

Mixed Mode SSD

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the Future of Memory and Storage

Mixed Mode SSD



SSD delivering pseudo-SLC (pSLC) and QLC NAND delivering performance and endurance

Performance

- All SSDs provide input/output operations per second (IOPS) and bandwidth
 - vs Small-number discreet SLC SSD
- Balance PCIe[®] lane usage

Configuration Flexibility

- Custom pSLC:QLC ratio for each deployment
- pSLC random IOPS performance and durability with QLC capacity

FRUs

- Reduce Field Replaceable Units (FRUs)

Manage Wear

- Workload differences

1. Pseudo-single level cell (pSLC).
2. Quad-level Cell (QLC).

Usage need for Mixed Mode

- **Different IO Flows – Voice of Customer**

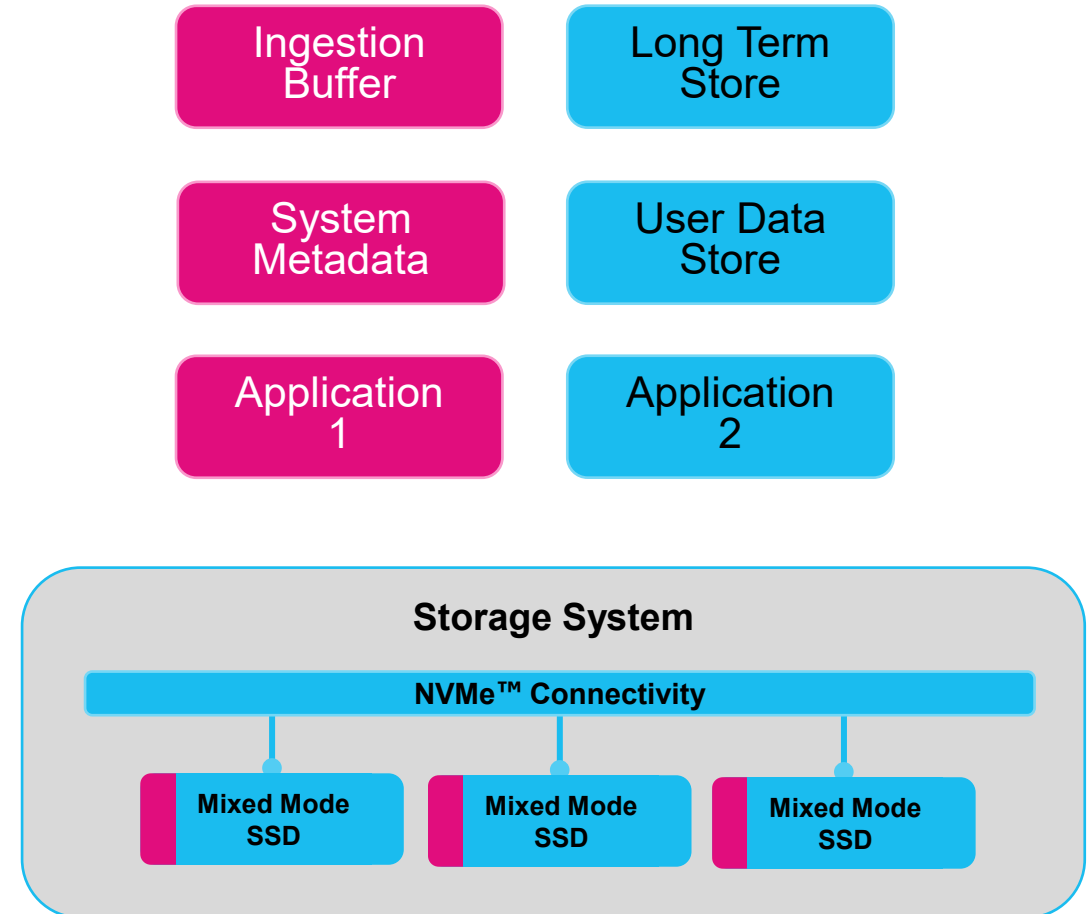
- Small random vs large sequential writes
- Metadata vs user data
- Application differences
- And many more...

- **Different Storage Needs**

- Data tiering
- Short-lived data vs long-lived data

- **Many Usages Need Flexible Space Configuration**

- Ratio of pSLC:QLC capacity



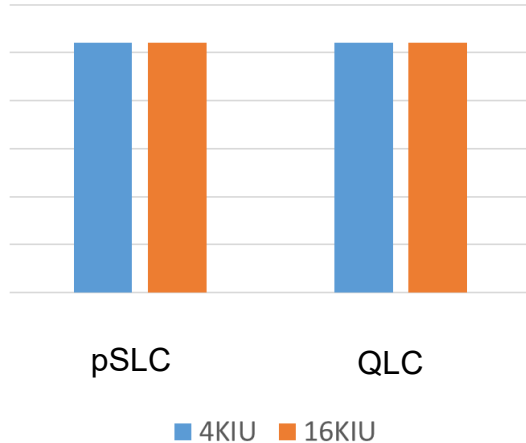
Relative Performance Estimation

- **Random IO Performance Driving Factor for Mixed Mode**

- 4KB¹ or 16KB Indirection Unit (IU) size only matters for random write

Sequential Read Consistent Performance pSLC no advantage

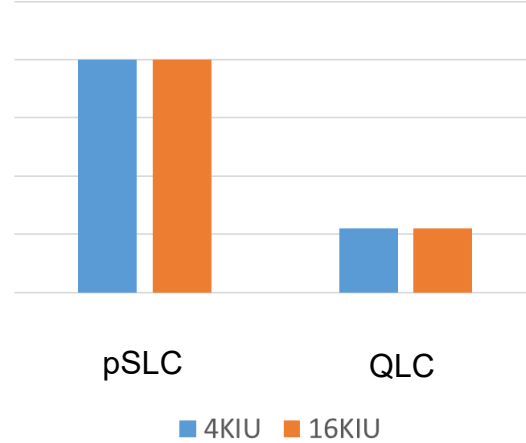
Sequential Read [GB/s]



Sequential Write pSLC over QLC

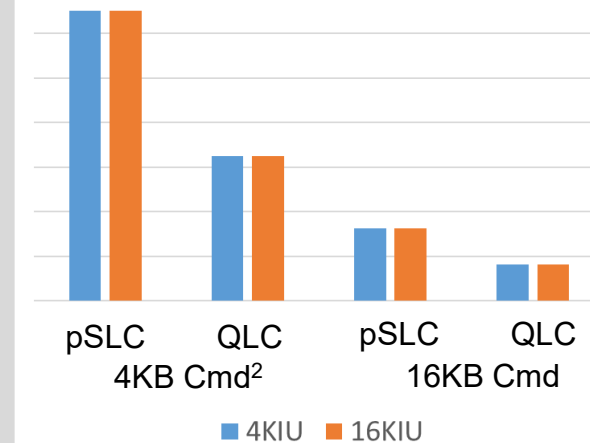
Limited pSLC Capacity
to sustain writes

Sequential Write [GB/s]



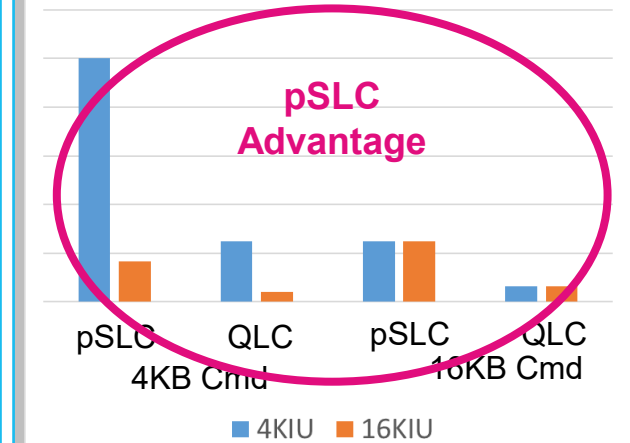
Random Read pSLC over QLC IU Size not Important

Random Read [KIOPS]



Random Write pSLC over QLC IU Size Matters

Random Write [KIOPS]



30 TB³ SSD relative performance estimation. Units are not the same when comparing graphs.

Mixed Mode Capacities

- Deliver improved performance/endurance at the price of reduced capacity
- Voice of Customer:
 - Typically, pSLC ½% to 2% of maximum QLC capacity

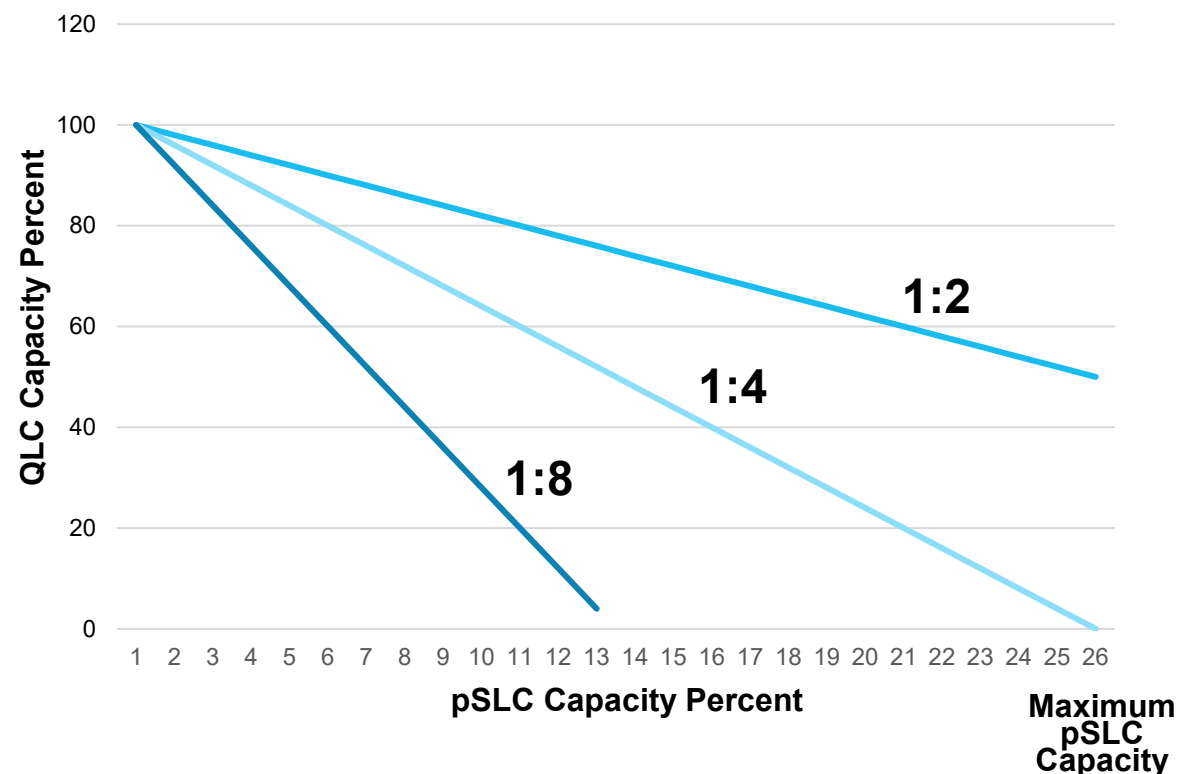
Ratio	Example	Capacity Limit	Notes
1:2	TLC:QLC	50%	Limited Advantages
1:4	pSLC:QLC MLC:PLC	25%	Good beginning ratio for mixed mode
1:8	pSLC:PLC	12.5%	Future

Source: Tables and charts created by KIOXIA engineers.

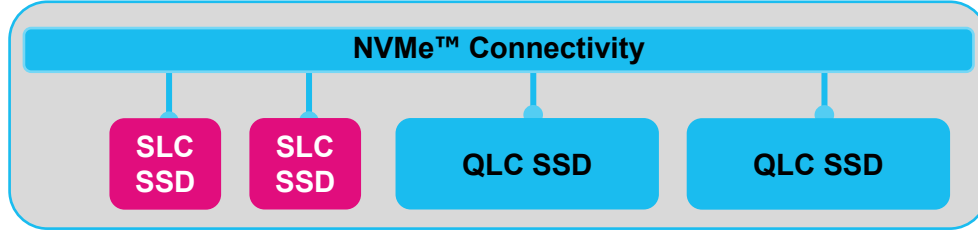
Ratios

- **Naming:** Endurance NAND:Base NAND
- **Space:** 1:4 – Endurance Blocks:Base Blocks

Mixed Media Capacity Comparison

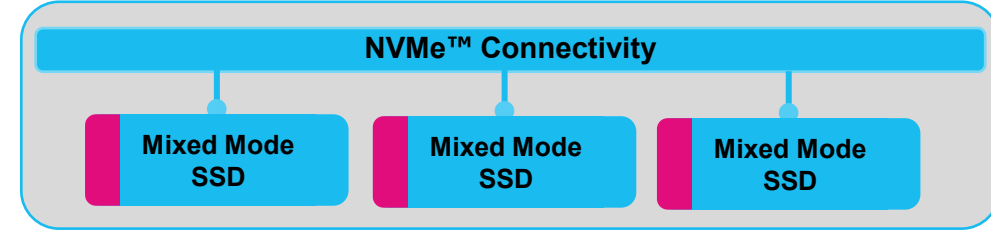


Creating SLC Capacity Discreet SLC vs pSLC



SLC Count	QLC	SLC Raw/Mirror
1	583 TB ¹ / 95%	3.2 TB / 0 TB
2	552 TB / 90%	6.4 TB / 3.2 TB
3	521 TB / 85%	9.6 TB / 4.8 TB
4	491 TB / 80%	12.8 TB / 6.4 TB

Limited number of SLC disks
mirroring for protection



SLC Percent	QLC	SLC Parity
1%	589 TB / 96%	1.5 TB
2%	564 TB / 92%	3.1 TB
3%	540 TB / 88%	4.6 TB
4%	515 TB / 84%	6.1 TB

pSLC space on all SSDs
parity protection on pSLC

- **Mixed Mode efficiently delivers high endurance pSLC**

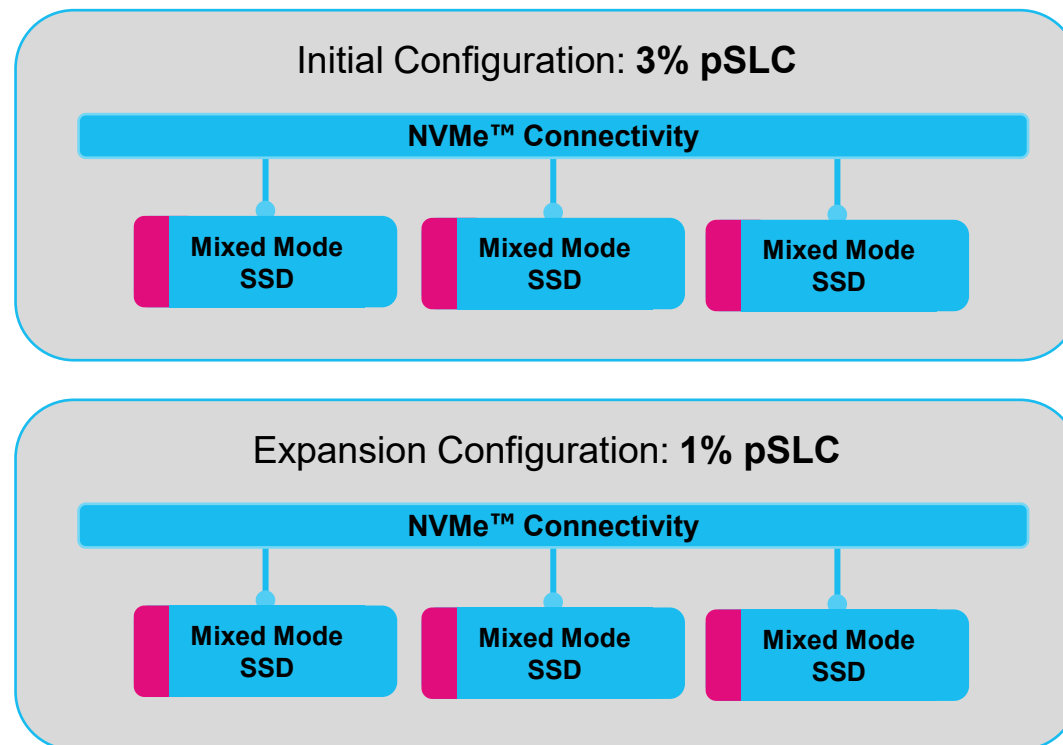
- Slot Tax: SLC SSD consumes full drive slots reducing overall capacity, What about SLC spares?
- Mixed Mode allows for parity protection in more configurations

Example SSD Capacities QLC:
30.7 TB, SLC: 3.2 TB, 20 Data
SSDs (No Spares or Parity)

- **Limit Field Replaceable Units (FRUs) – Single SSD model vs two for replacement**

- Define pSLC:QLC ratio at time of usage
- Configurable amount of space
 - Initial vs expansion SSD capacity
 - Fine granularity
 - Dependent on system configuration
- For performance, capacity or endurance
 - Need the capacity for the system, but after certain number of SSDs it doesn't make sense

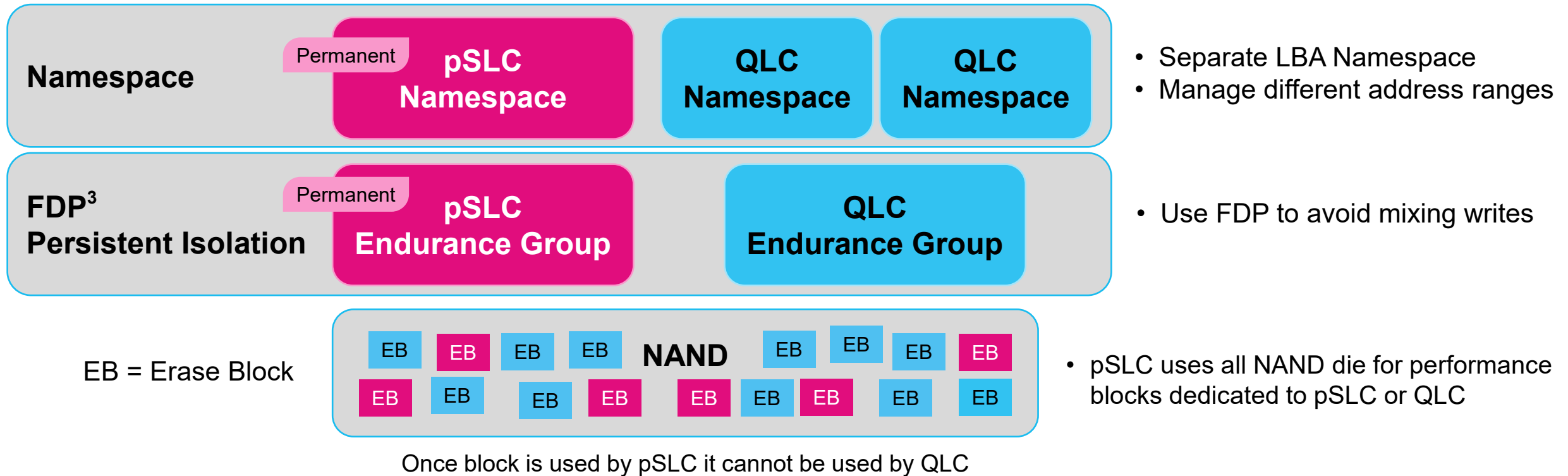
Example



Initial pSLC:QLC ratio configuration defines permanent Namespace¹ and Endurance Group²

pSLC Namespace and Endurance Group are created when SSD is first used and cannot be deleted once created.

QLC Namespaces may be created and deleted as needed.



Discreet SSD Balancing

- Unbalanced network connections (IOPS & BW¹)
- Unbalanced PCIe[®] lanes
- Disrupted by expansion and replacement



Enclosure



Enclosure



Mixed Media Balance IO Load

- Balance enclosure network connections
- Balance PCIe lanes
- Balances through expansion and replacement



Enclosure



Enclosure

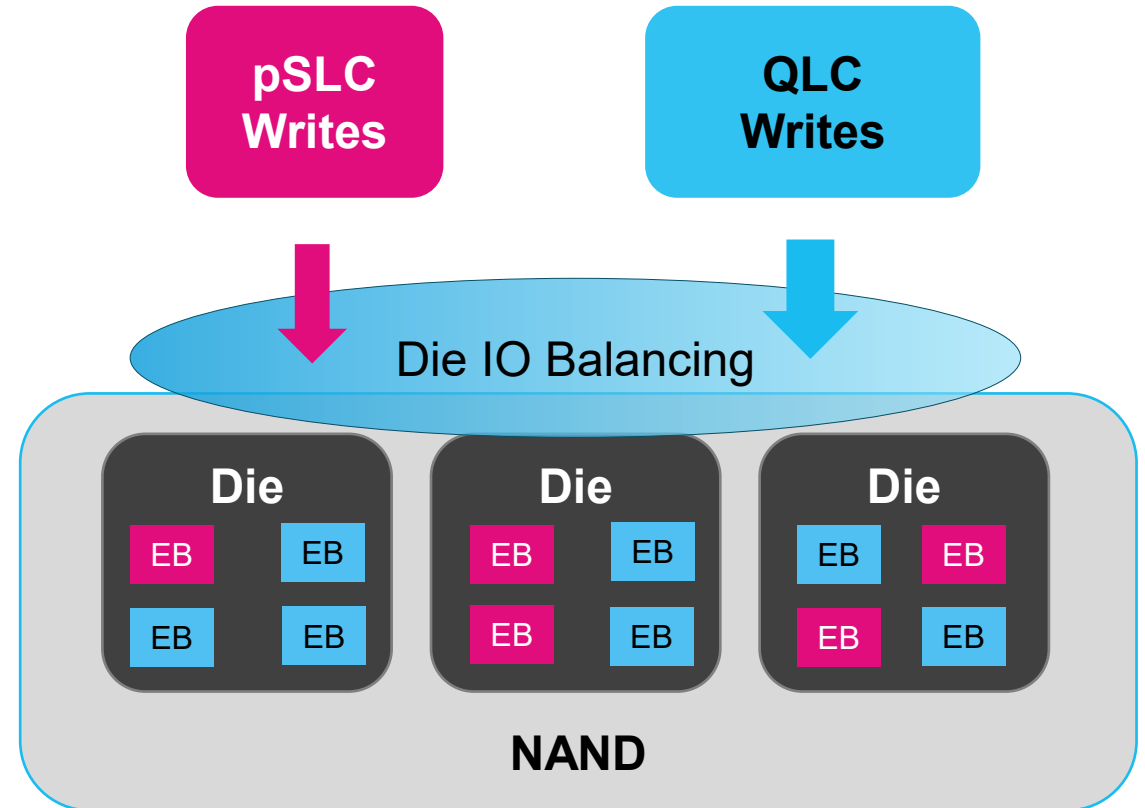


- **NAND Write Cycles**

- pSLC and QLC share same NAND dies

- **Gathering Requirements for Performance**

- Looking for your feedback
- What is the ratio of pSLC to QLC performance?
- Likely application specific – customer configuration?
- What are the minimums?

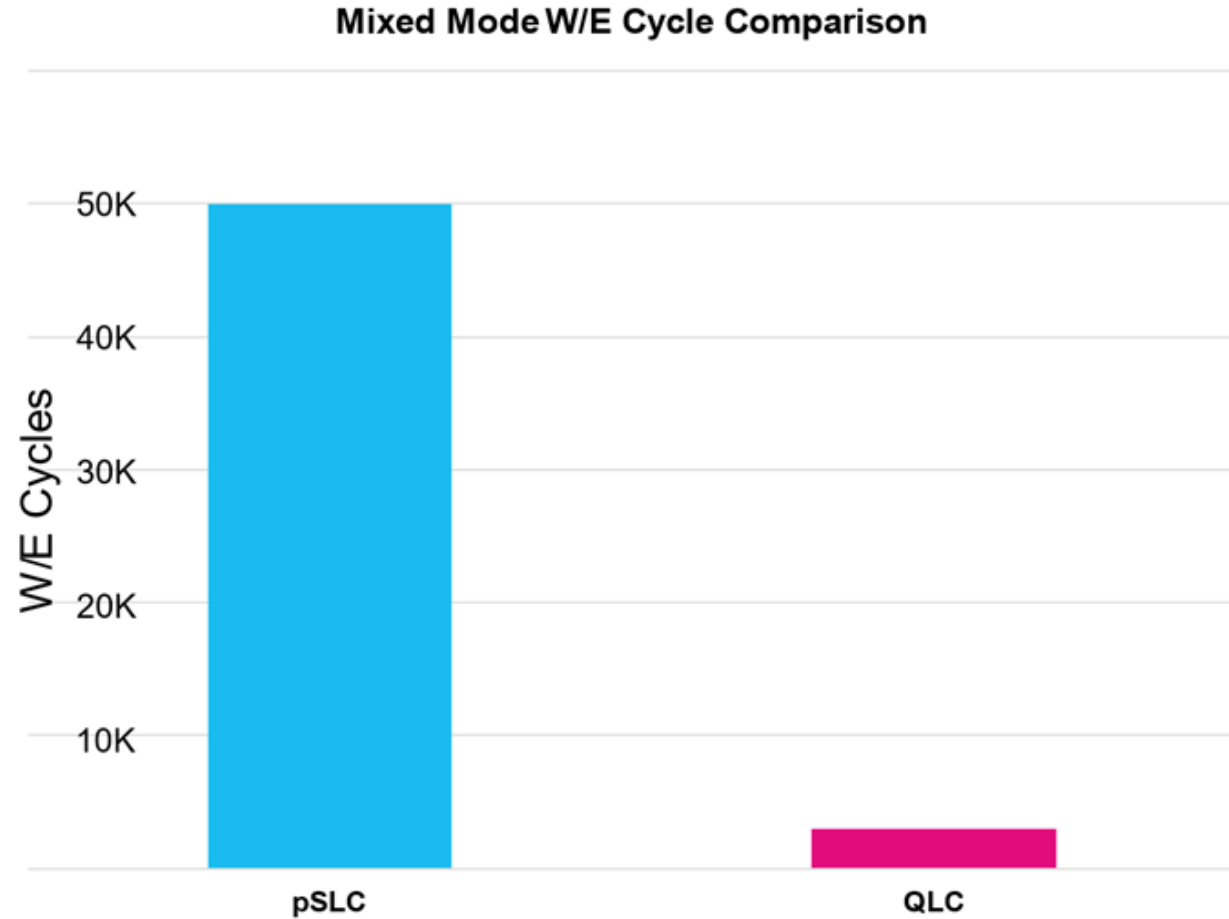


- **Like Discreet Devices**

- pSLC compares to SLC
- QLC is the same

- **pSLC vs QLC**

- 25+x write/erase (W/E) cycles
- Cannot swap Erase Blocks usage
 - pSLC to QLC or QLC to pSLC



- **pSLC:QLC Ratio Configuration**
- **Permanent Namespace & Endurance Group mixed with user created**
 - pSLC Endurance Group cannot be deleted
 - pSLC Namespace cannot be deleted
 - Namespace attribute for pSLC vs QLC
- **Quality of Service (QoS)**
 - TP 4176
 - FMS Session: INDA-201-1: NVMe™ State of the Union, Configurable Device Security and Quality of Service (QoS)
 - Is Rate Limit Mode enough?

- **Mixed Mode delivers performance and capacity**
 - Connection balancing
 - Improved capacity
- **One-time configuration of pSLC:QLC ratio**
- **Standards work is needed**
 - Permanent Endurance Group and Namespace
 - QoS

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