

Flexible Data Placement (FDP): Use Cases

Rory Bolt

KIOXIA America, Inc.

FARC-203-1

August 6th, 2025



the Future of Memory and Storage

- **If you want to approach a Write Amplification Factor (WAF) of 1.0:**
 - Overprovisioning helps (at a cost, of course). This can include “short stroking” in addition to the manufacturer’s factory-configured overprovisioning. This minimizes unnecessary write amplification due to race conditions
- **Assuming direct logical block addressing (LBA) access:**
 - Log structured write algorithms and circular buffers generally work well with FDP
 - Log Structured Merge (LSM) of RocksDB¹ is a great example
 - Transaction journals
 - Copy-on-write snapshotting file systems
 - Separate hot and cold data whenever possible
 - Traditionally classifying data at creation is very difficult
 - Copy-on-write storage systems that perform application-level garbage collection can do this naturally during garbage collect
- **If you can’t afford to fundamentally change your storage applications, look for low hanging fruit**
 - The Pareto Principle² usually holds true; just separating out a small portion of your data may yield large results (i.e. metadata is often far more volatile than user data, temp files can be moved to a dedicated namespace with a default placement ID)

KIOXIA RocksDB Plugin for FDP “UFROP”

Evaluation Result – WAF

- WAF comparison (average for 1h at steady state)

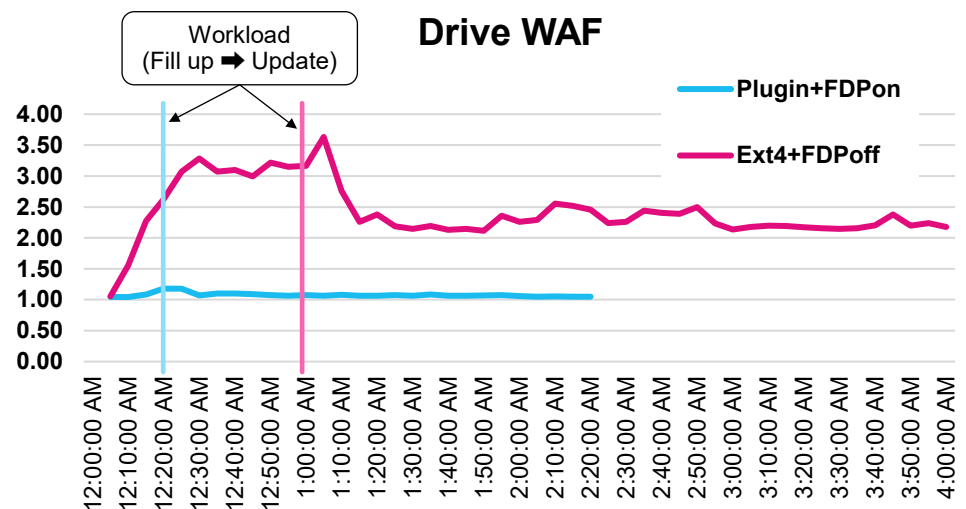
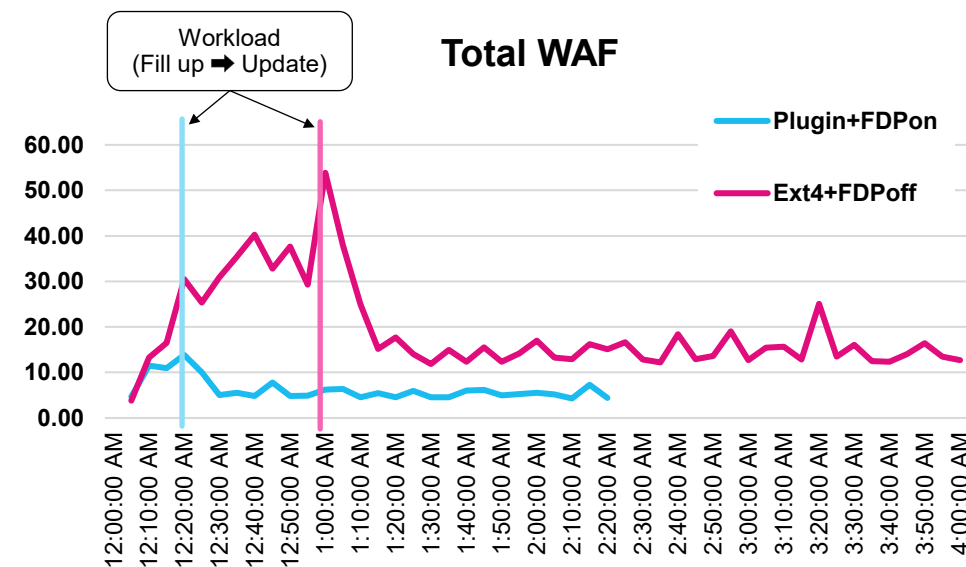
Back-end	FDP	Drive WAF*	Total WAF
Plugin	On	1.06	5.34
Ext4	Off	2.20	15.01

*Including additional writes of SSD internal information.

- Conditions

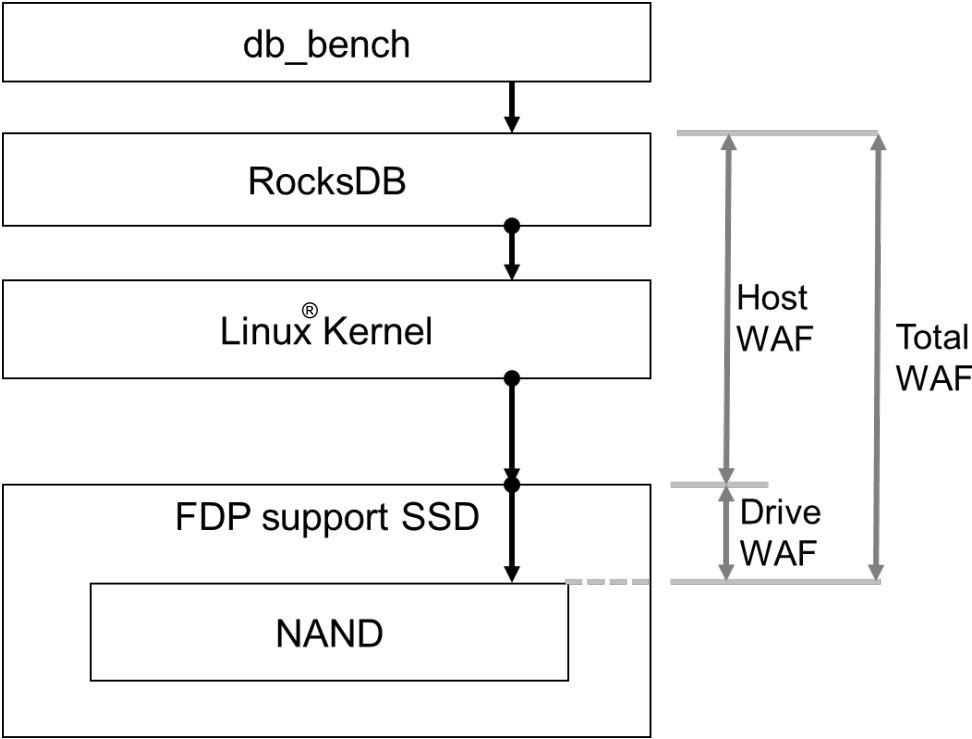
- KIOXIA XD8 Series SSD (8 TB¹ with special firmware to shrink capacity to 256 GB)
- Workload: Drive filling up to 67% → Updates
- Key : Value = 20B : 16KB

Source: Tables and charts created by KIOXIA engineers. Images and/or graphics within this slide are the property of KIOXIA America, Inc. (KIOXIA) and are reproduced with the permission of KIOXIA. 1. Definition of capacity: KIOXIA Corporation defines a megabyte (MB) as 1,000,000 bytes, a gigabyte (GB) as 1,000,000,000 bytes, a terabyte (TB) as 1,000,000,000,000 bytes and a petabyte (PB) as 1,000,000,000,000,000 bytes. A computer operating system, however, reports storage capacity using powers of 2 for the definition of 1Gbit = 2³⁰ bits = 1,073,741,824 bits, 1GB = 2³⁰ bytes = 1,073,741,824 bytes, 1TB = 2⁴⁰ bytes = 1,099,511,627,776 bytes and 1PB = 2⁴⁰ bytes = 1,125,899,906,842,624 bytes and therefore shows less storage capacity. Available storage capacity (including examples of various media files) will vary based on file size, formatting, settings, software and operating system, and/or pre-installed software applications, or media content. Actual formatted capacity may vary.

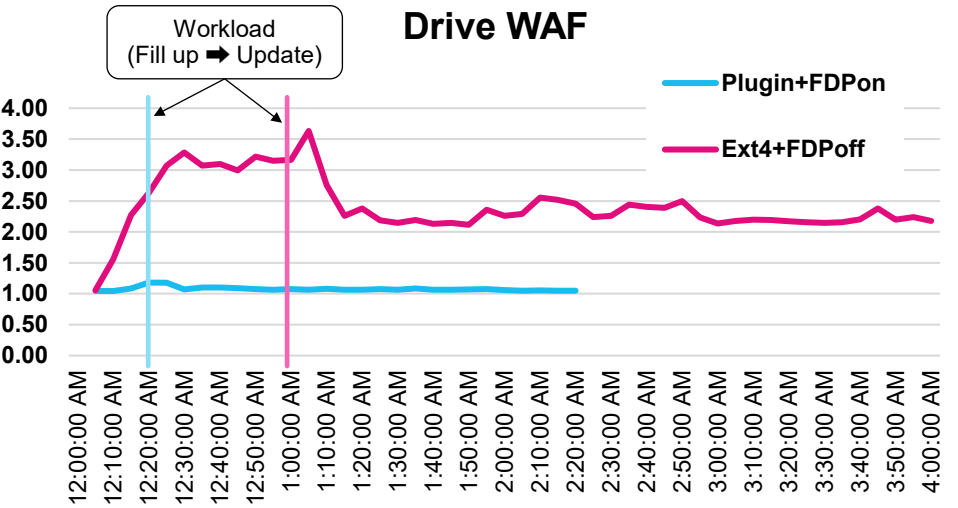
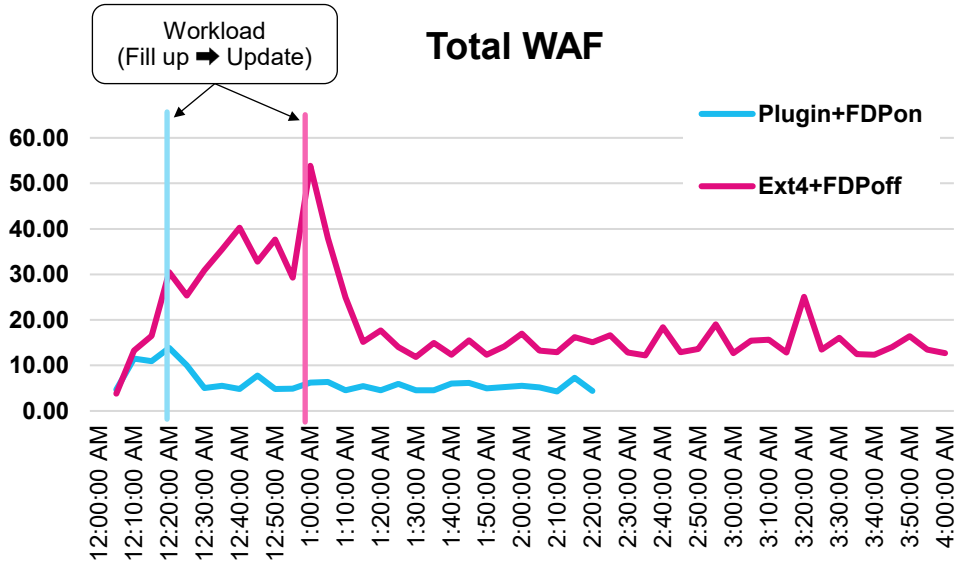


Evaluation Result – WAF

Measurement Points



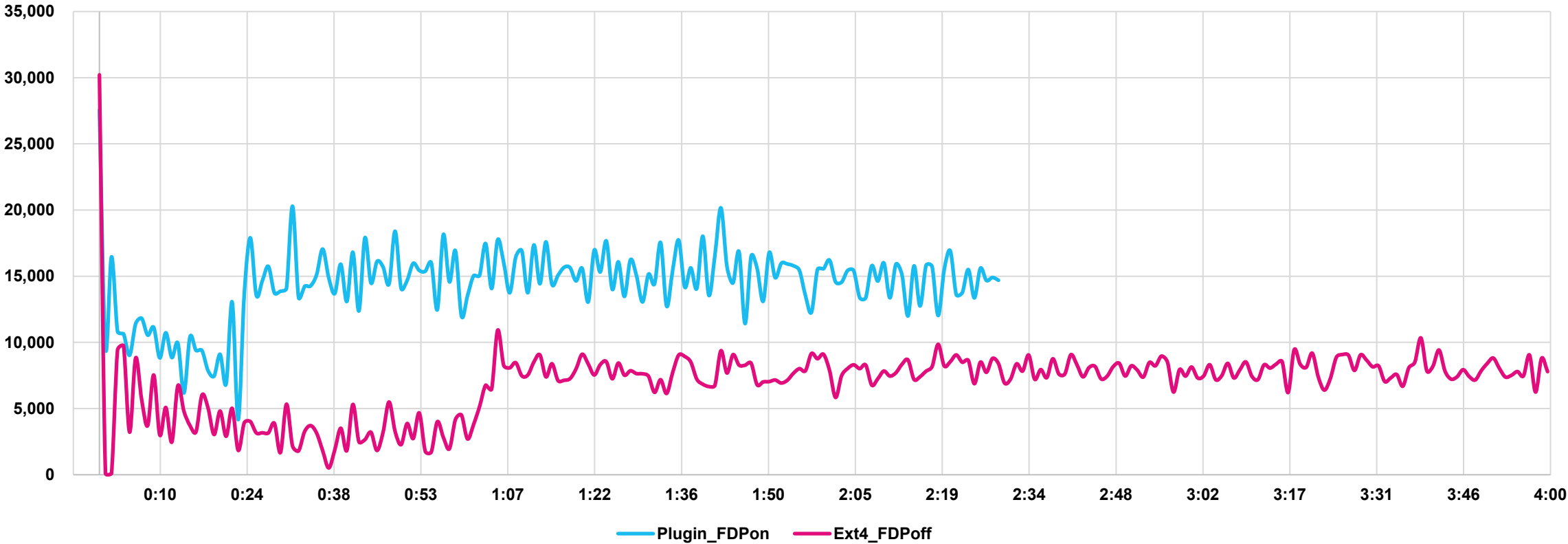
Source: Tables and charts created by KIOXIA engineers. Images and/or graphics within this slide are the property of KIOXIA America, Inc. (KIOXIA) and are reproduced with the permission of KIOXIA. Linux is a registered trademark of Linus Torvalds and its use is governed by the Linux Trademark Institute.



Evaluation Result – Throughput

Backend	FDP	Throughput [KQPS ¹]
Plugin	On	15.0
Ext4	Off	8.0

QPS



- The plugin has been released as open-source software
 - <https://github.com/kioxiaamerica/ufrop>
 - Efforts underway to include in list of 3rd party RocksDB Plug-ins of main repository
- Planning to update for:
 - Multi-drive support (striping)
 - (Optional) Error correction functionality
 - Further WAF improvements



Flexible Data Placement

Low Hanging Fruit: *Results*

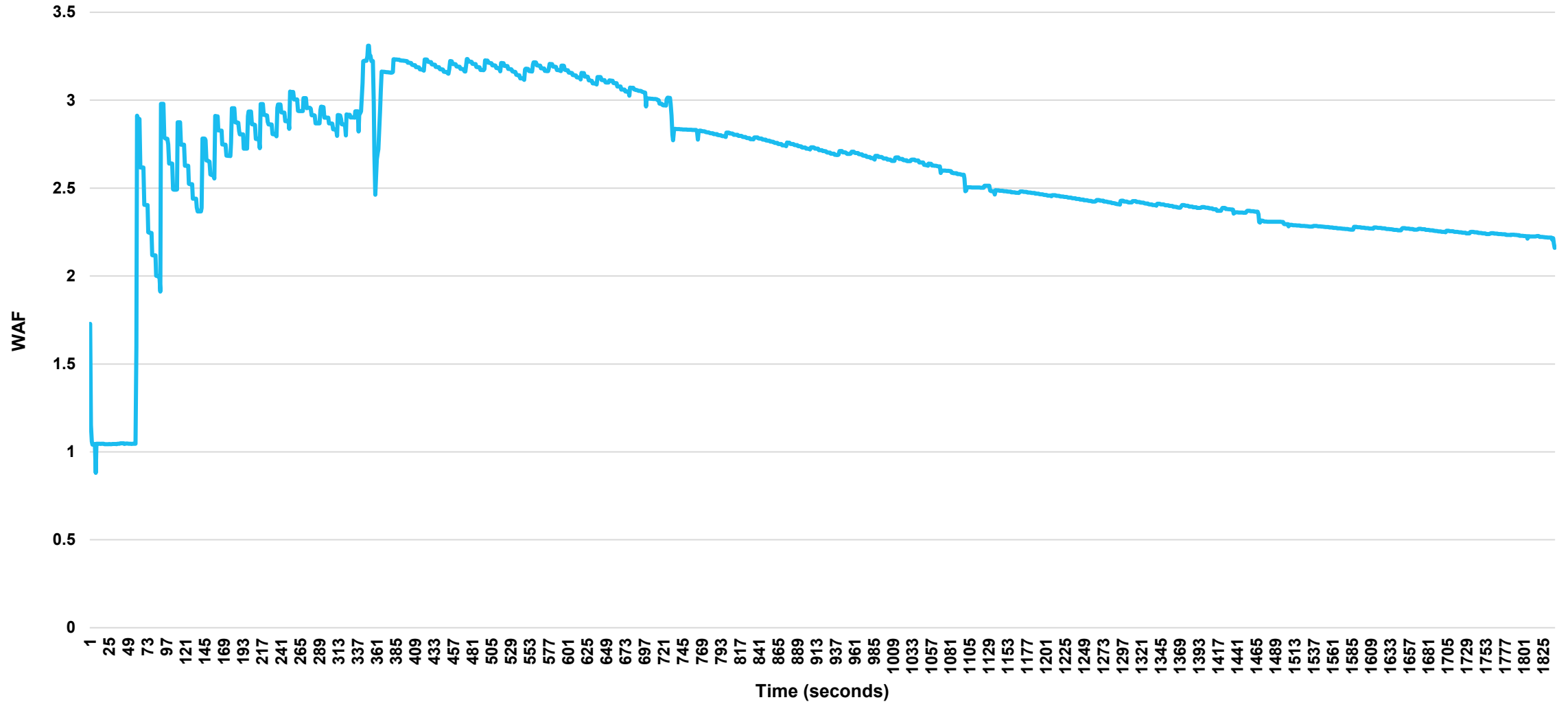
From a Real Workload

Theory: Temporary files and swap space are used for data with a short lifespan. By separating this data out from data with a longer lifespan we should see a reduction in WAF.

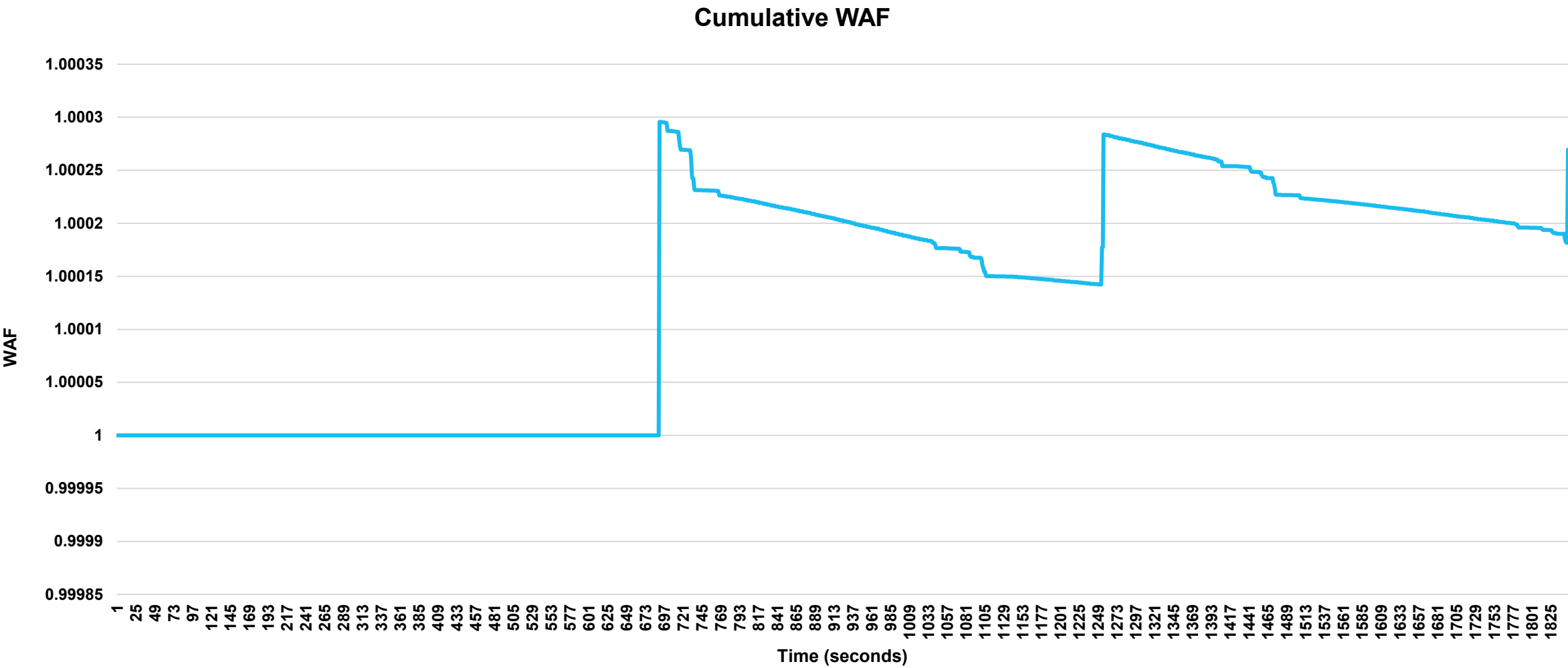
- The exact same workload run on the same machine with FDP disabled and enabled
- Separate namespace used for the /tmp filesystem with a different default placement ID specified
- A real workload of compiling the Linux® kernel was selected and a Continuous Integration/Continuous Deployment (CI/CD) environment was modeled. Compilers often generate temporary files.
- No software changes were made

Non-FDP Results

Cumulative WAF



FDP Results



Note the scale! This is a fantastic result of almost 1.0 WAF

A simple configuration change yielded large results on a real workload

- WAF was reduced from about 2.2 to almost exactly 1.0
- This would effectively double the lifespan of a device used for this workload
- This would reduce the energy consumed by the device

KIOXIA