

HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING: TOWARDS BETTER PERFORMANCE PREDICTIONS AND EXPERIMENTS

Tom Cornebize

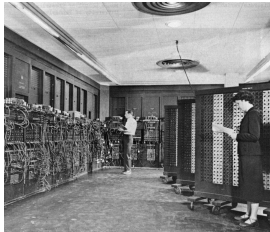
2 June 2021, PhD defense



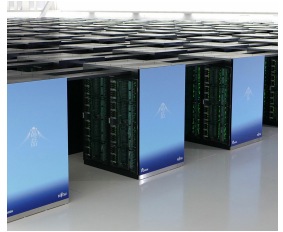
NO SCIENCE WITHOUT COMPUTING



Arithmomètre (1851)



ENIAC (1945)

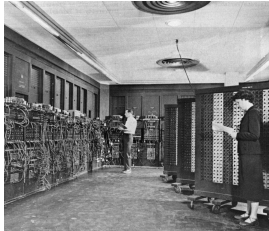


Fugaku (2021)

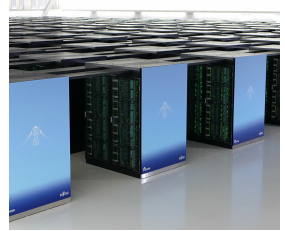
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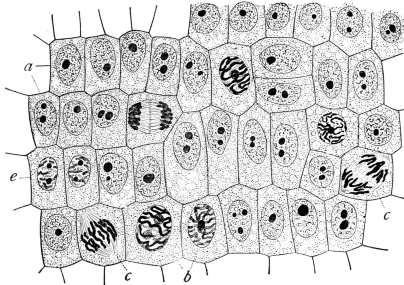


Fugaku (2021)

Last decades:

- Exponential **performance** improvements (e.g. sequencing an entire human genome costed \$100,000,000 in 2001, \$1000 now)
- At the price of **complexity** (both software and hardware)

EXPERIMENTAL STUDY OF COMPUTER PERFORMANCE



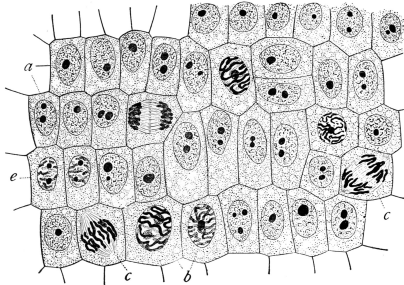
Similar to natural sciences

Complexity \Rightarrow Variability and Opacity

\Rightarrow No perfect model

\Rightarrow Need for **experiments**

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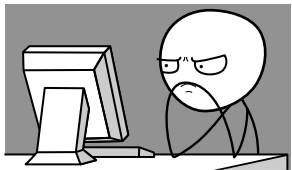
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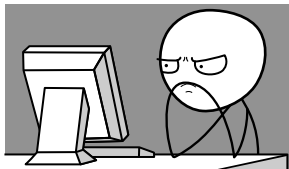
Experiments can be carried in **reality** or in **simulation**

Typical Performance Evaluation Questions (Given my application and a supercomputer)



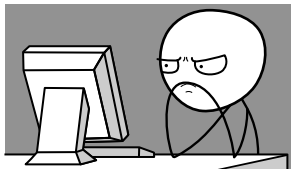
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 - How many nodes?
 - For how long?
 - Which parameters?

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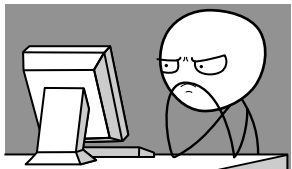
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Holy Grail: Predictive Simulation on a “Laptop”

Capture the **whole application** and **platform complexity**

Initial goal: **predict** the performance of a parallel application

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Thesis contributions (towards this goal)

- Case study: High Performance Linpack (HPL)
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SIM(EM)ULATION: THE SMPI APPROACH



Full reimplementation of MPI on top of 

- C/C++/F77/F90 codes run **unmodified out of the box**
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- Communications are faked, good fluid network models
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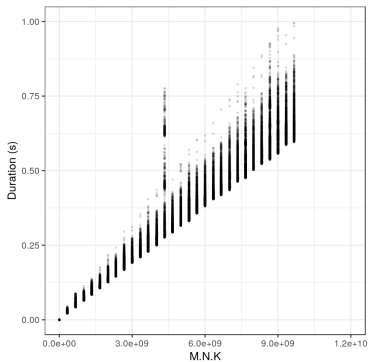
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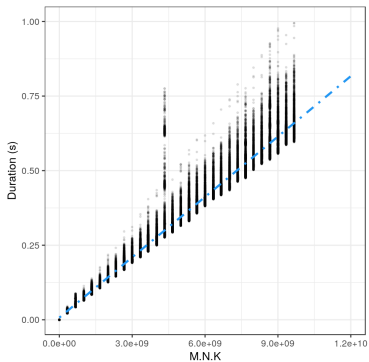
Contribution: Skip the expensive computations (mostly **dgemm**) and replace them by performance models

$\text{dgemm}(M, N, K) =$



MODELING COMPUTATIONS

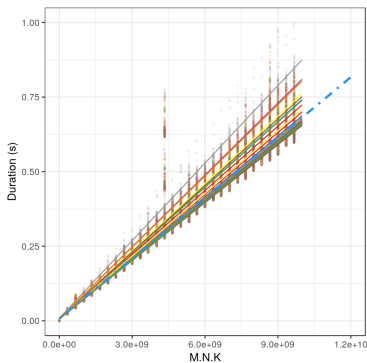
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MODELING COMPUTATIONS

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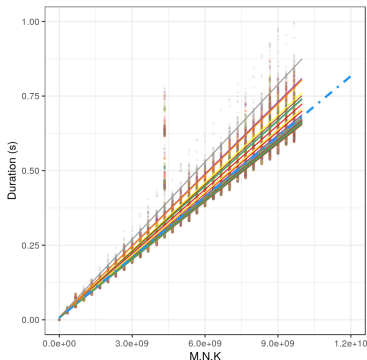
Different color \Rightarrow different host



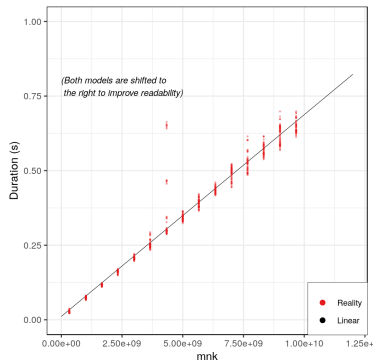
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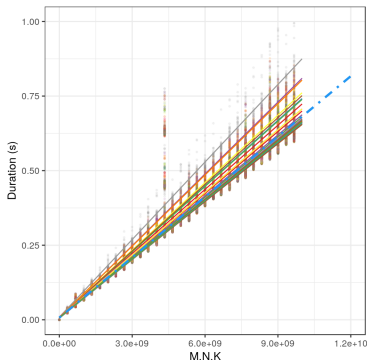
For a particular host



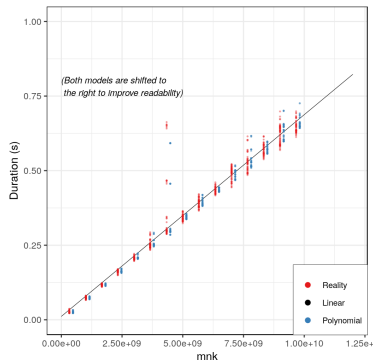
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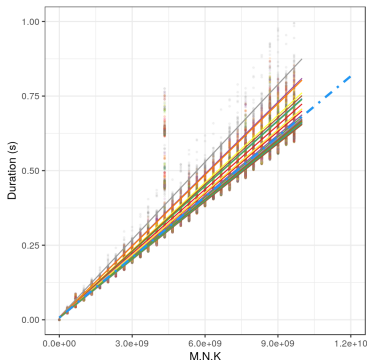
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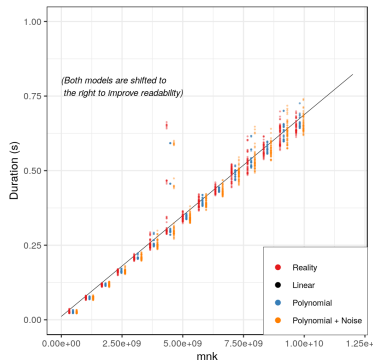
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Different color \Rightarrow different host



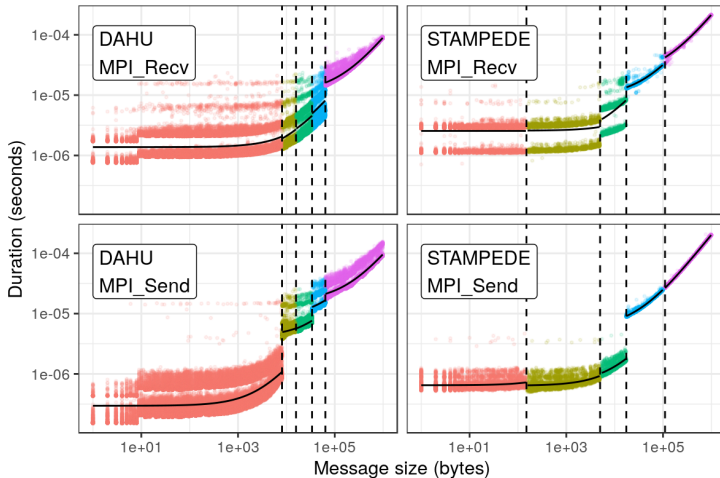
For a particular host



Hand-crafted non-blocking collective operations intertwined with computations

MODELING COMMUNICATIONS

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Experimental biases when measuring `dgemm` or MPI durations
Effect on durations, but also other metrics (e.g. CPU frequency)

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- Content of the matrices used by `dgemm`

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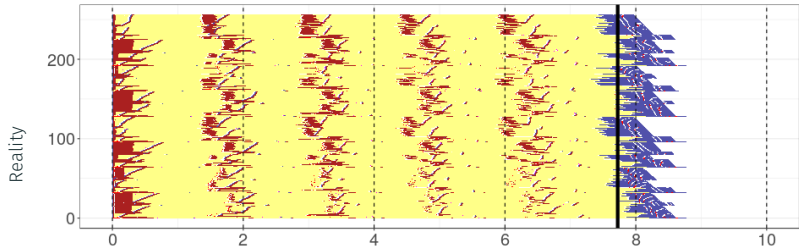
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Bias may be desirable in some situations

DOES ALL THIS MATTER?

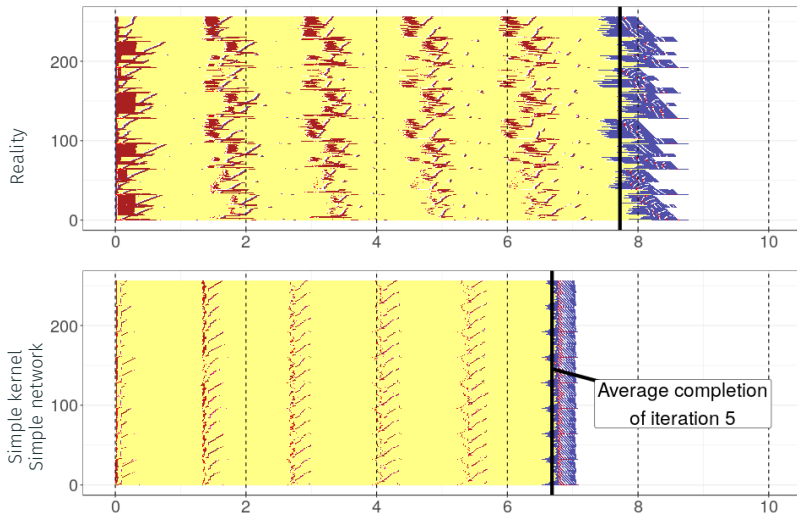
INTERNAL BEHAVIOR OF THE APPLICATION

256 MPI ranks, interrupted after the 5th iteration



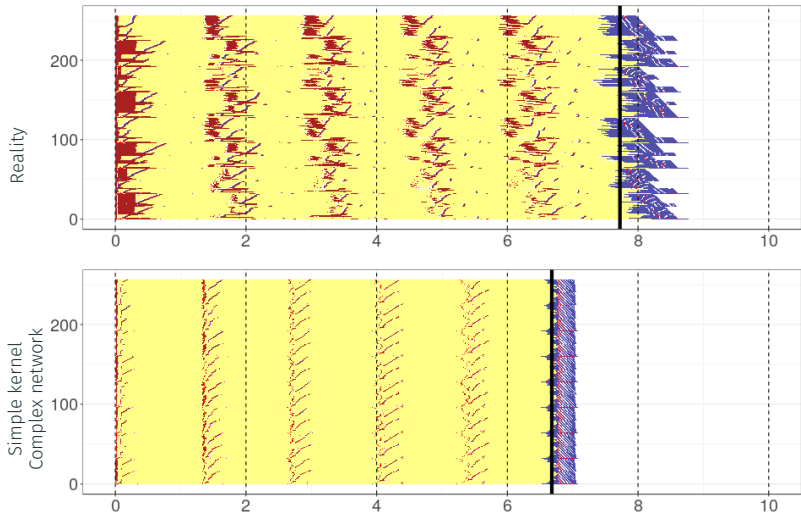
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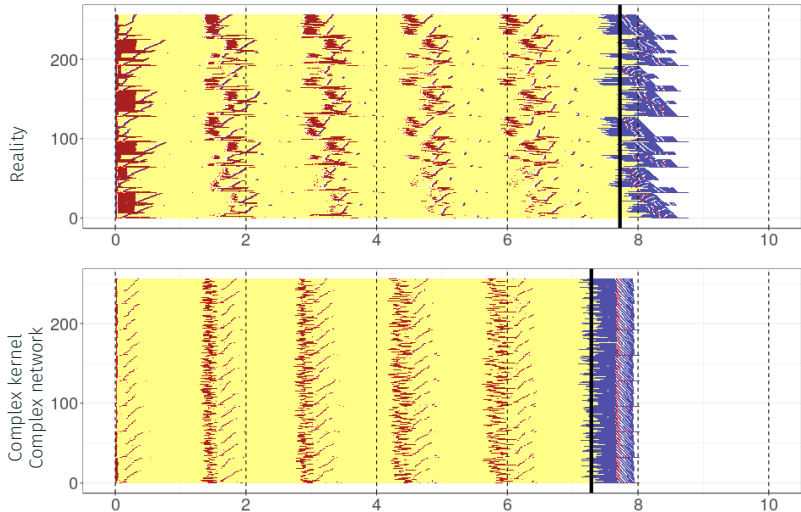
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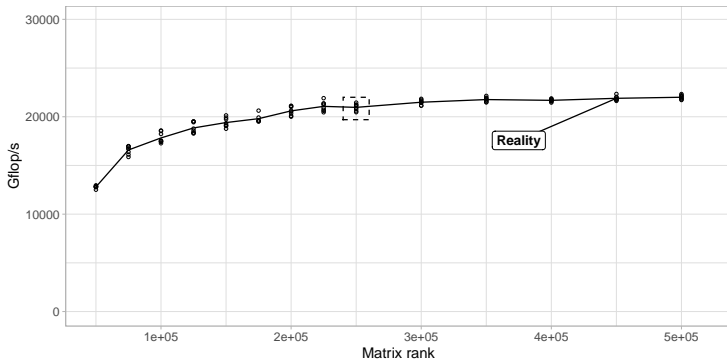
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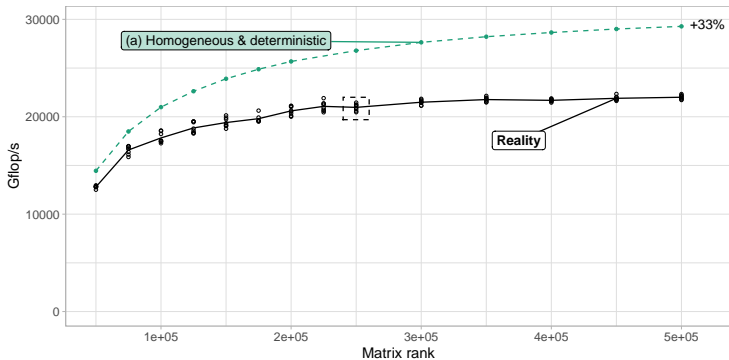
INFLUENCE OF THE PROBLEM SIZE

Now the complete run, with 1024 MPI ranks



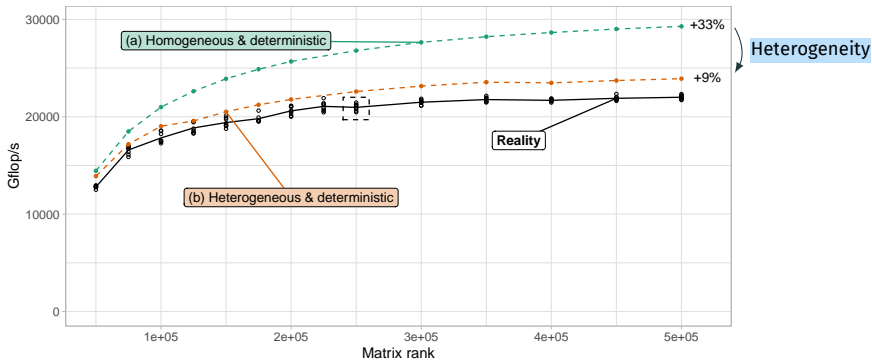
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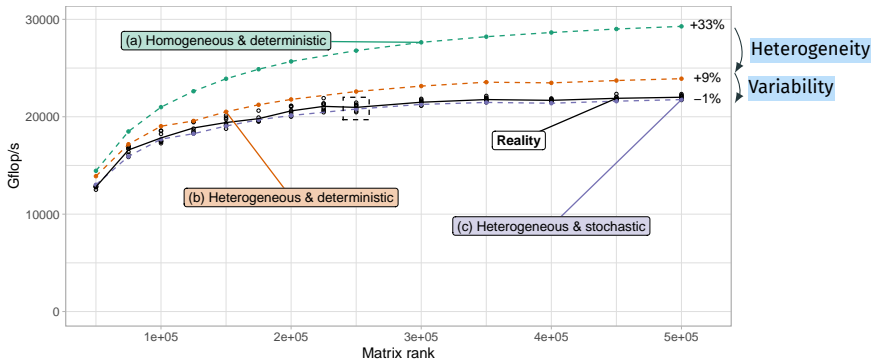
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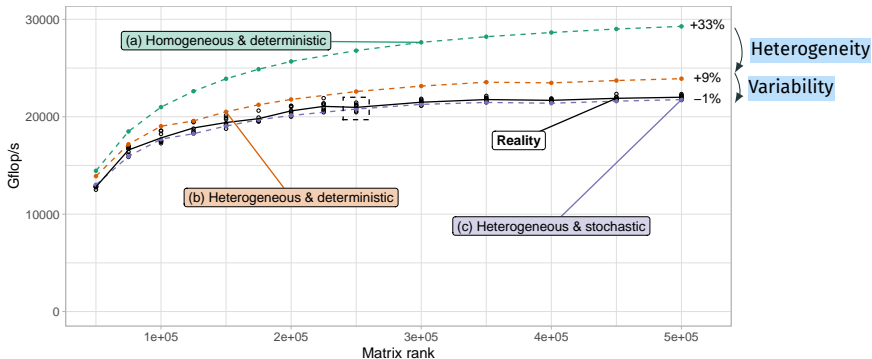
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Take-Away Message: accurate prediction

Modeling both **spatial** and **temporal** computation variability is essential