



SPDK



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SPDK PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK AND NVME-OF OPTIMIZATION

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Agenda



- SPDK programming framework
- Accelerated NVMe-oF via SPDK
- Conclusion

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SPDK ENVIRONMENT ABSTRACTION

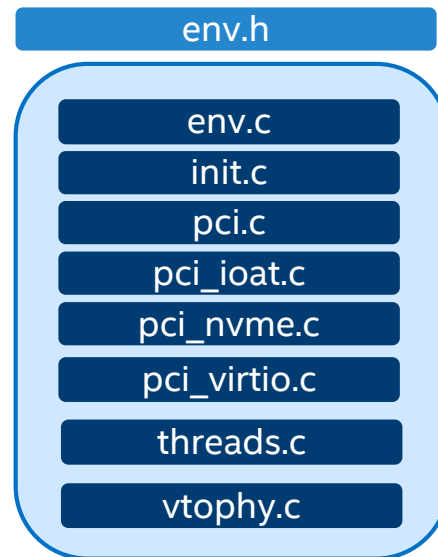


WHY AN ENVIRONMENT ABSTRACTION?

FLEXIBILITY FOR USER

ENVIRONMENT ABSTRACTION

- Memory allocation (pinned for DMA) and address translation
- PCI enumeration and resource mapping
- Thread startup (pinned to cores)
- Lock-free ring and memory pool data structures



ENVIRONMENT ABSTRACTION

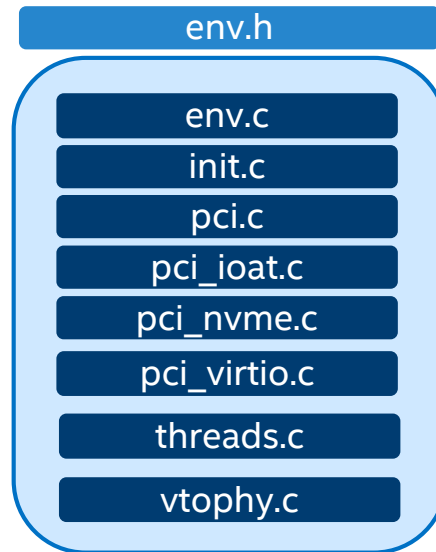
Configurable:

```
./configure --with-env=...
```

Interface defined in `spdk/env.h`

Default implementation uses **DPDK**
(`lib/env_dpdk`)

FLEXIBILITY: DECOUPLING AND DPDK ENHANCEMENTS





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APPLICATION FRAMEWORK



HOW DO WE COMBINE SPDK COMPONENTS?

THE SPDK APP FRAMEWORK PROVIDES THE GLUE

APP FRAMEWORK COMPONENTS



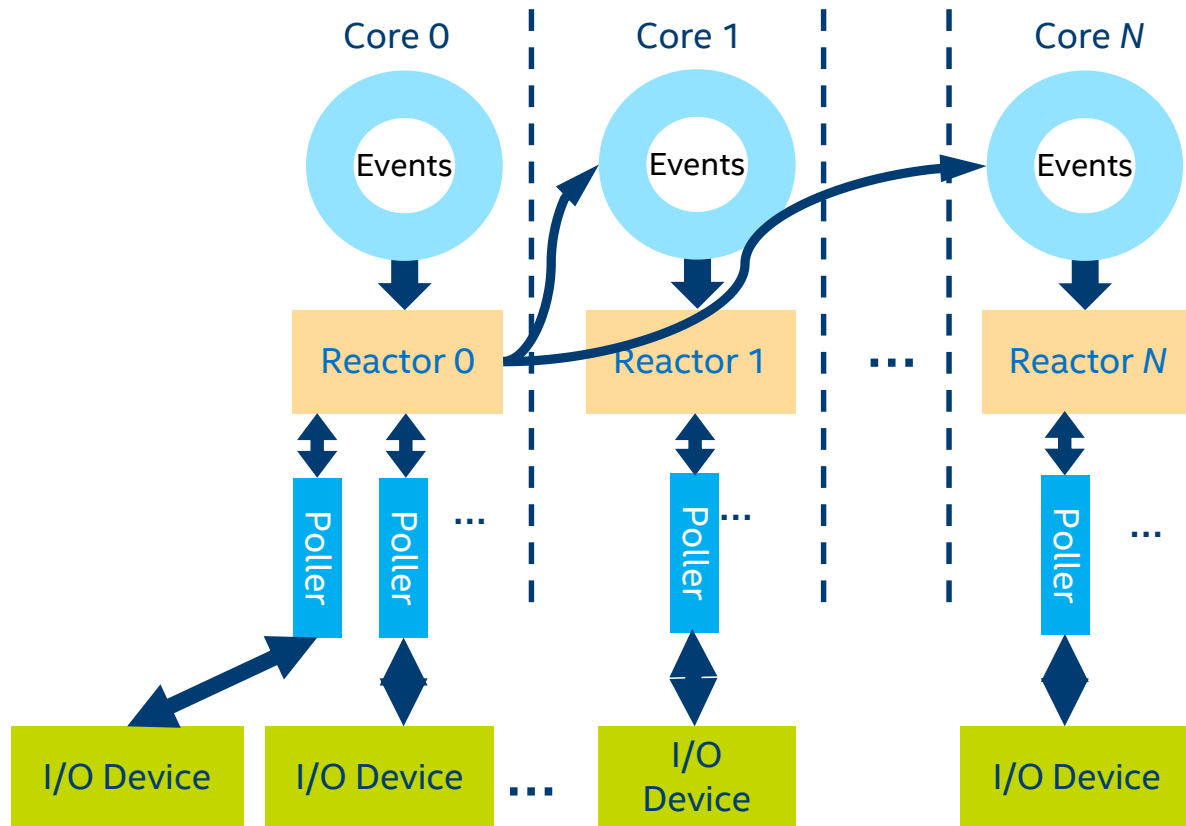
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REACTOR

POLLER

EVENT

I/O CHANNEL



POLLER

Essentially a “task” running on a reactor

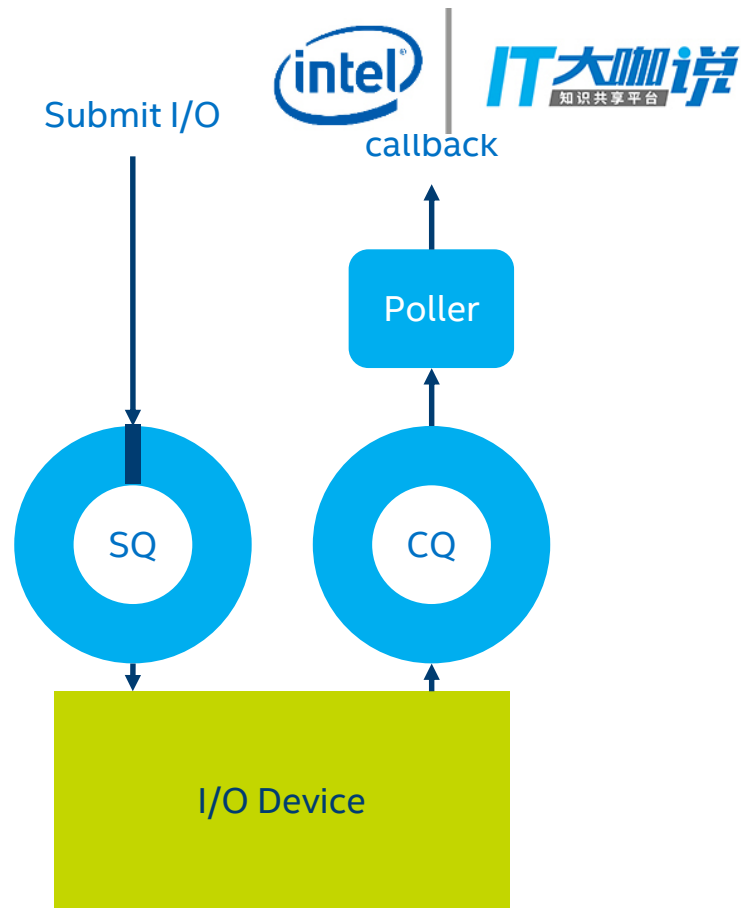
Primarily checks hardware for async events

Can run periodically on a timer

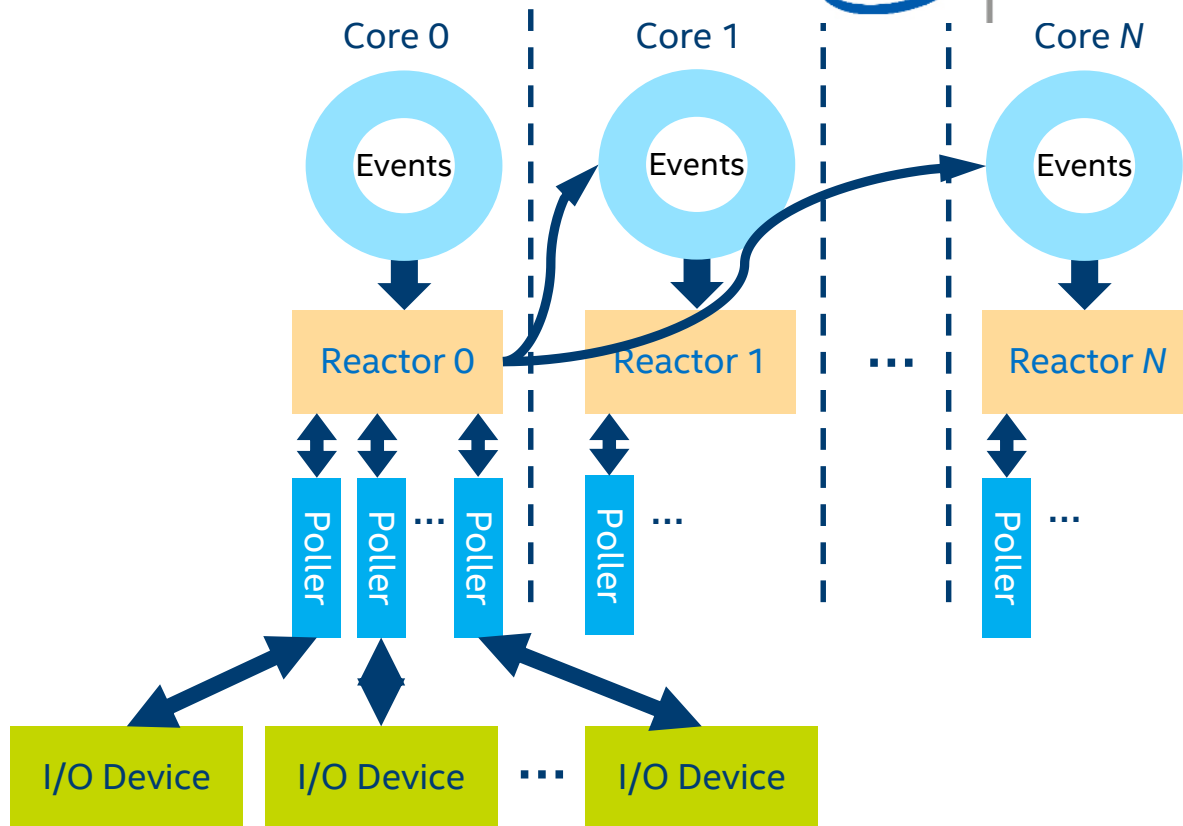
Example: poll completion queue

Callback runs to completion on reactor thread

Completion handler may send an event



EVENT



EVENT

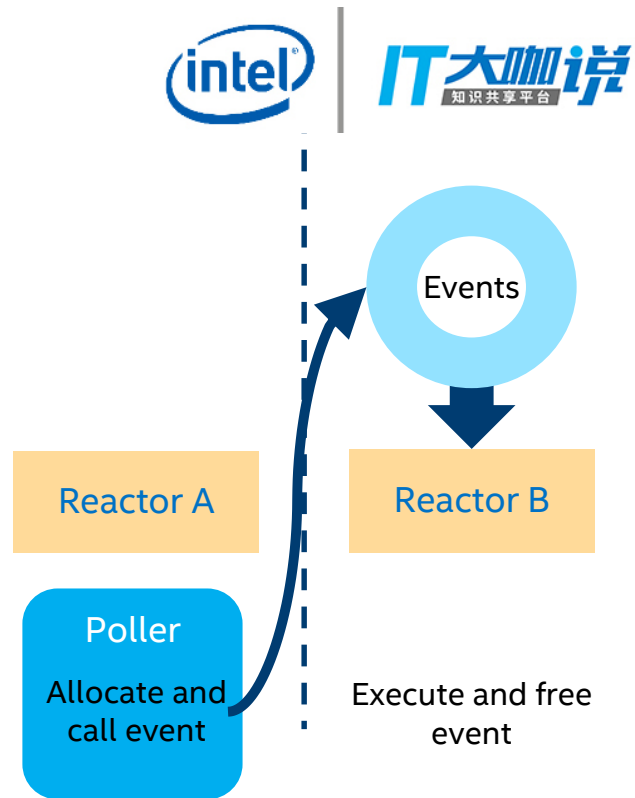
Cross-thread communication

Function pointer + arguments

One-shot message passed between reactors

Multi-producer/single-consumer ring

Runs to completion on reactor thread



I/O CHANNEL

Abstracts hardware I/O queues

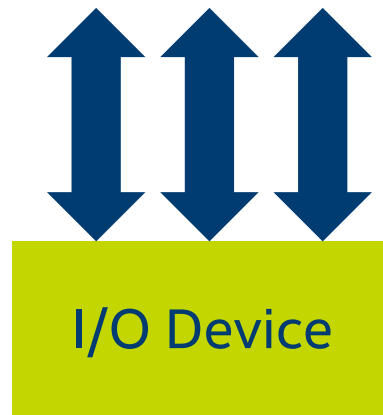
Register I/O devices

Create I/O channel per thread/device combination

Provides hooks for driver resource allocation

I/O channel creation drives poller creation

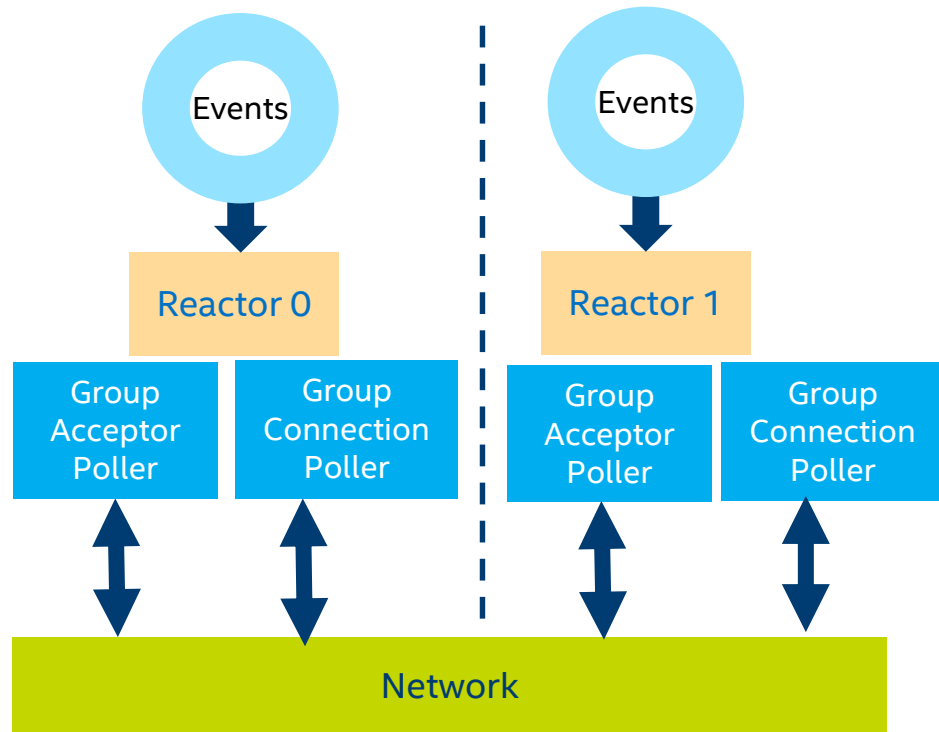
Pervasive in SPDK



NVME OVER FABRICS TARGET EXAMPLE



- `nvme_tgt_advance_state`
 - `spdk_nvme_parse_conf` (listen on transport)
 - NVMe-oF tgt I/O channel creation:
`spdk_nvme_tgt_create`
 - Group data poller creation in each core:
Trigger the `create_cb`
(`spdk_nvme_tgt_create_poll_group`) of I/O
channel, then we will have
`spdk_nvme_poll_group_poll` in each core
 - Group Acceptor network poller creation:
`spdk_nvme_tgt_accept` will be used to
connect events in each core



NVME OVER FABRICS TARGET EXAMPLE

- Group Acceptor network poller handles connect events
- New qpair (connection) is allocated to different cores via Round Robin manner. Asynchronous message passing is used, then `spdk_nvme_poll_group_add` is called.
- I/O request arrives over network, and handled by the group poller in the designated core.
- I/O submitted to storage
- Storage device poller checks completions
- Response sent

ALL ASYNCHRONOUS WORK IS DRIVEN BY POLLERS

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SPDK NVMe-oF Components



NVMe over Fabrics Target

- Released July 2016 (with spec)
- **Hardening:**
 - Intel test infrastructure
 - Discovery simplification
 - Correctness & kernel interop
- **Performance improvements:**
 - Read latency improvement
 - Scalability validation (up to 150Gbps)
 - Event Framework enhancements
 - Multiple connection performance improvement (e.g., group transport polling,)

NVMe over Fabrics Host (Initiator)

- New component added in Dec 2016
- Performance improvements
 - Eliminate copy: now true zero-copy
 - SGL (single SGL element)

SPDK NVMe-oF transport work



Existing work: RDMA transport

- **DPDK components used which is encapsulated in libspdk_env_dpdk.a, e.g.,**
 - PCI device management
 - CPU/thread scheduling
 - Memory management (e.g., lock free rings)
 - Log management

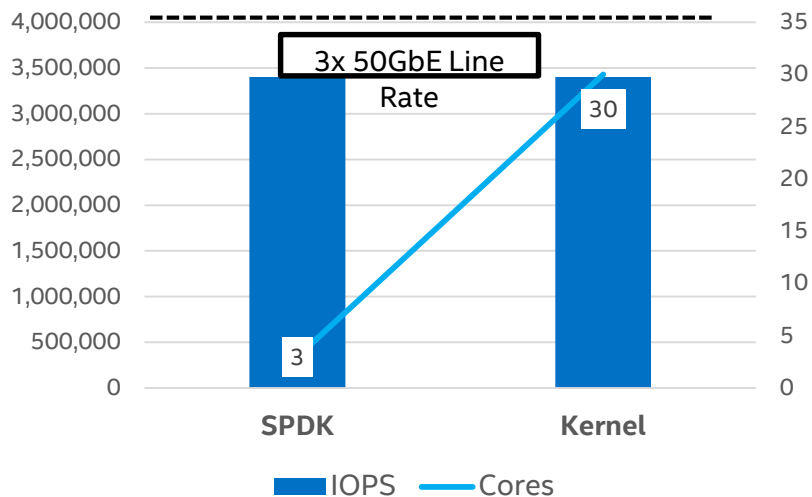
Upcoming work: TCP transport

- Kernel based TCP transport
- VPP/DPDK based user space TCP transport
 - Use DPDK Ethernet PMDs
 - Use user space TCP/IP stack (e.g., VPP)

NVMe-oF Target Throughput Performance



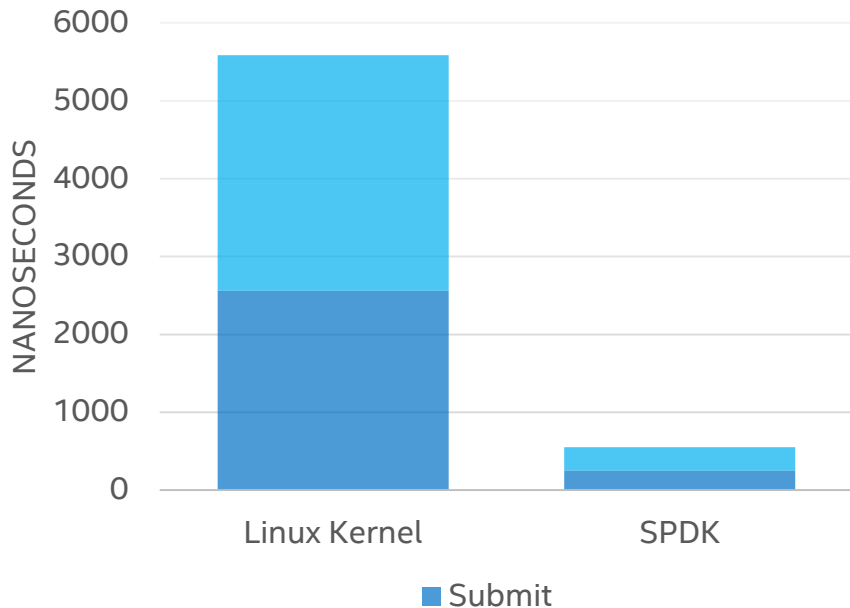
SPDK vs. Kernel NVMe-oF I/O Efficiency



NVMe* over Fabrics Target Features	Realized Benefit
Utilizes NVMe Express* (NVMe) Polled Mode Driver	Reduced overhead per NVMe I/O
RDMA Queue Pair group Polling	No interrupt overhead
Connections pinned to CPU cores	No synchronization overhead

SPDK reduces NVMe over Fabrics software overhead up to 10x!

NVM Express* Driver Software Overhead

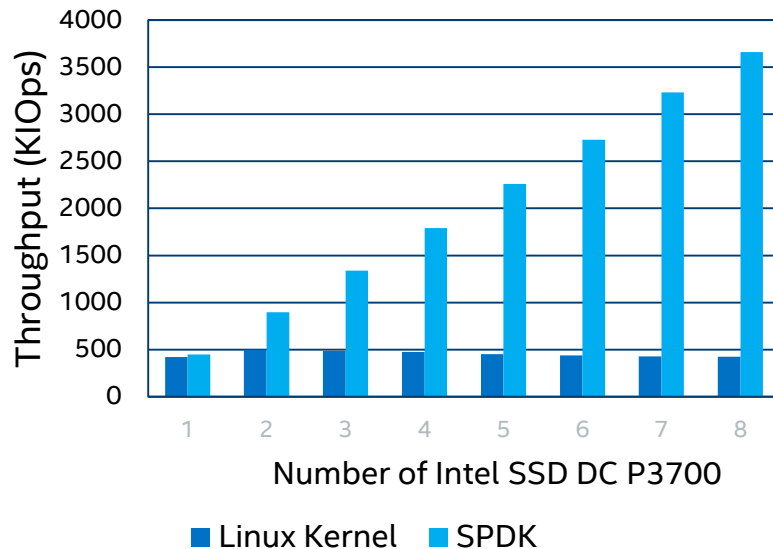


Kernel Source of Overhead	SPDK Approach
Interrupts	Asynchronous Polled Mode
Synchronization	Lockless
System Calls	User Space Hardware Access
DMA Mapping	Hugepages
Generic Block Layer	Specific for Flash Latencies

SPDK reduces NVM Express* (NVMe) software overhead up to 10x!

NVM Express* Driver Throughput Scalak

I/O Performance on
Single Intel® Xeon® core



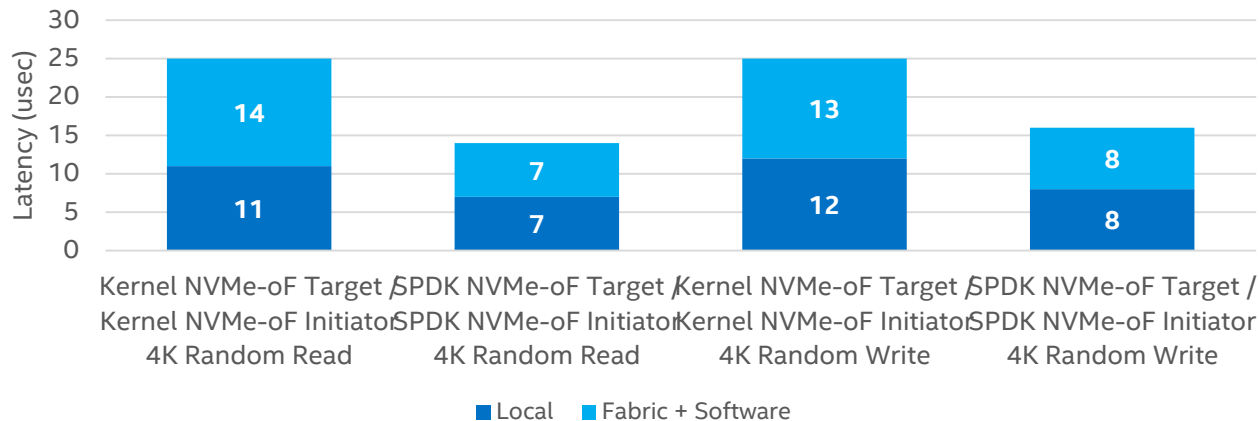
- Systems with multiple NVM Express* (NVMe) SSDs capable of millions of I/O per second
- Results in many cores of software overhead with kernel-based interrupt-driven driver model
- SPDK enables:
 - more CPU cycles for storage services
 - lower I/O latency

SPDK saturates 8 NVMe SSDs with a single CPU core!

SPDK Host + Target vs. Kernel Host + Target



Avg. I/O Round Trip Time
Kernel vs. SPDK NVMe-oF Stacks
Coldstream, Perf, qd=1



SPDK reduces Optane NVMe-oF latency by 44%, write latency by 36%!

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Conclusion



- In this presentation, we introduce
 - SPDK library
 - The accelerated NVMe-oF target built from SPDK library
- SPDK proves to be useful to accelerate storage applications equipped with NVMe based devices
- Call for action:
 - Welcome to use SPDK in storage area (similar as using DPDK in network) and contribute into SPDK community.



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Q&A

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