# High IOPS SSDs for Al Use Cases

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SSDT-201-1

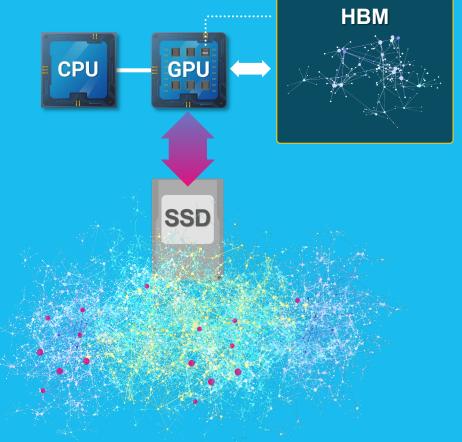
**August 6th, 2025** 





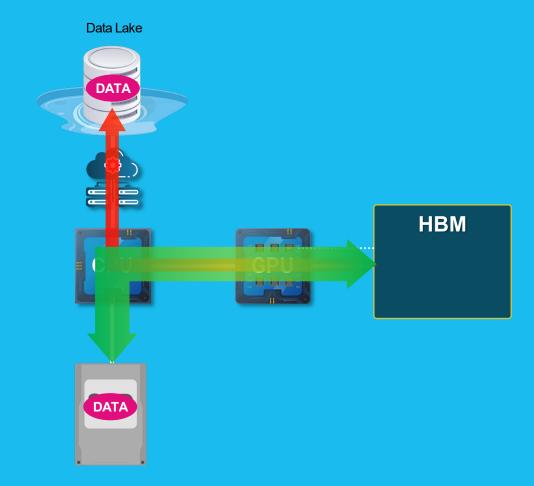
# **Emerging Al Use-Case: GPU Memory Extension**

- Addresses HBM expansion limitations and high costs
- Allows 10x 100x larger datasets<sup>1</sup>
- GPU-initiated I/O
  - up to 200M IOPS/GPU



# **Emerging Al Use-Case: Near-GPU Caching**

- Addresses inefficiency of small data accesses over very high-speed networks
- Large, efficient transfers from data lake to load cache
- Small reads serviced from local SSD
- CPU-initiated I/O



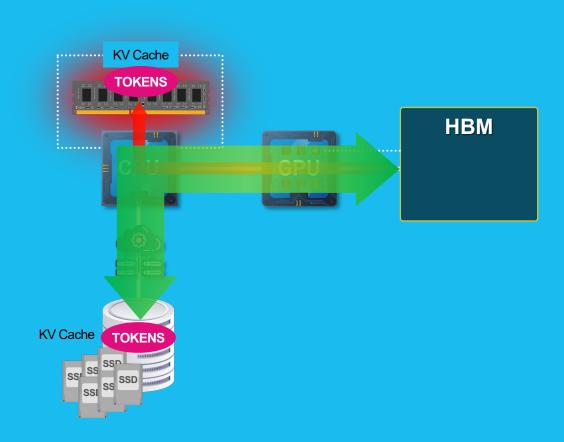






## **Emerging Al Use-Case: Key Value Caching**

- Prevents recomputation of previously generated tokens
- Extends local memorybased caches
  - Error recovery & routing benefits
- CPU initiated I/O



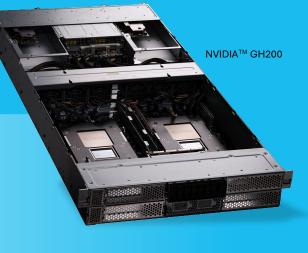


# The Case for High IOPS

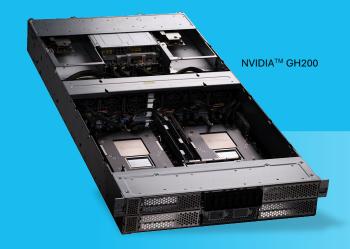
### **Alternate Paths to 200M IOPS**



- Consumes lots of physical space
- Wasted capacity
- 32 TLC SSDs (800W for each GPU)









- 2~4 SSDs
   (100M or 50M IOPS) per GPU
- No PCle switch needed
- ~120W

### KIOXIA's Path to 100 Million I/Os Per Second



# **Enabled by XL-FLASH**

2027

100M

512B Random Read IOPS XL-FLASH Gen. 3 PCle<sup>®</sup> 7.0 50GB/sec

2026

**10M** 

512B<sup>1</sup> Random Read IOPS XL-FLASH Gen. 2 PCle<sup>®</sup> 6.0 23GB/sec

2025

**3M** 

4K Random Read IOPS

TLC Flash

PCle® 5.0

14GB<sup>2</sup>/sec



# Low Latency Media is Key: Do The Math



- 100 Million IOPS requires a read to complete every 10 nsec<sup>1</sup>
- Typical TLC tRead ~ 60 usec<sup>2</sup>
- 60 usec / 10 nsec = 6,000 pipelined reads
- XL-FLASH tRead ~ 5 usec
- 5 usec / 10 nsec = 500 pipelined reads







# **GPUs Use SSDs Differently**



- Massive parallelism is the key to GPU performance
- Typical x86 system can issue ~50M IOPS consuming 100%
   CPU
- An NVIDIA Hopper™ GPU can generate ~200M IOPS with a projected <10% utilization</li>
- It is not unusual for GPUs to drive device queue depths into the 10s of thousands!

# Liquid Cooling Is In Your Future



- Faster flash media can be more power efficient!
- IOPS/Watt TLC: 480K vs XL-FLASH: 1.6M
- XL-FLASH @ 50M IOPS: ~ 35 Watts
- XL-FLASH @ 100M IOPS: ~ 60 Watts
- E3 may be required for surface area!

# Performance / Power Preliminary Comparison with TLC SSDs



### 1<sup>st</sup> Gen 10M IOPS SSD

512B Random Read [MIOPS]

**4KB Random Read [MIOPS]** 

PCle® Gen.

Power [W]

Best in Class TLC	Best in Class TLC	High IOPS Gen1 XL-FLASH
Gen5 x4	Gen6 x4	Gen6 x4
N/A	N/A	10.0
3.0	6.0	4.2
25	25	25
0.5	1.0	1.7

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Gen 50M/100M IOPS SSD

**IOPS/Power Ratio** 

en 50M/100M IOPS SSD	Best in Class TLC	High IOPS Gen2	High IOPS Gen2
		XL-FLASH	XL-FLASH
PCle Gen.	Gen7 x4	Gen7 x4	Gen7 x4
512B Random Read [MIOPS]	N/A	50	100
4KB Random Read [MIOPS]	12	TBD	TBD
Power [W]	25	<=35	<=60
IOPS/Power Ratio	1.0	>=3.0	>=3.5



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