Effectiveness of Adaptive Supply Voltage and Body Bias for Reducing Impact of Parameter Variations in Low Power and High Performance Microprocessors

James Tschanz, James Kao¹, Siva Narendra, Raj Nair and Vivek De Microprocessor Research, Intel Labs, Hillsboro, OR, USA ¹Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Testchip measurements show that adaptive V_{CC} is useful for reducing impacts of die-todie and WID parameter variations on frequency, active power and leakage power distributions of both low power and high performance microprocessors. Using adaptive V_{CC} together with adaptive V_{BS} or WID- V_{BS} is much more effective than using any of them individually. Adaptive VCC+WID- V_{BS} increases the number of dies accepted in the highest two frequency bins to 80%.