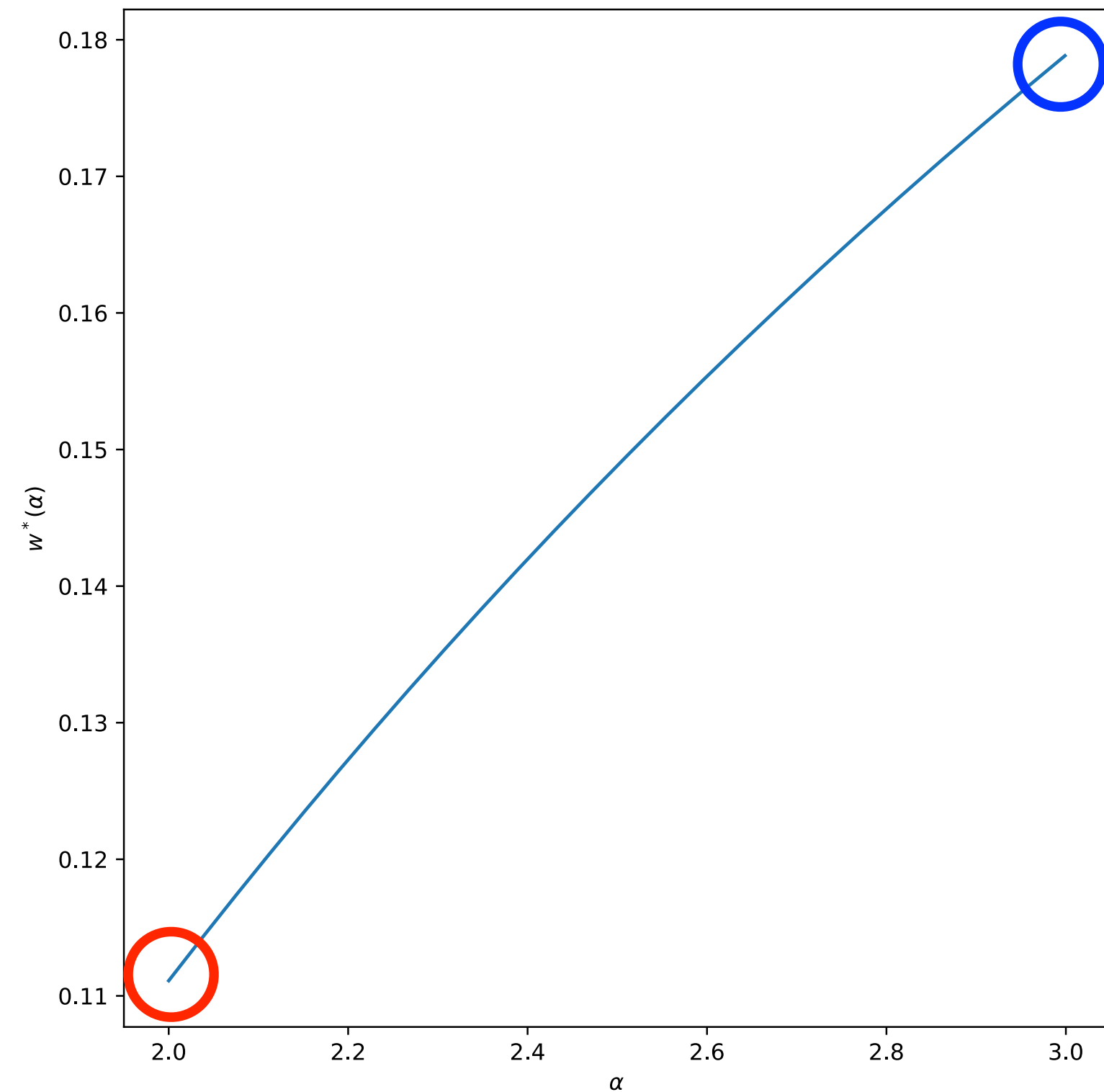
New technology:  
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# Observations/Theorems

- “New form” of rebound effect: work quantity is reduced but the demand is more urgent leading to a larger energy consumption.

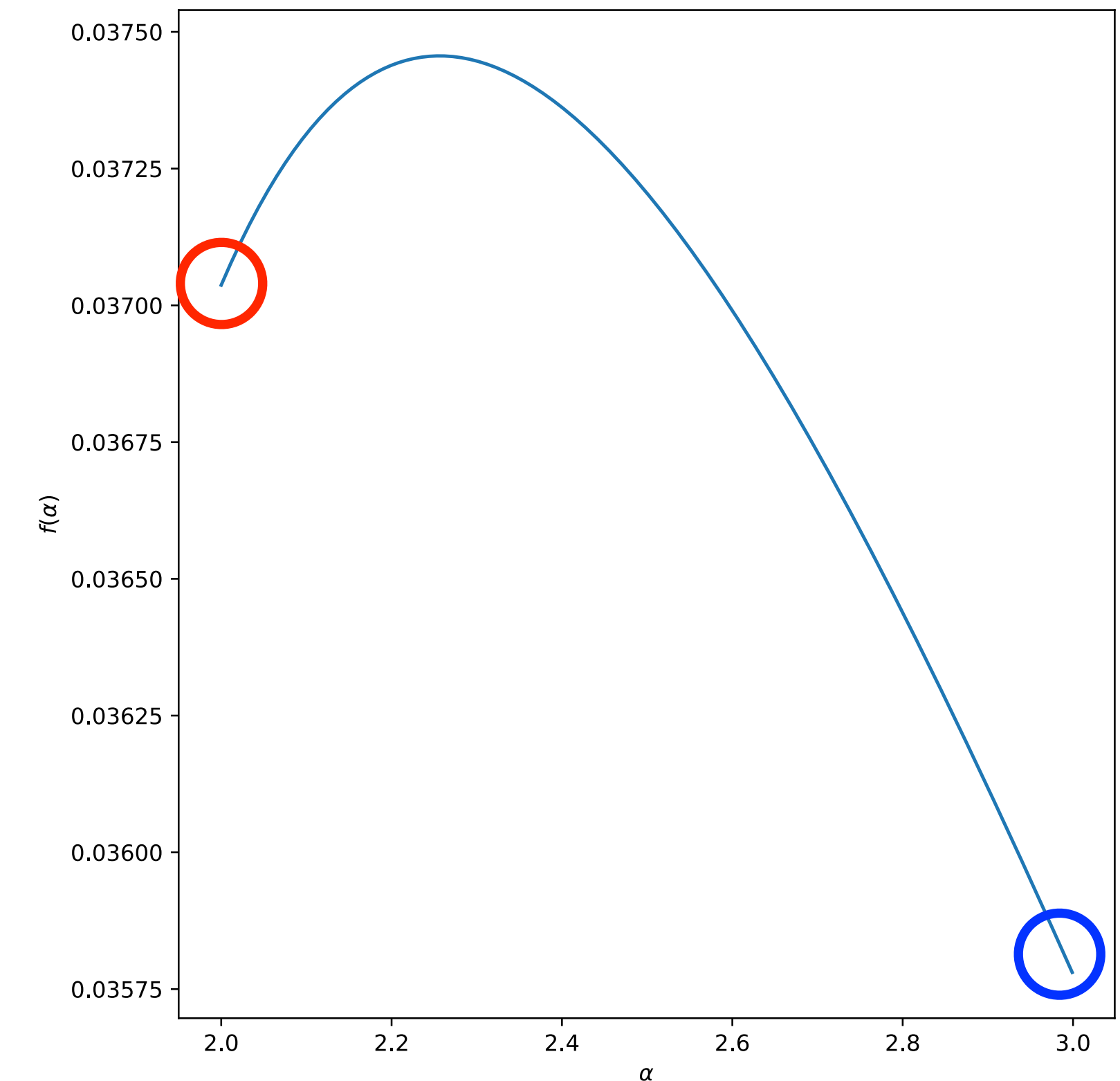
# Observations/Theorems

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work quantity

○ new techno  
○ old techno



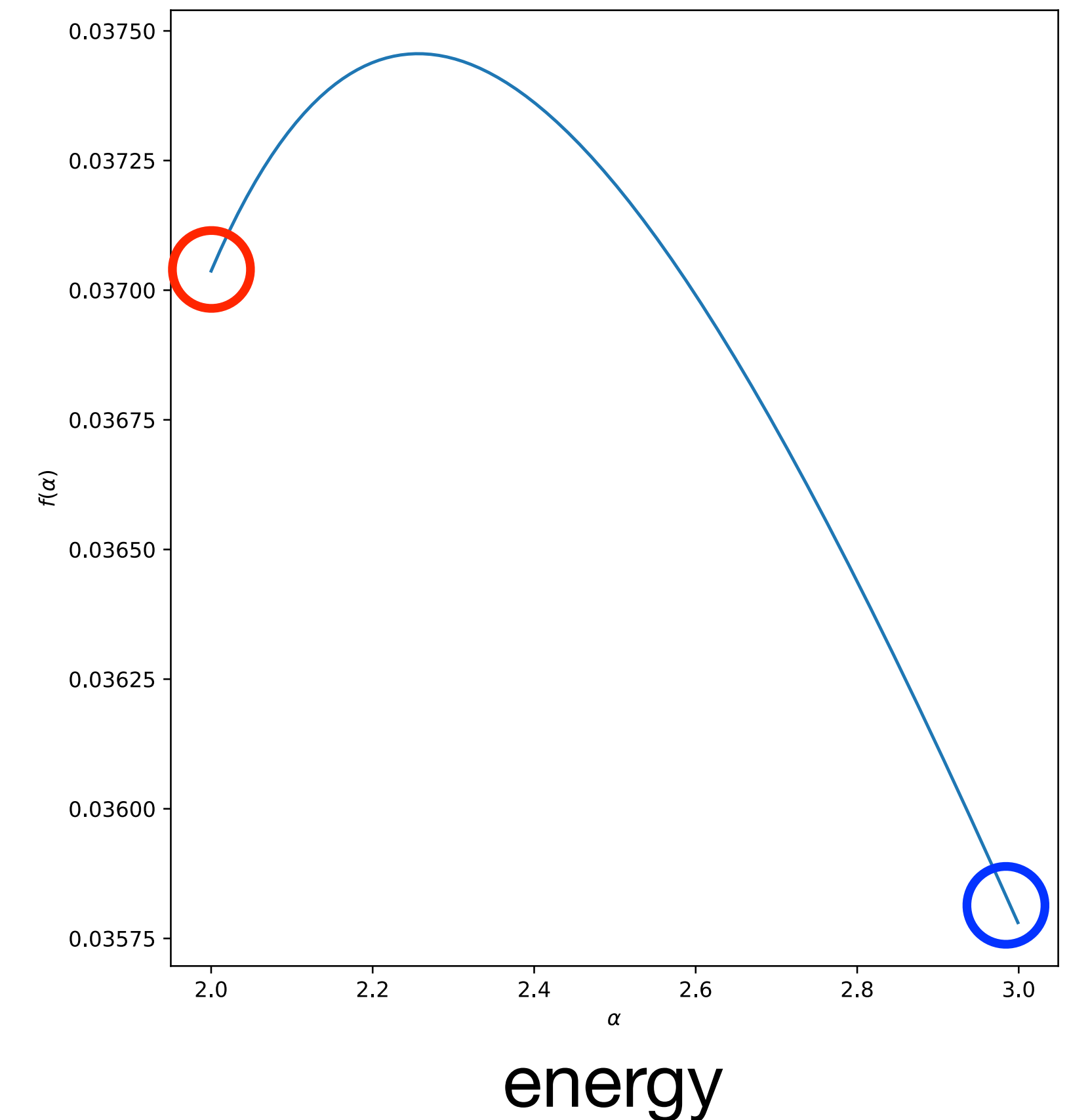
energy

# A closer look/take-home message

- User chooses strategically

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{deadline} \\ \text{workload} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \left[ (\alpha - 1) w^{\alpha - 1} \right]^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \\ \left[ \frac{\alpha - 1}{(2\alpha - 1)(\alpha - 1)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}} \right]^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha - 1}} \end{array}$$

- Our analysis can be applied to HPC, in particular the machines IBM Summit (OLCF-4, USA) and Tianhe-2 (TH-2, China)

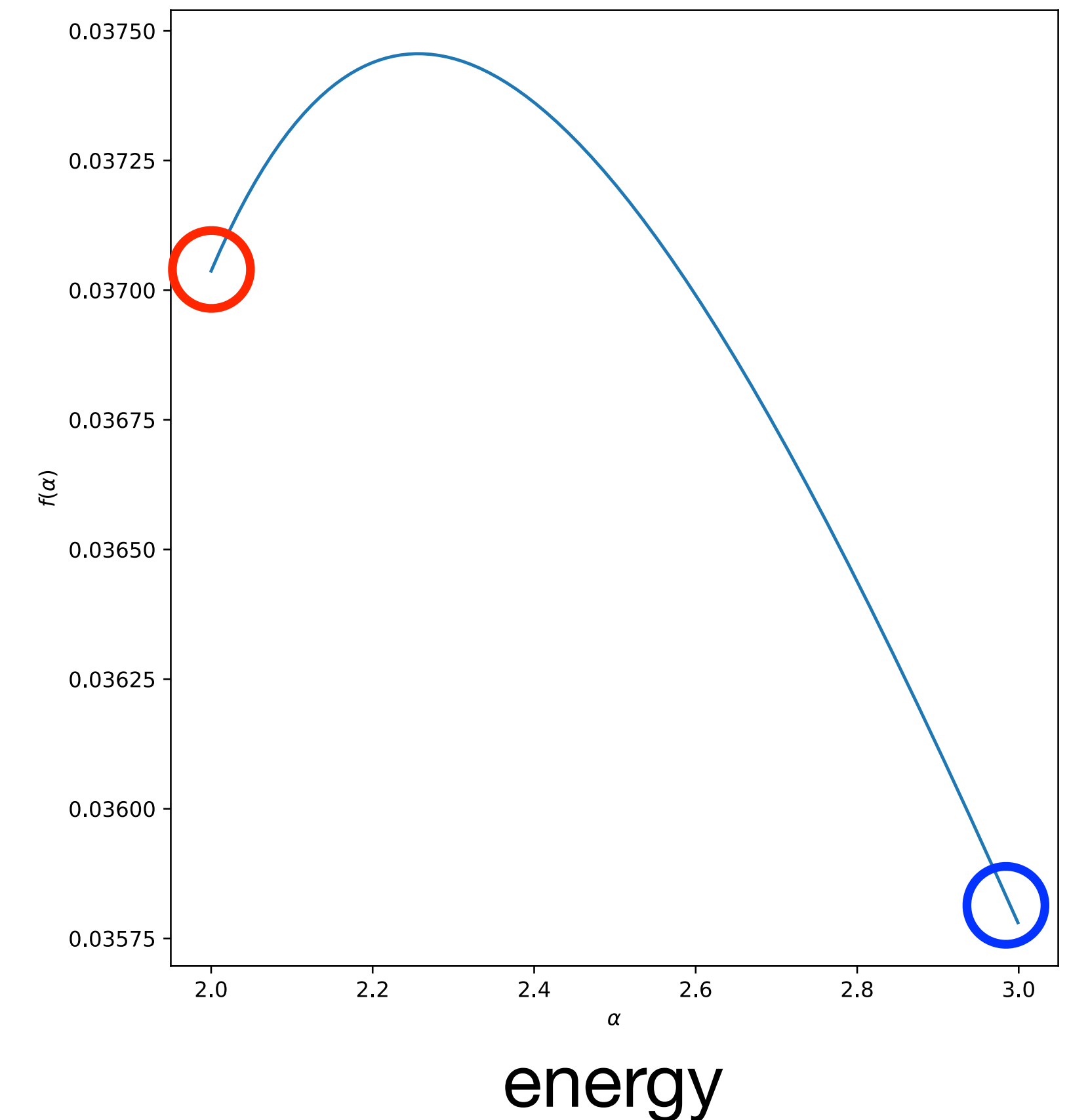


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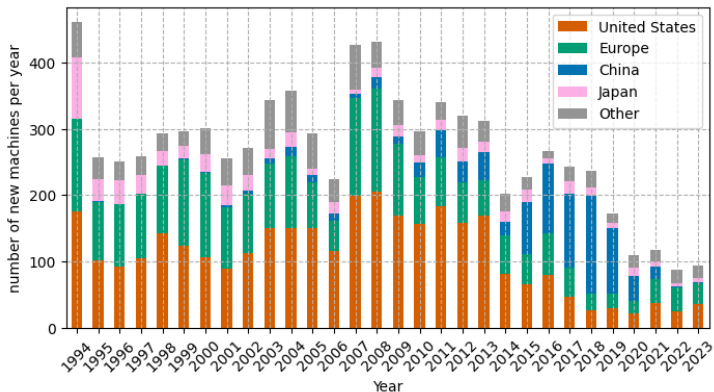
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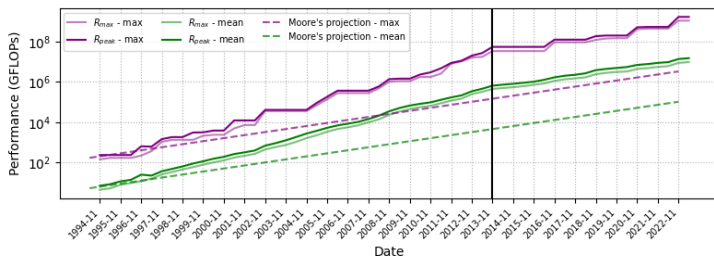
**Several forms of rebound effects exists**  
**Mechanism/Algorithm design for a better use**



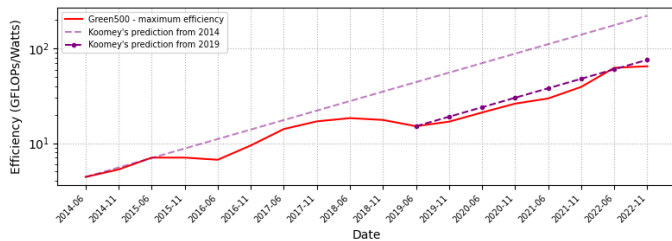
Ranking list of HPC machines every 6 months based on LINPACK benchmark.



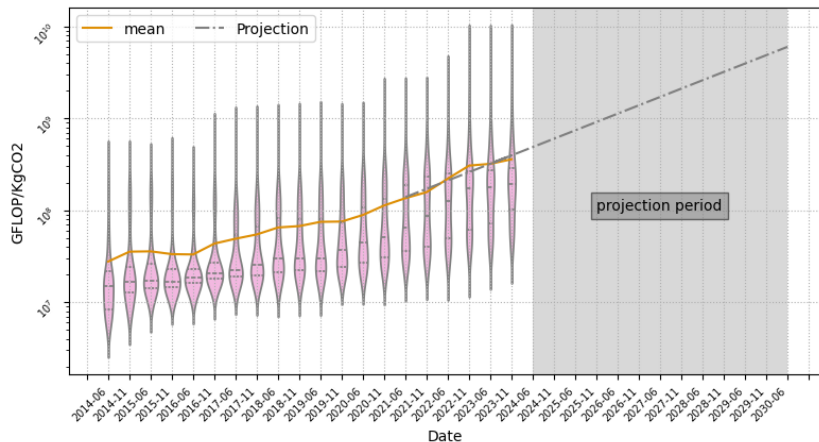
# performance increase



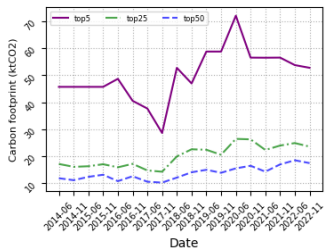
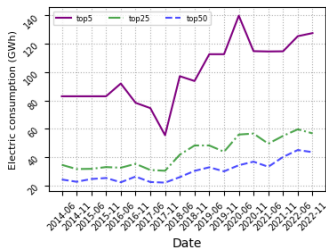
# Energy efficiency



# Carbon efficiency



# Emission per machine

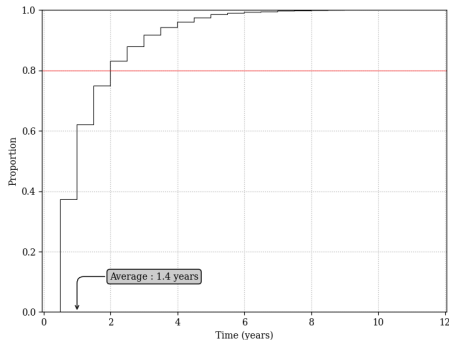


# Age of HPC

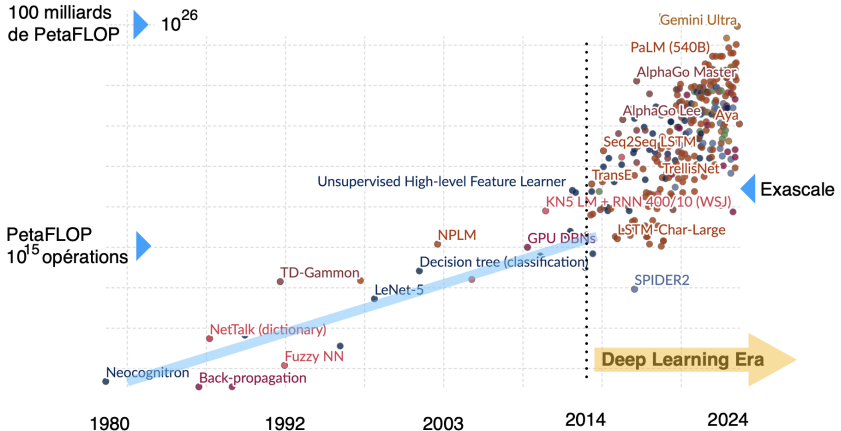
Mean time in TOP500 of 1.4 years

80% below 2 years

But how many times do they last?  
How many times per CPU/GPU?



## Computation used to train notable artificial intelligence systems



Data source: Epoch (2024)

OurWorldInData.org/artificial-intelligence

## Training time on Top1 HPC machine

