



# INTEL® OPTANE™ TECHNOLOGY BASICS

March 2017



“ Ideally one would desire an indefinitely large memory capacity such that any particular ... word would be immediately available. ... It does not seem possible physically to achieve such a capacity. We are therefore forced to recognize the possibility of constructing a hierarchy of memories, each of which has greater capacity than the preceding but which is less quickly accessible.”

**Preliminary Discussion of the Logical Design  
of an Electronic Computing Instrument**

*Arthur Burks, Herman Goldstine and John von Neumann, 1946*





“ Ideally one would desire an **indefinitely large memory capacity** such that any particular ... word would be **immediately available**. ... It **does not seem possible physically** to achieve such a capacity. We are therefore forced to recognize the possibility of **constructing a hierarchy of memories**, each of which has **greater capacity than the preceding** but which is **less quickly accessible**.”

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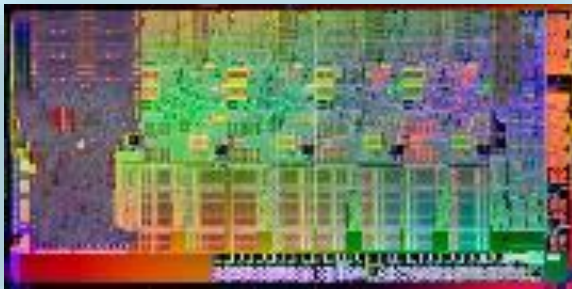
# MEMORY AND STORAGE HIERARCHY

The Performance Problem Grows Bigger Over Time

## MEMORY

### SRAM

Latency: 1X  
Size of Data: 1X



### DRAM

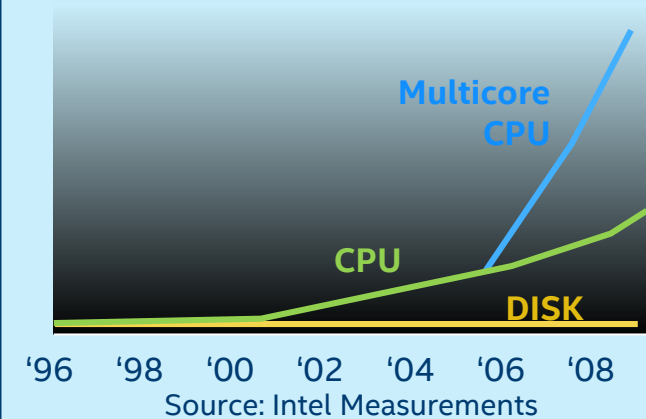
Latency: ~10X  
Size of Data: ~100X



## STORAGE

### CPU Perf.

Normalized Media  
Access Time for 20K Read



### HDD

Latency: ~10 Million X  
Size of Data: ~10,000X



Technology claims are based on comparisons of latency, density and write cycling metrics amongst memory technologies recorded on published specifications of in-market memory products against internal Intel specifications.

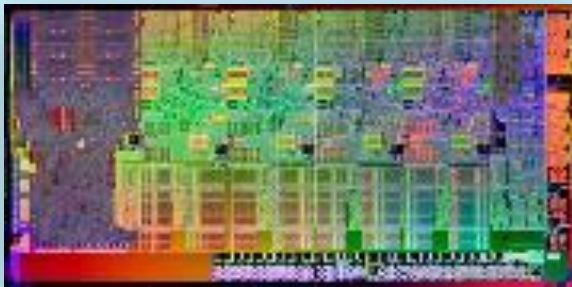
# MEMORY AND STORAGE HIERARCHY

## NAND SSDs Help Alleviate The Gap In The Hierarchy

### MEMORY

#### SRAM

Latency: 1X  
Size of Data: 1X



#### DRAM

Latency: ~10X  
Size of Data: ~100X



### STORAGE

#### NAND SSD

Latency: ~100,000X  
Size of Data: ~1,000X



#### HDD

Latency: ~10 Million X  
Size of Data: ~10,000X



Technology claims are based on comparisons of latency, density and write cycling metrics amongst memory technologies recorded on published specifications of in-market memory products against internal Intel specifications.



# EVERY DAY DATA IS **EXPLODING**

**1.5 GB<sup>1</sup>**  
AVERAGE  
INTERNET USER



**3,000 GB<sup>2</sup>**  
SMART HOSPITAL



**4,000 GB<sup>3</sup>**  
AUTONOMOUS DRIVING



**40 K GB<sup>4</sup>**  
AIRPLANE DATA



**1 M GB<sup>5</sup>**  
SMART FACTORY



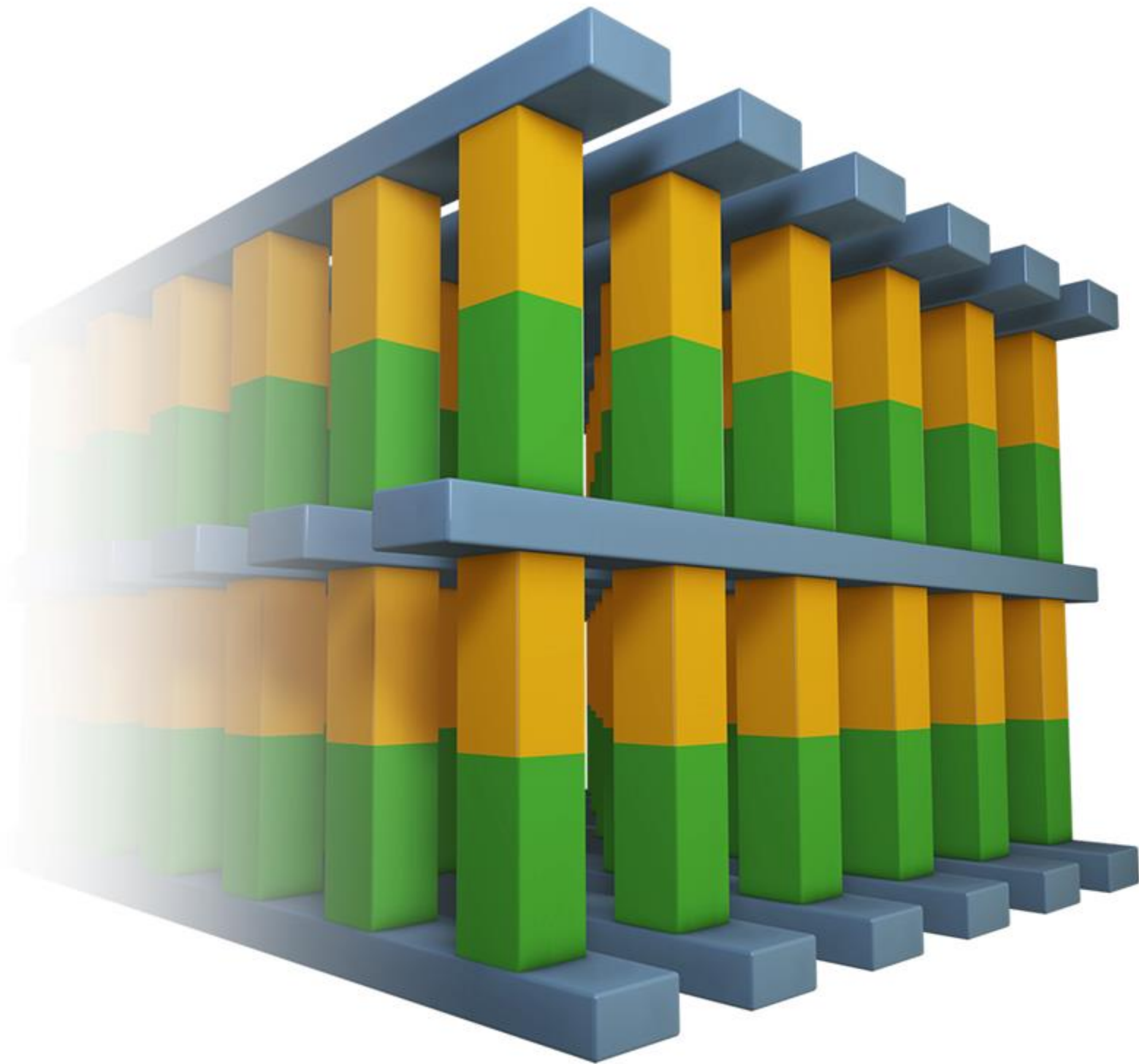
1. Source: <http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/service-provider/vni-network-traffic-forecast/infographic.html>

2. Source: [http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/service-provider/global-cloud-index-gci/Cloud\\_Index\\_White\\_Paper.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/service-provider/global-cloud-index-gci/Cloud_Index_White_Paper.html)

3. Source: <https://datafloq.com/read/self-driving-cars-create-2-petabytes-data-annually/172>

4. Source: [http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/service-provider/global-cloud-index-gci/Cloud\\_Index\\_White\\_Paper.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/service-provider/global-cloud-index-gci/Cloud_Index_White_Paper.html)

5. Source: [http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/service-provider/global-cloud-index-gci/Cloud\\_Index\\_White\\_Paper.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/service-provider/global-cloud-index-gci/Cloud_Index_White_Paper.html)



**A NEW CLASS OF  
STORAGE AND MEMORY**

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# **3D XPoint™**

## **MEMORY MEDIA**



# 3D XPOINT™ MEMORY MEDIA

*In Pursuit of Large Memory Capacity ... Word Access ... Immediately Available ...*

## Word (Cache Line)

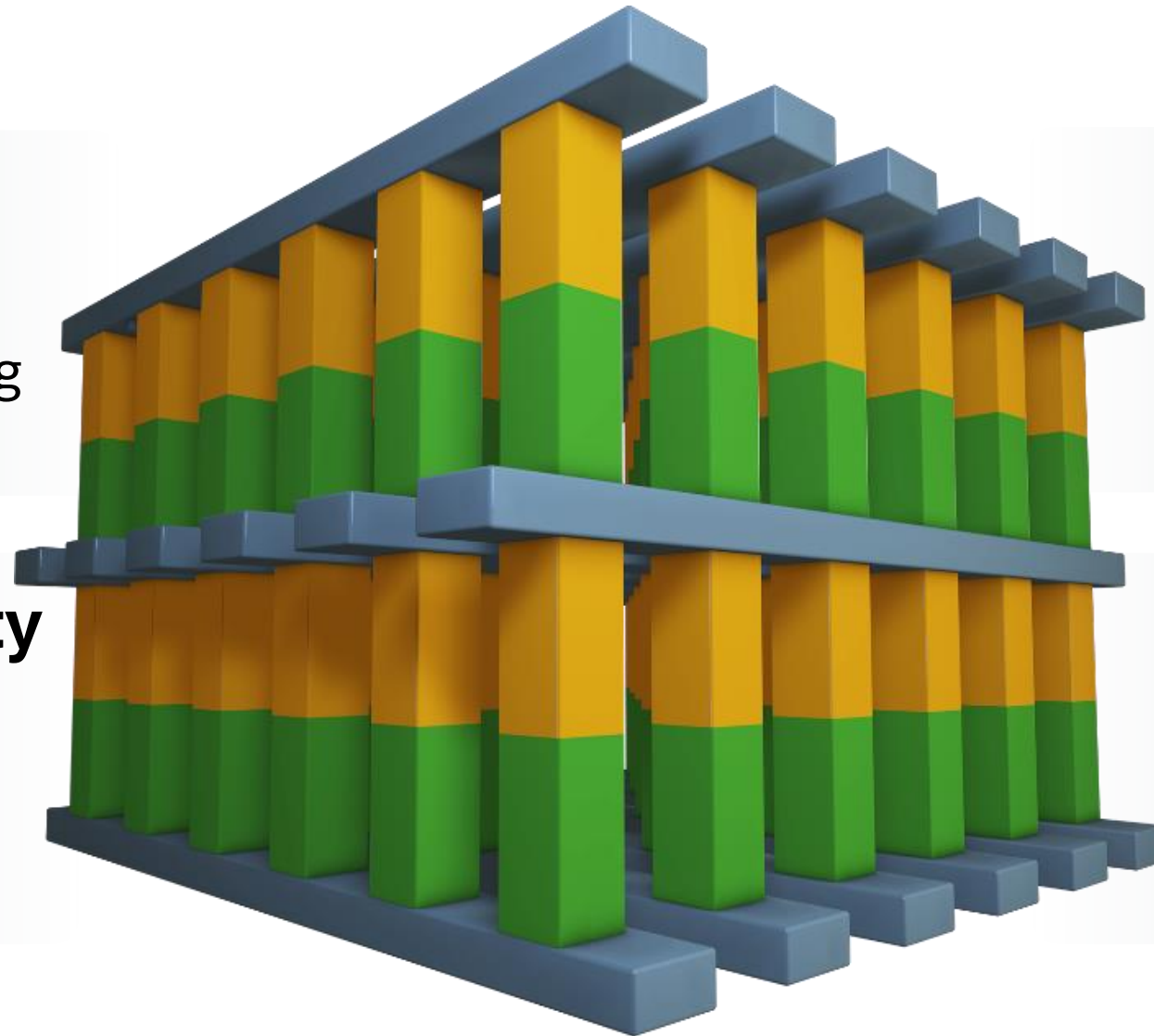
### Crosspoint Structure

Selectors allow dense packing and individual access to bits

## Large Memory Capacity

### Crosspoint & Scalable

Memory layers can be stacked in a 3D manner



## NVM Breakthrough

### Material Advances

Compatible switch and memory cell materials

## Immediately Available

### High Performance

Cell and array architecture that can switch states 1000x faster than NAND



# 3D XPOINT™ MEMORY MEDIA

Breaks the memory/storage barrier

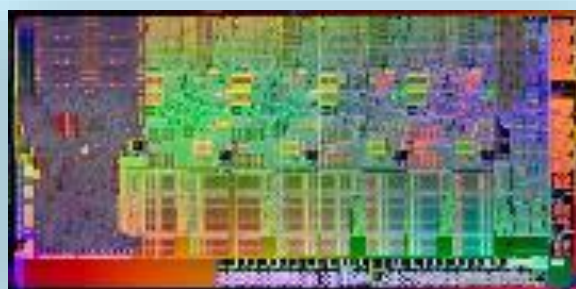
## MEMORY

+

## STORAGE

### SRAM

Latency: 1X  
Size of Data: 1X



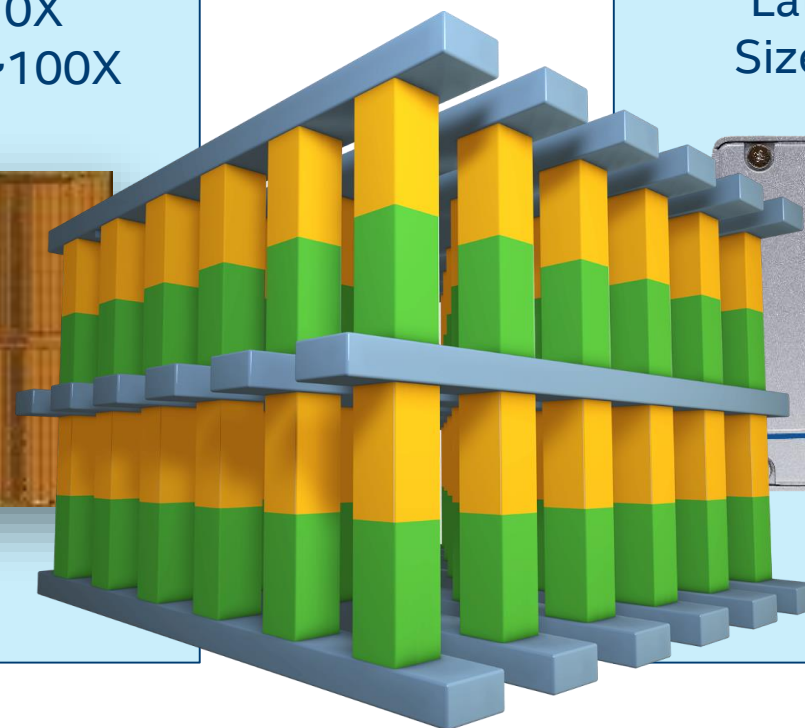
### DRAM

Latency: ~10X  
Size of Data: ~100X



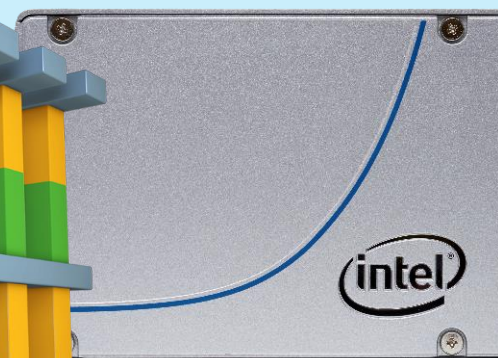
### 3D XPoint™

Latency: ~100X  
Size of Data: ~1,000X



### NAND SSD

Latency: ~100,000X  
Size of Data: ~1,000X



### HDD

Latency: ~10 Million X  
Size of Data: ~10,000X



Technology claims are based on comparisons of latency, density and write cycling metrics amongst memory technologies recorded on published specifications of in-market memory products against internal Intel specifications.



The image features a close-up, angled view of a blue printed circuit board (PCB) populated with two black Intel Optane memory modules. The modules are labeled 'intel OPTANE MEMORY' in white. The background is a dark, abstract composition of glowing orange and red light streaks, suggesting high-speed data flow or digital connectivity. In the lower-left foreground, faint, semi-transparent text reads 'INTERNET' and 'CONNECT DIGIT'. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and technological.

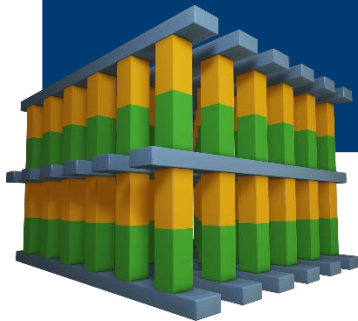
intel<sup>®</sup> OPTANE<sup>™</sup> >>>



# INTEL® OPTANE™ TECHNOLOGY: BUILDING BLOCKS

Unleashing Breakthrough Performance for a New Generation of Computing

3D XPoint™  
Memory  
Media



Intel Memory  
and Storage  
Controllers



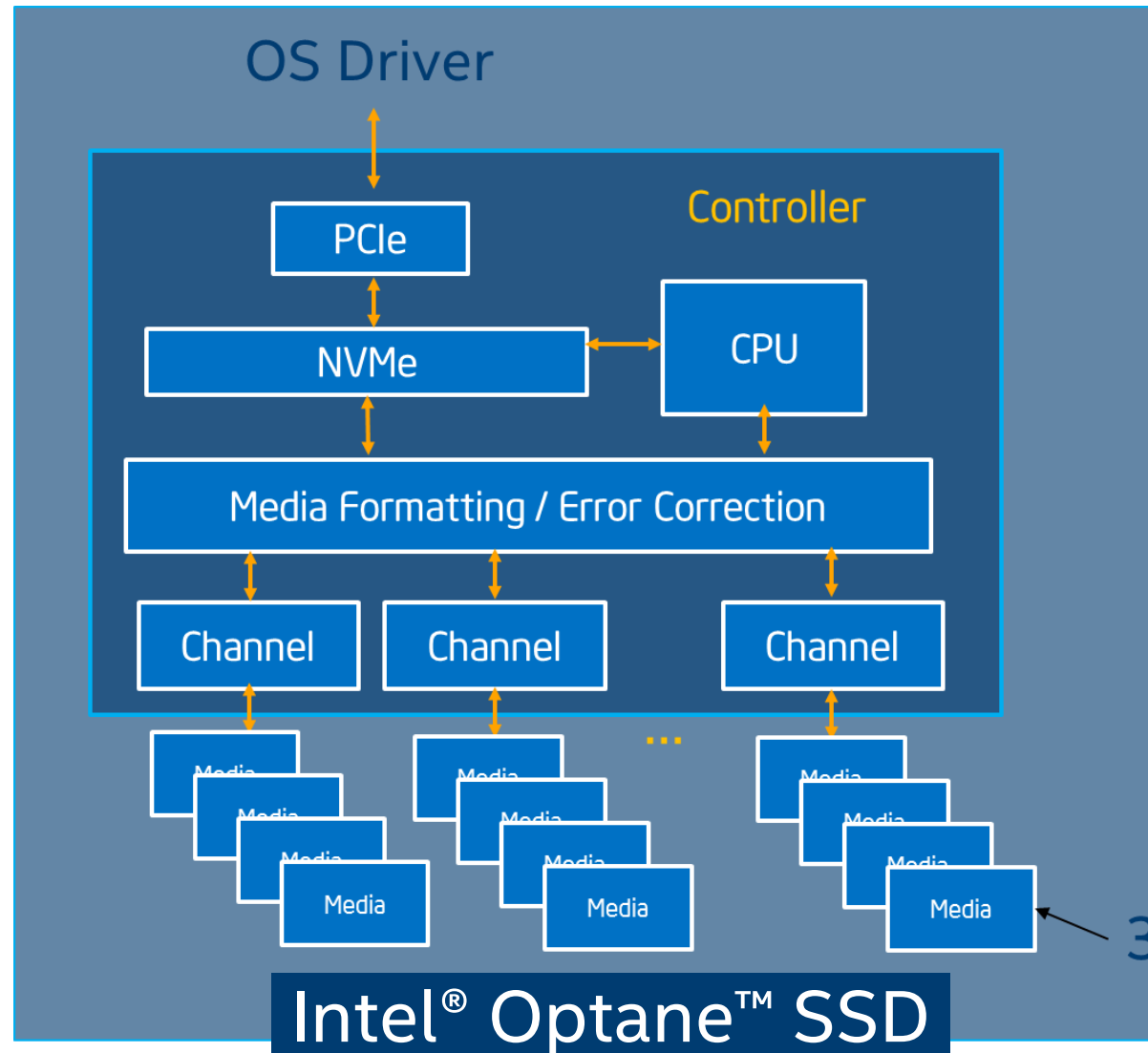
Intel  
Interconnect IP



Intel Software

**OPTIMIZED AT EVERY LEVEL TO DELIVER 3D XPOINT™ MEMORY MEDIA  
ADVANTAGES TO THE PLATFORM**

# INTEL® OPTANE™ SSD: ALL NEW DESIGN



- Optimized storage interface PCIe\*/NVMe\*
- Hardware-only read/write path controller
- Highly parallel media access
- Write-in-place design
- Completely new media management
- Co-architected, co-designed, and co-optimized with 3D XPoint™ memory media

3D XPoint™ memory media

## CO-ARCHITECTED, CO-DESIGNED, CO-OPTIMIZED WITH 3D XPOINT™ MEMORY MEDIA

\*Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.



# UNPRECEDENTED PERFORMANCE

## 10x latency reduction†

- < 10usec latency

## 100x QoS improvement†

- < 200usec 99.999th r/w

## Uniform behavior for reads and writes

## High Endurance

- 30 Drive Writes Per Day



### Intel® Optane™ Solid State Drive Data Center P4800X (375GB Add-in Card)

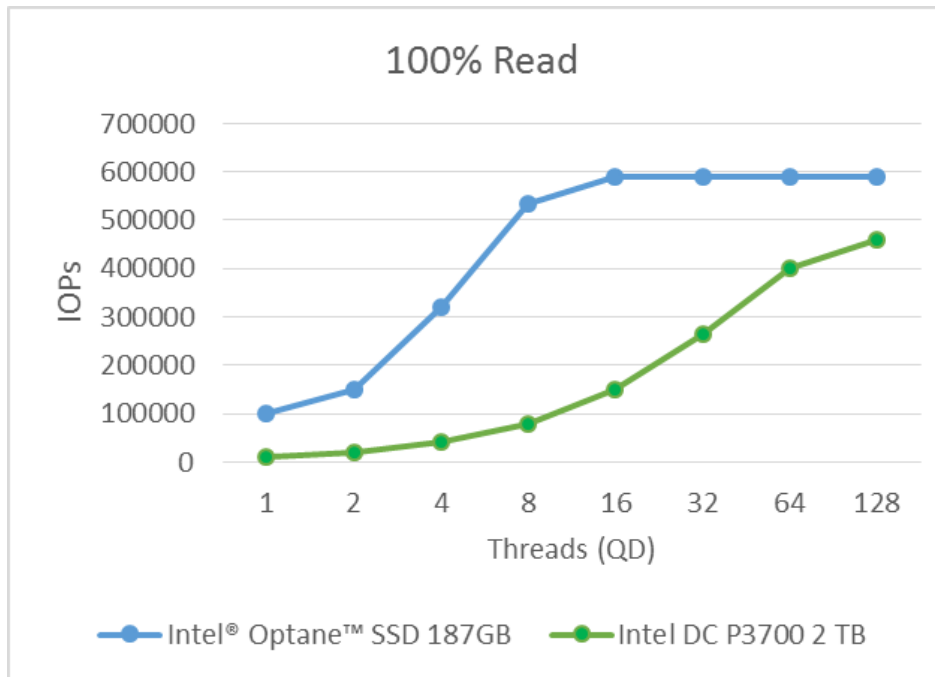
#### Product Specification

- Latency (typical) R/W: <10  $\mu$ s
- Quality of Service (QoS): 99.999%
  - 4kB<sup>1</sup> Random Queue Depth 1, R/W: <60/100  $\mu$ s
  - 4kB Random Queue Depth 16, R/W: <150/200  $\mu$ s
- I/O Operations Per Second (IOPS)<sup>2</sup>
  - Random 4kB R/W: Up to 550/500k
  - Random 4kB 70/30 Mixed R/W: Up to 500k
- Endurance Rating
  - 30 Drive Writes per day (JESD219 workload)
  - 12.3 Petabytes Written (PBW)
- Components
  - Intel® 3D XPoint™ Memory Media
  - Intel Controller and Firmware
  - PCIe® 3.0x4 with NVMe Interface
- Form Factors
  - PCIe® 3.0 x4 Add-in-Card (AIC)
- Power
  - AIC: 12V (3.3V Aux) Supply Rail
  - Enhanced power-loss data protection
  - Active/Idle: Up to 14 W/5 W (TYP)
- Reliability
  - Uncorrectable Bit Error Rate (UBER):  
1 sector per 10<sup>17</sup> bits read
  - Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF):  
1,000,000 hours
  - T10 DIF protection
  - Variable Sector Size:  
512, 520, 528, 4096, 4104, 4160, 4224 Bytes
- Management
  - SMART monitoring (in band)
  - Out of band management support over SMBus to be added later

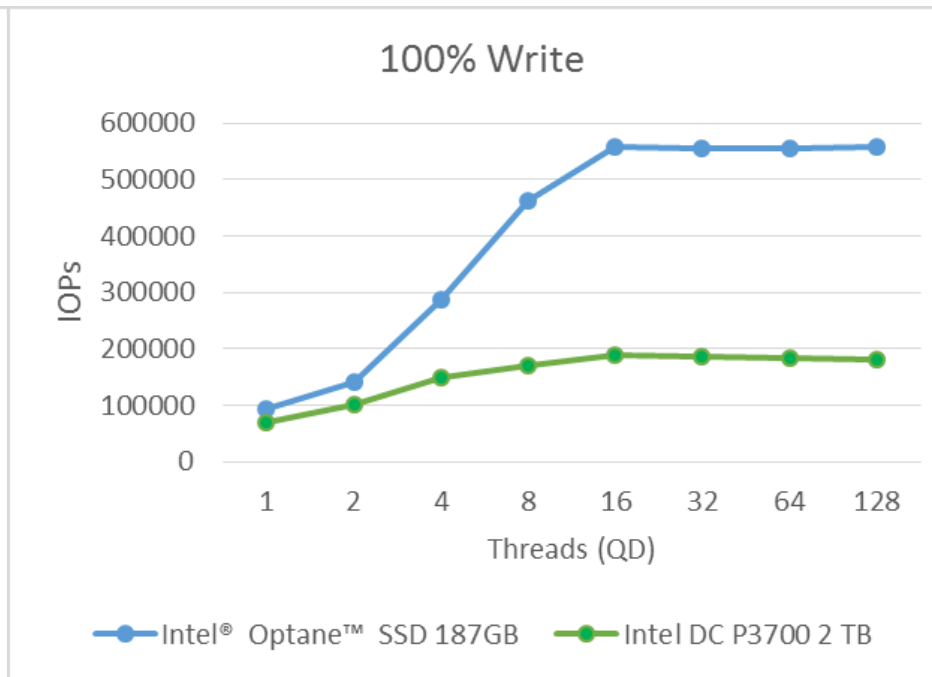
† vs. NAND based SSD as shown on succeeding slides

# SSD PERFORMANCE: AT VARYING QUEUE DEPTHS

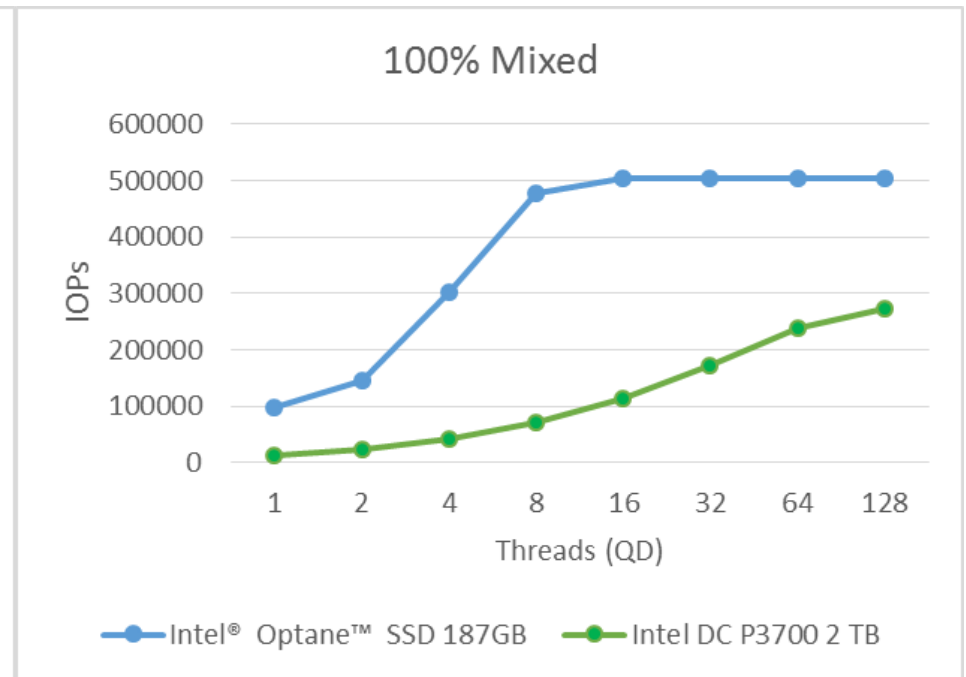
## 4K RANDOM READ



## 4K RANDOM WRITE



## 4K RANDOM 70/30 MIX

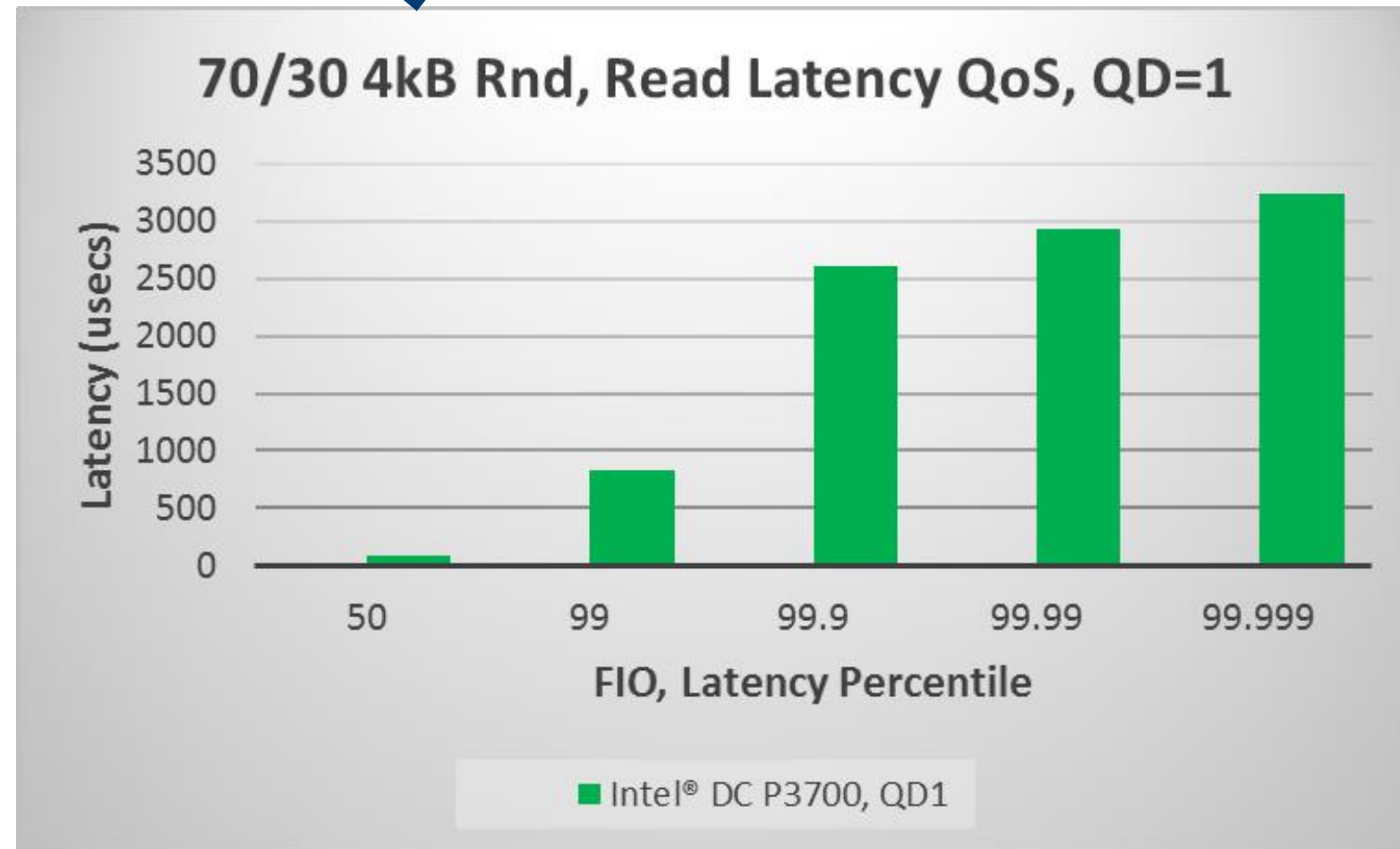


**INTEL® OPTANE™ SSDs DELIVER HIGH IOPS FOR A SMALL # OF THREADS  
BUT THIS MEASURE IGNORES TIME PER I/O**

Results measured by Intel based on the following configurations. Ubuntu 16.04.2 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.4.0-21-generic x86\_64); Intel S2600WT motherboard with 2x Xeon E5-2699v4 @ 2.20GHz, Turbo @ 3.6GHz, 256GB RAM, fio-2.2.10, irqbalance off, smp affinity changed, cpu governor = performance; Prototype Intel Optane SSD: 187GB, FW: E2010211, Intel DC P3700: 2 TB, FW: 8DV101F0

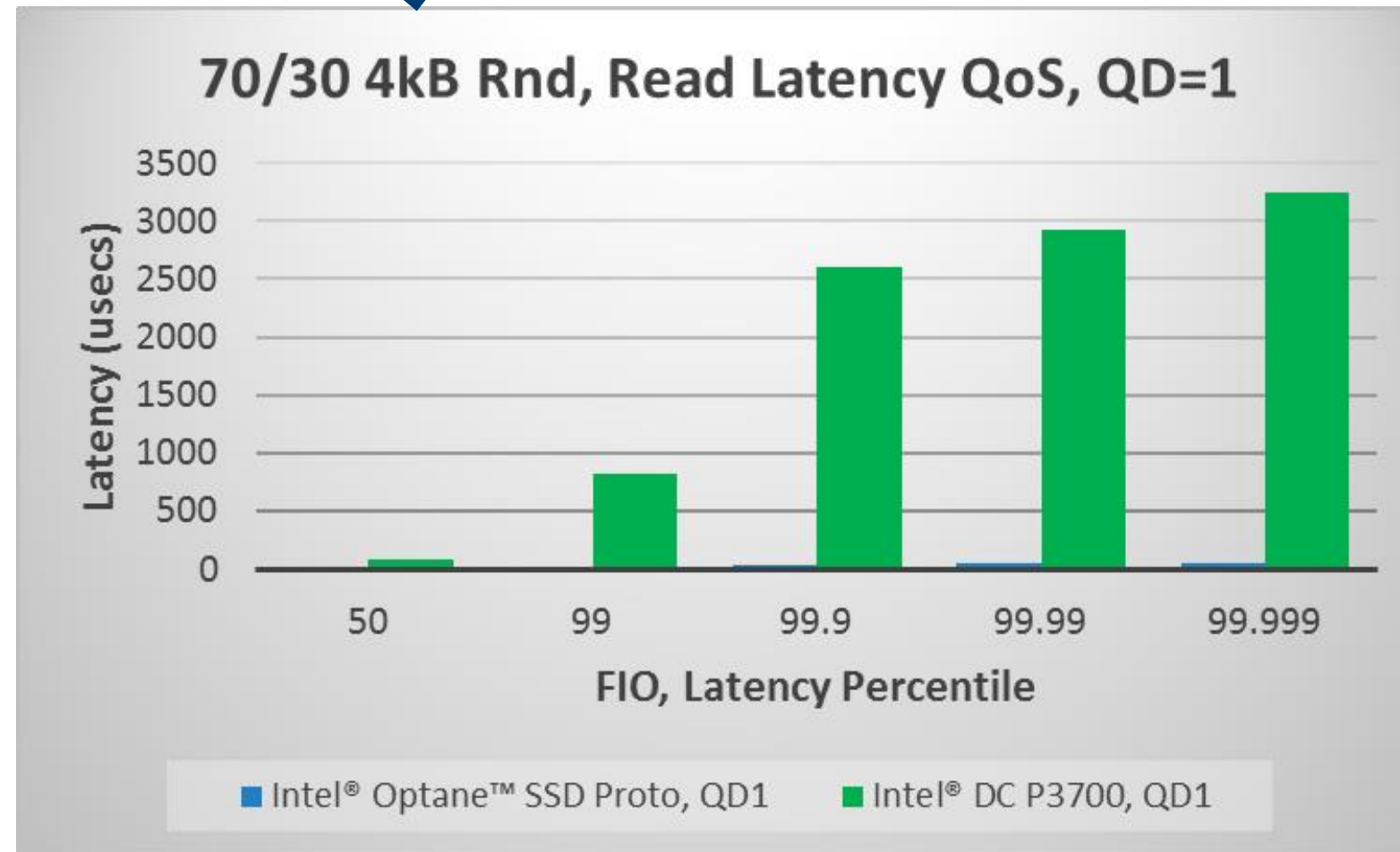


# SSD QUALITY OF SERVICE



Config: I7-6700K Turbo to 4.3GHz, ASUS\* Z170m-plus 4x4GB DDR-2133, Hyperthreading disabled CPU C-state disabled, Intel P3700 SSD 800GB, Ubuntu\* 14.04 LTS 64 bit server, kernel 4.4 (polling enabled), FIO 2.1.11

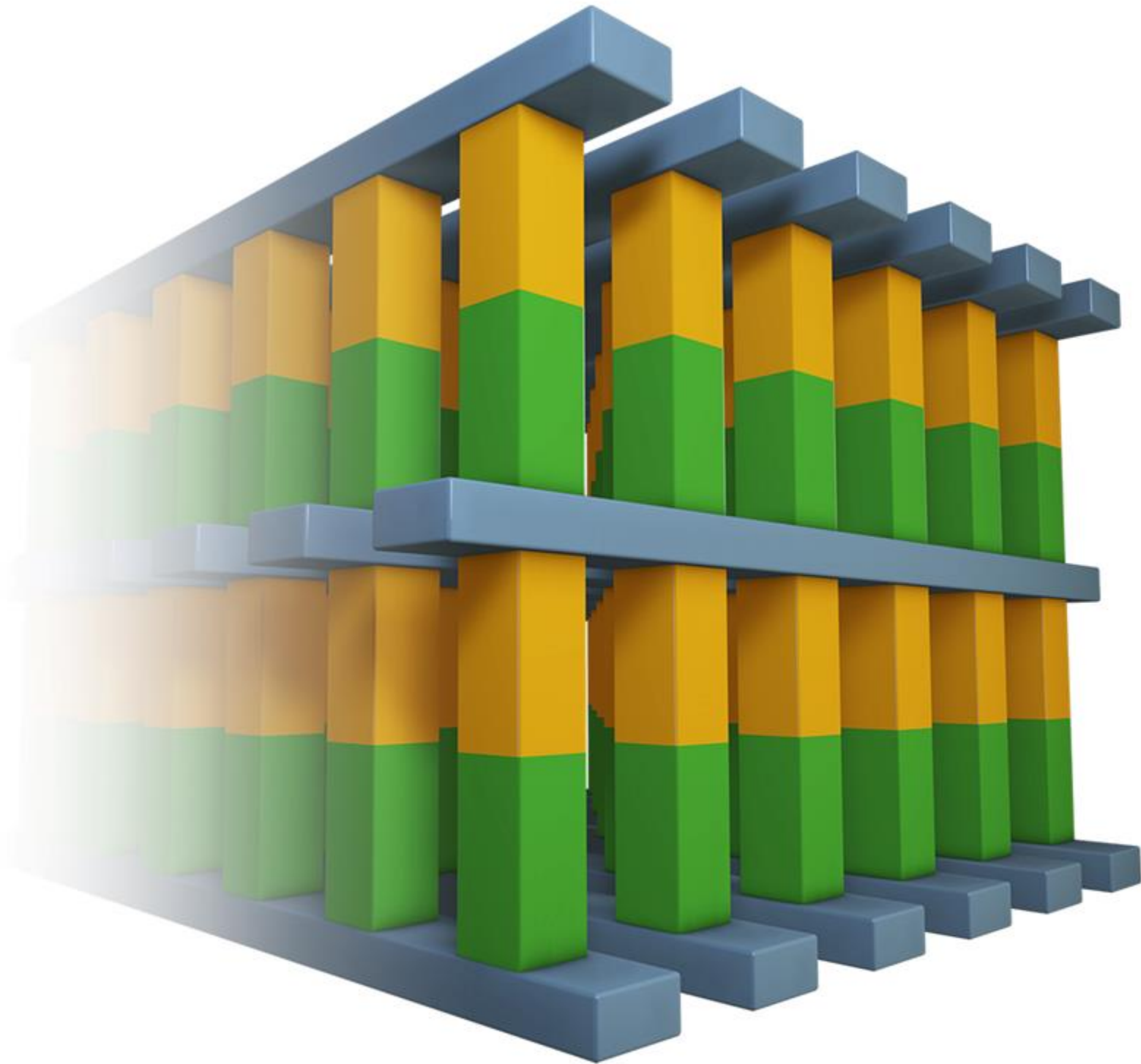
# SSD QUALITY OF SERVICE



**INTEL® OPTANE™ SSDs DELIVER HUGE RESPONSE LATENCY ADVANTAGES  
BUT THIS MEASURE IGNORES THROUGHPUT (IOPS)**

Config: I7-6700K Turbo to 4.3GHz, ASUS\* Z170m-plus 4x4GB DDR-2133, Hyperthreading disabled CPU C-state disabled, Intel P3700 SSD 800GB, Ubuntu\* 14.04 LTS 64 bit server, kernel 4.4 (polling enabled), FIO 2.1.11





Storage this fast demands a  
new measurement

**MEASURE IT LIKE DRAM**

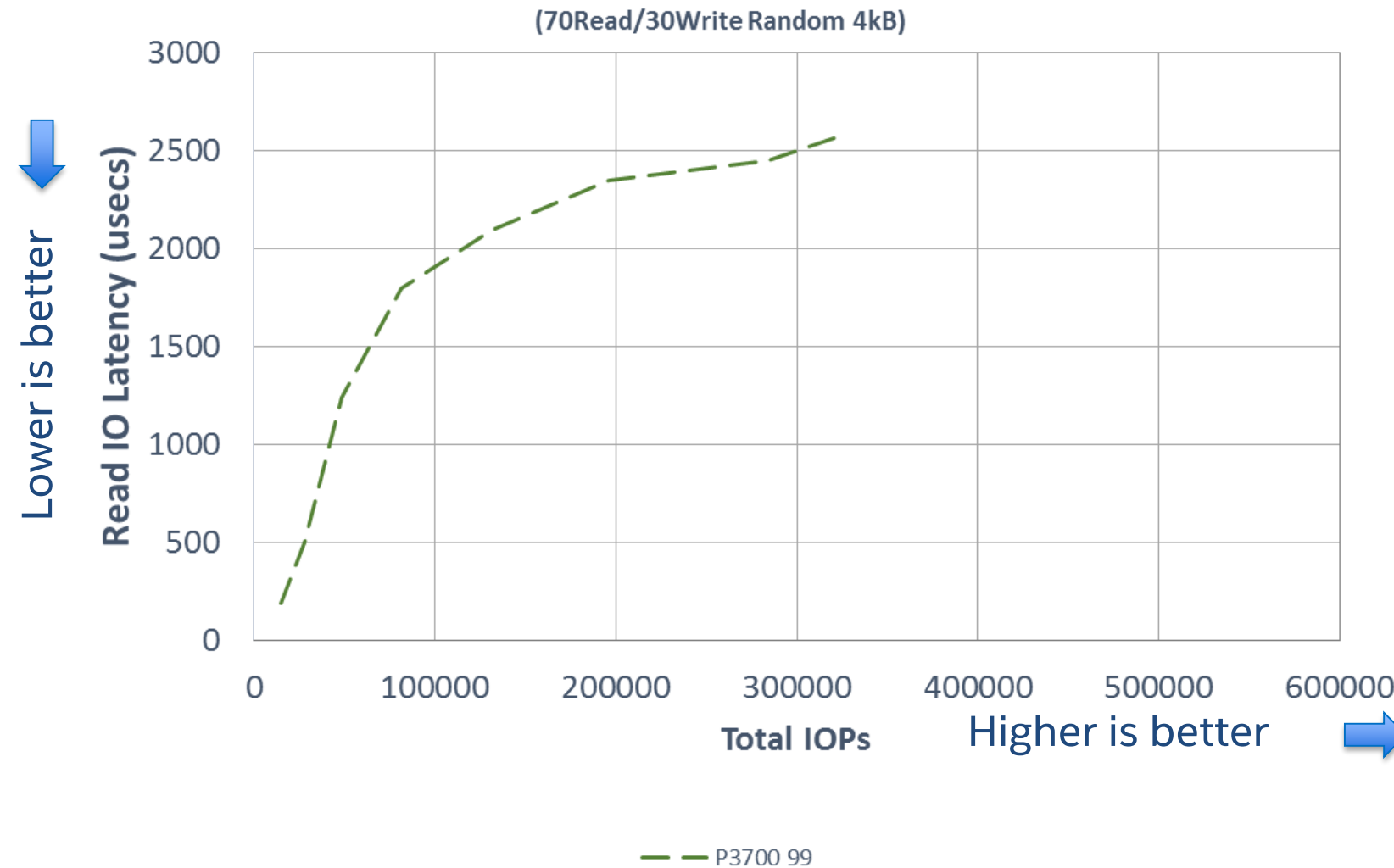
**MEASURE  
LATENCY AT LOAD**

This measure shows up as  
application **Responsiveness**

Responsiveness is equivalent to read latency; Load represents a defined workload

# STORAGE PERFORMANCE

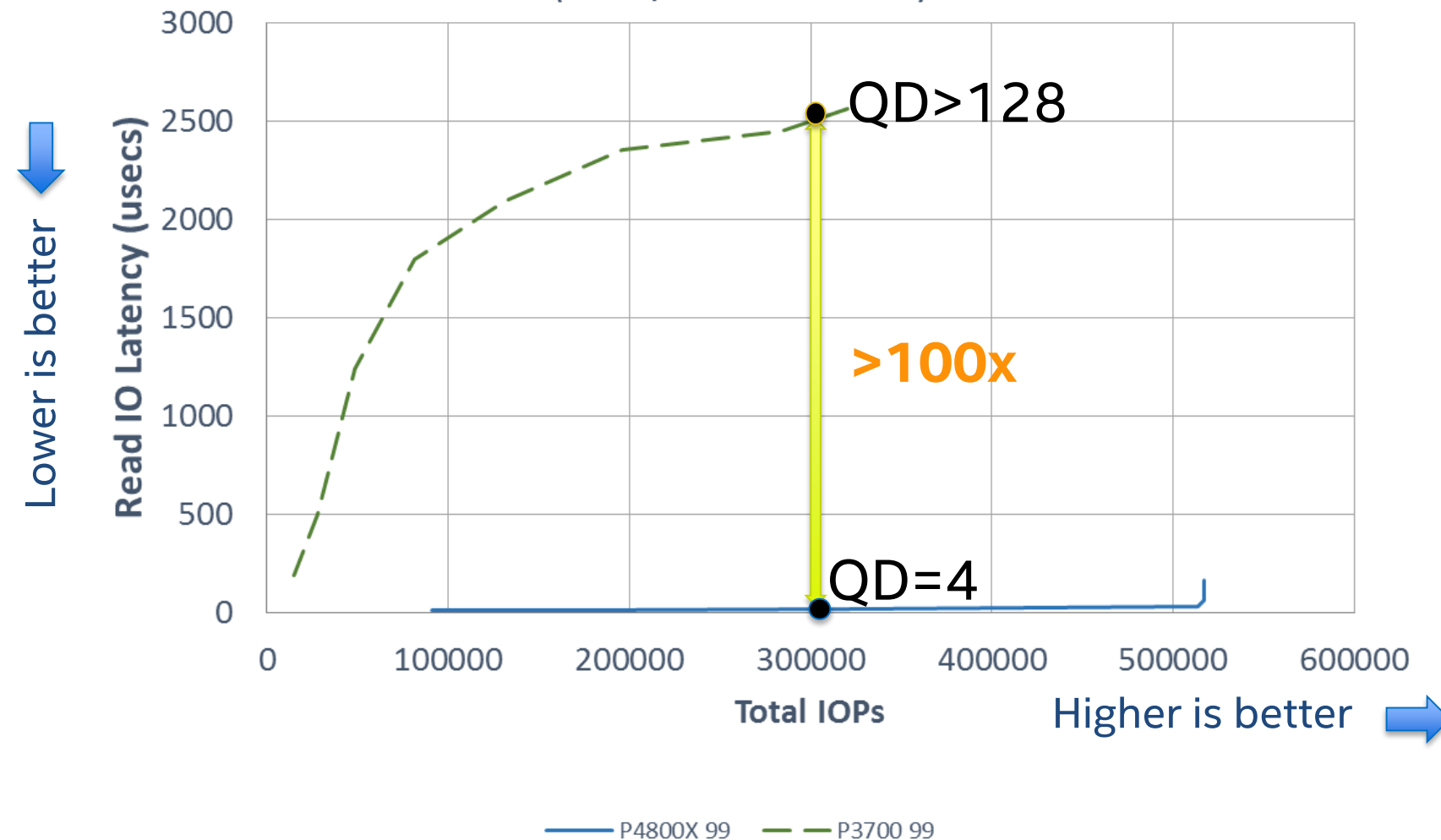
Latency vs. Load: NAND SSD vs. Intel® Optane™ SSD (Intel® DC P3700 vs. Intel® P4800x)



Results measured by Intel based on the following configurations. 375GB P4800X or 800GB P3700, Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2695 v3 @ 2.30GHz, Wildcat Pass, 4 x 8GB DDR4 32GB total, Hyper-threading disabled, CPU C-state disabled, Ubuntu 15.04 LTS 64 bit server (v3.19), FIO 2.1.11. Performance on final samples is subject to change.

# STORAGE PERFORMANCE

Latency vs. Load: NAND SSD vs. Intel® Optane™ SSD (Intel® DC P3700 vs. Intel® P4800x)  
(70Read/30Write Random 4kB)

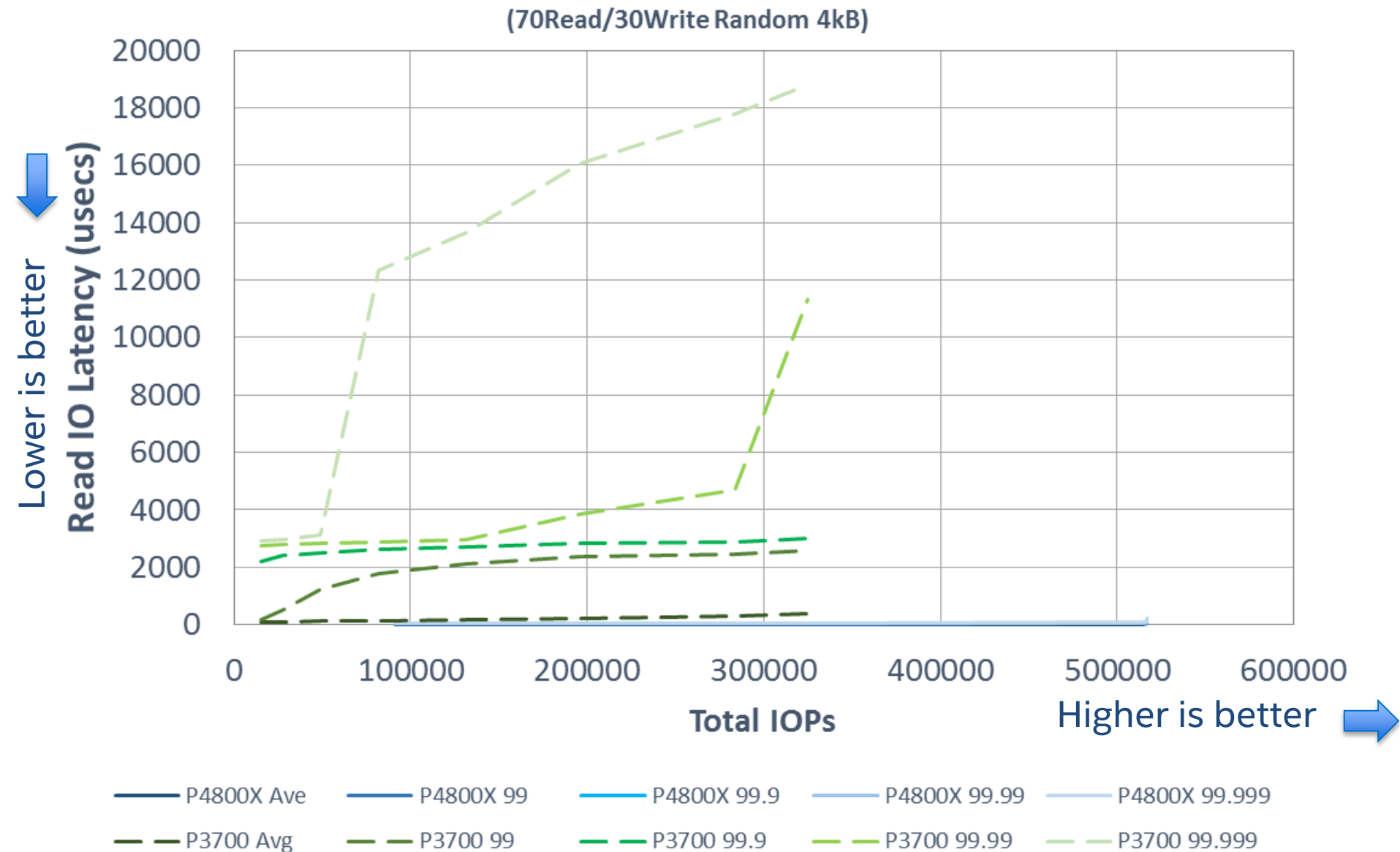


## A MORE COMPLETE MEASURE OF SSD PERFORMANCE: RESPONSIVENESS UNDER LOAD



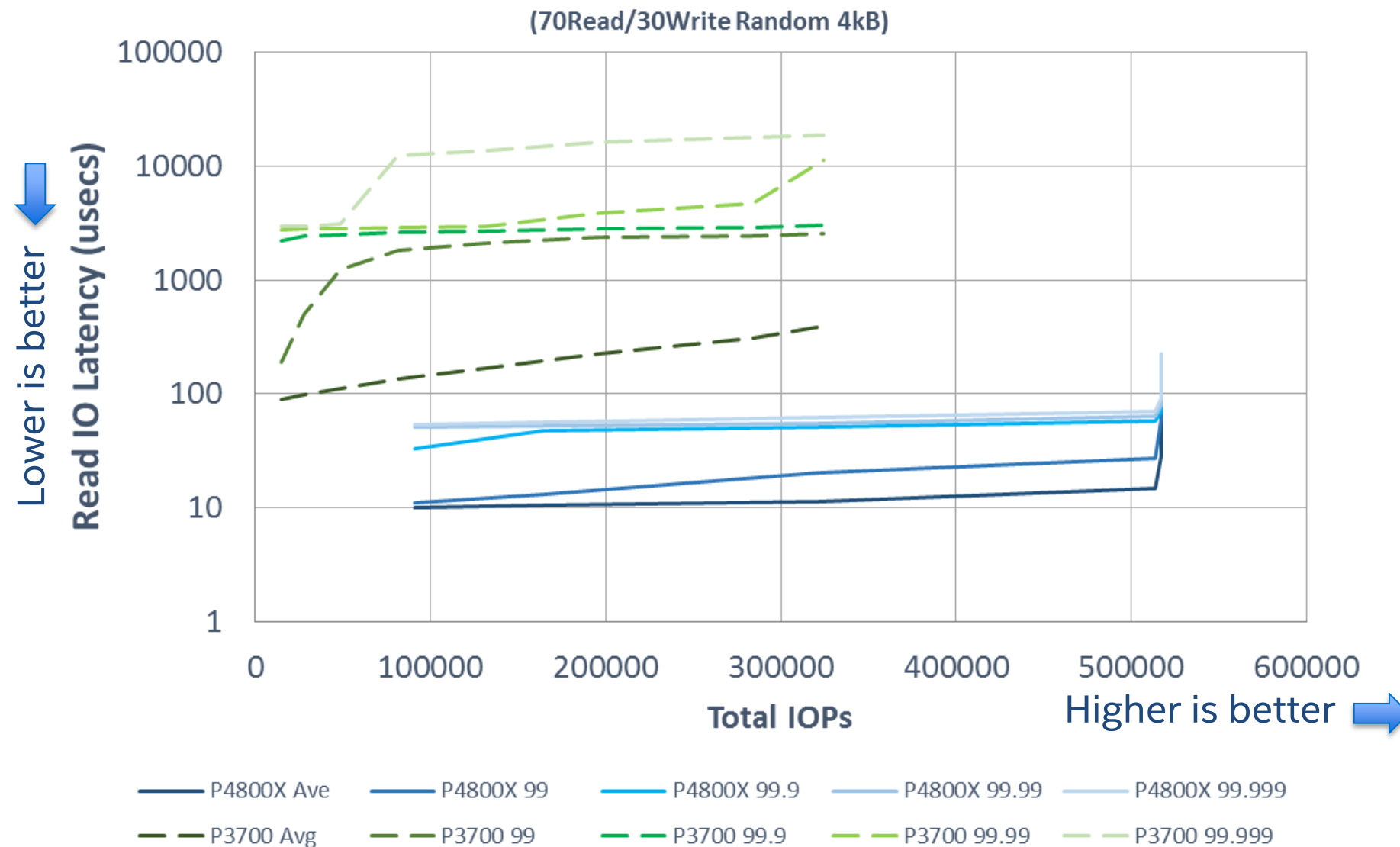
# STORAGE PERFORMANCE CHARACTERIZATION

Latency vs. Load: NAND SSD vs. Intel® Optane™ SSD (Intel® DC P3700 vs. Intel® P4800x)



# STORAGE PERFORMANCE CHARACTERIZATION

Latency vs. Load: NAND SSD vs. Intel® Optane™ SSD (Intel® DC P3700 vs. Intel® P4800x)



**10x latency reduction**

- < 10usec latency<sup>†</sup>

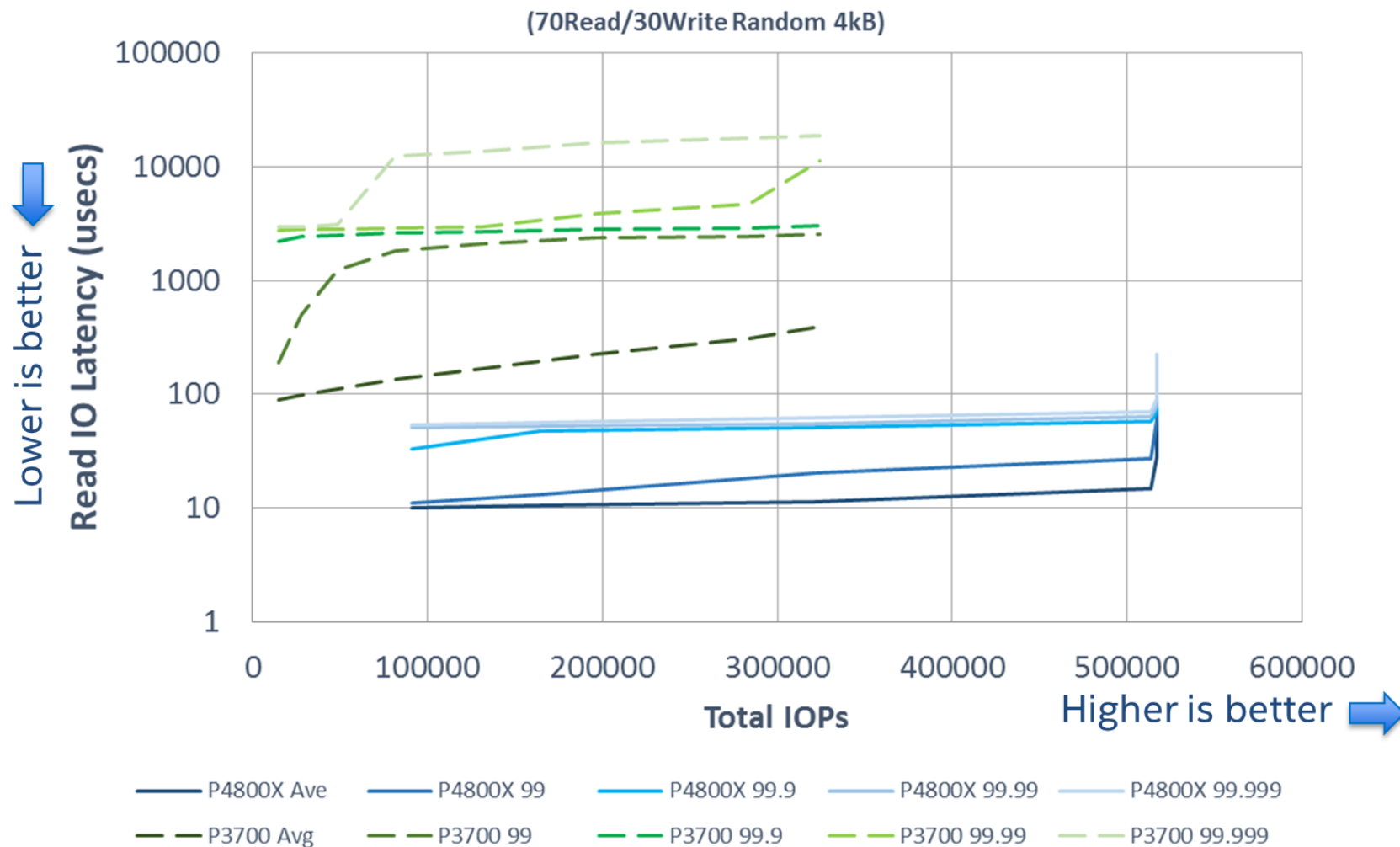
**100x QoS improvement**

- < 200usec 99.999th r/w<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup> vs. NAND based SSD

# STORAGE PERFORMANCE CHARACTERIZATION

Latency vs. Load: NAND SSD vs. Intel® Optane™ SSD (Intel® DC P3700 vs. Intel® P4800x)



**Get work done orders of magnitude faster**

- Low latency at high IOPs

**Always faster**

- Low latency until saturation
- <10x change from ave to 99.999

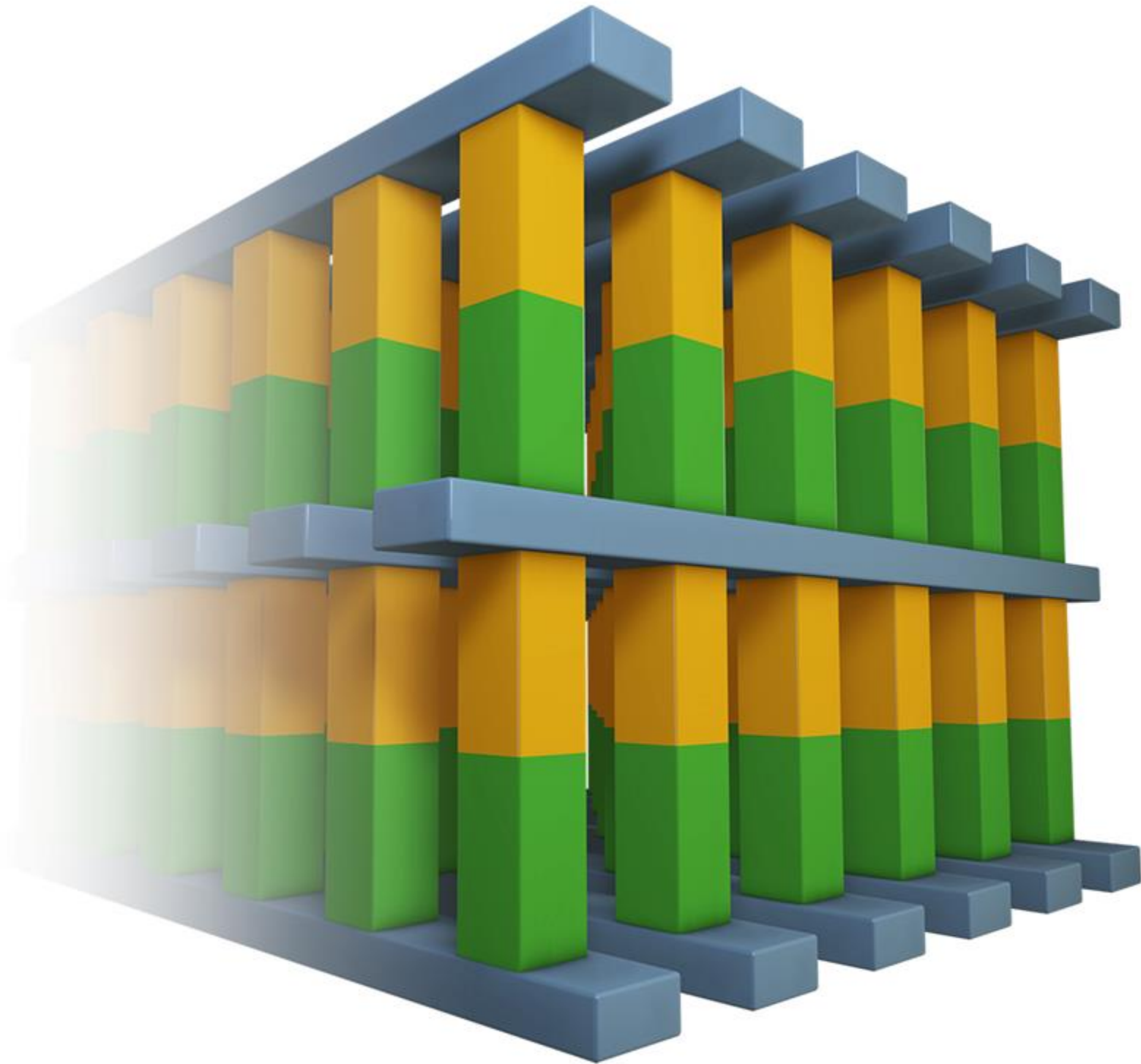
**Easier software development**

- Low QD is OK
- Reads and writes the same

**Endurance supporting high write rate**

## WICKED FAST STORAGE - FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT

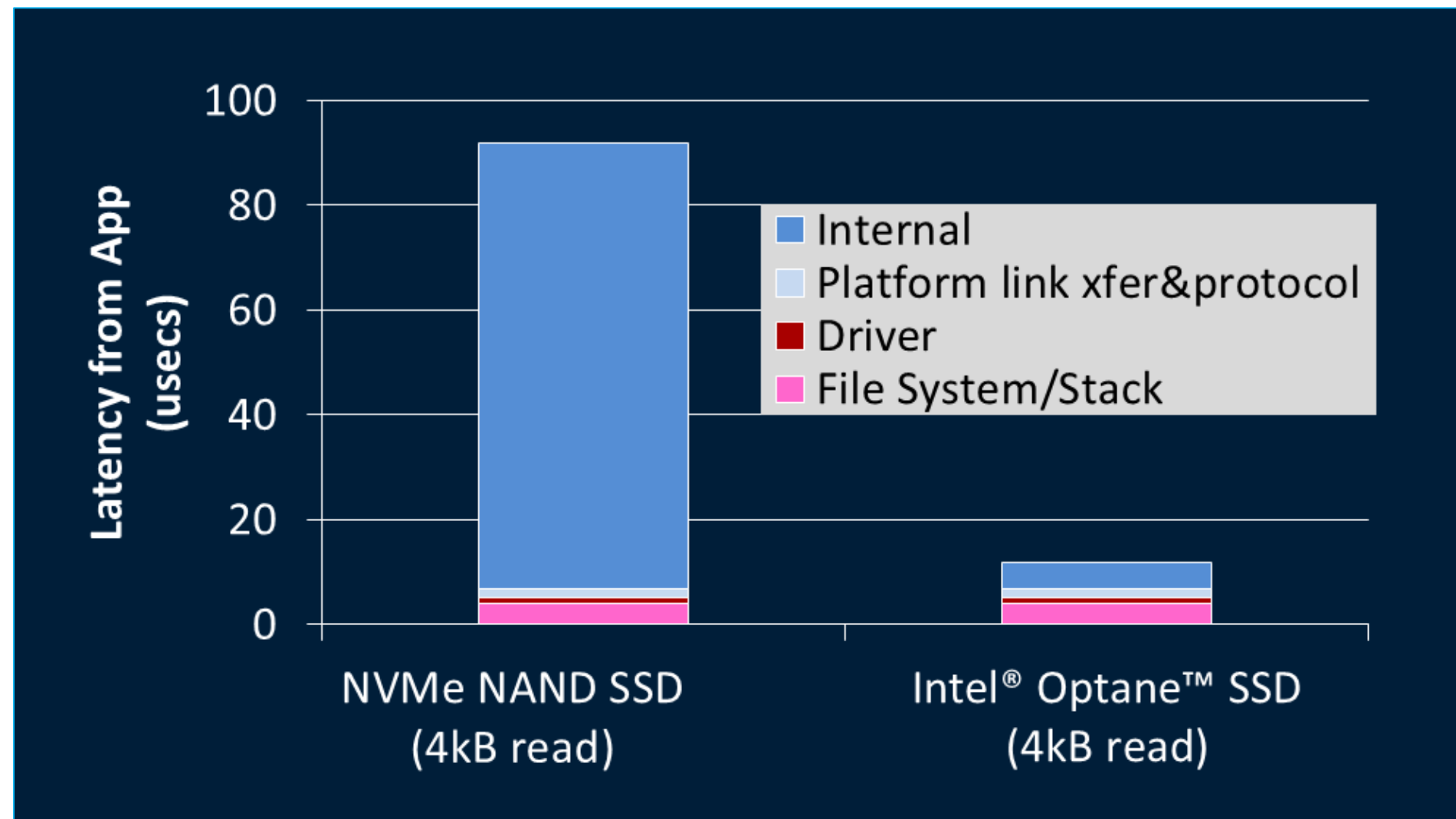




But.....can the OS and applications access this performance?

**YES!**

# INTEL® OPTANE™ SSD LOW LATENCY IS ACCESSIBLE

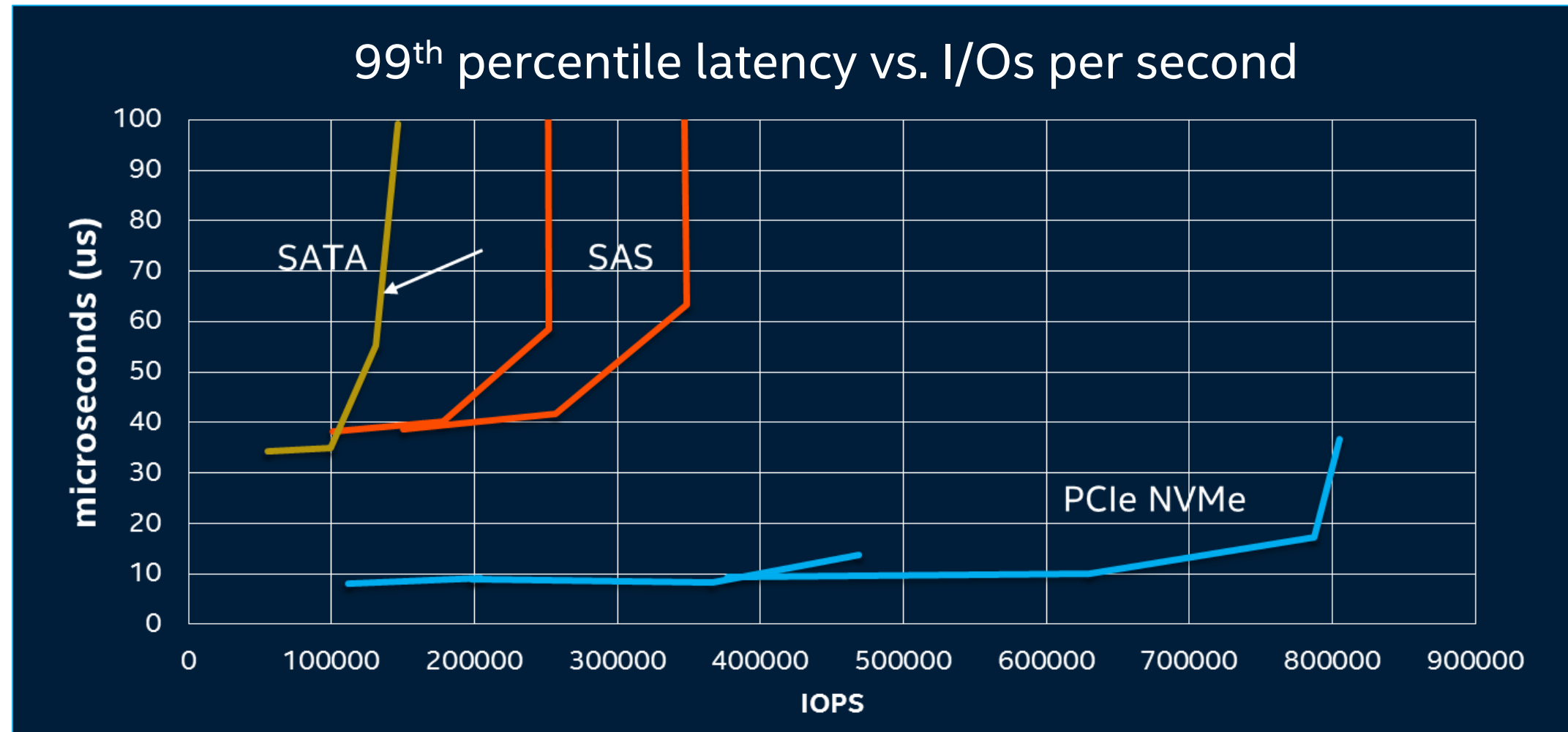


## INTEL® OPTANE™ SSD LATENCY IS ACCESSIBLE TO APPLICATIONS

Sources: "Storage as Fast as the rest of the system" 2016 IEEE 8<sup>th</sup> International Memory Workshop and measurement, Intel® Optane™ SSD measurements, Intel P3700 measurements with FIO as detailed in paper.

# PCIe\*/NVMe\* DELIVERS SUPERIOR LATENCY AND THROUGHPUT

Platform HW/SW Average Latency Excluding Media, 4KB Reads

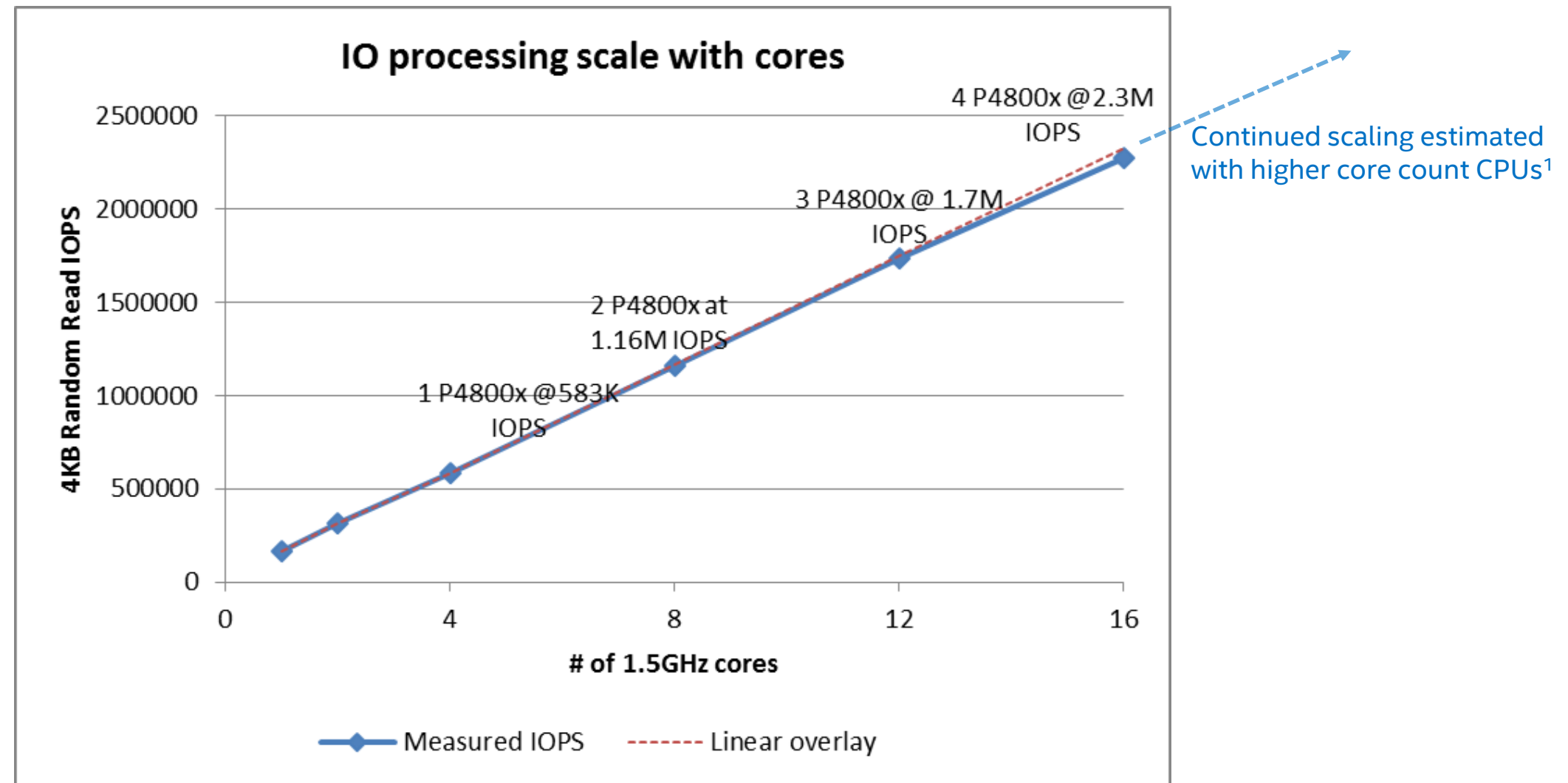


## PCIe/NVMe ENABLES HIGH IOPS AT LOW LATENCY

Results measured by Intel based on the following configurations: Wildcat Pass Haswell Server Platform with 28 CPUs, 2 sockets, 2.3 GHz clock speed per CPU, Ubuntu 14.04.1 LTS (GNU/Linux 3.16.0-rc7tickles x86\_64), idle=poll kernel settings, SAS HBA is LSI SAS9207-4i4e with controller LSI SAS 2308. SATA SSDs are Wolfville at XYZ GB. NVMe-based Intel® SSD DC P3700 at 2 TB. Drives tested empty to test interface only (no NVM access.) \*Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.



# MULTIPLE INTEL® OPTANE™ SSD I/O SCALING WITH INTEL® XEON® CORES

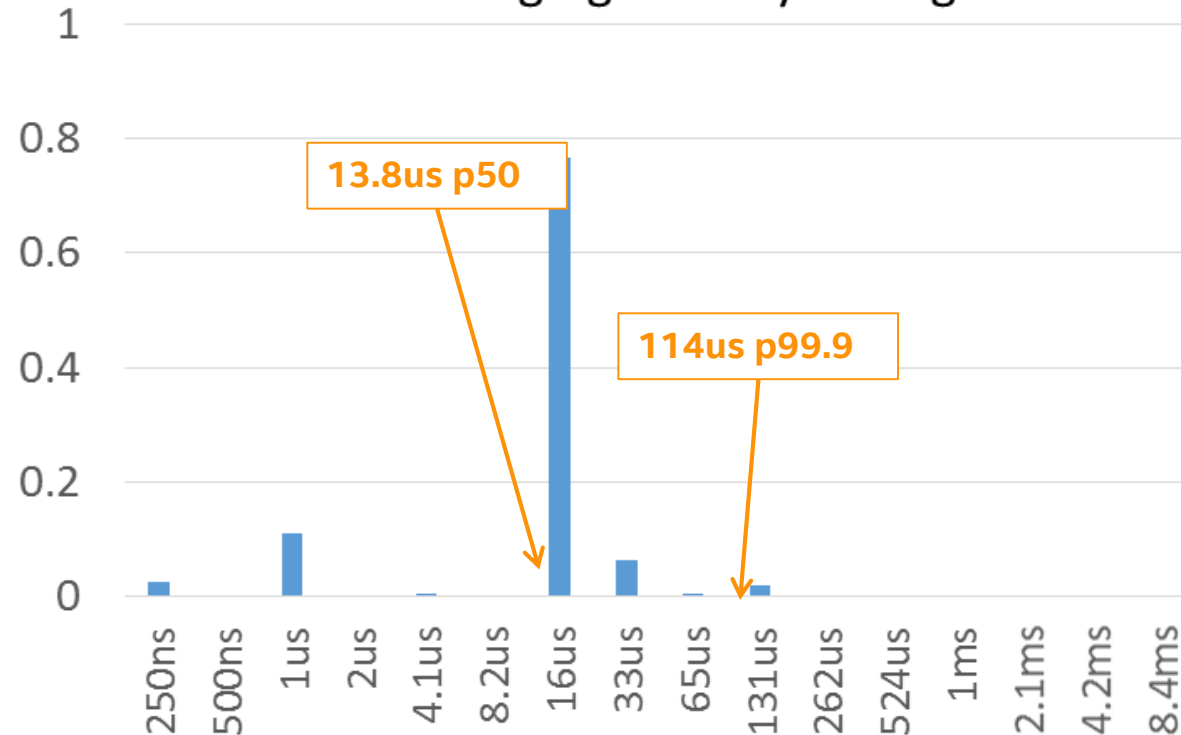


## MULTIPLE INTEL® XEON® CORES SCALE IOPS EFFICIENTLY WITH MULTIPLE INTEL® OPTANE™ SSDs

1. Estimates based on Intel internal testing using 2x 16C Intel® Xeon® processor, Linux 4.6.7, 256GB DRAM, P4800X 375GB, OS CentOS 7.2, kernel 3.10.0-327.el7.x86\_64, using fio-2.15. Actual performance depends on system configuration.

# PAGING PERFORMANCE

Intel® P4800X Paging Latency Histogram

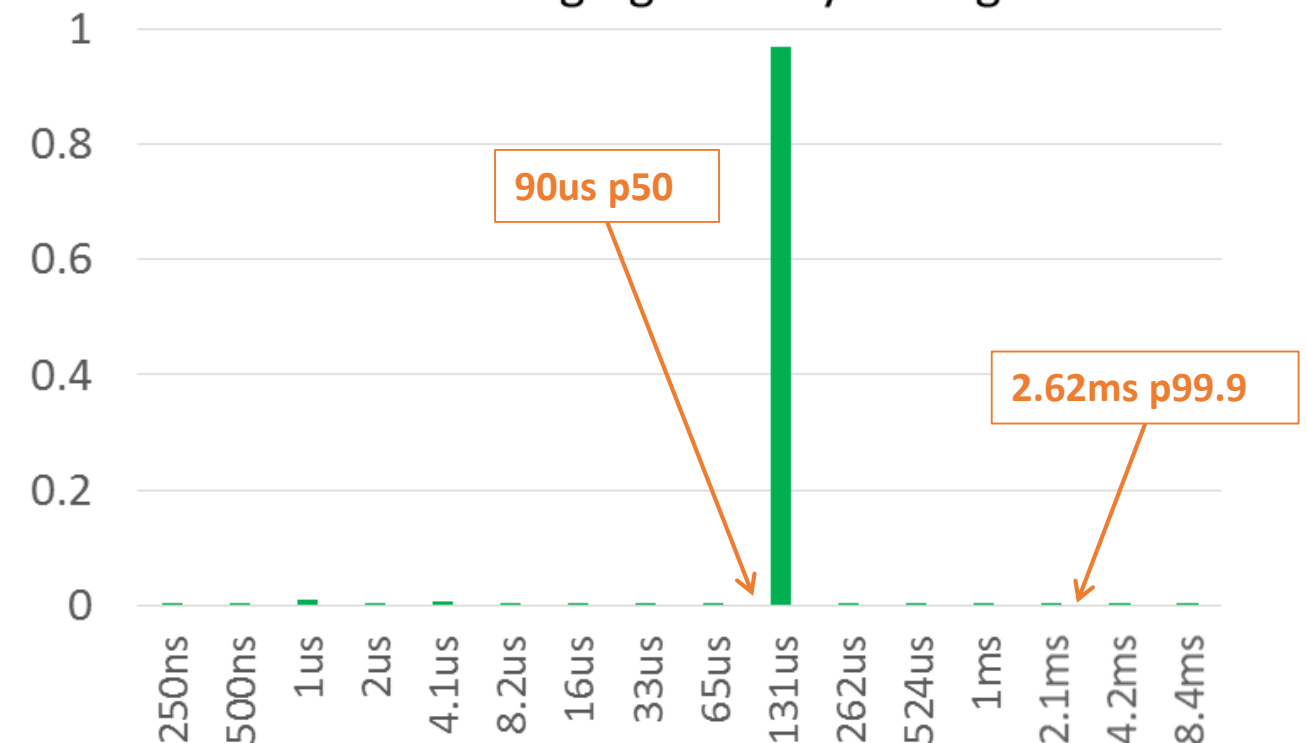


Average paging time = 14 usecs  
99.9% paging time = 114usecs

~6x faster

~23x faster

Intel® DC P3700 Paging Latency Histogram



Average paging time = 90 usecs  
99.9% paging time = 2.6msecs

## OS PAGING WITH INTEL® OPTANE™ SSDs EXTENDS MEMORY CAPACITY

1. Estimates based on Intel internal testing using 2x 16C Intel® Xeon processor, Linux 4.6.7, 256GB DRAM, P4800X 375GB, OS CentOS 7.2, kernel 3.10.0-327.el7.x86\_64, using fio-2.15. Actual performance depends on system configuration.

# INTEL® OPTANE™ SSDs ON APPLICATIONS

## Extreme performance

- Application waits less, completes faster

**SideFX\* Houdini\***

## Predictably fast service

- Improved application responsiveness
- Do more in a “click time”

**Rocks DB\***

**Aerospike\***

## Fast enough for paging

- Bigger data set accessible

**Quantum Sims\***

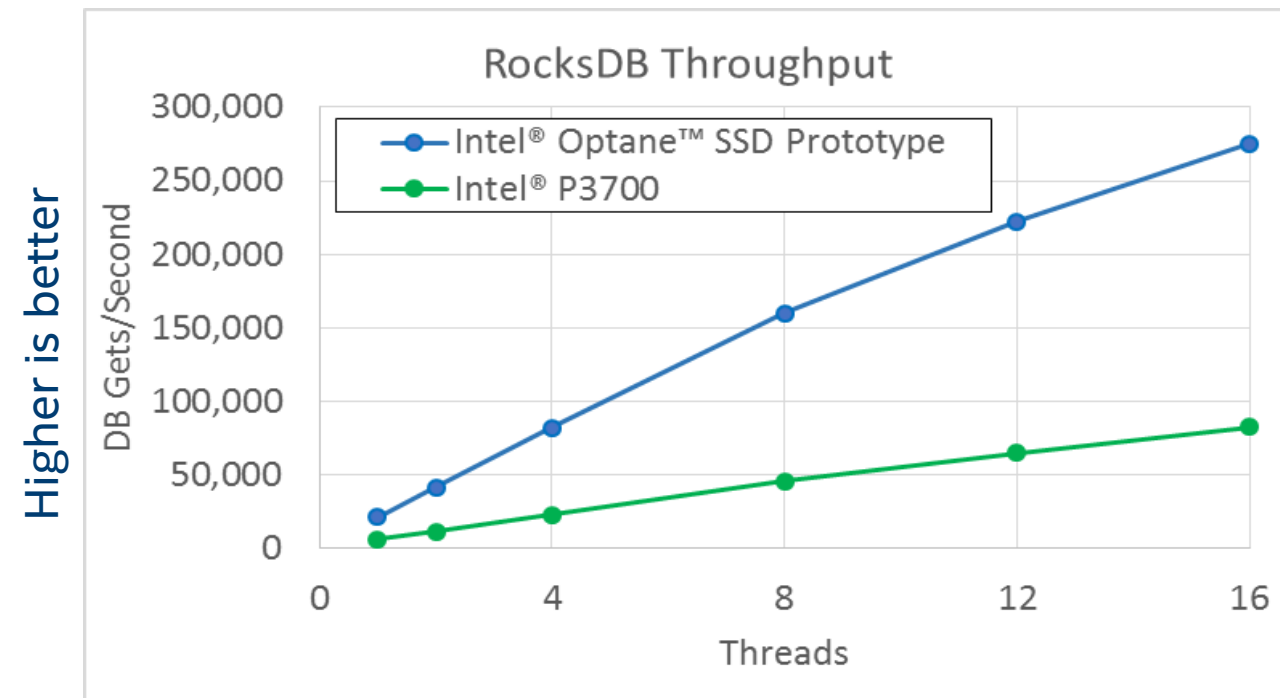
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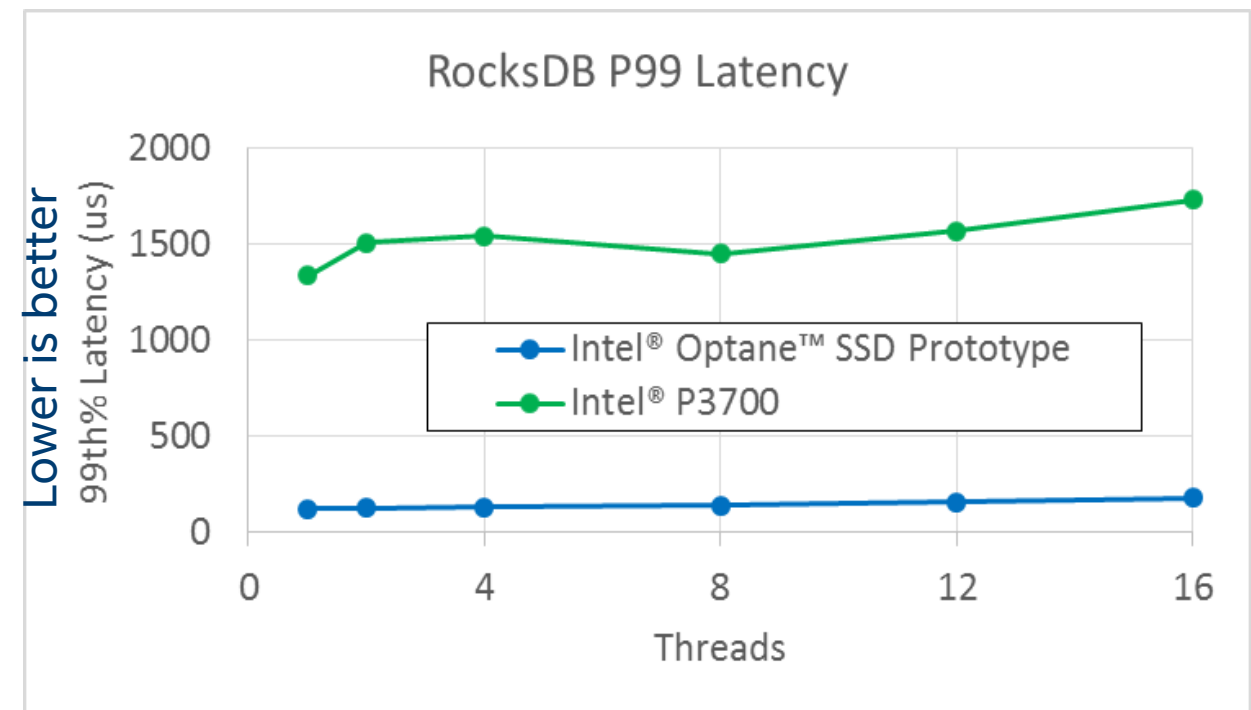
# DATA CENTER: ROCKSDB\* PERF ON TEST5 (FROM ROCKSDB.ORG)

Open source persistent key-value store

All threads randomly reads keys, one writer thread updates up to ~80K keys/second



~3x Throughput advantage



~10x Latency advantage (99<sup>th</sup> percentile)

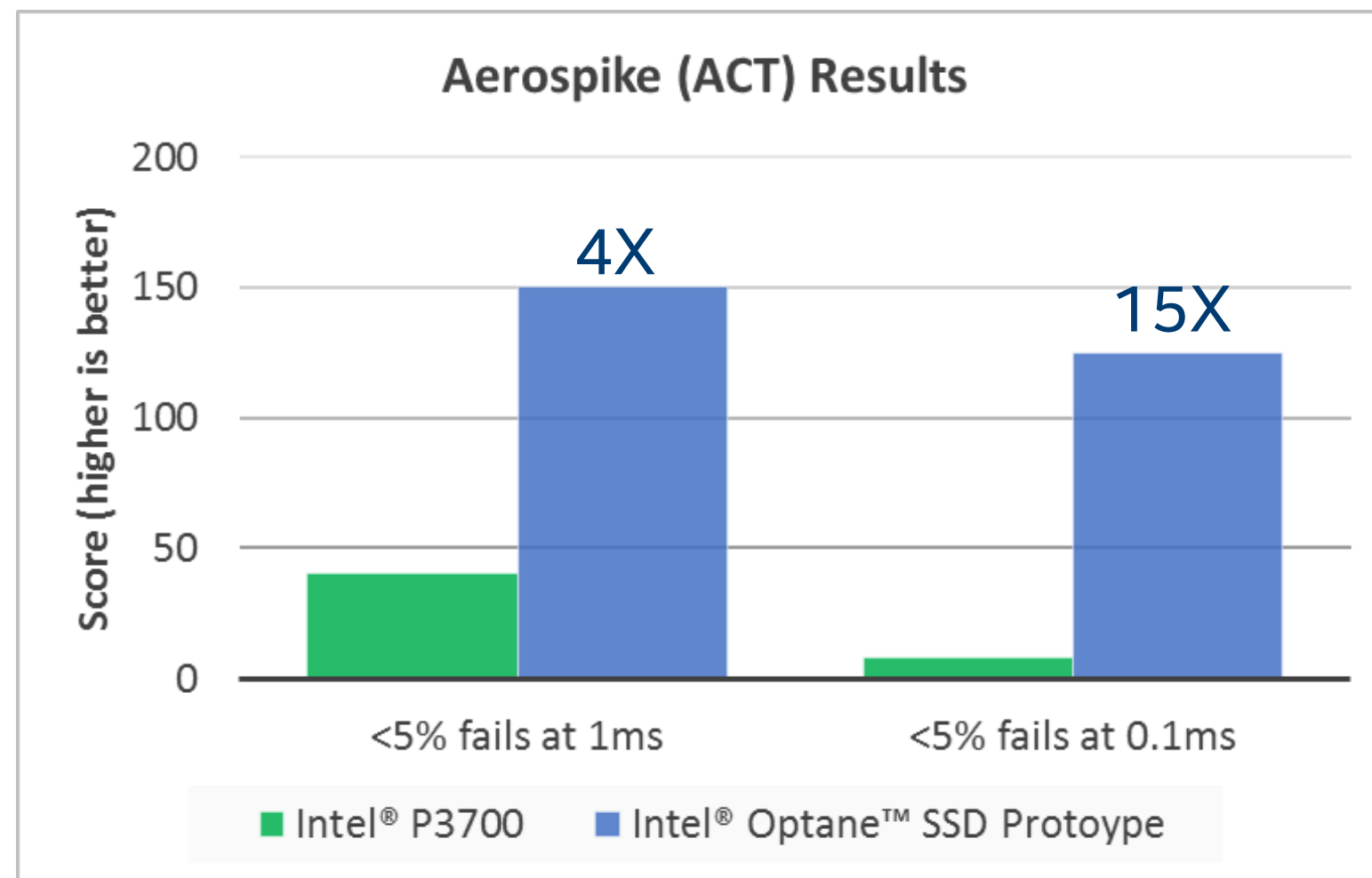
## INCREASED PERSISTENT KEY-VALUE STORE THROUGHPUT WITH BETTER QoS

RocksDB setup based on published tests at rocksdb.org: 1B Key Database used, 8 "Shards" of 25M Key/Values each, 20 byte keys, 800 byte values, 50% compression, ~100 GB on-disk. Read: All threads randomly read all keys. Read/Write: All threads randomly reads keys 1 writer thread updates up to ~80K keys/second. Quanta Leopard base board, 2x Intel Haswell CPUs (2.5 GHz, 12 core, HT Enabled, 8 DDR4 DIMMs, 256GB, 32GB Used, CentOS\* 7.2, no OS changes XFS FS with FB build/mount opts, TRIM enabled, P3700 (50% capacity used) and Intel Optane Based Prototype (75% capacity used).

# DATA CENTER: ACT\* BENCHMARK

**Aerospike\* Certification Tool**  
emulates the I/O pattern of a  
real-time database:

- 1.5kB random reads that meet Service Level Agreement
- 128kB background writes
- Measure multiplier while maintaining SLA



## HIGHER REAL-TIME DATABASE THROUGHPUT AT MUCH TIGHTER DEADLINES

CentOS\* Linux\* release 7.1.1503, Intel® Core™ i7 4770, ASUSTeK COMPUTER INC., H87I-PLUS, Boot Drive: Intel SSD DC S3500 160GB SATA SSD, 4GB DDR3 Single Channel

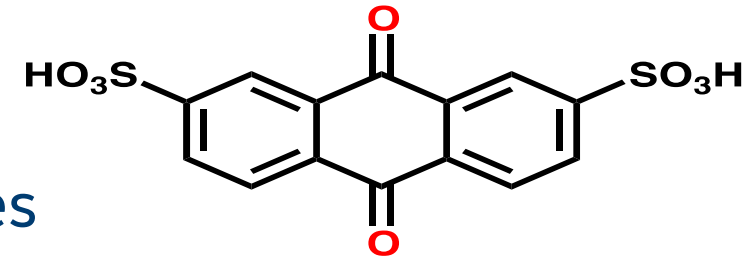
\*Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

# INTEL® OPTANE™ SSD USED TO EXTEND MEMORY

Easy scientific computing access in the Cloud

Say you want to experiment with your quantum computer algorithm idea:

quantum Fourier transform 35 Qubits (512GB) x 64 Instances



Intel® Corporation  
newly released  
Open source Quantum  
Compute simulator  
“qHiPSTER”

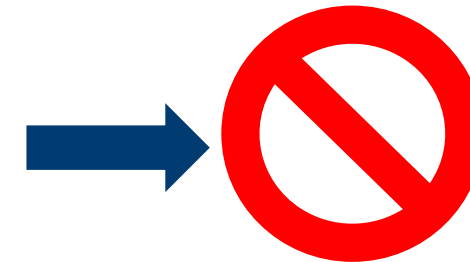
**TACC  
Supercomputer**

64 Processors,  
16GiB DRAM

➔ **179 min**

**1 Cloud Node**

1 Processor,  
16GiB DRAM



**1 Cloud Node**  
**Intel® Optane™ SSD**

1 Processor,  
16GiB DRAM,  
896GiB SSD

configured as memory

➔ **7360 min** ➔ **115 min** (64 Nodes)



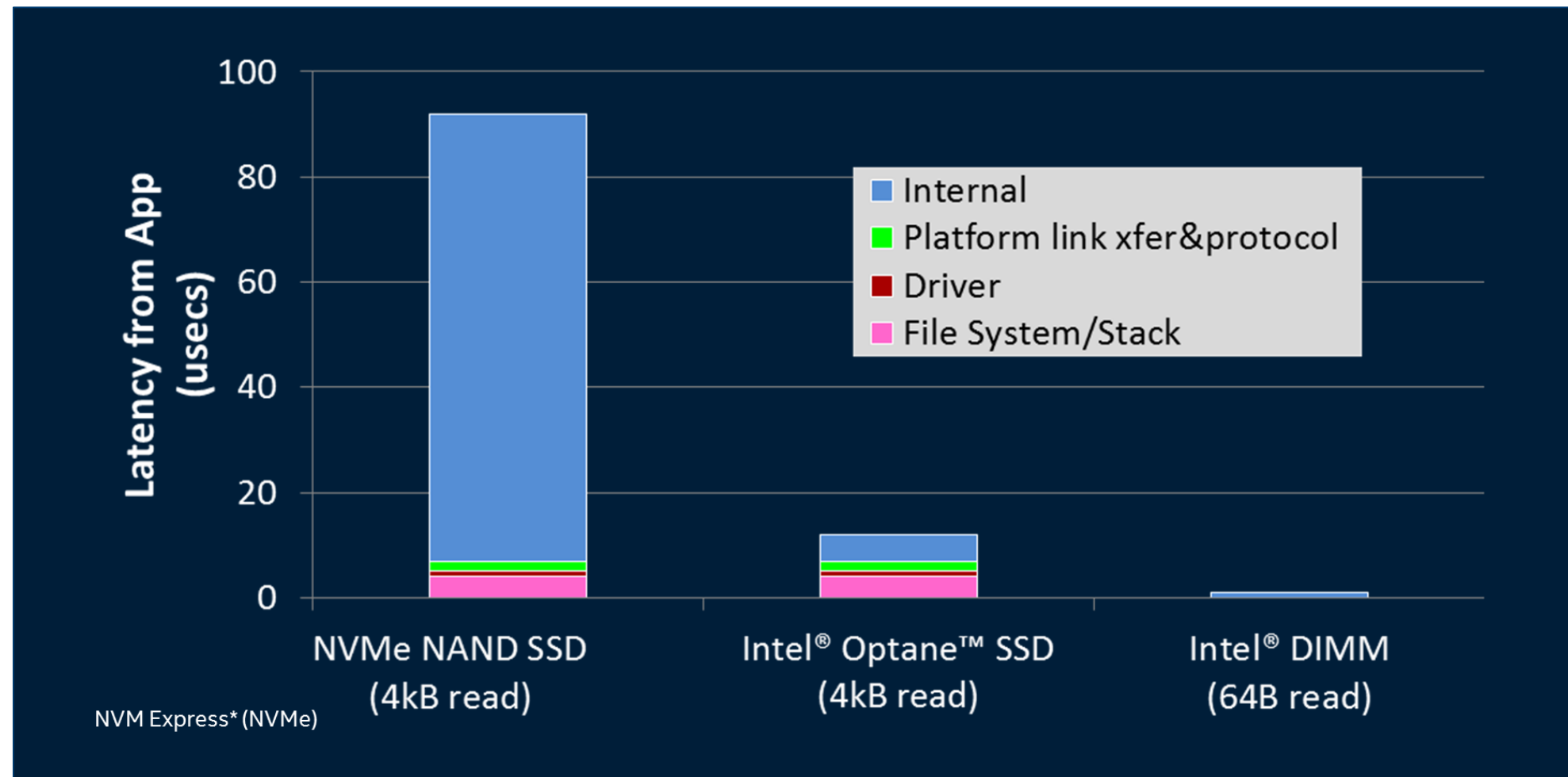
“Intel® Optane™ SSD is truly a game changer for chemistry, simulating molecules and strongly correlated materials directly in RAM. With resources such as Intel Optane SSD, academic computing and sophisticated scientific jobs can be moved to the cloud.”

- Prof. Alán Aspuru-Guzik – Dept of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Harvard



# IN THE FUTURE...

# MOVING TOWARDS A PERSISTENCE HIERARCHY



**THE THREE DIFFERENT PERFORMANCE/CAPACITY SOLUTIONS  
WILL WORK TOGETHER IN FUTURE PLATFORMS**

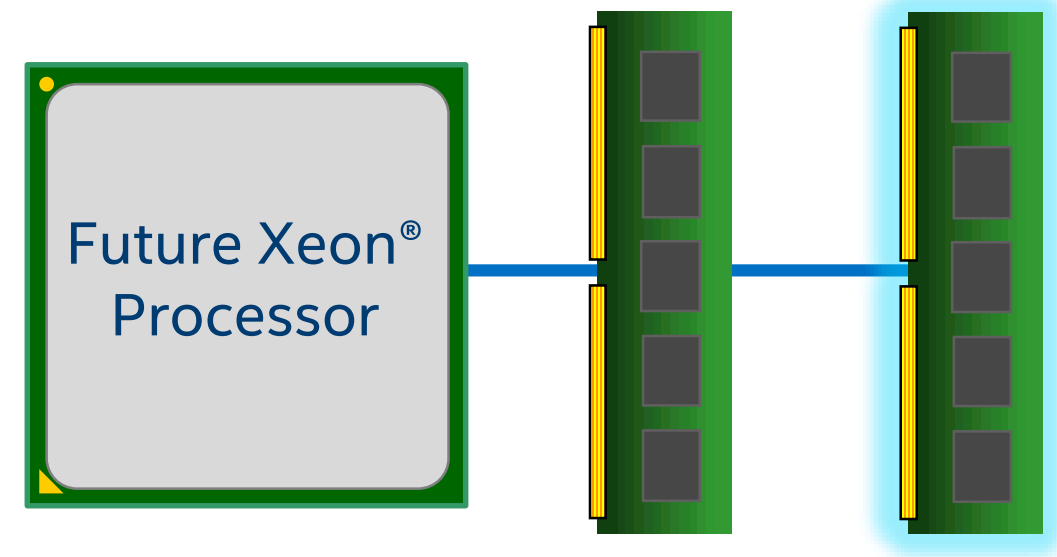
Sources: "Storage as Fast as the rest of the system" 2016 IEEE 8<sup>th</sup> International Memory Workshop and measurement, Intel Optane SSD measurements and Intel P3700 measurements, and technology projections

# INTEL® DIMMs BASED ON 3D XPOINT™ MEMORY MEDIA

- **Supported on next generation Intel® Xeon® processor-based platforms**
- **Attaches directly to the processor memory bus**
- **Enables both volatile and persistent memory capabilities**
- **Delivers up to 4x the capacity of today's DRAM DIMMs**

## Intel® DIMM

(based on Intel® 3D XPoint™ memory media)

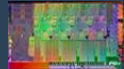

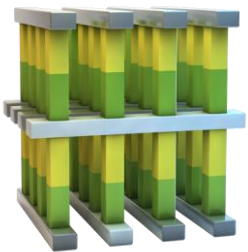
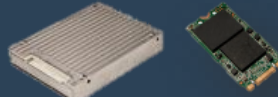



## DIMM

(acts in conjunction with Intel DIMM)

# INTEL® OPTANE™ TECHNOLOGY IS HERE

- **Intel® Optane™ SSD: 1<sup>st</sup> step in journey**
  - 3D XPoint™ memory media is here
  - Purpose-built, all new
  - Revolutionary latency and consistency
  - So fast we measure it and use it like DRAM
- **Applications will run faster consistently**
  - Responsive under any load

Processor		Relative Latency (reads)
SRAM Cache		1X
DDR DRAM		10X
		<1000X TO 10,000X
SSD		100,000X
HDD		10,000,000X



