Benefits of NVMe™ SSDs in Client Implementations

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Meet the Speakers

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NVMe™ now Dominant Storage Interface for Client SSD

Source: Intel Forecasting, Q2’18
Client use cases for NVMe™

**Gaming**
Opens up the opportunity for unparalleled realism, with high quality textures and decreased load times.

**Content Creation**
NVMe creates opportunity for new workflows for content creation when working with large data sets. Creators frequently move, backup, and duplicate storage.

**Workstation**
Opportunity to accelerate any WS workload with large data requirements, reduce CPU idle time. Speed up design, CAD, simulations.

**Client / Mobile**
High performance is driving NVMe into client. Efficiency and features of NVMe lead to better battery life. Lower latency and better QoS delivers better application responsiveness.

**Media Creation**
Rendering, high resolution (4k, 8k editing), audio production.
Consumer product storage priorities

What are consumer storage needs

• Low cost
• Small form factor
• Optimal thermal and power management
• High performance
• Low active power usage
• Compatibility

Why is NVMe™ great for all consumer storage?

• Scalable streamlined storage stack
• Low latency
• Industry standard drivers in all OS
• Robust features to address power/thermals
• Scalability /w PCIe and next gen NVM
• Built in security and manageability features
Client Desktop PCIe Storage Form Factors

Source: https://www.msi.com/Motherboard/X299-XPOWER-GAMING-AC.html
M.2 mania!

https://www.ekwb.com/shop/ek-m-2-nvme-heatsink-black
Choose the right laptop (hint…it needs NVMe™ SSD)

Choosing the ultimate in form, function & style

Choosing a balance of performance, mobility & battery life in the right form factor is essential.

Portability

Performance

Battery life

2 in 1 personal laptops equipped with Intel® Core™ Processor (Y-Series)

• BGA or M.2 NVMe

Versatile laptops equipped with Intel® Core™ Processor (U-Series)

• M.2 NVMe

Intel®Core™ Processor-based clam shell form factor laptops (H-Series)

• M.2 NVMe and 2.5in SATA

Intel®Core™ Processor-based clam shell laptops supporting overclocking (HK-Series)*

• Dual M.2 NVMe slots and 2.5in SATA

*Altering clock frequency or voltage may damage or reduce the useful life of the processor and other system components, and may reduce system stability and performance. Product warranties may not apply if the processor is operated beyond its specifications. Check with the manufacturers of system and components for additional details.

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NVMe™ Scales to Mobile and Removable Storage

**SSD PCIe & NVMe**
- Latest SSD grade performance
- PCIe and NVMe continuously innovated market-wide platform
- Scalable SW stack widely supported
- Bus mastering and reduction ram and cost
- Low power options for mobile implementations
- Leveraging existing investments for card and products manufacturers

**SD Memory Card**
- Most popular removable card in consumer market
- Enhanced features added: Command Queue, Cache
- SD UHS-I operation mode supported

**SD EXPRESS**
SD PCIe & NVMe card with backward compatibility to existing billions host devices in the market

**Source:**

BGA 11.5x13mm
Google at the NVMe™ Developer Days 2018

NVMe Storage for Consumer Product

Zhiping Yang, Ph.D.
Google LLC

1st Annual NVMe Developer Days
December 5–6, 2018, San Diego, California

2017 Pixelbook with the 1st 1113 BGA SSD in the world

11.5x13 BGA SSD spec was finalized 2/17
Samsung samples in 7/17
Pixelbook with 512GB NVMe SSD was shipped in 12/17

One MLB for both eMMC and NVMe

159.7x27.57mm

Google
Power Consumption

Device Idle Power
- 19.32 mW

4K Video Playback
- 112.19 mW

Intel® 760P SSD
Data is collected by Intel on Key sight 6705B* data logger by running Mobilemark® 2014 Office Productivity test for 2 hrs on Lenovo® Ideapad 720s. Windows* apps and other services are turned off for measurement consistency.
Data is collected by Intel on Key sight 6705B data logger by leaving the Lenovo Ideapad 720s for 10 mins and measuring the L1.2+PS3 power. Windows apps, radios, and other services are turned off for measurement consistency.
Data is collected by Intel on Key sight 6705B data logger by running 4K Video on the Lenovo Ideapad 720s for 1 hour and taking average of the measured power. Windows apps, radios, and other services are turned off for measurement consistency.

*Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.
Storage performance comparison workload by Intel: CrystalDiskMark V5.2*. Drives being compared: Intel® 7600p vs Intel® 760p. System: processor: Intel® Core™ i7-7700K processor @ 4.5GHz Turbo Frequency, 8T/4C, 8MB cache, 91 W TDP, on motherboard: Asus Z270-A* Prime, memory: 2 X 4GB Corsair Vengeance DDR4* 3000MHz 8GB, operating system: Windows 10 Pro* (x64) OS RS2, storage: Intel® 600P and Intel® 760p 512GB. Drive under test is configured as a primary drive plugged into M.2 slot directly. System power profile set to performance mode. Data is collected at 500GB span size at Queue Depth 32 and thread 1 for sequential read and write. *Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.
Intel® SSD 660p Architecture: Dynamic SLC-Cache

Intel® SSD 660p dynamic SLC-cache architecture:

• Dynamic SLC-cache is a combination of static-SLC and QLC-mapped as SLC
• SLC-cache-first algorithm ensures optimized performance\(^1\)
• Intelligent firmware configures unused QLC NAND cells as SLC to dynamically expand SLC-cache
• On-demand performance boost option\(^2\) to manually flush the SLC cache

\(^1\) SSD performance within the SLC span.
\(^2\) Performance Boost option available through Intel®SSD Toolbox version 3.5.3 within Intel®SSD optimizer feature, exclusively for Intel®SSD 660p Series.
Intel® SSD 660p. QLC Capacity and SLC Performance.

1. Increase in used capacity, triggers SLC span decrease.
2. Decrease in used capacity, triggers SLC span increase.

Intelligent architecture continually adjusts SLC spans up or down to boost performance over full life of SSD.
QLC Offers Mainstream Performance and Price

Storage performance comparison workload by Intel: CrystalDiskMark V5.2.1*. Drives being compared: Intel® 660p. System: processor: Intel® Core™ i7-8700K @ 3.70GHz, Gigabyte Z370 AORUS Gaming 5 motherboard, EVGA GeForce GTX 1060 6GB SSC GAMING ACX 3.0, 6GB GDDR5 398.36, BIOS: American Megatrends Inc. F6 4/3/2018, Chipset: Intel® INF 10.1.1.42, Memory: 16GB (4X4GB) Crucial DDR4-2667*, Microsoft Windows 10* RS4 Enterprise 64-bit using native NVMe storage driver, Storage: Intel® 600P 1TB and Intel® 660p 2TB. Drive under test is configured as a primary drive plugged into M.2 slot directly. System power profile set to performance mode. Data is collected at 16GB span size at Queue Depth 32 and thread 1 for sequential read and write.

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# QLC NVMe™ vs SATA Application Performance

![Graph comparing QLC NVMe™ and SATA application performance](https://www.anandtech.com/bench/product/2191?vs=2166)

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

Accelerate Video Editing With Intel® Optane™ SSDs

DAVINCI RESOLVE*

Rendering a 3.5min 4K video went from 5.3mins to 1.4mins²

System utilization improved 39% to 100%¹

Caching a 3.5min 4K video went from 1.6mins to 39secs¹

Performance results are based on testing as of July 21st 2018 and may not reflect the publicly available security updates. See configuration disclosure for details. No product can be absolutely secure.

1.Test: Blackmagic DaVinci resolve 14* Video Caching of a 3.5mins @4K by using the command “media optimization.” Test done by Intel in Sep 2018. System configurations: Intel® Core™ i9-7900X, Asus X299 motherboard BIOS version 1401, NVIDIA® GeForce GTX1080, Memory 64GB (4X16GB) DDR4-2133, OS Win 10 version 1803, Storage 1TB Intel® SSD 760p vs. 480GB Intel® Optane™ SSD 905P.

2.Test: Blackmagic DaVinci resolve 14* Video Rendering of a 3.5mins @4K by rendering it to DPX file format at 4K/24FPS/10bs. Test done by Intel in Sep 2018. System Configurations: Intel® Core™ i9-7900X, Asus X299 motherboard BIOS version 1401, NVIDIA® GeForce GTX1080, Memory 64GB (4X16GB) DDR4-2133, OS Win 10 version 1803, Storage 1TB Intel® SSD 760p vs. 480GB Intel® Optane™ SSD 905P.

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BGA Form Factor – Single-Package SSD

Smallest PCIe® SSD form factor available

 Designed for thin and light client devices
  • Surface mounted in system (11.5x13mm or 16x20mm) or small, removable M.2

Additional use cases
  • Server boot, embedded, industrial, robotics, IoT, automotive

Benefits
  • Smaller, lighter and low power
  • Extends battery life and better user experience
Host Memory Buffer (HMB)

Standardized method (NVMe™ spec 1.2) to utilize host DRAM to hold LUT or other buffer data

Remove DRAM from SSD:
- Lowers BOM cost
- Reduced power requirements

Equivalent or better performance than SSD with DRAM

Utilizes HMB enabled device driver (i.e. Windows, Linux)
Off Module Power or Off-module PLP

- Power loss protection (PLP) is a mechanism to save DRAM-cached data and gracefully shut down an SSD upon an unexpected power loss condition.

- PLP typically uses capacitors on the SSD to provide hold-up power until data is flushed from the DRAM to the NAND flash.

- Off Module Power utilizes the host system or module to provide hold up power, eliminating the need for capacitors on the SSDs; helps reduce cost.

Standardization by PCI-SIG® and NVM Express®
New NVMe™ Features for Client SSDs
NVMe™ 1.2 Improvements for Client

RTD3
Allows safe shutdown to the storage to save platform power

Platform Value
- Enables safe shutdown of device
- Power savings

Specification Details:
- Spec provides registers for providing device details for entry/exit latencies.

Additional Power State Info
Provides host additional info to the power levels supported by the device

Platform Value
- Additional details of power states to assist in transitions.
- Power/thermal benefit

Specification Details
- Spec allocates details in SMART

NVMe innovations enable additional features for client to help manage power/thermals.
NVMe™ 1.2 Improvements for small form factors

Host Memory Buffer
Allows the host driver to allocate system memory for the SSD’s exclusive use

Platform Value
- Enables DRAM savings & smaller BGA packages
- E.g., Allocate translation tables in host DRAM

 Specification Details:
- Device indicates preferred HMB size
- Host enables/disables via Set Features

Composite Temperature
Allows host to monitor temperature of the SSD

Platform Value
- Platform has feedback to the device temperature.
- If the host believes the temperature is out of its limits, it can set a lower power state on the NVMe device

 Specification Details
- Device indicates temperature in SMART
- Power State can be changed in power management

NVMe innovations enable scaling into smaller form factors delivering new differentiated platforms.
NVMe™ 1.3 - Boot Partitions

• Optional storage area that can be read with “fast” initialization method (not standard NVMe queues). Example: UEFI bootloader

• Saves cost and space by removing the need for another storage medium (like SPI flash, EPROM)

• Write using standard NVMe Firmware Download and Firmware Commit

• Can be protected with Replay Protected Memory Block

Makes NVMe more accessible for mobile and client form factors
NVMe™ 1.3 - Host Controlled Thermal Management

Better thermal management in client systems like laptops and desktops.

Host can set **Thermal Management Temperature** at which a device should start going into a lower power state / throttling

- **TMT1** – host tells SSD what temp in degrees K it should start throttling at
- **TMT2** – threshold where the SSD should start heavy throttling regardless of impact to performance

![Diagram of HCTM Example](image)
Namespace Write Protection is an optional configurable controller capability that enables the host to control the write protection state of a namespace.

(exactly what you think it does)

Could be used for secure space on drive, bootloader, backup image, important system files