Barrier Enabled IO Stack for Flash Storage

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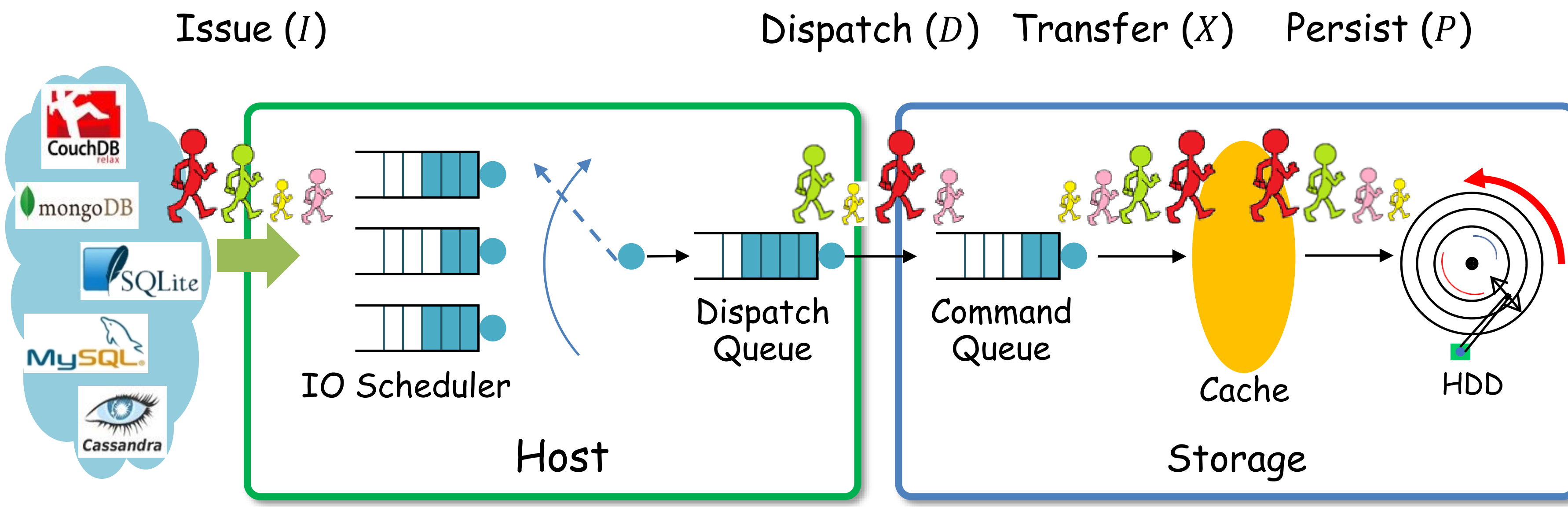
Motivation

Modern IO Stack

Modern IO stack is Orderless.



$I \neq D$: IO Scheduling

$D \neq X$: Time out, retry, command priority

$X \neq P$: Cache replacement, page table update algorithm of FTL

Storage Order

Storage Order: The order in which the data blocks are made durable.

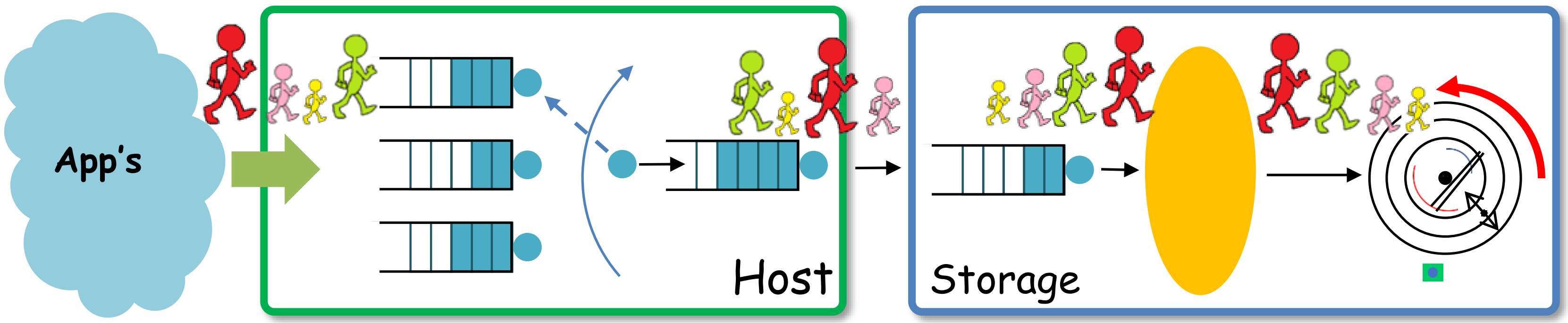
Guaranteeing the storage order

Storage order guarantee

Issue (I) ⟷ Persist (P)

$$(I = D) \wedge (D = X) \wedge (X = P)$$

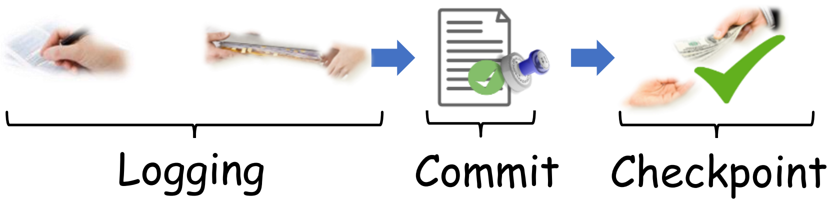
Issue (I) ⟷ Dispatch (D) ⟷ Transfer (X) ⟷ Persist (P)

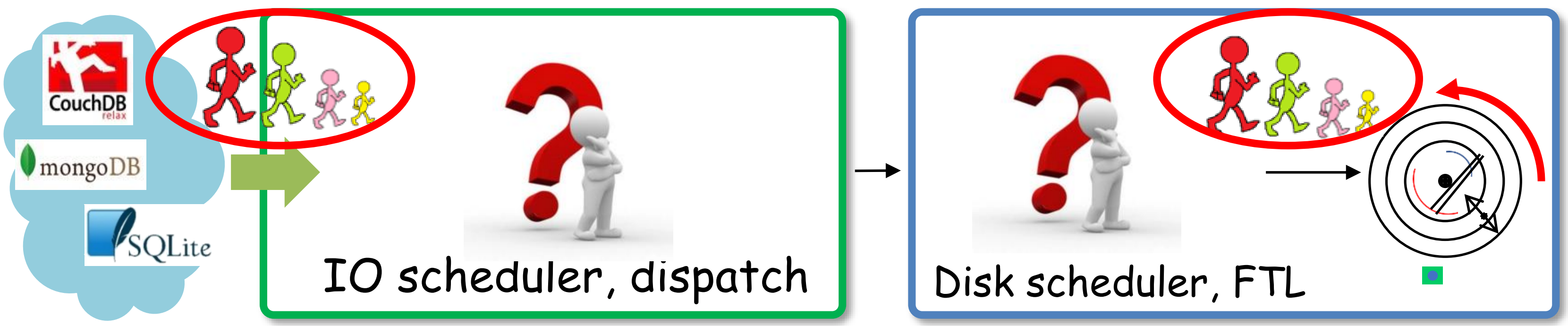


Controlling the Storage Order

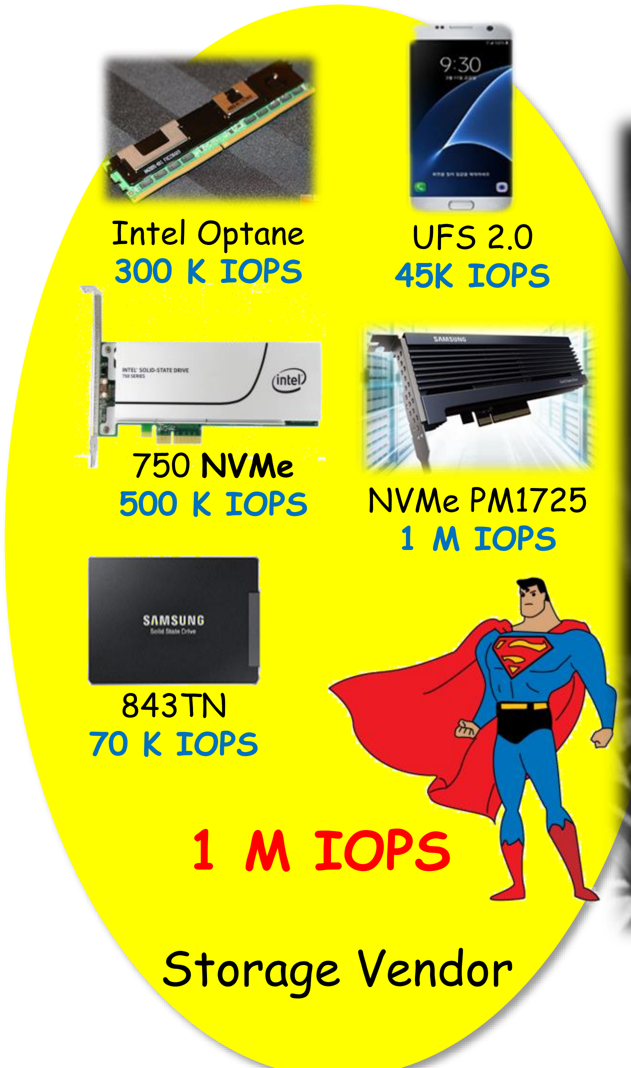
Applications need to control the storage order.

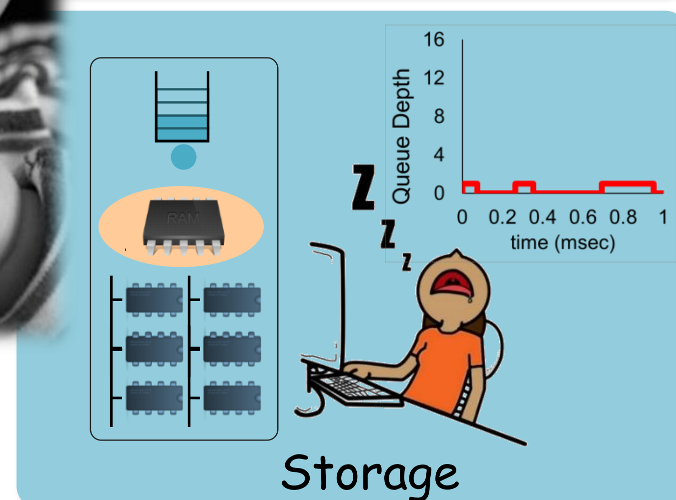
- Database logging
- Filesystem Journaling
- Soft-updates
- COW based filesystem



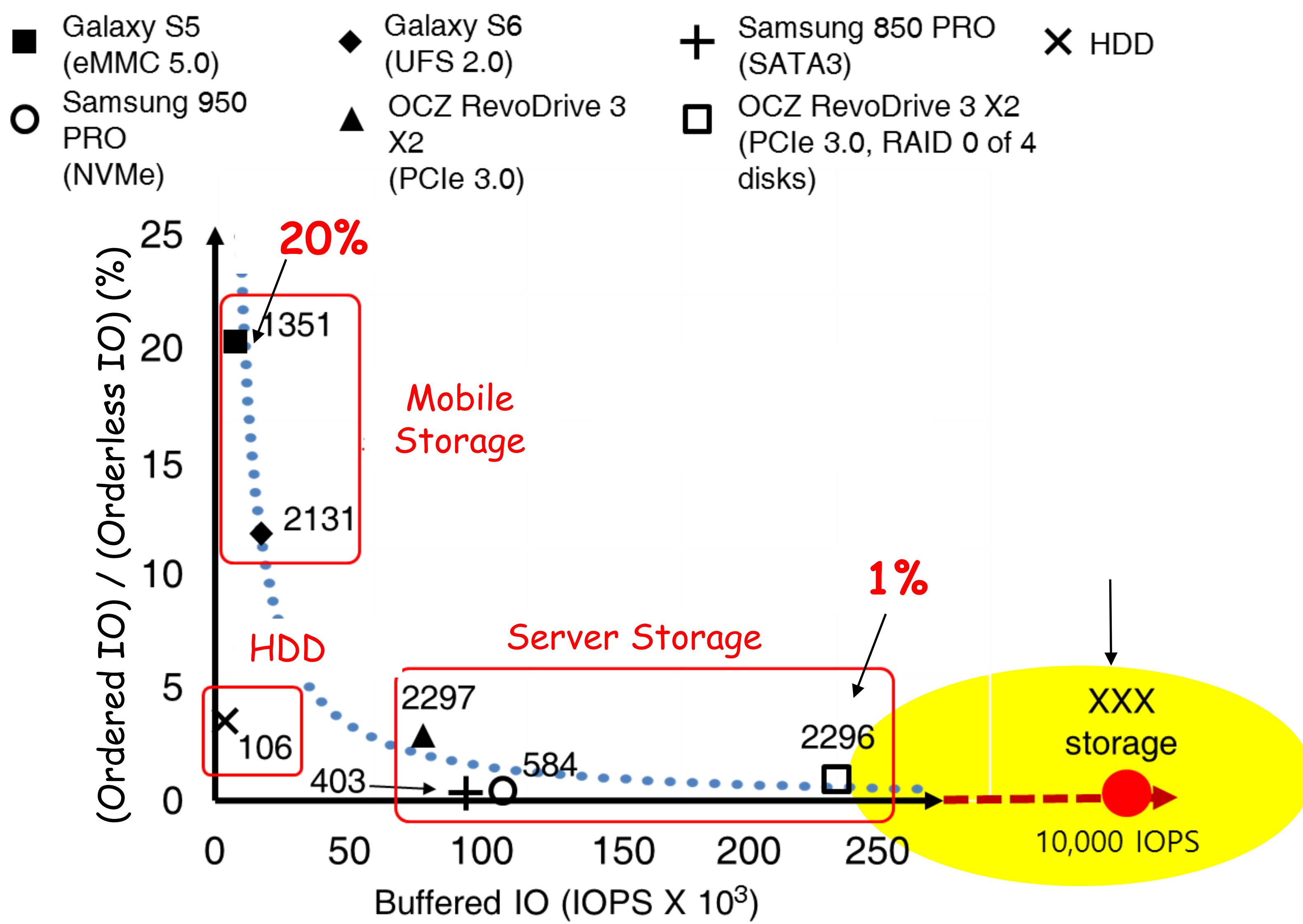


What's Happening Now....





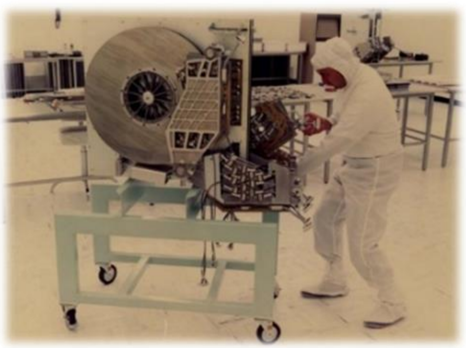
Overhead of storage order guarantee: write() + fdatasync()



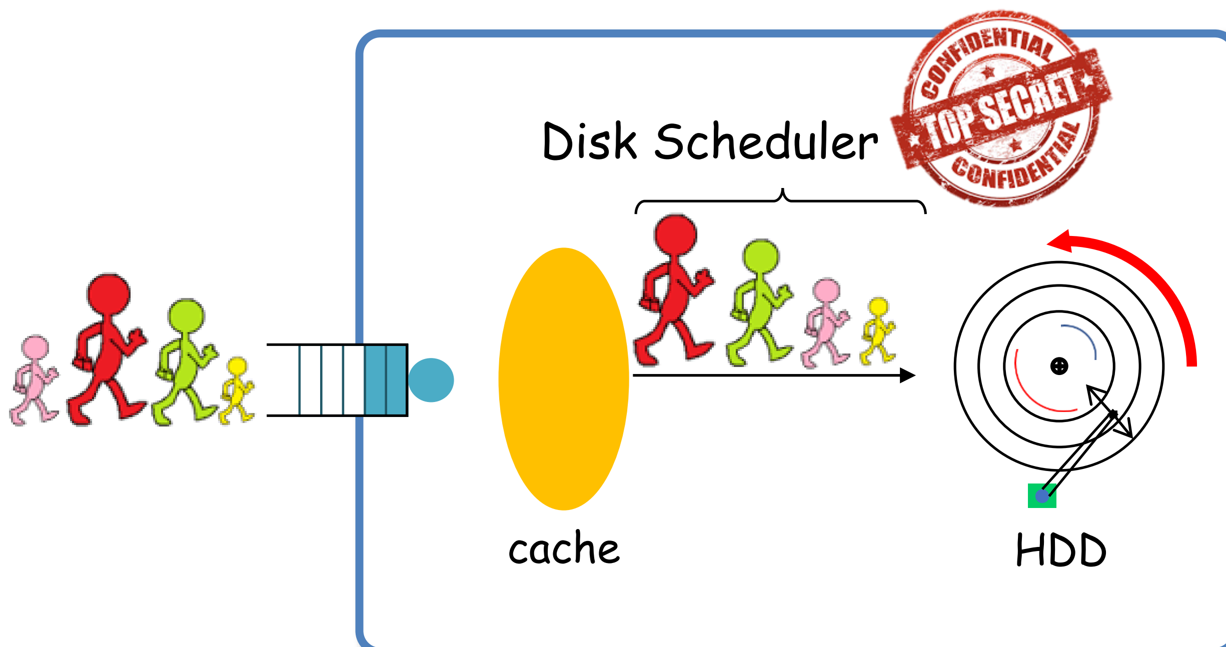
Why has IO stack been orderless for the last 50 years?

In HDD, host cannot control the persist order.

$$(I \cancel{\rightarrow} P) \equiv (I = D) \wedge (D = X) \wedge (X \cancel{\rightarrow} P)$$



250MB @ 1970's



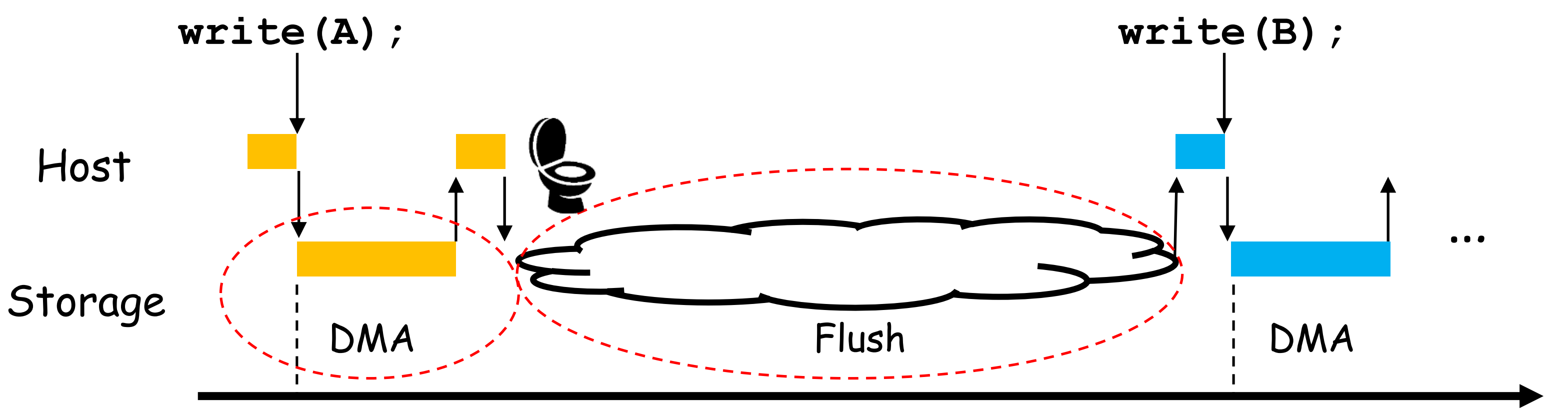
Enforcing Storage Order in spite of Orderless IO Stack

Interleave the write request with Transfer-and-Flush

```
write (A) ;
write (B) ;
```

→

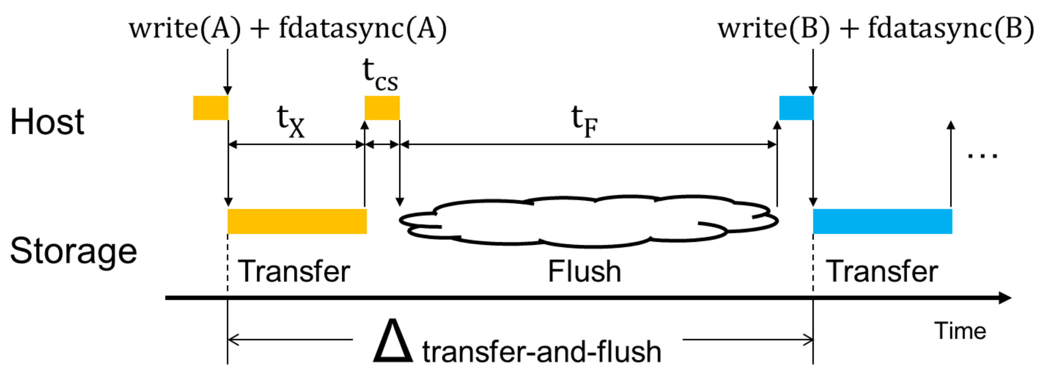
```
write (A) ;
Transfer-and-flush;
write (B) ;
```

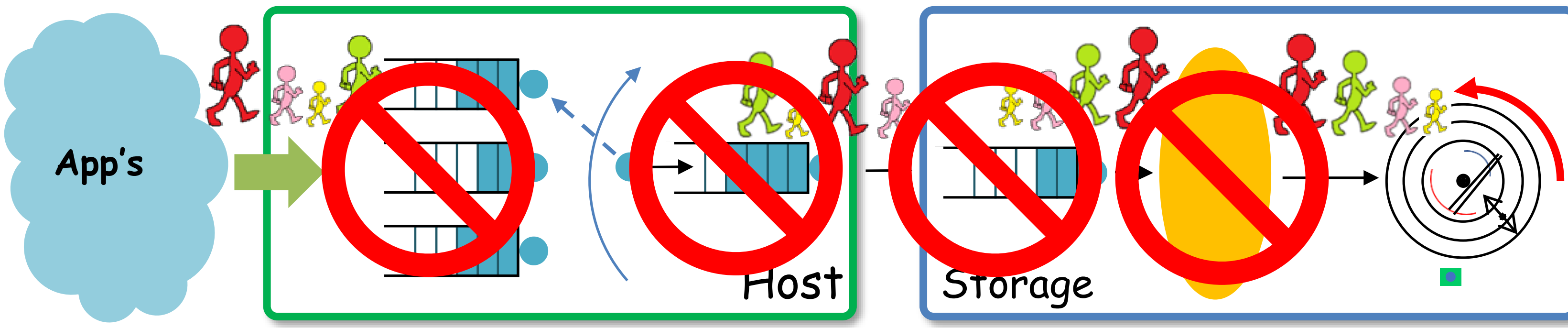


To enforce transfer order, block the caller !

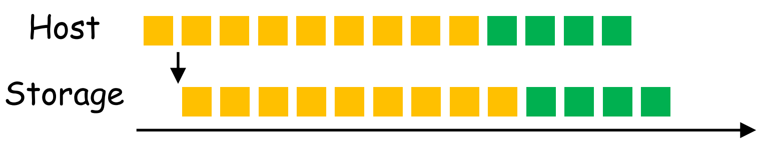
To enforce persist order, drain the cache !

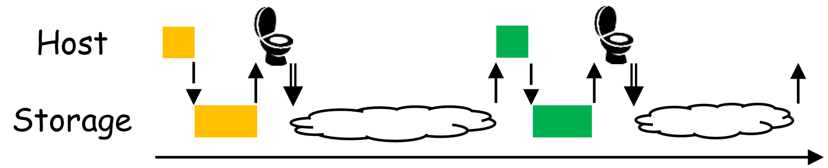
Transfer-and-Flush





Overhead of Transfer-and-Flush



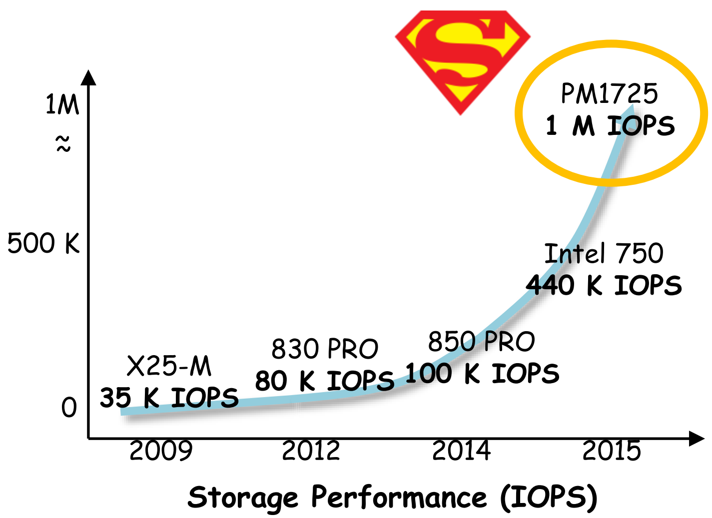


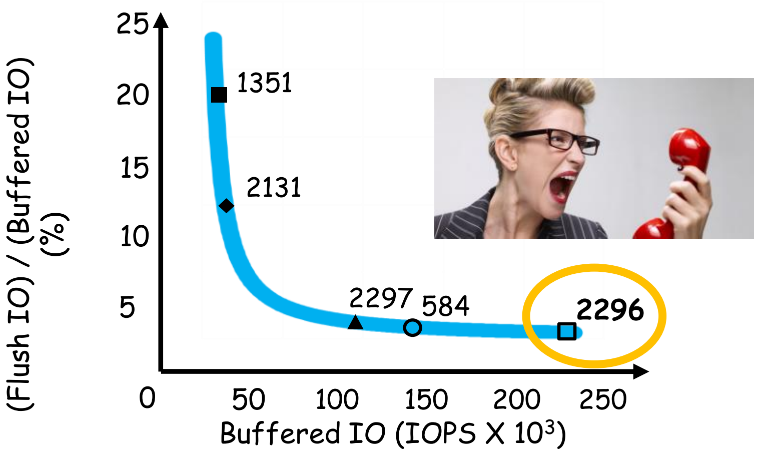
NVMe PM1725
120K IOPS

Ordering Guarantee

< 2%

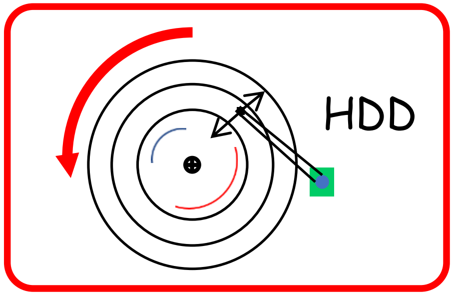
NVMe PM1725
2K IOPS





Developing Barrier-enabled IO Stack

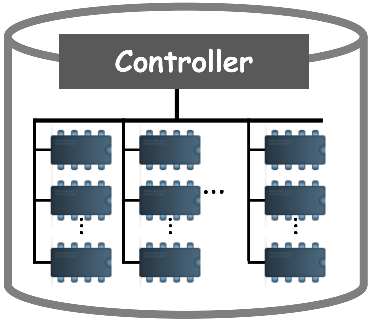
In the era of HDD
(circa 1970)



Seek and rotational delay.

- The host cannot control persist order.
- the IO stack becomes orderless.
- **use transfer-and-flush** to control the storage order

In the era of SSD
(circa 2000)

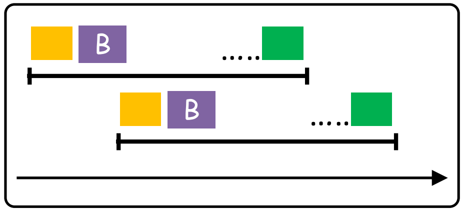


~~Seek and rotational delay~~

- The host may control persist order.
- The IO stack may become order-preserving.
- Control the storage order **without Transfer-and-Flush**

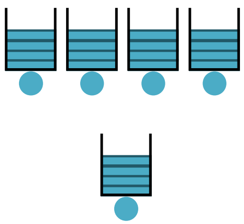
It is a time to re-think the way to control the storage order.

Barrier-enabled IO Stack



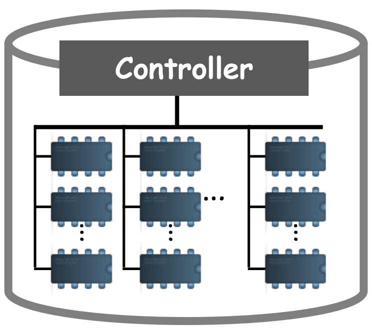
BarrierFS

- Dual-Mode Journaling
- fbarrier() / fdatabarrier()



Order-preserving Block Device Layer

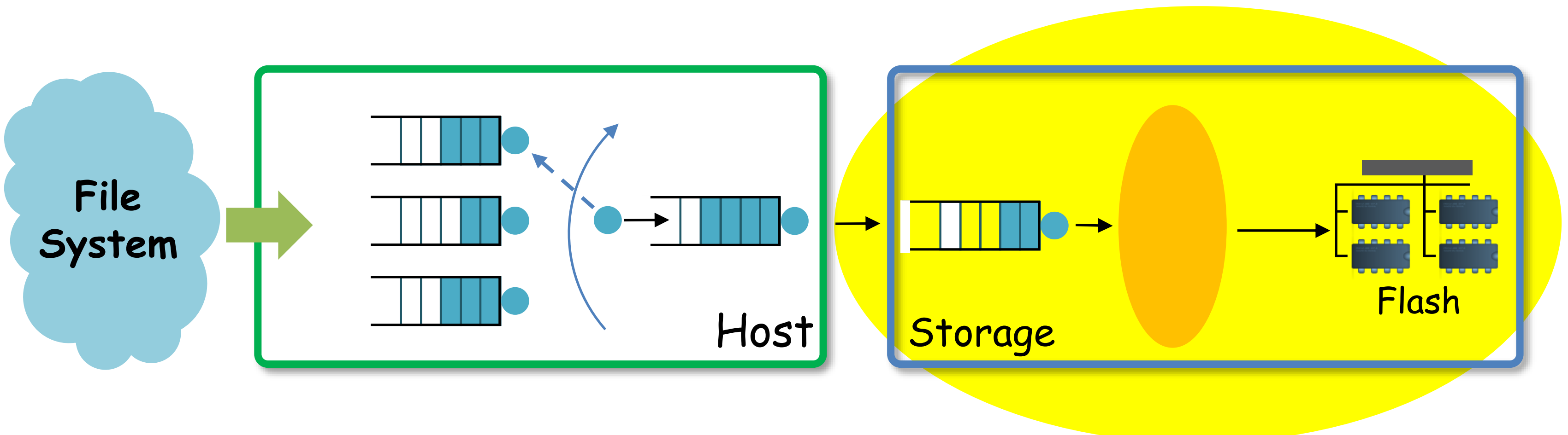
- Order-preserving dispatch
- Epoch-based IO scheduling



Barrier-enabled Storage

- Barrier write command

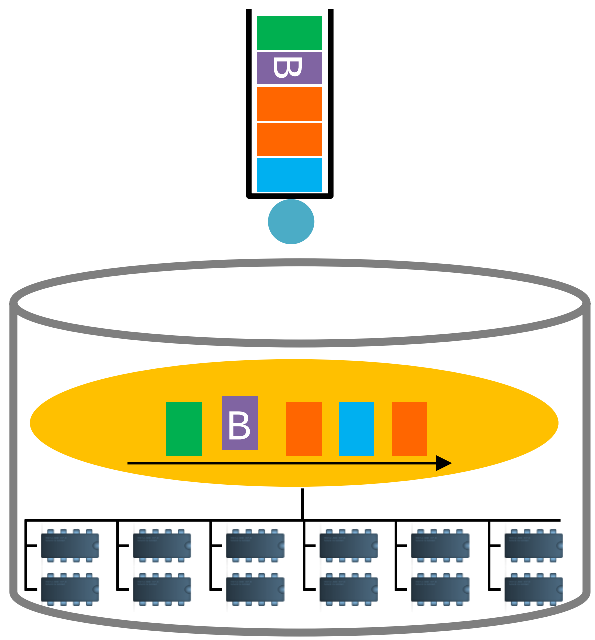
Barrier-enabled Storage



To Control the Persist Order, X = P

barrier command (2005, eMMC)

```
write (A) ;
write (B) ;
write (C) ;
barrier;
write (D) ;
```



Barrier Write

```
write ;
barrier ;
```

single command → **barrier-write ;**

```
write A
write B
barrier-write C
write D
```

Persisted before

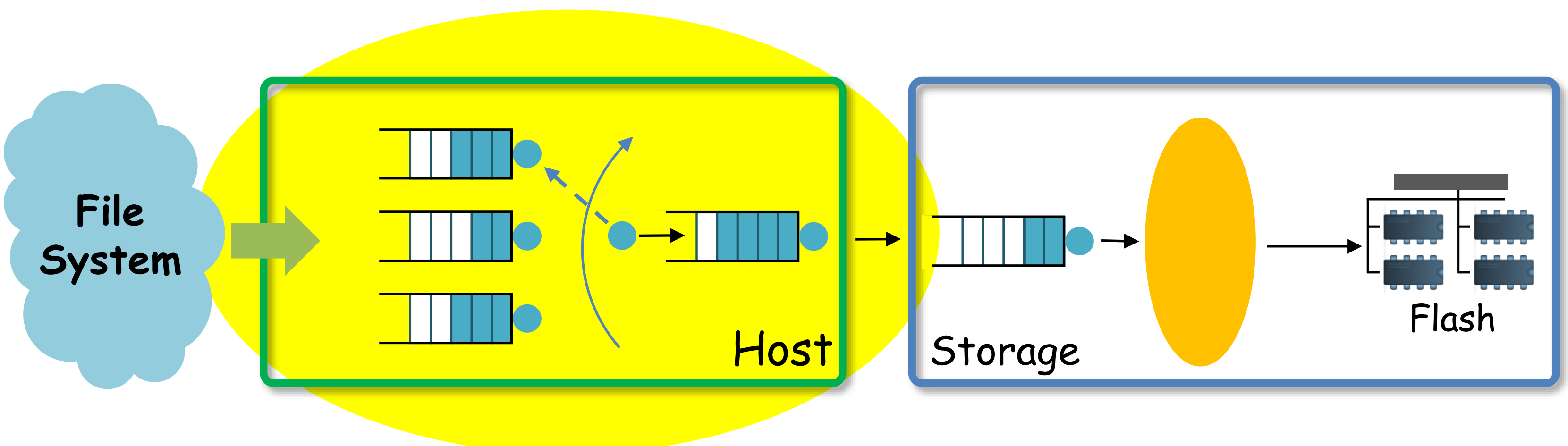
Persisted after

With Barrier Write command,

host can control the persist order without flush.

$$(I \cancel{=} P) \equiv (I \cancel{=} D) \wedge (D \cancel{=} X) \wedge (X = P)$$

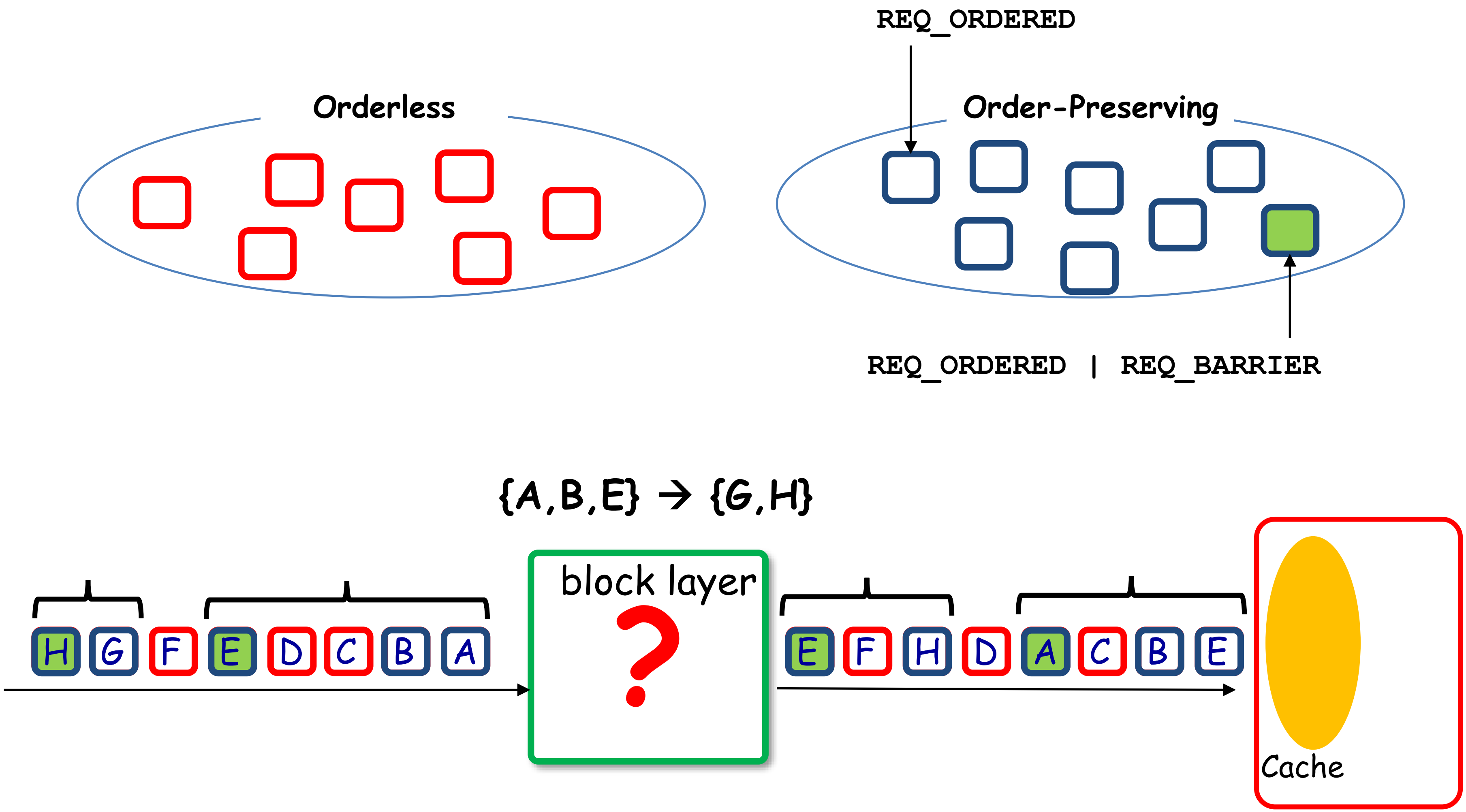
Order-preserving Block Device Layer



Order Preserving Block Device Layer

- ✓ New request types
- ✓ Order Preserving Dispatch
- ✓ Epoch Based IO scheduling

Request Types

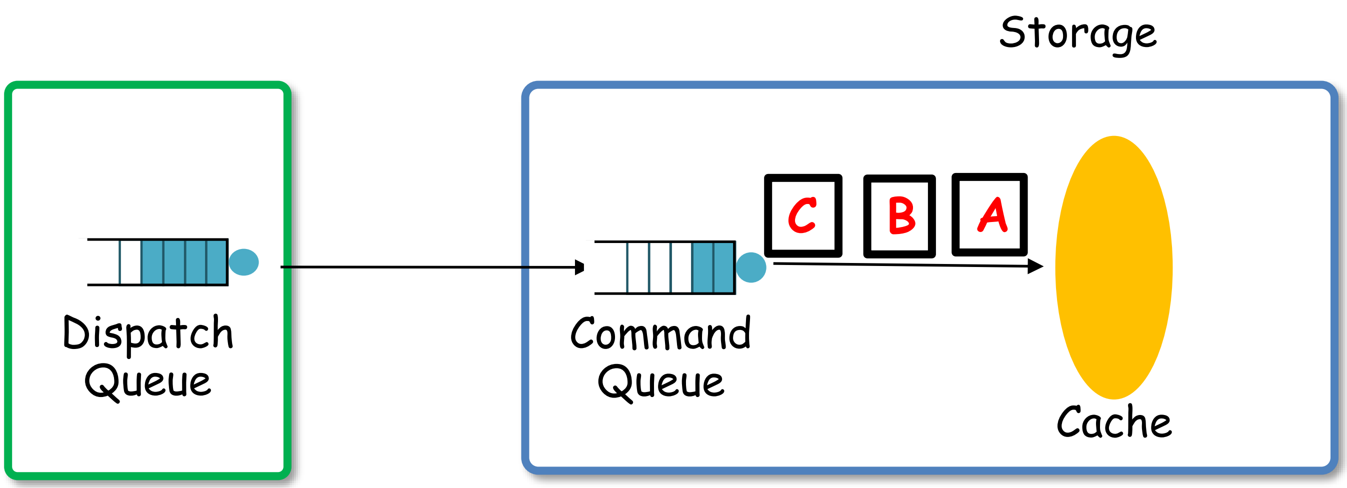


Order Preserving Dispatch Module (for D = X)

- Ensure that the barrier request is serviced in-order.

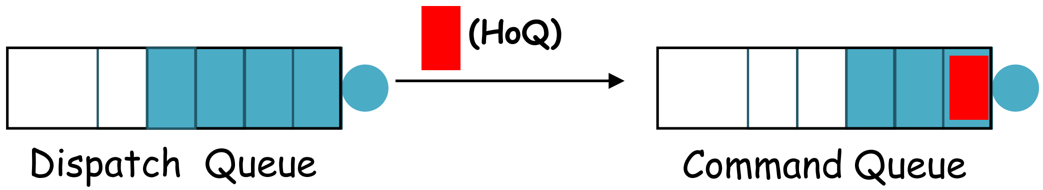
Set the command priority of 'barrier' type request to ORDERED.

```
write A
barrier-write B //set the command priority to 'ORDERED'
write C
```

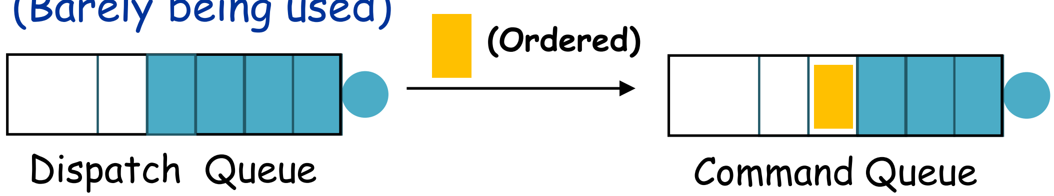


SCSI Command Priority

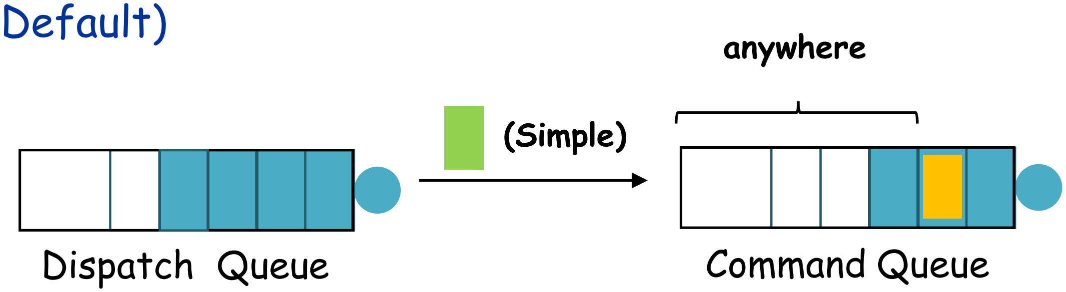
- ✓ Head of the Queue



- ✓ Ordered (Barely being used)

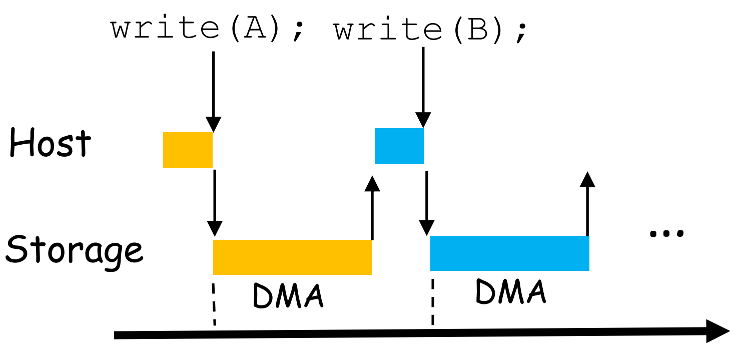


- ✓ Simple (Default)



Order Preserving Dispatch

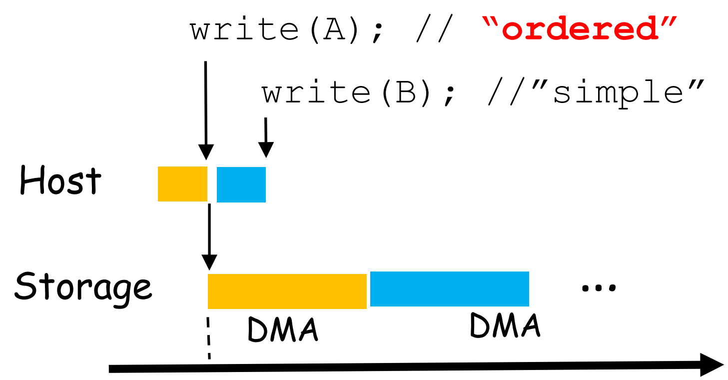
Legacy Dispatch



Caller blocks.

DMA transfer overhead

Order Preserving Dispatch



Caller does not block. 👍

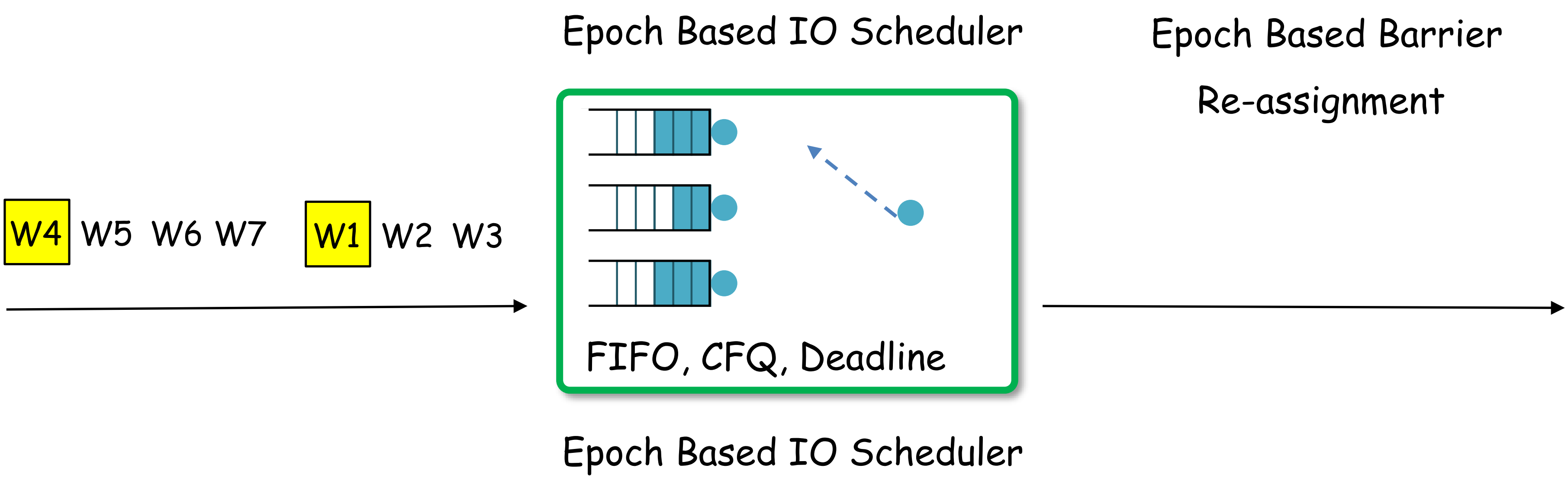
No DMA transfer overhead 👍

With Order Preserving Dispatch, host can control the transfer order without DMA transfer.

$$(I \cancel{=} P) \equiv (I \cancel{=} D) \wedge (D = X) \wedge (X = P)$$

Epoch Based IO scheduler (for I = D)

- Ensure that the OP requests between the barriers can be freely scheduled.
- Ensure that the OP requests does not cross barrier boundary.
- Ensure that orderless requests can be freely scheduled independent with barrier.



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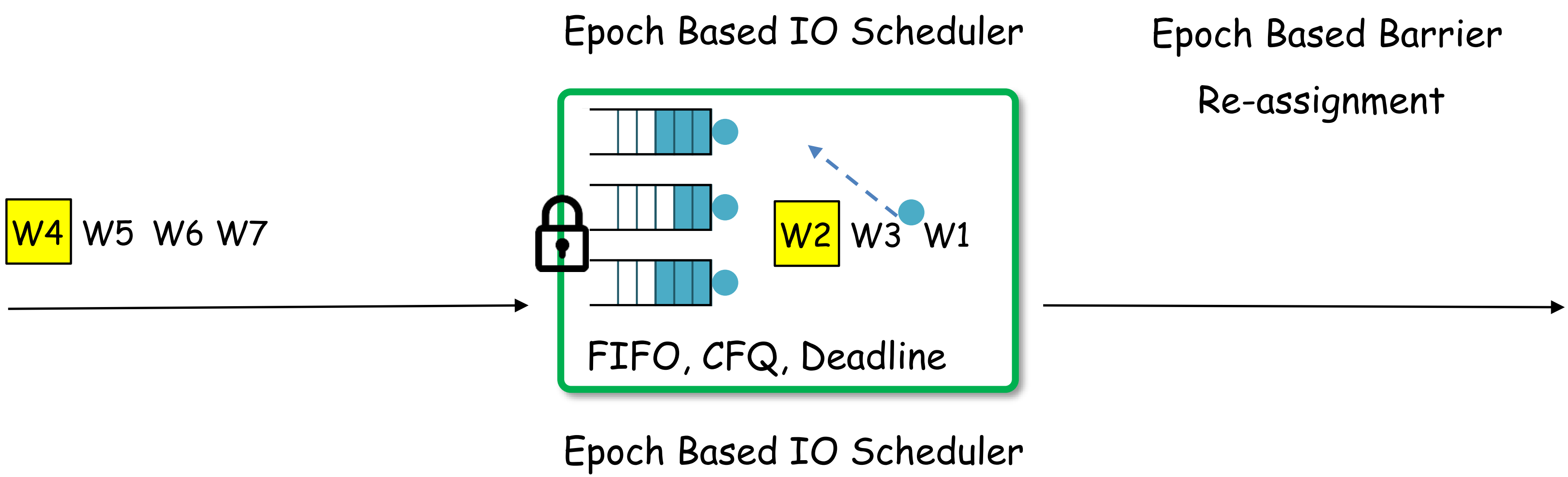

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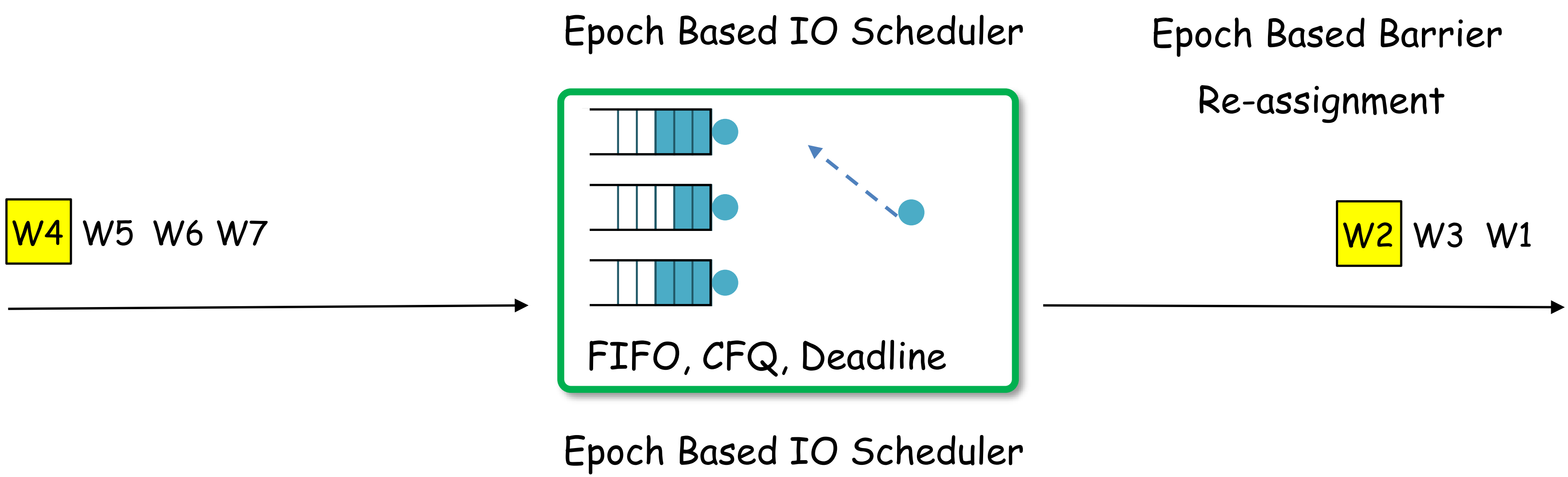

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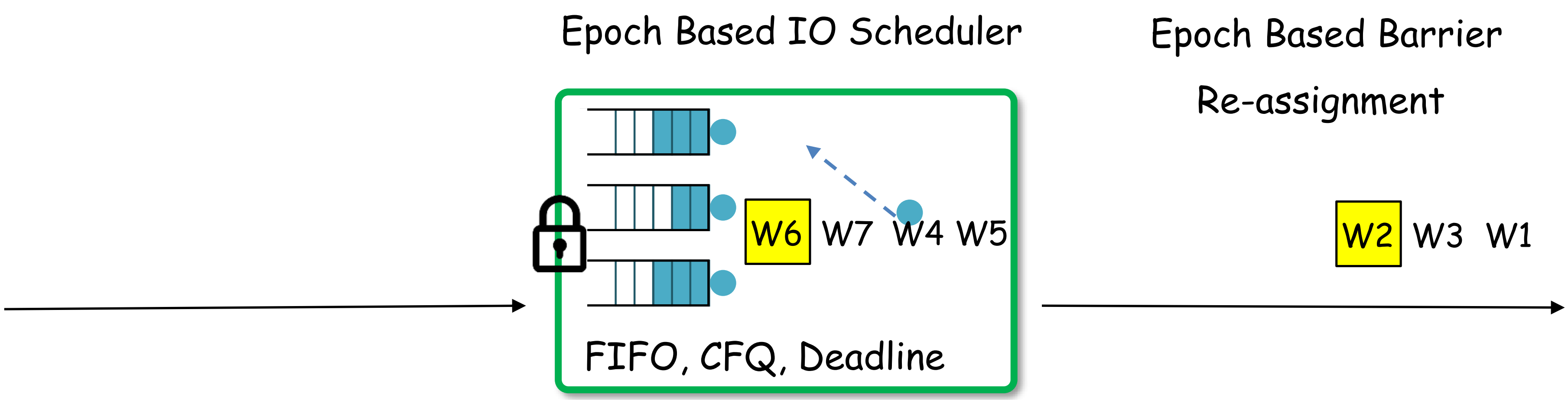

Epoch Based IO Scheduler

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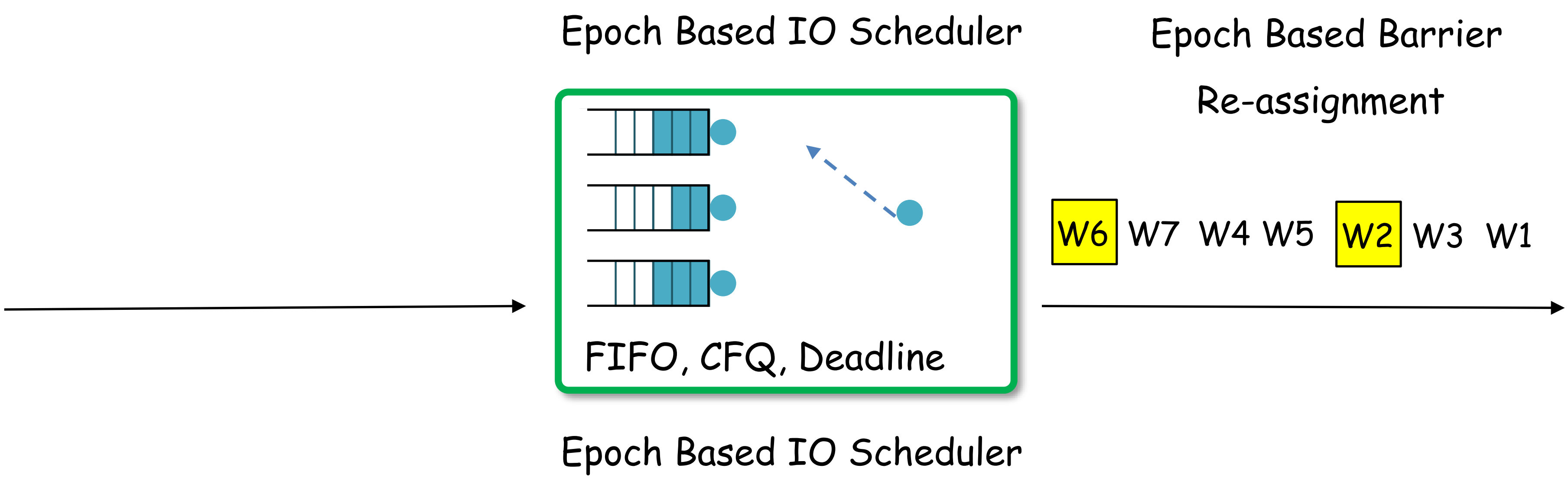


With Epoch Based IO Scheduling, host can control the dispatch order with existing IO scheduler.

$$(I = P) \equiv (I = D) \wedge (D = X) \wedge (X = P)$$

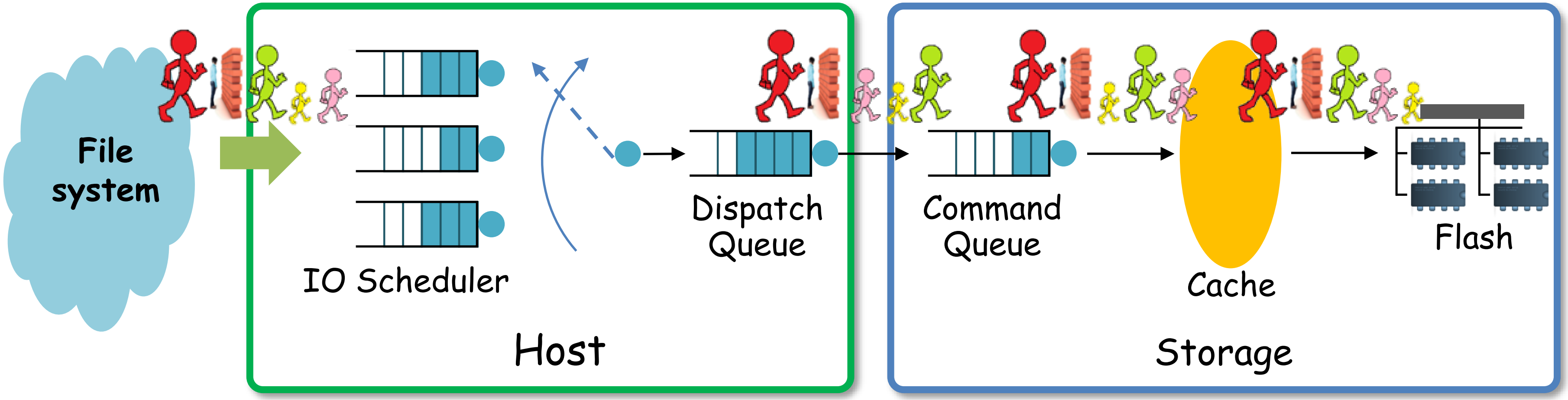
barrier write

Order-preserving dispatch

Epoch-based IO scheduler

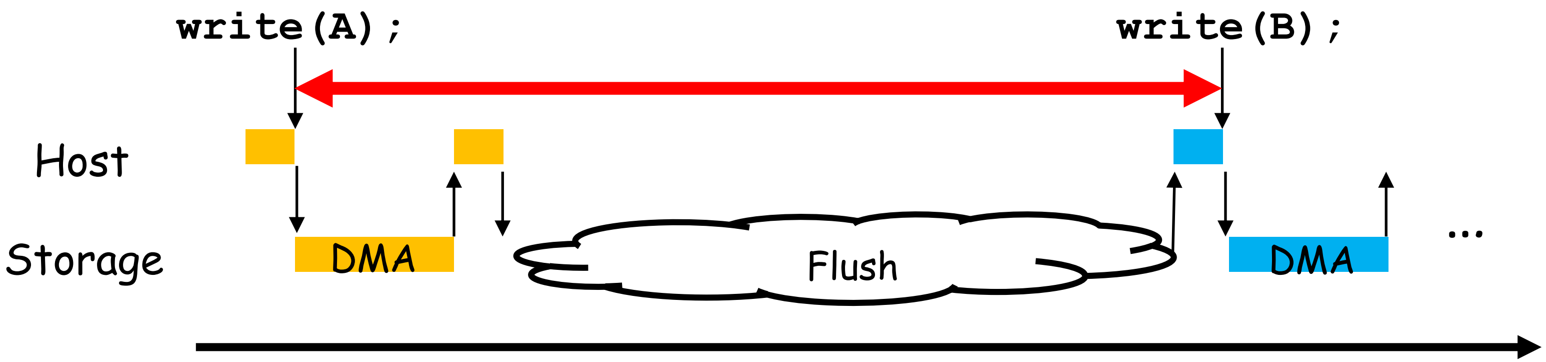
Order Preserving Block Device Layer

Control Storage Order without Transfer-and-Flush !

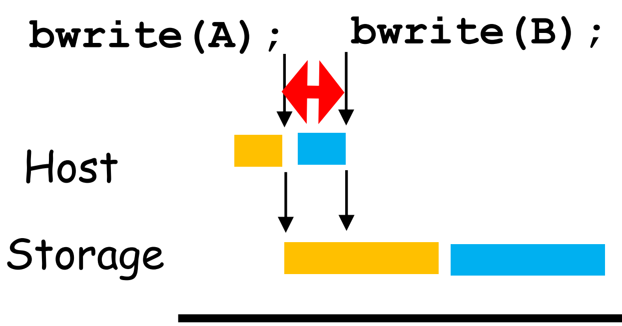


Enforcing the Storage Order

Legacy Block Layer (With Transfer-and-Flush)



Order Preserving Block Layer

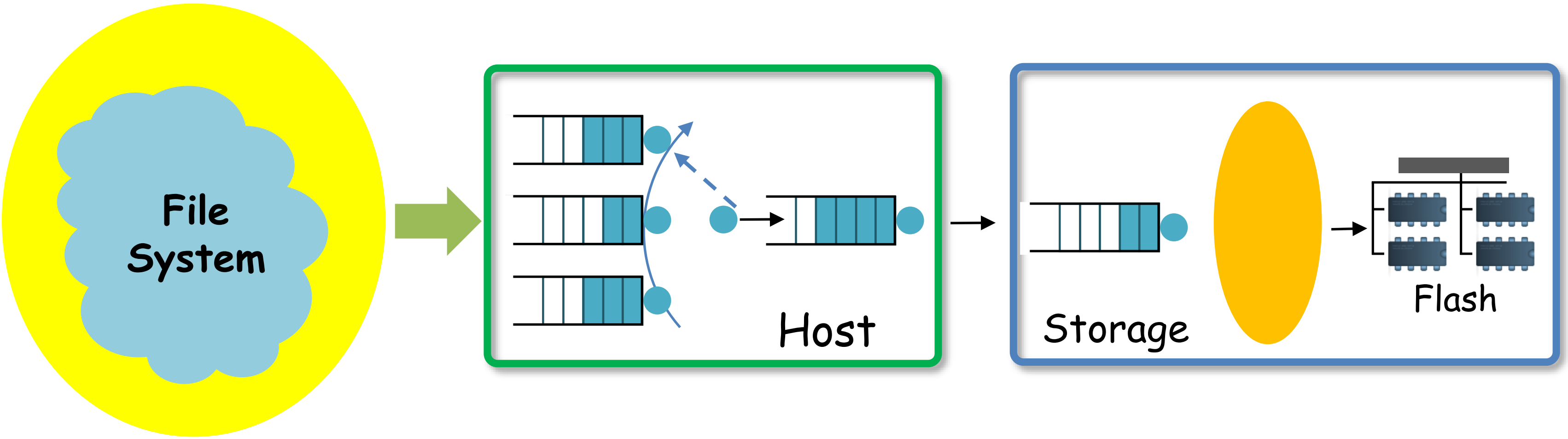


No Flush !

No DMA !

No Context Switch !

Barrier-enabled Filesystem



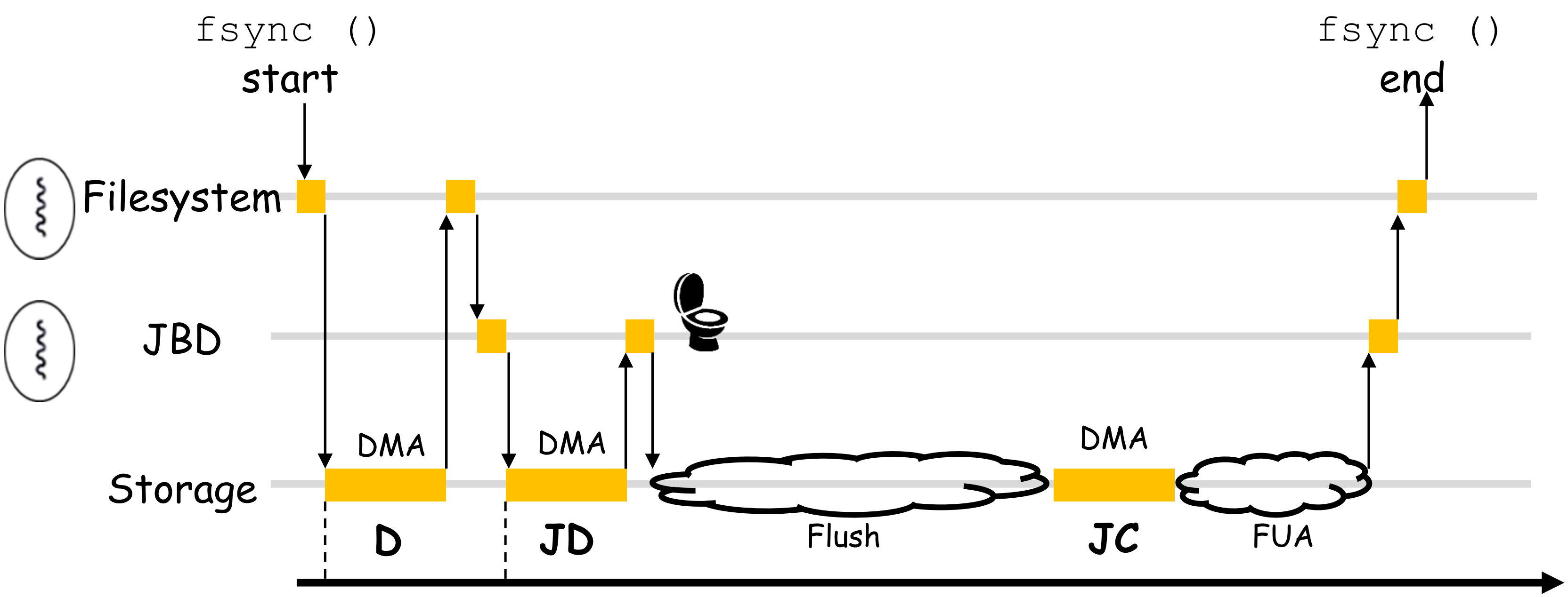
New primitives for ordering guarantee

	Durability guarantee	Ordering guarantee
Journaling	✓ fsync() ➢ Dirty pages ➢ journal transaction ➢ Durable	✓ fbarrier() ➢ Dirty pages ➢ Journal transaction ➢ ~~durable~~
No journaling	✓ fdatasync() ➢ Dirty pages ➢ durable	✓ fdatabarrier() ➢ Dirty pages ➢ ~~durable~~

fsync() in EXT4

{Dirty Pages (**D**), Journal Logs (**JD**)} → {Journal Commit (**JC**)}

- Two Flushes
- Three DMA Transfers
- A number of Context switches



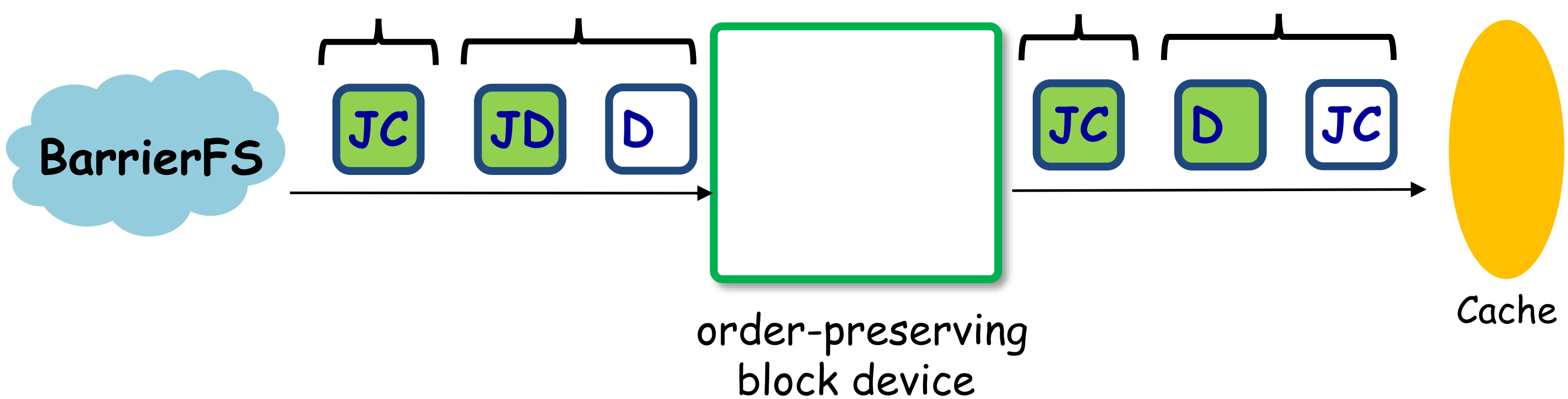
fsync() in BarrierFS

- write Dirty pages 'D' with order-preserving write
- write Journal Logs 'JD' with barrier write
- write Journal Commit Block 'JC' with barrier write
- flush

order-preserving write (REQ_ORDERED)

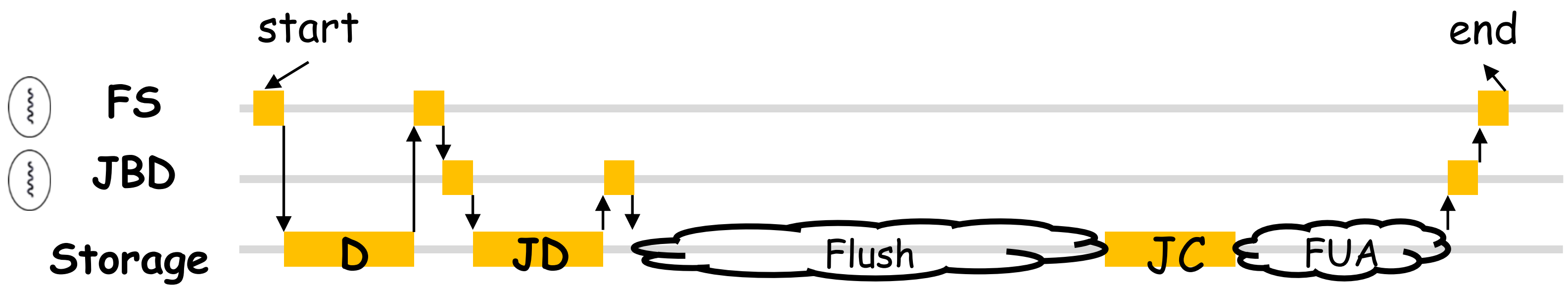
barrier write (REQ _ORDERED|REQ_BARRIER)

{D,JD} → {JC}

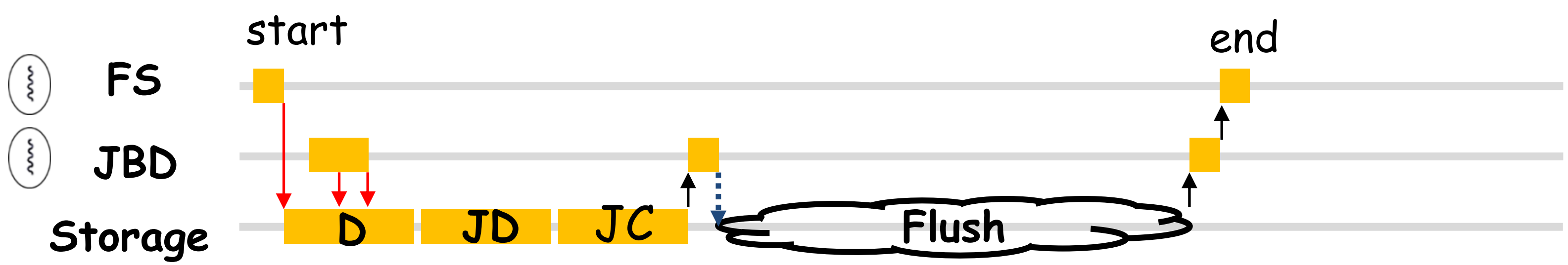


Efficient fsync() implementation

- fsync() in EXT4

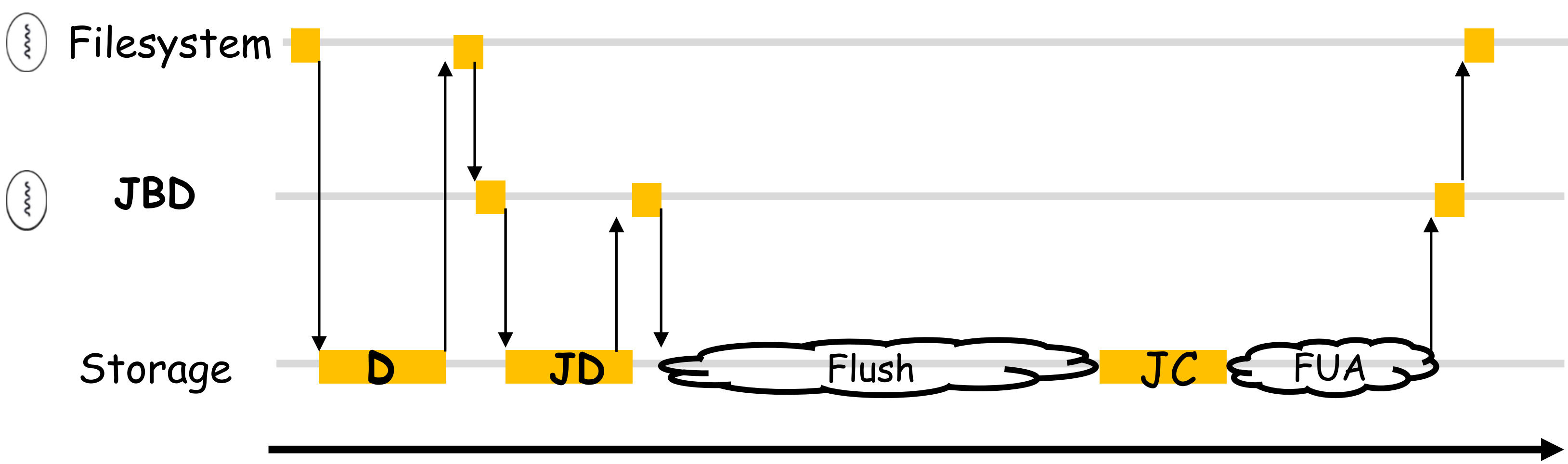


- fsync() in BarrierFS



Dual Mode Journaling

- Journal Commit
  - Dispatch 'write JD' and 'write JC' → Control plane
  - Make JD and JC durable → Data Plane
- Dual Mode Journaling
  - separate the control plane activity and the data plane activity.
  - Separate thread to each
    - Commit Thread (Control Plane)
    - Flush Thread (Data Plane)



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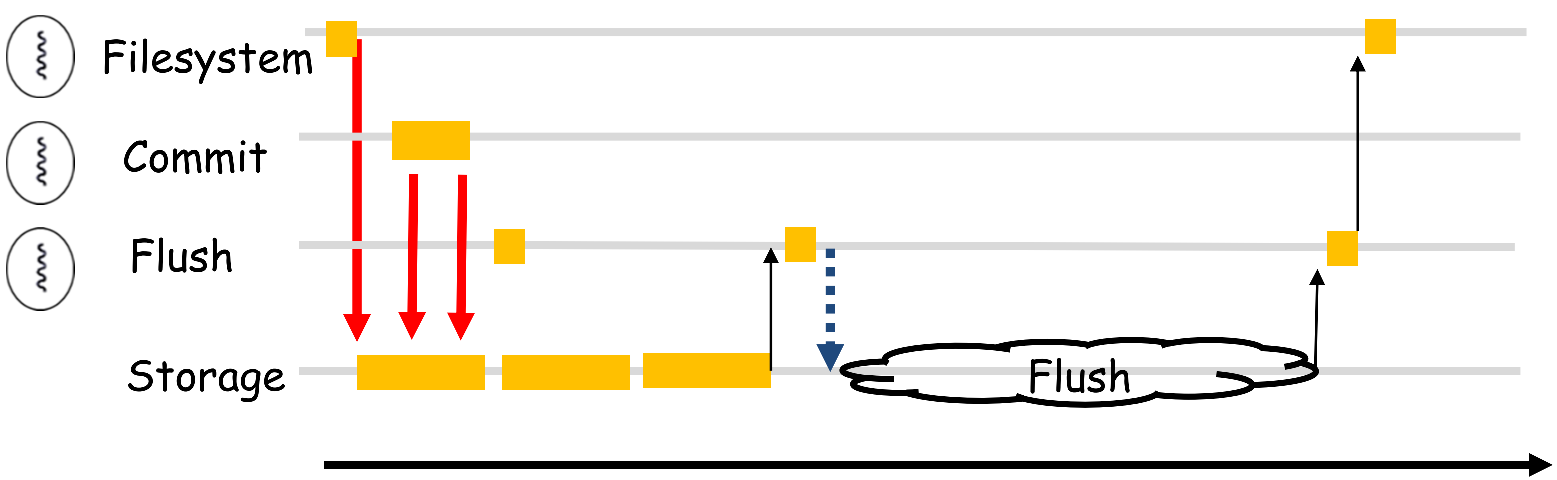
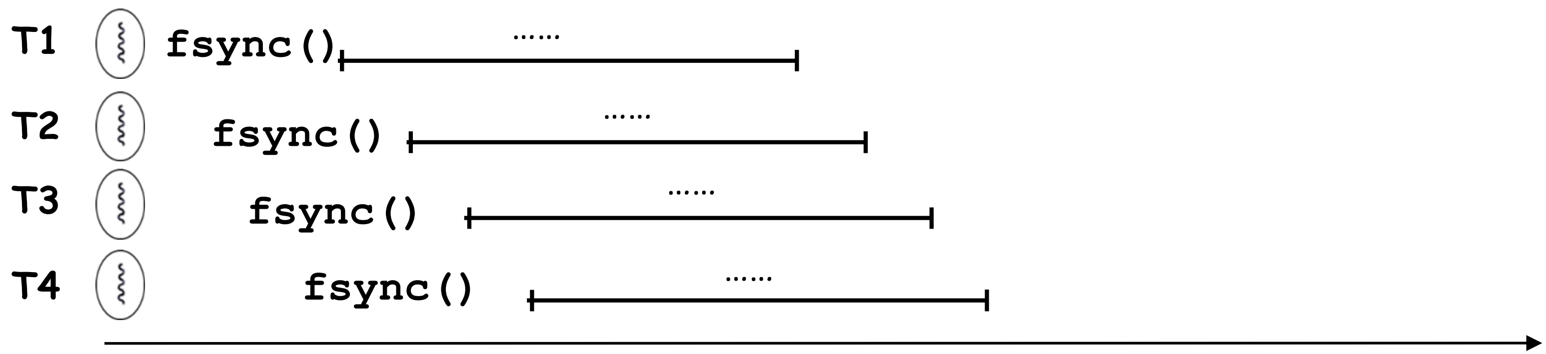
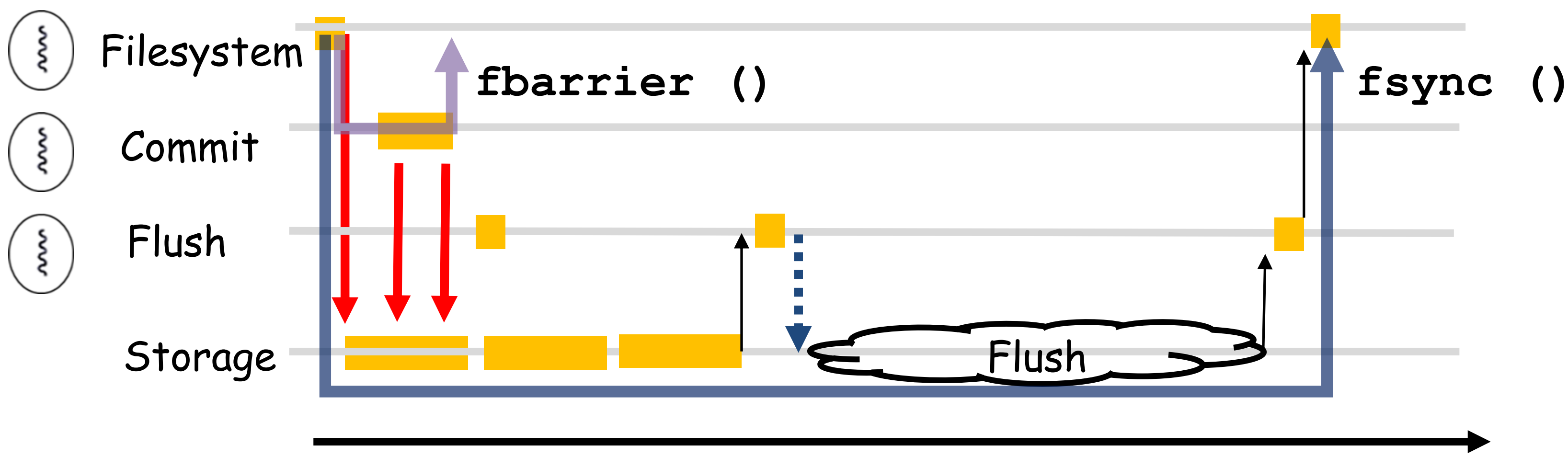


Implications of Dual Thread Journaling

- Journaling becomes concurrent activity.



- Efficient Separation of Ordering Guarantee and Durability Guarantee



fdatabarrier()

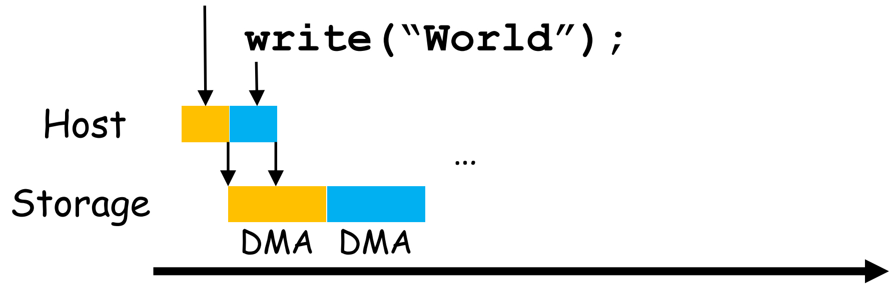
- write Dirty pages 'D' with order-preserving write

```
write(fileA, "Hello") ;
fdatabarrier (fileA) ;
write(fileA, "World") ;
```

BarrierFS

```
write("Hello");//bwrite
write("World");
```

```
write("Hello");//barrier write
write("World");
```



DMA transfer overhead NO

Flush overhead NO

Context switch NO

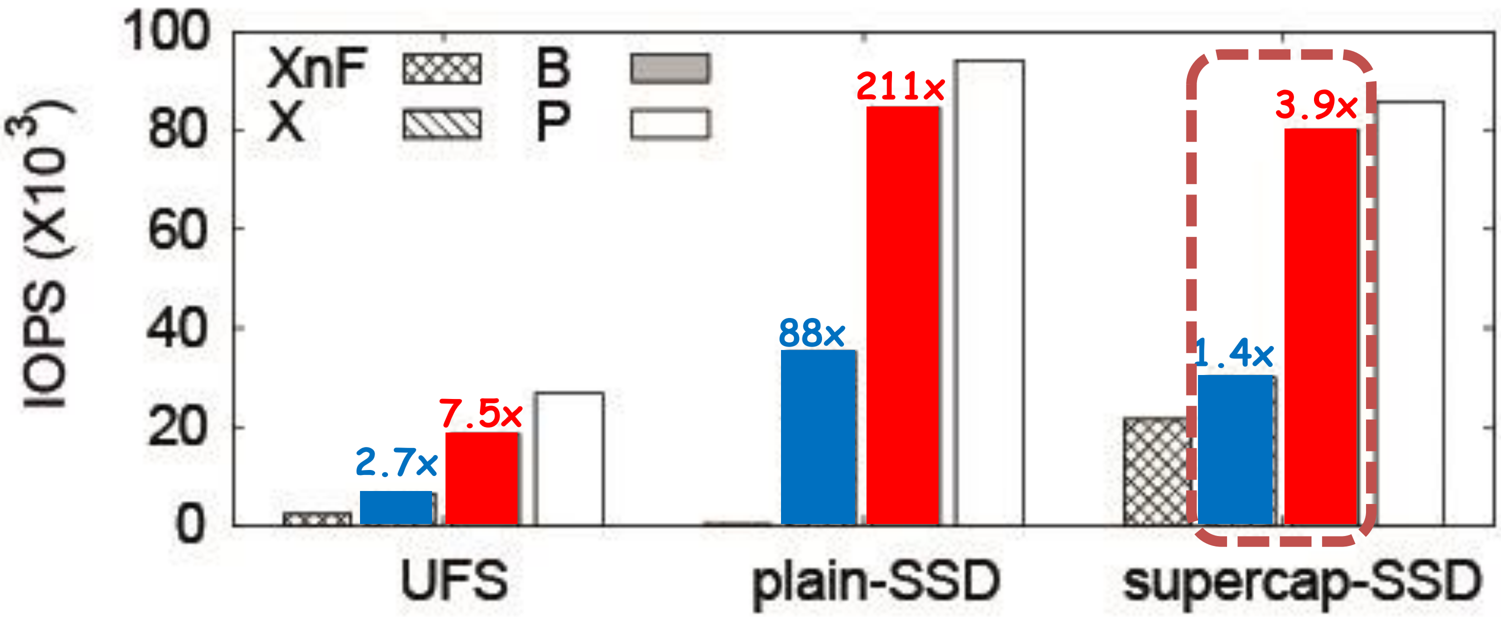
Experiments

- Platforms: PC server (Linux 3.16), Smartphone (Galaxy S6 Linux 3.10)
- Flash Storages:
  - Mobile-SSD(UFS2.0, 2ch), Plain-SSD (SM 850, 8ch), Supercap-SSD (SM843, 8ch)
- Workload
  1. Micro benchmark: Mobibench, FxMark (Microbenchmark)
  2. Macro Benchmark: Mobibench(SQLite), filebench(varmail), sysbench(MySQL)
- IO stack
  1. Durability guarantee: EXT-DR(fsync()), BFS-DR(fsync())
  2. Ordering guarantee: EXT4-OD (fdatasync(), NO-barrier), BFS-OD (fdatabarrier())

Benefit of Order-Preserving Dipspatch

Eliminating Flush

Eliminating Transfer-and-Flush

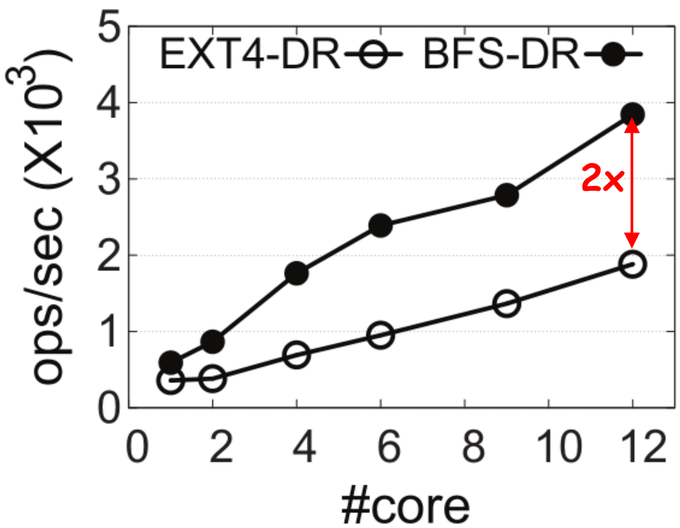


Eliminating the transfer overhead is critical.

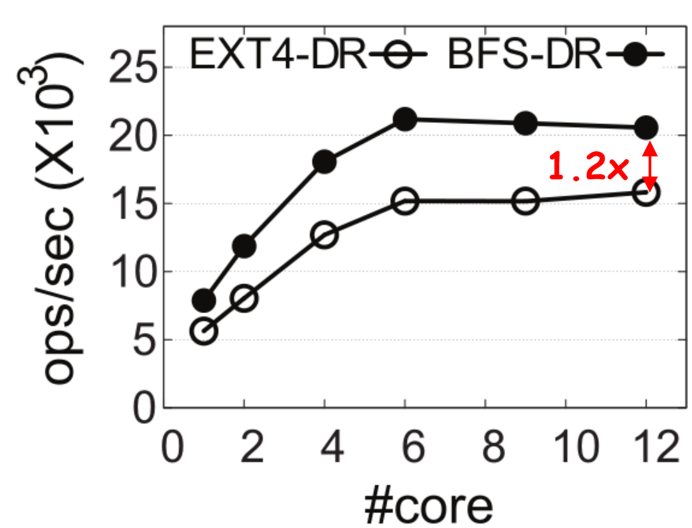
Journaling Scalability

- 4 KB Allocating write followed by fsync() [DWSL workload in FxMark]

Concurrent Jounrnaling makes Journaling more scalable.



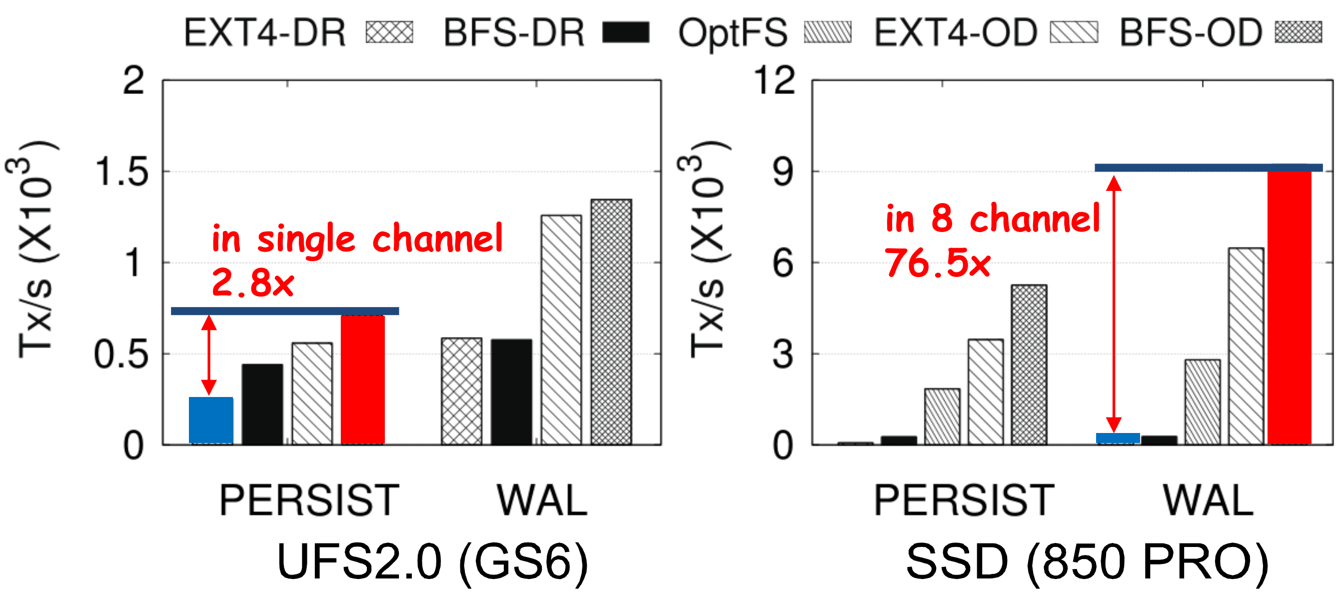
(a) plain-SSD



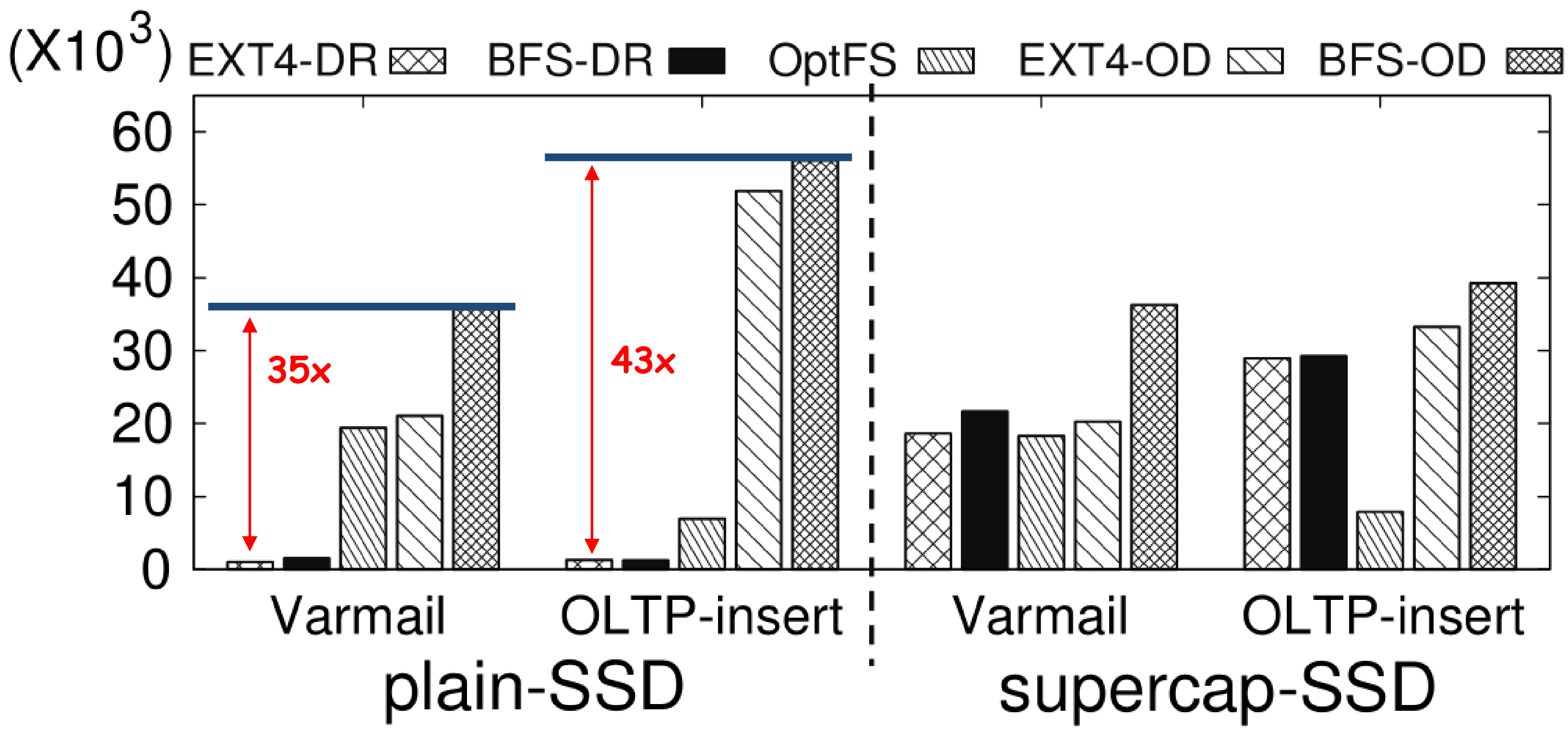
(b) supercap-SSD

Mobile DBMS: SQLite

Barrier enabled IO stack gets more effective as the parallelism of the Flash storage increases.



Server Workload: varmail / Insert(MySQL)

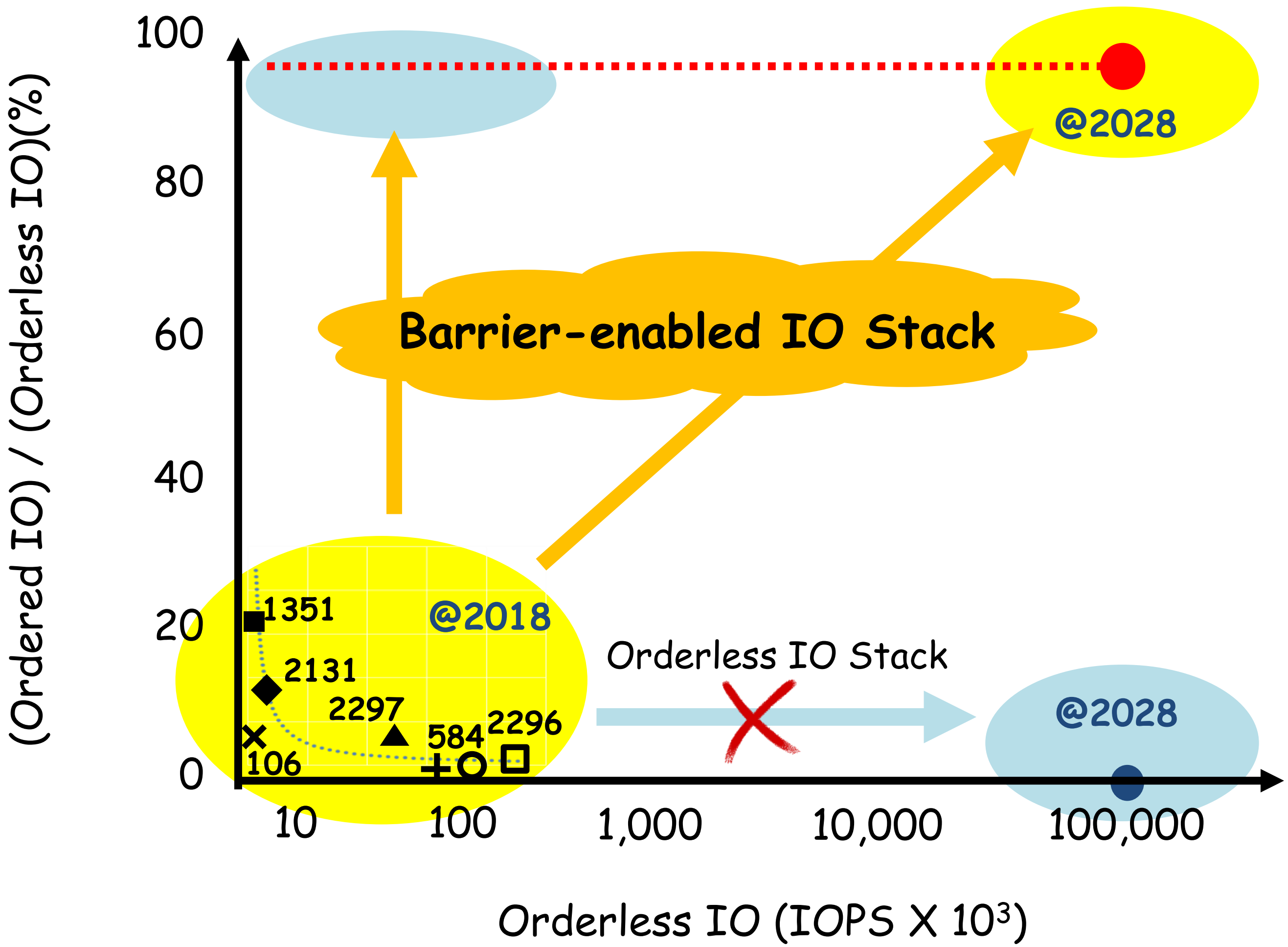


Conclusion

- Modern IO stack is fundamentally driven by the legacy of rotating media.
- In Flash Storage, the PERSIST order can be controlled while in HDD, it cannot.
- In Barrier-enabled IO stack, we eliminate the Transfer-and-Flush in controlling the storage order.
- To storage vendors,

  "Support for barrier command is a must."
- To service providers,

  "IO stack should eliminate not only the flush overhead but also the transfer overhead."



It is time for a change.

https://github.com/ESOS-Lab/barrieriostack