

# *FlashAlloc: Dedicating Flash Blocks By Objects*

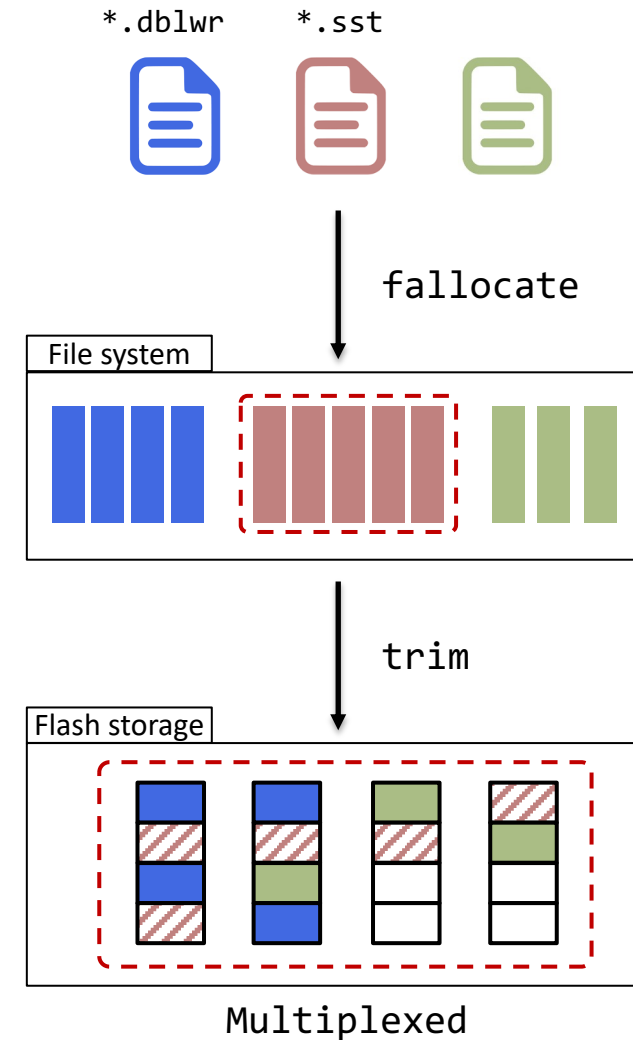
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Moon-Wook Oh<sup>\*\*</sup>, Sang-Won Lee<sup>+</sup>

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies<sup>\*</sup>, Samsung Electronics<sup>\*\*</sup>  
Sungkyunkwan University<sup>+</sup>



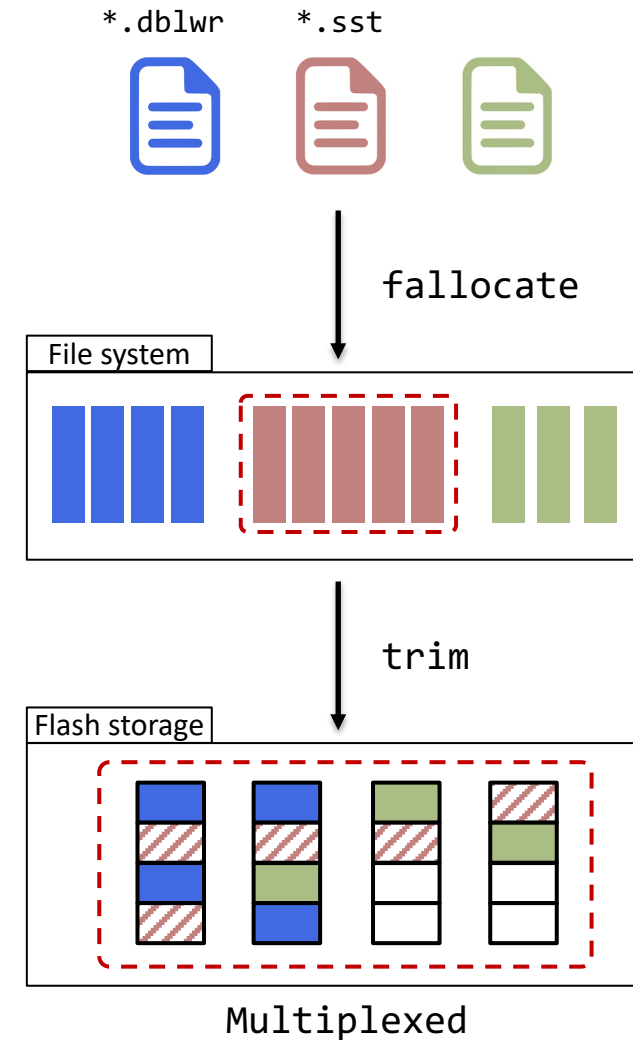
# Background

- Most data stores manages data by **logical** objects
  - *SSTable* in RocksDB
  - *Double write buffer (DWB)* in MySQL
  - *Segment* in F2FS



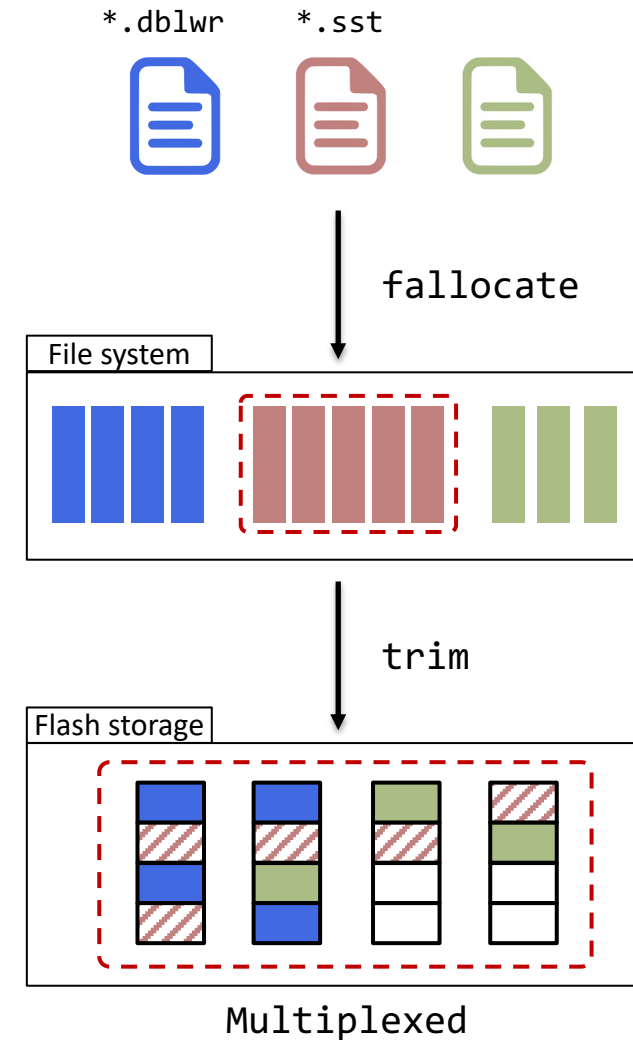
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  - Host: `fallocate()`
  - Flash Device: **stream-write-by-time**



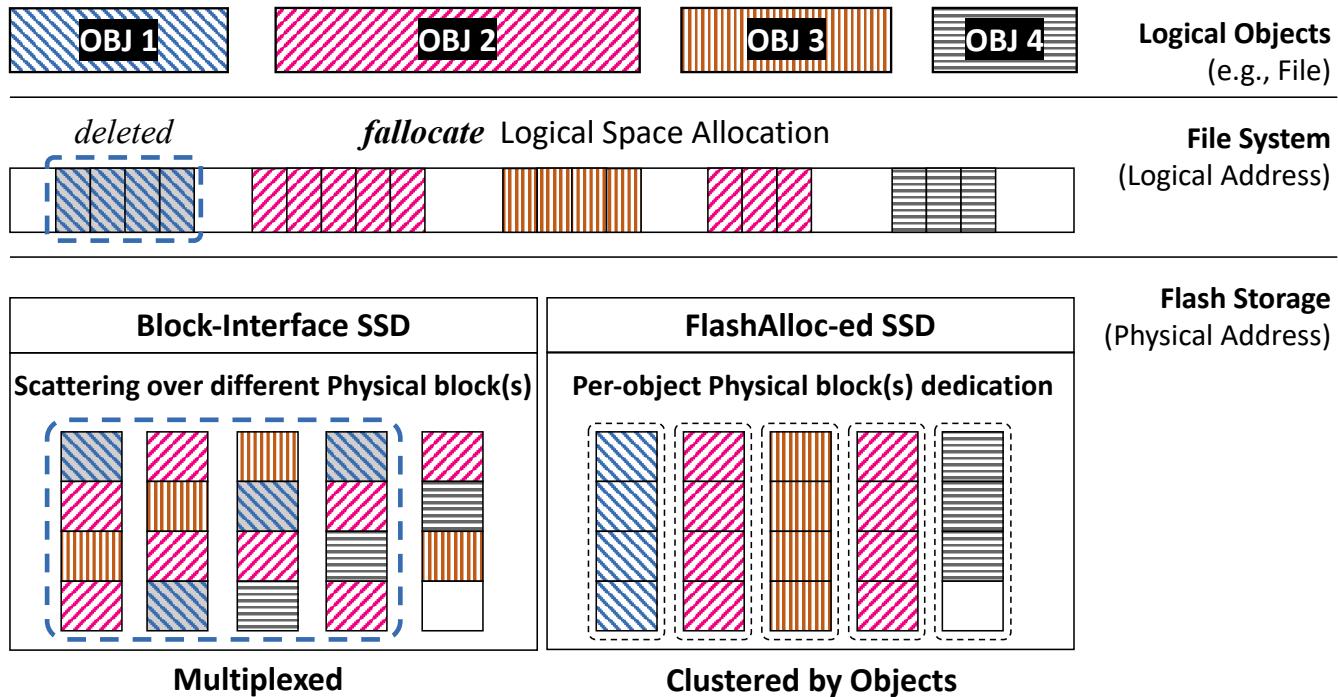
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  - Flash Device: **stream-write-by-time**
- Page deathtime
  - Host: TRIM command
  - Flash Device: **multiplexed with different deathtimes**



# Multiplexing

- Flash blocks are multiplexed with pages with **different deathtimes**
  - Stream-write-by-time policy
  - Copyback overhead in GC  $\Rightarrow$  **write amplification**  $\uparrow$

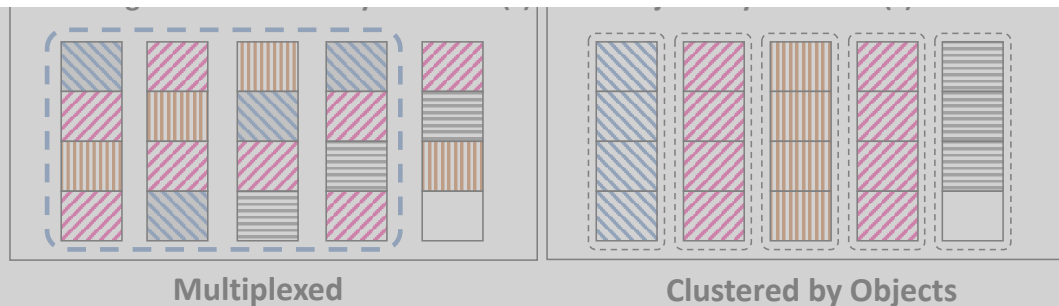


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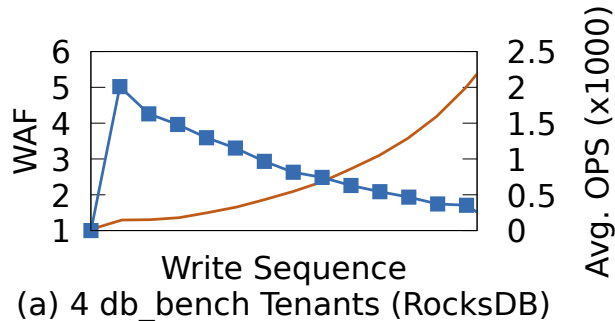
Flash devices are **object-oblivious**:

Host semantic about the object's logical address range  
**CAN NOT cross the storage Interface WALL**

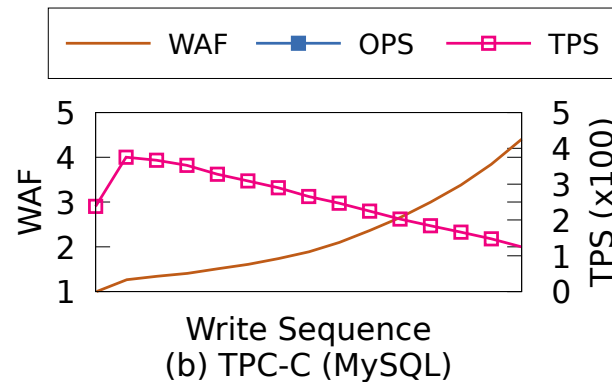


# The Myth of Flash-Friendly Writes

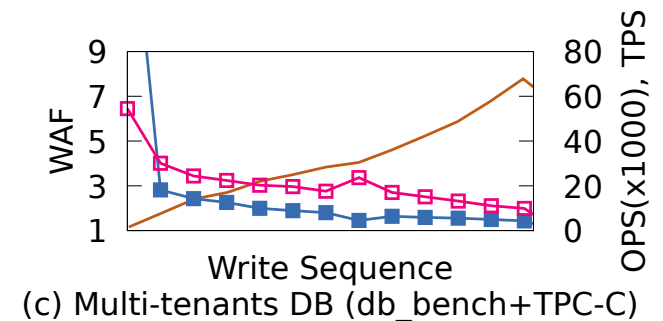
- Flash-friendly sequential writes are **no less harmful** than random writes in terms of write amplification
  - Split into smaller write requests due to **file system fragmentation** and **kernel IO scheduling**
  - Pages from multiple SSTables **with distinct deathtime** tend to be stored together in the same flash blocks.
- Object-oblivious and stream-writes-by-time policy



(a) 4 db\_bench Tenants (RocksDB)

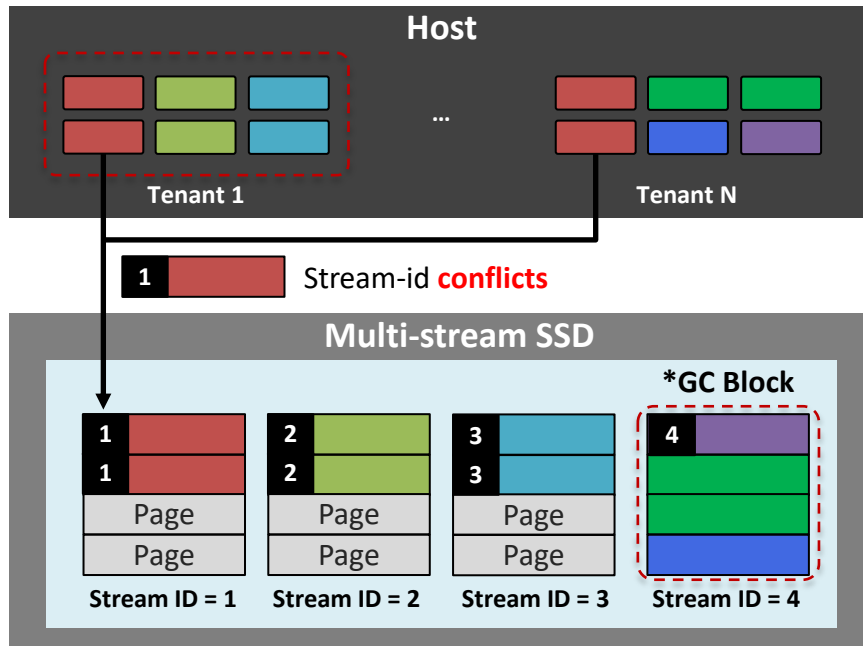


(b) TPC-C (MySQL)



(c) Multi-tenants DB (db\_bench+TPC-C)

# How about the Object-aware SSD? – MS-SSD and ZNS



- Static binding of limited stream-id
- Stream-id conflicts in multi-tenant
- No stream-aware GC
- Suffer from write amplification



# Farewell, Multi-Stream SSD

linux-block.vger.kernel.org archive mirror

search help / color / mirror / Atom feed

From: Christoph Hellwig <hch@lst.de>

To: axboe@kernel.dk

Cc: sagi@grimberg.me, kbusch@kernel.org, song@kernel.org,  
linux-block@vger.kernel.org, linux-raid@vger.kernel.org,  
linux-nvme@lists.infradead.org, linux-fsdevel@vger.kernel.org

Subject: [PATCH 1/2] nvme: remove support or stream based temperature hint

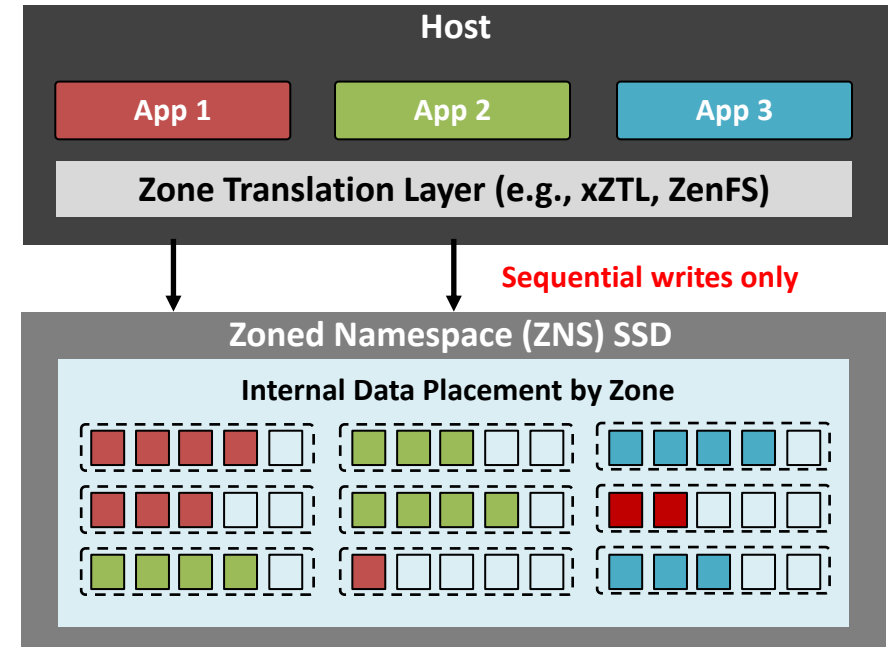
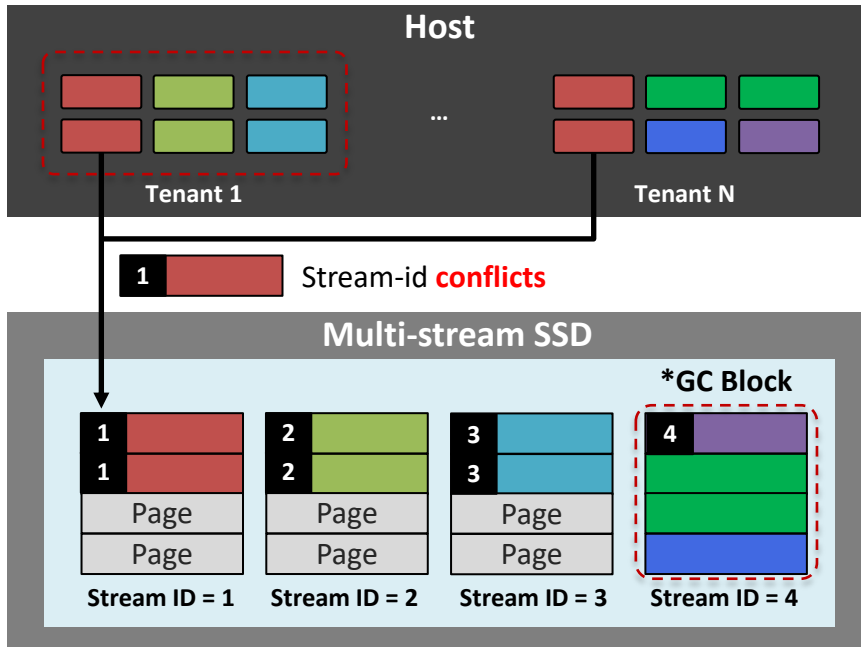
Date: Fri, 4 Mar 2022 18:55:55 +0100 [thread overview]

Message-ID: <20220304175556.407719-1-hch@lst.de> (raw)

This support was added for RocksDB, but RocksDB ended up not using it.  
At the same time drives on the open market (vs those build for OEMs  
for non-Linux support) that actually support streams are extremely  
rare. **Don't bloat the nvme driver for it.**

<https://lore.kernel.org/linux-block/20220304175556.407719-1-hch@lst.de/>

# How about the Object-aware SSD? – MS-SSD and ZNS



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- Strict write-ordering rule
- Non-transparent write streaming
- Yet-more expensive tax for log-structured writes

# FlashAlloc

- Enlighten flash device to stream writes by objects
  - Offload the host semantic about object's **LBA ranges** to the storage
  - De-multiplex concurrent writes from multiple objects with **distinct deathtimes** into **per-object dedicated blocks**
- Clusters data from the same object into same flash blocks
  - Logically fragmented → Physically de-fragmented into same flash block
- Enables **per-object fine-grained** write streaming
- Minimal changes on applications and FTL
  - No need for additional translation layer or mapping information in **host-side**

# FlashAlloc: Interface



- Logical objects with distinct deathtime
- Sequentially append and cyclically reused



- Small and random overwrites
- Tiny object
- Append-only writes of unknown size

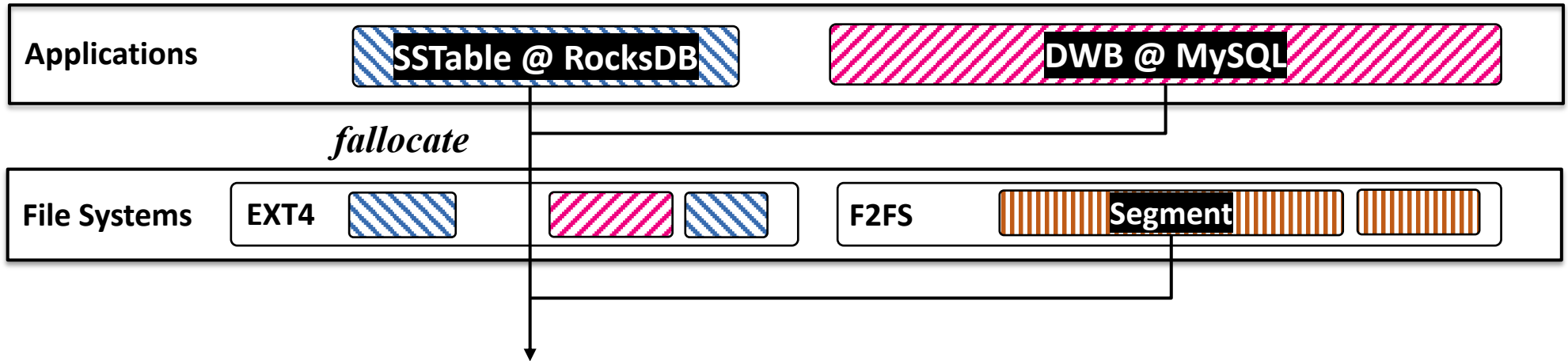
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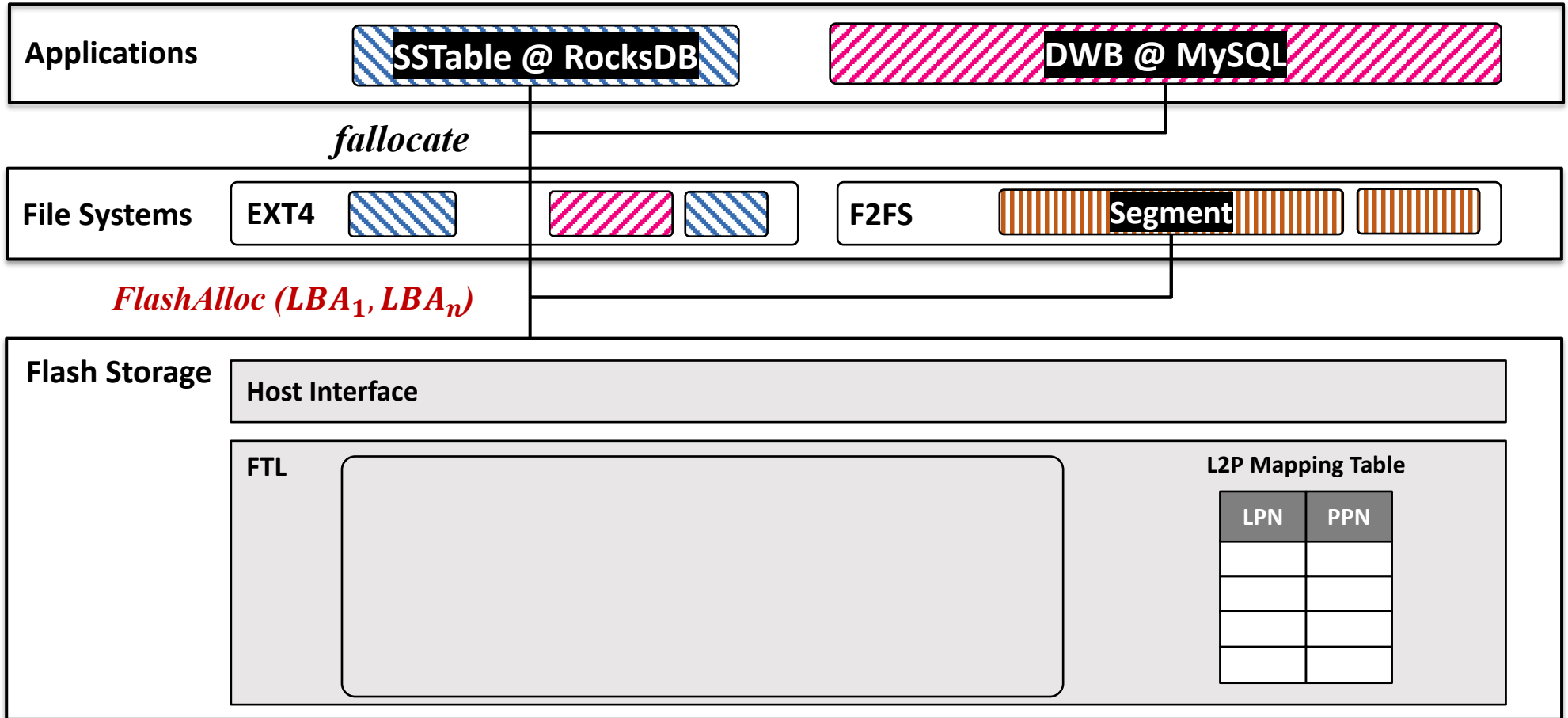
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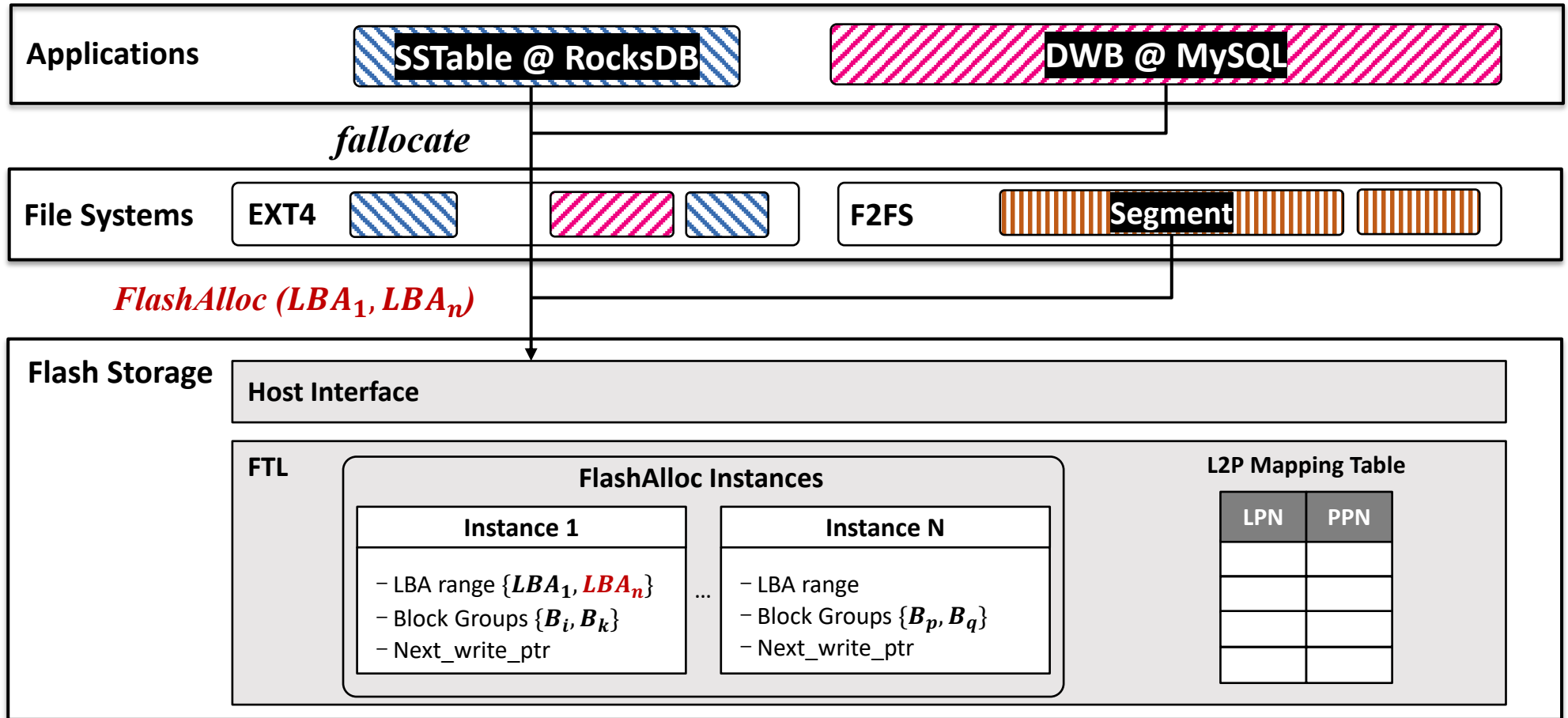


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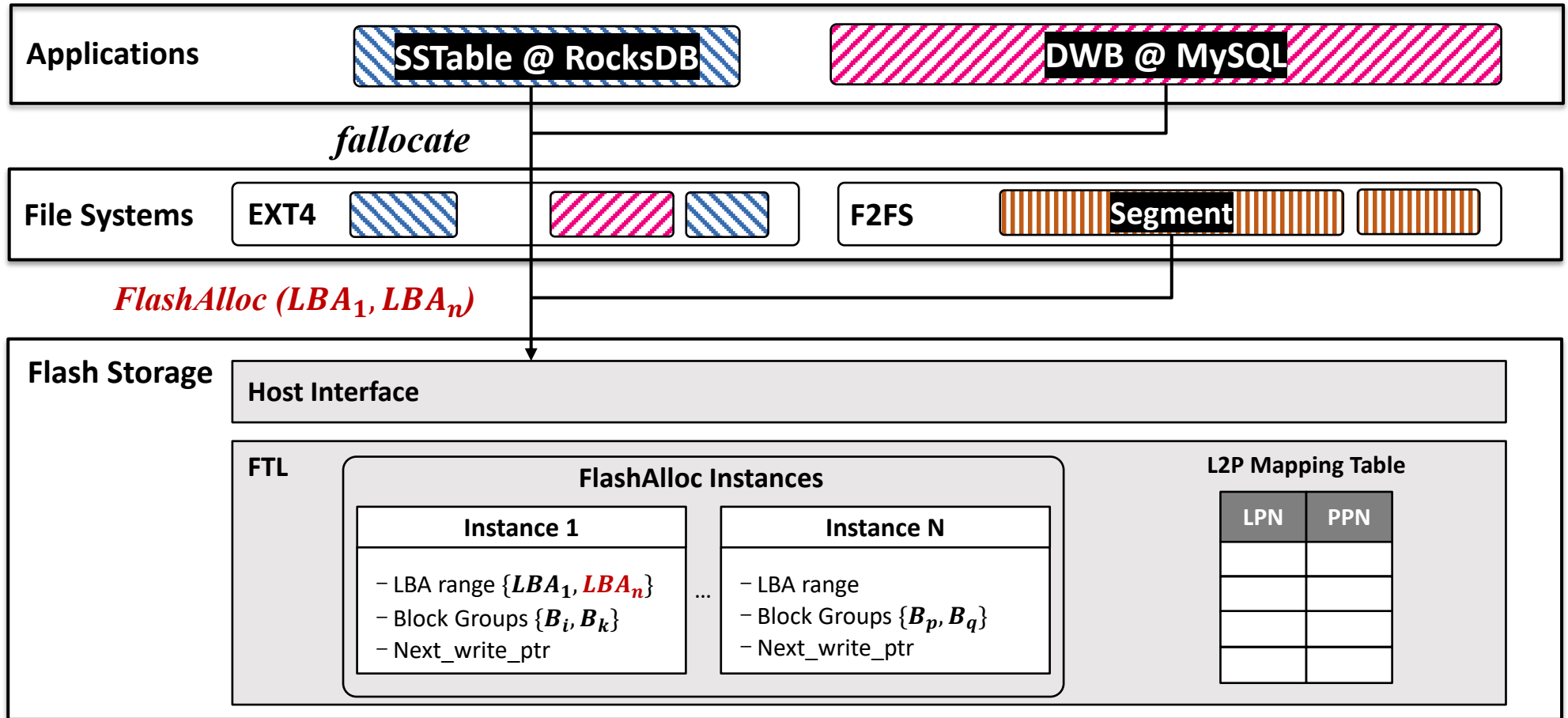


# FlashAlloc: Interface



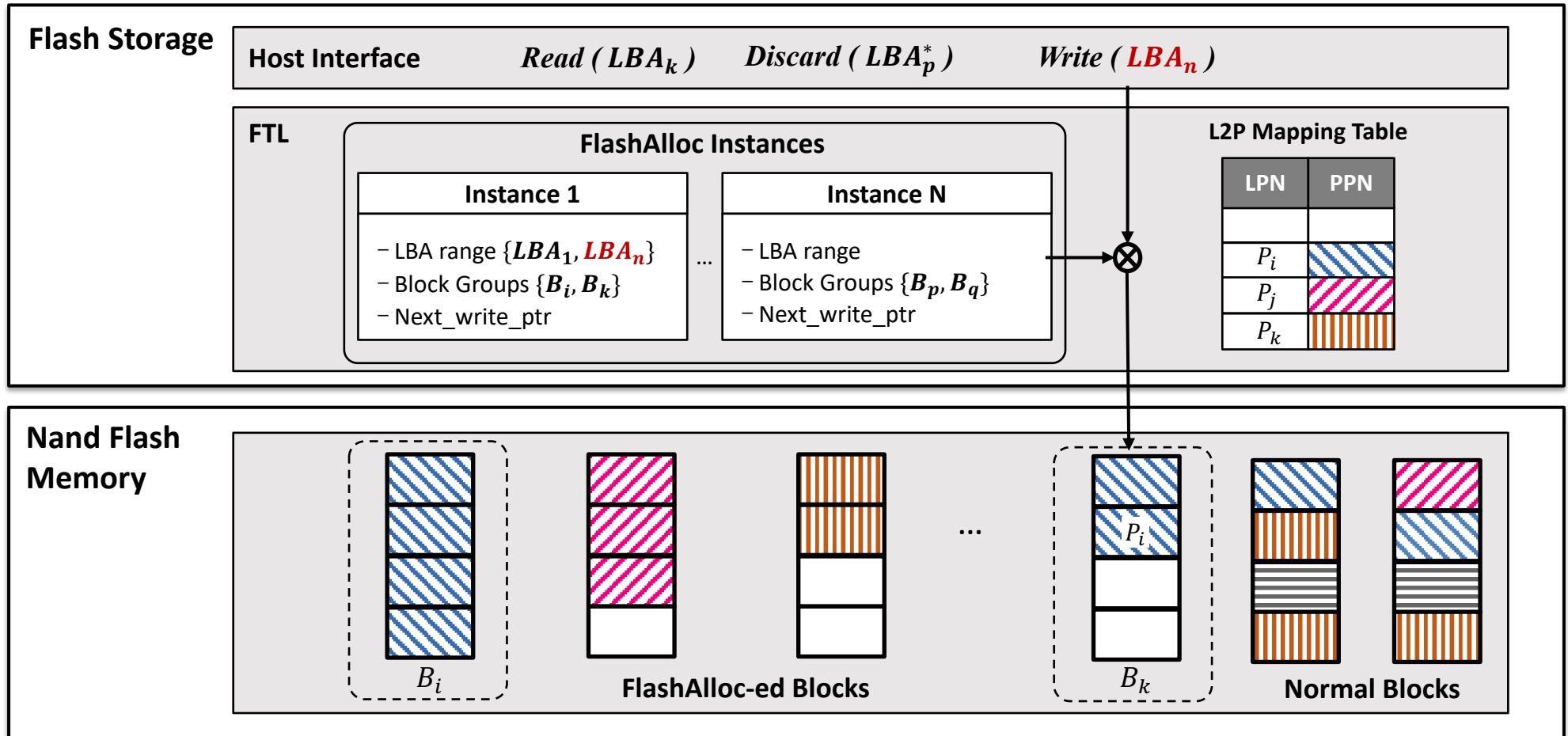
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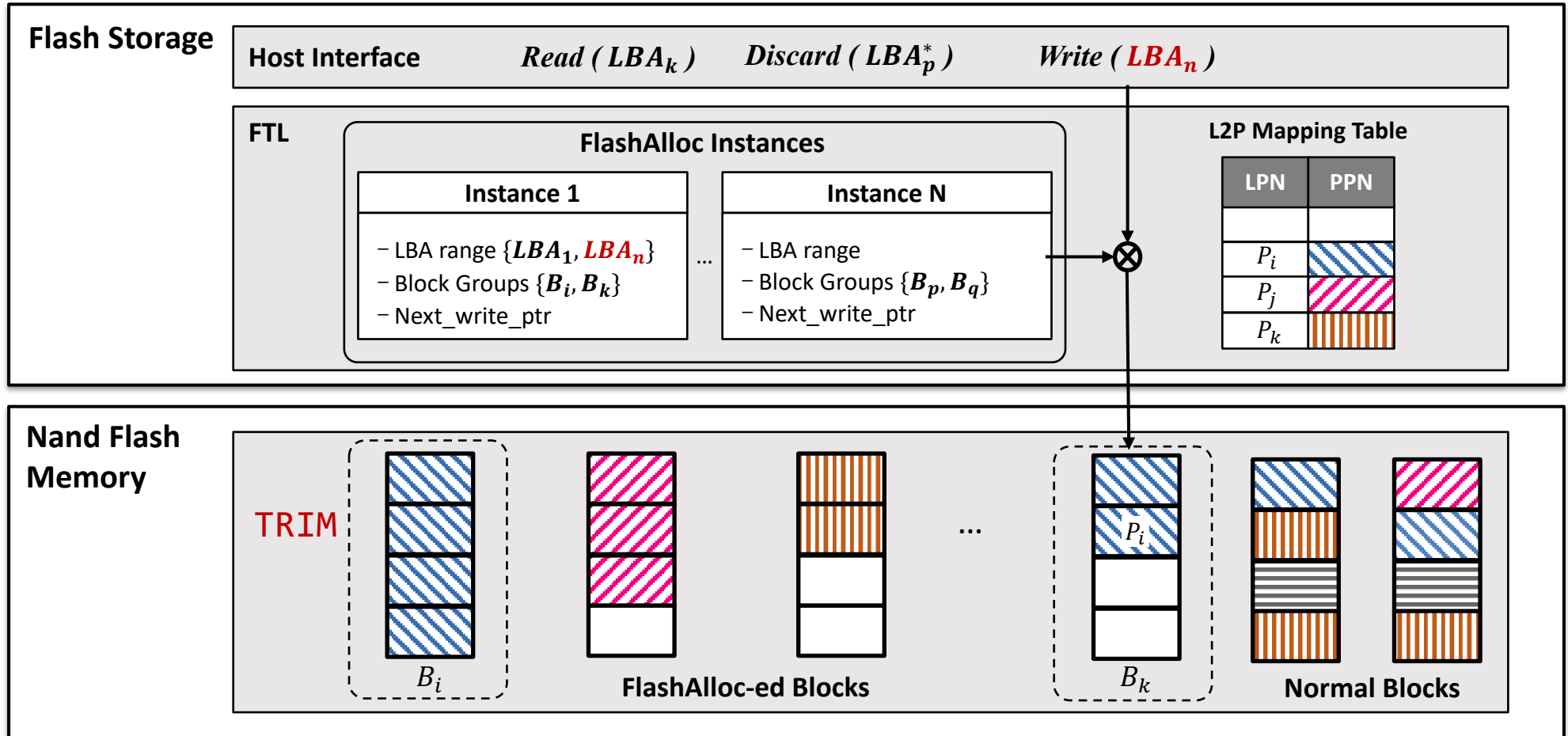




# FlashAlloc: Core operations

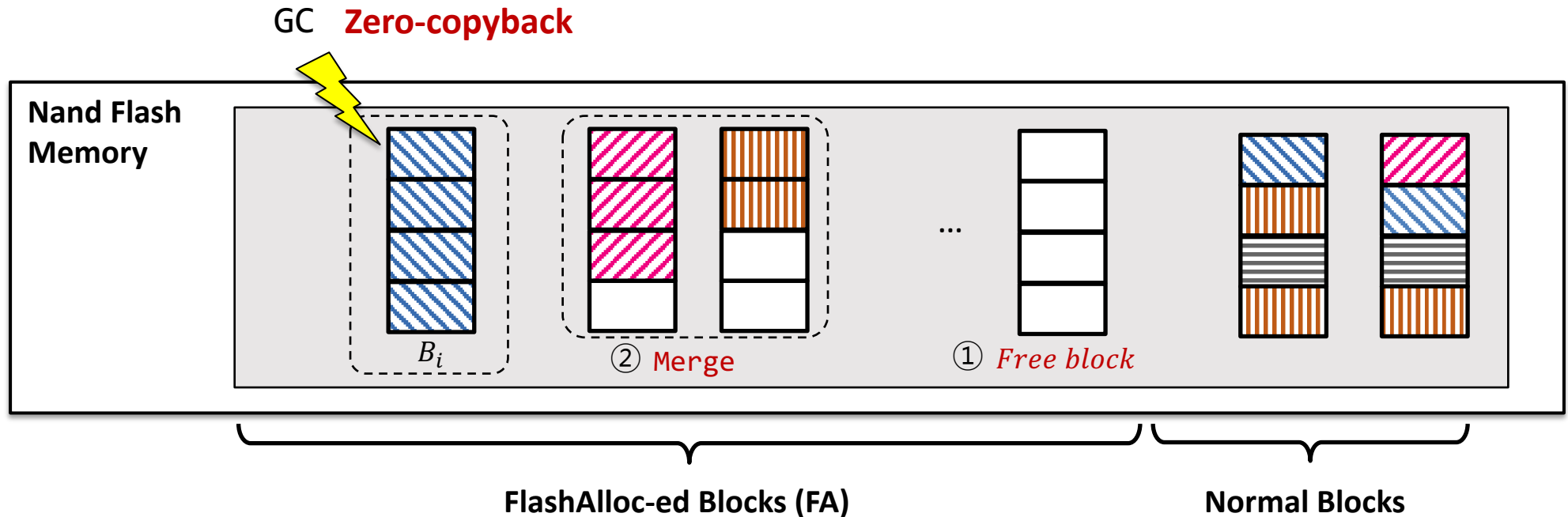


# FlashAlloc: Core operations



# FlashAlloc: Garbage Collection

- Pages from normal blocks are **not mixed** with those from FA blocks
- GC-by-Block-types
  - New FlashAlloc-ed block must be secured to total-clean block (①, ②)
  - Adaptive space allocation – Depending on victim block type (FA vs. Normal blocks)

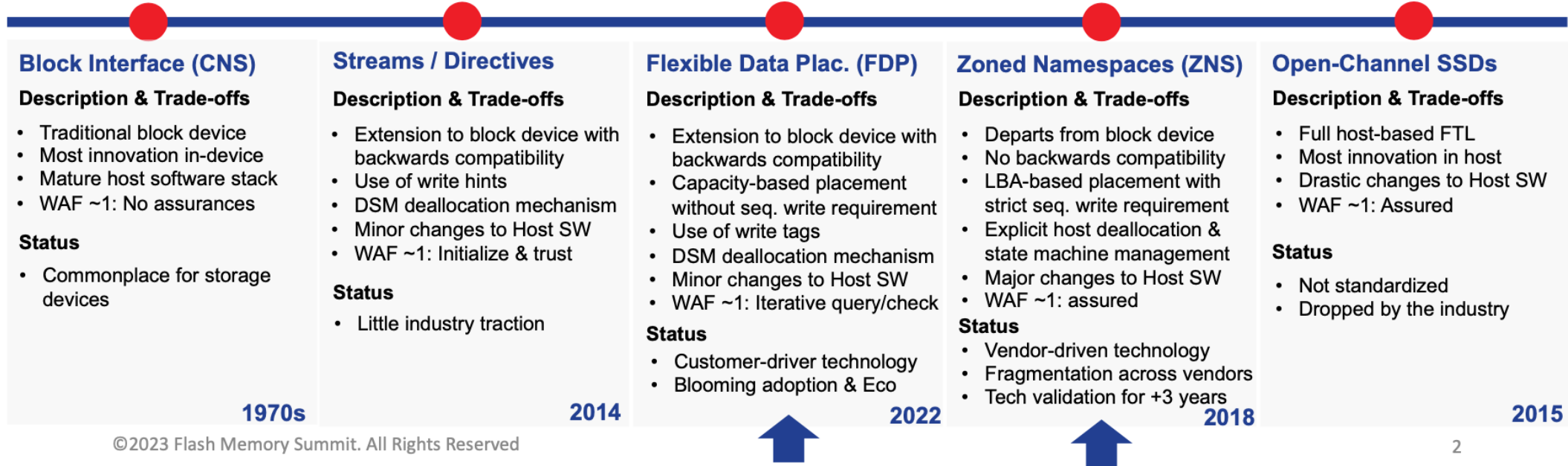


# FDP : Flexible Data Placement

- Data placement is a prevalent problem across NAND consumer & industries
  - Impact: **WAF**, TCO, Predictability (latencies), and overall performance
- Several approaches in the past few years account for innovation in this area
  - Well explored design space a good understanding of the trade-offs

← Less Host Intervention

More Host Intervention →



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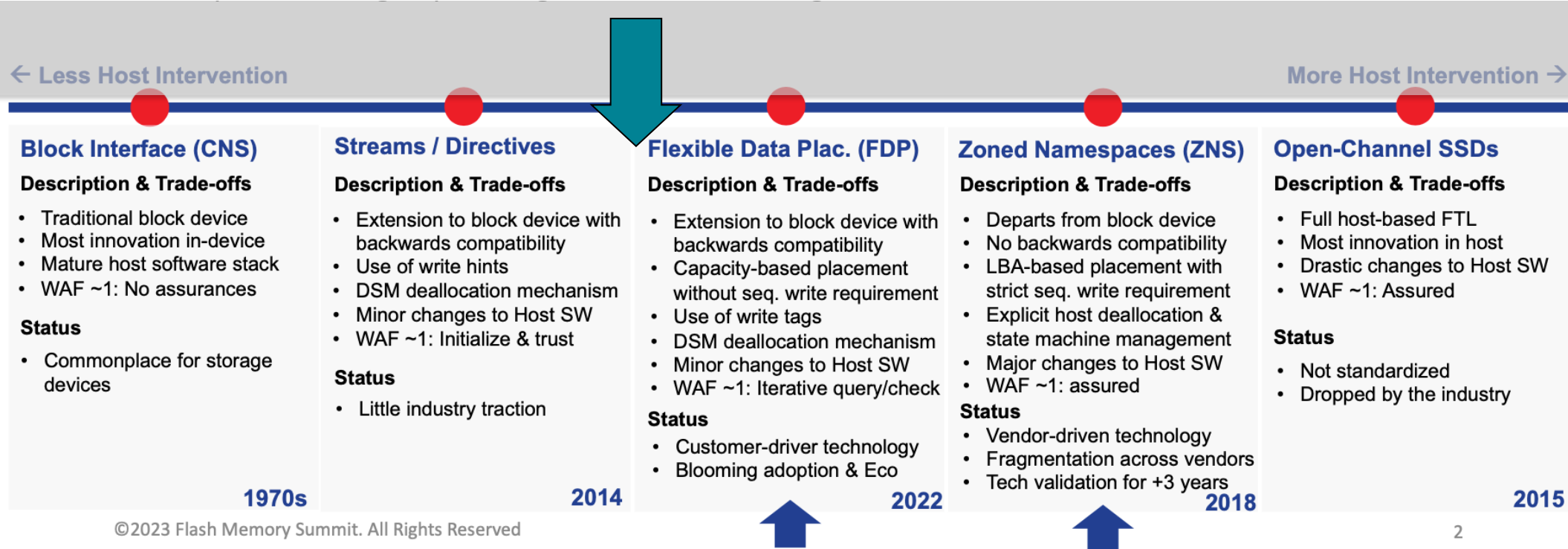
NAND Data Placement Landscape, Trade-Offs, and Direction, Javier González, FMS 2023

# FDP : Flexible Data Placement

- Data placement is a prevalent problem across NAND consumer & industries

## FlashAlloc

- Stream writes by object
- No additional translation layer in host



# Experimental Setup

- System Setup

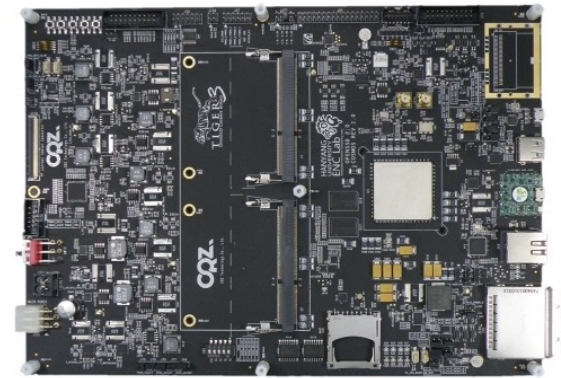
- Intel Core i7-6700 CPU 3.40GHz 8 cores
- 50GB DRAM
- 256GB Samsung 850 Pro SSD

- Cosmos OpenSSD

- Xilinx Zynq-7000 with dual Core ARM Cortex-A9
- 256KB SRAM, 1GB DDR3DRAM
- 16GB MLC Nand flash memory (Over-Provision: 10%)

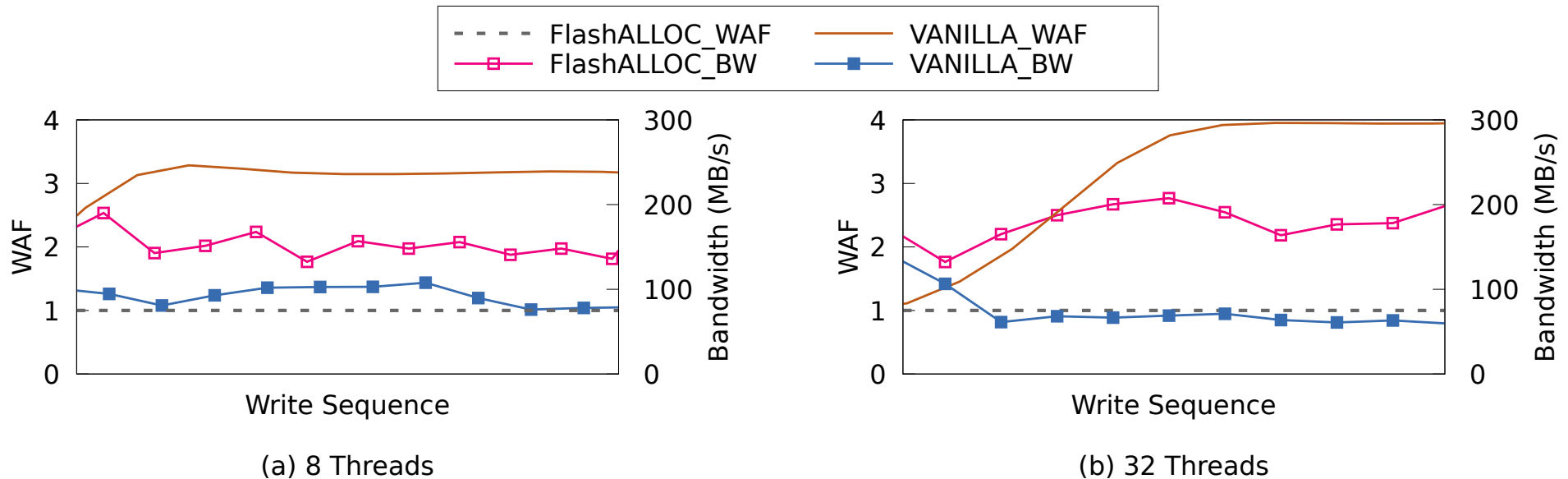
- Database Setup

- MySQL : 32 threads + **TPC-C** 80 warehouse (8GB)
- RocksDB : 4 clients, 64MB SSTables + **db\_bench** fillrandom



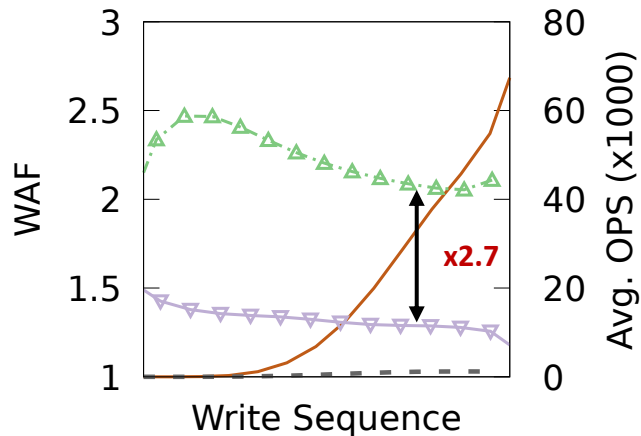
# Evaluation #1. Synthetic FIO workloads

- The considerable gain of the FlashAlloc version is direct reflection of reductions in the **garbage collection overhead**.
- Under more concurrent write threads, a flash block in the Cosmos board will be multiplexed by more files with more deviating lifetimes.

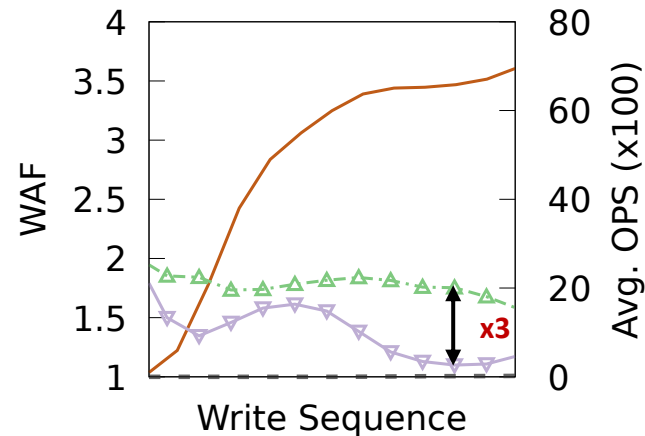


# Evaluation #2. RocksDB (SSTables) & F2FS (Segments)

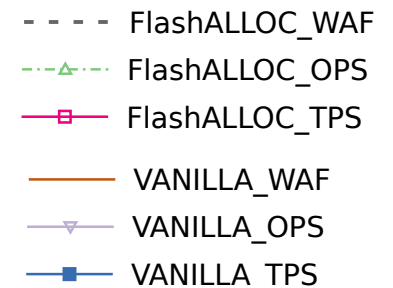
- De-multiplexing SSTables/Segments into different flash blocks
  - Enables RocksDB/F2FS to achieve near ideal WAF (i.e., 1)
- FlashAlloc can be fundamental solution for *log-on-log* problem



(a) EXT4 (4 db\_bench Tenants)



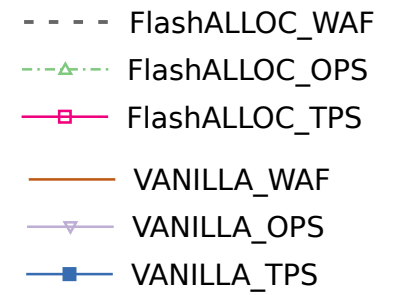
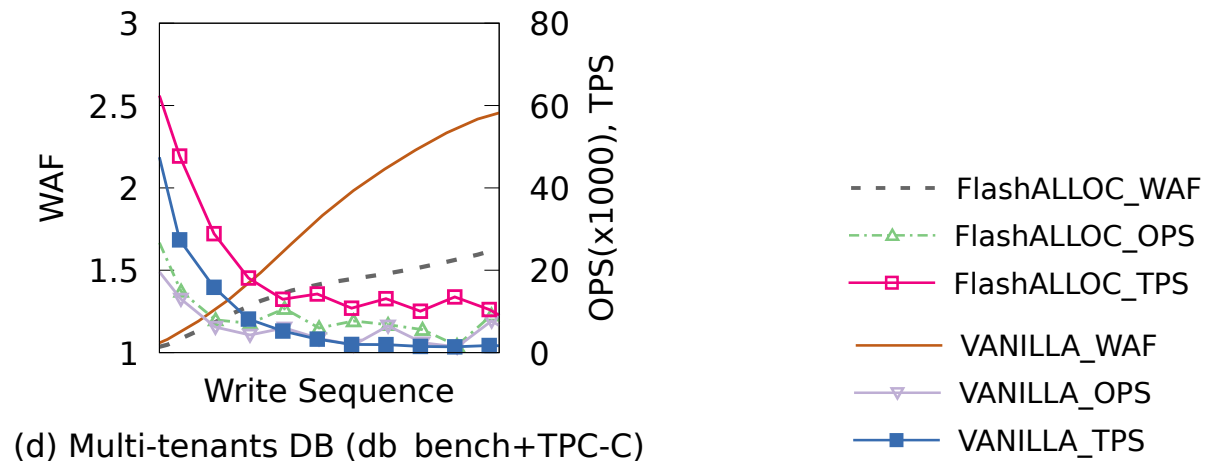
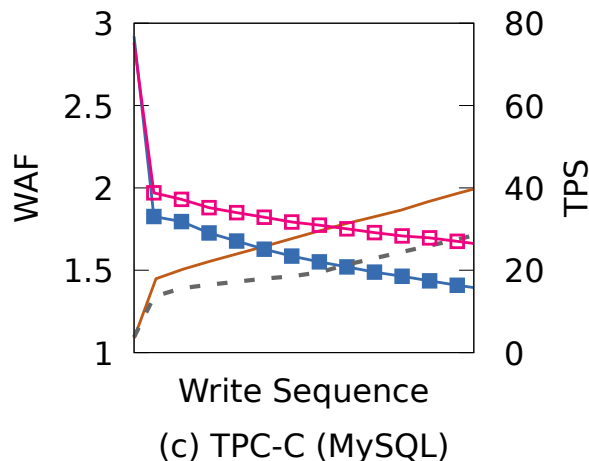
(b) F2FS (4 db\_bench Tenants)





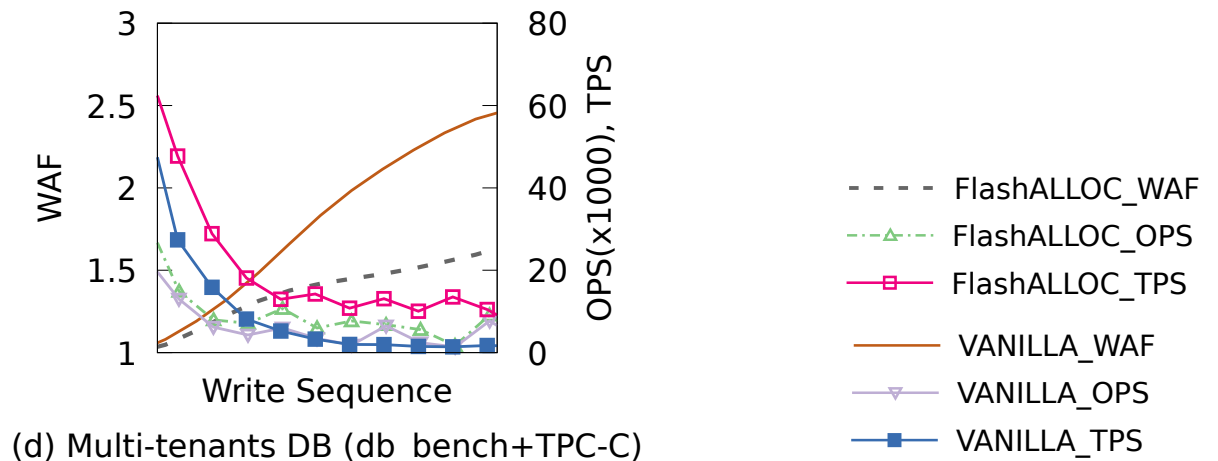
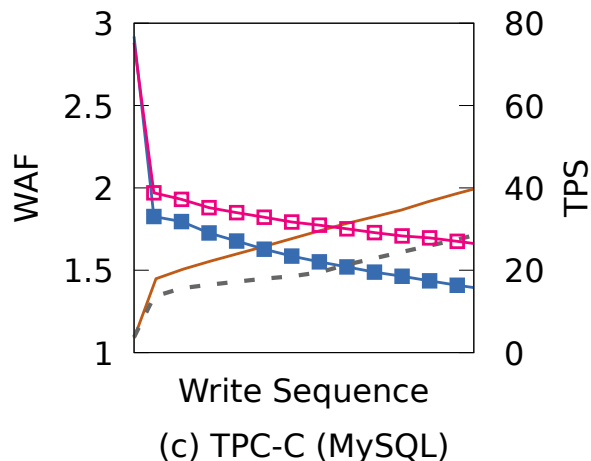
# Evaluation #3. MySQL (DWB) & Multi-tenancy

- Always to **beneficial** to apply FlashAlloc to appropriate objects and isolate them to dedicate blocks
  - Separating DWB object with cyclic and sequential writes from main databases (i.e., FA writes 50% and non-FA writes 50% case)
- For multi-tenancy (RocksDB+MySQL), FlashAlloc makes tenants **altruistic** to neighbor tenants



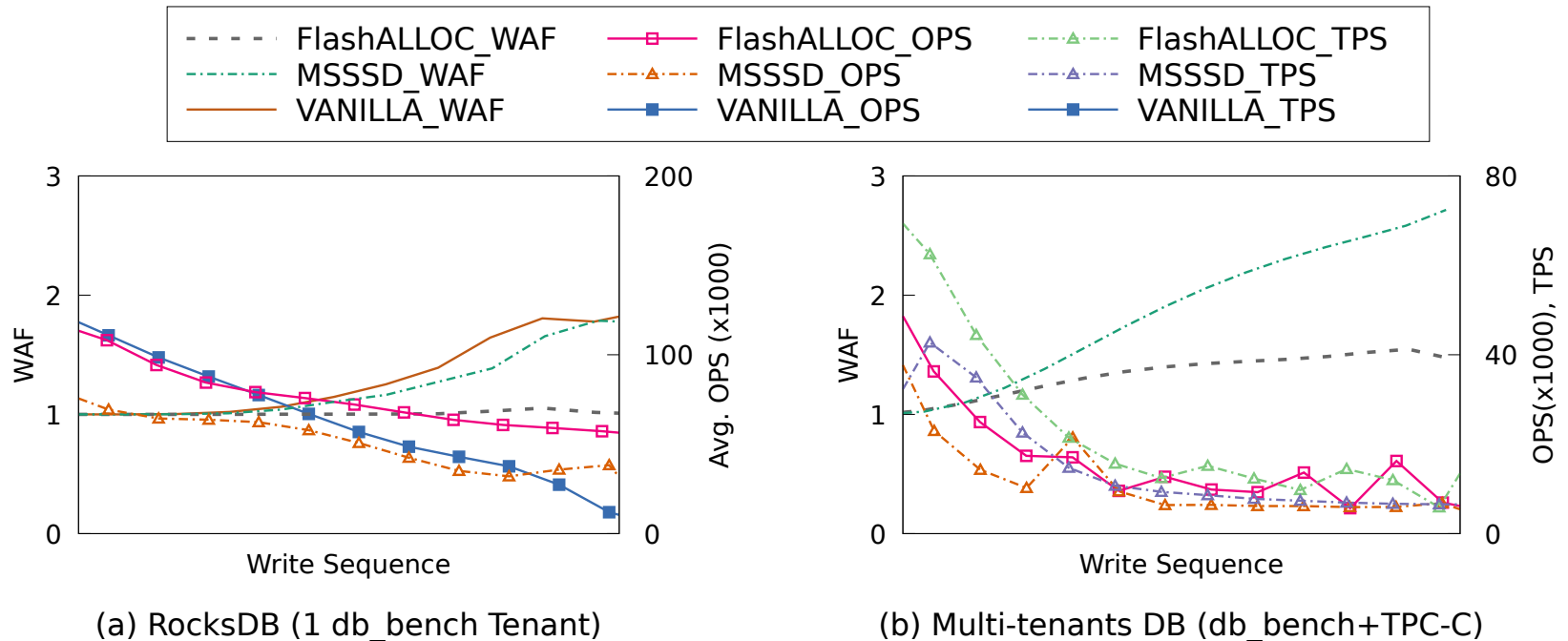
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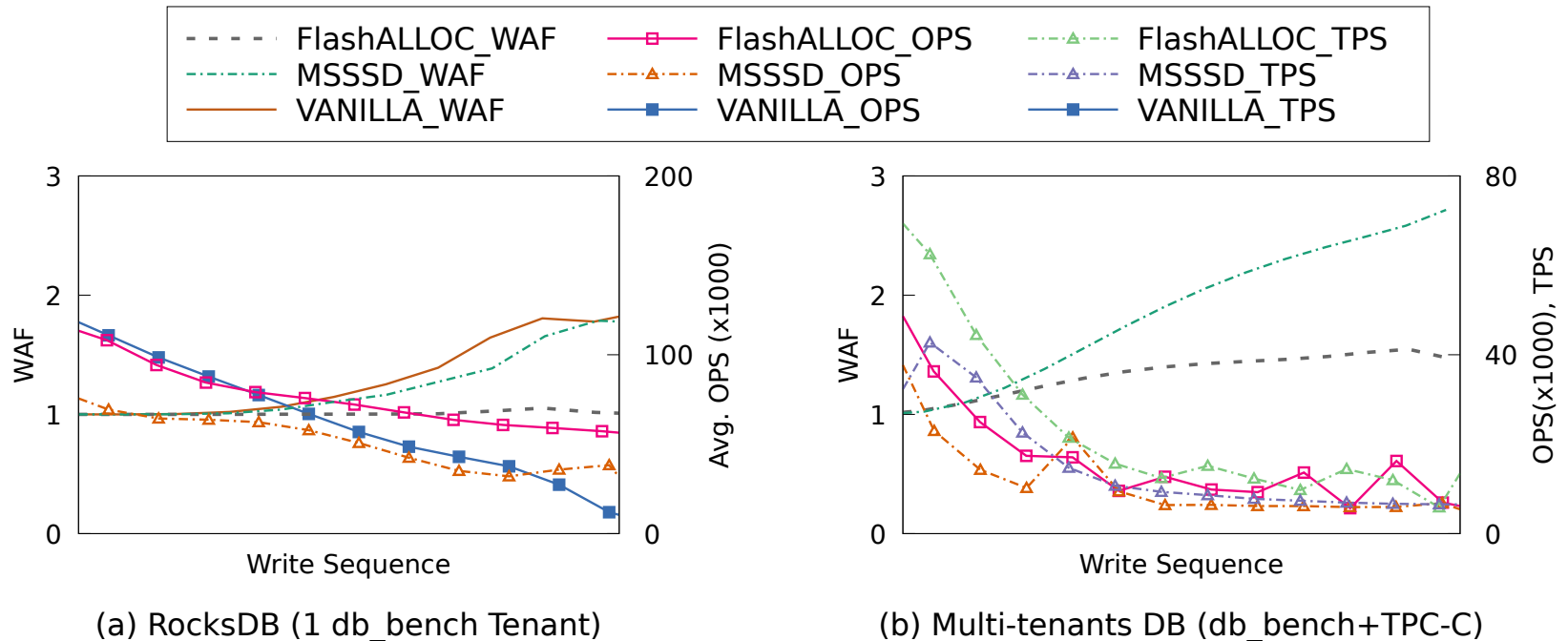
# Evaluation #4. Quantitative Comparison with MS-SSD

- MS-SSD still suffers from write amplification
  - # of physical streams  $\ll$  # of SSTable files
  - **No** stream-aware GC – pages with different lifetime streams mixing in the same flash block



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## Evaluation #5. Latency

- Vanilla suffers from high latency spike during GC – victim blocks have pages with different lifetime, resulting in **copyback overhead**
- FlashAlloc reduces latency and narrows latency distribution
  - Eliminates copyback overhead

(unit: us)	DB-Bench Operations			Block I/Os Latency
	Avg.	99th	99.9th	Avg. Read
Vanilla	140.2	20.9	5694.2	34.89
<i>FlashAlloc</i>	94.4	18.3	3401.2	18.95

# Summary

- We present **FlashAlloc**, a novel interface, which enables flash devices to *stream writes by logical objects* into different physical flash blocks.
- **FlashAlloc** supports *per-object fine-grained* write streaming and be the great alternative to existing solution – MS-SSD and ZNS.
- Benefits of **FlashAlloc**
  - Zero-copyback overhead
  - Reduce write amplification overhead
  - Mitigate WAF interference among multiple tenants

# Thank you



## *FlashAlloc: Dedicating Flash Blocks By Objects*

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Github: <https://github.com/JonghyeokPark/Flashalloc-Cosmos>

Check out more details  
in our paper!

# FlashAlloc Architecture

