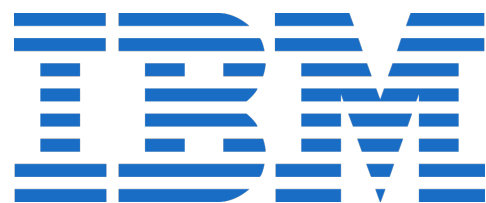


# Safe Limits on Voltage Reduction Efficiency in GPUs: a Direct Measurement Approach

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Jingwen Leng,

Alper Buyuktosunoglu, Ramon Bertran, Pradip Bose, Vijay Janapa Reddi



# GPU Energy Efficiency Optimization

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# GPU Energy Efficiency Optimization

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*Circuit*

-----

DVFS  
Clock Gating  
Power Gating

# GPU Energy Efficiency Optimization

---

*(Micro)architecture*

Control Divergence  
Warp Scheduler  
Cache Locality

*Circuit*

DVFS  
Clock Gating  
Power Gating

# GPU Energy Efficiency Optimization

---

*Software/  
Compiler*

-----  
Approximation  
Data Transfer  
Multi-tasking

*(Micro)architecture*

-----  
Control Divergence  
Warp Scheduler  
Cache Locality

*Circuit*

-----  
DVFS  
Clock Gating  
Power Gating

# GPU Energy Efficiency Optimization

---

## *Software/ Compiler*

-----

Approximation  
Data Transfer  
Multi-tasking

Samadi et al. [MICRO'14]  
Rossbach et al. [SOSP'11]  
Park et al. [ASPLOS'15]

## *(Micro)architecture*

-----

Control Divergence  
Warp Scheduler  
Cache Locality

Fung et al. [MICRO'07]  
Rogers et al. [MICRO'13]  
Rhu et al. [MICRO'13]

## *Circuit*

-----

DVFS  
Clock Gating  
Power Gating

Sethia et al. [MICRO'14]  
Leng et al. [ISCA'13]  
Majeed et al. [MICRO'13]

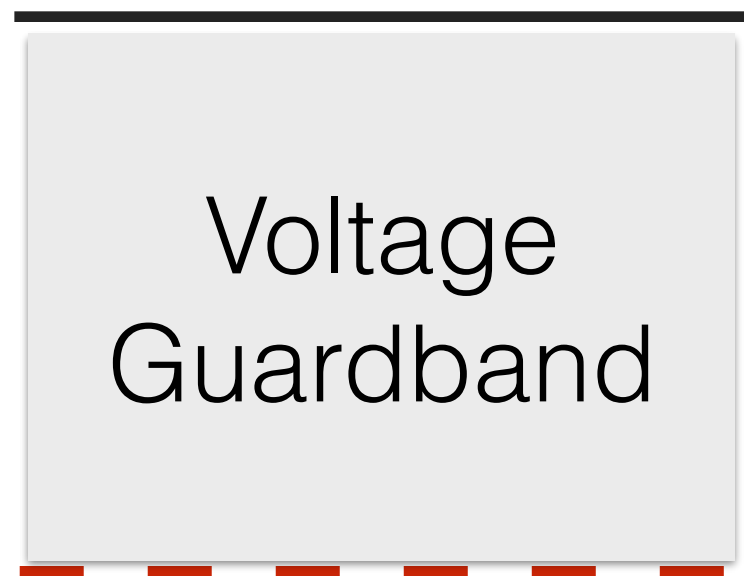
# Energy Inefficiency at the Voltage Guardband

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# Energy Inefficiency at the Voltage Guardband

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Operating  
Supply Voltage



Required  
Supply Voltage

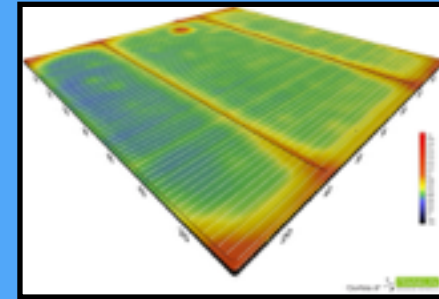


# Energy Inefficiency at the Voltage Guardband

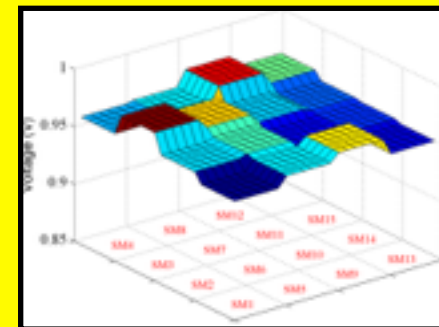
Operating  
Supply Voltage

Voltage  
Guardband

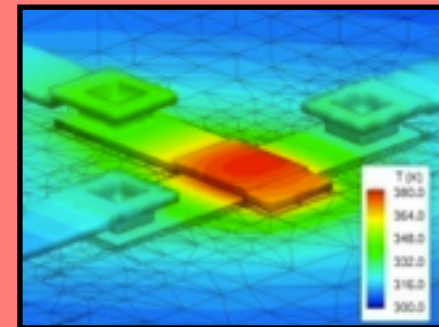
Required  
Supply Voltage



Process



Voltage

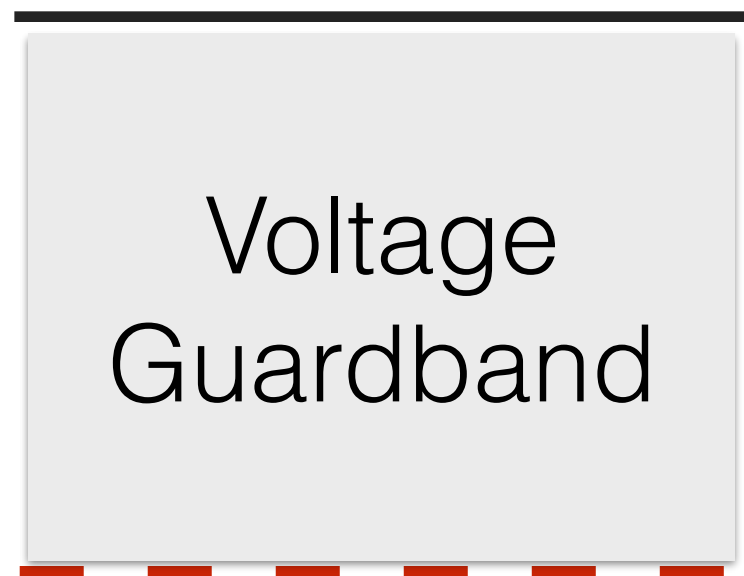


Tempera  
-ture

# Energy Inefficiency at the Voltage Guardband

---

Operating  
Supply Voltage

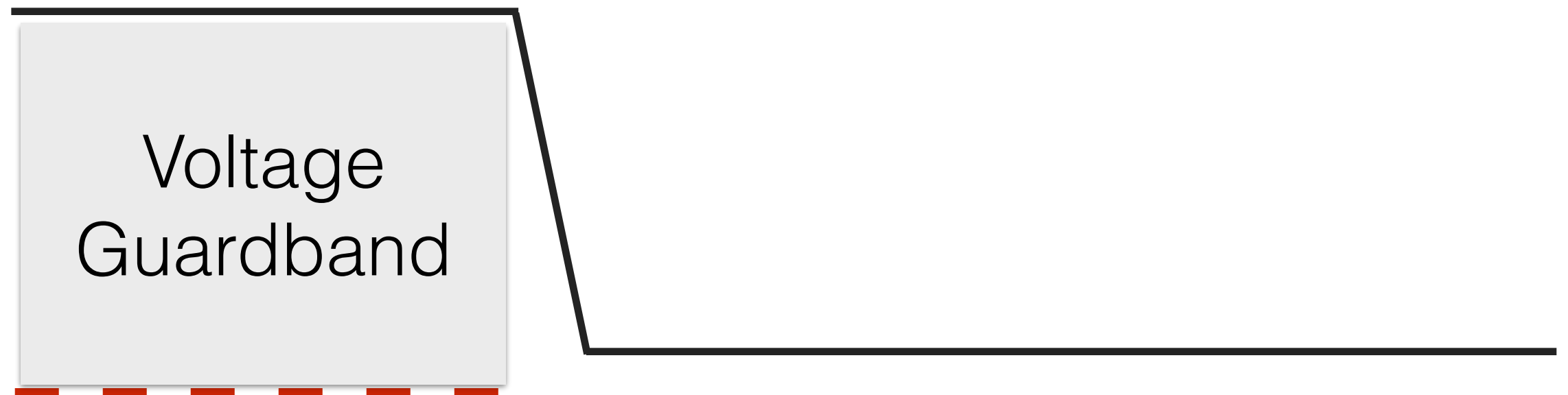


Required  
Supply Voltage

# Energy Inefficiency at the Voltage Guardband

---

Operating  
Supply Voltage

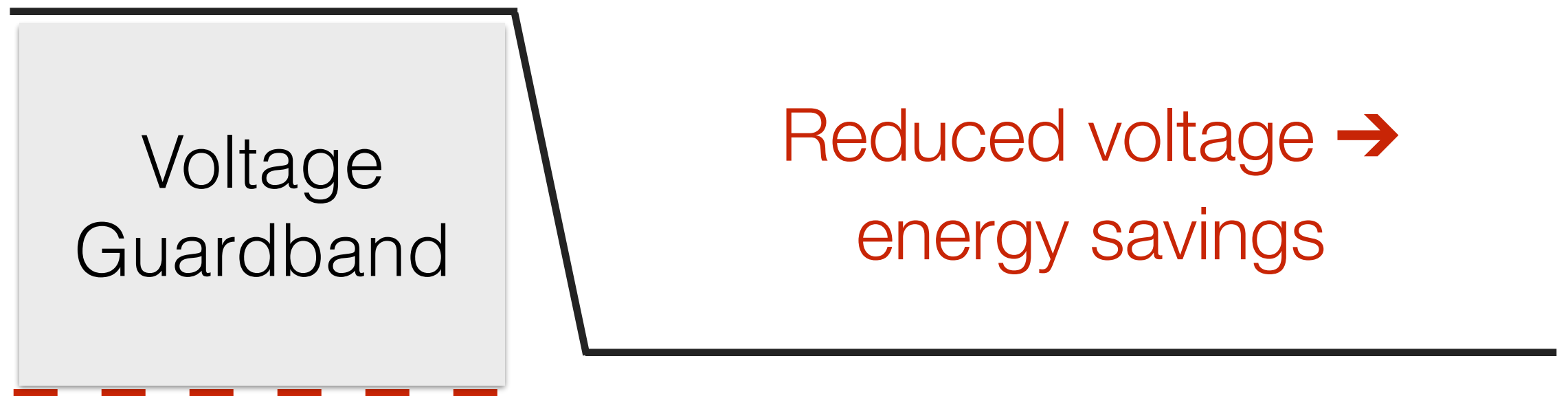


Required  
Supply Voltage

# Energy Inefficiency at the Voltage Guardband

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Operating  
Supply Voltage



Required  
Supply Voltage

# Our Contributions

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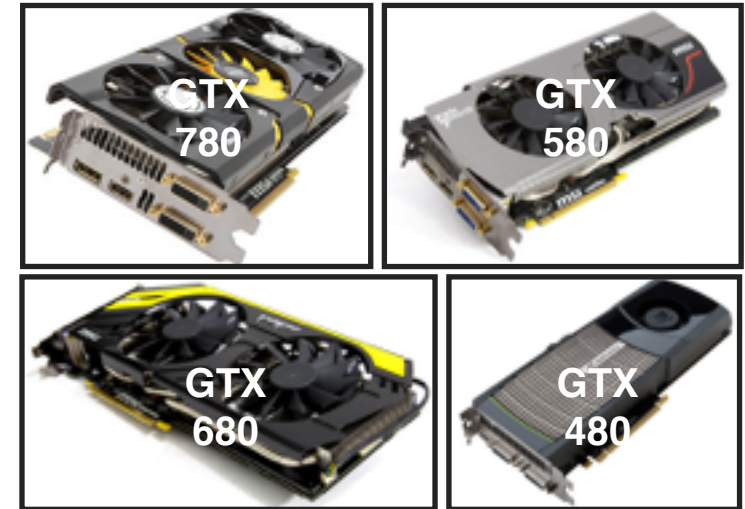
# Our Contributions

---

# Our Contributions

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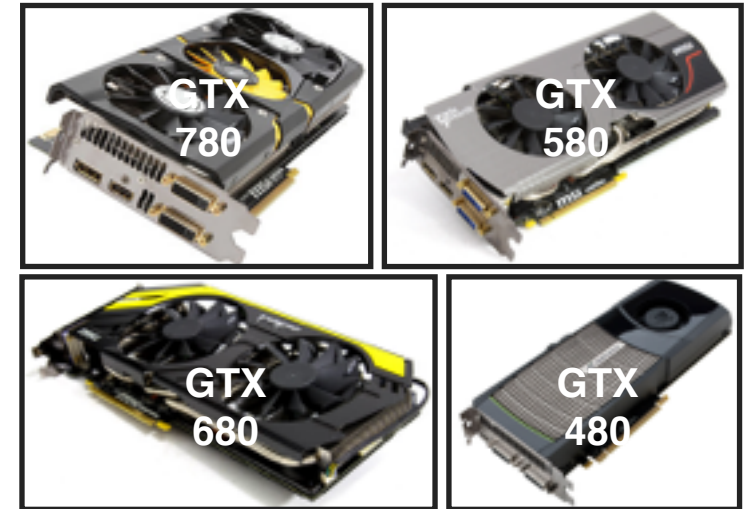
- Voltage guardband measurement



# Our Contributions

---

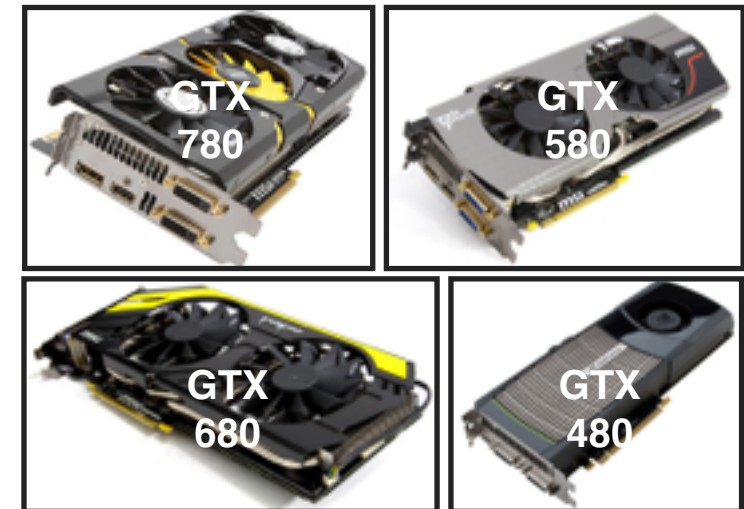
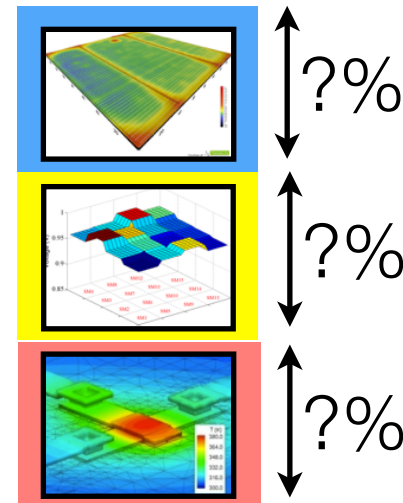
- Voltage guardband measurement





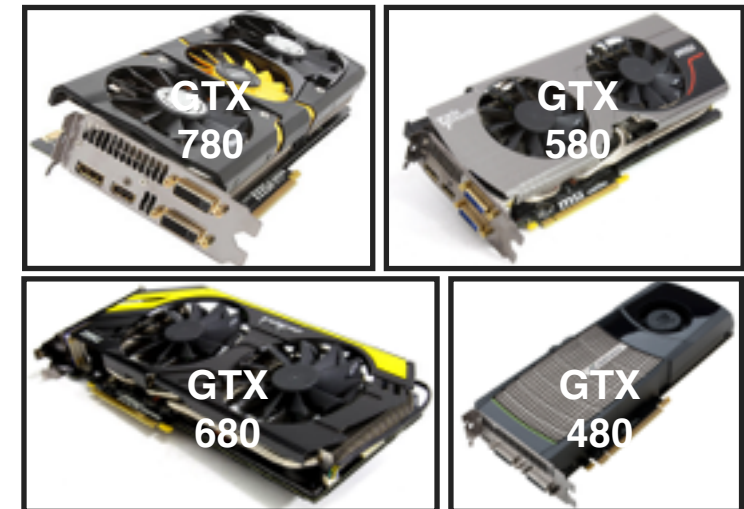
# Our Contributions

- Voltage guardband measurement
- Guardband analysis

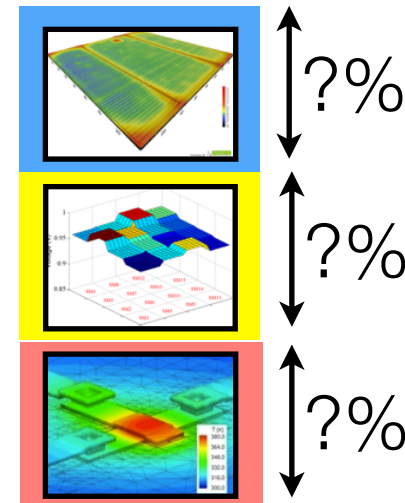


# Our Contributions

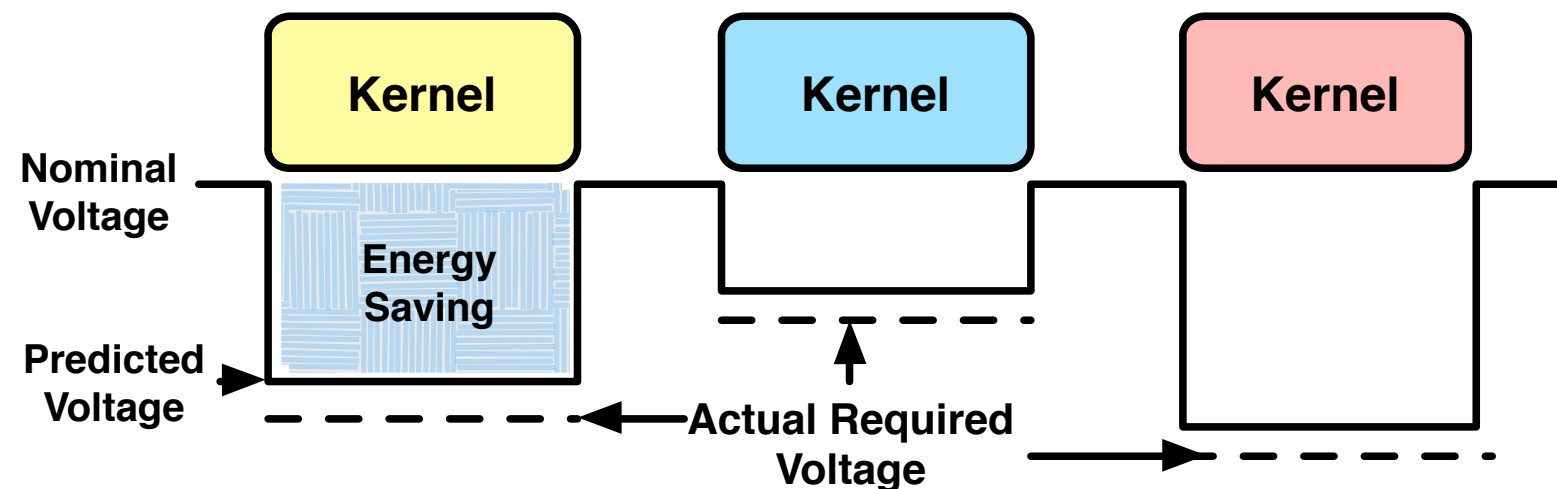
- Voltage guardband measurement



- Guardband analysis



- Program-driven predictive guardbanding



# Voltage Guardband Measurement

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# Voltage Guardband Measurement

---

- Eight GPU cards in total
  - Four generations
  - Two different architectures



GTX 480 x1



GTX 580 x1



GTX 680 x1



GTX 780 x5

# Voltage Guardband Measurement

---

- Eight GPU cards in total
  - Four generations
  - Two different architectures
- Fifty-seven representative CUDA programs
  - Regular/irregular
  - Memory/arithmetic intensive



GTX 480 x1



GTX 580 x1



GTX 680 x1



GTX 780 x5

# $V_{\min}$ Measurement

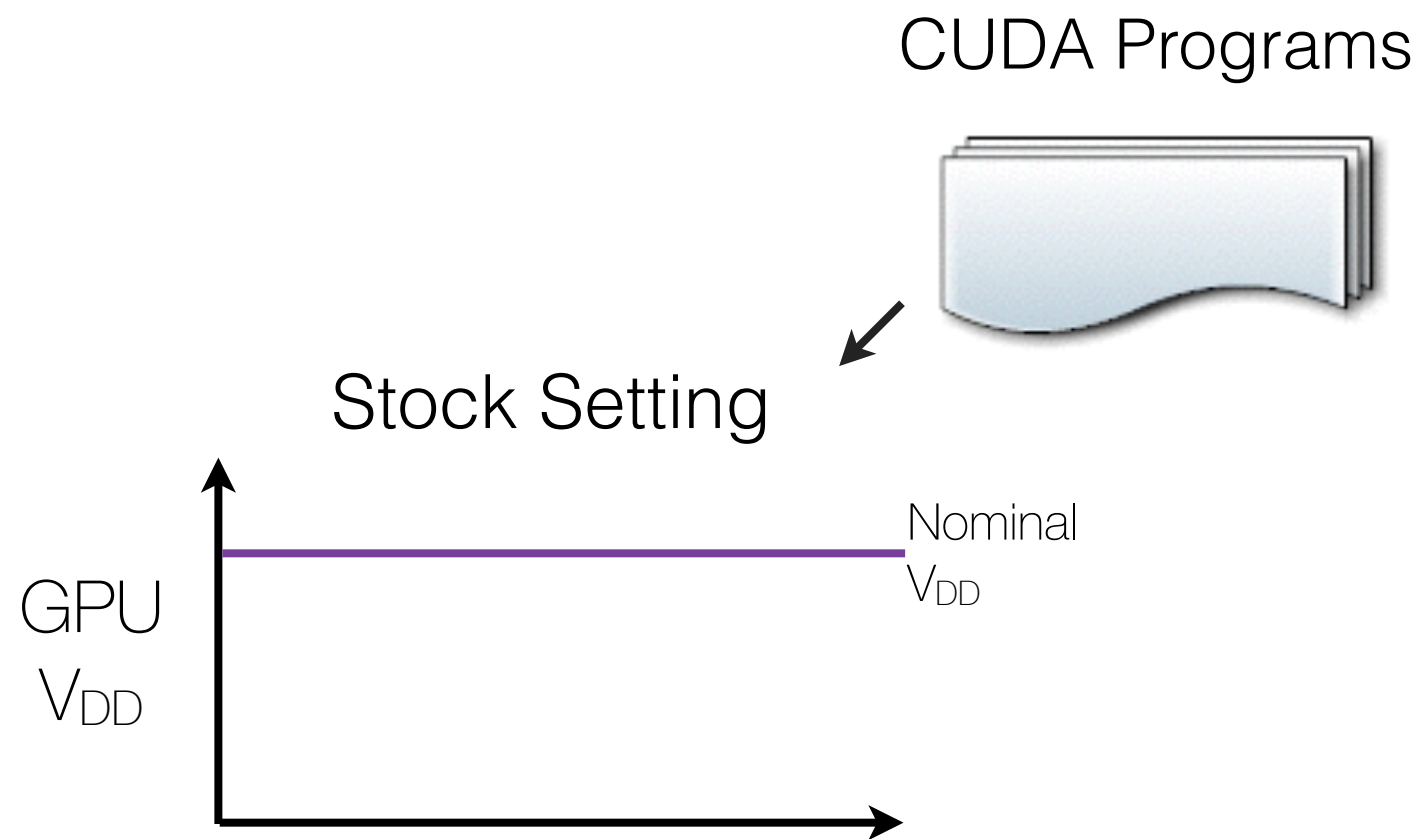
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CUDA Programs



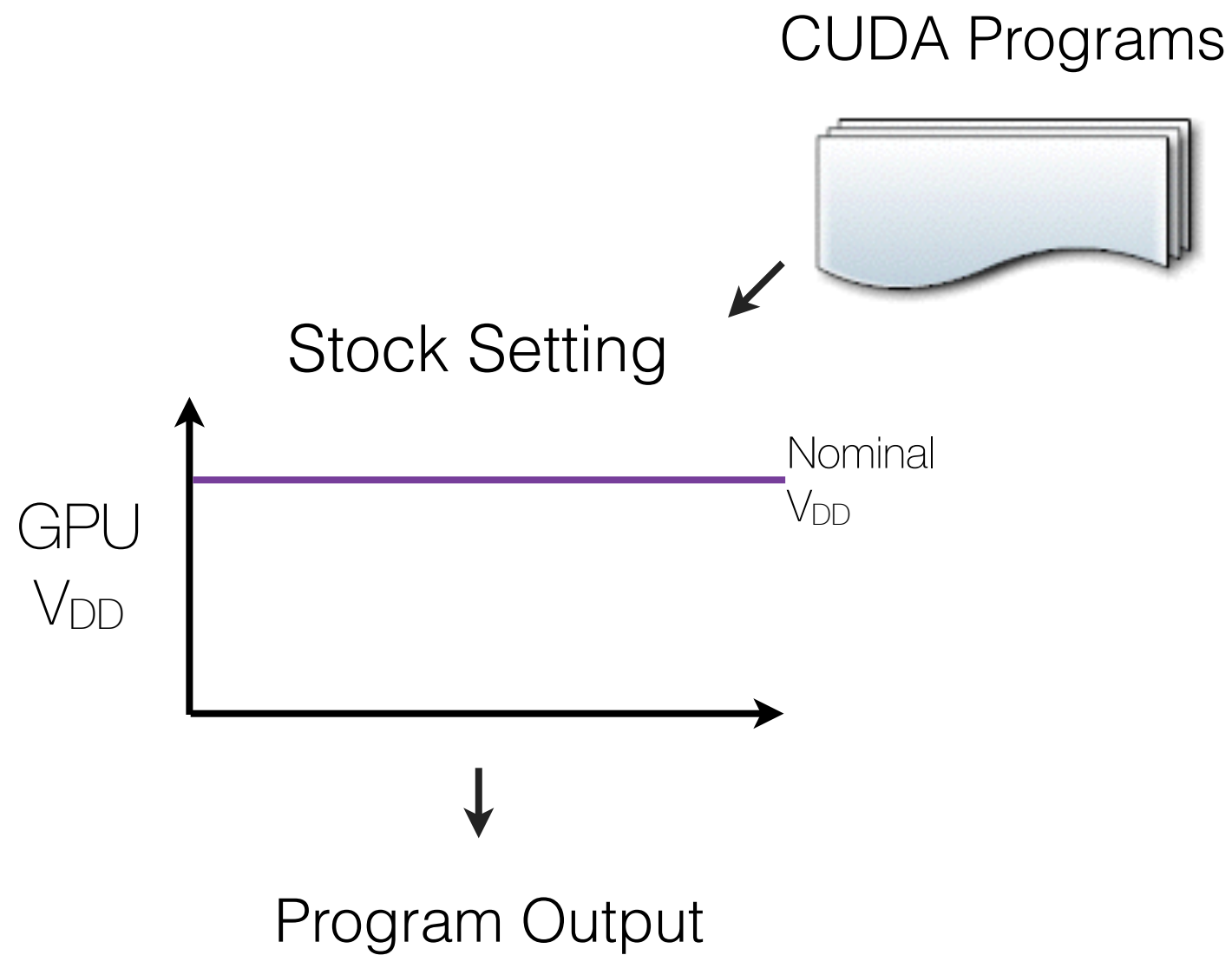
# $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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# $V_{\min}$ Measurement

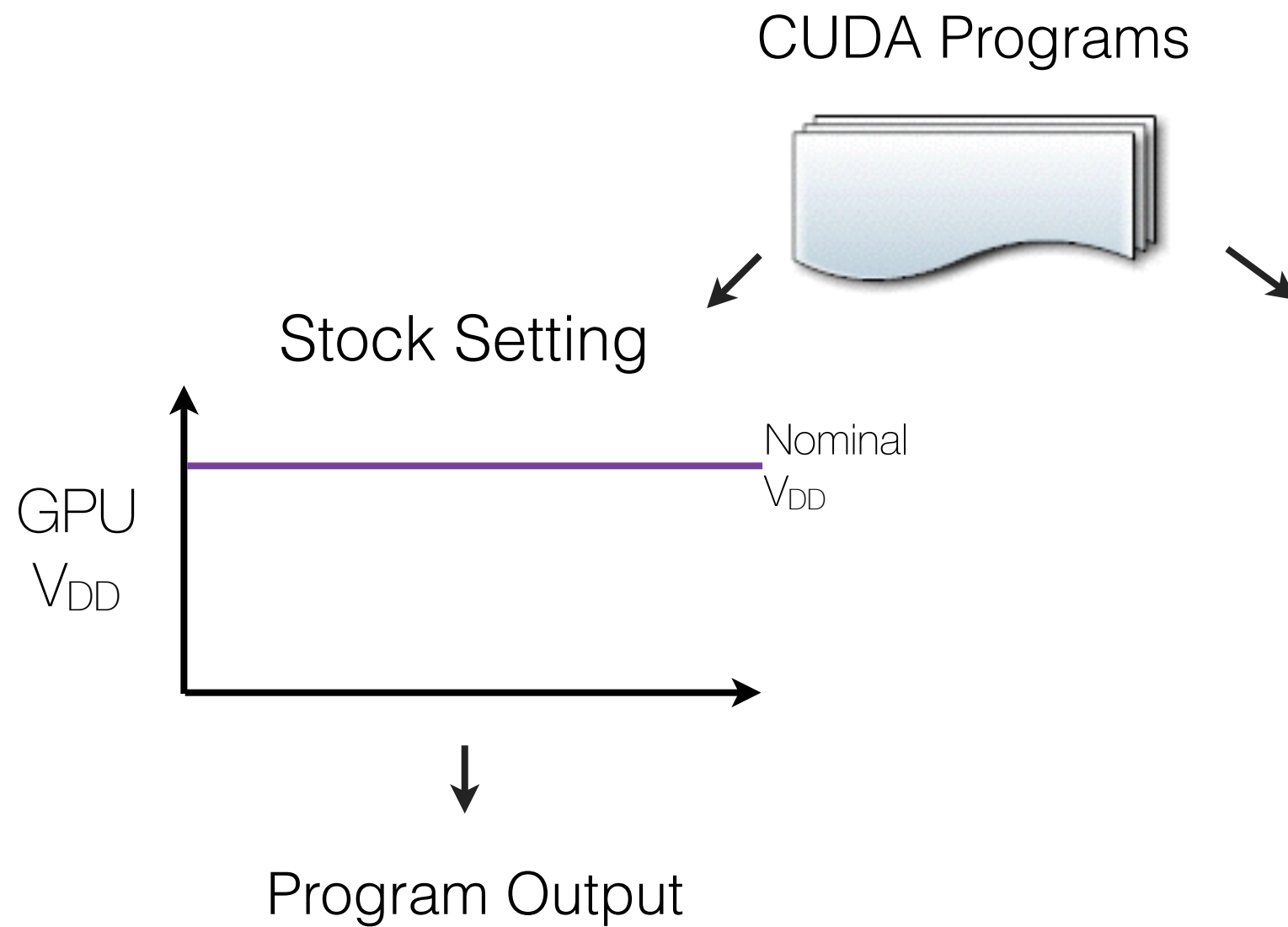
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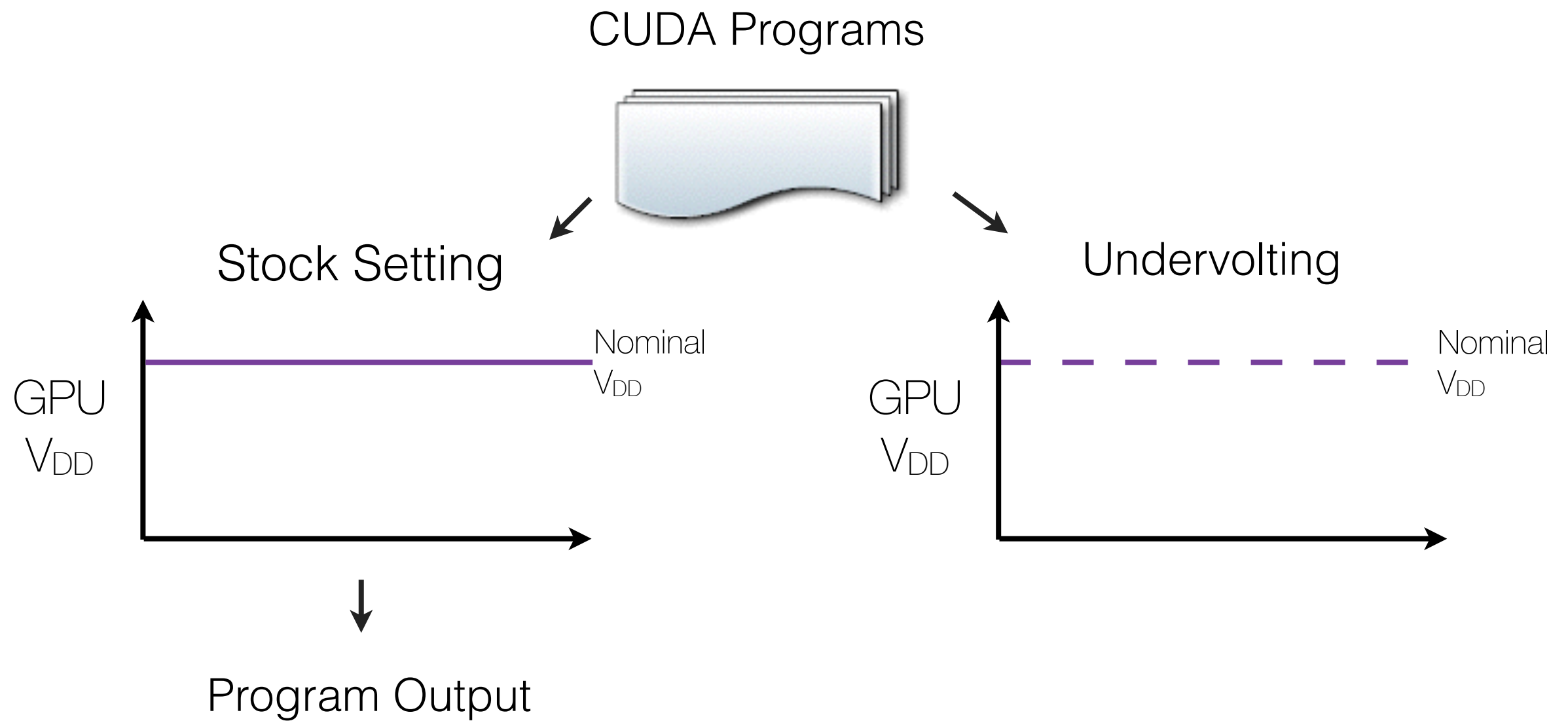


# $V_{\min}$ Measurement

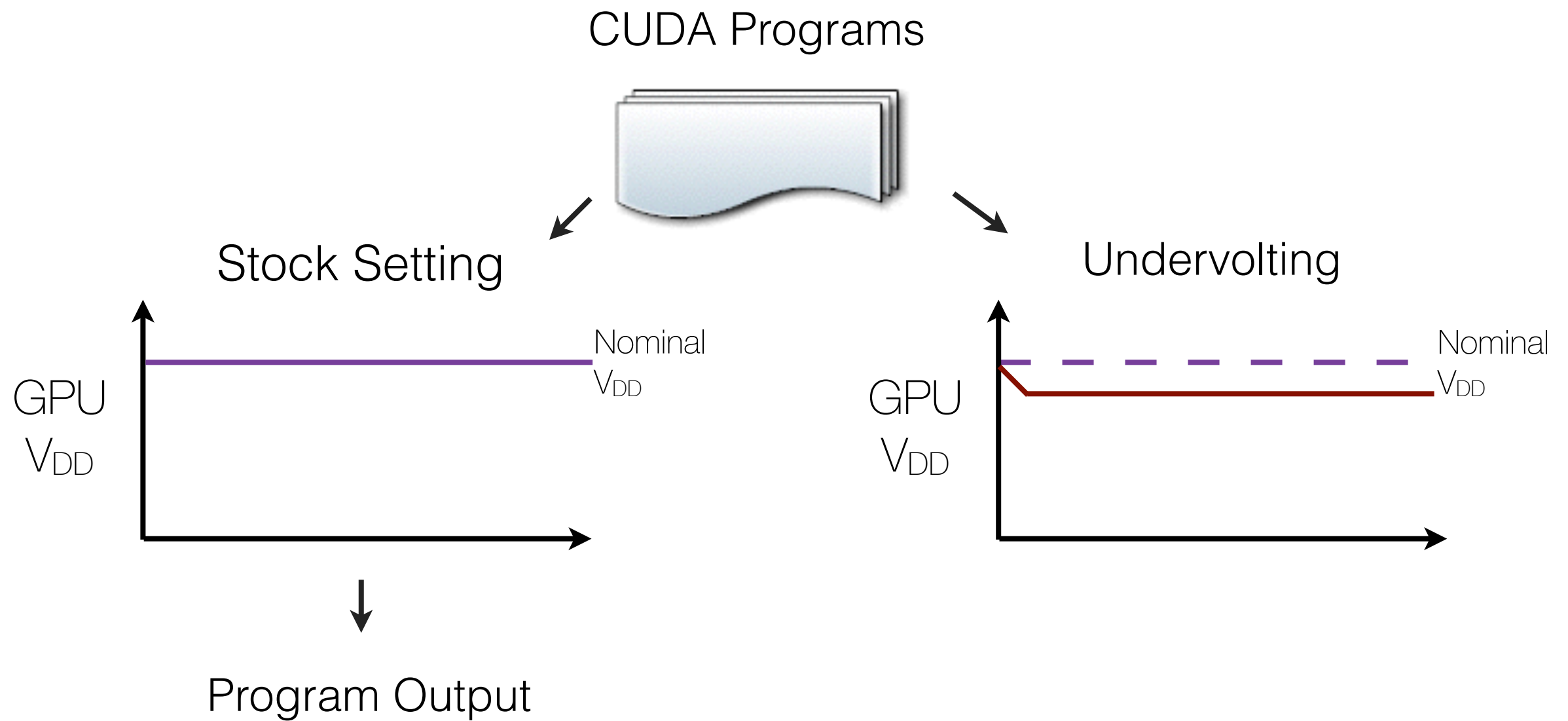
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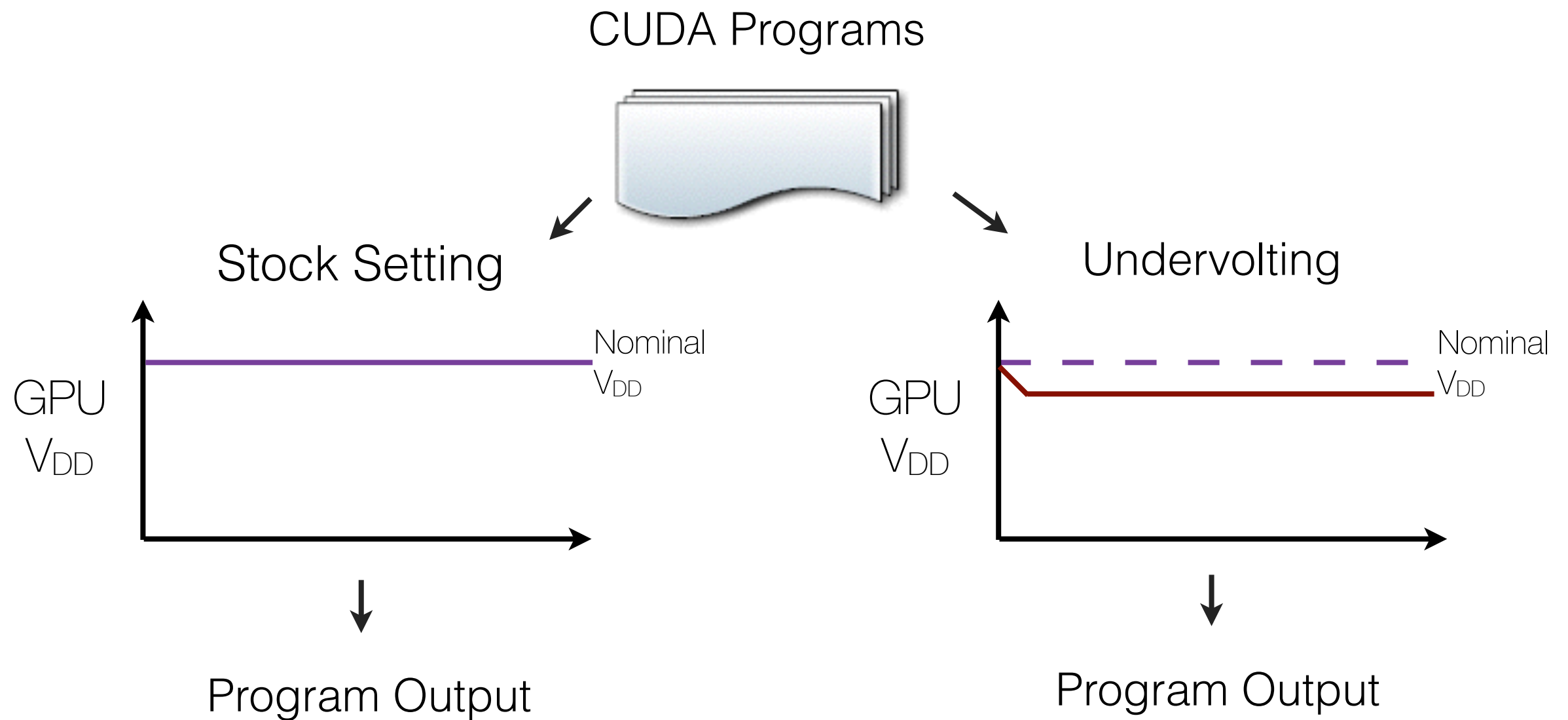
# $V_{\min}$ Measurement



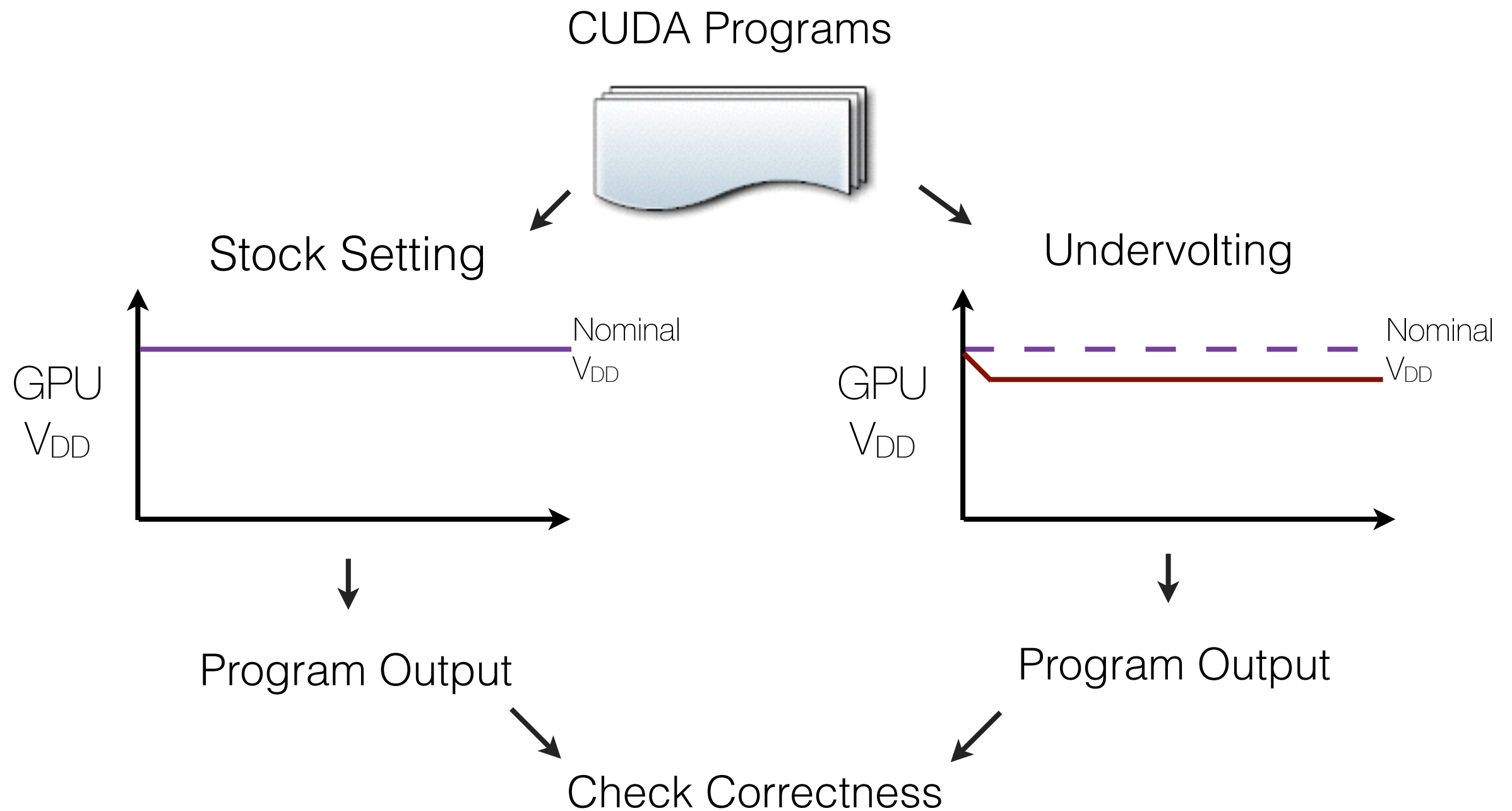
# $V_{\min}$ Measurement



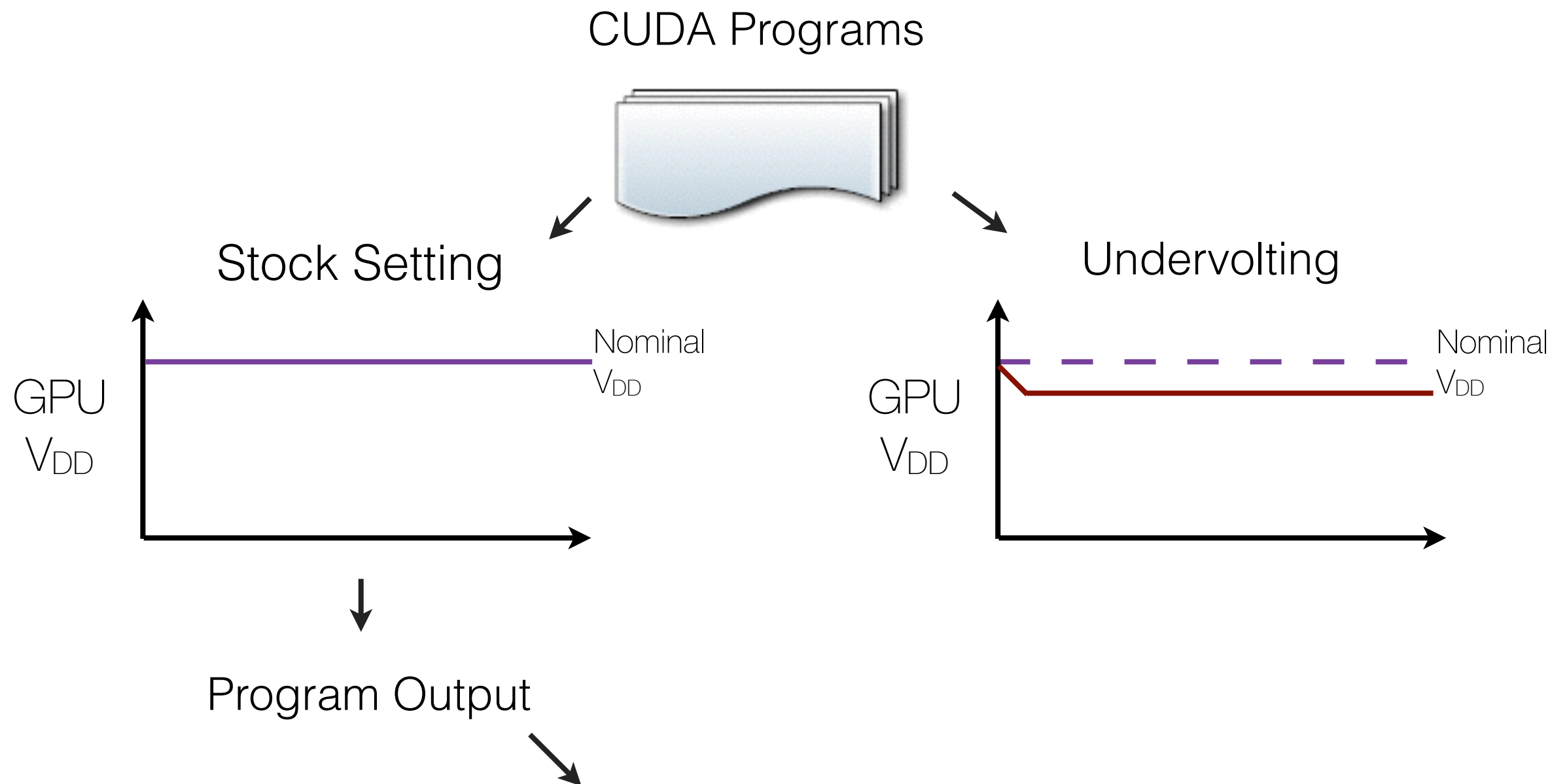
# $V_{\min}$ Measurement



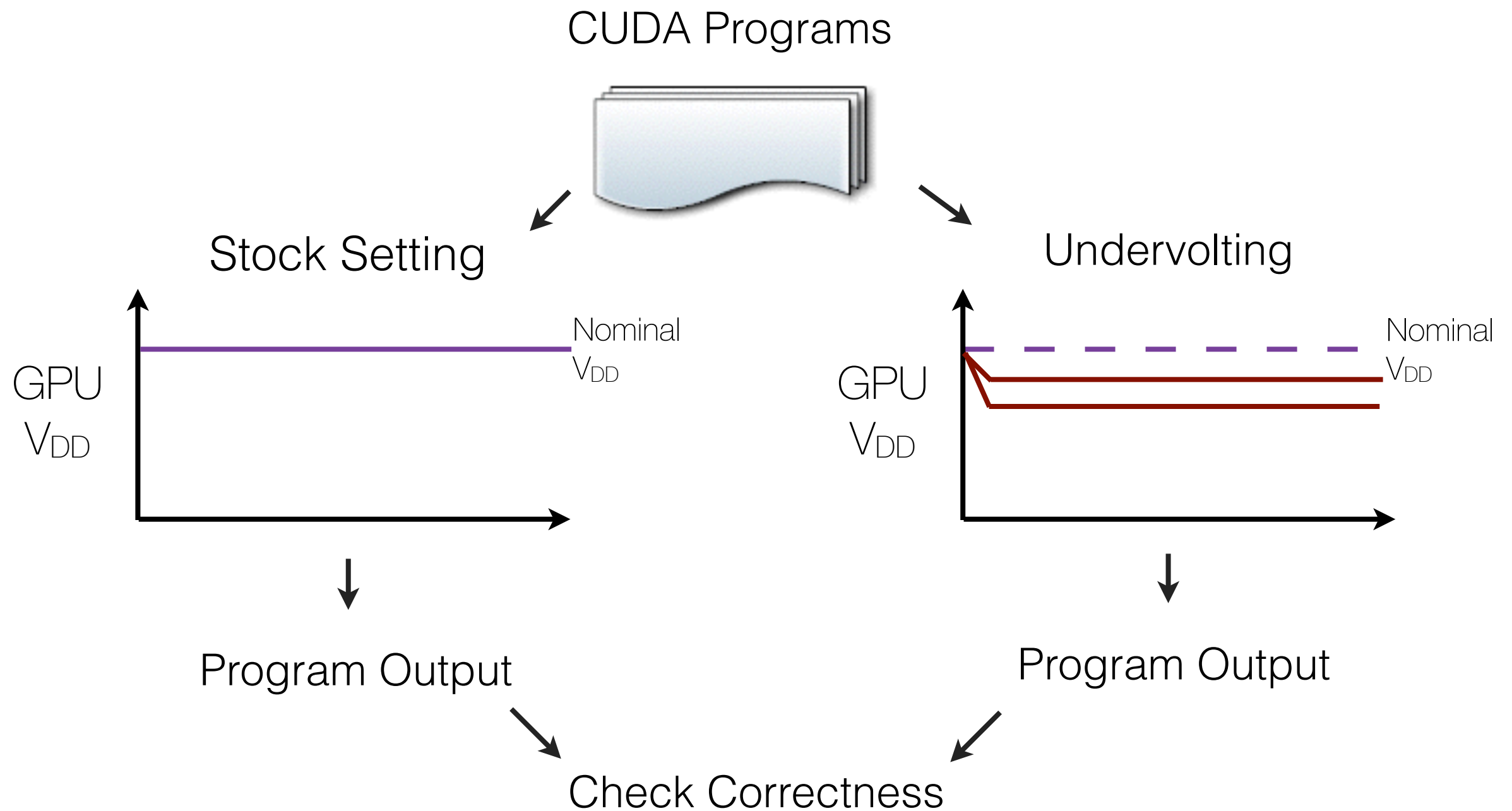
# $V_{\min}$ Measurement



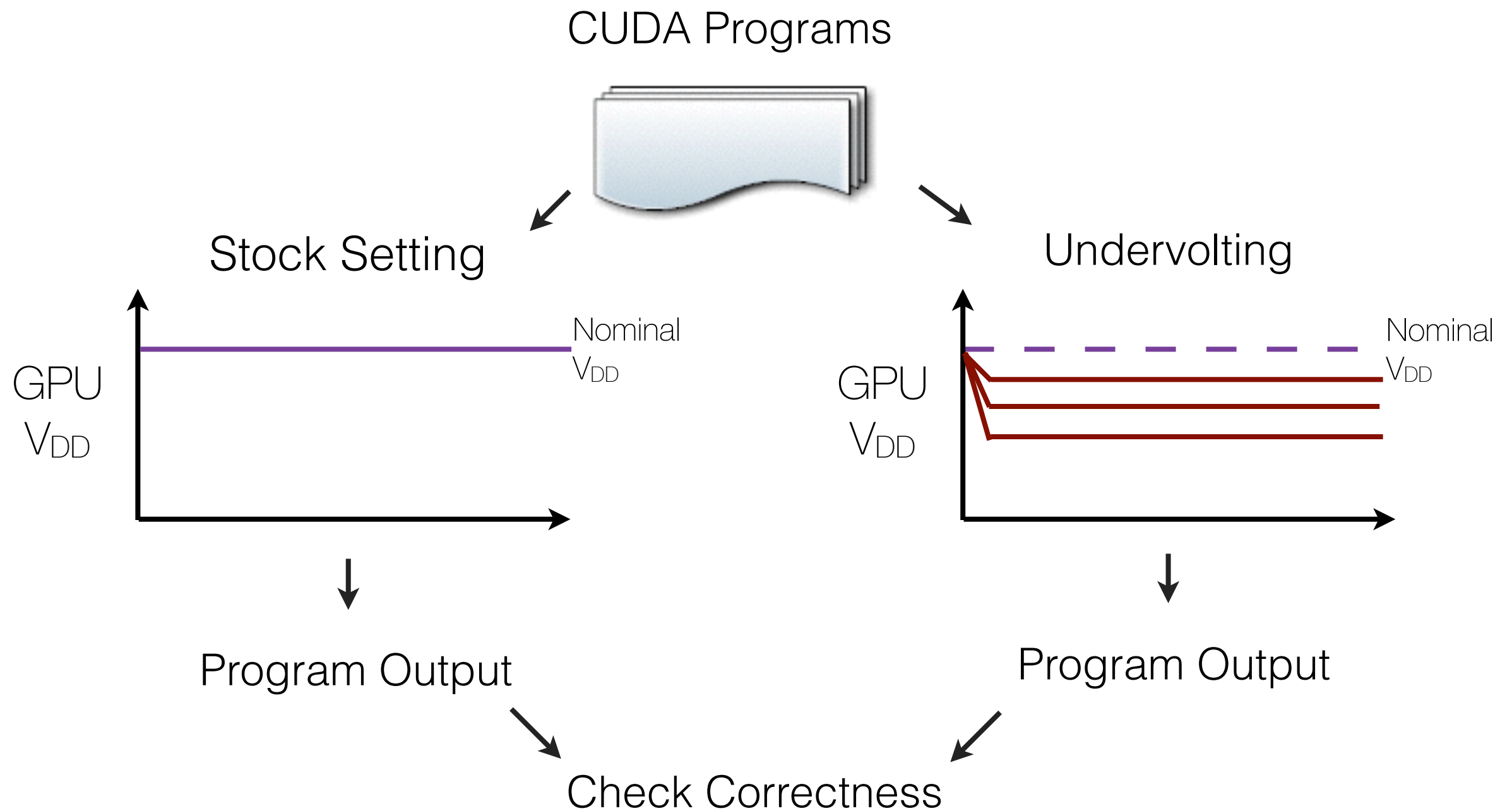
# $V_{\min}$ Measurement



# $V_{\min}$ Measurement



# $V_{\min}$ Measurement



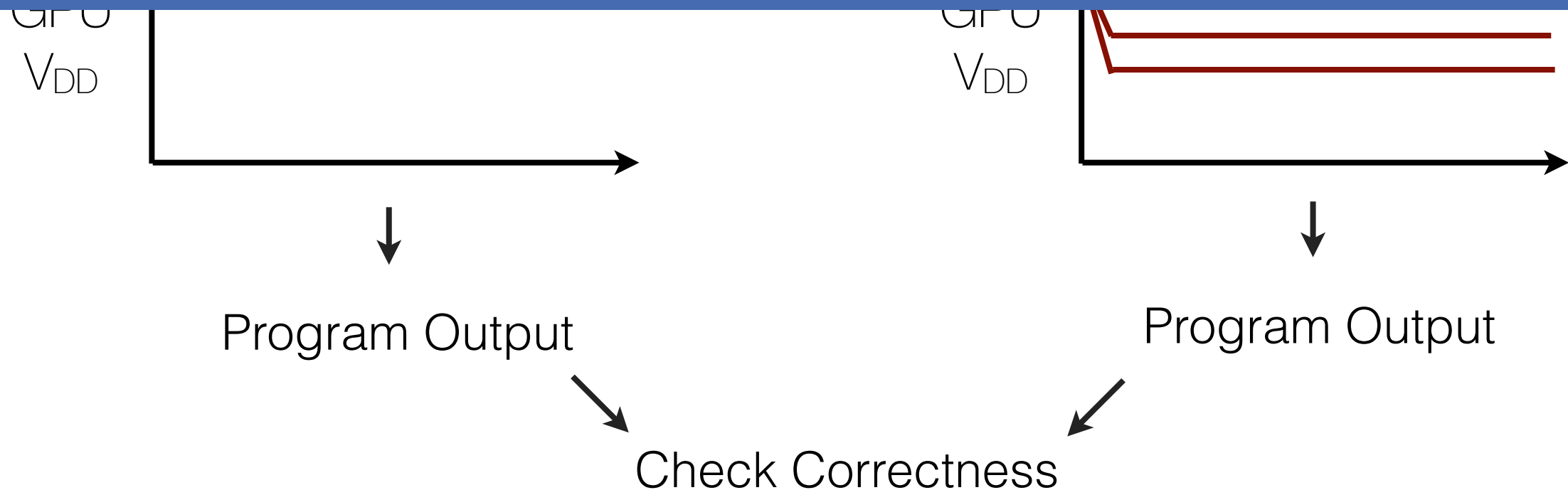


# $V_{\min}$ Measurement

CUDA Programs



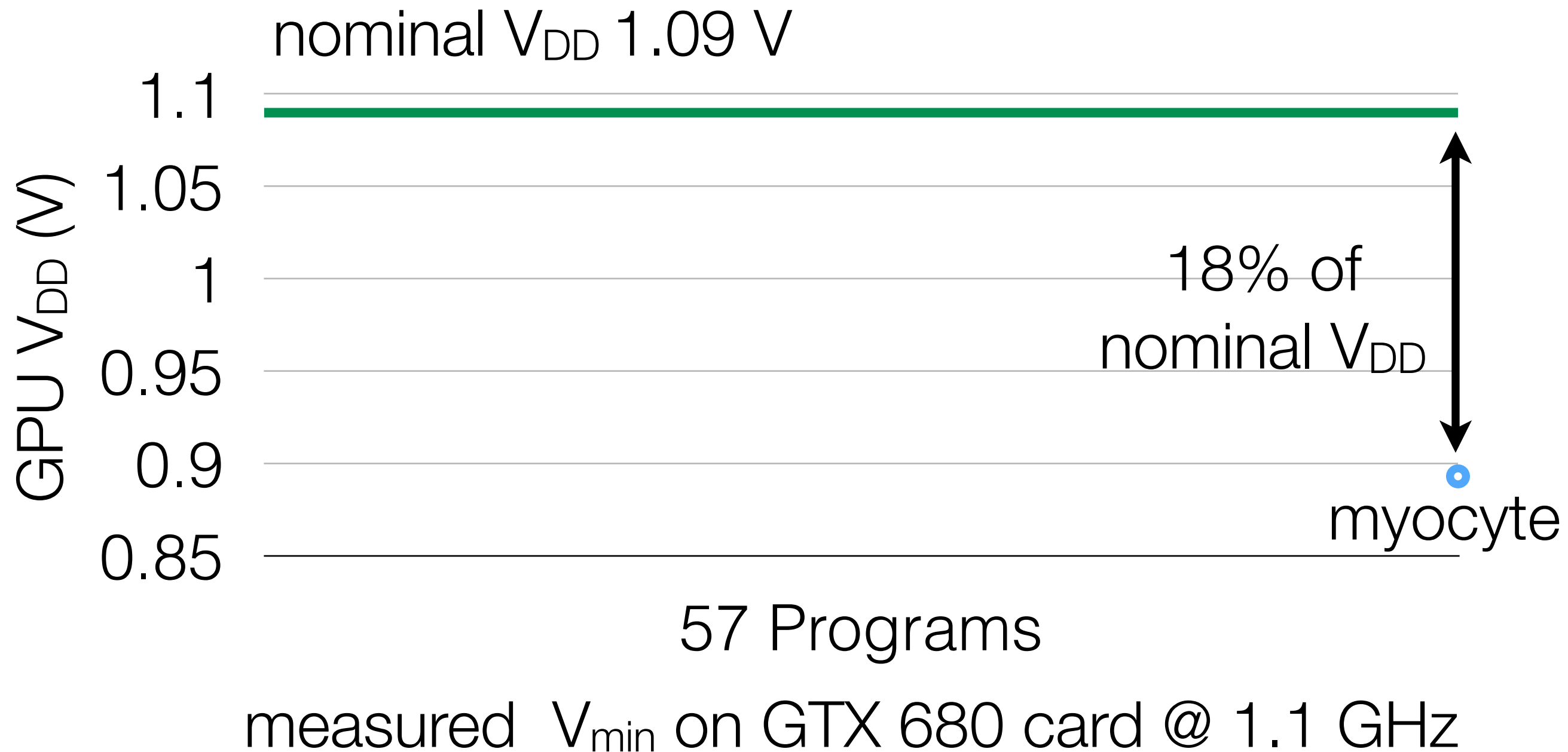
$V_{\min}$ : minimal working voltage at nominal frequency



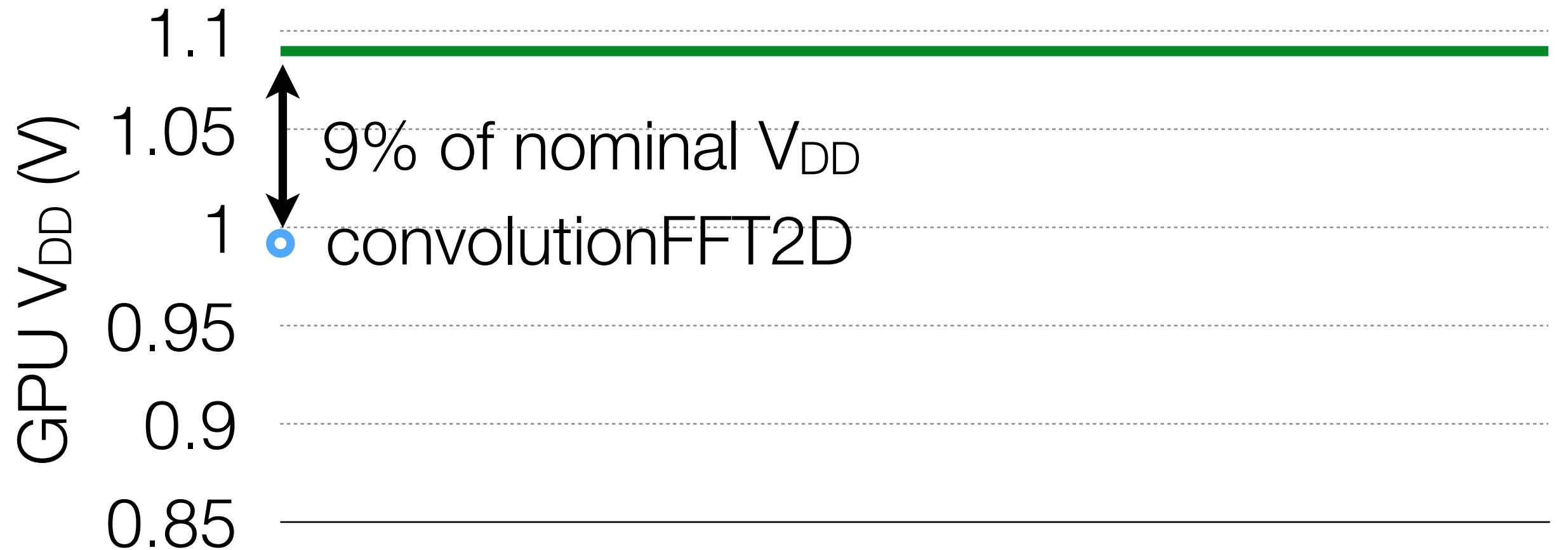
# Measurement Results



# Measurement Results



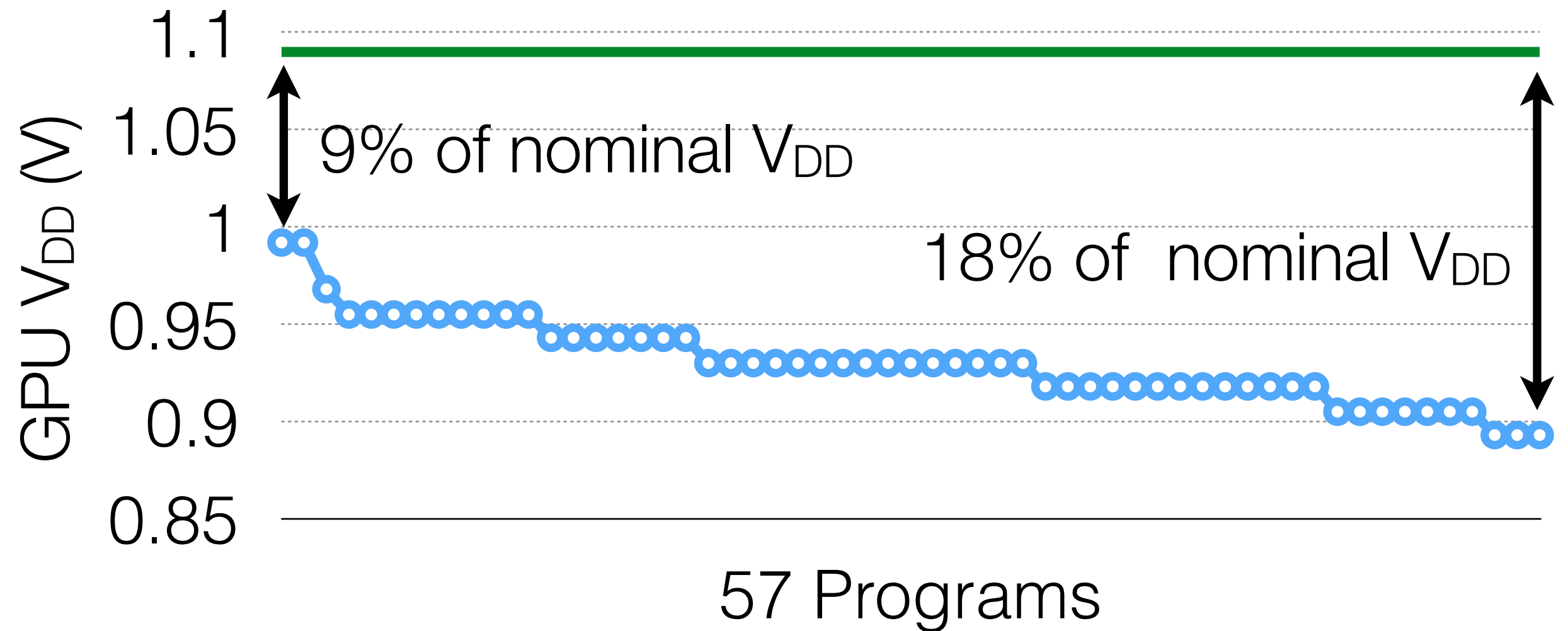
# Measurement Results



57 Programs

measured  $V_{min}$  on GTX 680 card @ 1.1 GHz

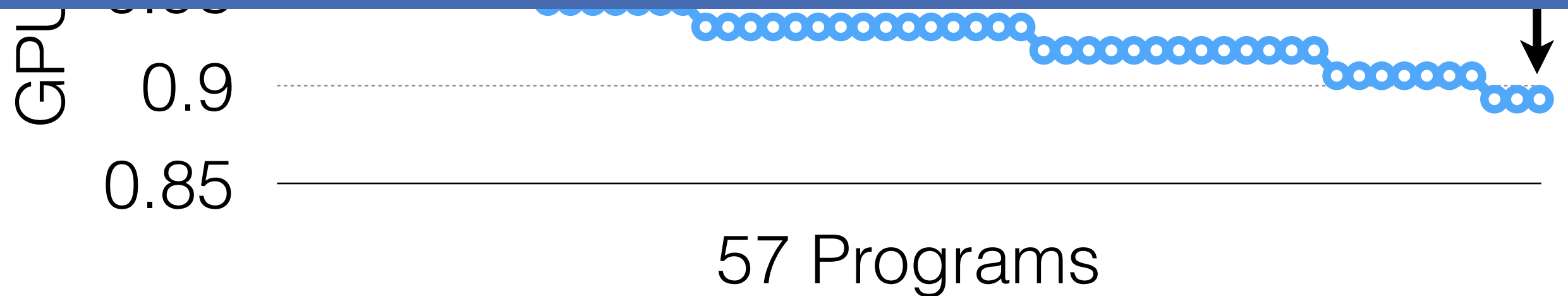
# Measurement Results



# Measurement Results

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- Voltage guardband: 9% - 18%



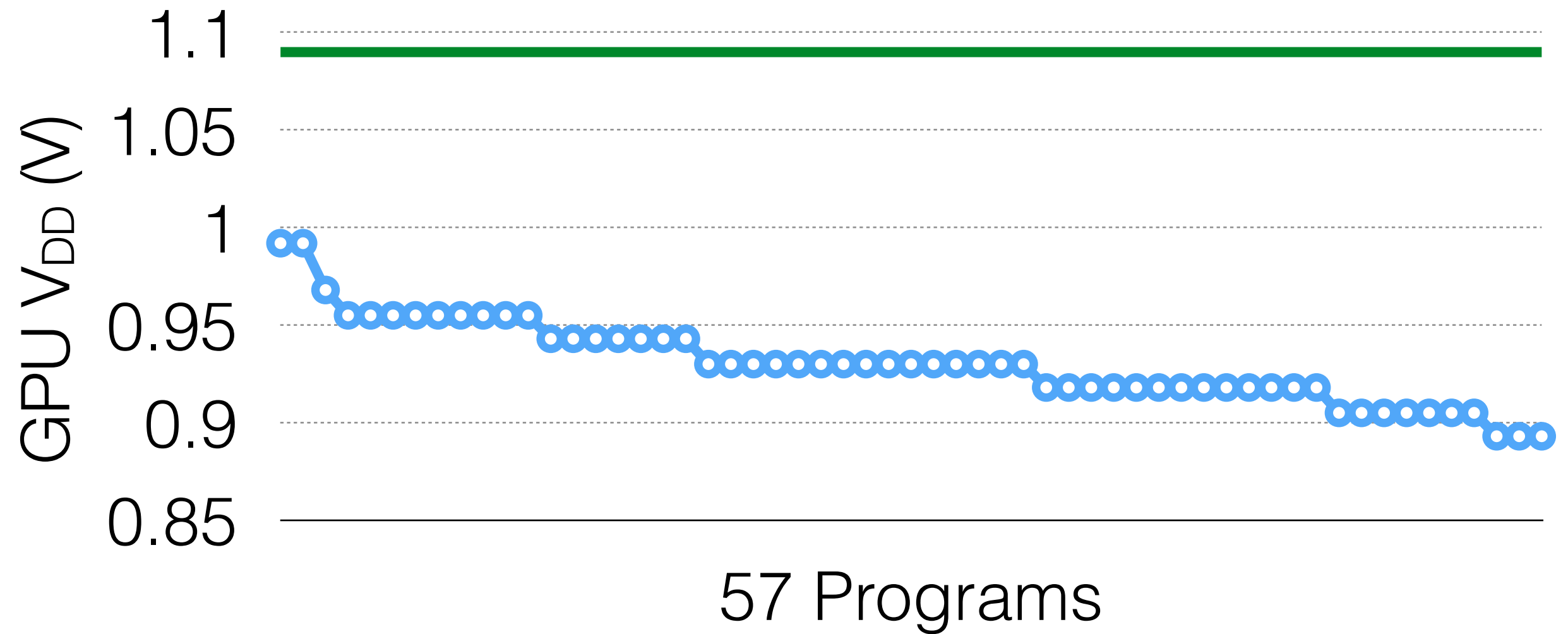
# Measurement Results

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- Voltage guardband: 9% - 18%
- Energy savings: 14% - 25% at the card level

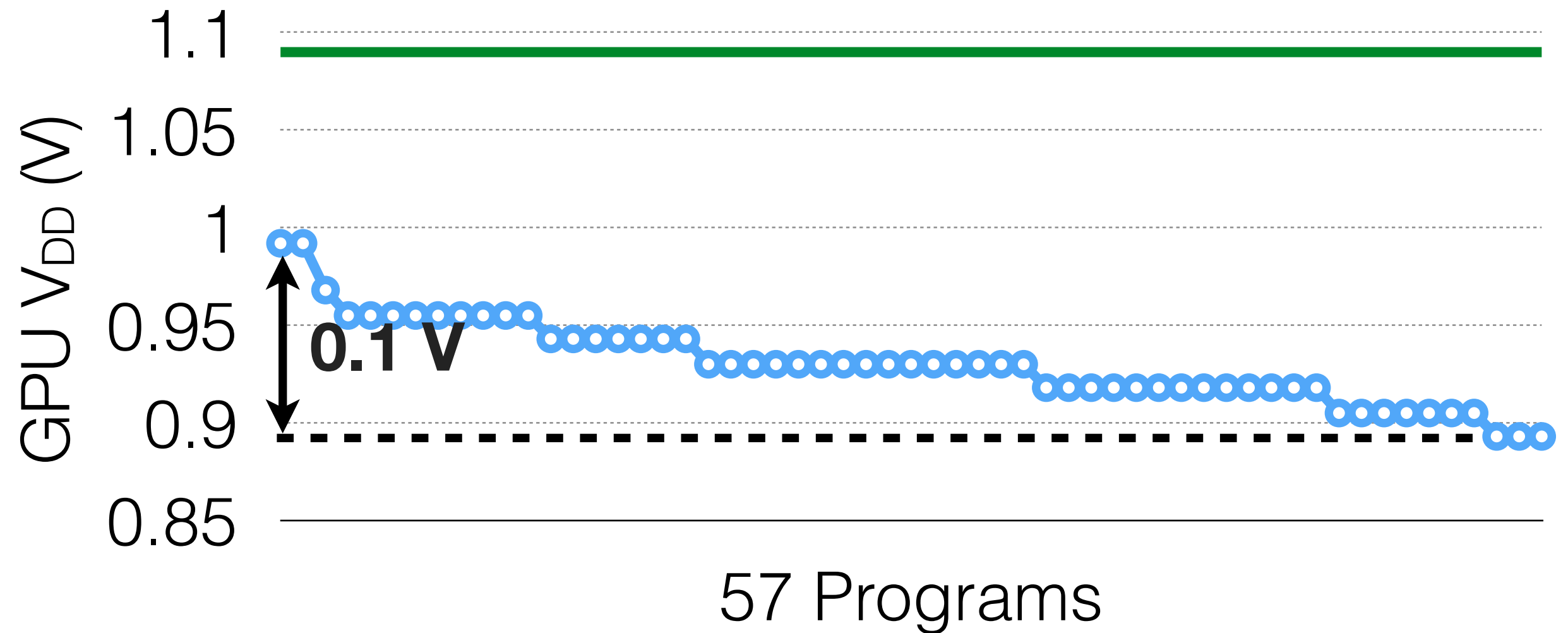


# Measurement Results



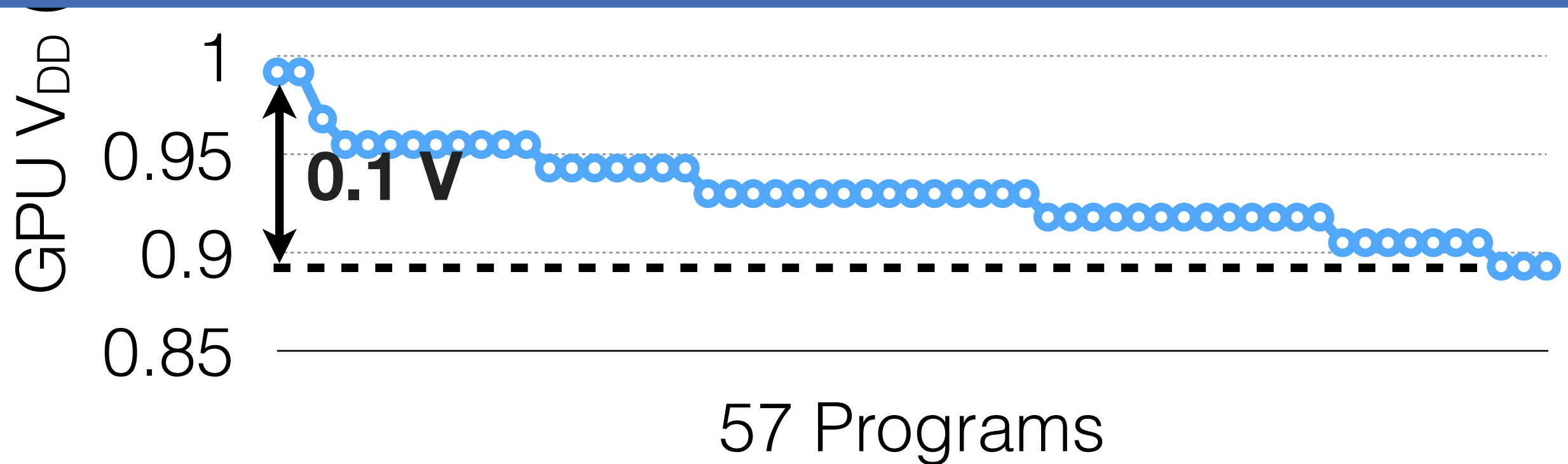


# Measurement Results



# Measurement Results

$V_{\min}$  is program dependent



# Executive Summary

---

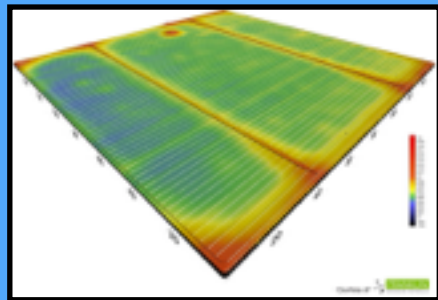
- Guardband measurement
- Guardband analysis
- Guardband optimization

# Voltage Guardband Analysis

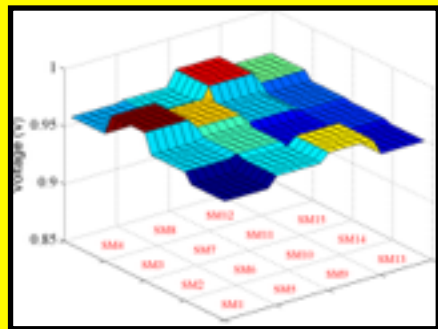
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# Voltage Guardband Analysis

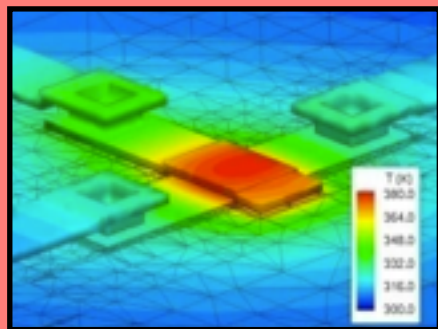
---



Process



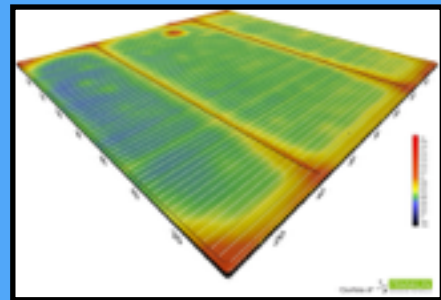
Voltage



Temperature

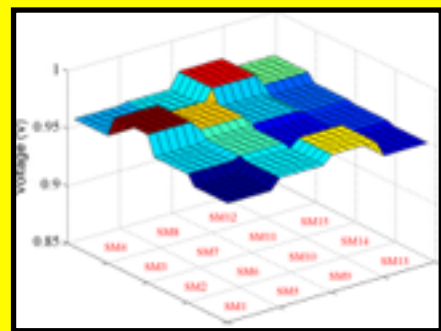
# Voltage Guardband Analysis

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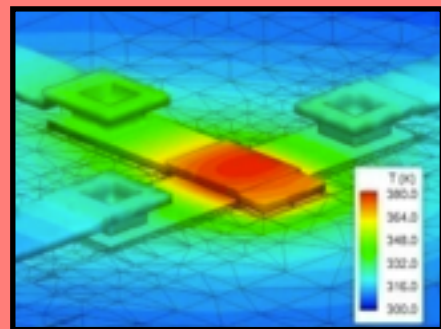
Process

↕  
?%



Voltage

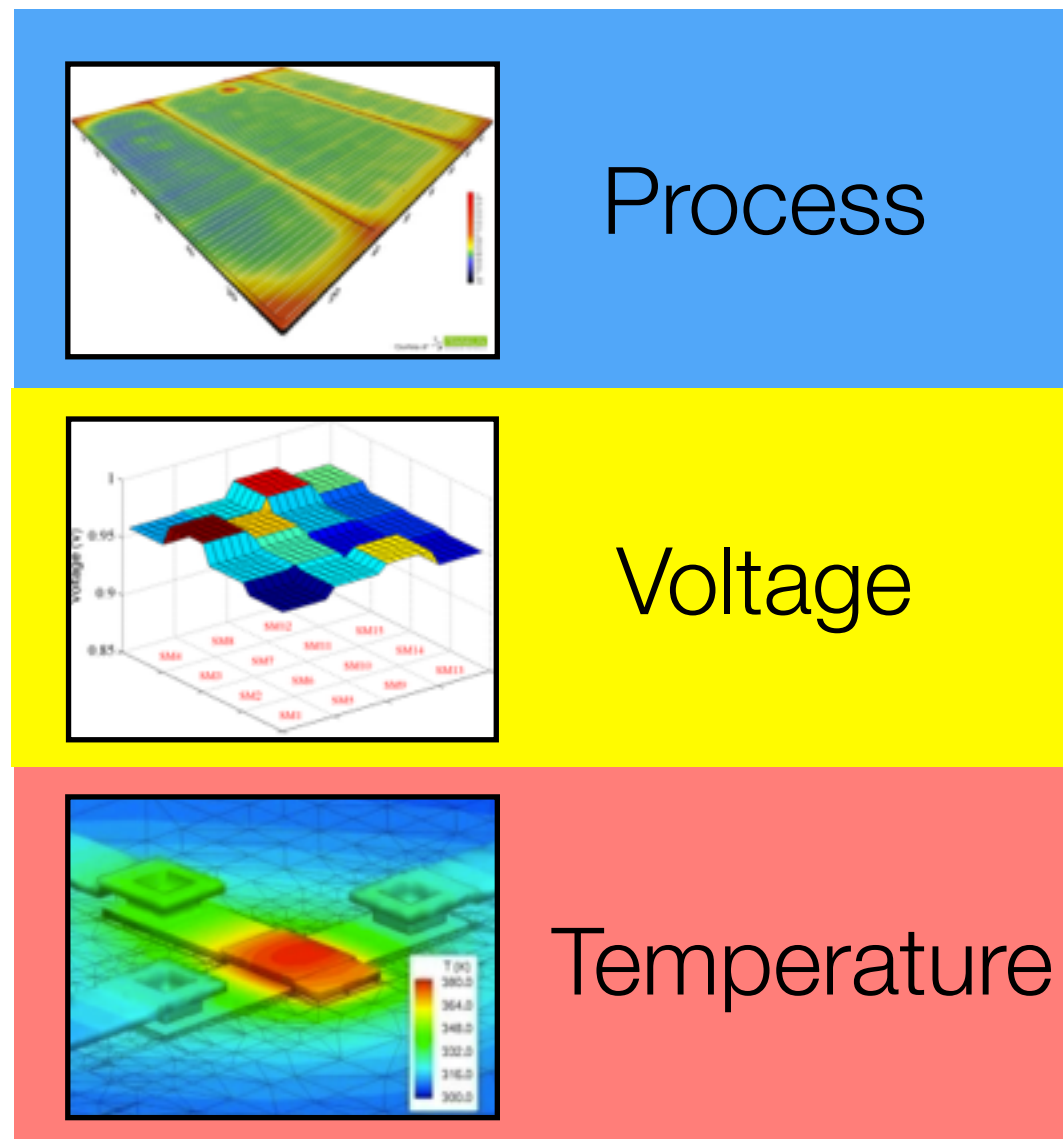
↕  
?%



Temperature

↕  
?%

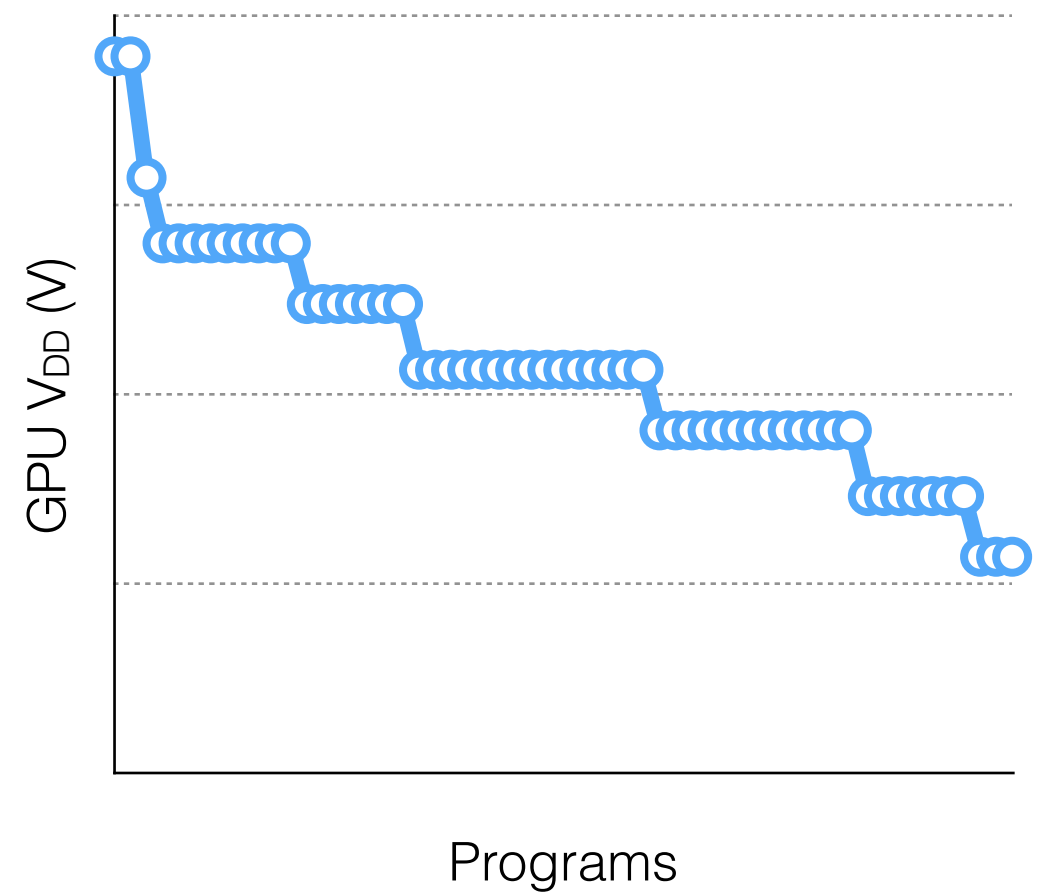
# Voltage Guardband Analysis



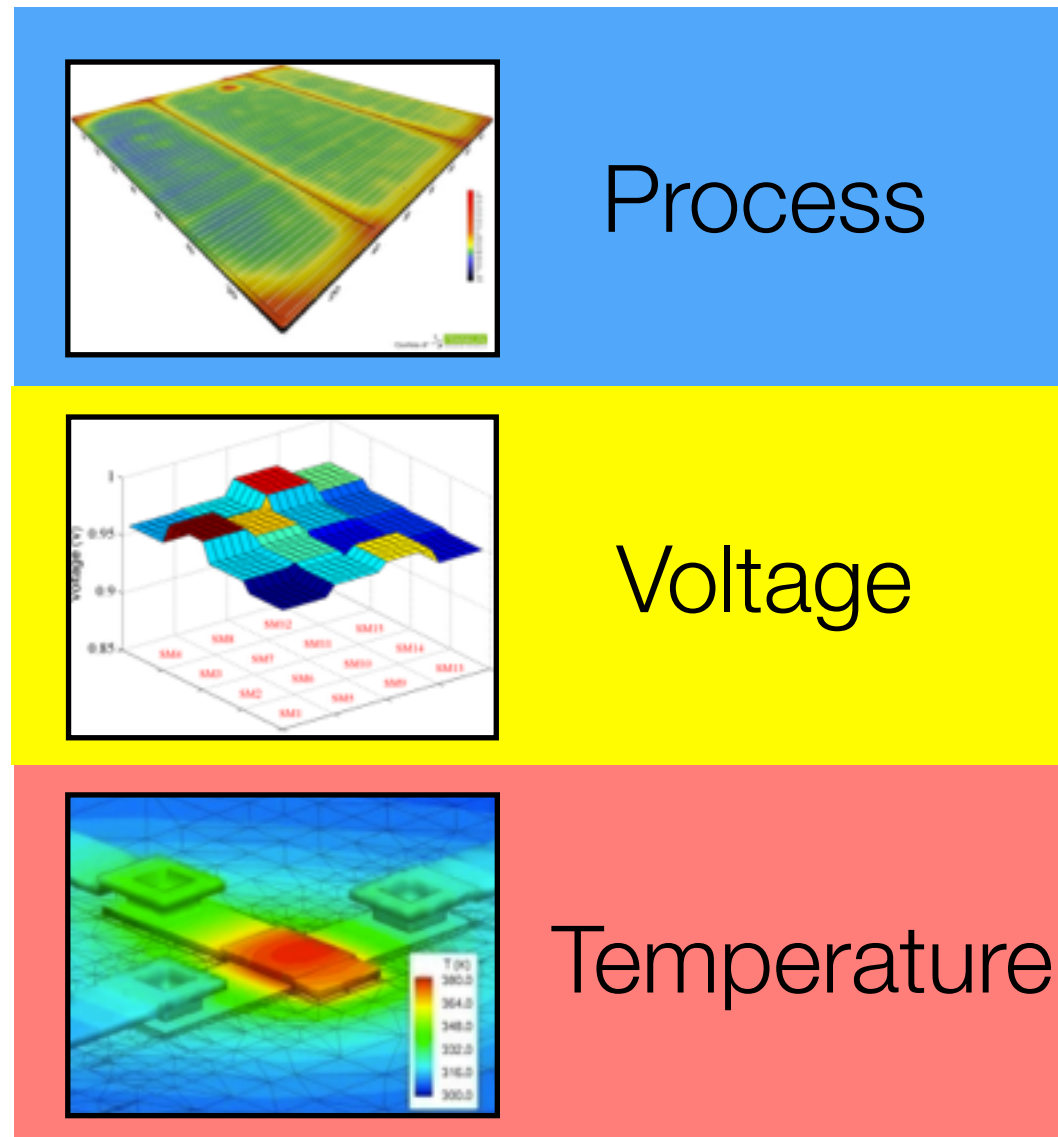
↕ ?%

↕ ?%

↕ ?%



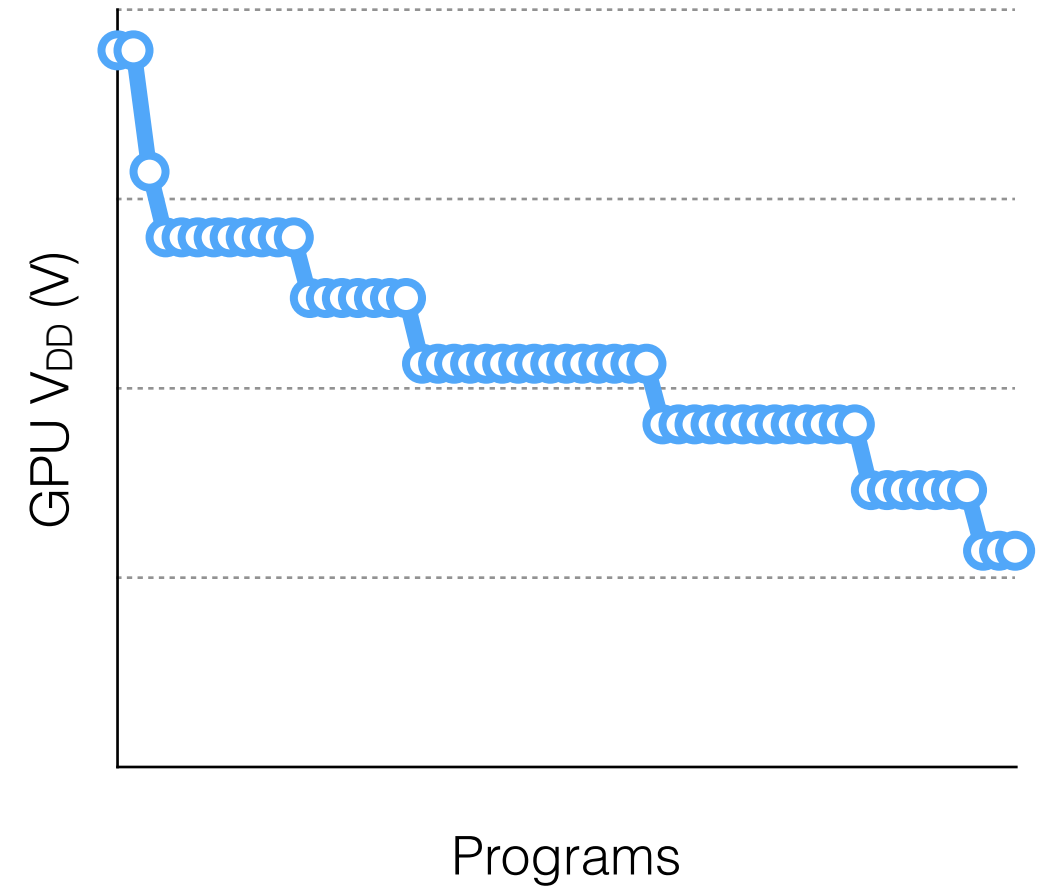
# Voltage Guardband Analysis



↕ ?%

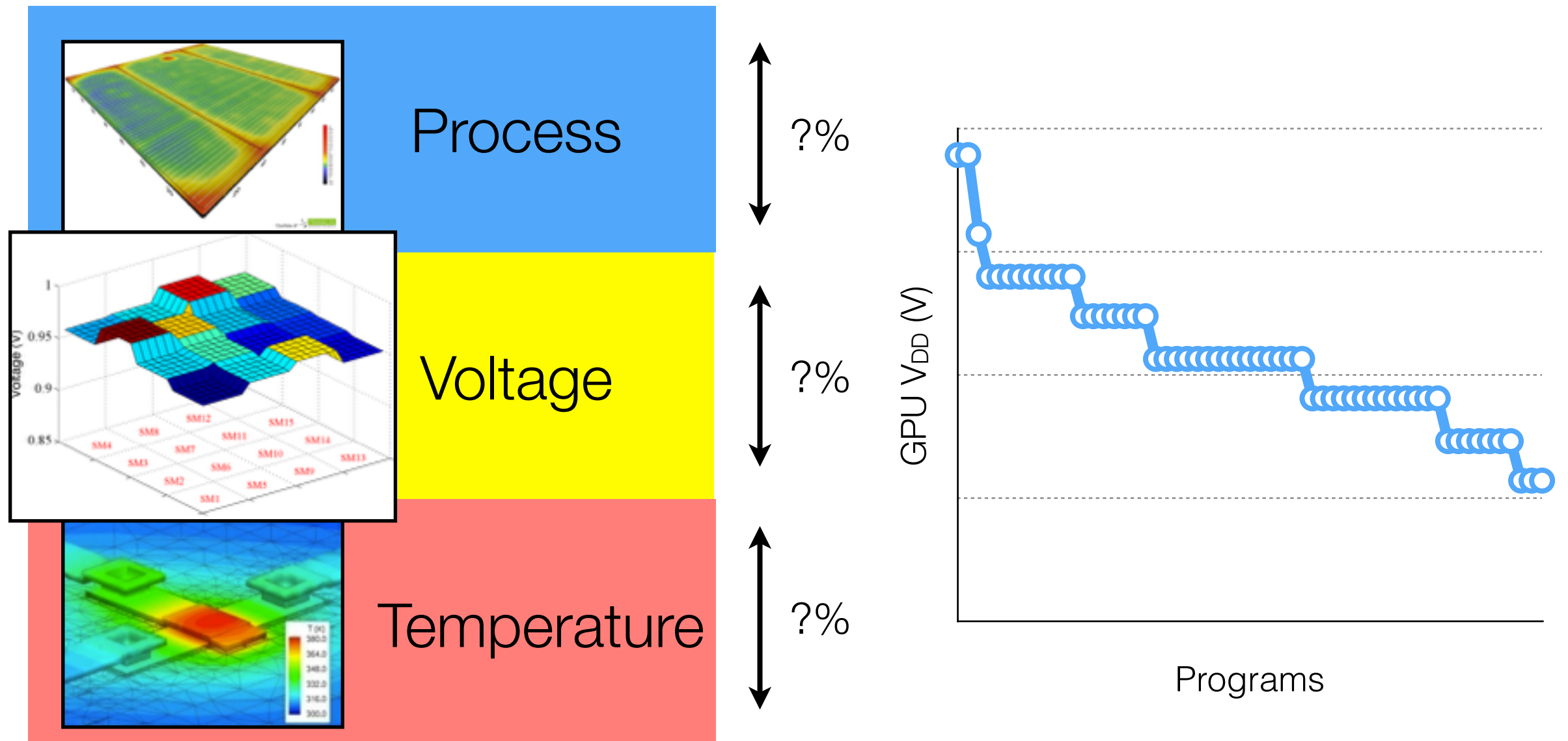
↕ ?%

↕ ?%





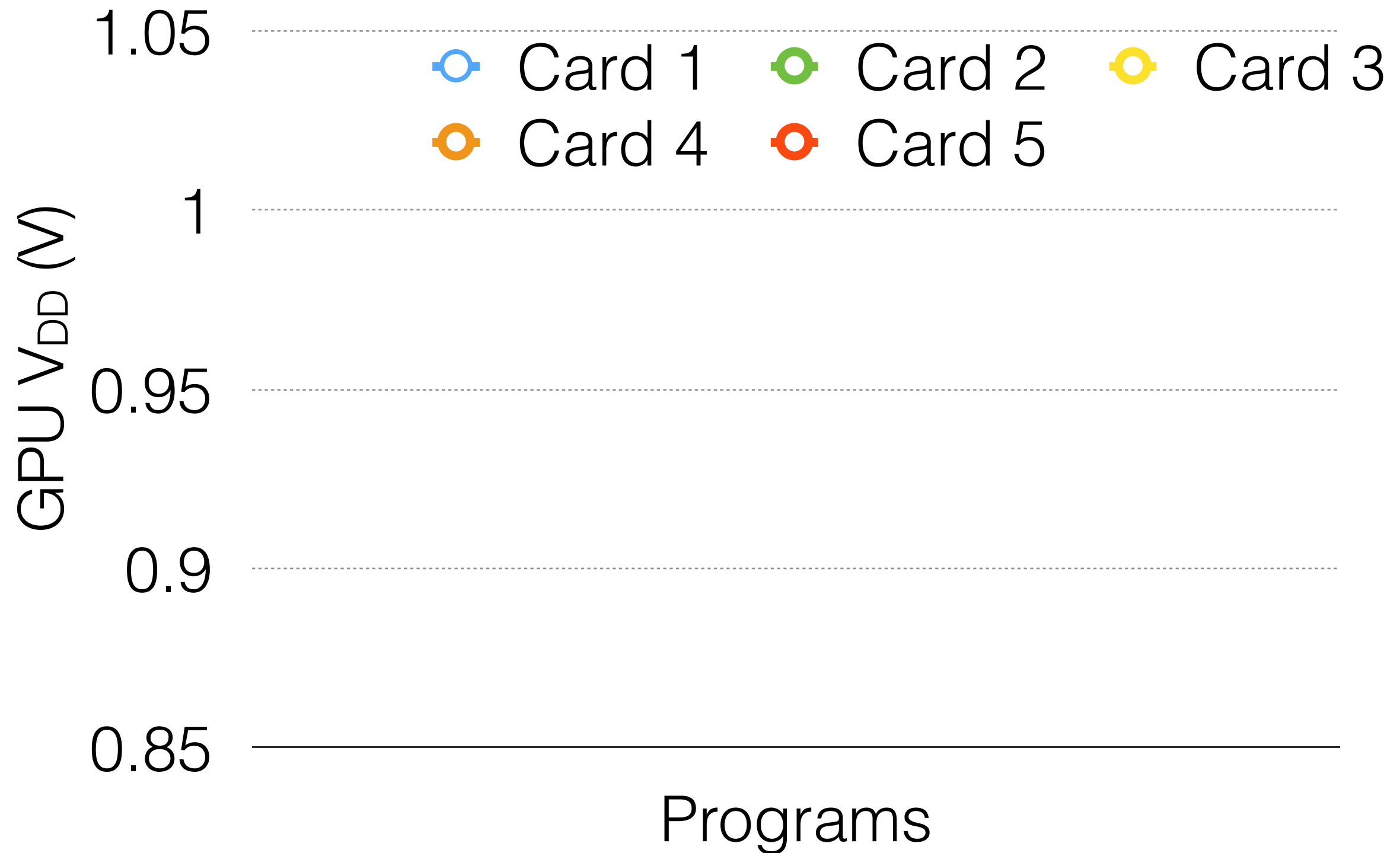
# Voltage Guardband Analysis



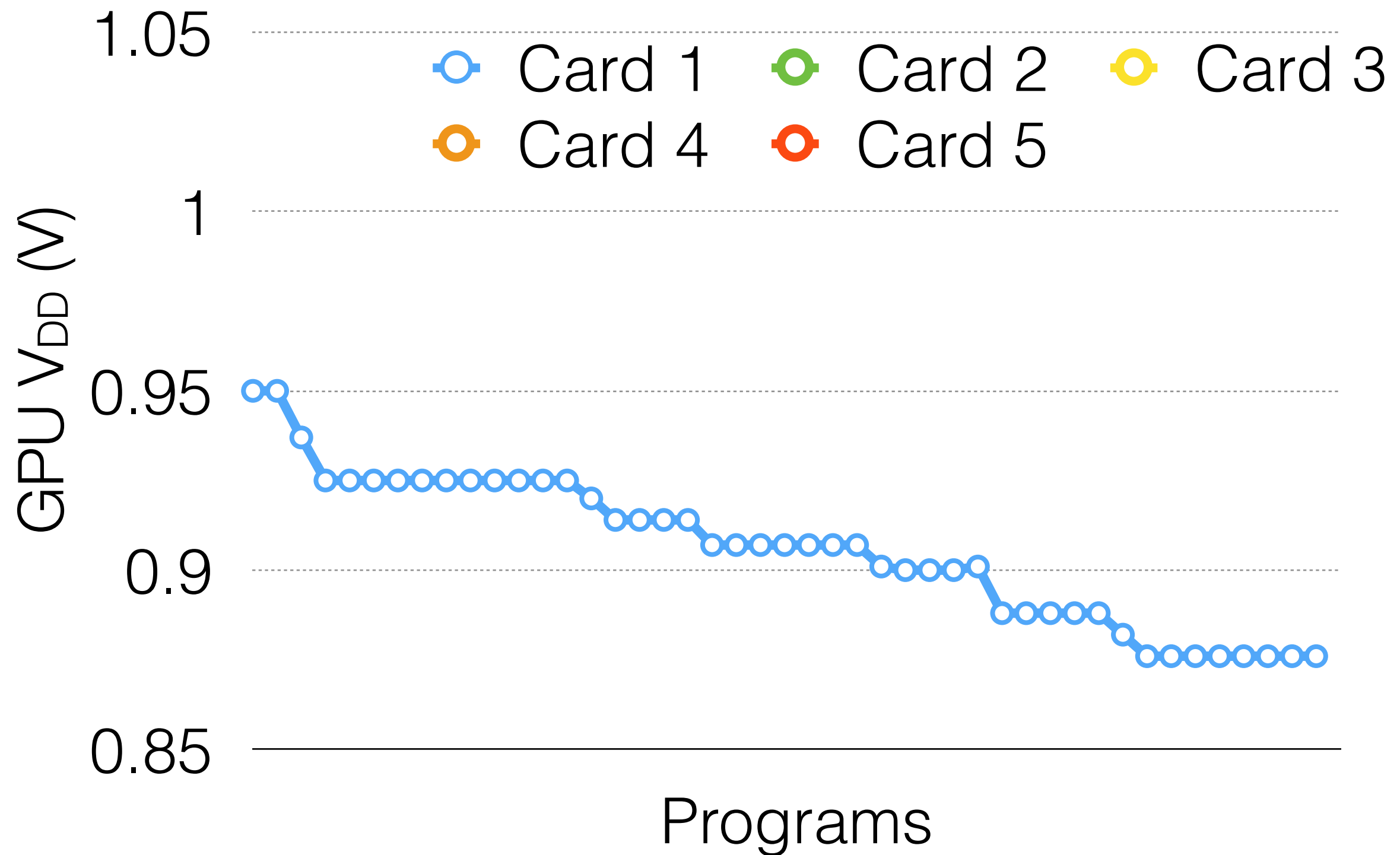
# Process Variation Impact

---

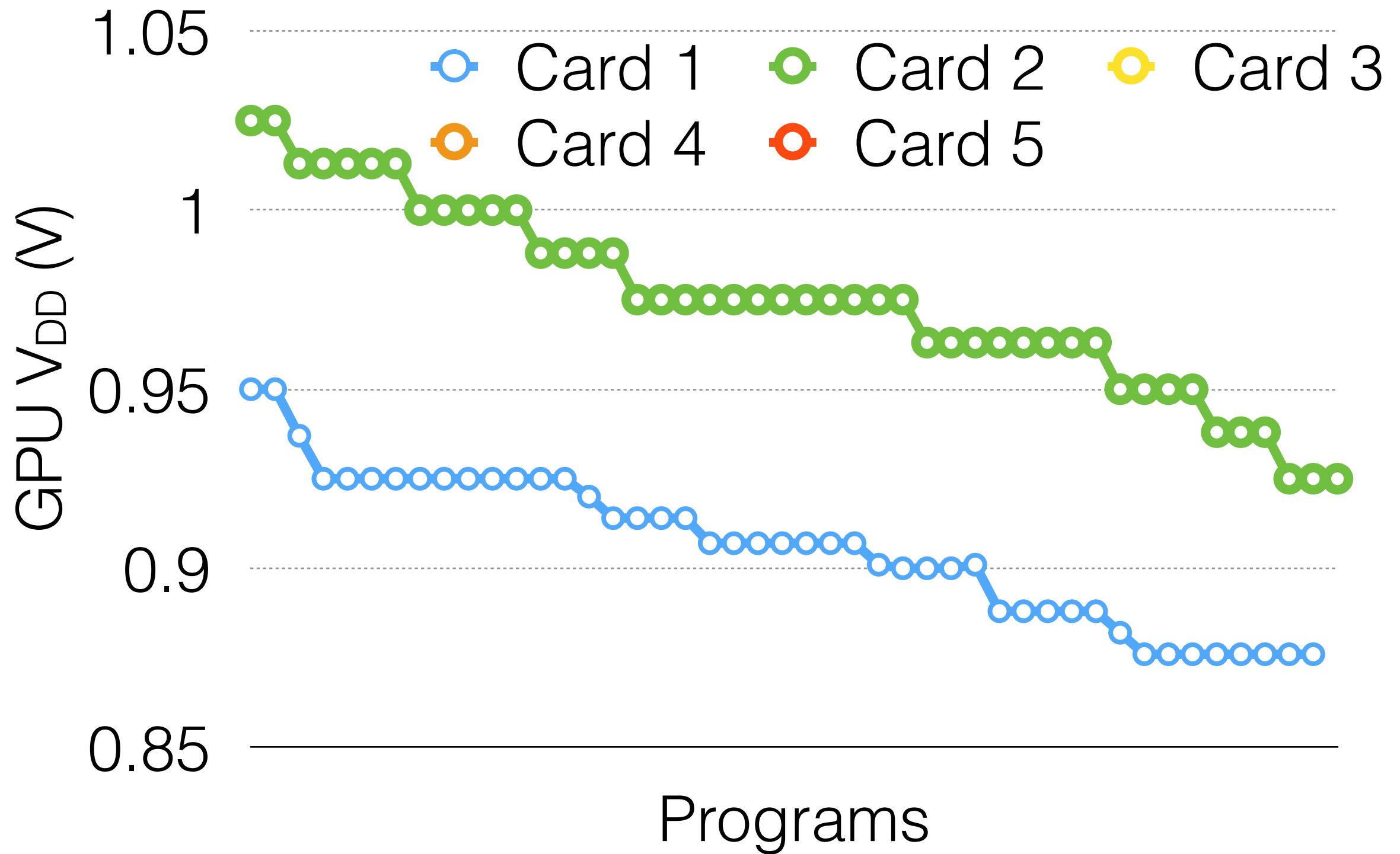
# Process Variation Impact



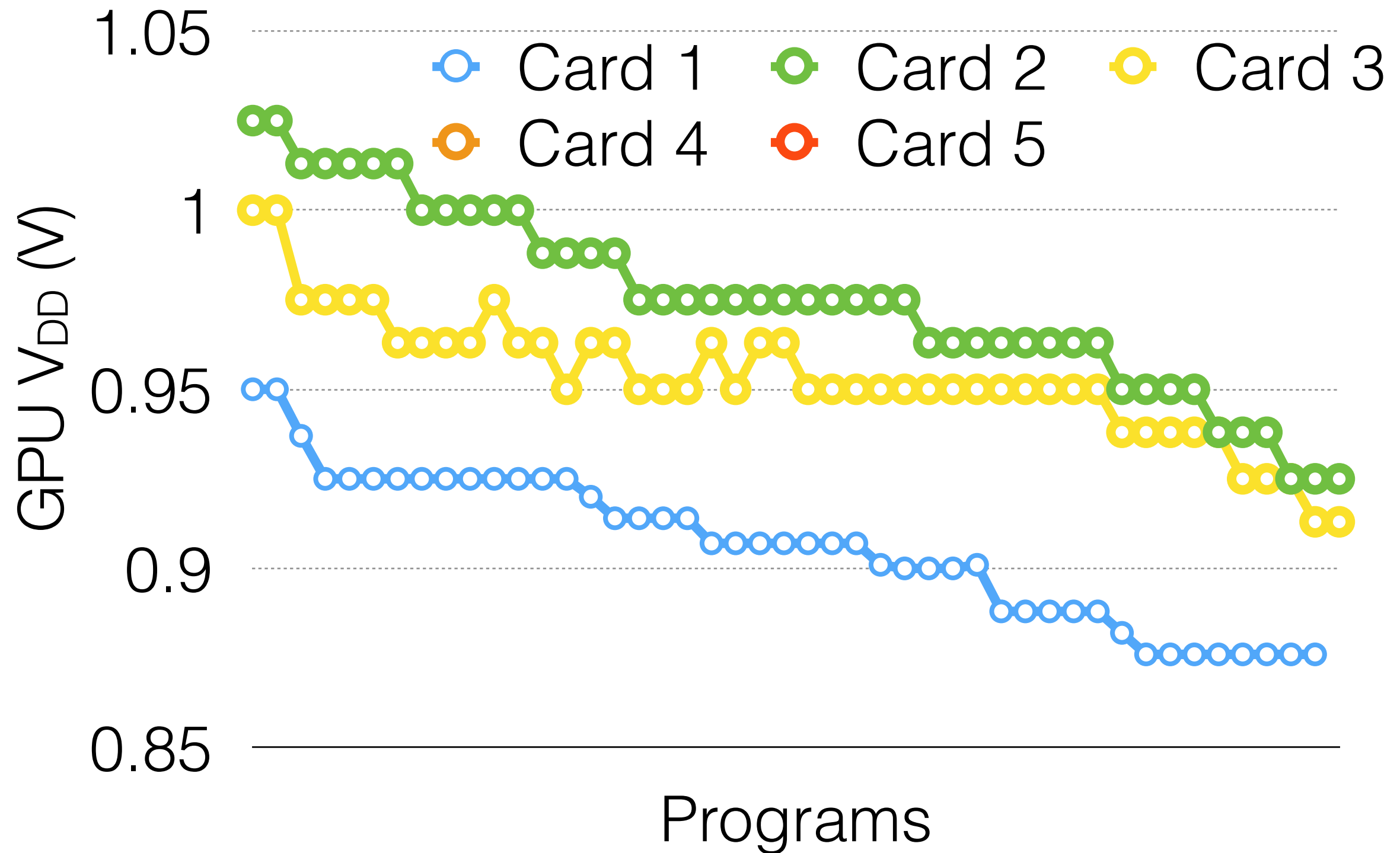
# Process Variation Impact



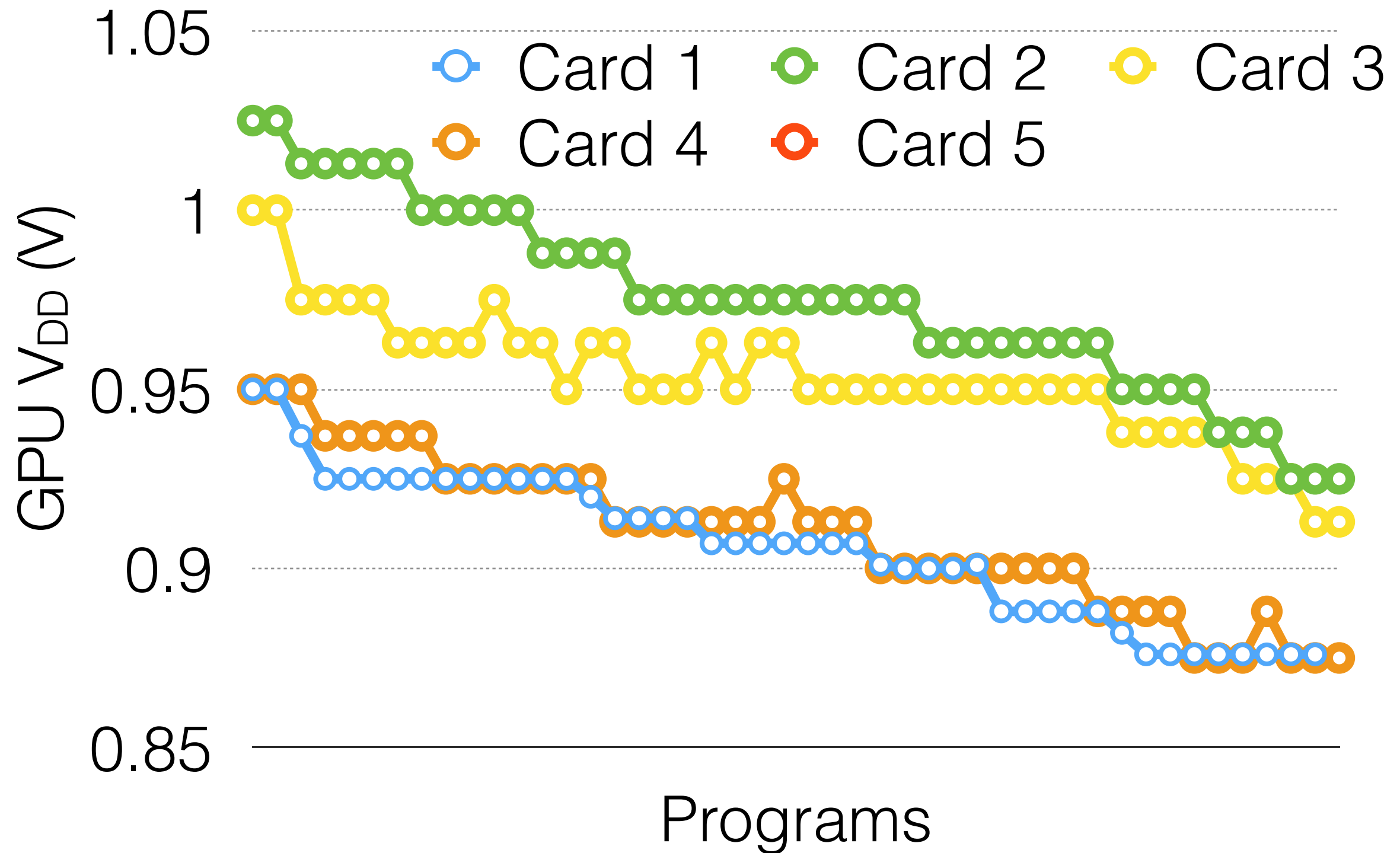
# Process Variation Impact



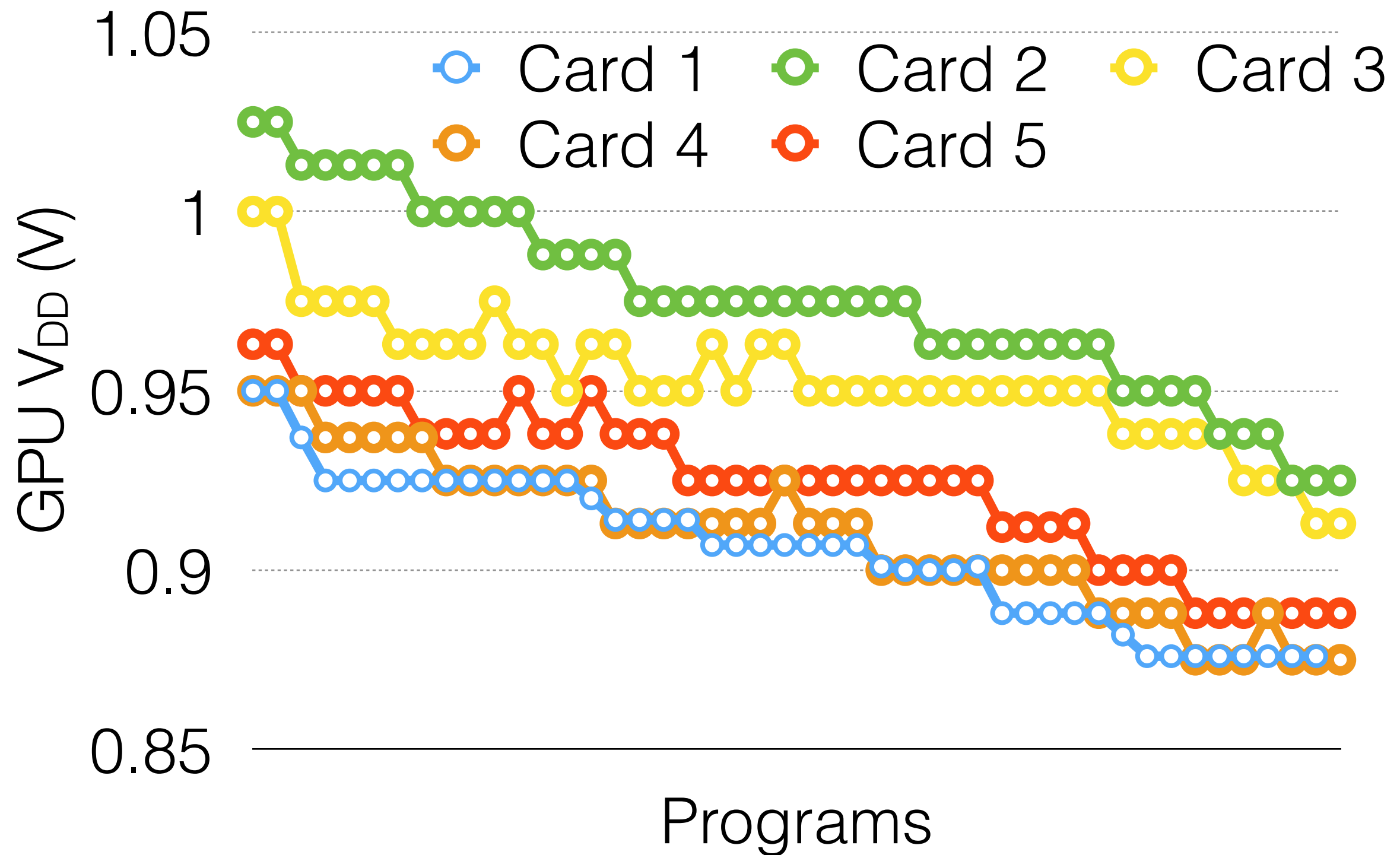
# Process Variation Impact



# Process Variation Impact



# Process Variation Impact

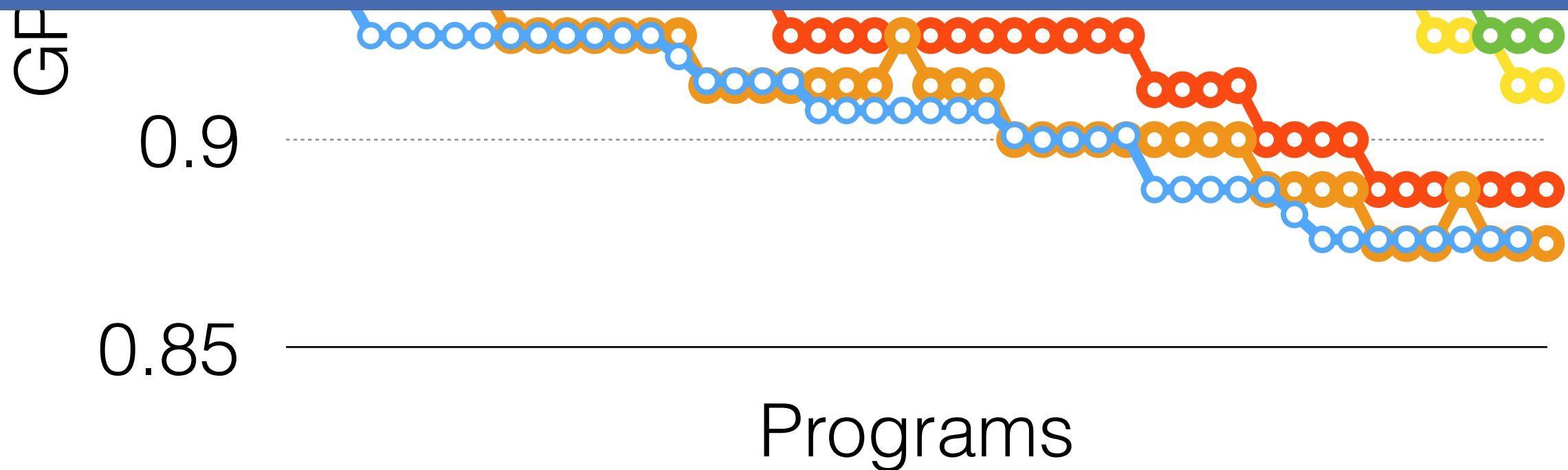




# Process Variation Impact



Process variation  $\rightarrow$  0.07 V maximum difference

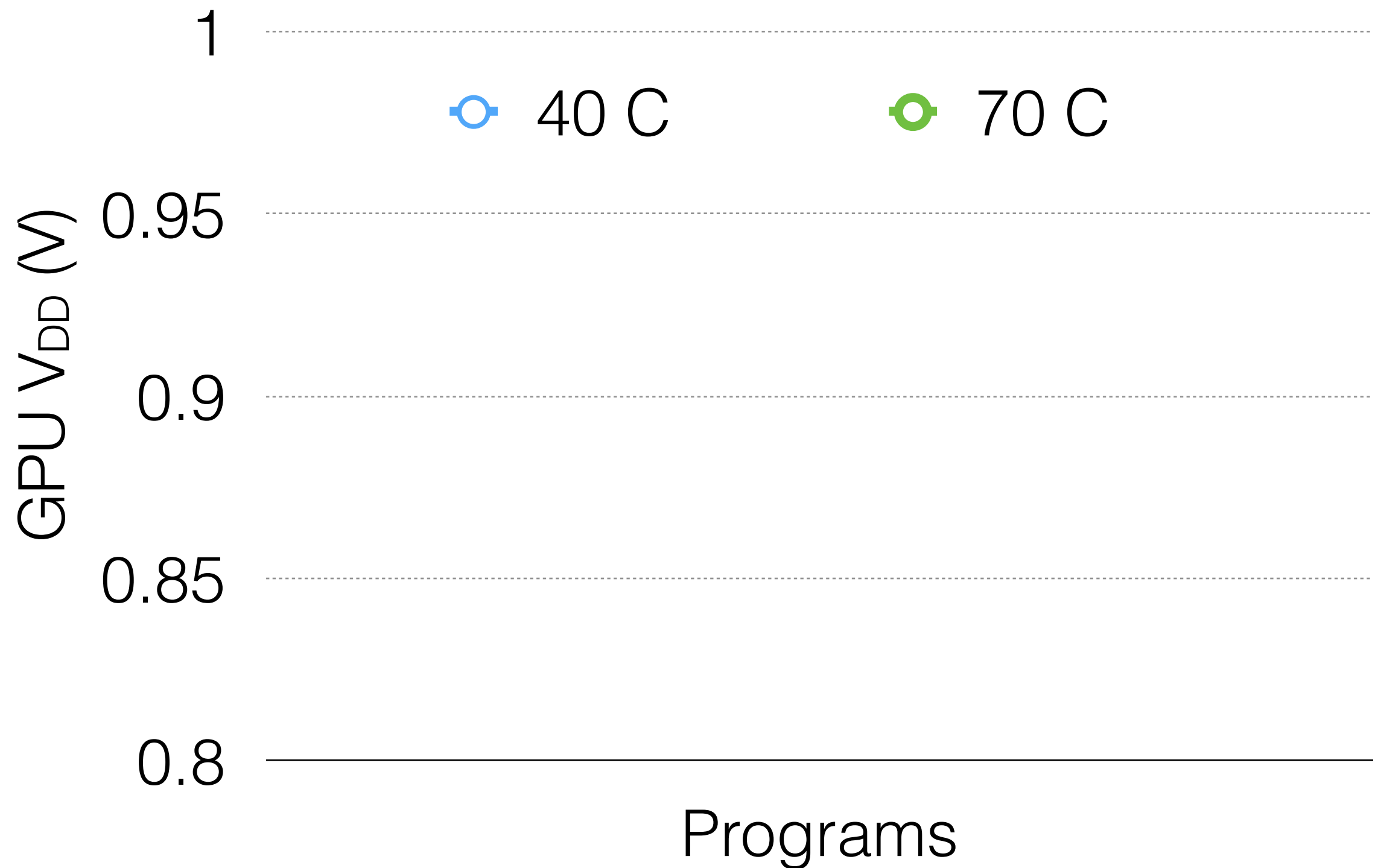


# Temperature Variation Impact

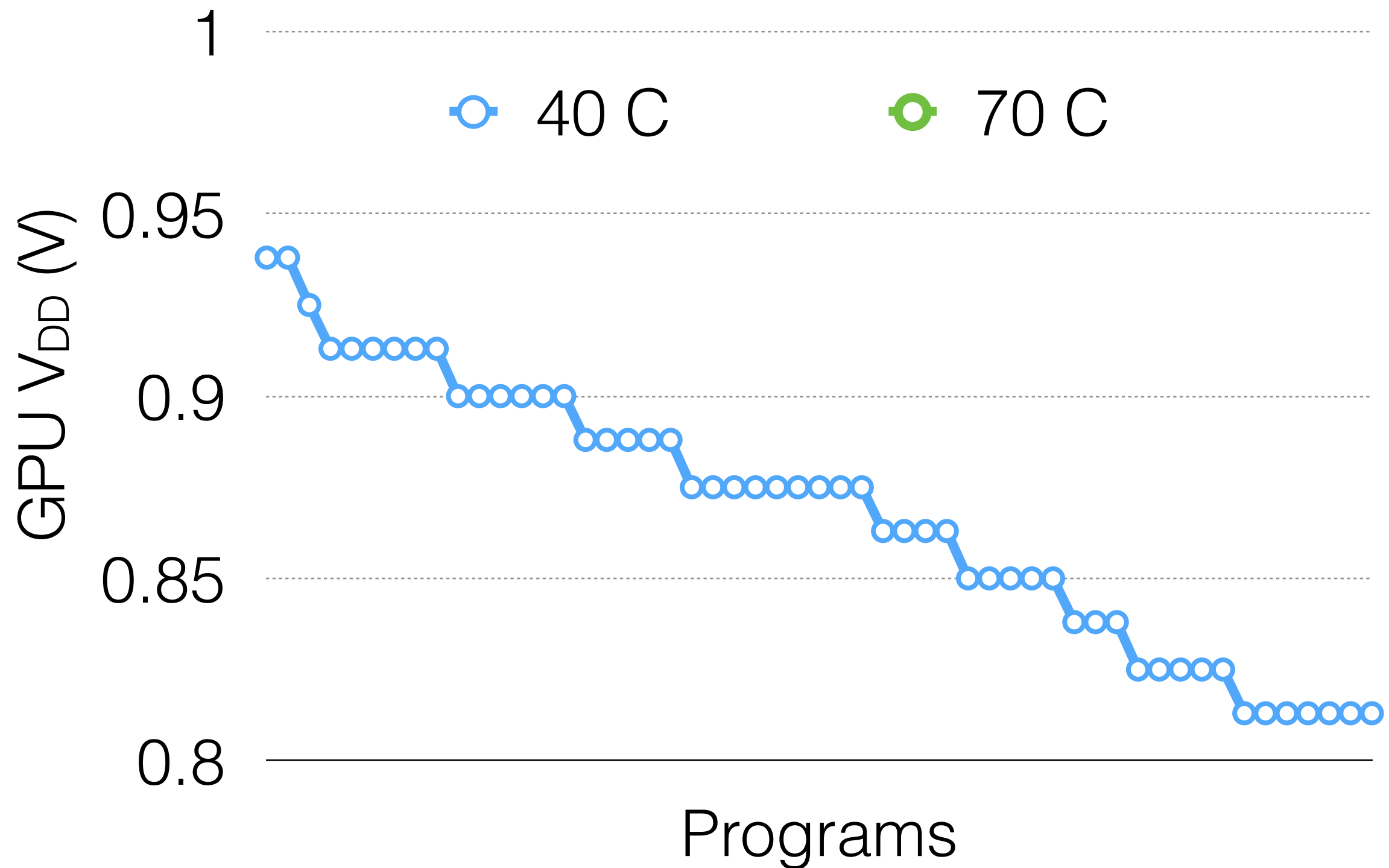
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# Temperature Variation Impact

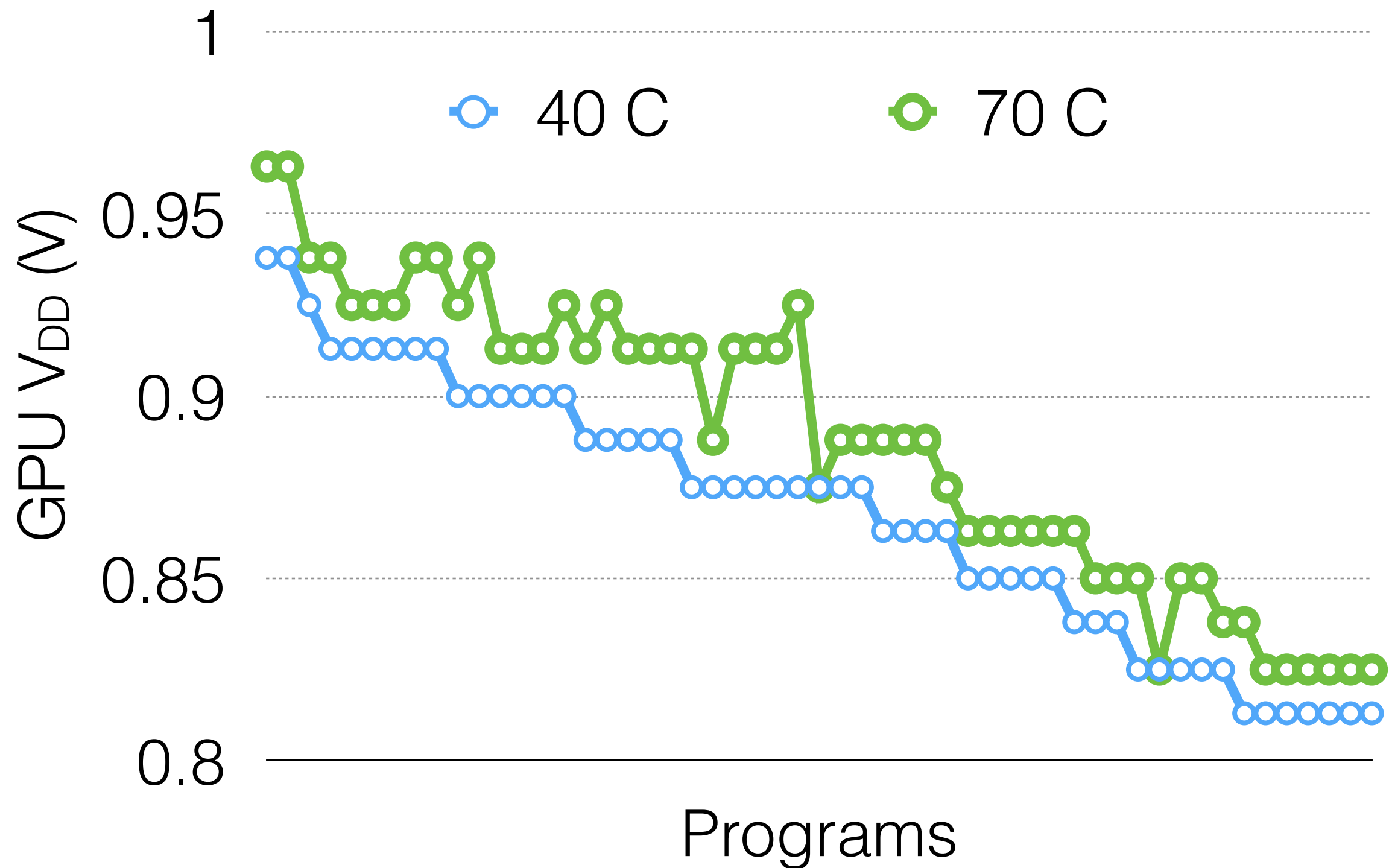
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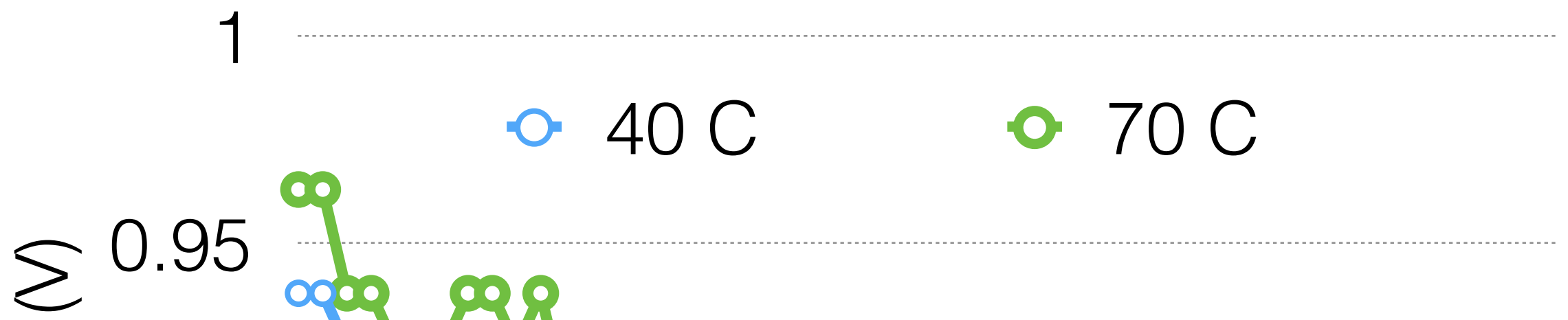
# Temperature Variation Impact



# Temperature Variation Impact



# Temperature Variation Impact



Temperature variation  $\rightarrow$  0.04 V maximum difference

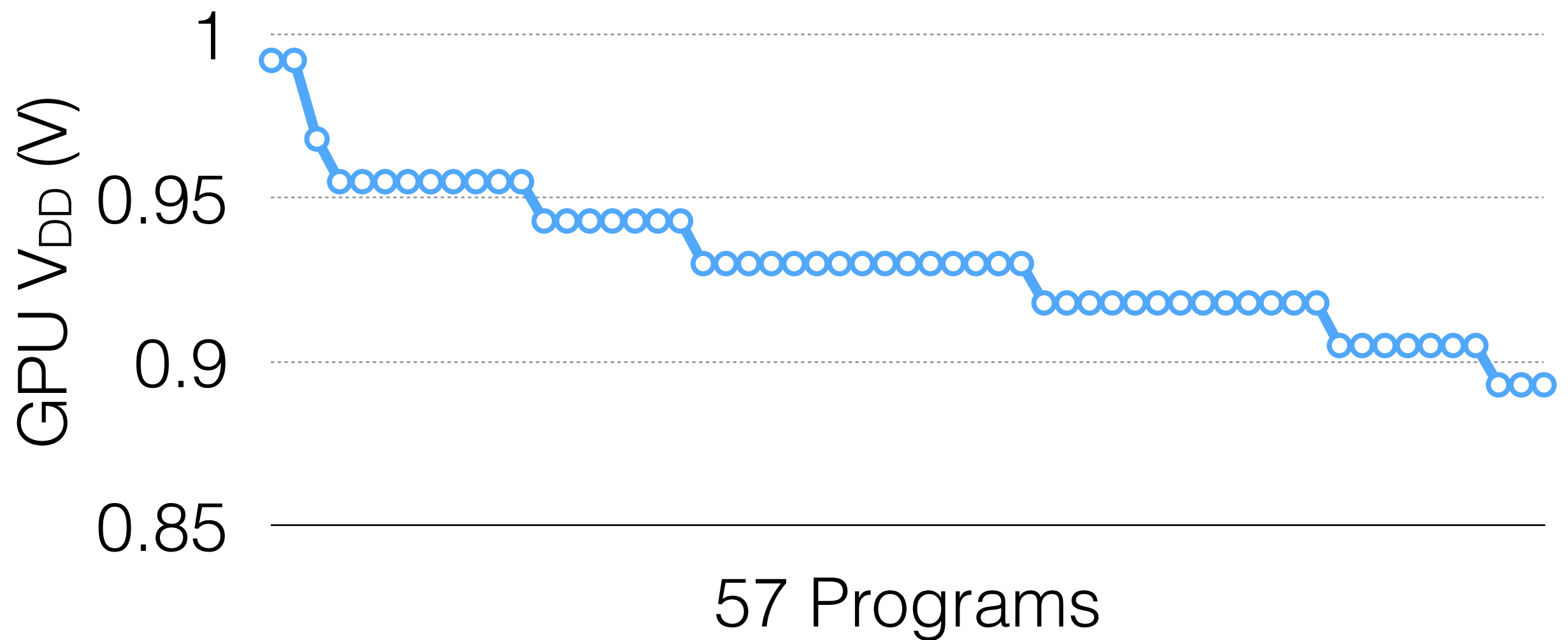


# Combined PVT Analysis

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# Combined PVT Analysis

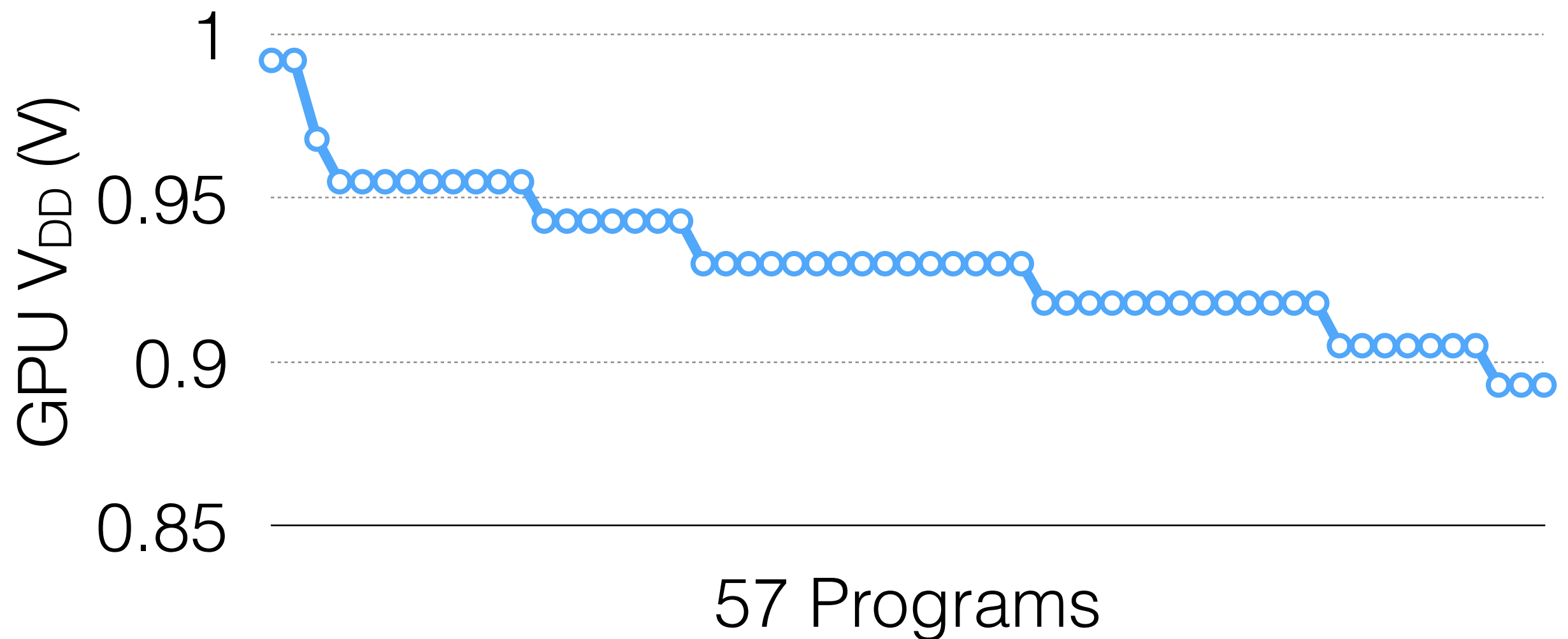
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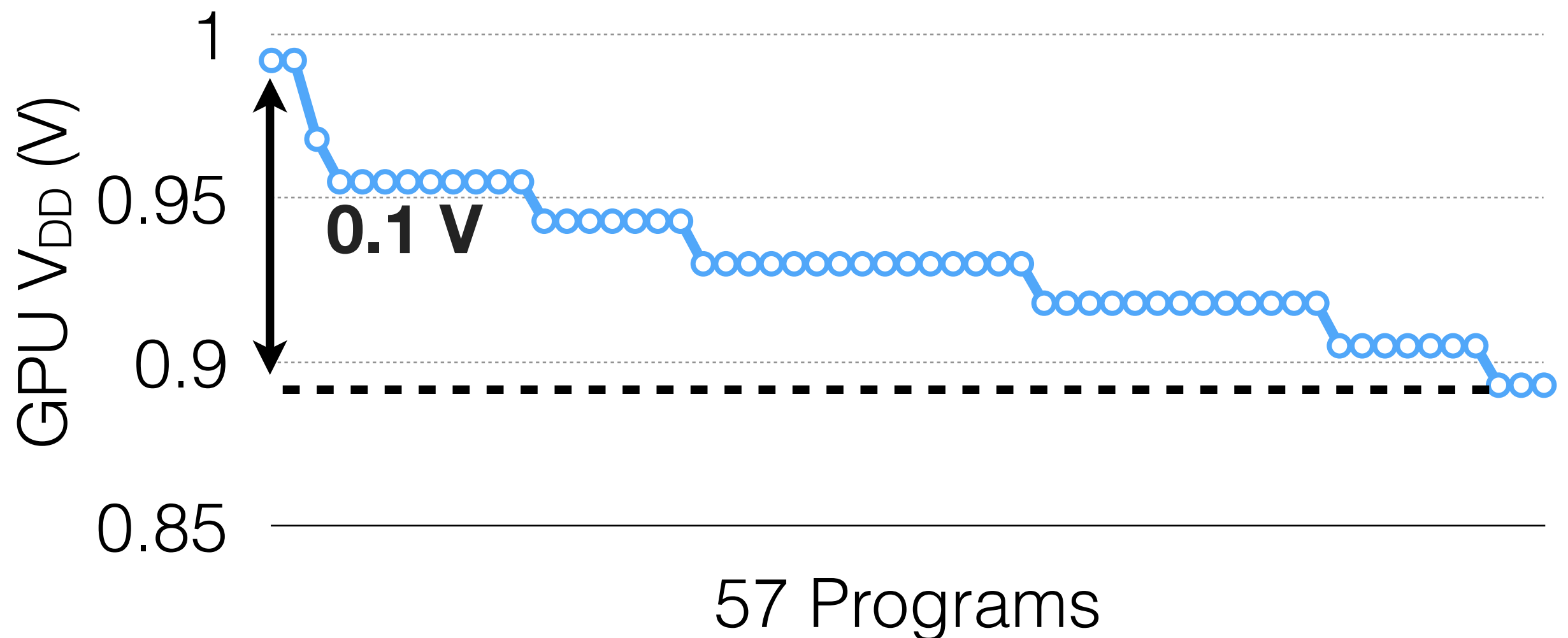
# Combined PVT Analysis

- Process and temperature variation → relatively uniform impact on ALL programs



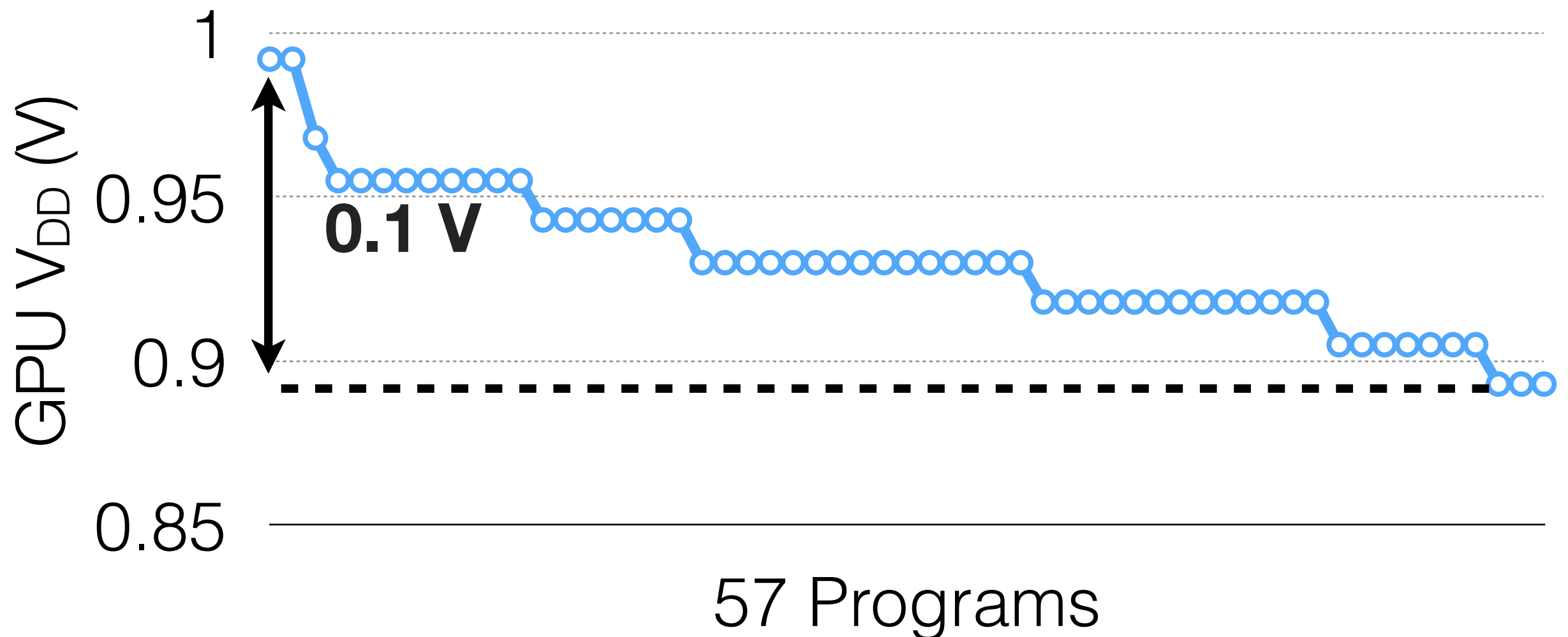
# Combined PVT Analysis

- Process and temperature variation → relatively uniform impact on ALL programs



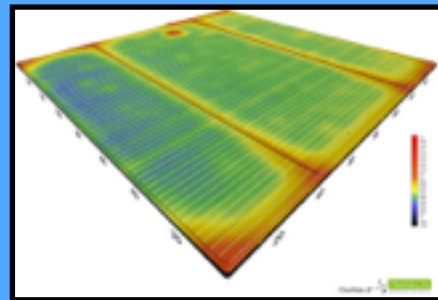
# Combined PVT Analysis

- Process and temperature variation → relatively uniform impact on ALL programs
- Voltage variation → 0.1 V difference across programs



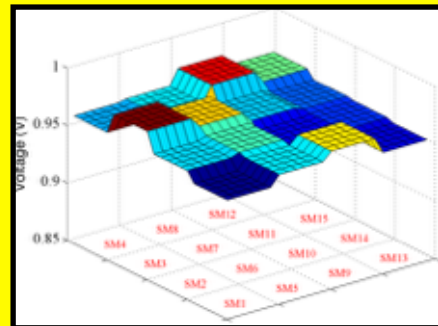
# Combined PVT Analysis

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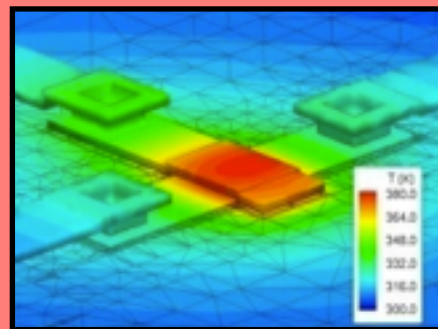
Process

↕ ?%



Voltage

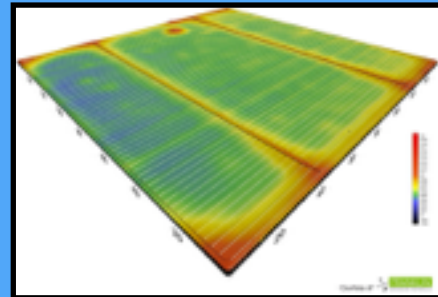
↕ ?%



Tempera  
-ture

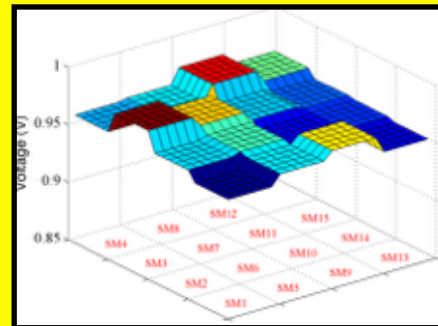
↕ ?%

# Combined PVT Analysis



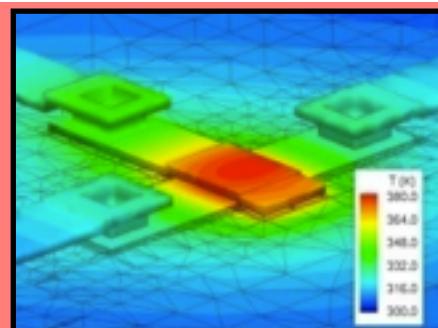
Process

0.07V



Voltage

0.1V

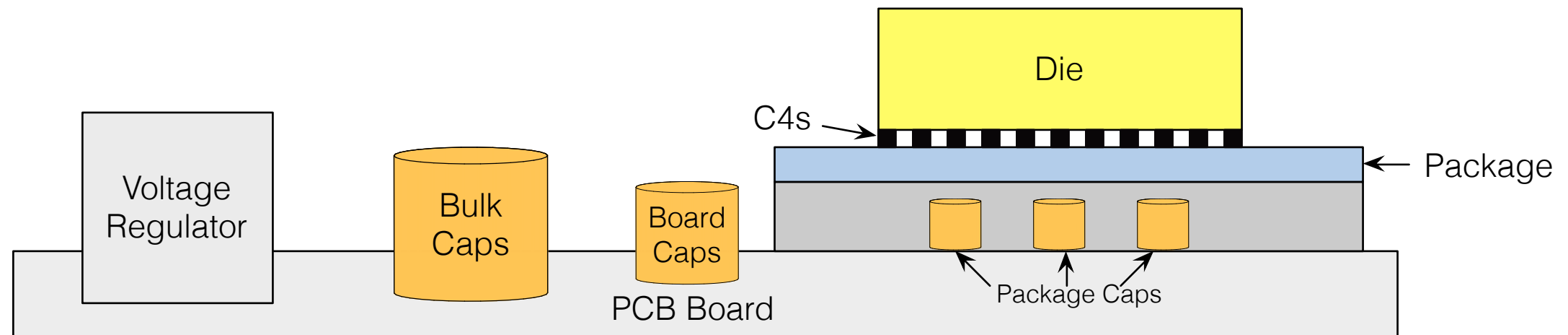


Tempera  
-ture

0.04V

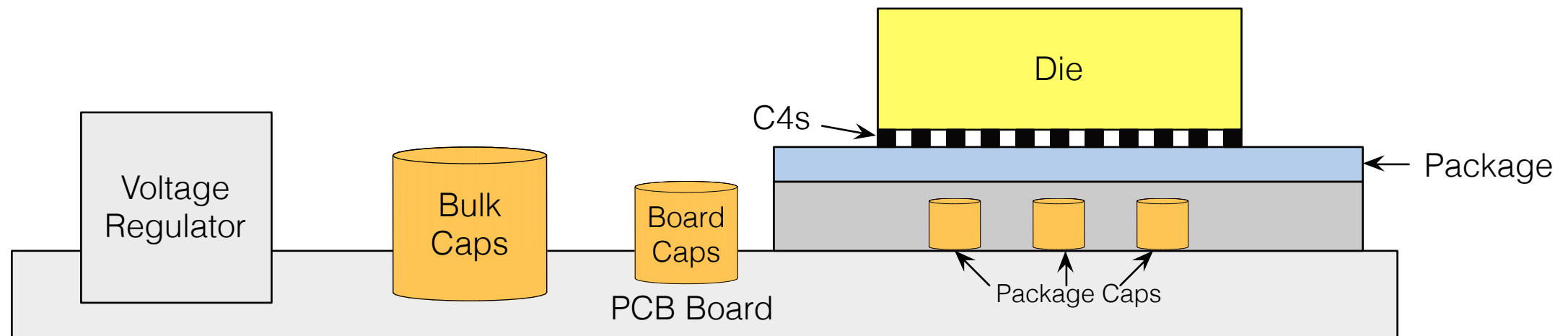
# Voltage Noise Background

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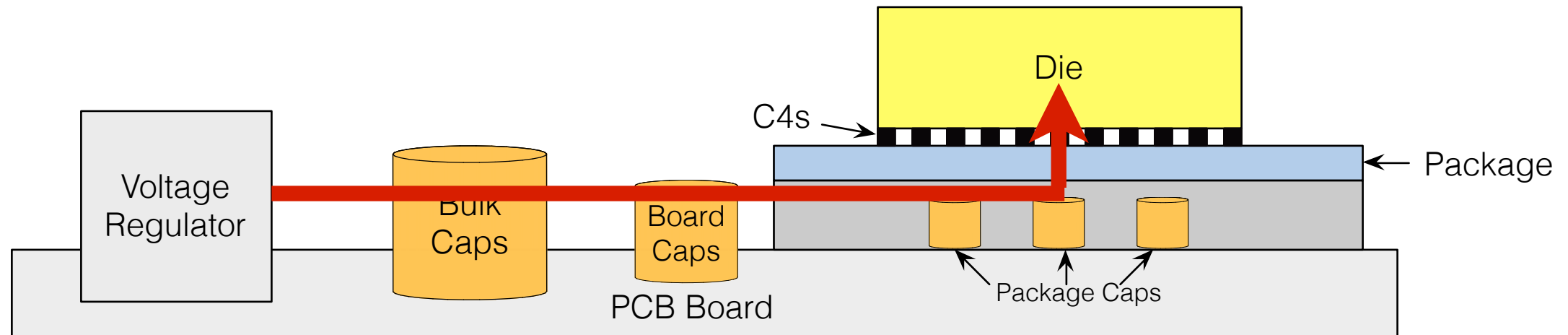
# Voltage Noise Background

---



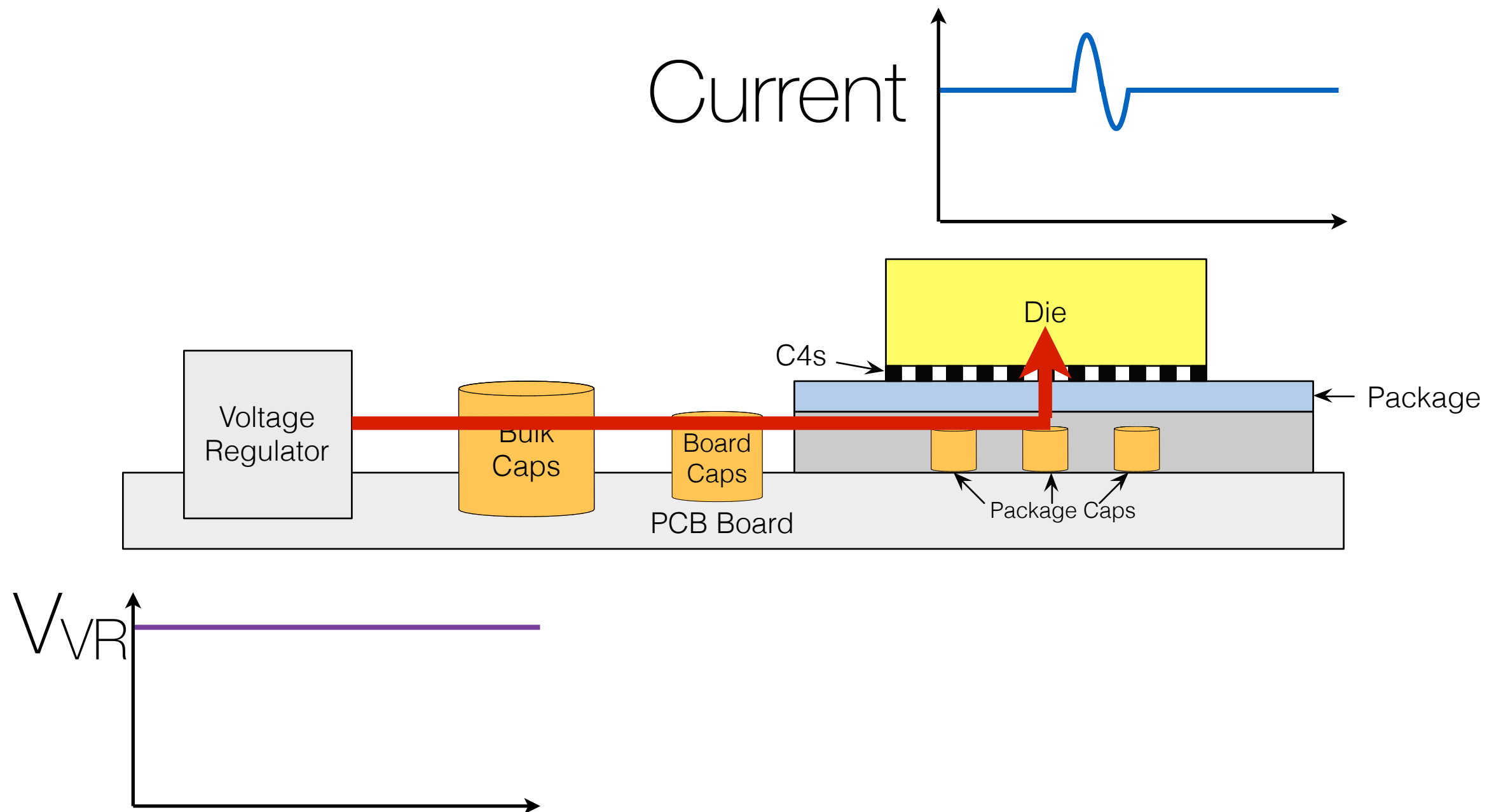
# Voltage Noise Background

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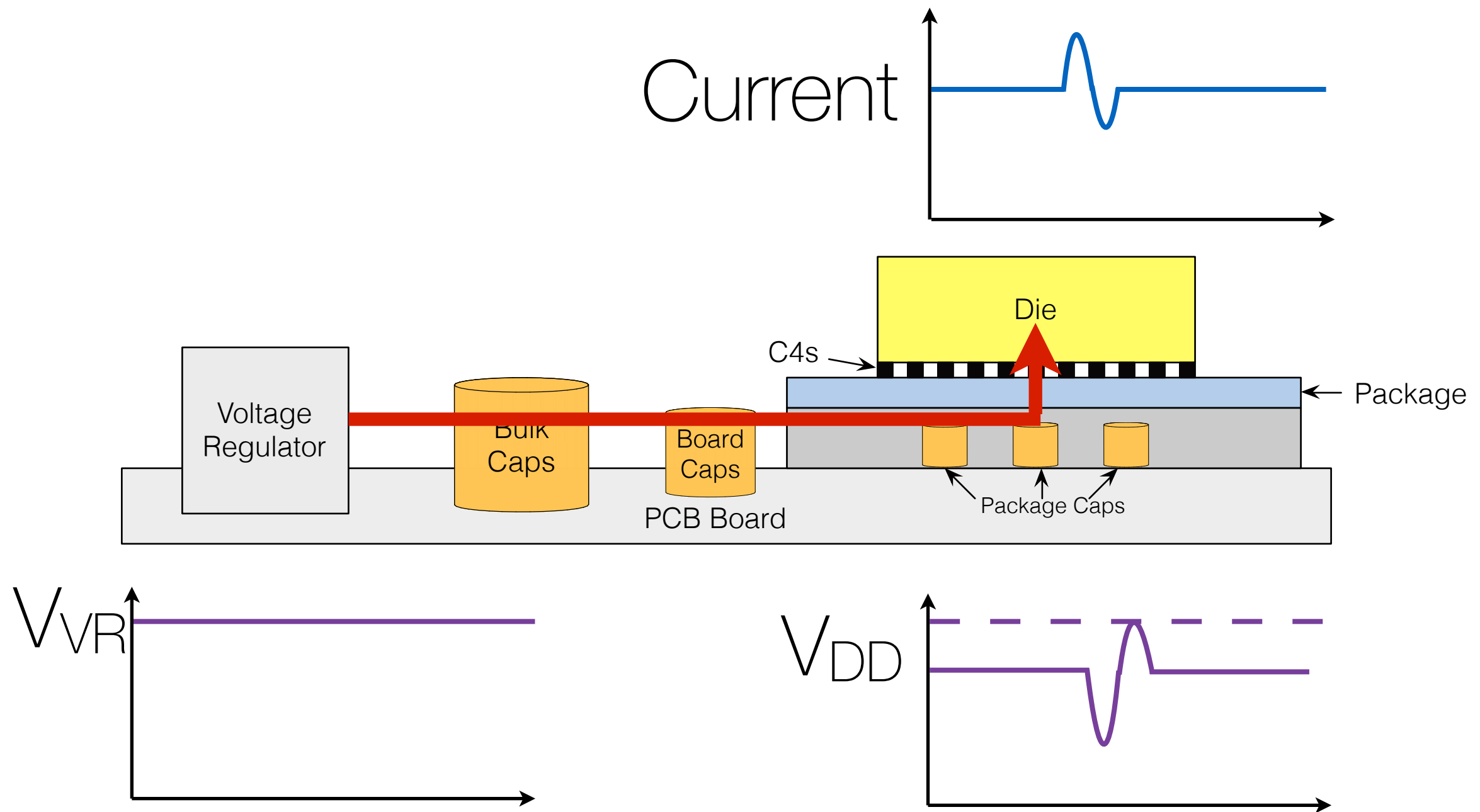




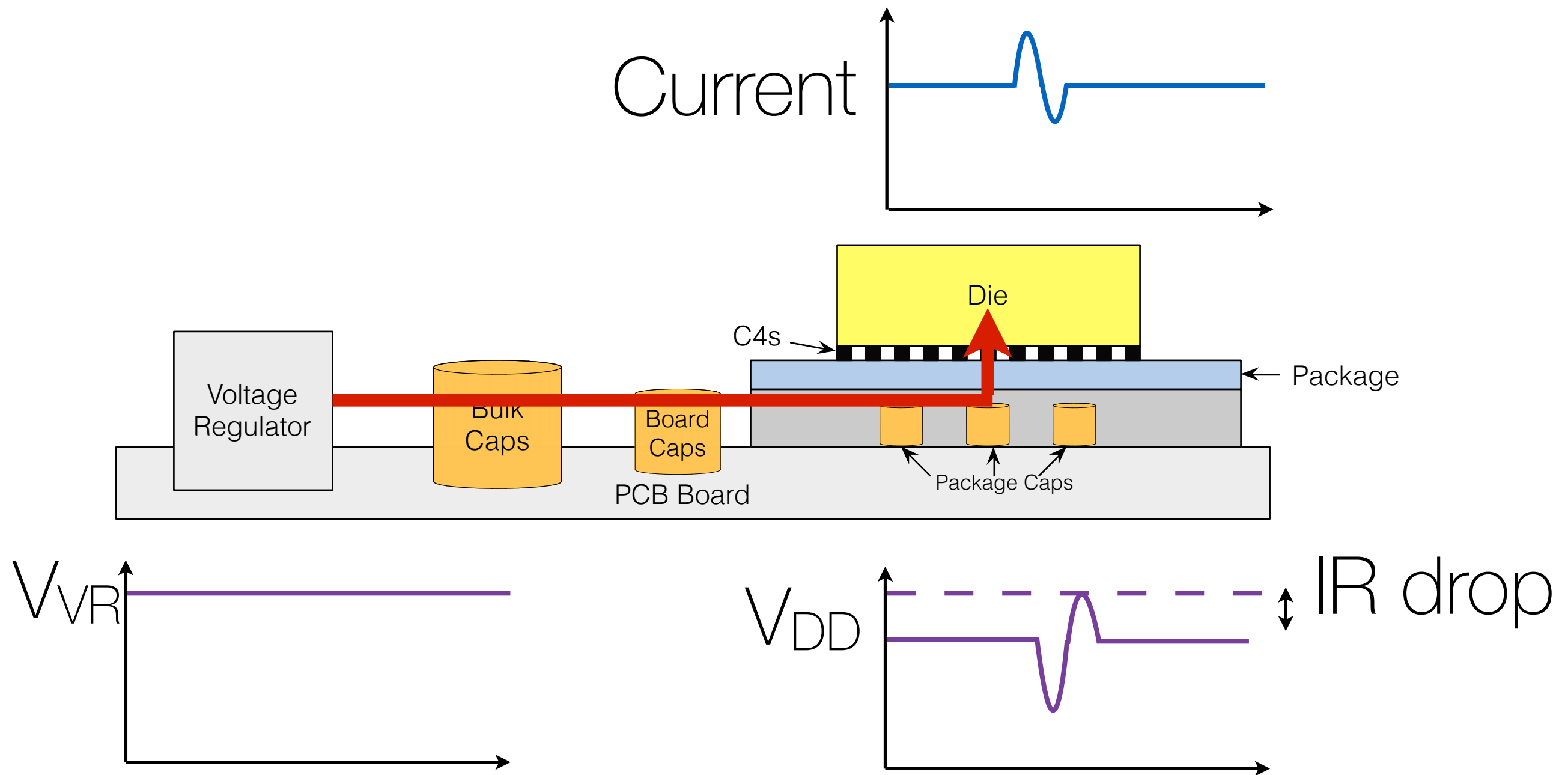
# Voltage Noise Background



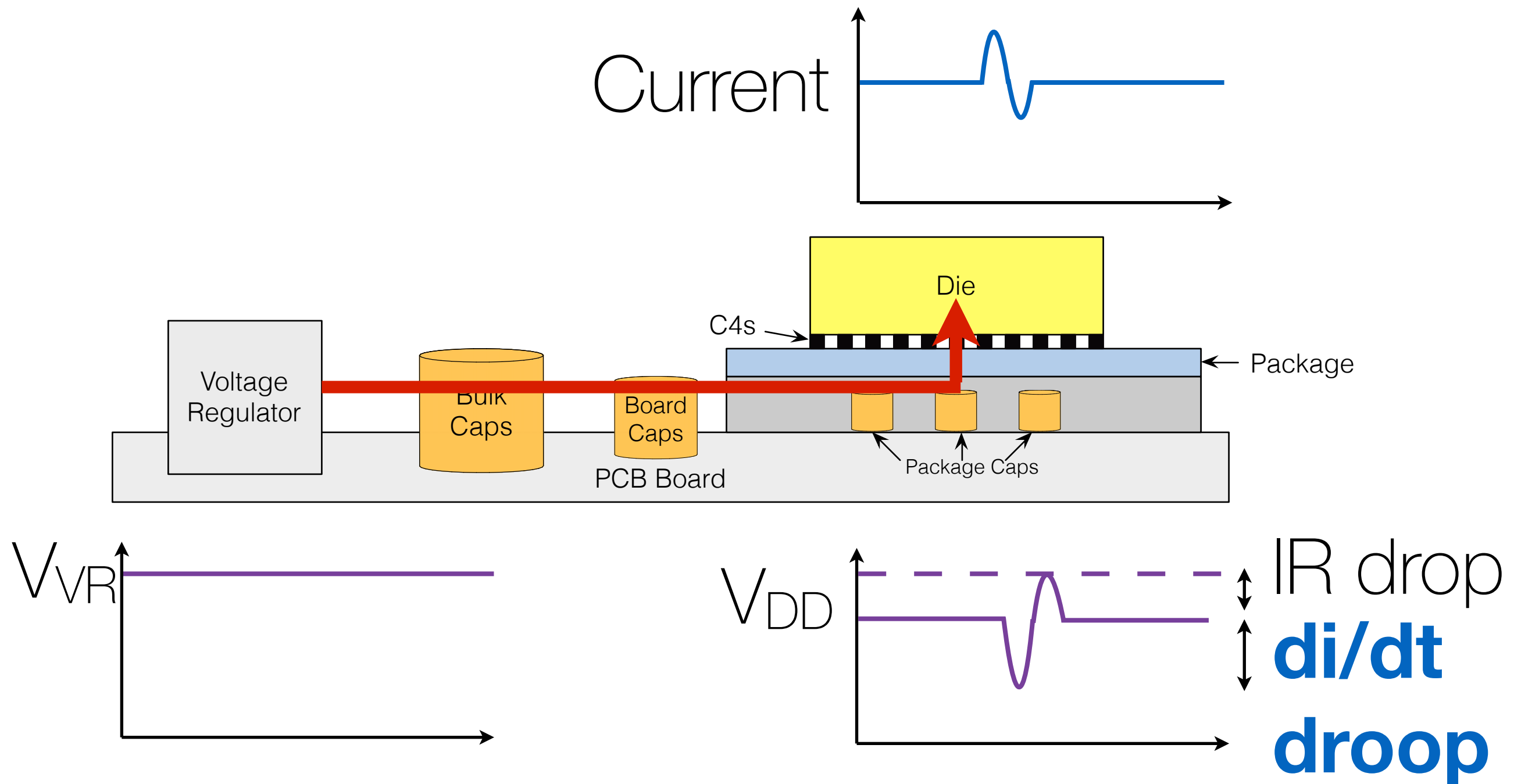
# Voltage Noise Background



# Voltage Noise Background

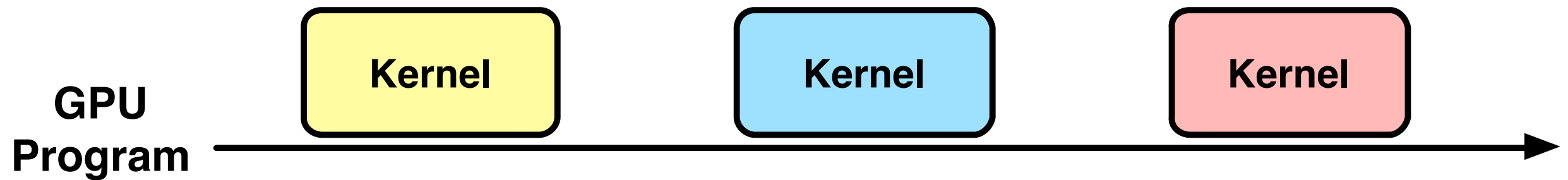


# Voltage Noise Background



# Where does $di/dt$ droop come from?

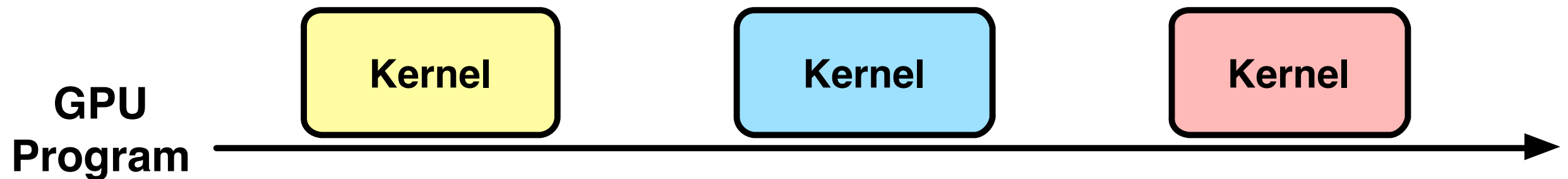
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# Where does $di/dt$ droop come from?

---

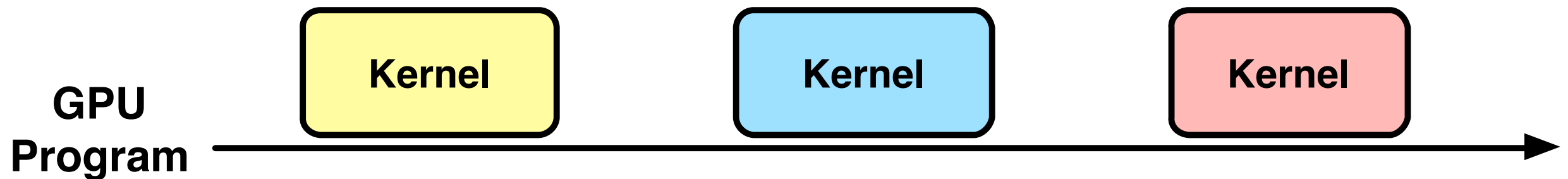
- Kernel based activity patterns



# Where does $di/dt$ droop come from?

---

- Kernel based activity patterns
  - Inter kernel
  - Initial kernel
  - Intra kernel



# Where does $di/dt$ droop come from?

---

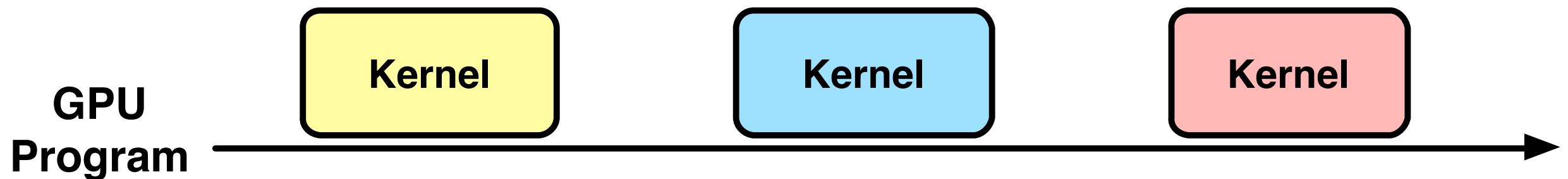
- Kernel based activity patterns
  - Inter kernel
  - Initial kernel
  - Intra kernel



# Where does $di/dt$ droop come from?

---

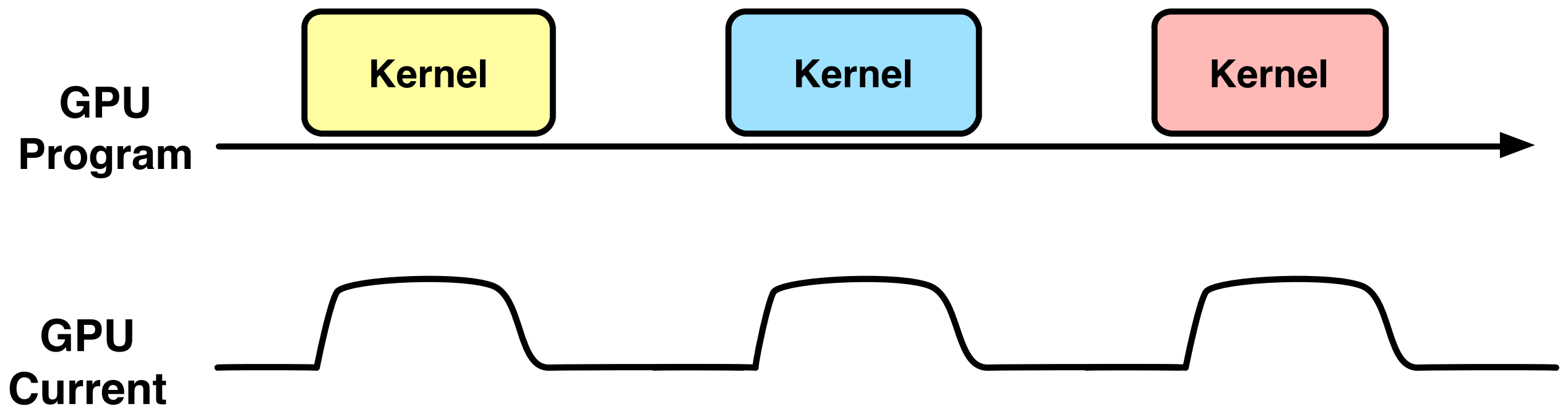
- Kernel based activity patterns
  - Inter kernel
  - Initial kernel
  - Intra kernel



# Where does $di/dt$ droop come from?

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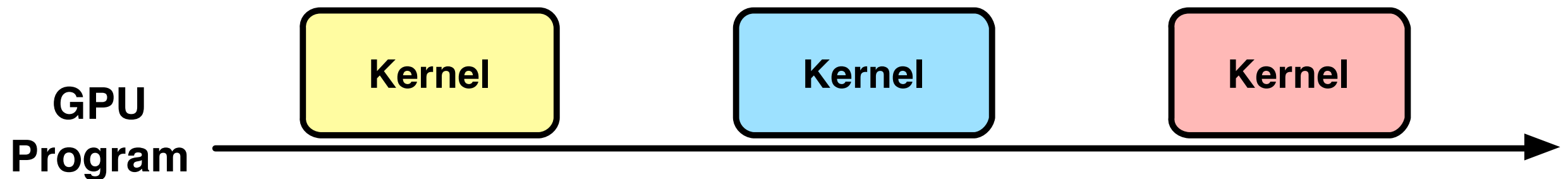
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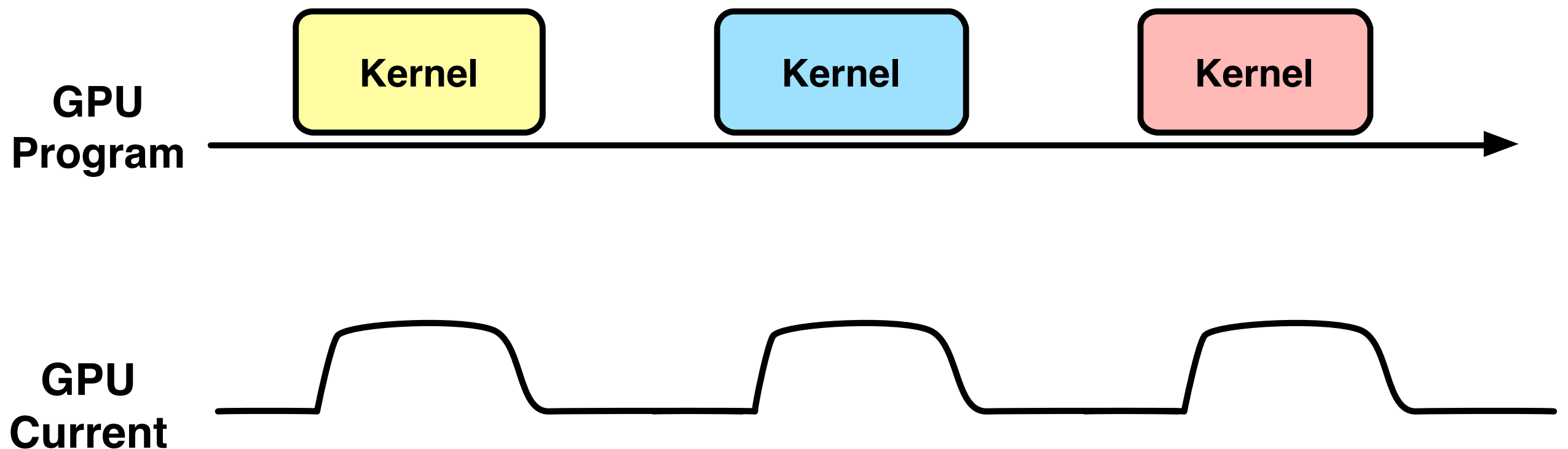
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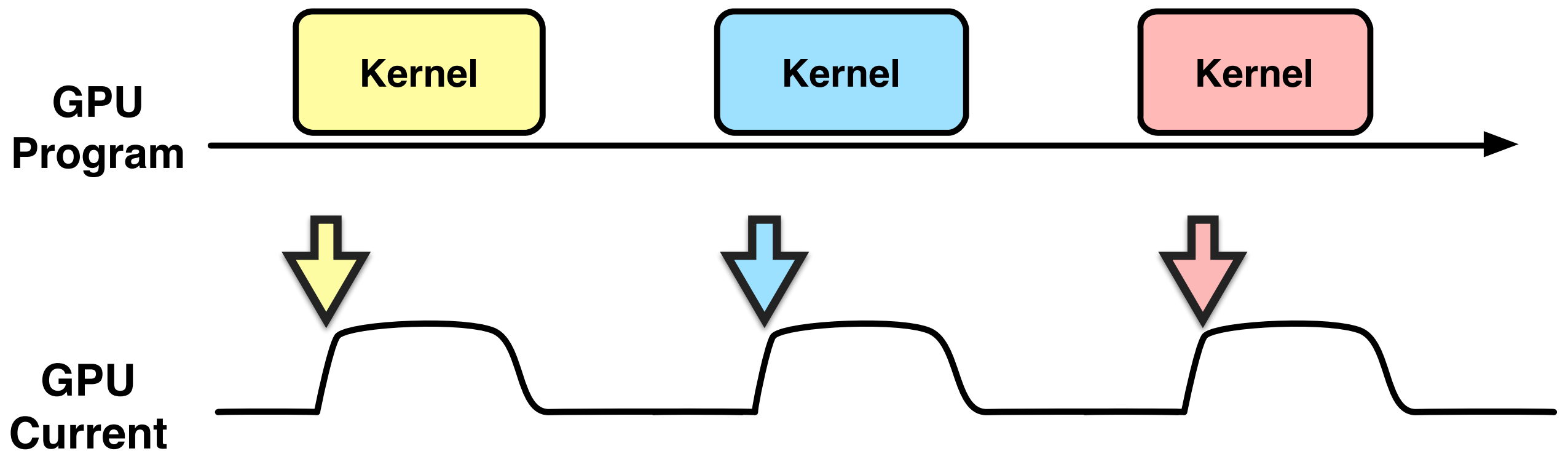
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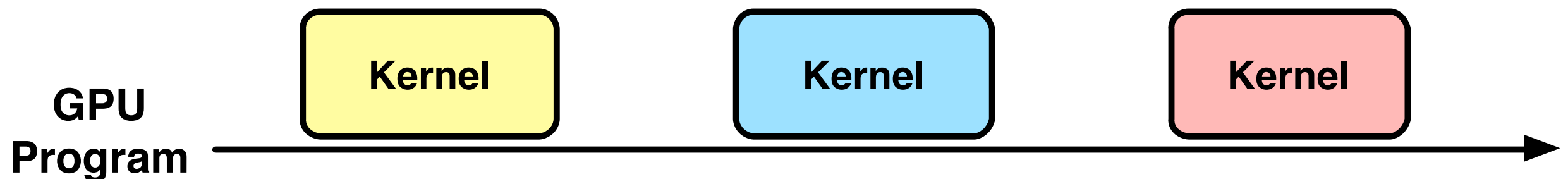
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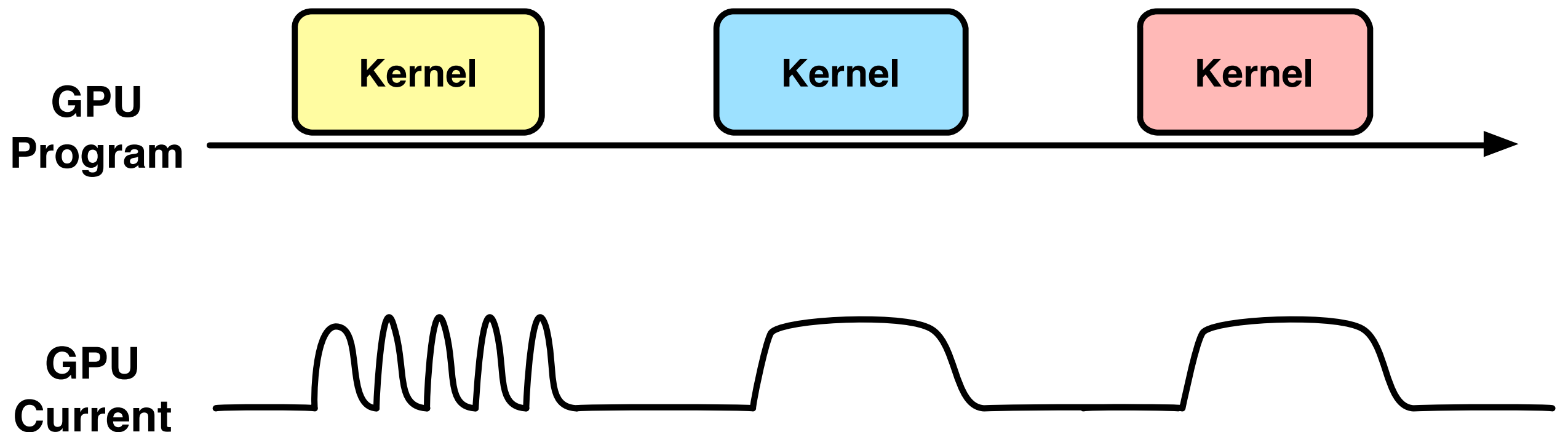
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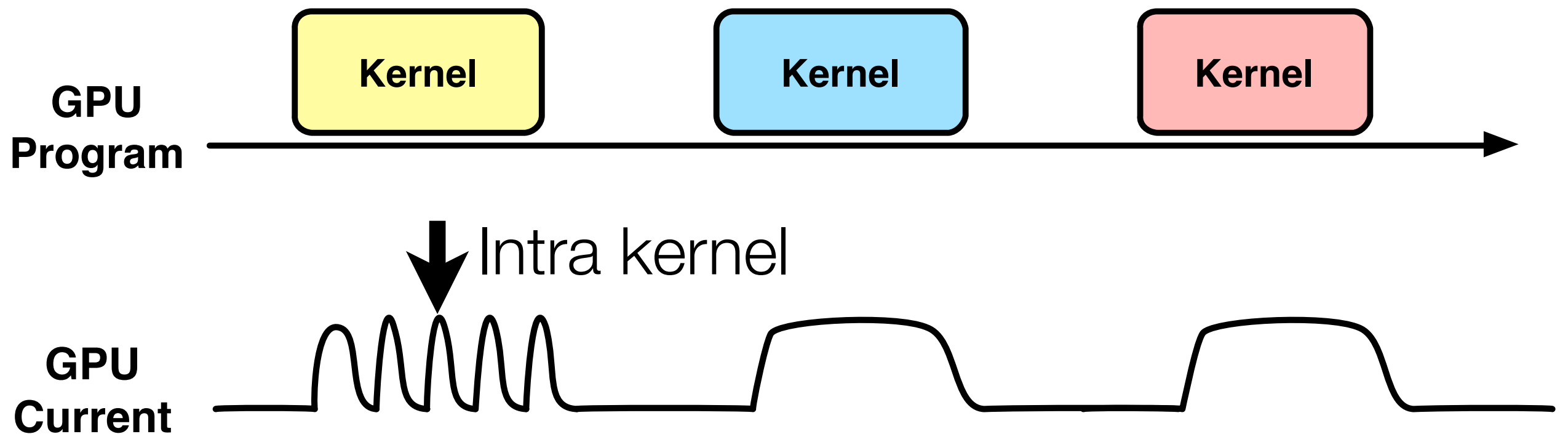
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# Where does $di/dt$ droop come from?

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  - Inter kernel
  - Initial kernel
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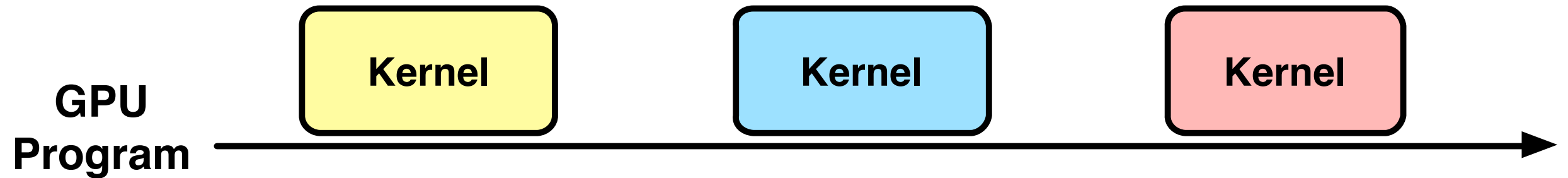


# Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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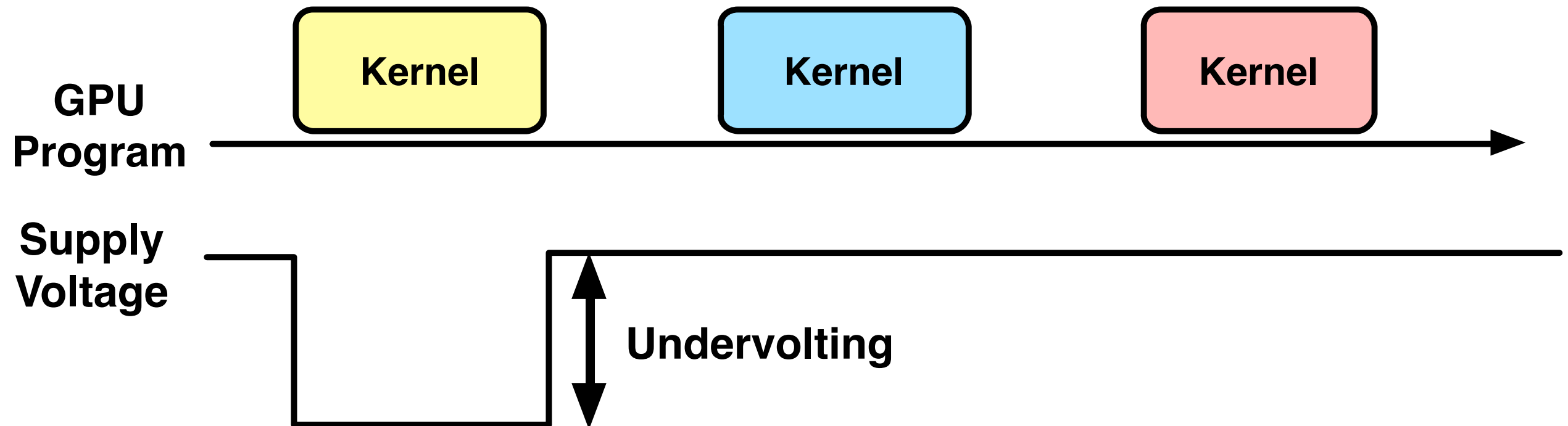
# Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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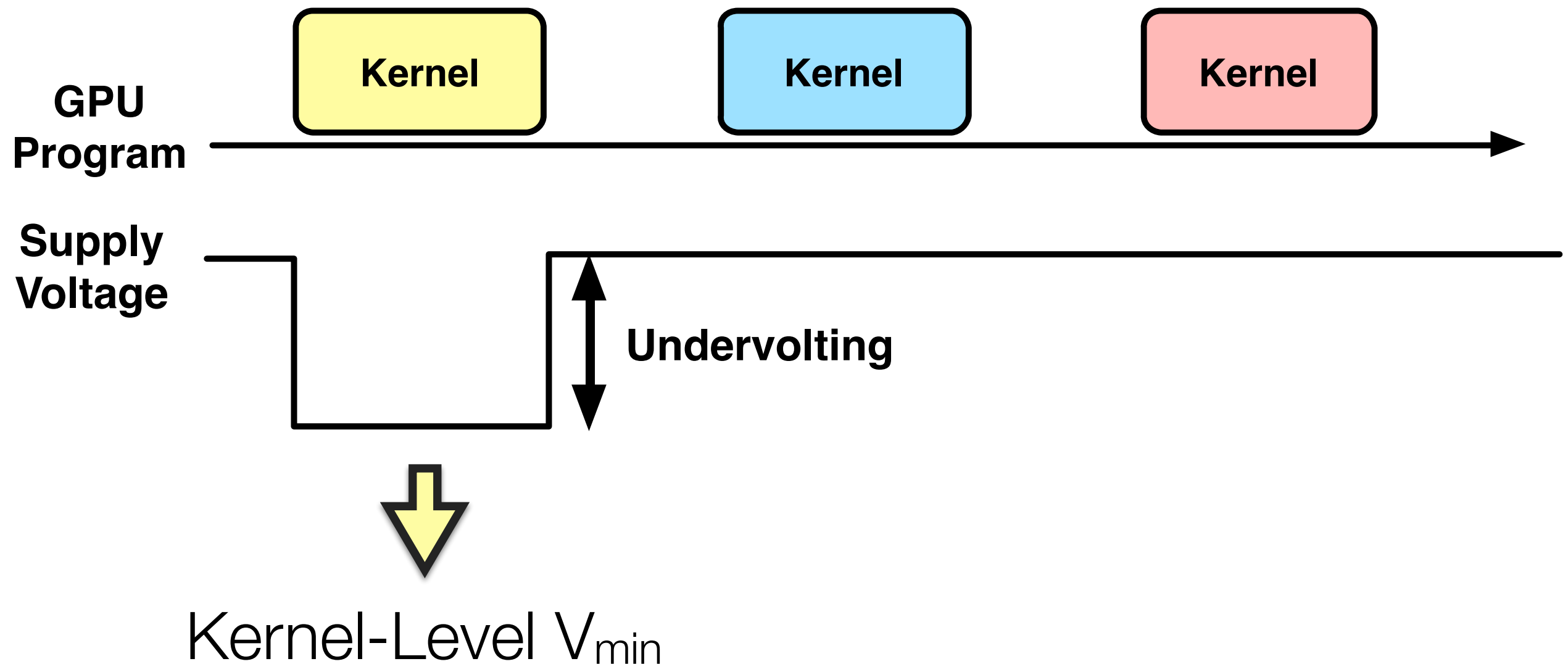
# Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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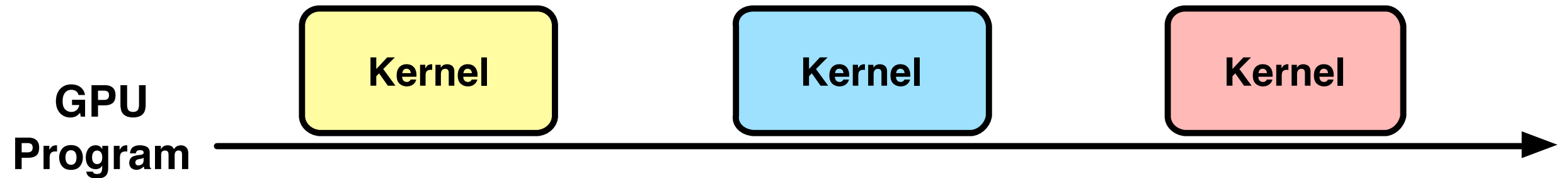
# Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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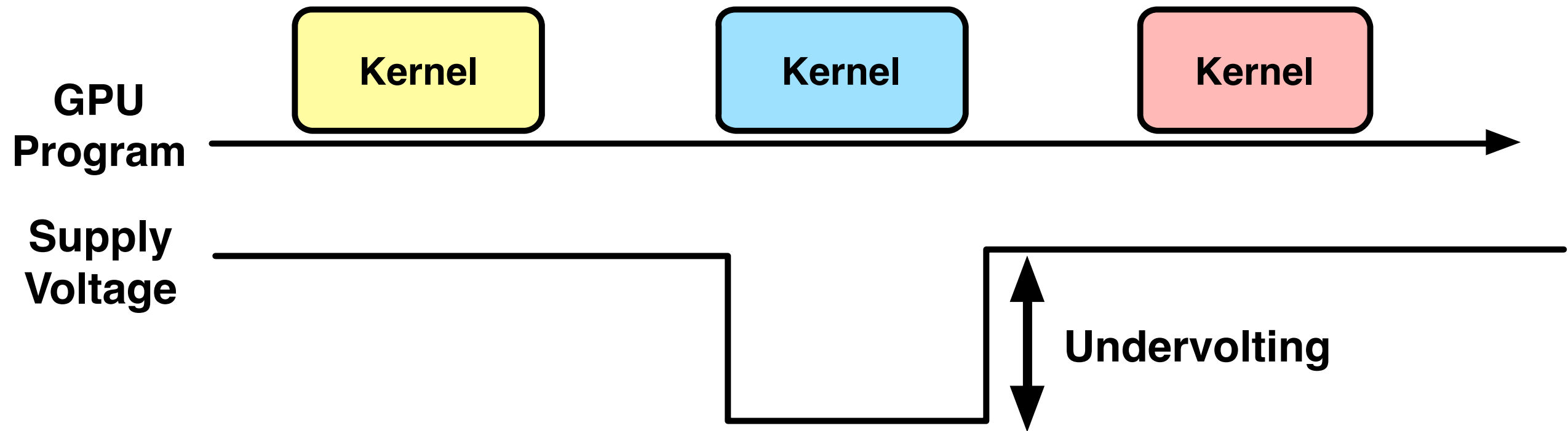
# Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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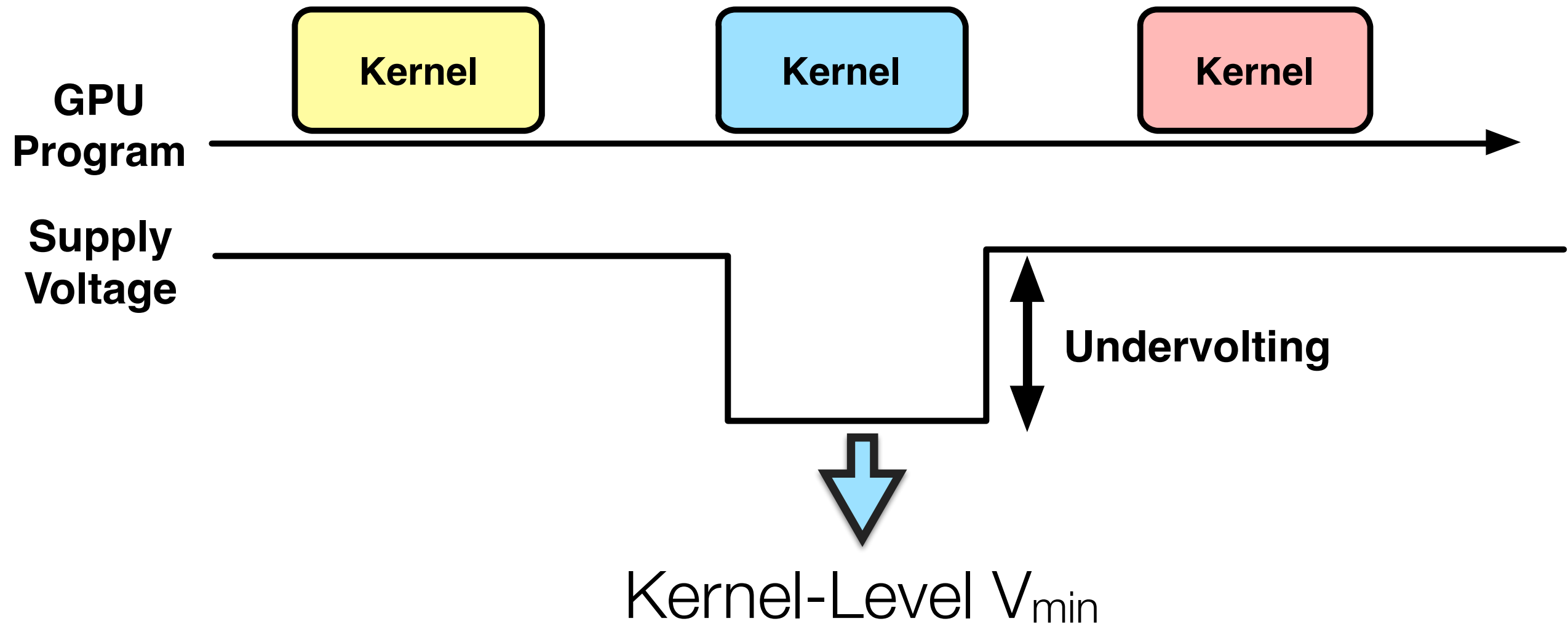
# Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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# Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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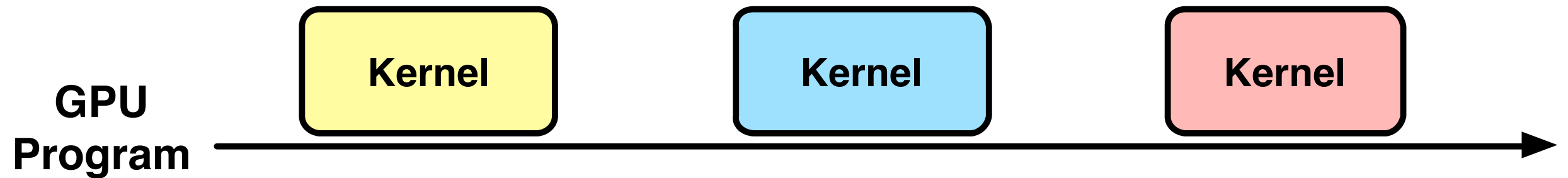


# Program Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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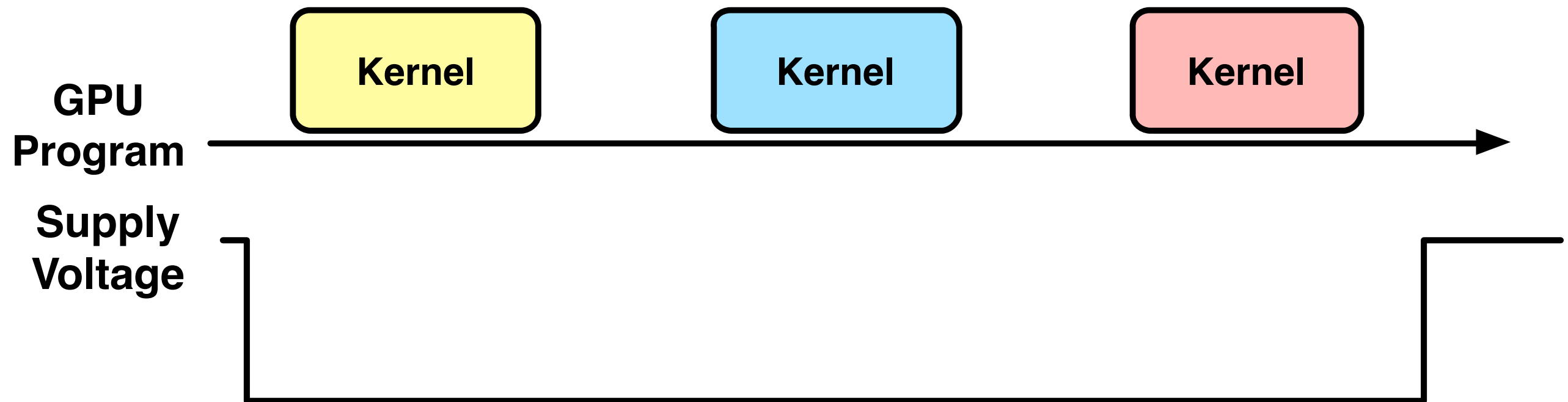
# Program Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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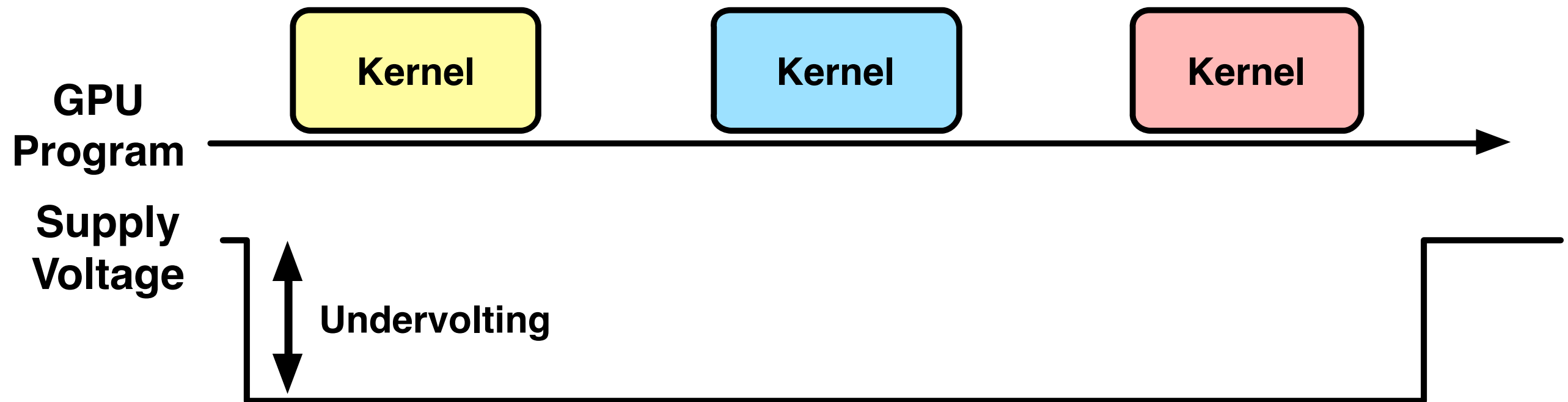
# Program Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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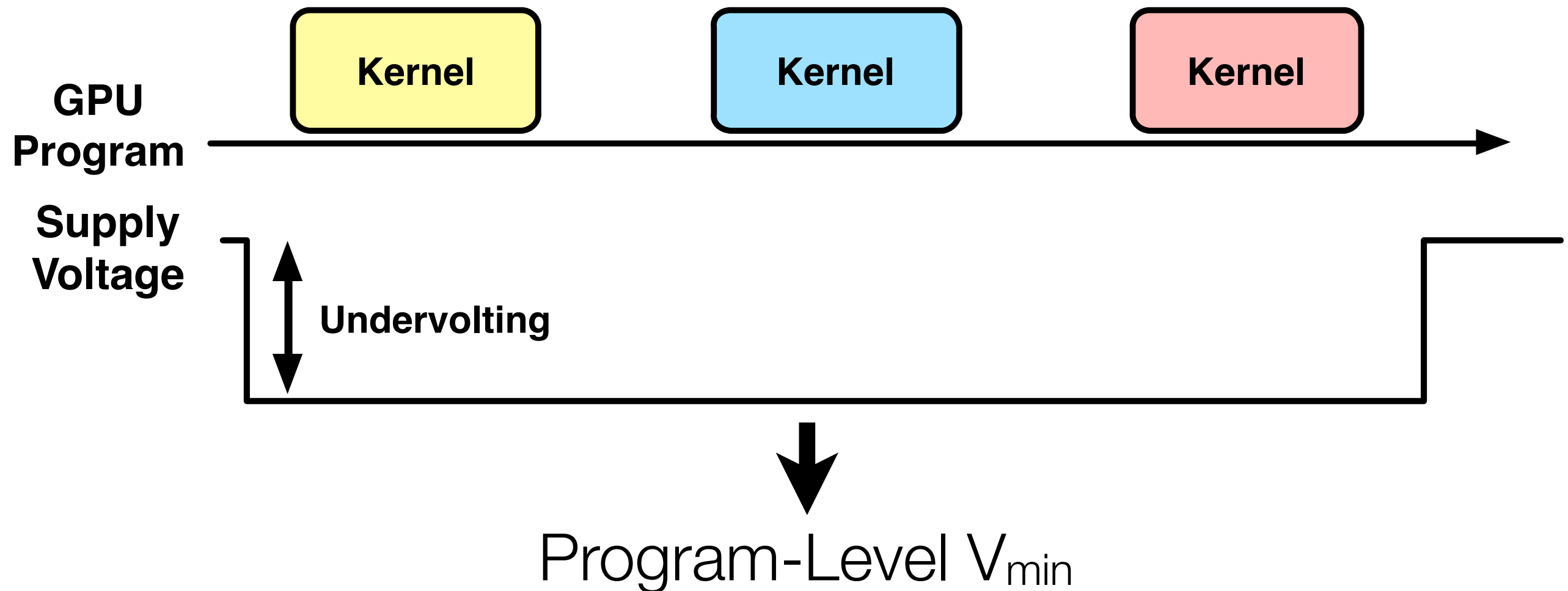
# Program Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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# Program Level $V_{\min}$ Measurement

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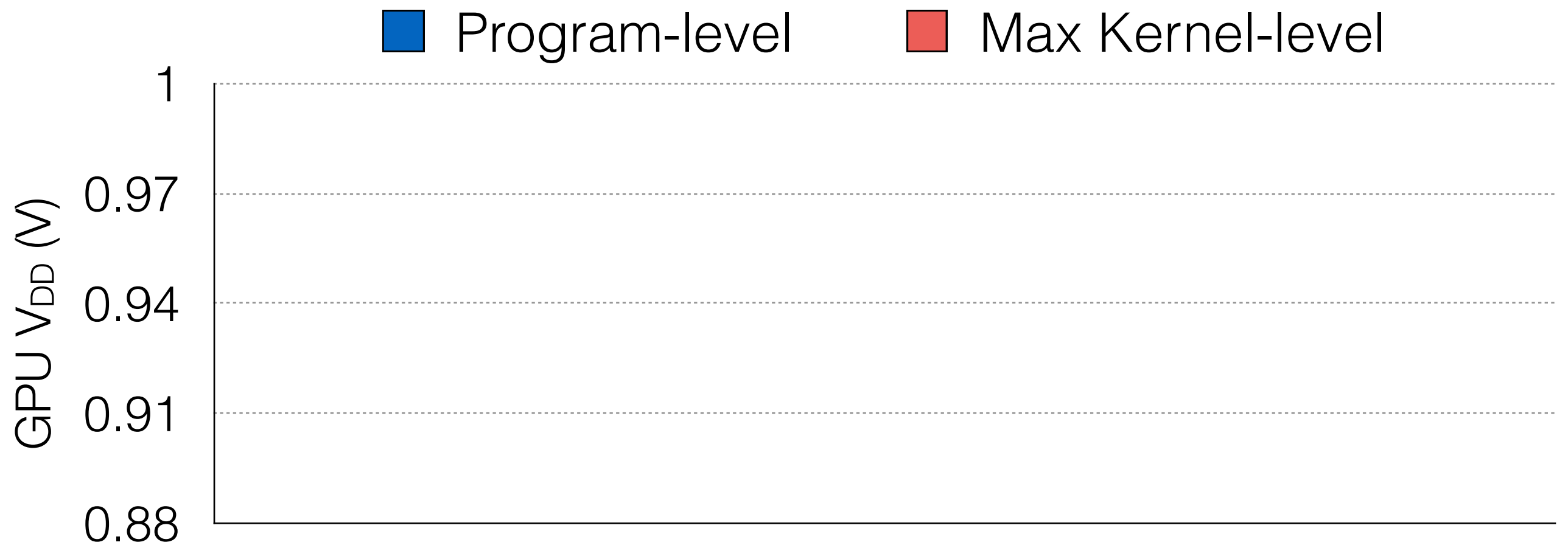


# Program/Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Comparison

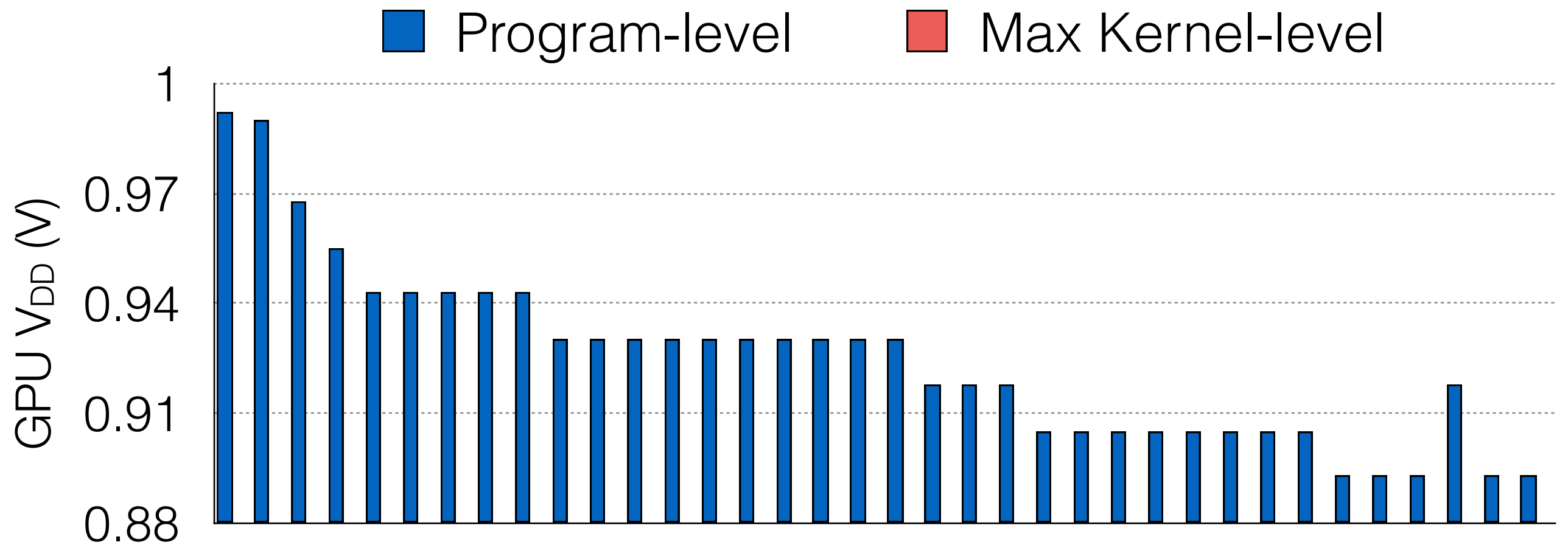
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# Program/Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Comparison

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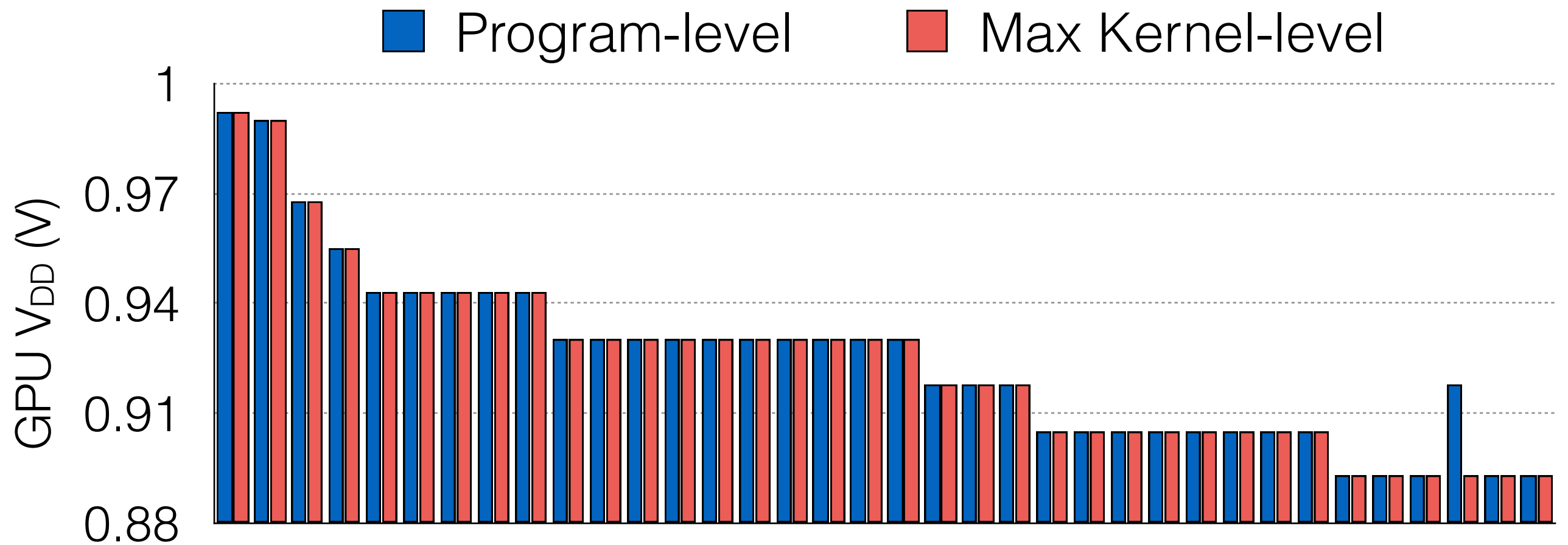


# Program/Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Comparison



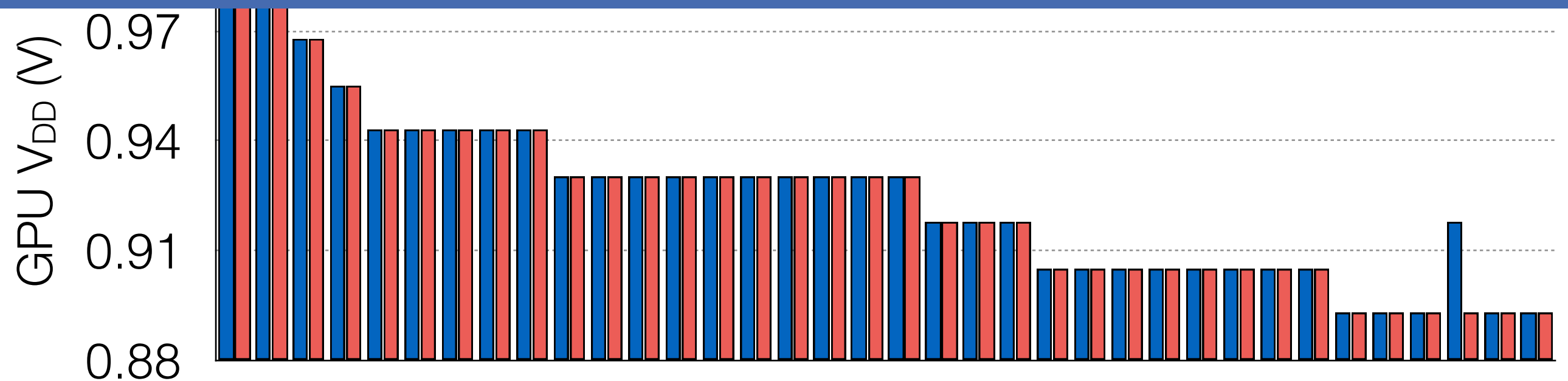


# Program/Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Comparison



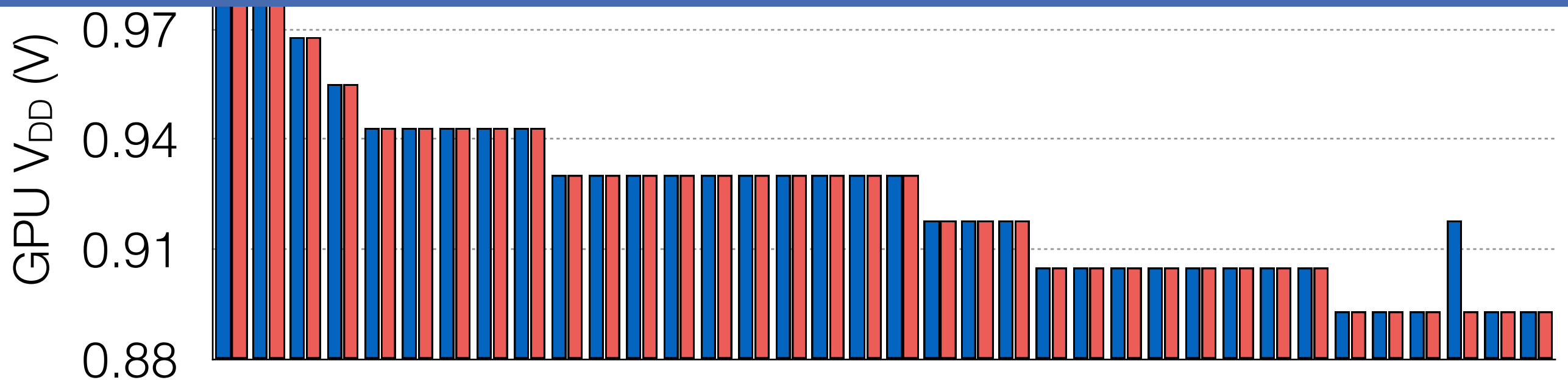
# Program/Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Comparison

- Program-level  $V_{\min}$  same as maximum kernel-level  $V_{\min}$



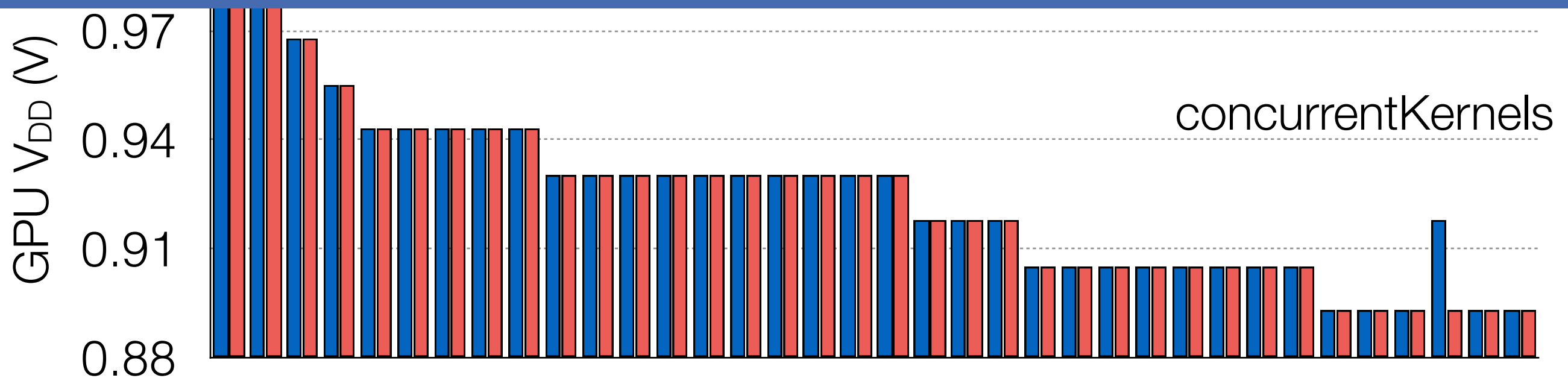
# Program/Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Comparison

- Program-level  $V_{\min}$  same as maximum kernel-level  $V_{\min}$
- Inter-kernel activity does not determine  $V_{\min}$  value



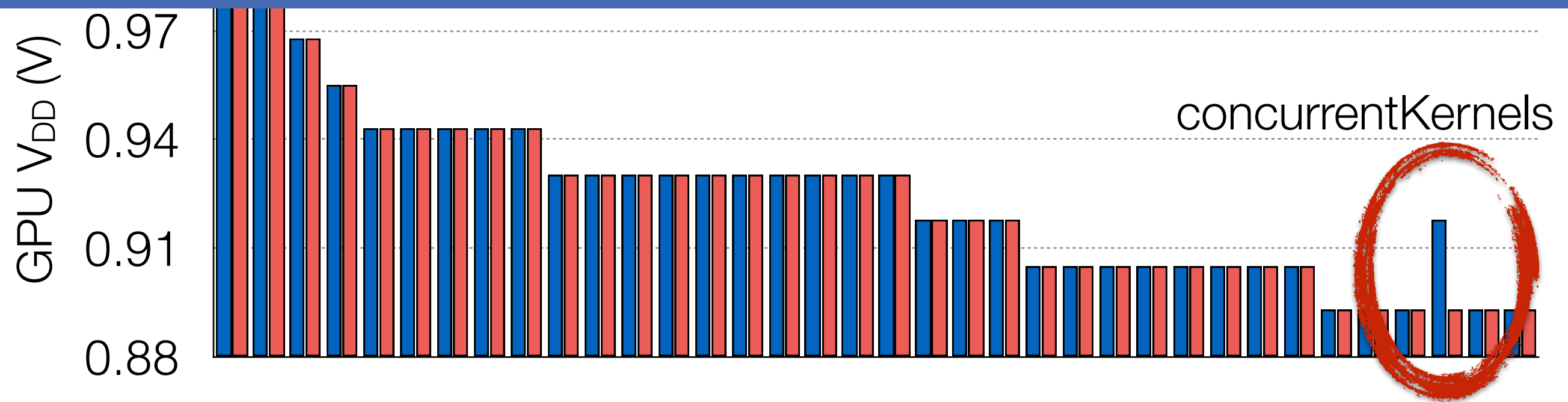
# Program/Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Comparison

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# Program/Kernel Level $V_{\min}$ Comparison

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# Executive Summary

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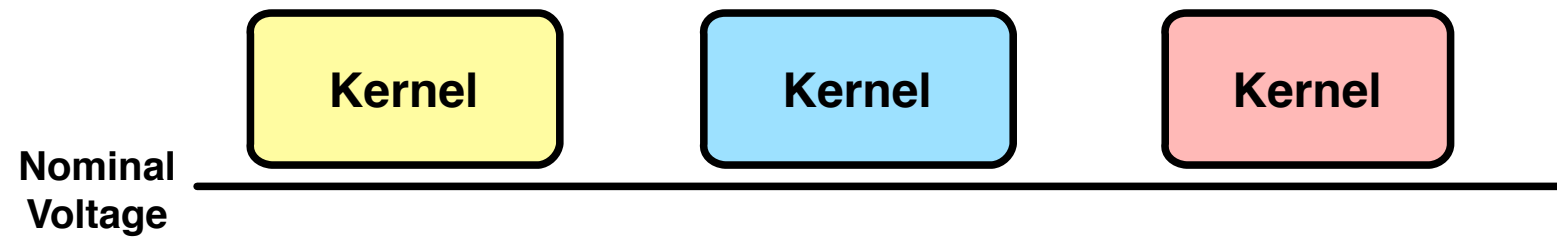
- Guardband measurement
- Guardband analysis
- Guardband optimization

# Predictive Guardbanding

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# Predictive Guardbanding

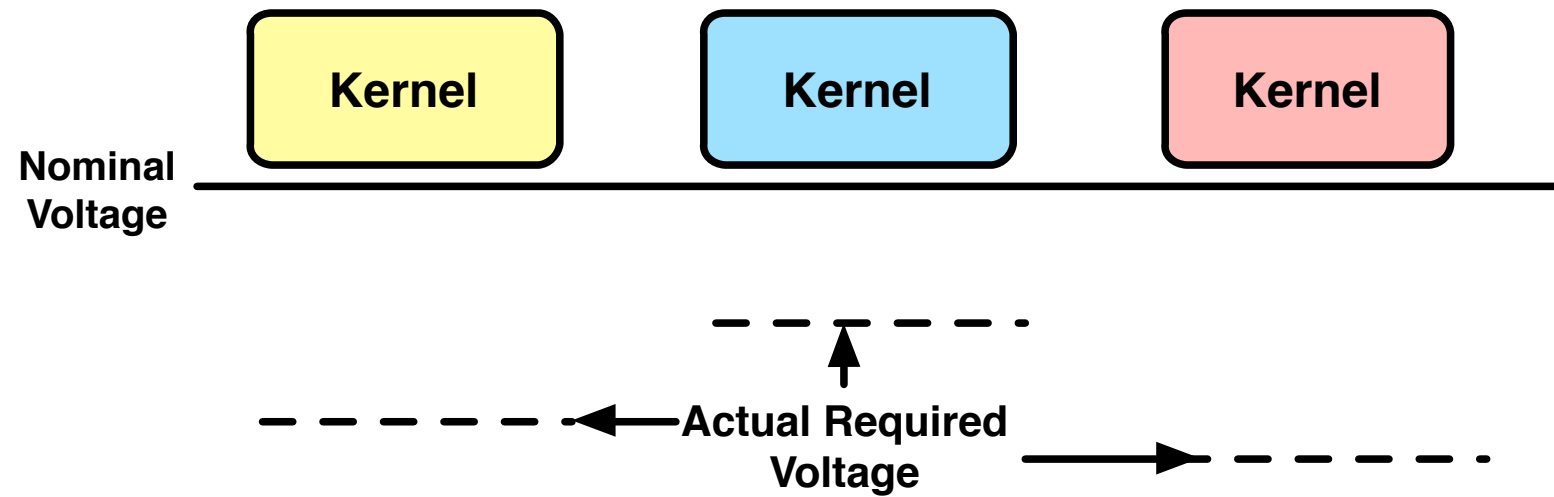
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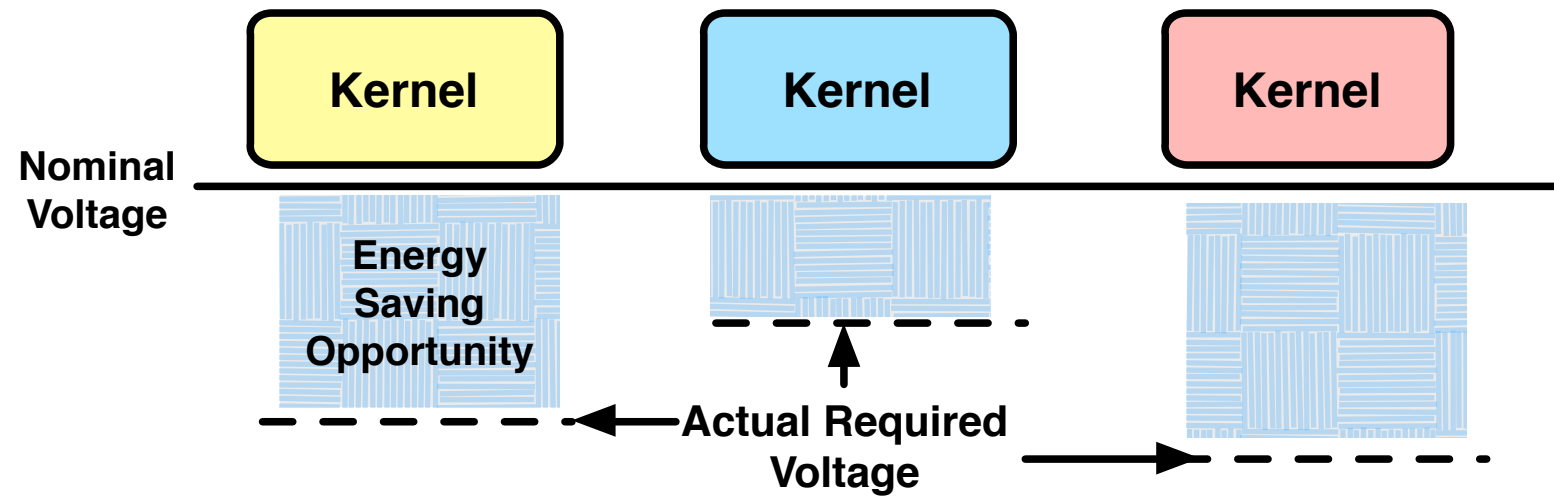
# Predictive Guardbanding

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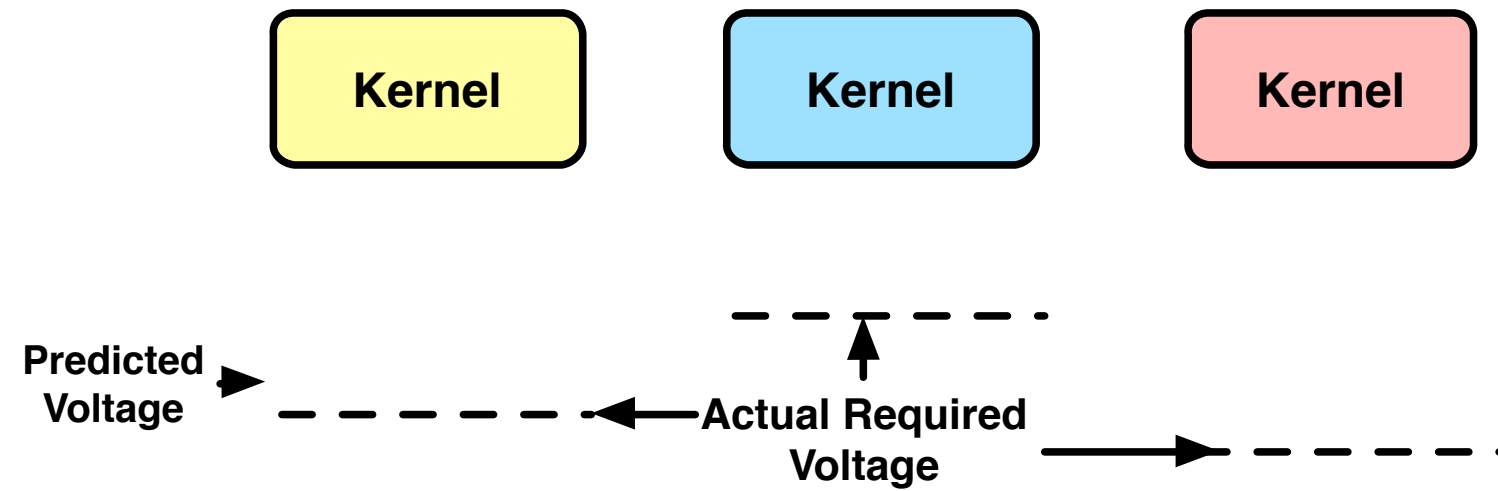
# Predictive Guardbanding

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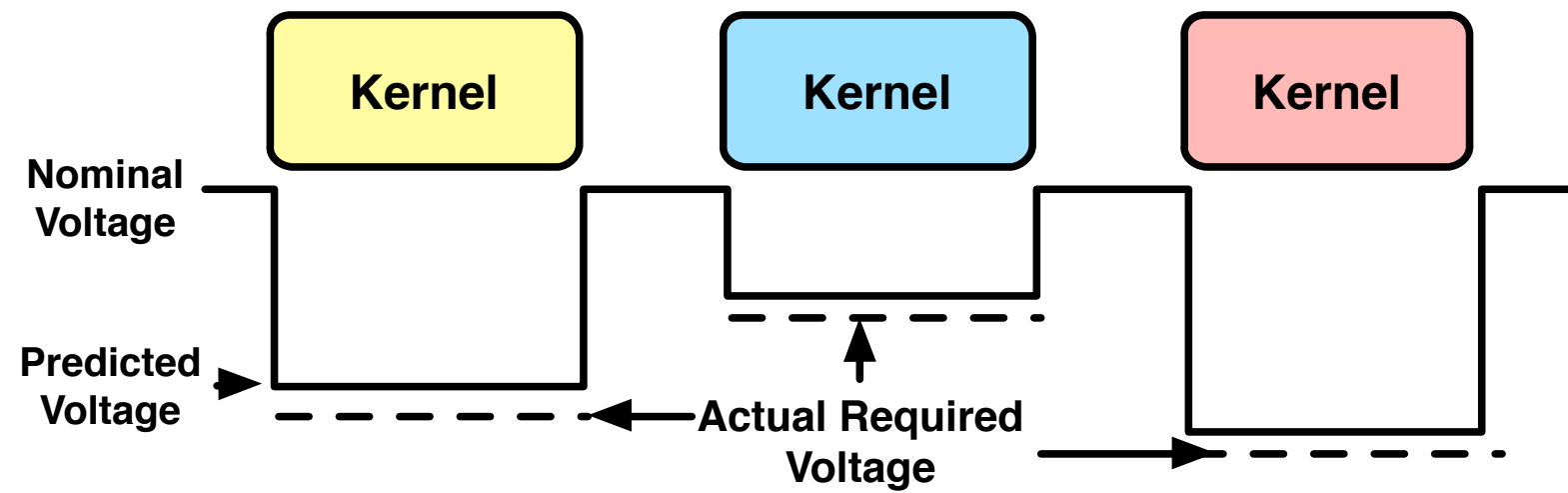
# Predictive Guardbanding

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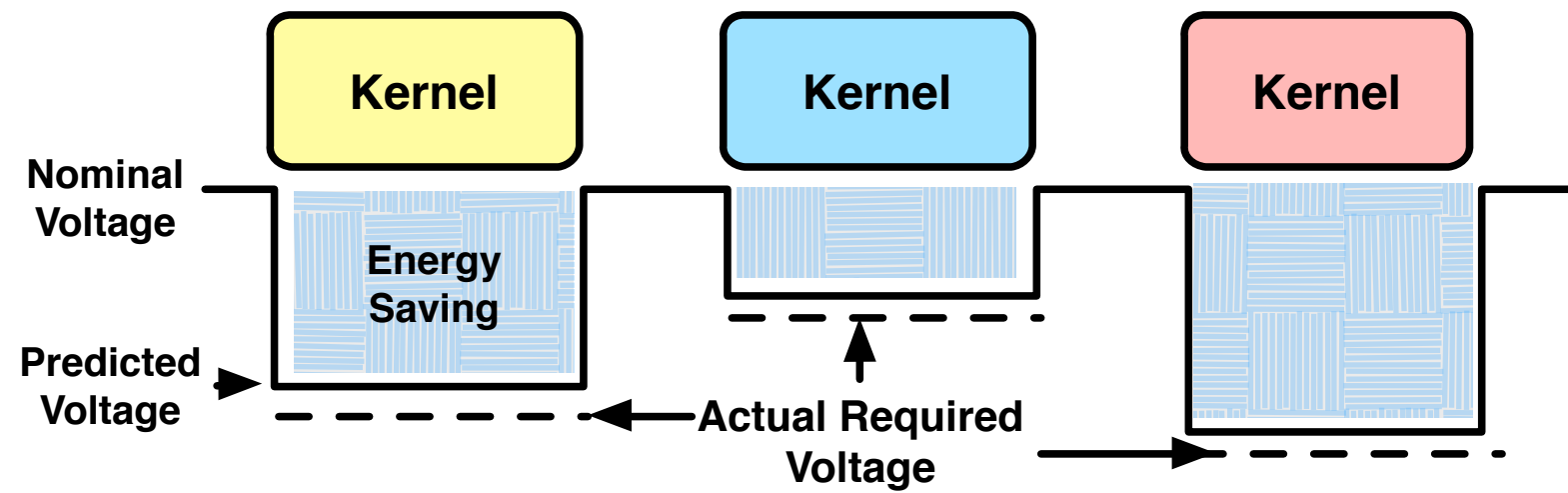
# Predictive Guardbanding

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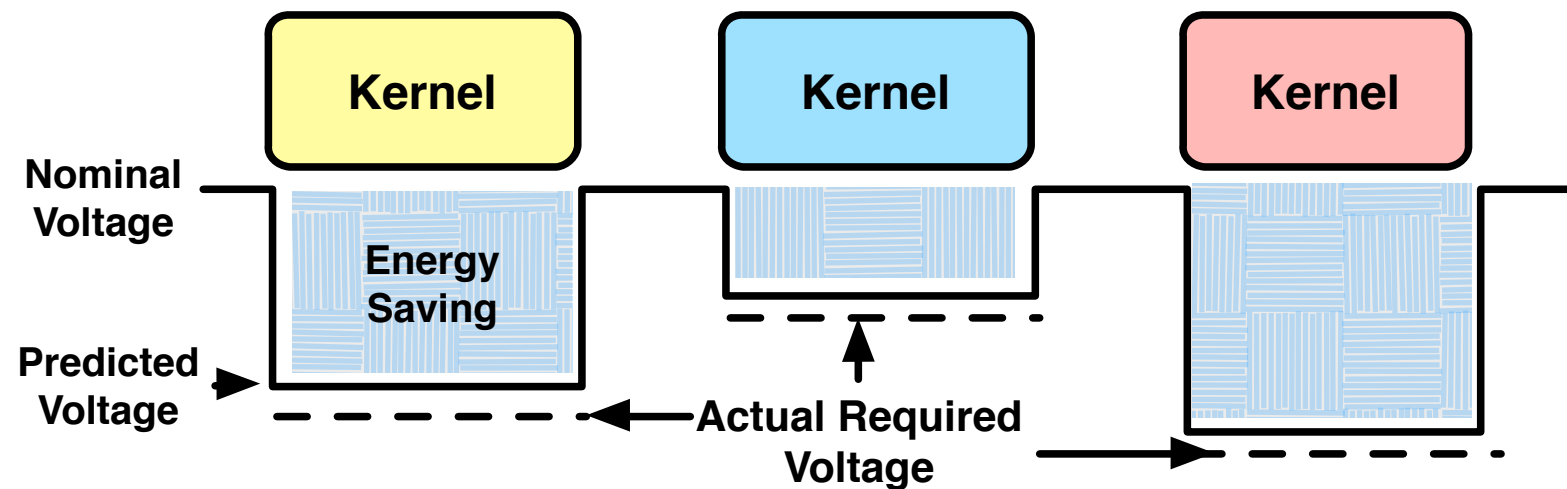
# Predictive Guardbanding

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# Predictive Guardbanding

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- Exploit program-dependent  $V_{\min}$  behavior
- Program/kernel level  $V_{\min}$  prediction

# Performance Counter Based $V_{\min}$ Prediction

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# Performance Counter Based $V_{\min}$ Prediction

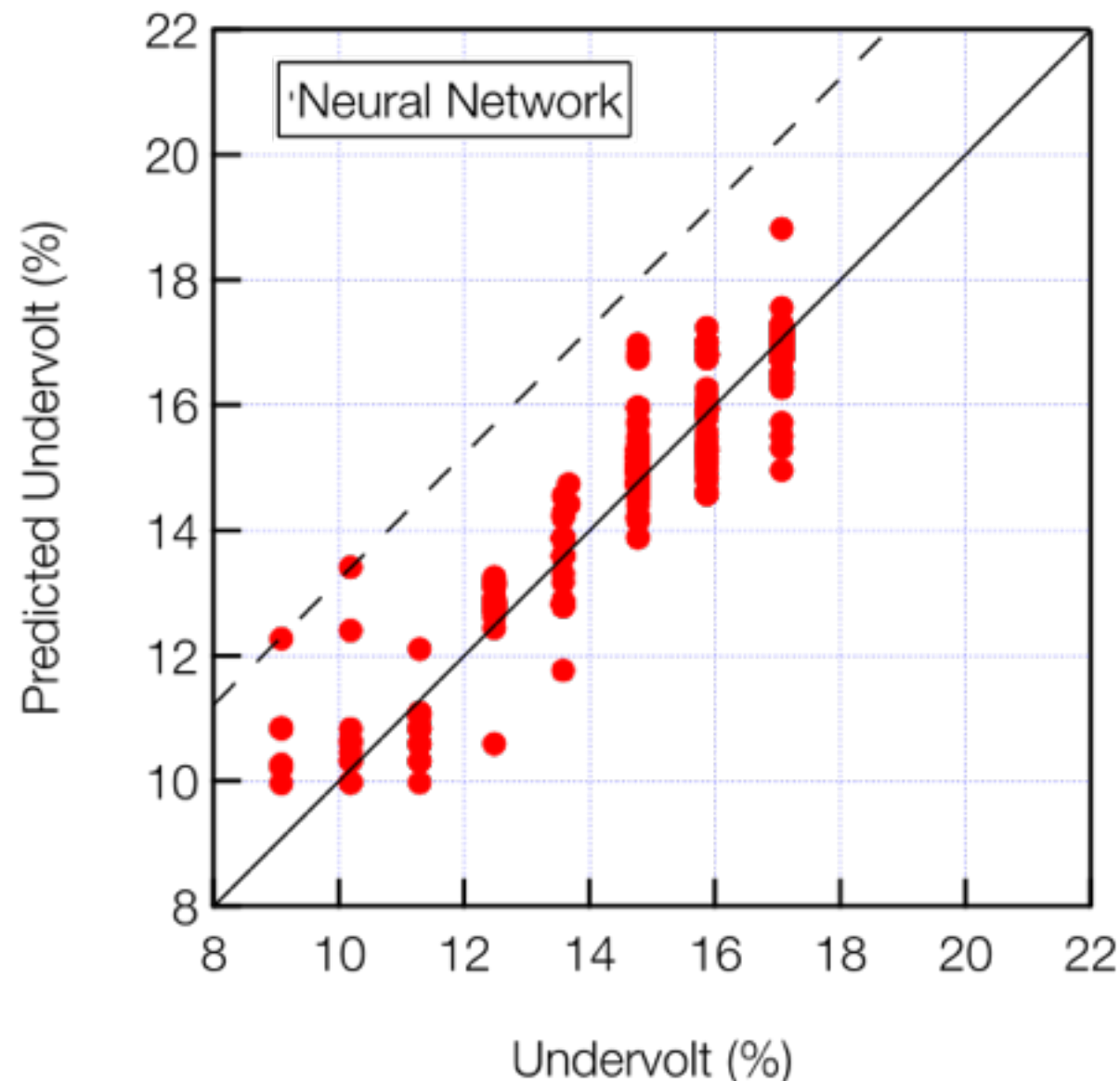
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- Use all available performance counters to construct a  $V_{\min}$  prediction model



# Performance Counter Based $V_{\min}$ Prediction

- Use all available performance counters to construct a  $V_{\min}$  prediction model



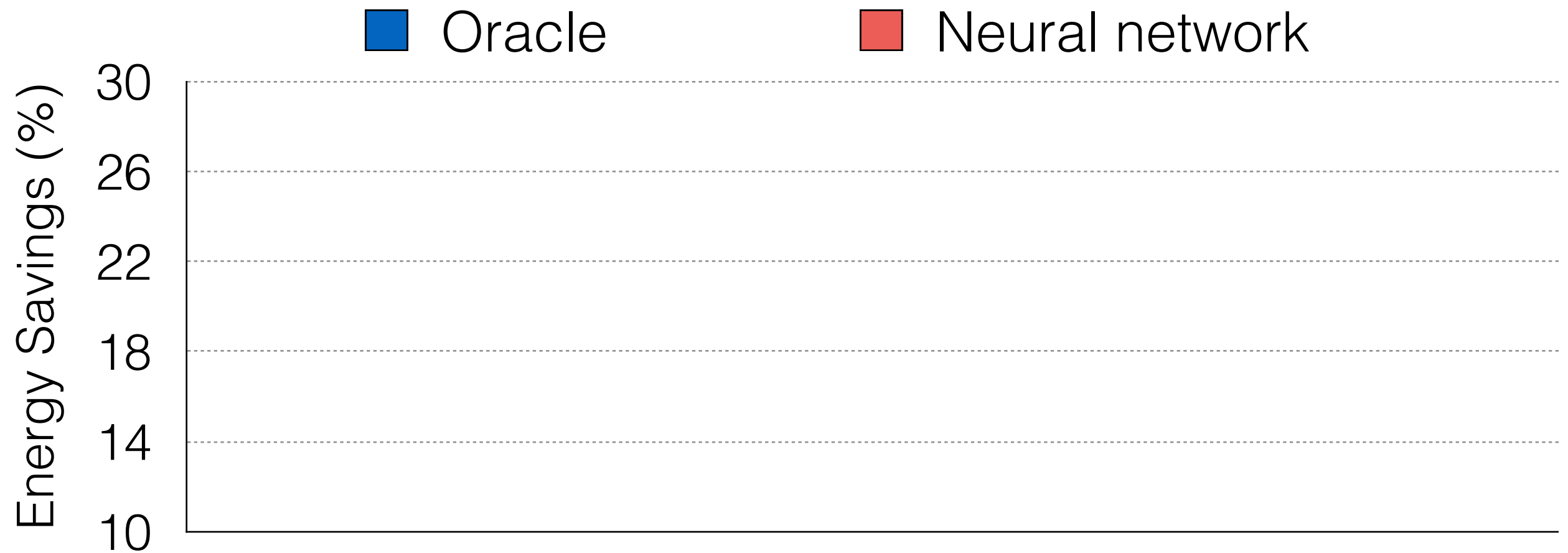
Neural network  
RMSE: 0.5%, max error: 3%

# Energy Efficiency Optimization Potential

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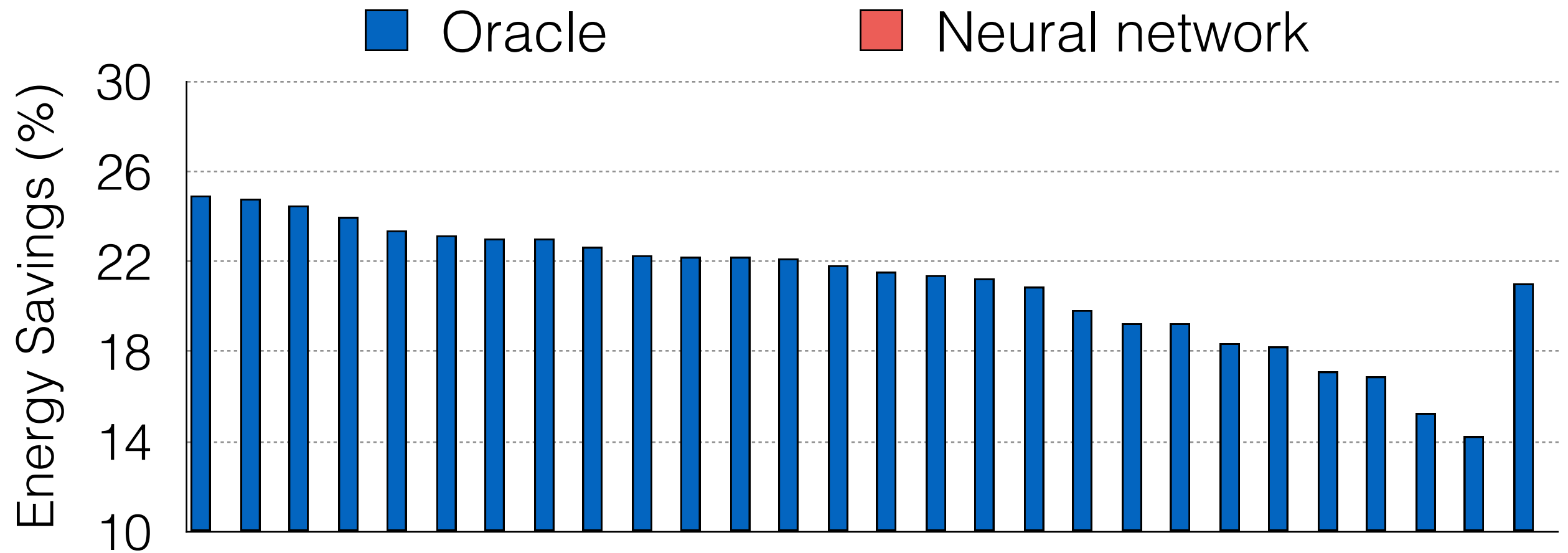
# Energy Efficiency Optimization Potential

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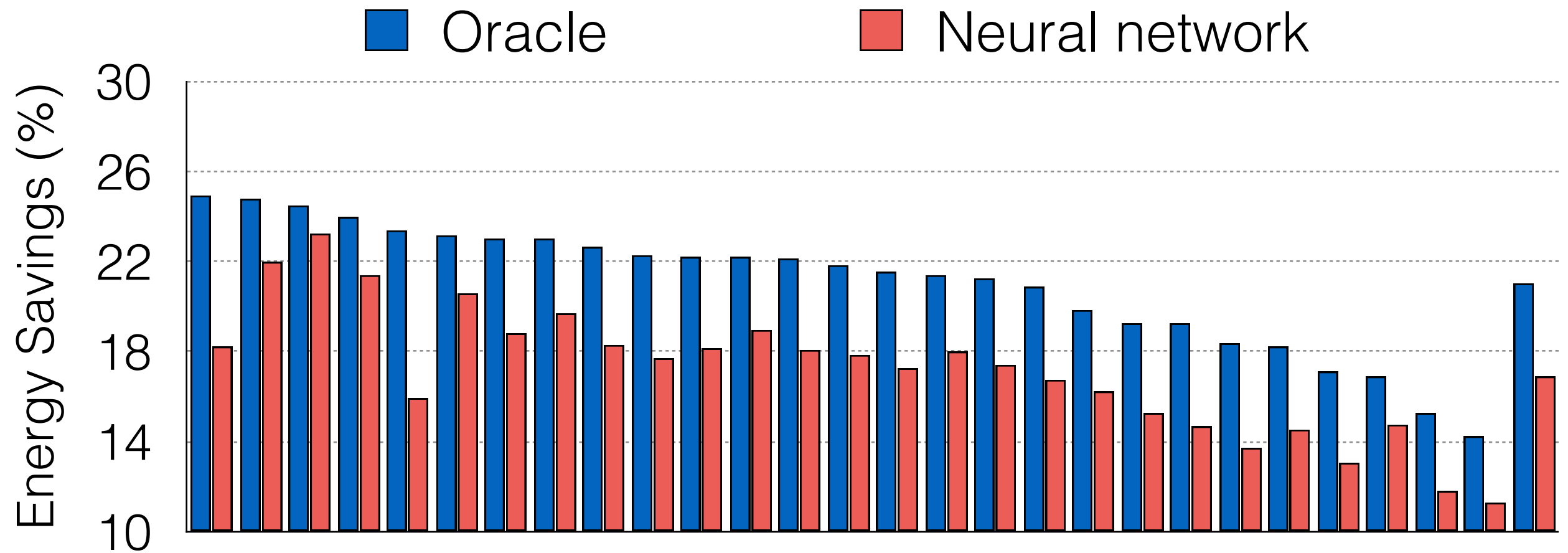


# Energy Efficiency Optimization Potential

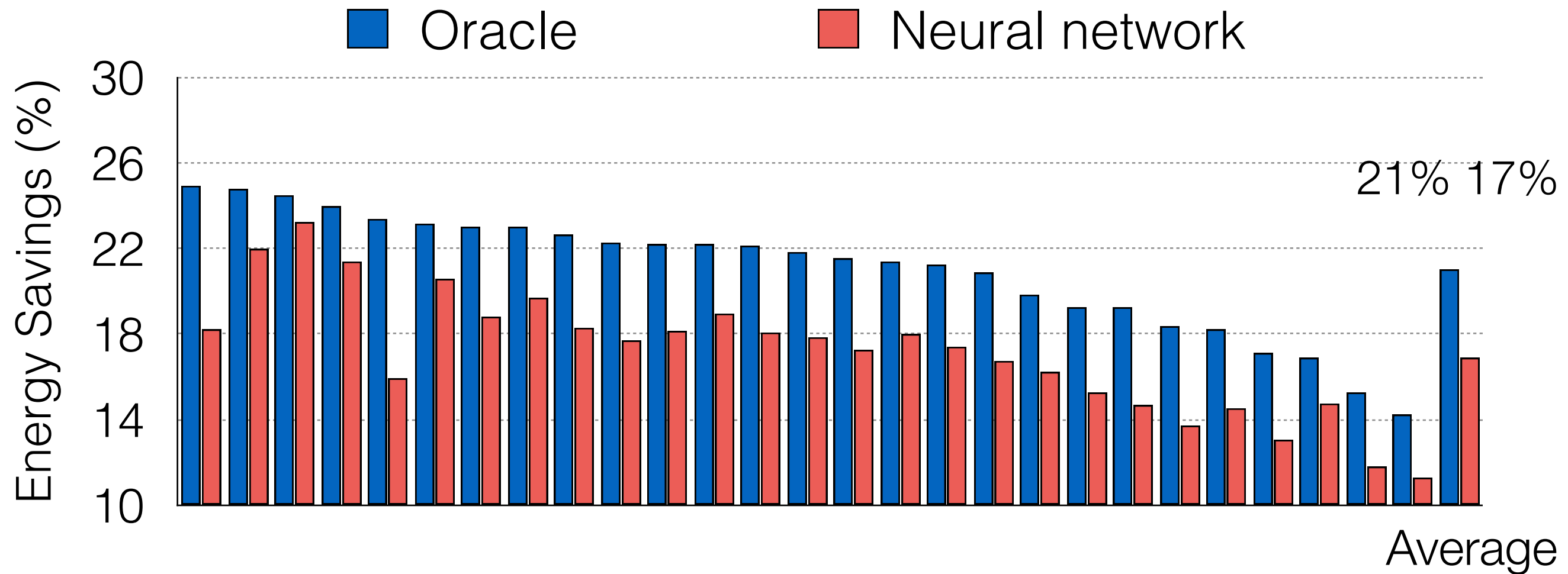
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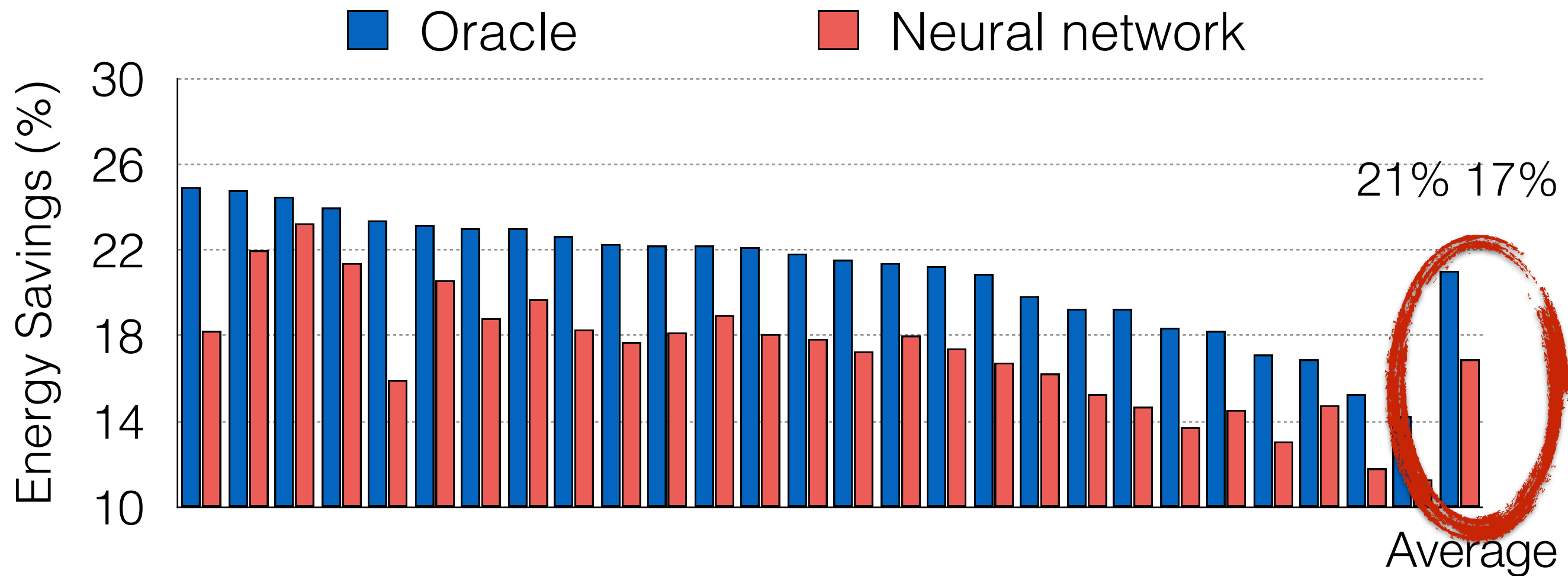
# Energy Efficiency Optimization Potential



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# Energy Efficiency Optimization Potential



# Conclusion

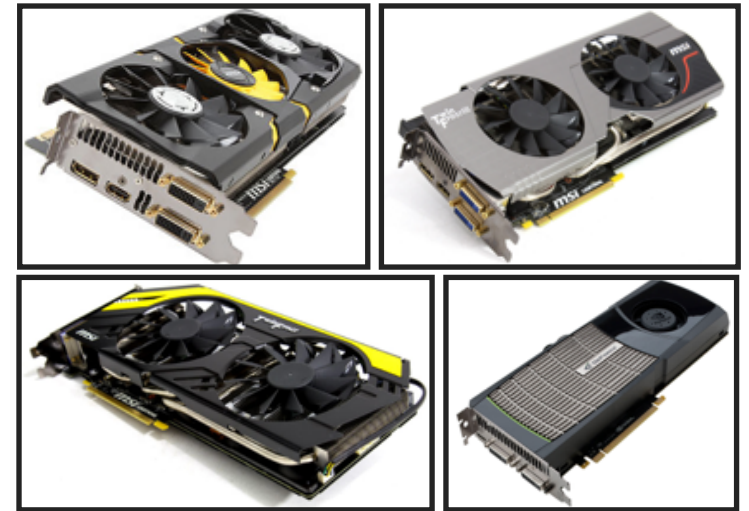
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# Conclusion

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Large amount (up to 20%) of voltage guardband for GPUs



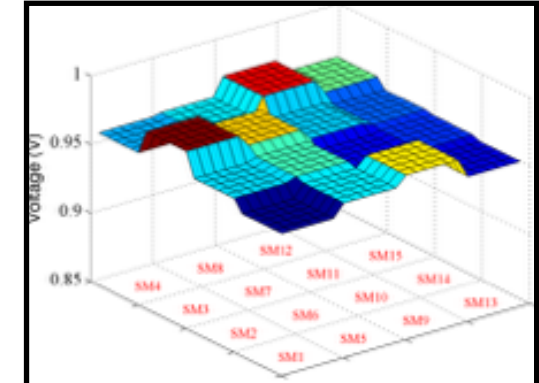
# Conclusion

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Large amount (up to 20%) of voltage guardband for GPUs



Intra-kernel di/dt droop is the largest guardband determinant

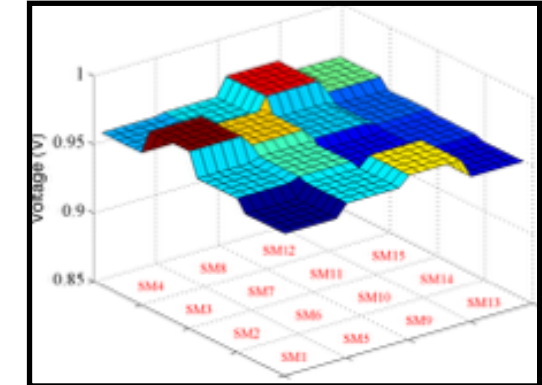


# Conclusion

Large amount (up to 20%) of voltage guardband for GPUs



Intra-kernel di/dt droop is the largest guardband determinant



We show the potential of program-driven predictive guardbanding

