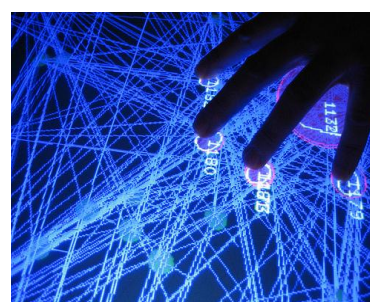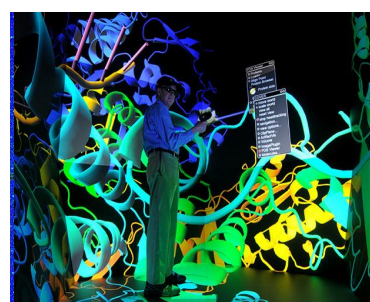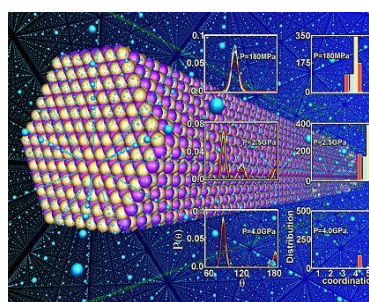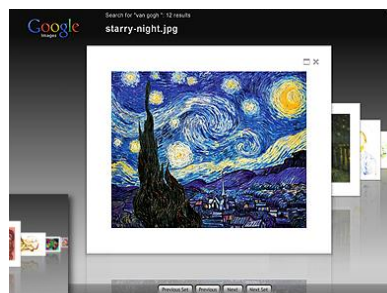# TimeGraph: GPU Scheduling for Real-Time Multi-Tasking Environments

Shinpei Kato*, Karthik Lakshmanan*, Raj Rajkumar*, and Yutaka Ishikawa**

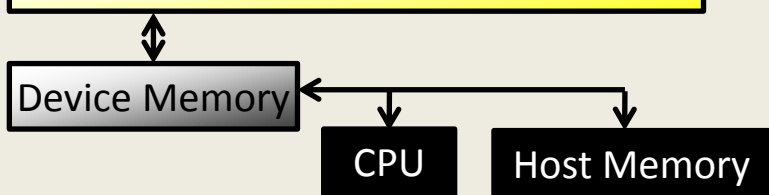* Carnegie Mellon University   ** The University of Tokyo

Graphics Applications

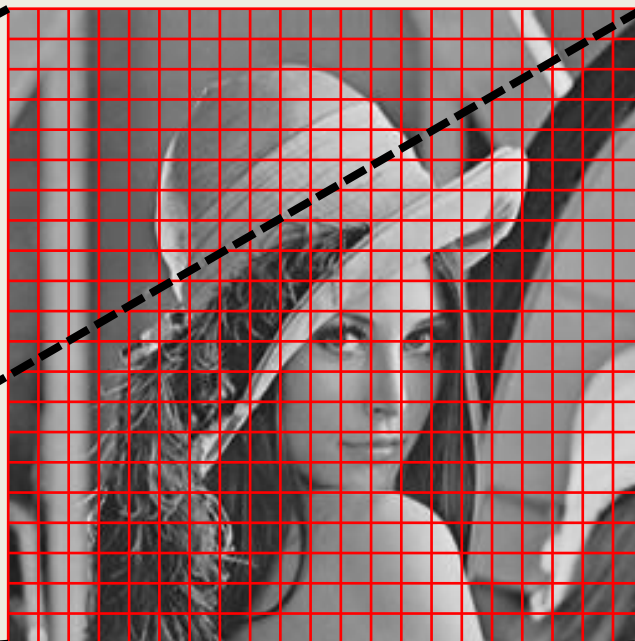# Graphics Processing Unit (GPU)
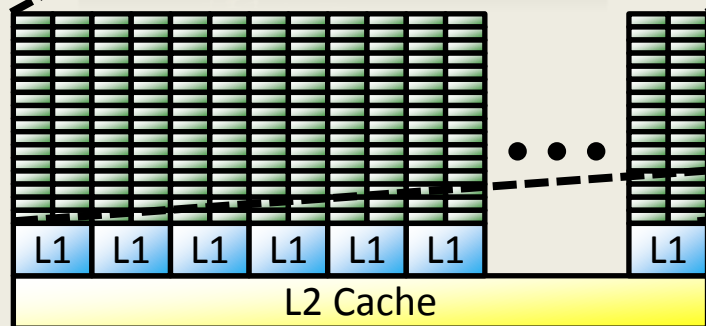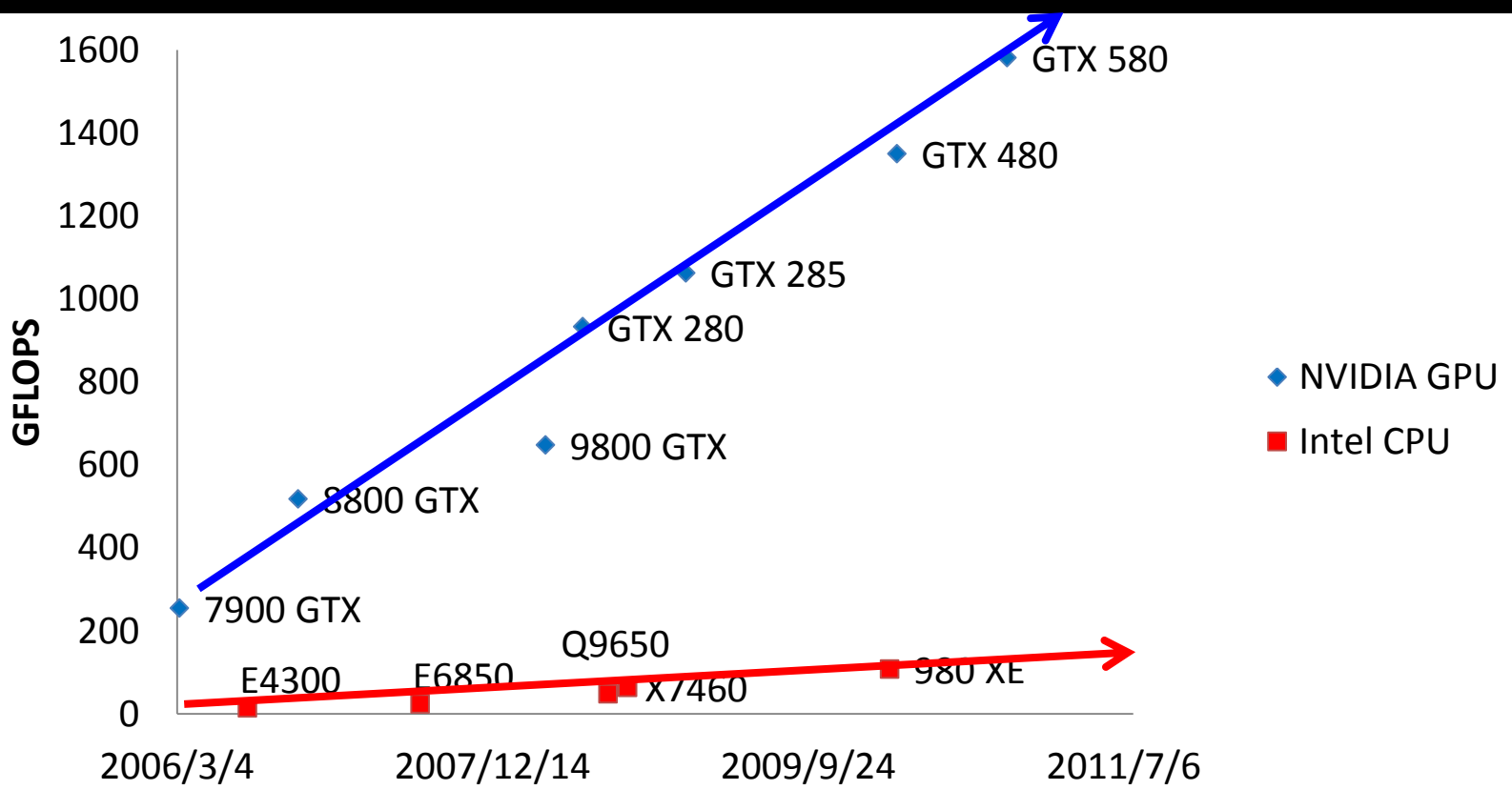
Peak Performance

Peak Performance "per Watt"
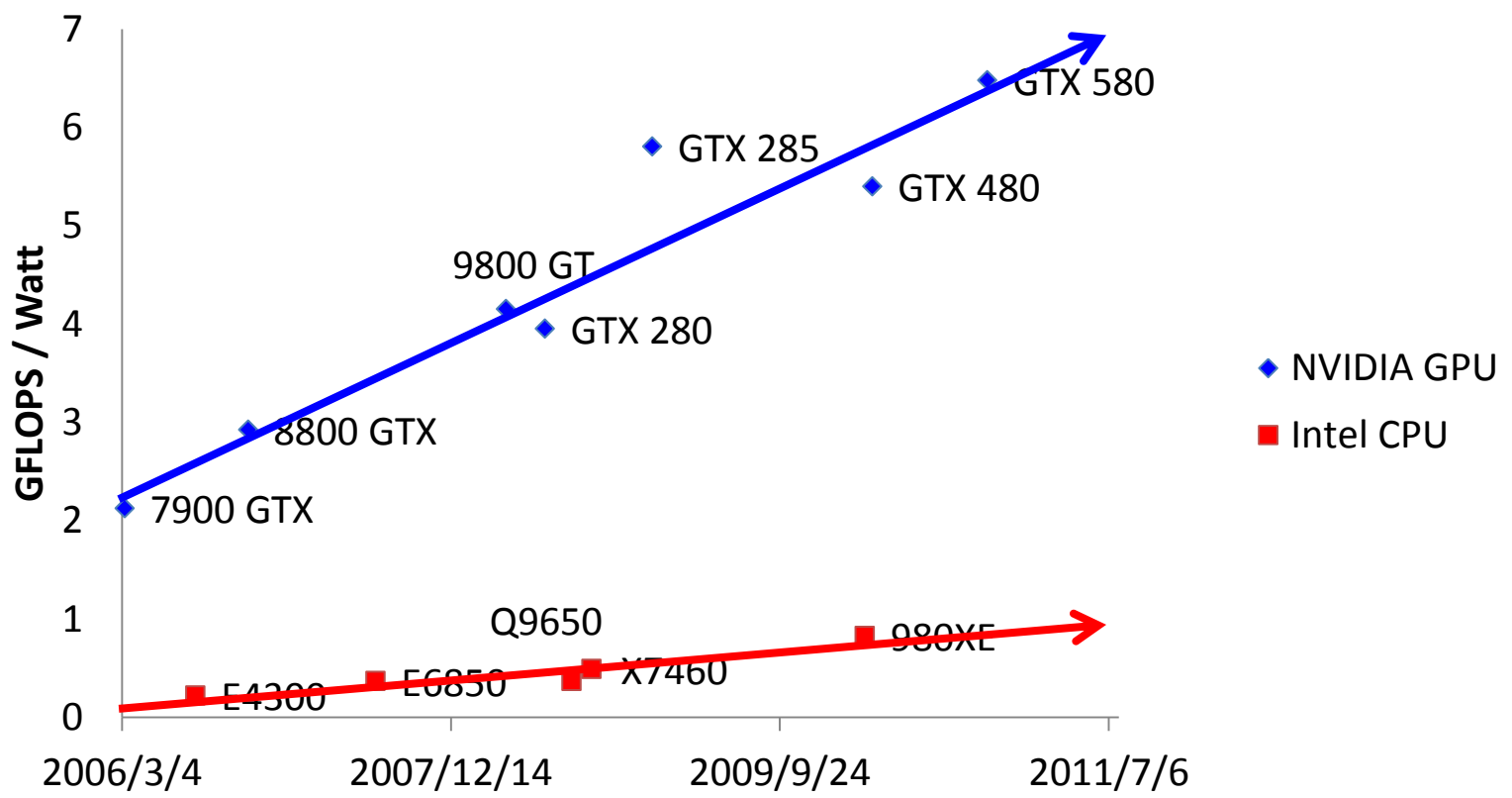
General-Purpose Computing on GPU (GPGPU)

3-D On-line Game

Autonomous Driving

Virtual Reality

3-D Interface

Computer Vision
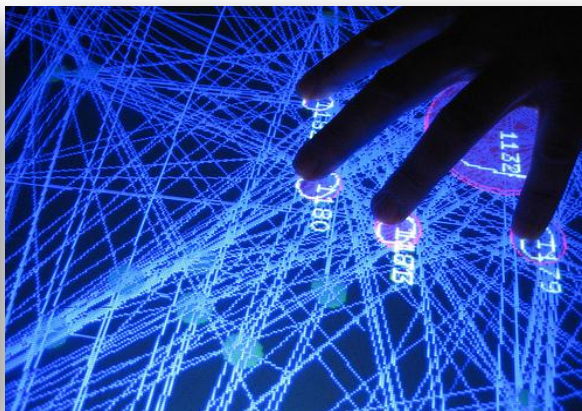
Scientific Simulation
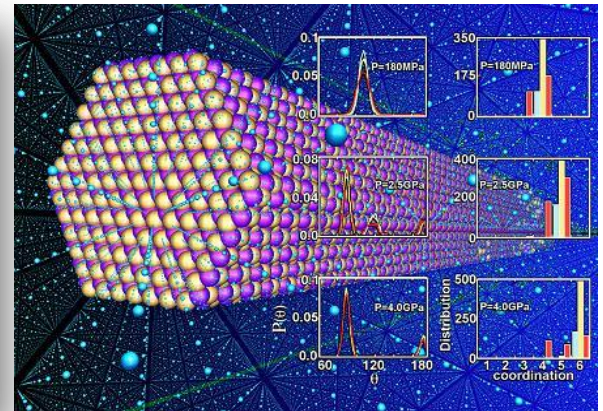
Outline

1. Introduction
2. What's Problem
3. Our Solution – "TimeGraph"
4. Evaluation
5. Summary

GPU Is Command-Driven
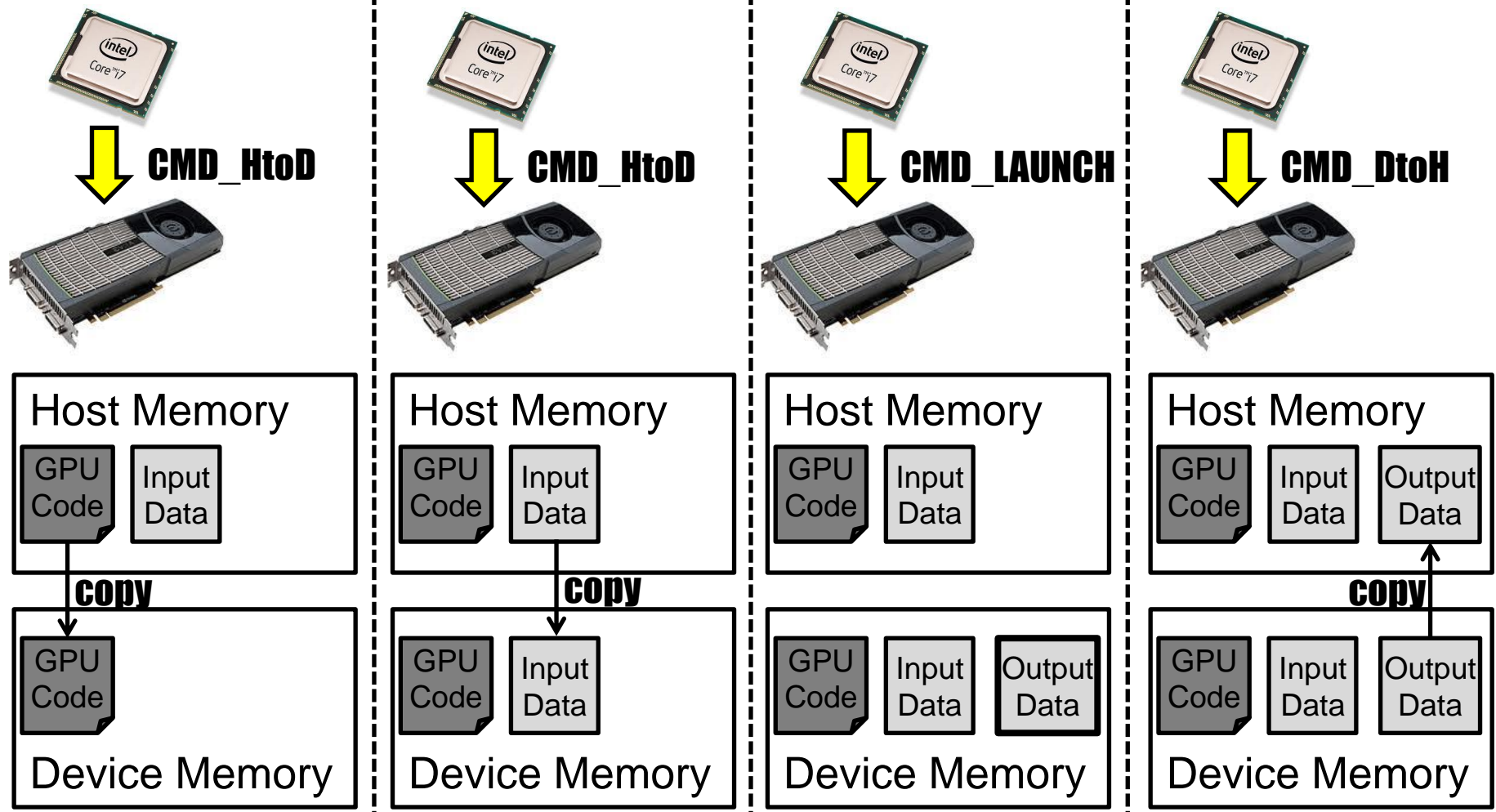
Multi-Tasking Problem
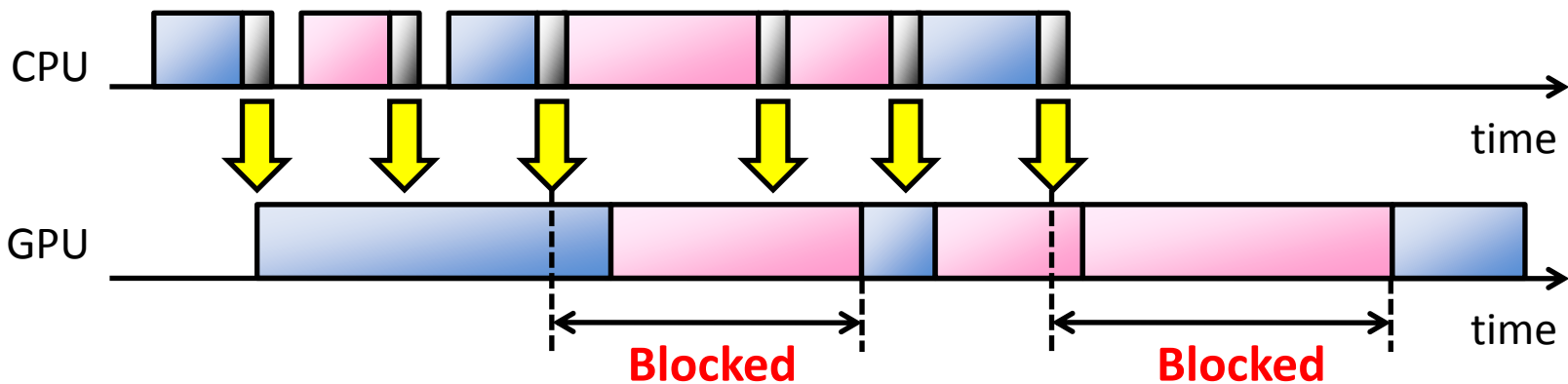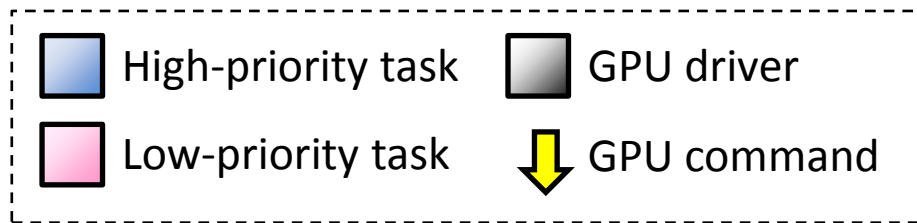
Impact of Interference

Observe Frame Rate of OpenArena (3-D Game) on Linux

NVIDIA proprietary driver
Nouveau open-source driver

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TimeGraph Architecture
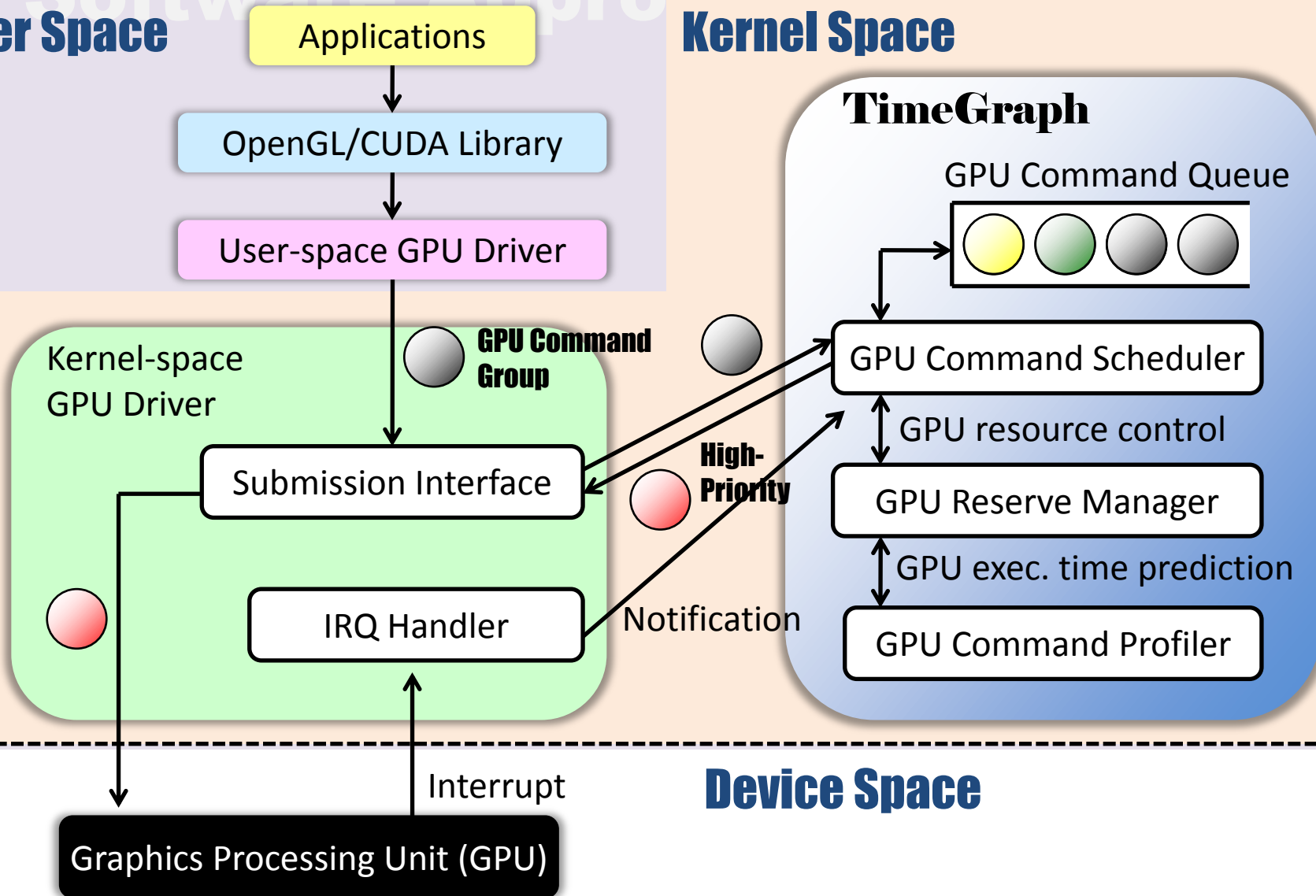
Priority Support – Predictable Response Time (PRT) Policy

- When GPU is not idle, GPU commands are queued
- When GPU gets idle, GPU commands are dispatched
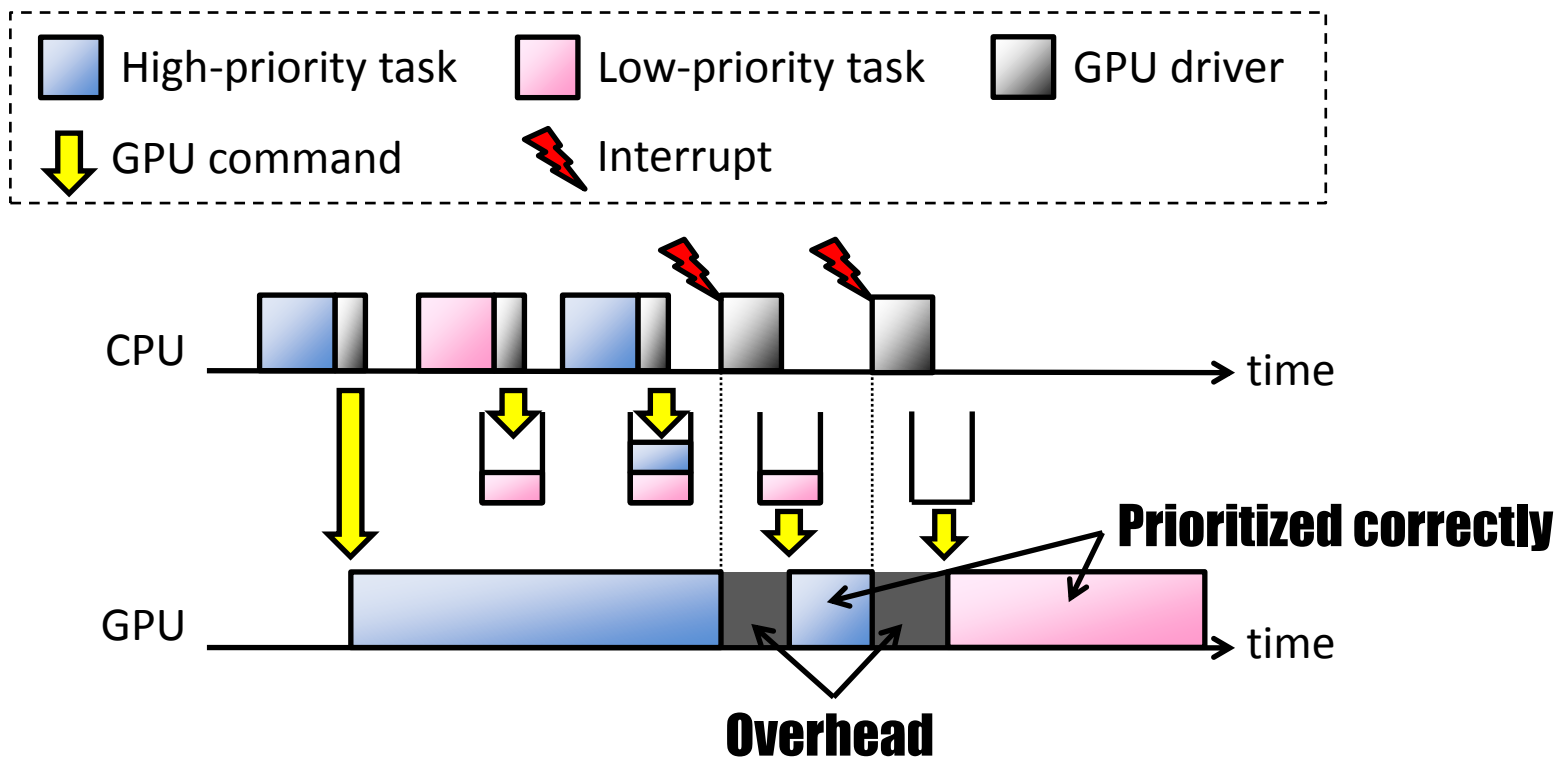
# Priority Support – High Throughput (HT) Policy

- When GPU is not idle, GPU commands are queued, **only if priority is lower than current GPU context**

- When GPU gets idle, GPU commands are dispatched

Overhead reduced
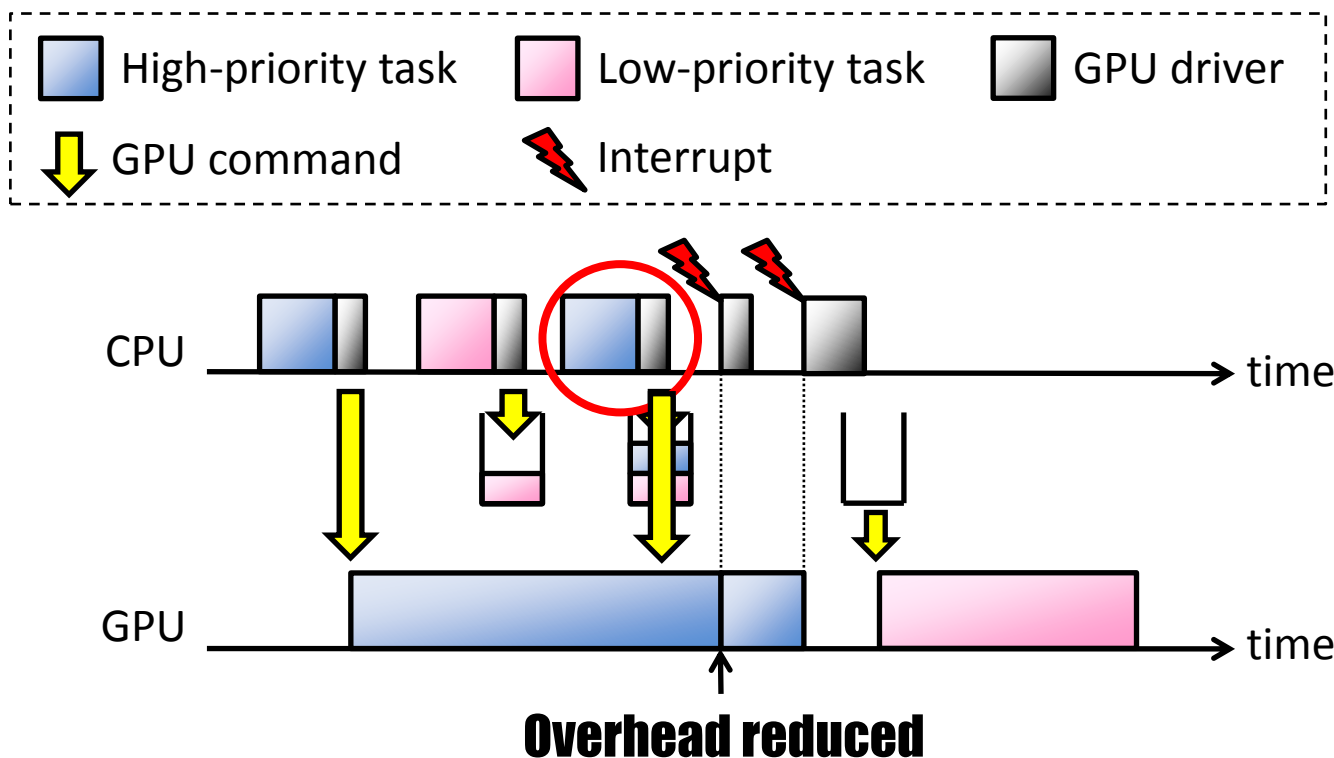
Reservation Support – Posterior Enforcement (PE) Policy

- Enforce GPU resource usage *optimistically*
- Specify *capacity* (C) and *period* (P) per task (/proc/GPU/$TASK)
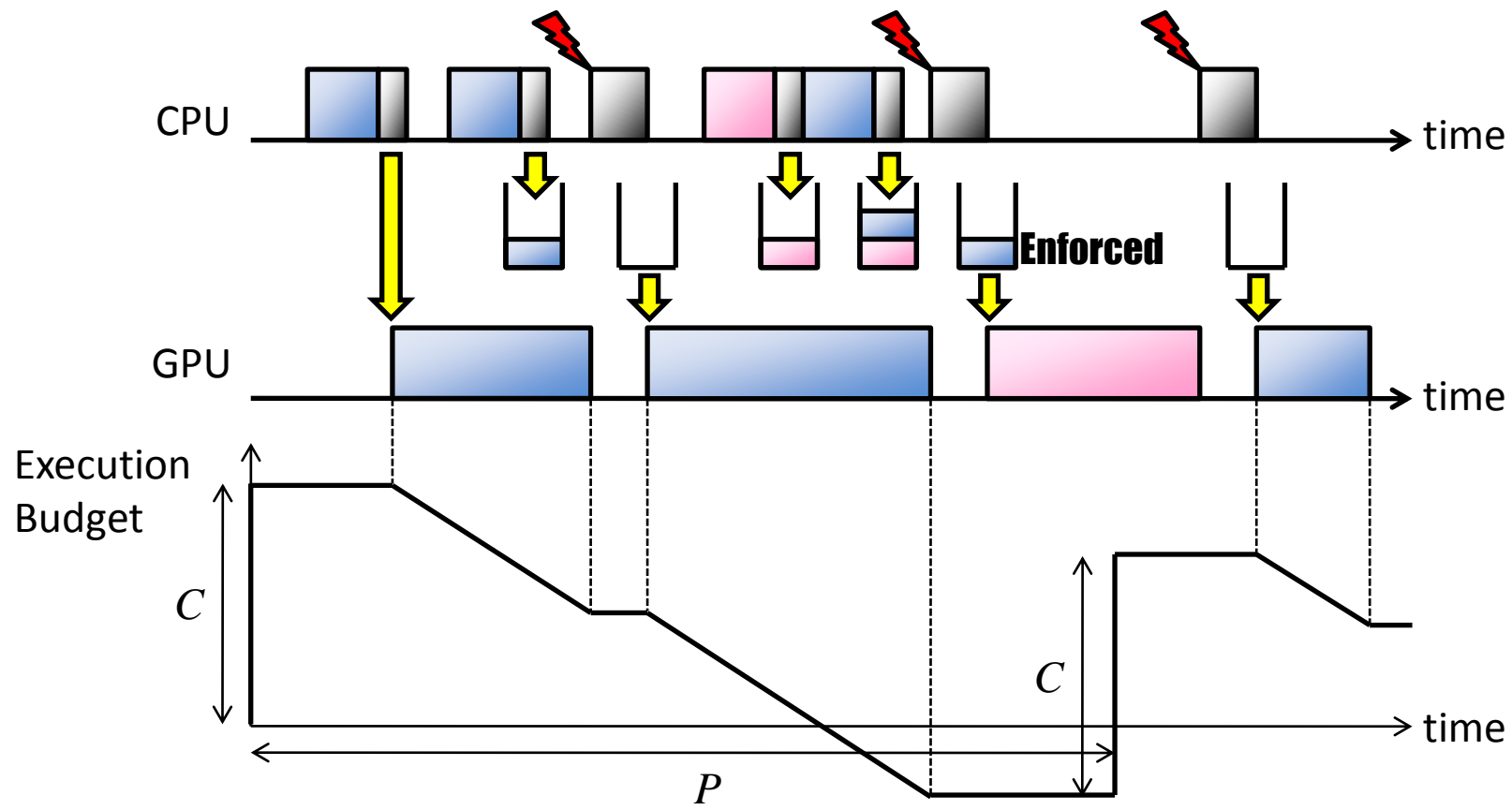
Reservation Support – Apriori Enforcement (AE) Policy

- Enforce GPU resource usage *pessimistically*
- Specify *capacity* (C) and *period* (P) per task (/proc/GPU/$TASK)
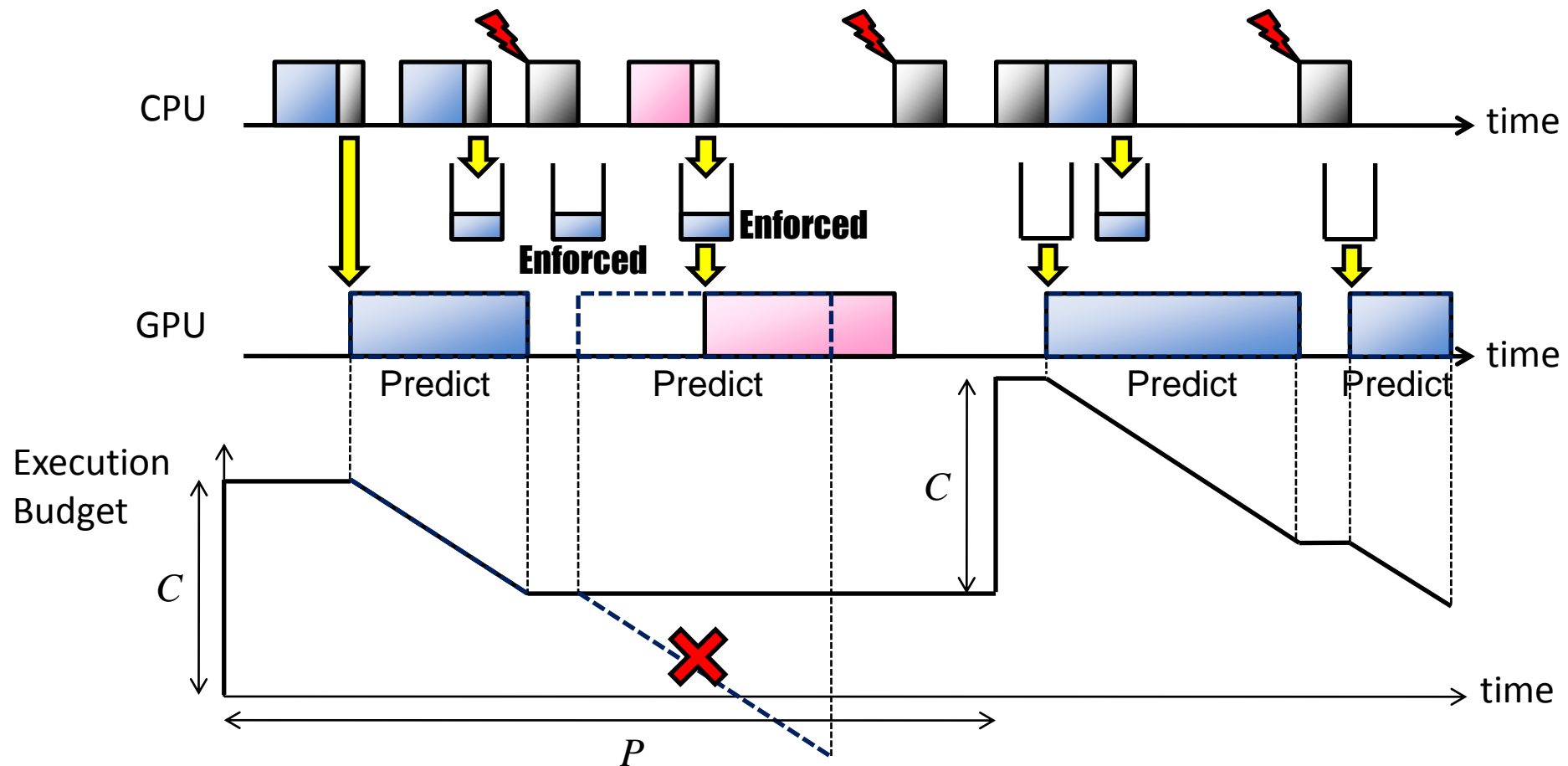
GPU Execution Time Prediction

- History-based approach
  - Search **records of previous sequences of GPU commands** that **match** the **incoming sequences of GPU commands**
  - Works for **2-D** but needs investigation for **3-D** and **Compute**
- Please see the paper for the detail 🙂

Outline

1. **Introduction**
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3. **Our Solution – "TimeGraph"**
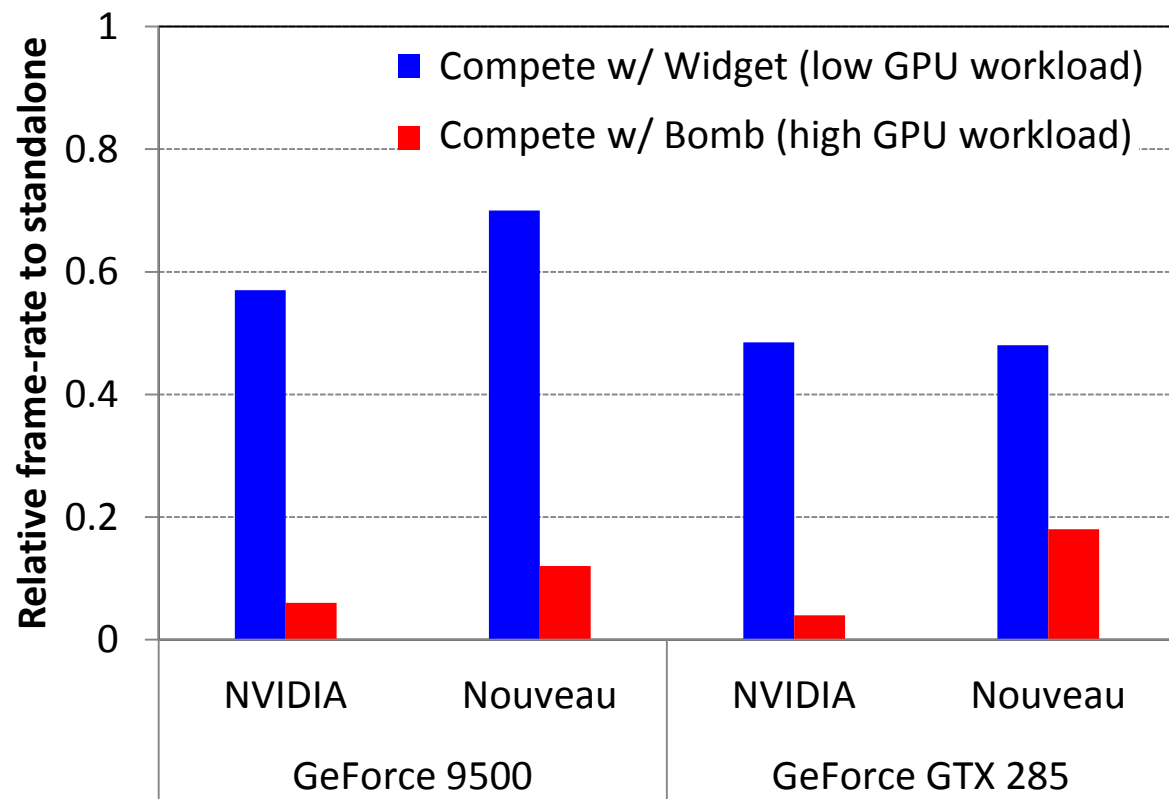4. **Evaluation**
5. **Summary**

Experimental Setup

- **GPU**: NVIDIA GeForce 9800 GT
- **CPU**: Intel Xeon E5504
- **OS**: Linux Kernel 2.6.36
  - **Nouveau** open-source driver
- **Benchmark:**
  - Phoronix Test Suite http://www.phoronix-test-suite.com/
    - Including OpenGL 3-D game programs
  - Gallium3D Demo Suite http://www.mesa3d.org/
    - Including OpenGL 3-D widget and graphics-bomb programs

Performance Protection

Frame Rate of 3-D Game competing with Graphics Bomb in background

Legend:
- ■ No TimeGraph Support
- ■ Priority Support (**High Priority -> 3-D Game**)
- ■ Priority & **PE** Reservation Support (**GPU Util. 10% -> Graphics Bomb**)
- ■ Priority & **AE** Reservation Support (**GPU Util. 10% -> Graphics Bomb**)

Y-axis: Average frame-rate (fps)
X-axis: 3-D Game Application (OpenArena, World of Padman, Urban Terror, Unreal Trounament)
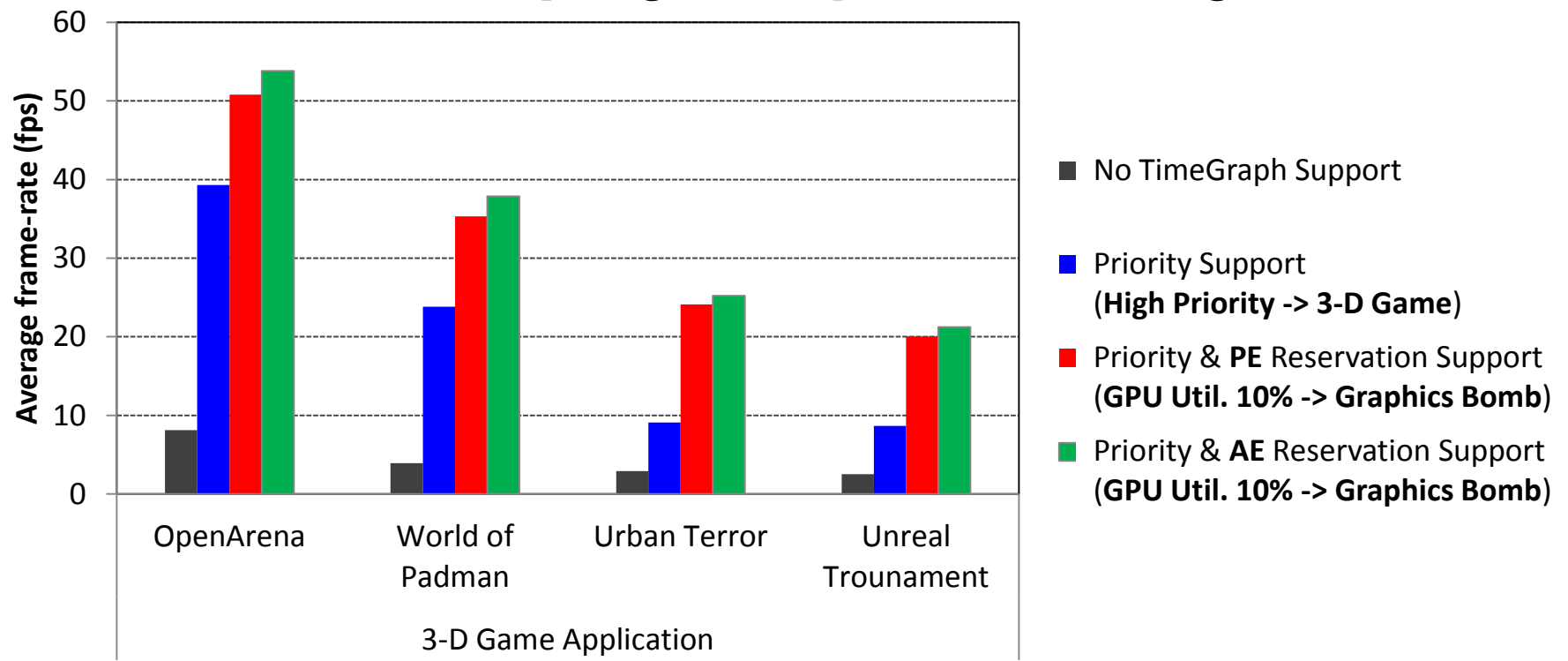
Interference on Time
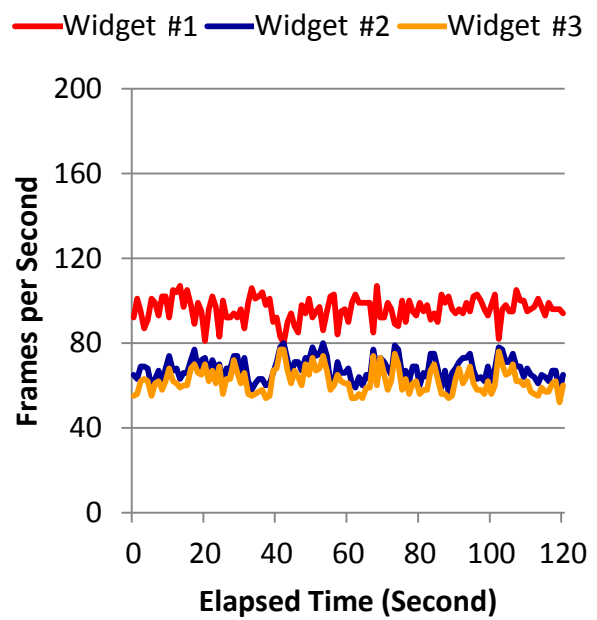
No TimeGraph Support
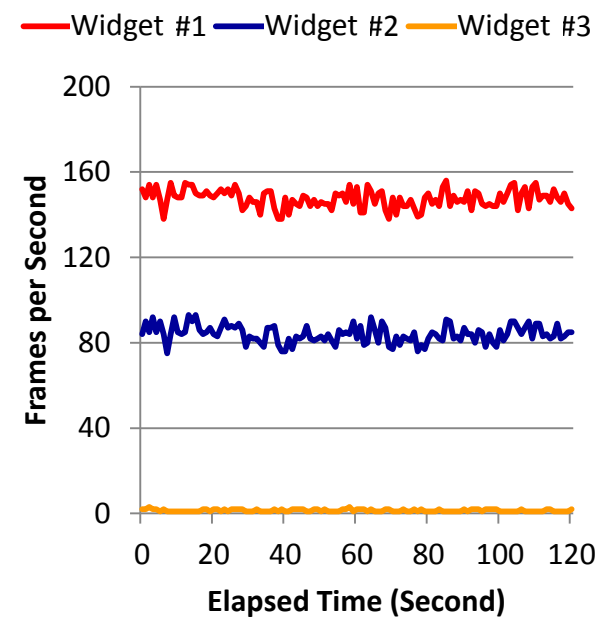
Priority Support (PRT)
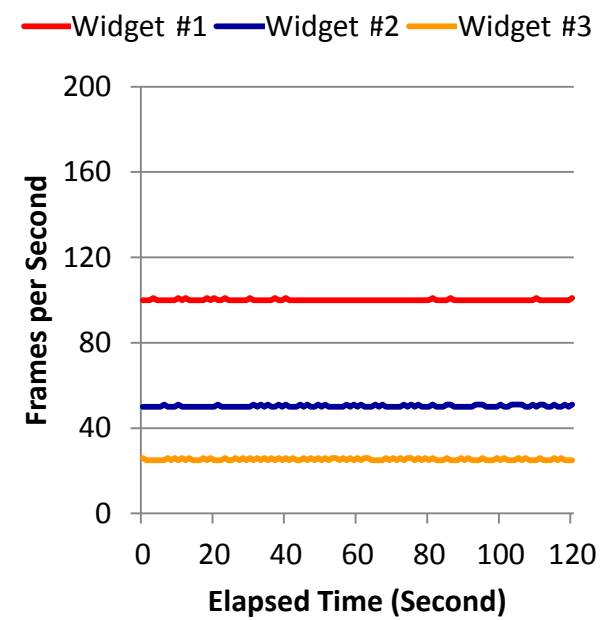
Priority Support (PRT) +
Reservation Support (PE)

Standalone Performance

X server is assigned PRT policy

Average frame-rate (fps) vs. 3-D Game Application (OpenArena, World of Padman, Urban Terror, Unreal Trounament)

Legend:
- No TimeGraph Support
- Priority Support (HT)
- Priority Support (PRT)
- Priority & Reservation Support (PRT & PE)
- Priority & Reservation Support (PRT & AE)
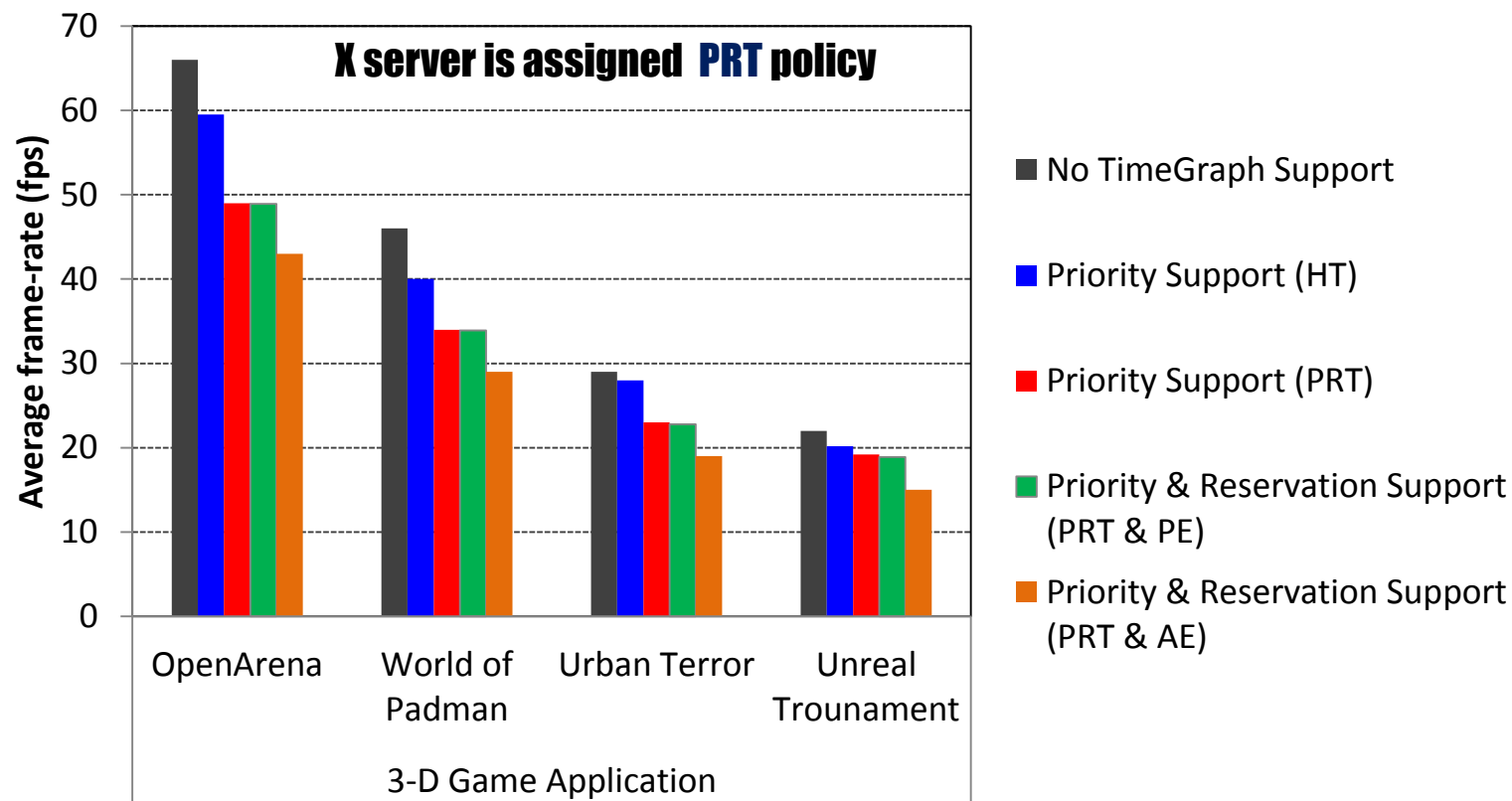
Overhead is acceptable for protecting GPU

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Concluding Remarks

- **TimeGraph** enables **prioritization** and **isolation** for **GPU** applications in multi-tasking environments
  - Device-driver solution: no modification to user-space
  - Scheduling of GPU commands
 - Reservation of GPU resource usage
- http://rtml.ece.cmu.edu/projects/timegraph/

Current Status

- **GPGPU** support (collaboration with *PathScale* Inc.)
  - Visit http://github.com/pathscale/pscnv
- Making open-source **fast** and **reliable**
  - It's getting competitive to the proprietary driver!
  - Some result from our OSPERT'11 paper (*) below:

* Available at http://www.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu/~shinpei/papers/ospert11.pdf
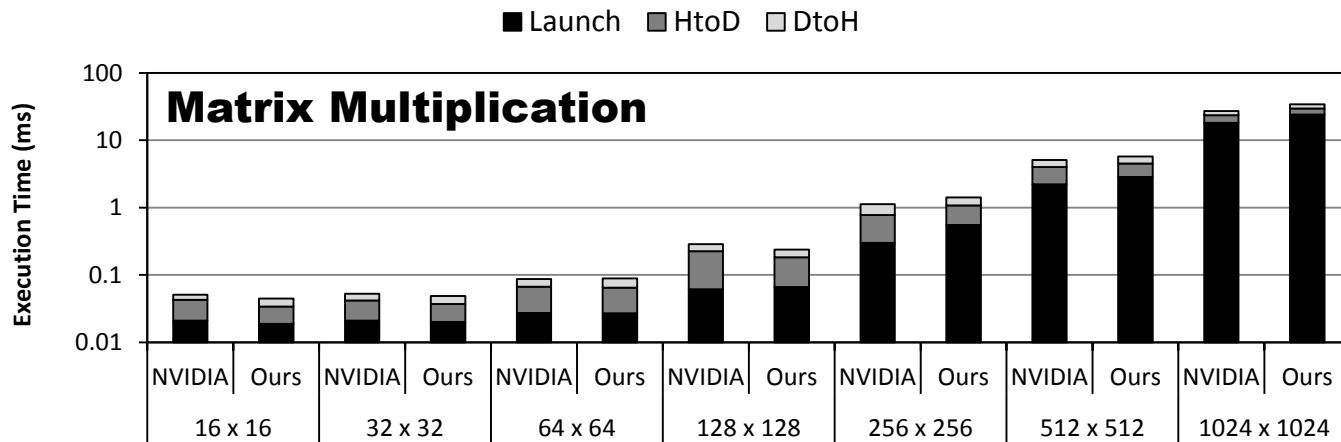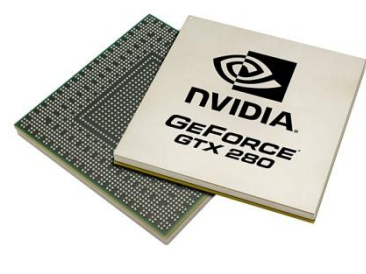
Thank you for your attention!

Questions?