

Open Datasets and Decentralized Compute for LLMs

Tri Dao
Together AI / Princeton University
<https://tridao.me>

Machine Learning Has Made Exciting Progress

Fix Bugs

(ChatGPT/GPT4 - OpenAI)



Find the bug with this code:

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for (var i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
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Generate Art

(Stable Diffusion – Stability.AI)



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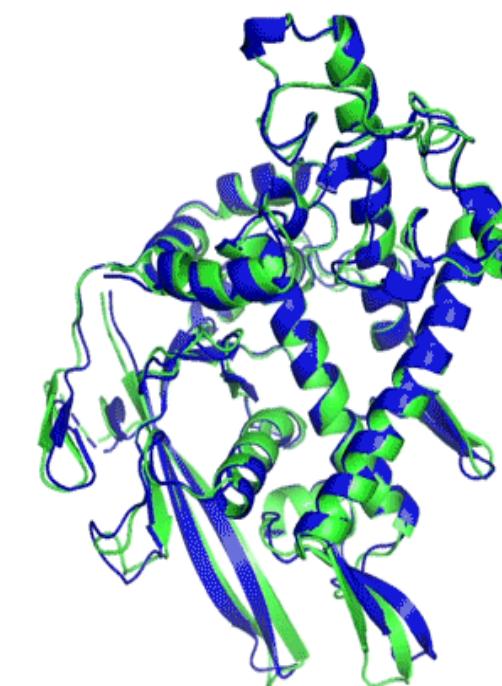
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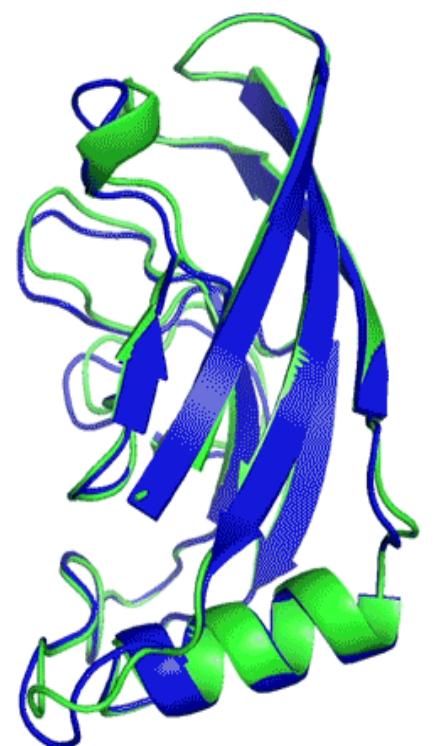


Design Drugs

(AlphaFold – DeepMind)



T1037 / 6vr4
90.7 GDT
(RNA polymerase domain)



T1049 / 6y4f
93.3 GDT
(adhesin tip)

- Experimental result
- Computational prediction

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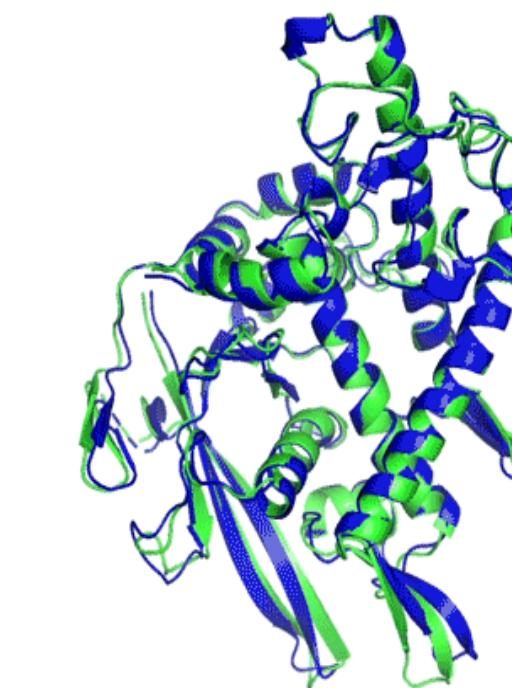
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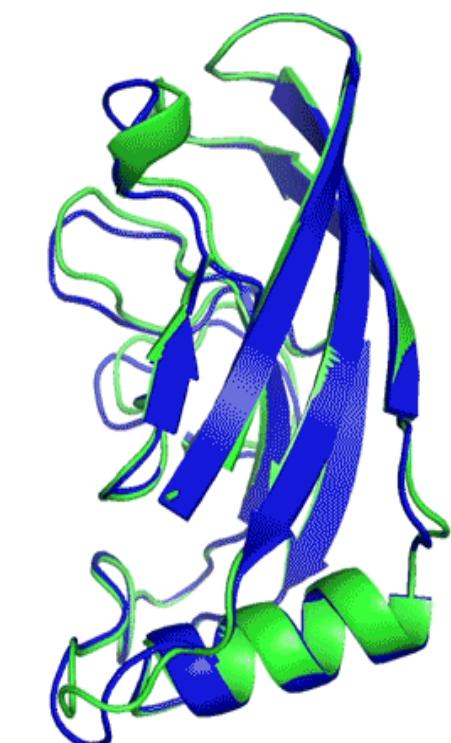


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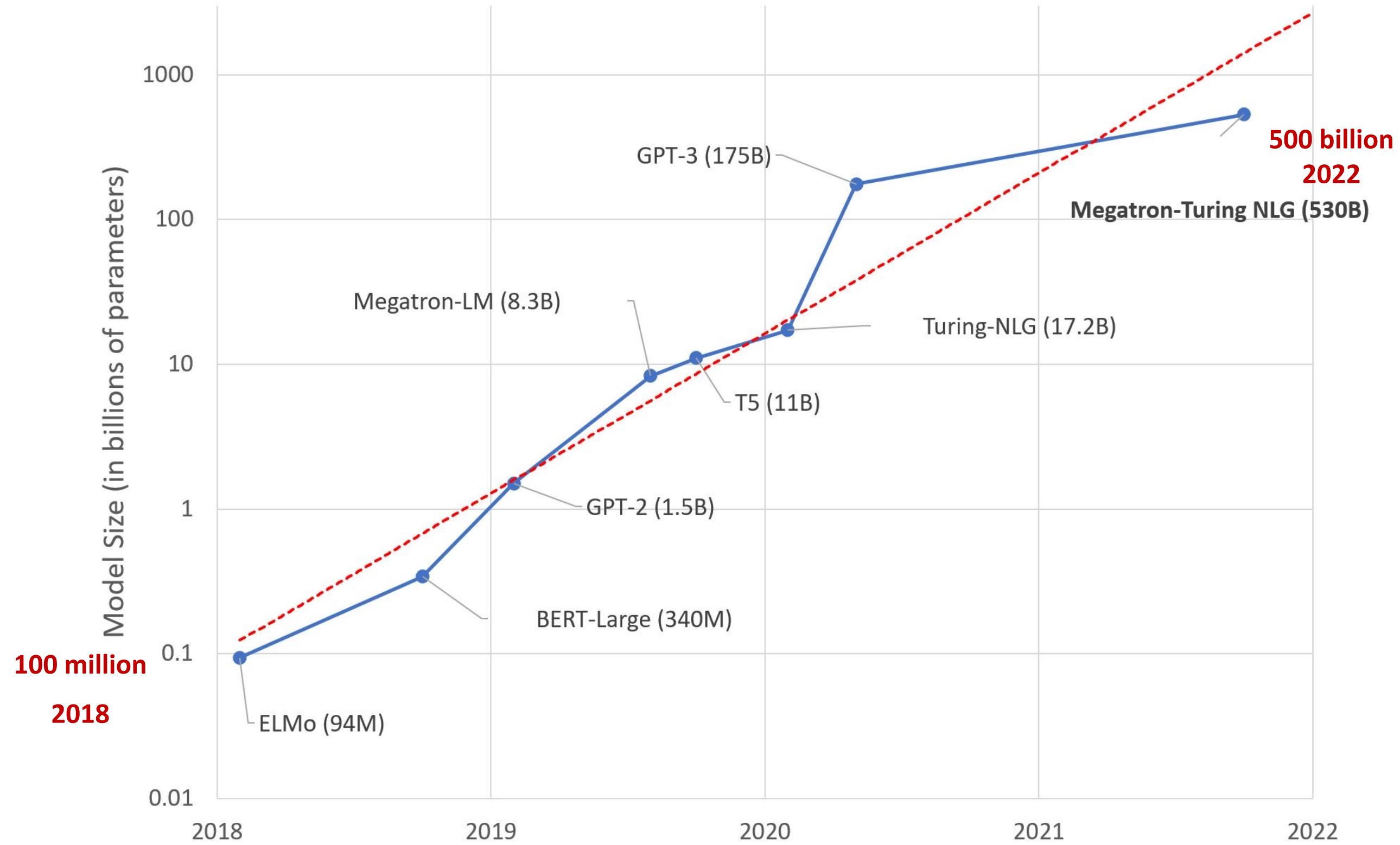


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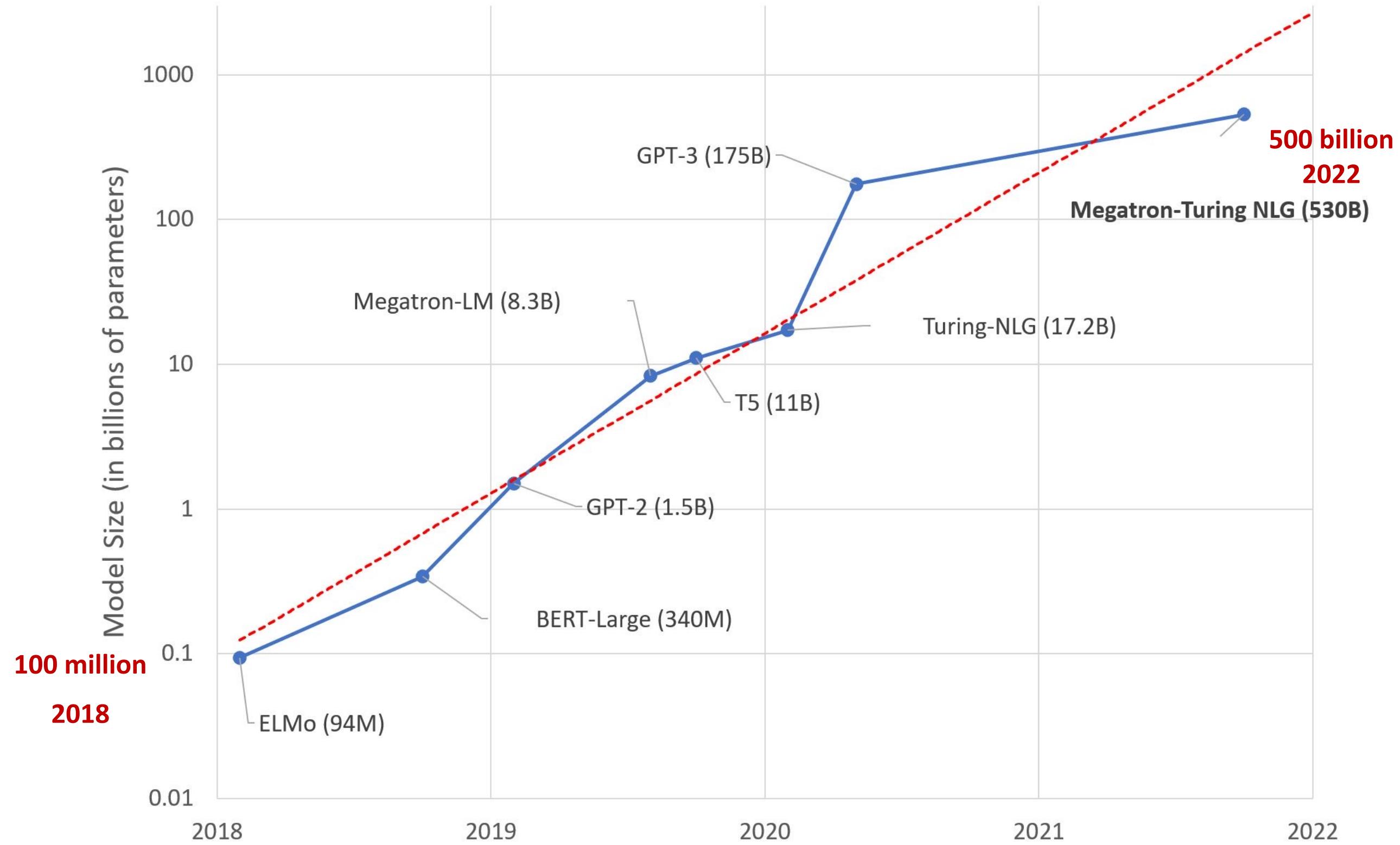
- Experimental result
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What enabled these advances? What are outstanding problems? How do we approach them?

Scale in Data and Compute Brings Quality and Capabilities



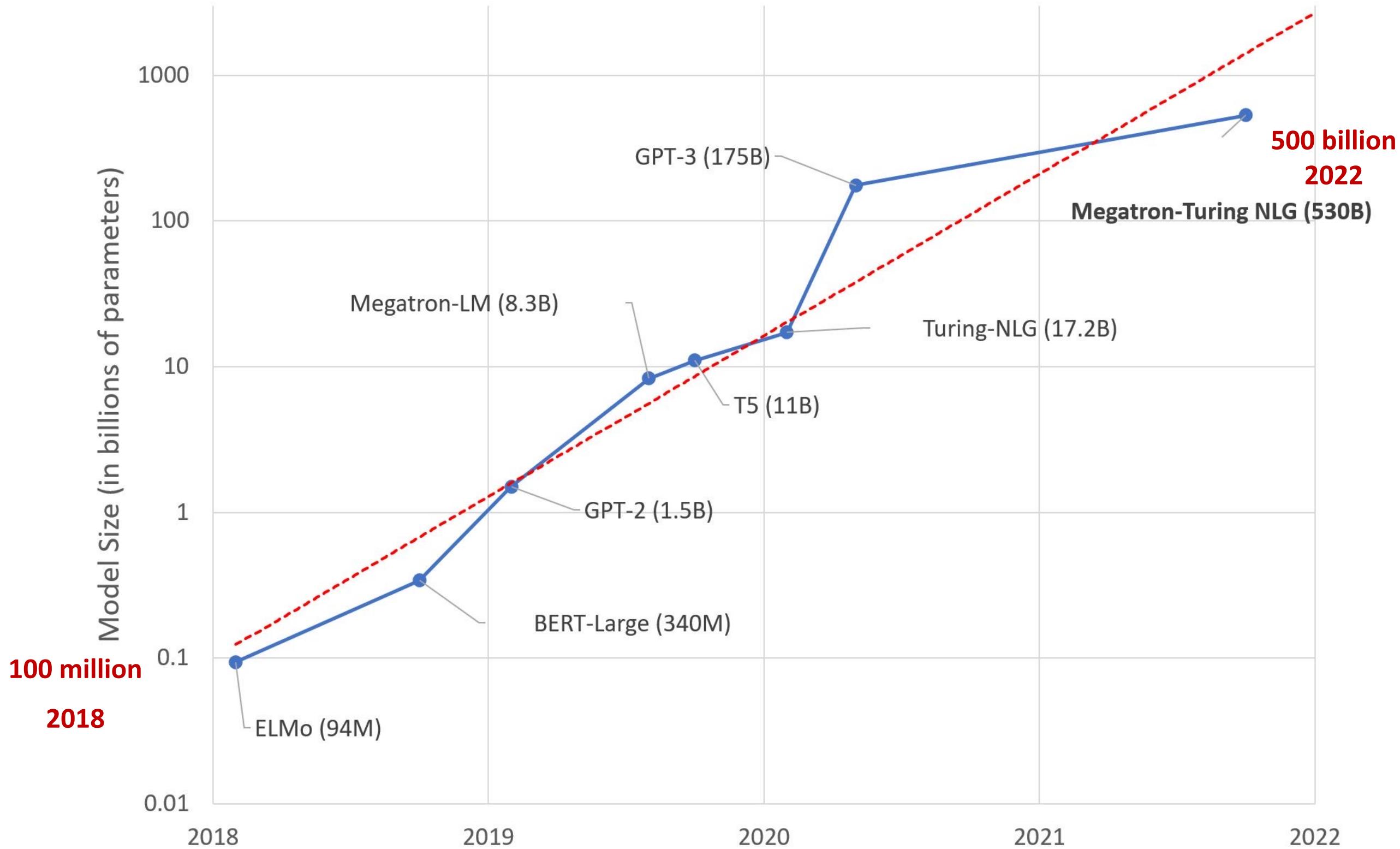
Scale in Data and Compute Brings Quality and Capabilities



Language models explaining jokes

Input: I tried 10000 random restarts of my neural network, but I was accused of overfitting. I guess no good seed goes unpunished.

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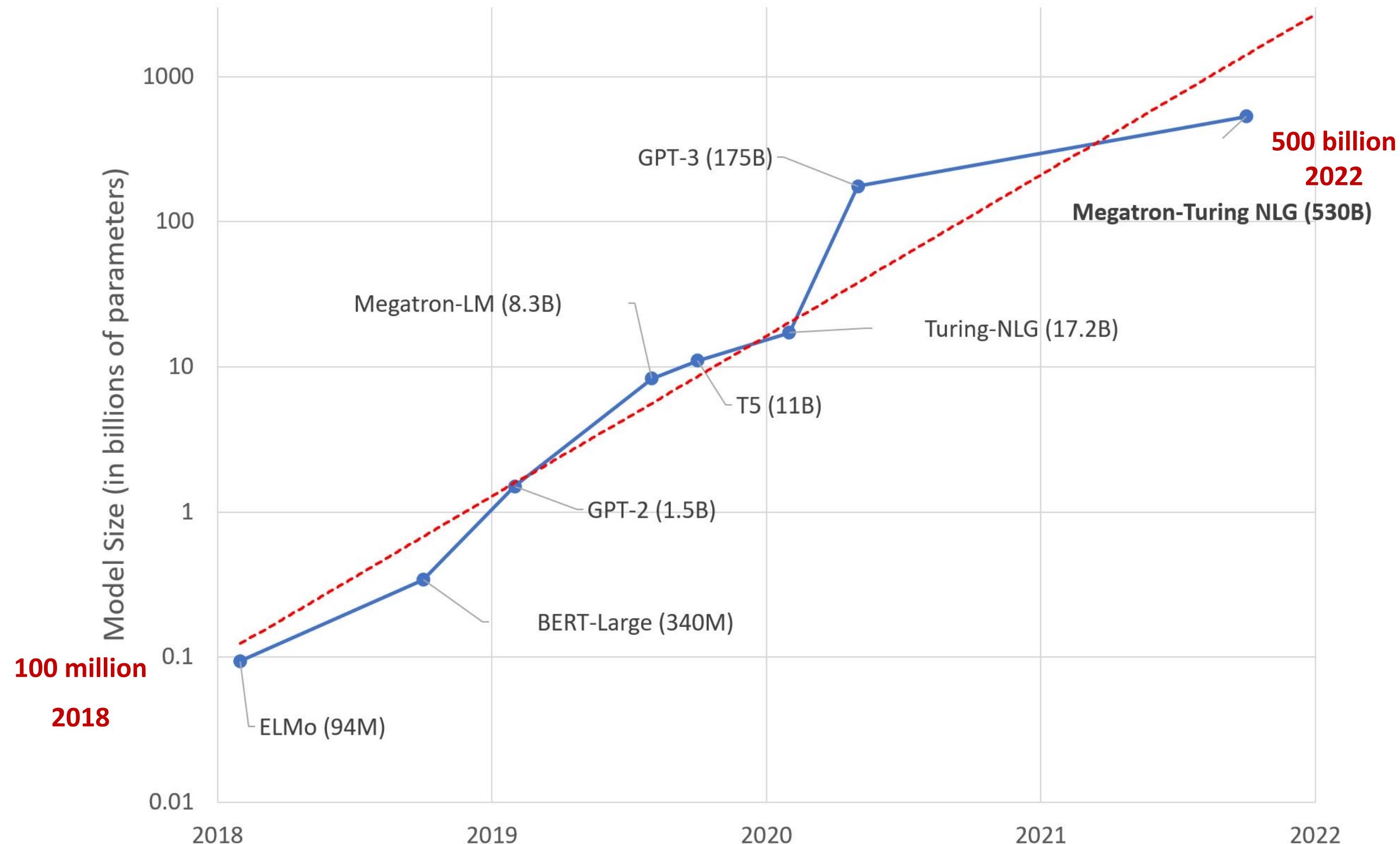


Language models explaining jokes

Input: I tried 10000 random restarts of my neural network, but I was accused of overfitting. I guess no good seed goes unpunished.

1.3B model: The joke is that if you try 10000 different seed choices, you'll eventually find one that works, but you'll be accused of overfitting.

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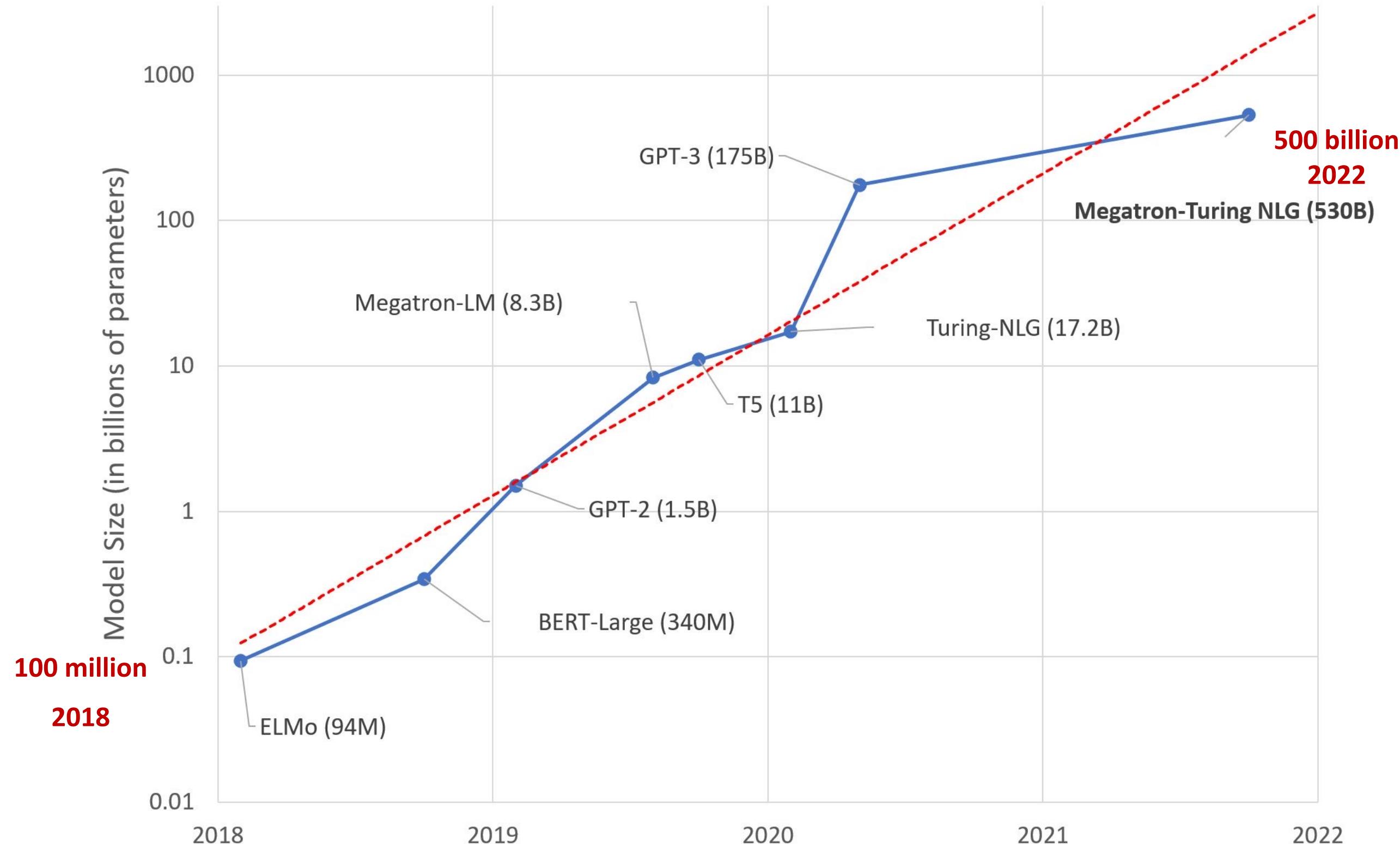
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175B model: This joke is a play on words related to neural networks, a type of machine learning algorithm.

The punchline, "I guess **no good seed goes unpunished**," is a play on the phrase "**no good deed goes unpunished**." In this case, "good seed" refers to a starting point for the random restarts, and the joke implies that even when trying to improve the neural network's performance, the person is still accused of overfitting.

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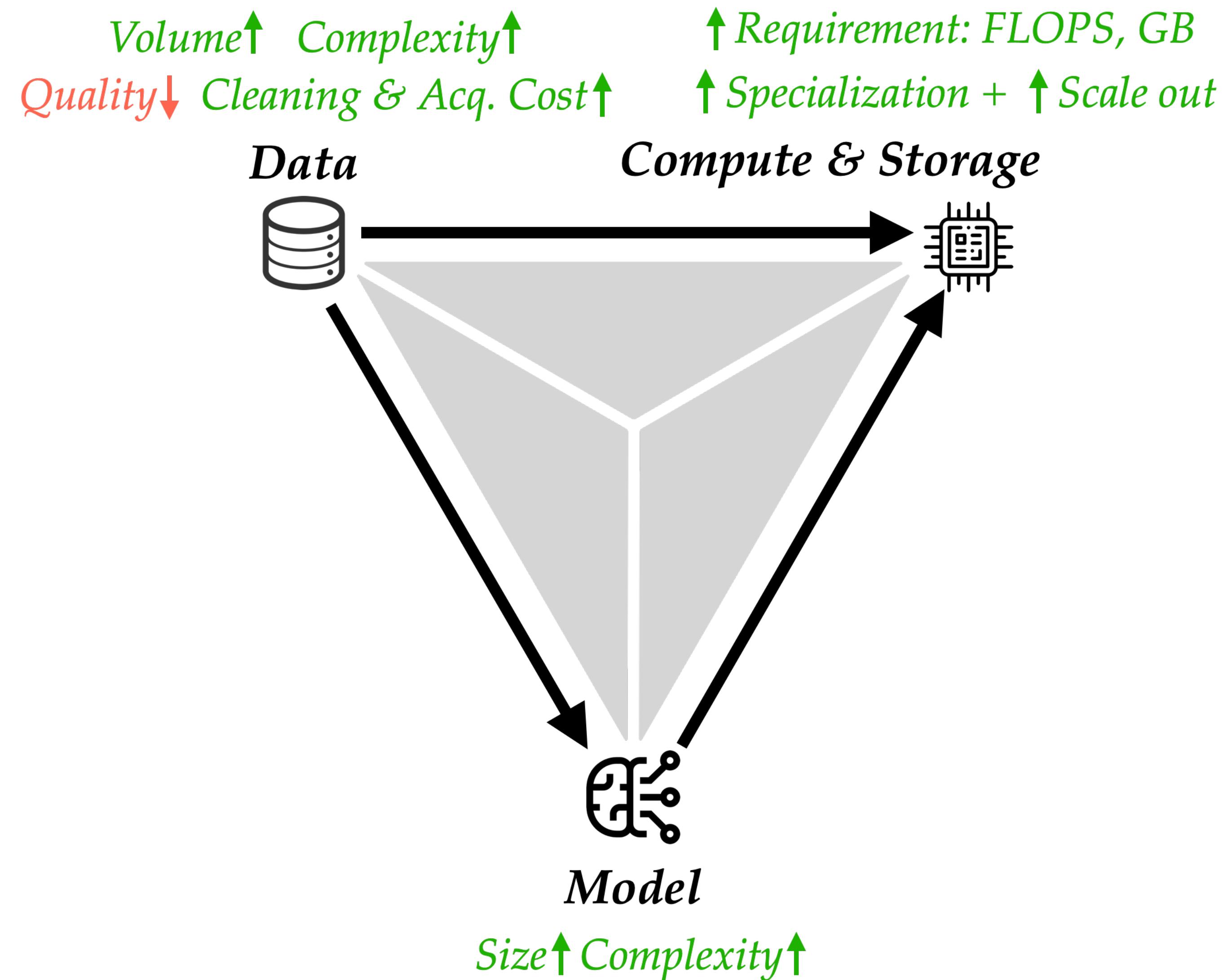
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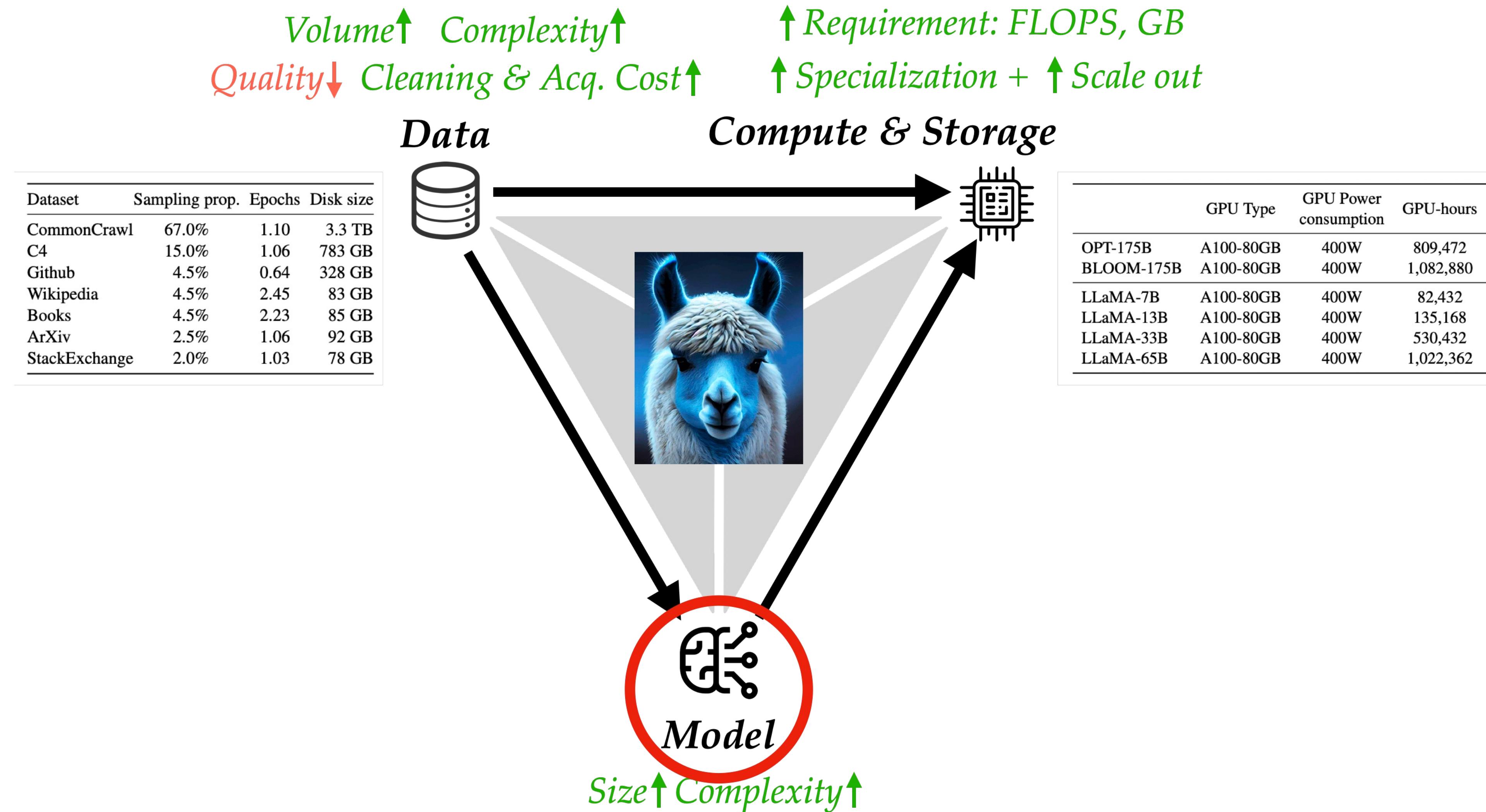
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Scale is more closely tied to advances in ML than ever before

Challenges with Scale



The Llama Moment



RedPajama v1: Data

- CommonCrawl
- C4
- GitHub
- arXiv
- Books
- Wikipedia
- StackExchange



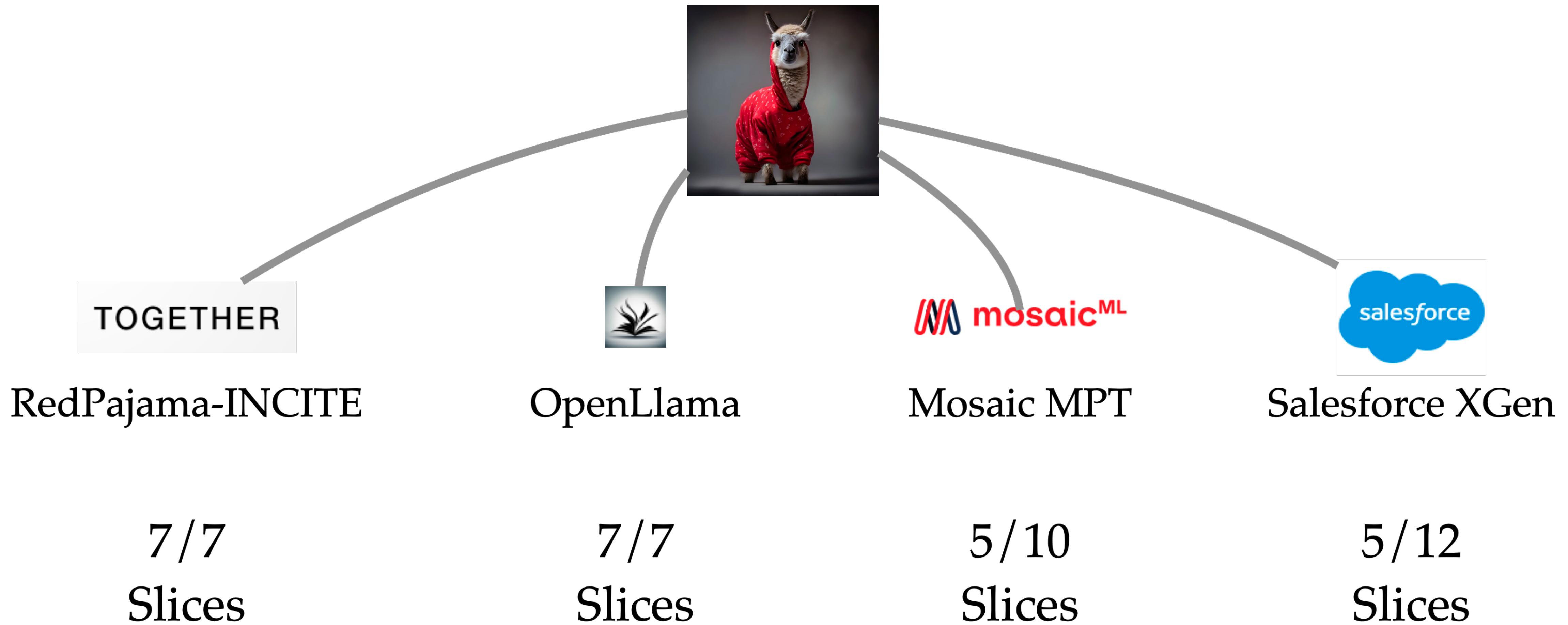
RedPajama v1: Data

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	RedPajama	LLaMA*
CommonCrawl	878 billion	852 billion
C4	175 billion	190 billion
Github	59 billion	100 billion
Books	26 billion	25 billion
ArXiv	28 billion	33 billion
Wikipedia	24 billion	25 billion
StackExchange	20 billion	27 billion
Total	1.2 trillion	1.25 trillion



Fueling and Exciting Generation of Open Models

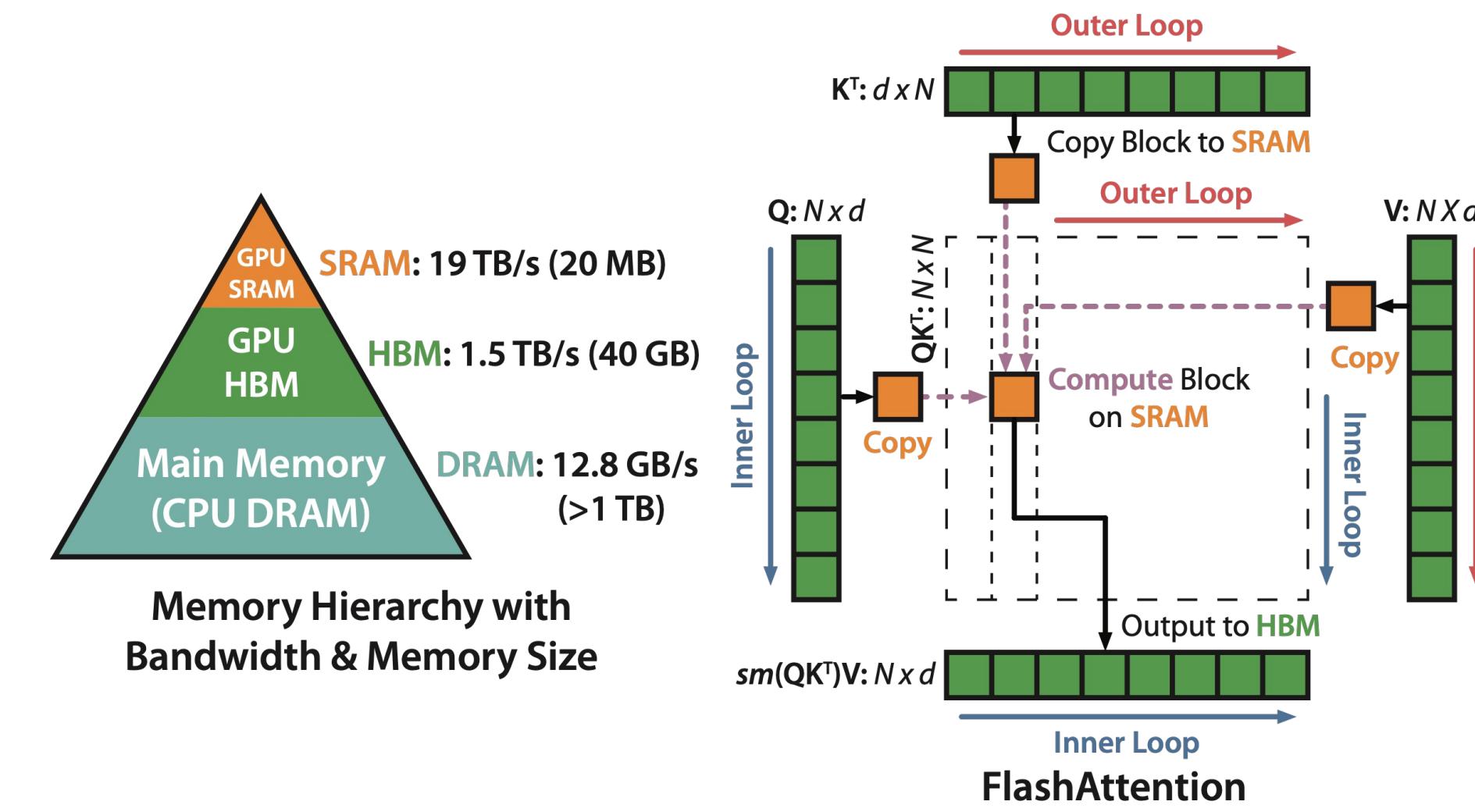


Compute: Hardware-aware Algorithms

IO-awareness:
reducing reads/writes to GPU memory yields significant speedup

Compute: Hardware-aware Algorithms

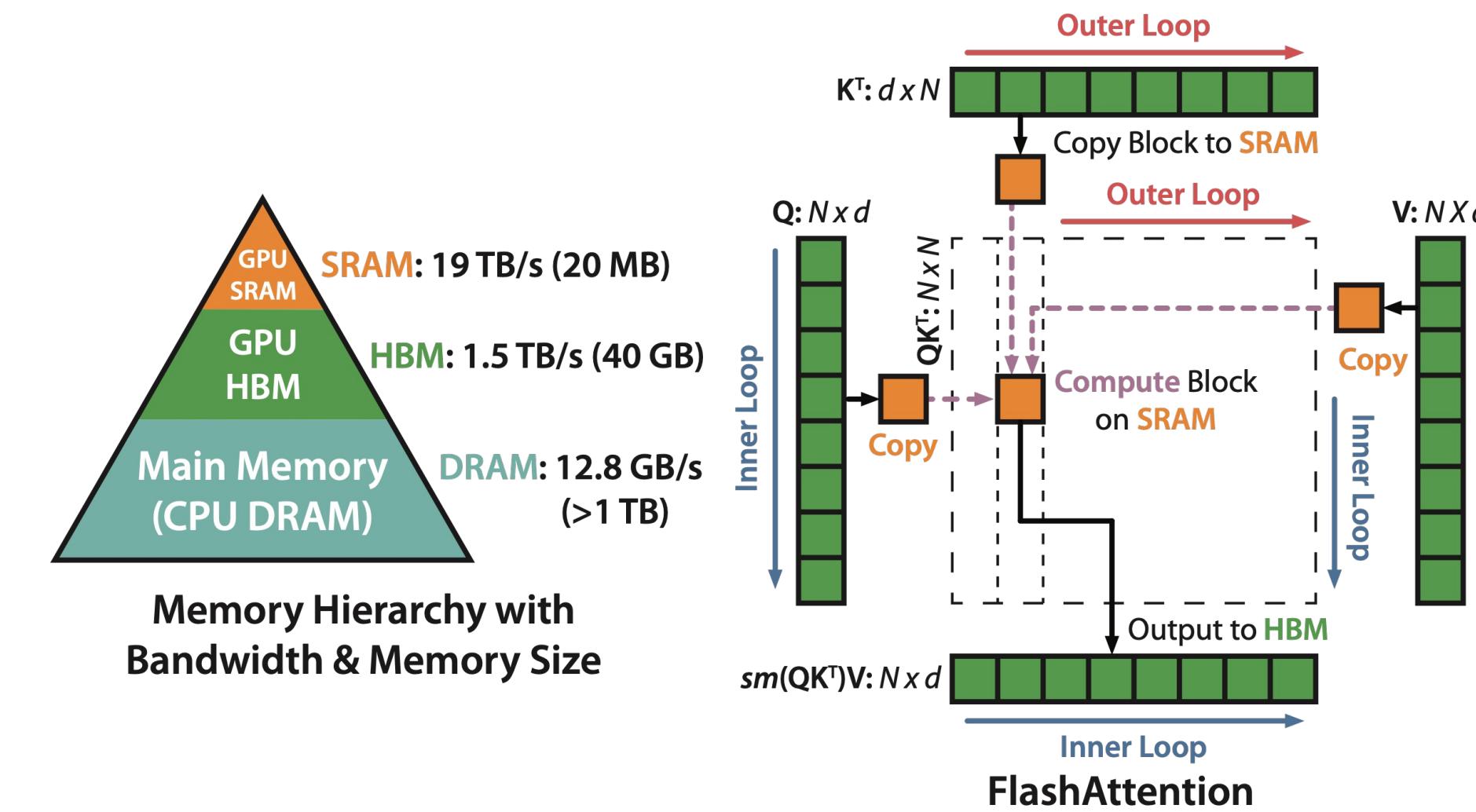
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FlashAttention: **fast** (2-4x) and **memory-efficient** attention (10-20x)
algorithm, with **no approximation**

Compute: Hardware-aware Algorithms

IO-awareness:
reducing reads/writes to GPU memory yields significant speedup



FlashAttention: **fast** (4-8x) and **memory-efficient** attention (10-20x)
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FlashAttention Adoption Areas



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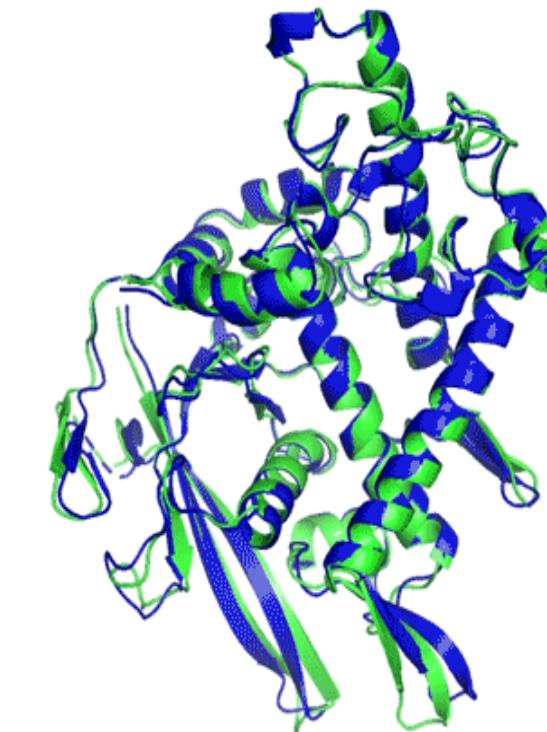


Text Generation

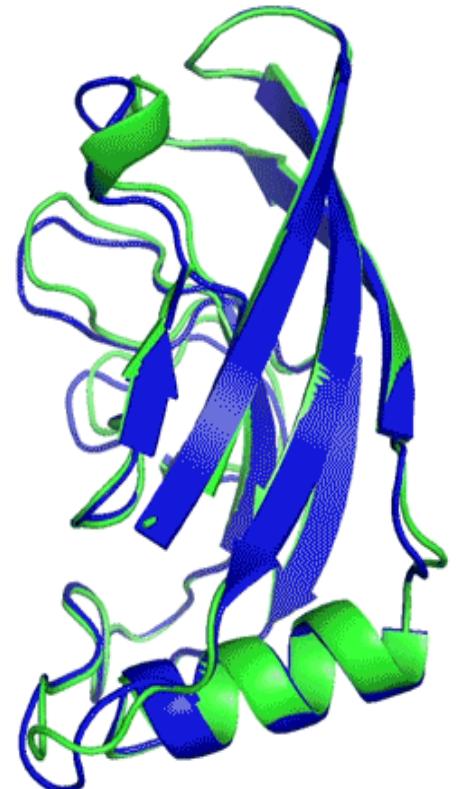
(Llama – Meta, Falcon – TIIuae, MPT, RedPajama)

Image Generation

(Stable Diffusion - Stability.AI)



T1037 / 6vr4
90.7 GDT
(RNA polymerase domain)



T1049 / 6y4f
93.3 GDT
(adhesin tip)

● Experimental result

● Computational prediction

Drug Discovery

(OpenFold, UniFold)

Decentralized Communication & Data Movement

Distributed training at scale is communication-intensive.

Decentralized Communication & Data Movement

Distributed training at scale is communication-intensive.



6.7B Parameters
 $1.20E+22$
Floating Point Ops.

32 Machines, 4x A100 GPU each

Each machine send+recv ***4PB*** data

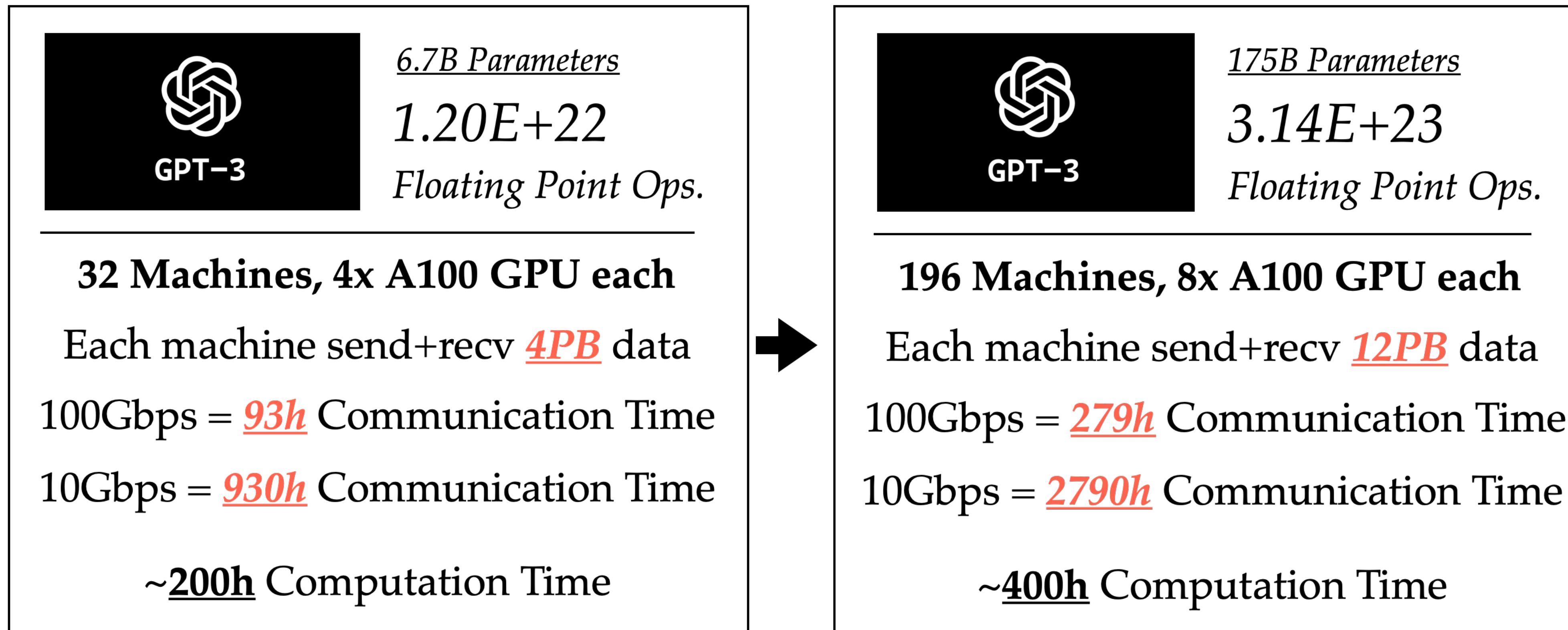
100Gbps = ***93h*** Communication Time

10Gbps = ***930h*** Communication Time

~200h Computation Time

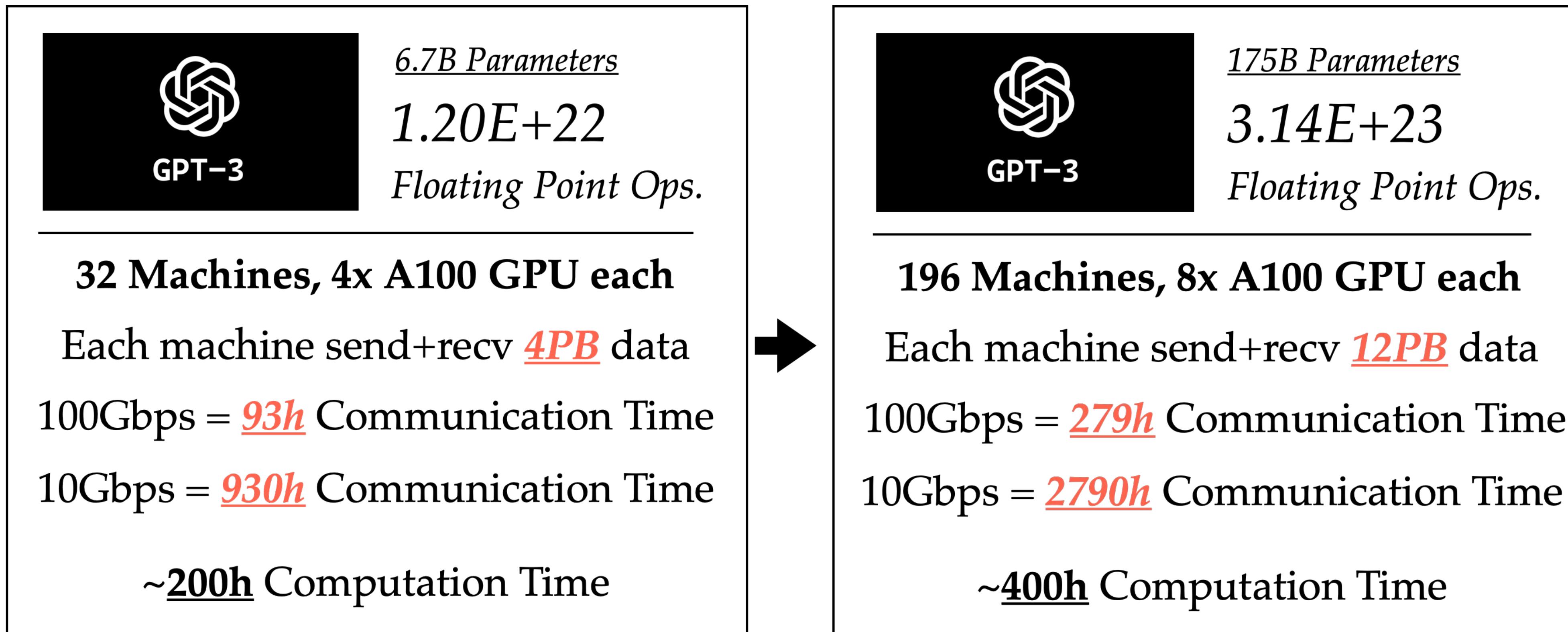
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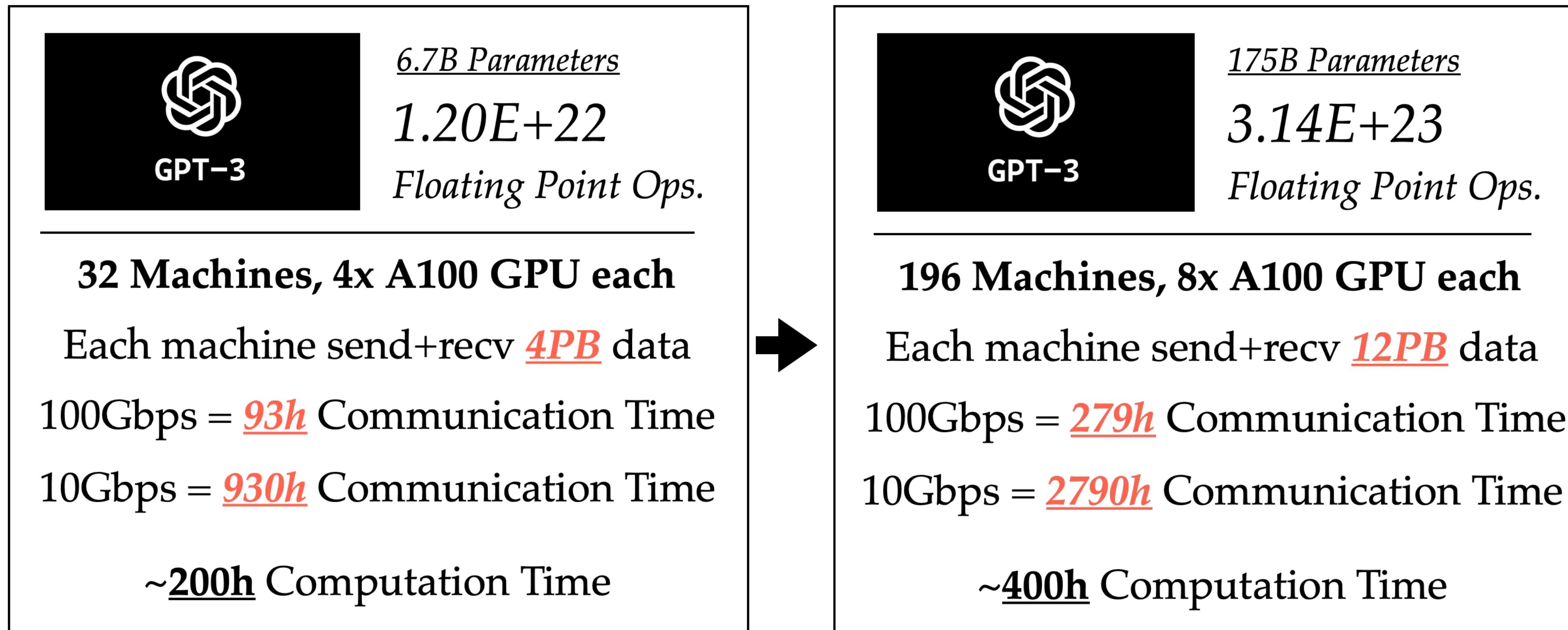


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Hard to use cheaper alternatives (Tier 2-4 clouds, Spot Instances, Volunteer Computers, etc.).

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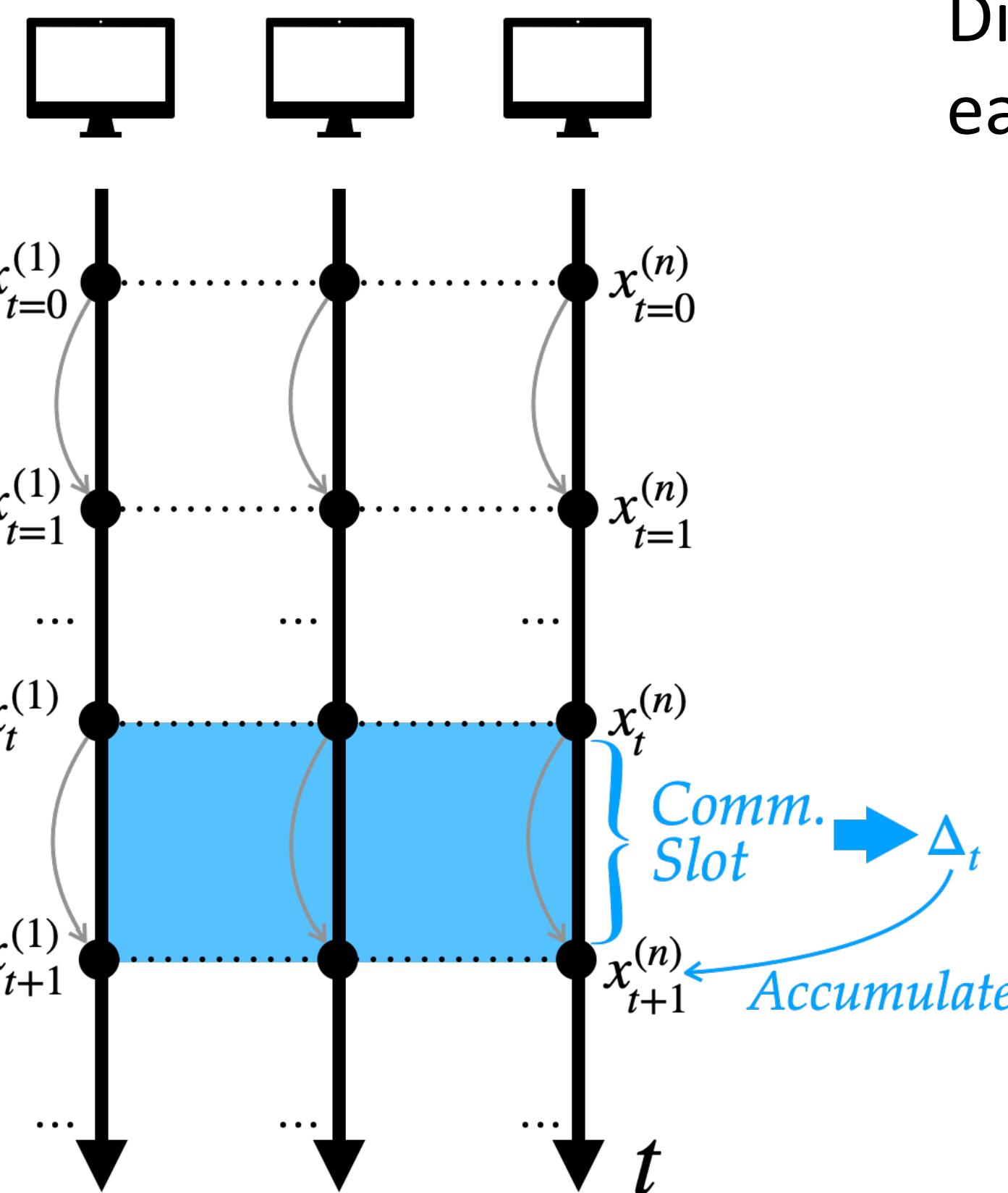
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CocktailSGD: Mixture of Communication Compression Methods

Different communication compression techniques complement each other and compose well!

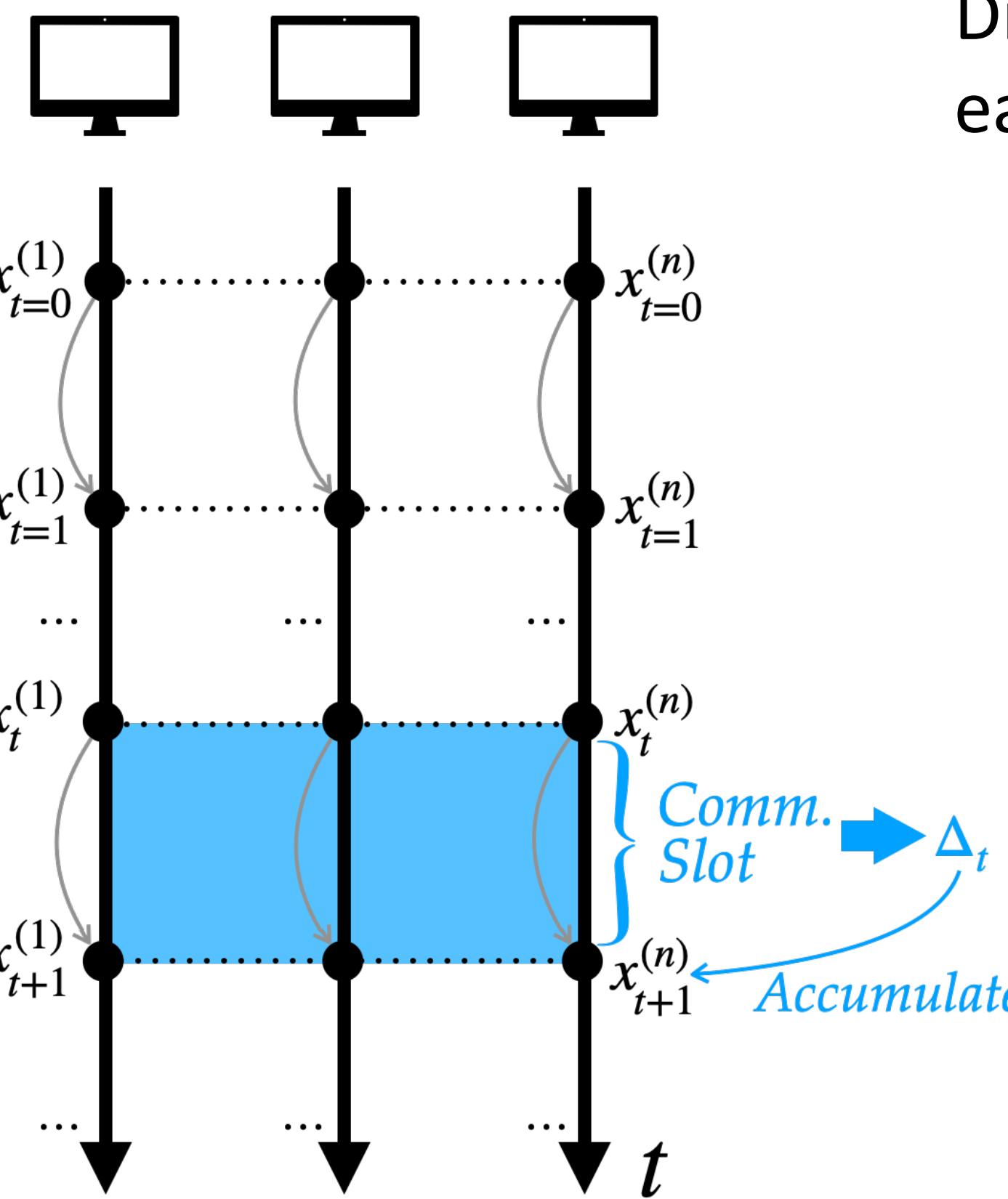
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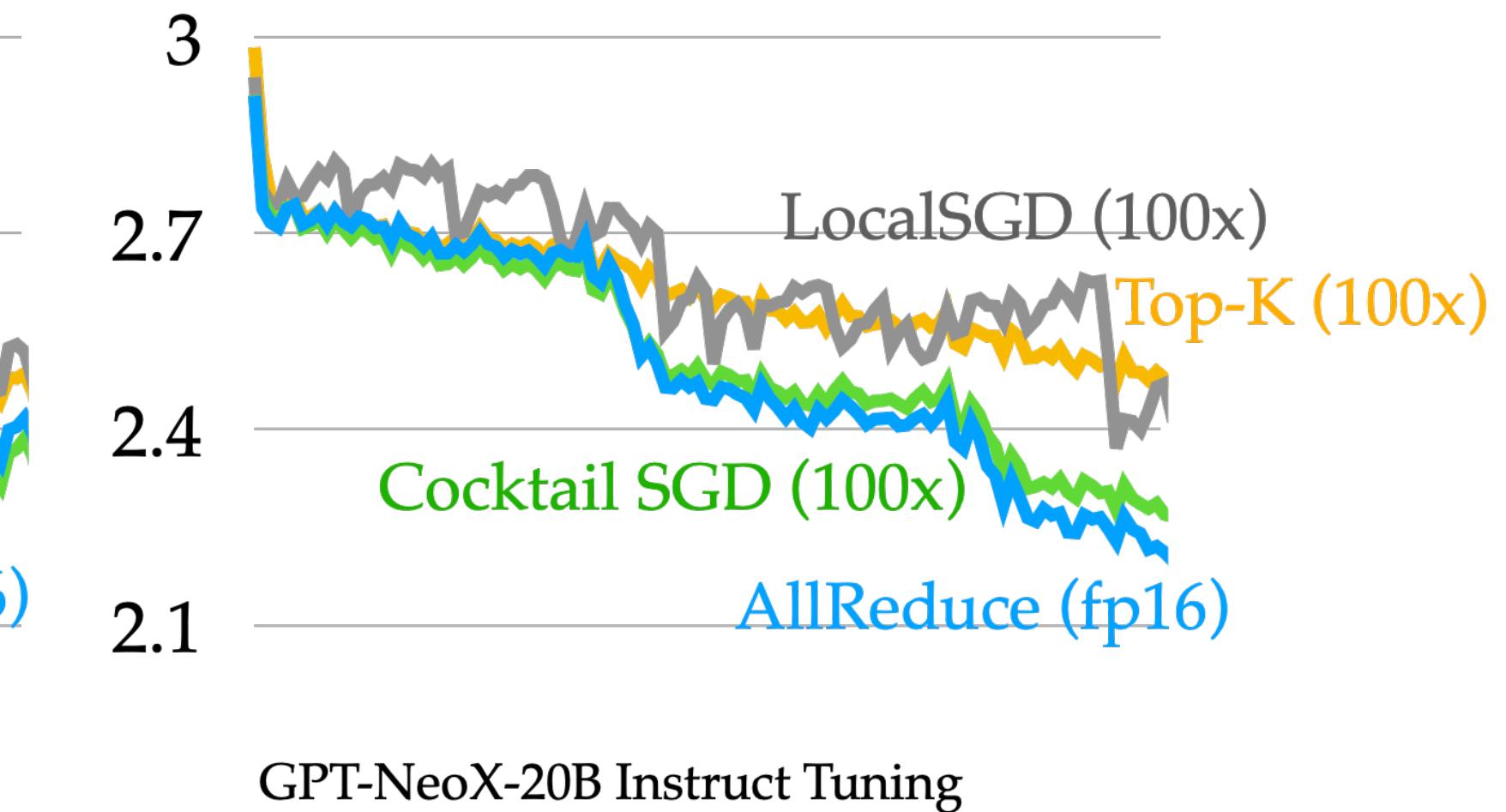
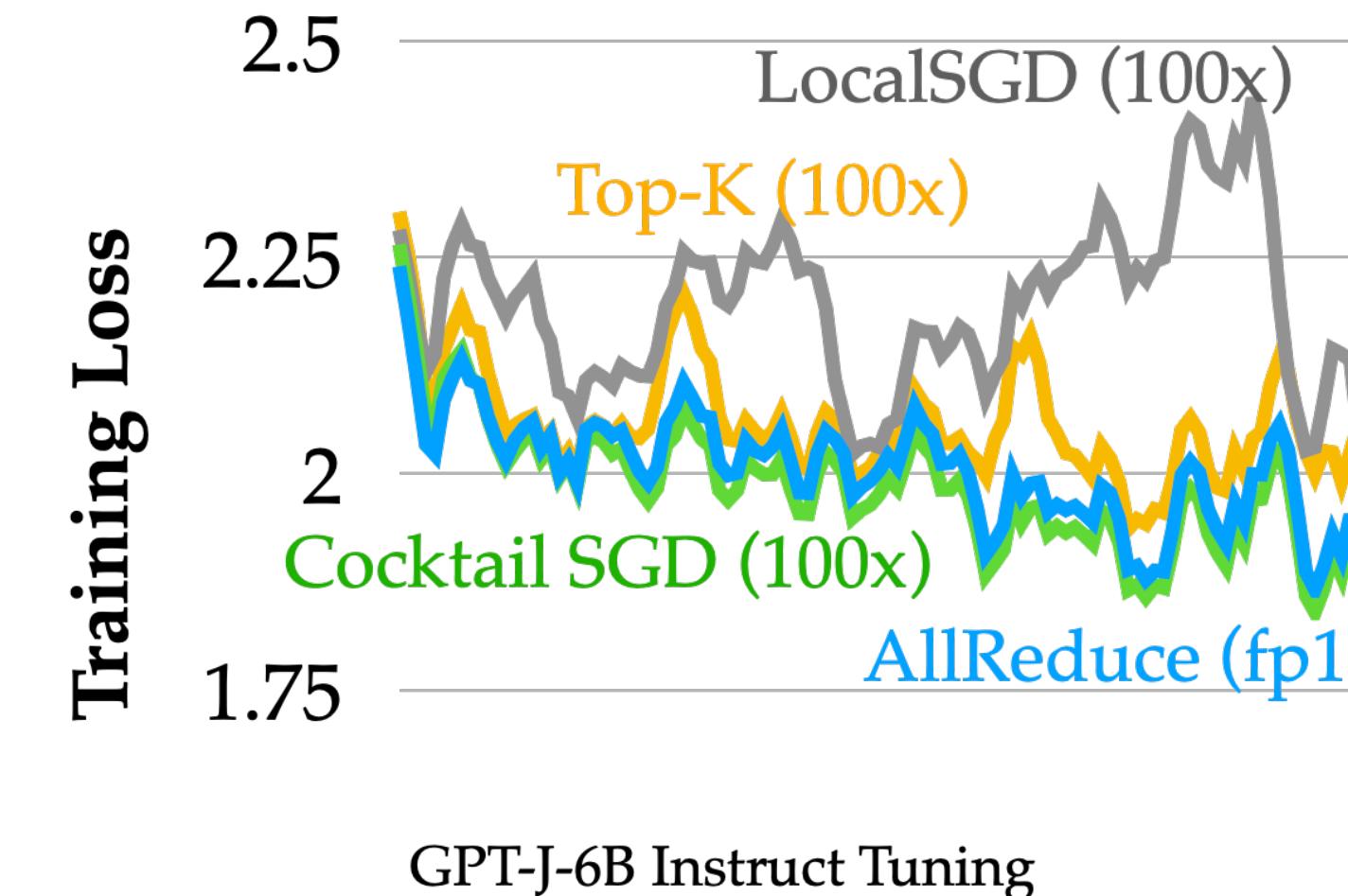
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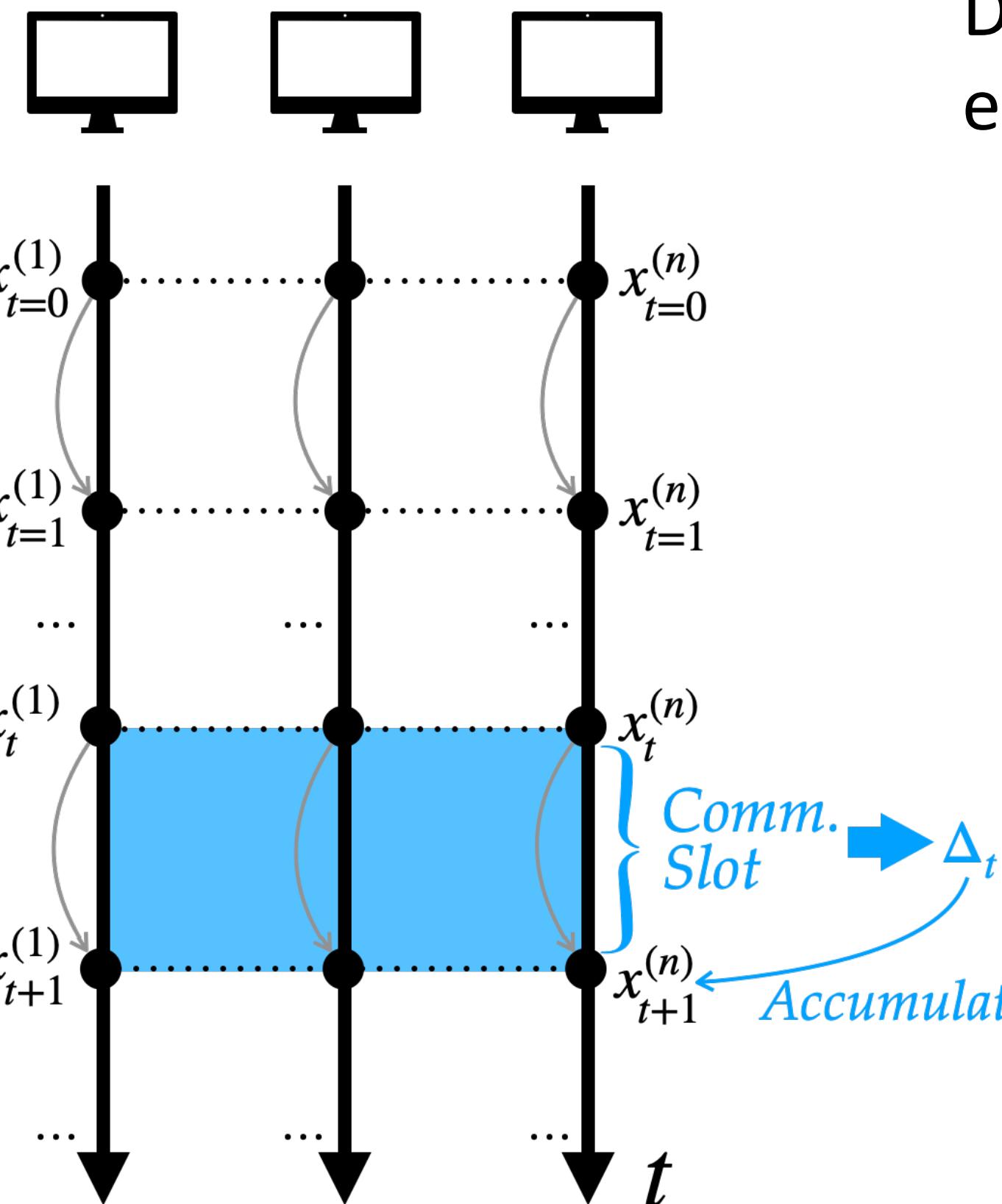


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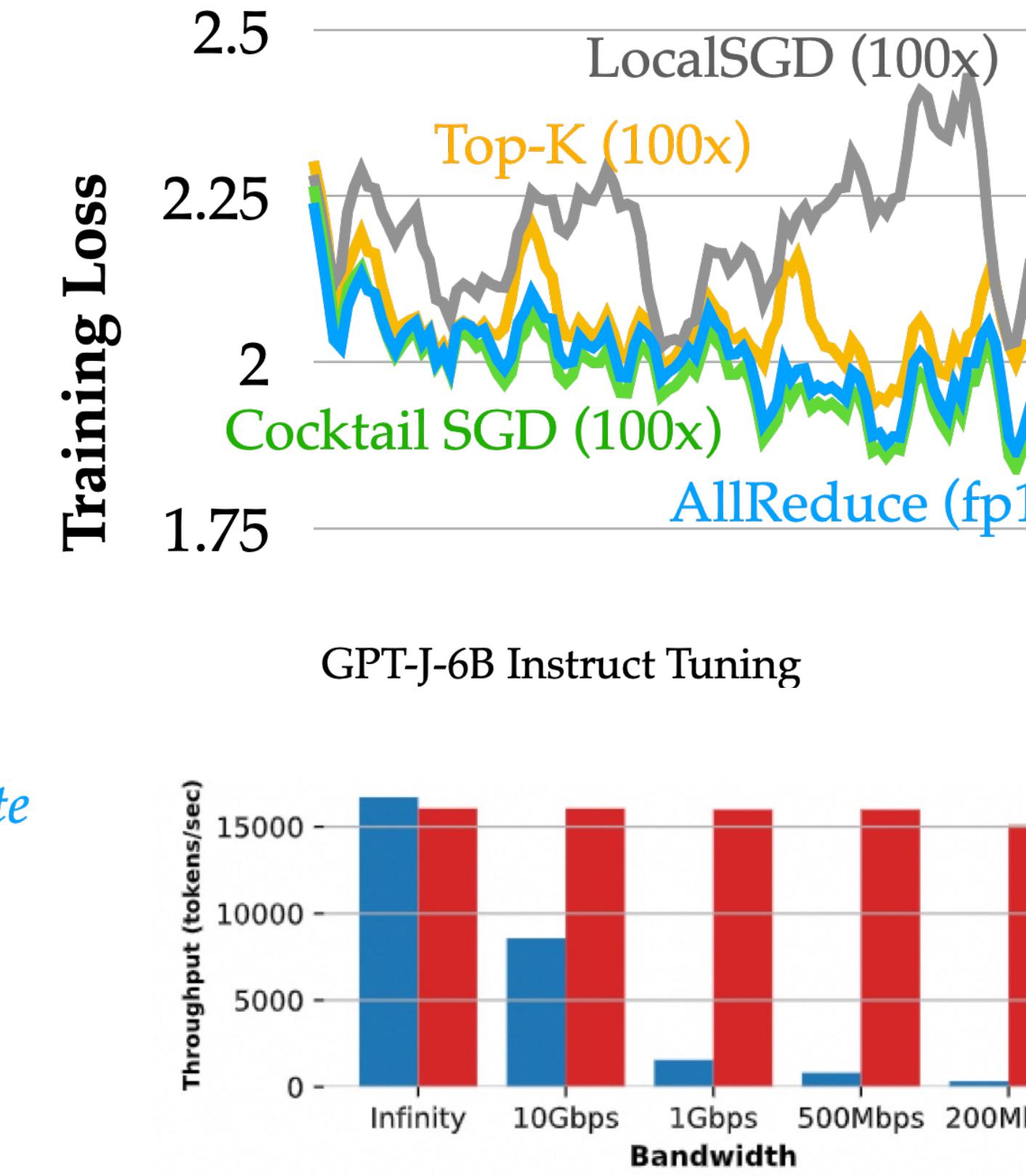


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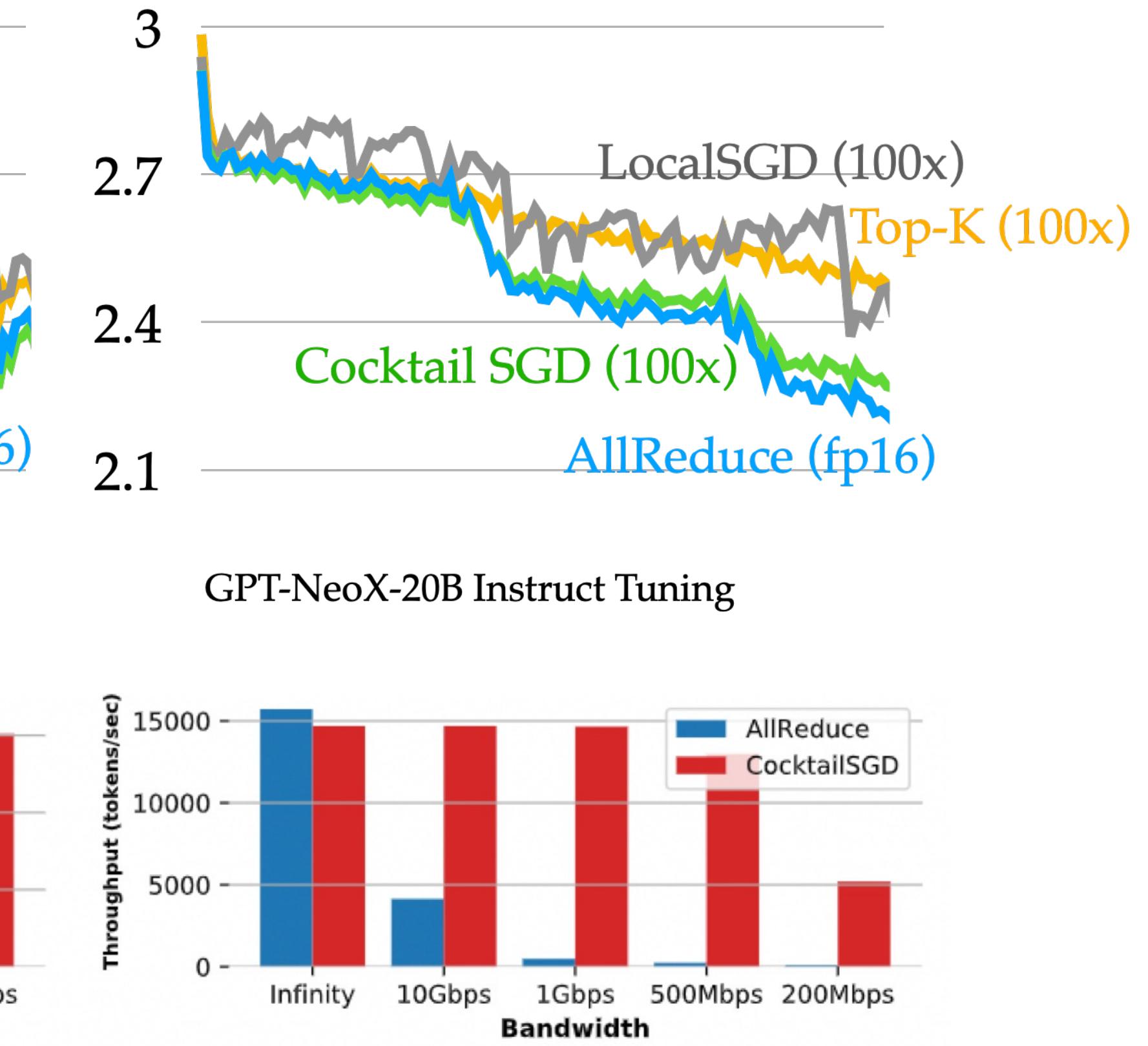


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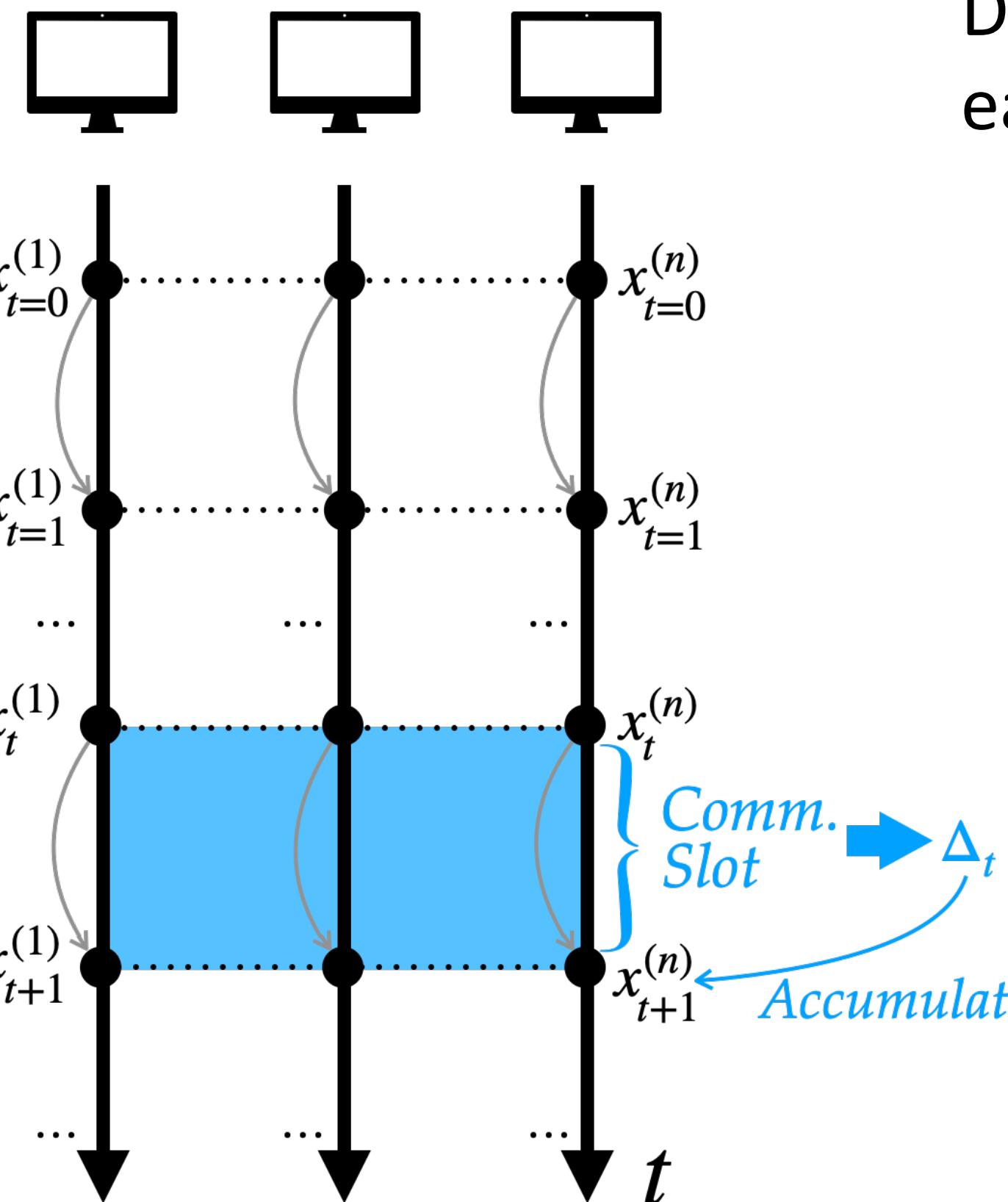


(b) GPT-J-6B



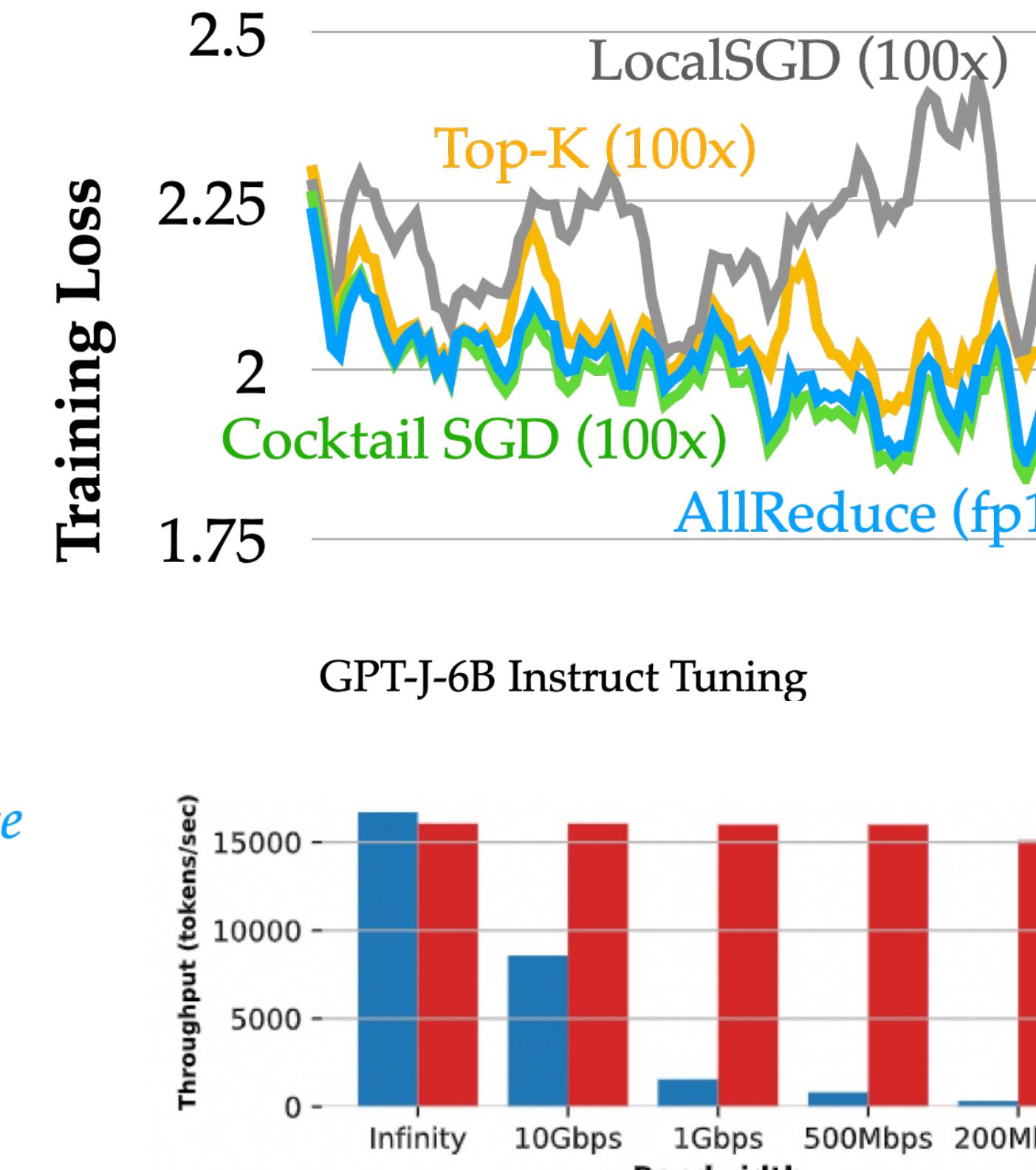
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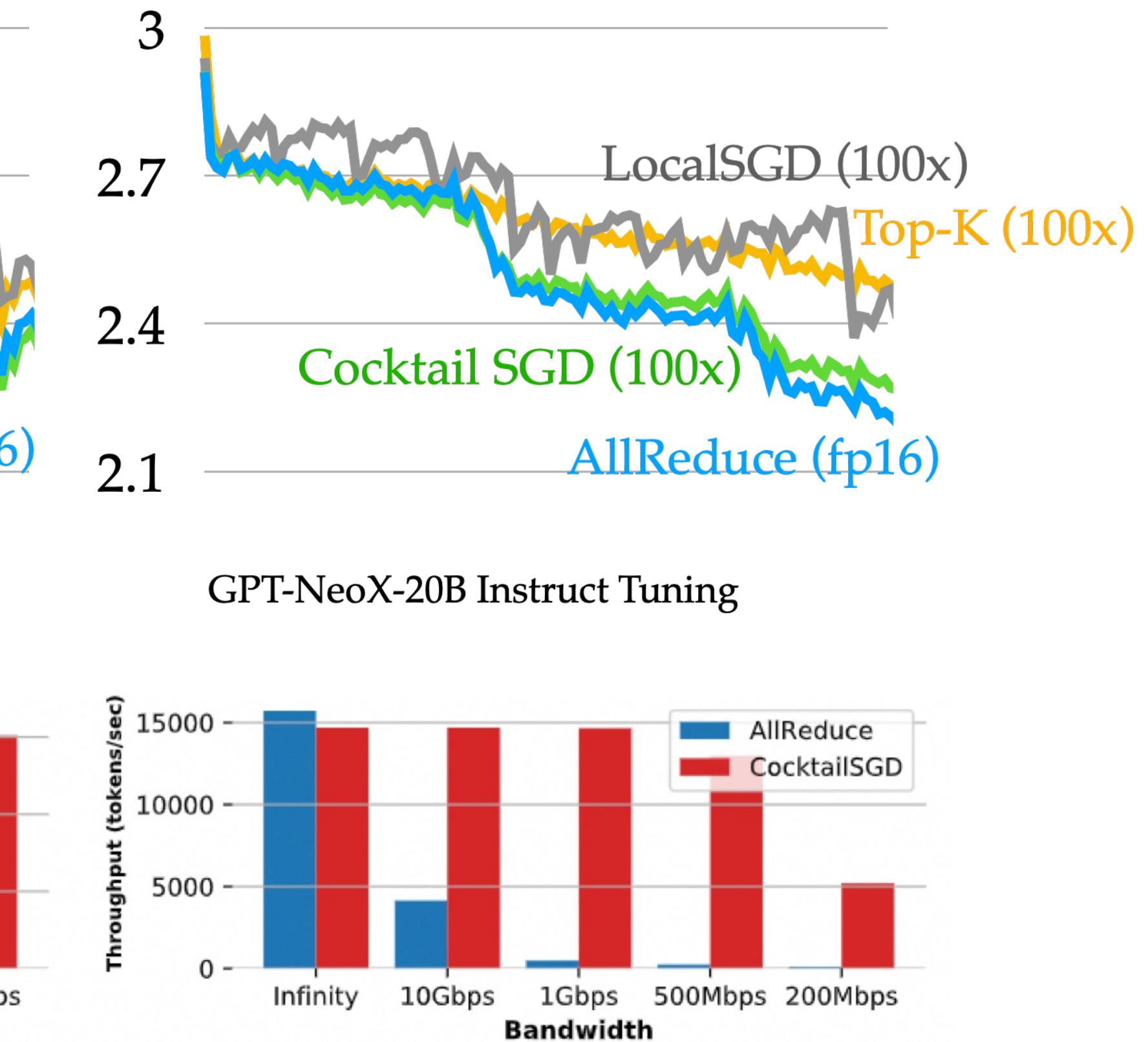


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Data parallel over 1Gbps network!

Ongoing & Future Work: Optimizing Throughout the Stack

1. Different kinds of **hardware**
2. Efficient **algorithms** and kernels for training and inference
3. Diverse **capabilities** (long context) and new **applications** (multi-modal, genomics)