

# Storage-Centric Computing for Genomics and Metagenomics

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# Brief Self Introduction

- A PhD student at the SAFARI Research Group @ ETH Zurich, advised by Professor Onur Mutlu
  
- **Research interests:**
  - Computer architecture
  - Large-scale bioinformatics applications
  - Storage systems
  - Near data processing
  - Emerging technologies such as ultra-dense 3D integrated systems
  
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  - **Personal website:** <https://bit.ly/nikamgh>

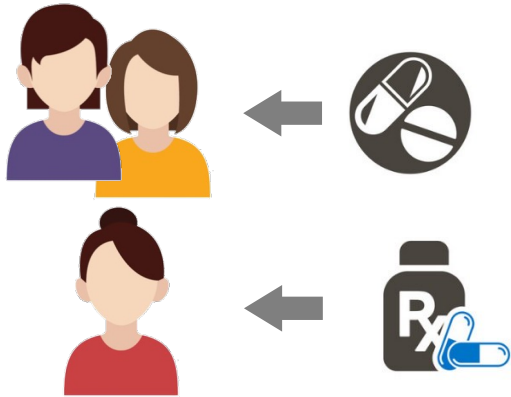
# Outline

- **Brief Intro to (Meta)Genomics**
- **Storage-Centric Designs for (Meta)Genomics**
  - **GenStore**
  - **MegIS**
- **Conclusion**

# Outline

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# Genomics and Metagenomics are Critical for Many Applications



Developing **personalized medicine**



Predicting the **presence** and **relative abundance** of **microbes** in a sample



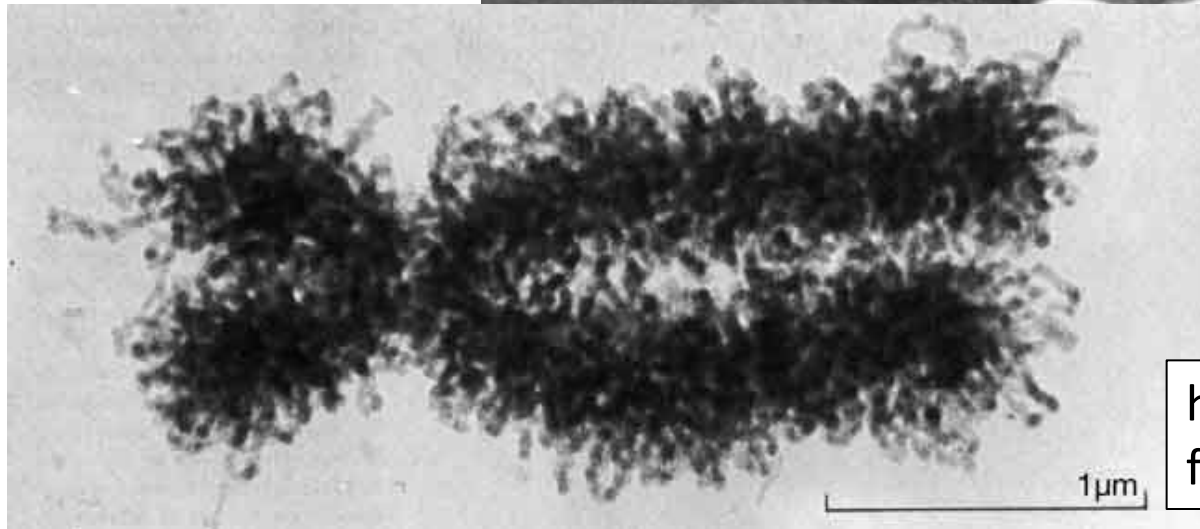
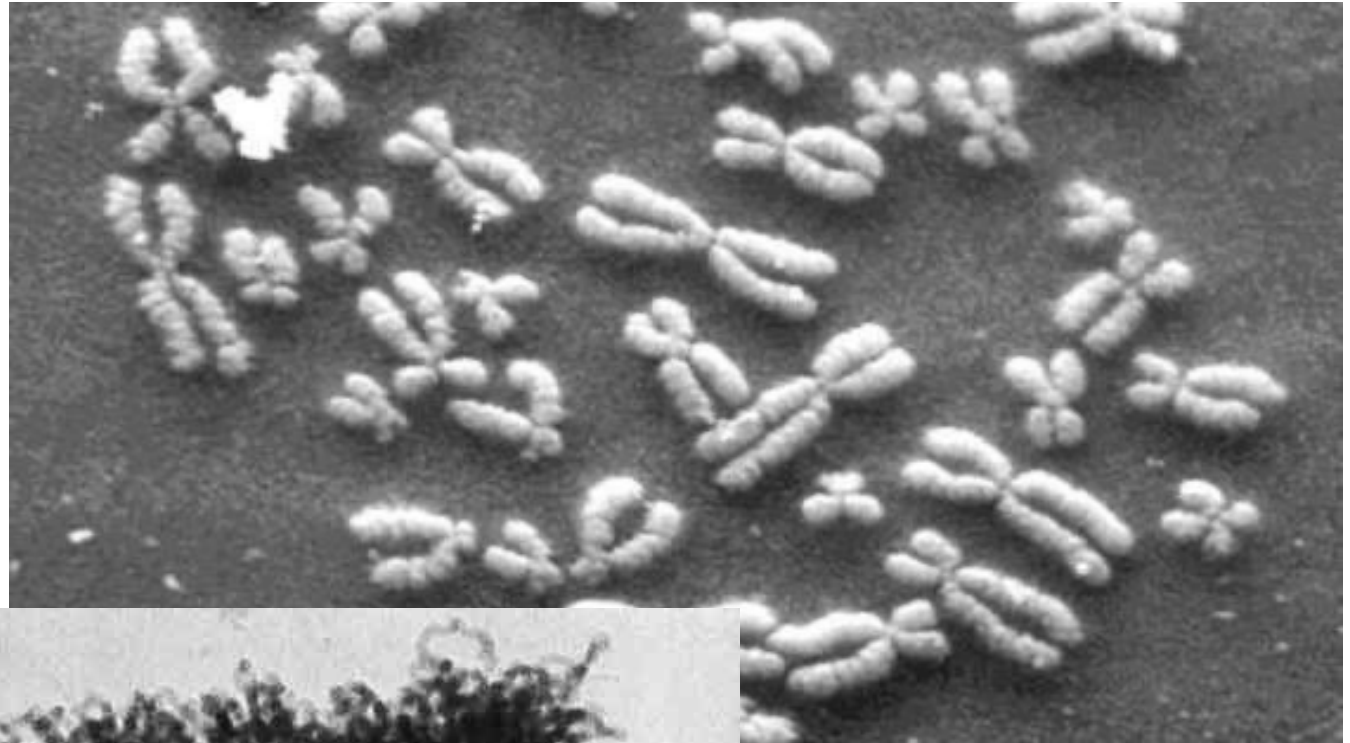
Rapid surveillance of **disease outbreaks**

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Understanding **genetic variations**, **species**, **evolution**, ...

# DNA Under Electron Microscope



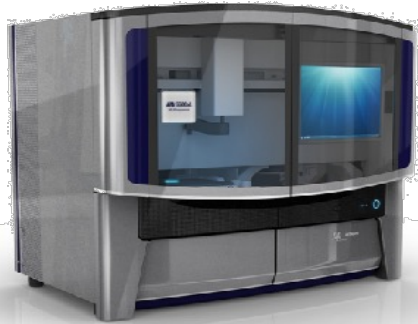
human chromosome #12  
from HeLa's cell

CCTCCTCAGTGCCACCCAGCCCCTGGCAGCTCCCAAACA  
GGCTCTTATTAAAACACCCTGTTCCCTGCCCCCTTGGAGTG  
AGGTGTCAAGGACCTAAACTAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAGAAAA  
AGAAAAGAAAAAGAATTTAAAATTTAAGTAATTCTTTGAA  
AAAAACTAATTTCTAAGCTTCTTCATGTCAAGGACCTAATG  
TGCTAAACAGCACTTTT**TTGACCATTAT**TTTGGATCTGAAA  
GAAATCAAGAATAAATGAAGGACTTGATACATTGGAAGA  
GGAGAGTCAAGGACCTACAGAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAGAAA  
AAGAAAAGAAAAAGA**A**TTTAAAATTTAAGTAATTCTTTGA  
AAAAAACTAATTTCTAAGCTTCTT**C**ATGTCAAGGACCTAAT  
GTCTGTGTTGCAGGTCTTCTTGCATTTCCCTGTCAAAGA  
AAAAGAATTTAAAATTTAAGTAATTCTTTGAAAAAAAAACTA  
ATTTCTAAGCTTCTTCATGTCAAGGACCTAATGTCAGGCC  
GGCTCTTATTAAAACACCCTGTTCCCTGCCCCCTTGGAGTG

# Genome Sequencers



Roche/454



AB SOLiD



Illumina MiSeq



Complete Genomics



Illumina HiSeq2000



Pacific Biosciences RS



Oxford Nanopore MinION



Illumina NovaSeq 6000



**SAFARI** Ion Torrent PGM



Ion Torrent Proton



Oxford Nanopore GridION

... and more! All produce data with 8 different properties.



# High-Throughput Sequencers



Illumina MiSeq



Pacific  
Biosciences  
Sequel II

Oxford  
Nanopore  
PromethION



Oxford Nanopore MinION



Illumina NovaSeq 6000



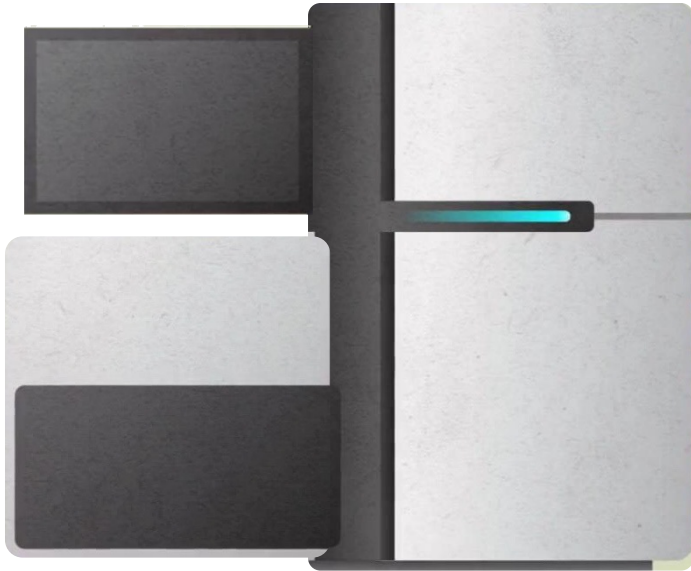
Pacific Biosciences RS II



Oxford  
Nanopore  
SmidgION

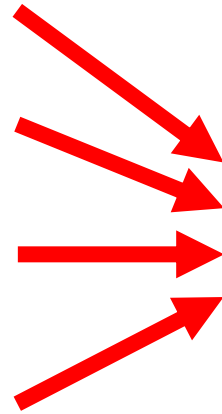
**... and more! All produce data with different properties.**

# Problems with (Meta)Genome Analysis Today



**Special-Purpose** Machine  
for **Data Generation**

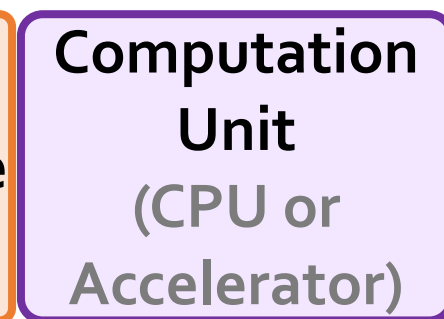
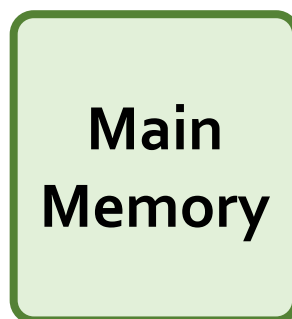
**FAST**



**General-Purpose** Machine  
for **Data Analysis**

**SLOW**

# Genome Sequence Analysis

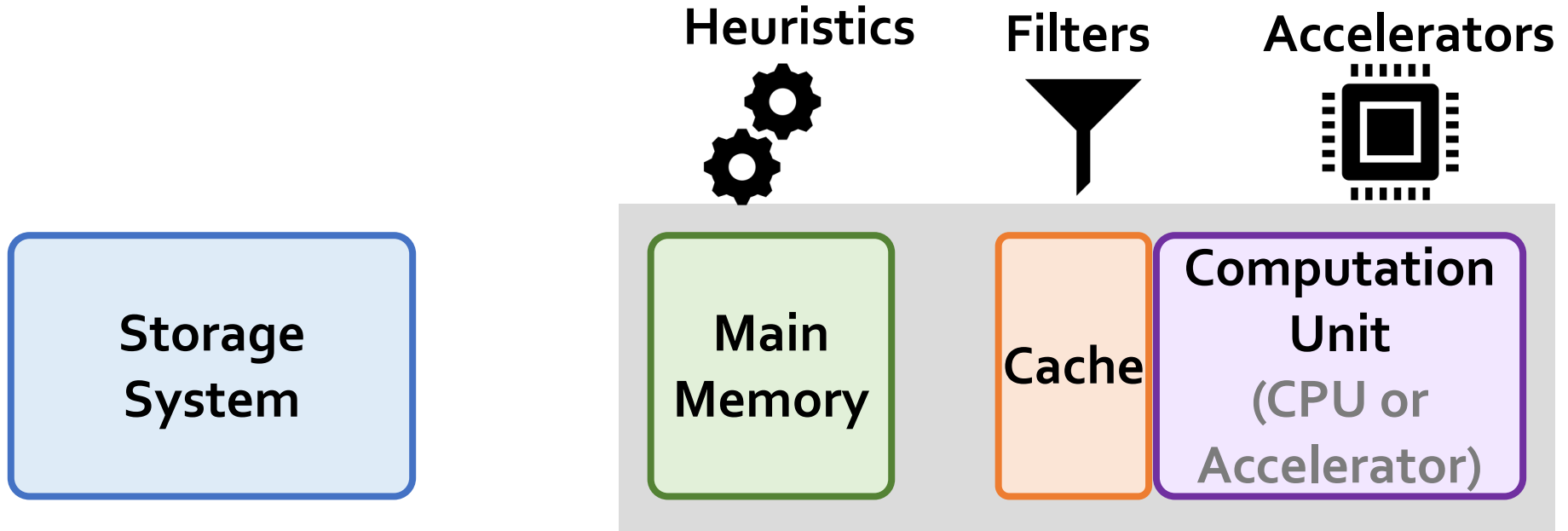


**Computation overhead**



**Data movement overhead**

# Accelerating Genome Analysis



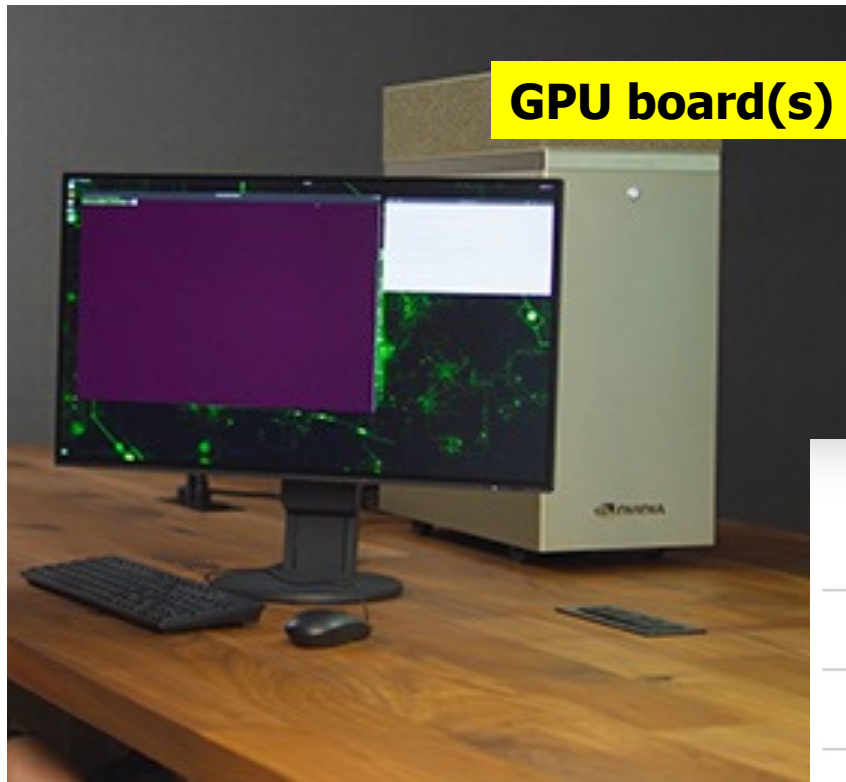
# Illumina DRAGEN Bio-IT Platform (2018)

- Processes whole genome at 30x coverage in ~25 minutes with hardware support for data compression

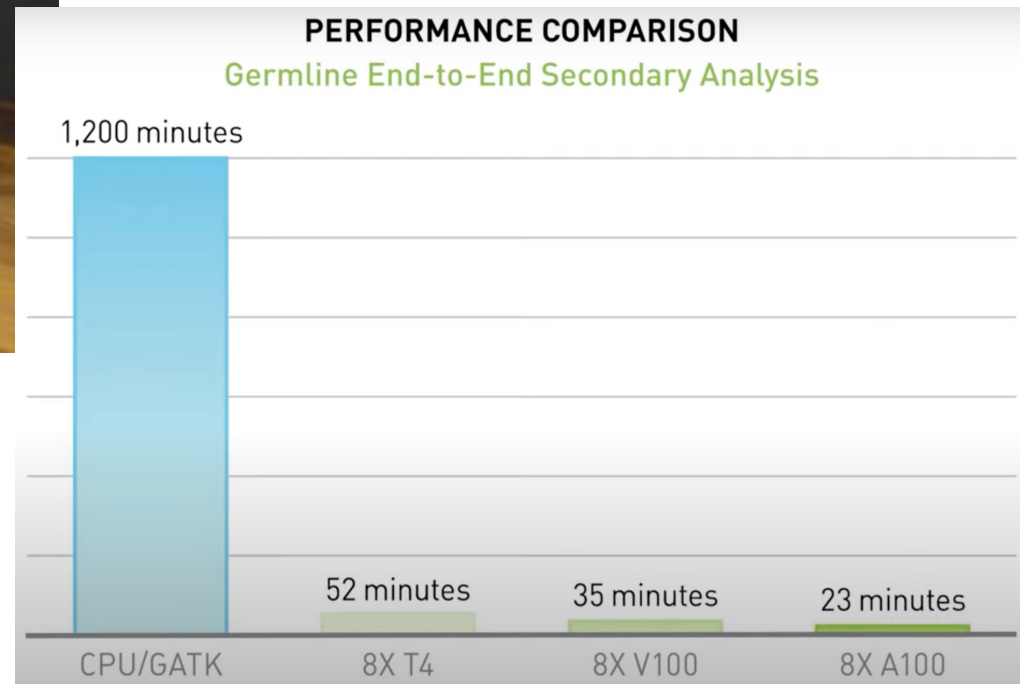


[emea.illumina.com/products/by-type/informatics-products/dragen-bio-it-platform.html](http://emea.illumina.com/products/by-type/informatics-products/dragen-bio-it-platform.html)  
[emea.illumina.com/company/news-center/press-releases/2018/2349147.html](http://emea.illumina.com/company/news-center/press-releases/2018/2349147.html)

# NVIDIA Clara Parabricks (2020)



**A University of Michigan startup in 2018 joined NVIDIA in 2020**

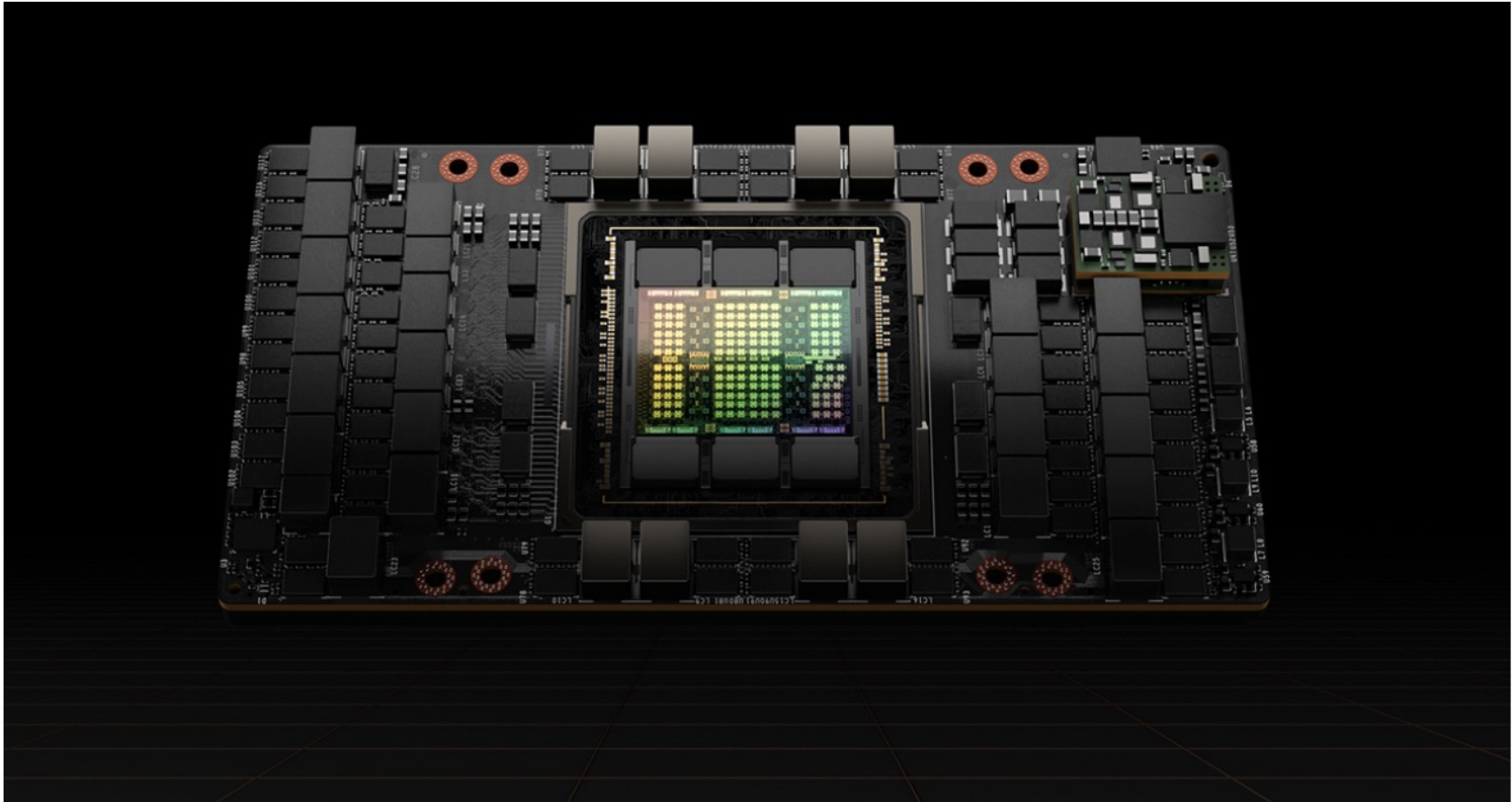


# NVIDIA Hopper DPX Instructions (2022)

## NVIDIA Hopper GPU Architecture Accelerates Dynamic Programming Up to 40x Using New DPX Instructions

Dynamic programming algorithms are used in healthcare, robotics, quantum computing, data science and more.

March 22, 2022 by [DION HARRIS](#)



- We are accelerating the transformation in how we analyze the human genome!



## Bionano & NVIDIA: *Accelerating Analysis for Fast Time to Results*



Technological solution to **support higher throughput**



**New high-performance algorithms** from Bionano



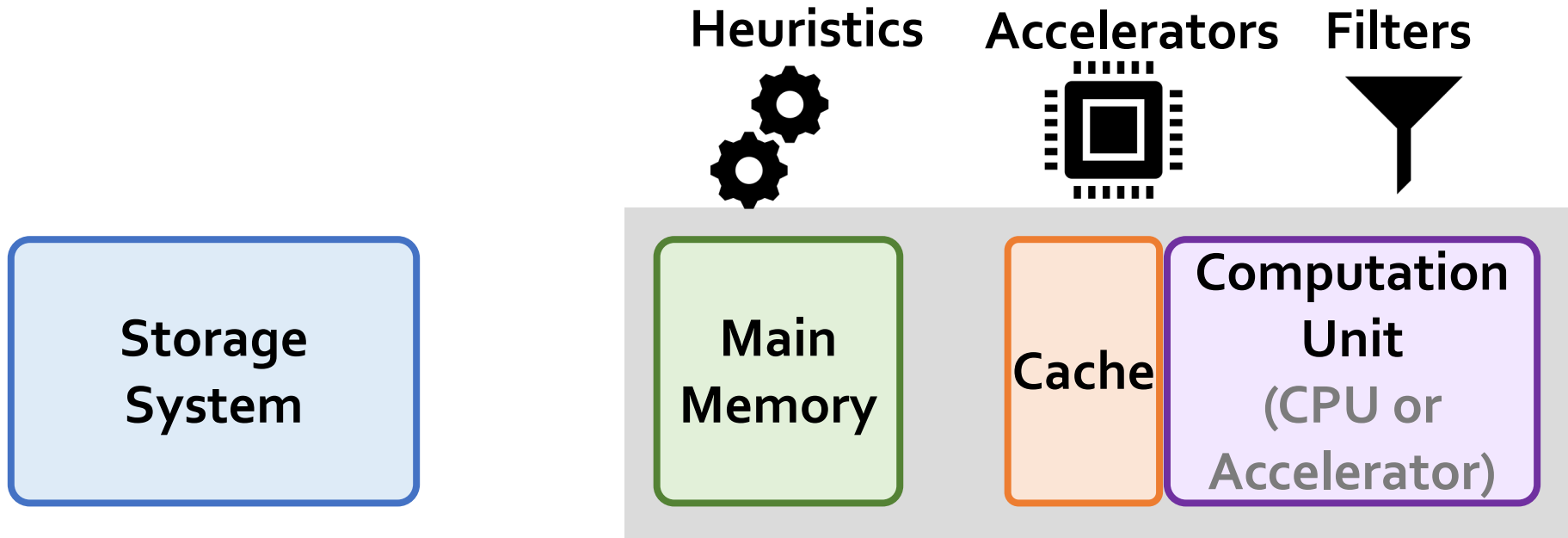
**Powered by NVIDIA RTX™ 6000 Ada Generation GPUs**



Workflow tailored for a **small lab and IT footprint**



# Accelerating Genome Sequence Analysis



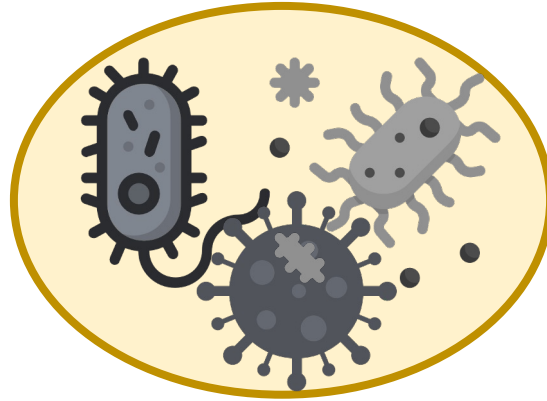
Computation overhead



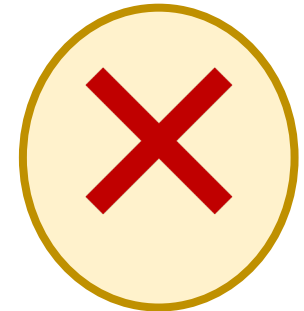
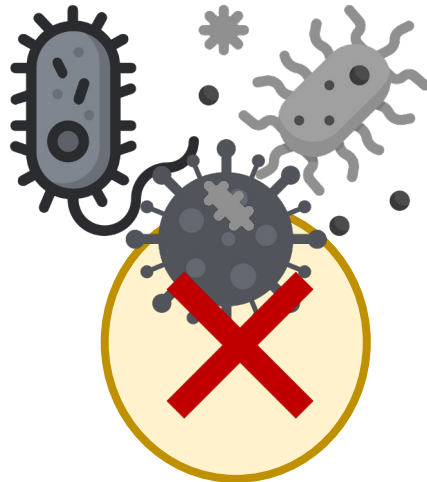
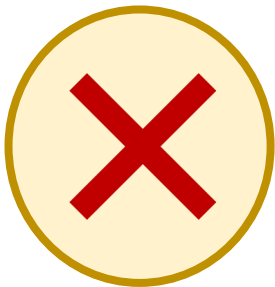
Data movement overhead

# What is Metagenomics?

- ***Metagenomics***: Study of genome sequences of **diverse organisms** within a **shared environment** (e.g., blood, ocean, soil)

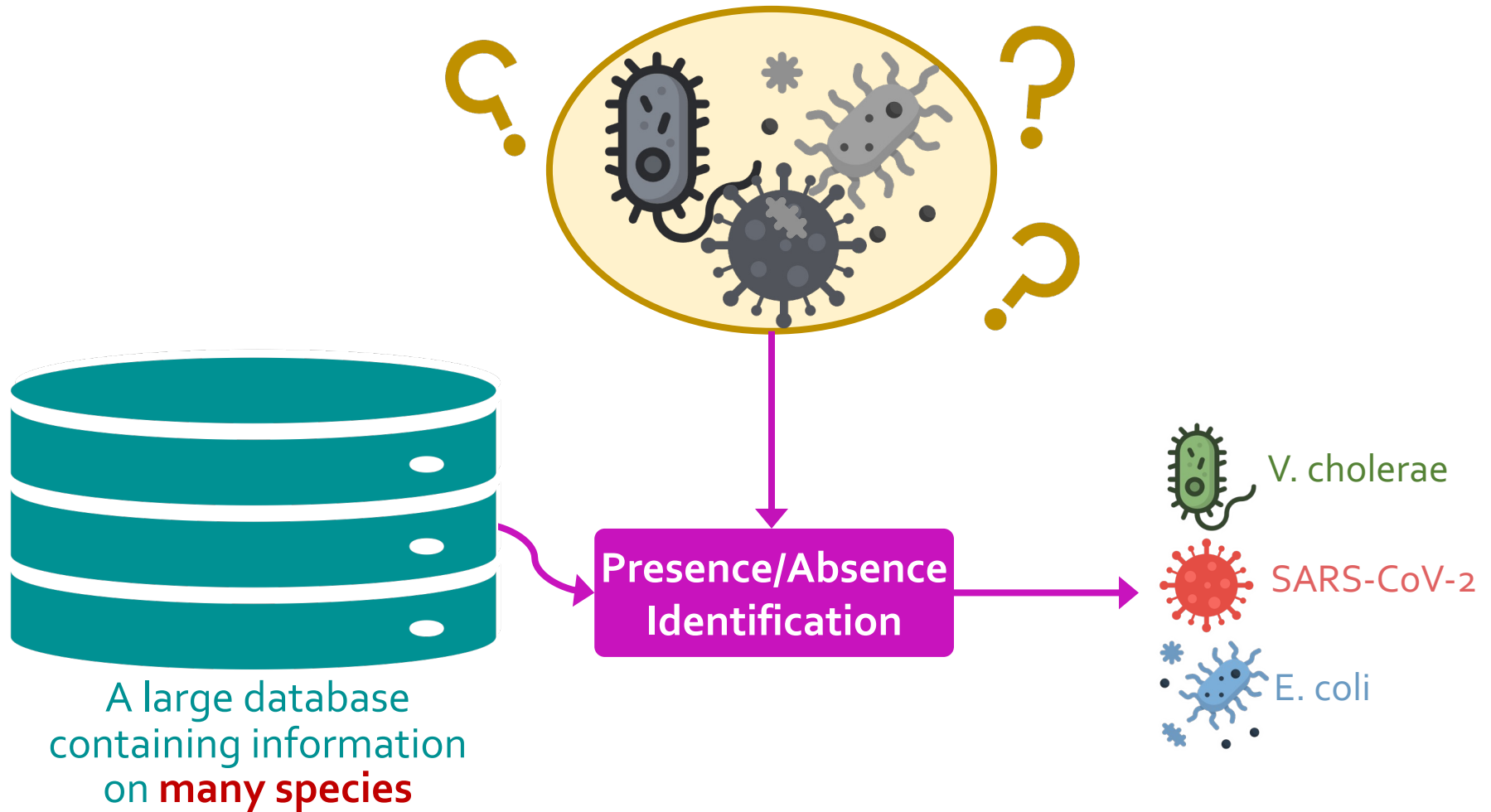


- **Overcomes the limitations of traditional genomics**
  - Bypasses the need for analyzing individual species in isolation



# What is Metagenomics?

- ***Metagenomics***: Study of genome sequences of **diverse organisms** within a **shared environment** (e.g., blood, ocean, soil)



**SAFARI** (e.g., > 100 TBs in emerging databases)

# Outline

- **Brief Intro to (Meta)Genomics**
- *Storage-Centric Designs for (Meta)Genomics*
  - *GenStore*
  - **MegIS**
- **Conclusion**

## GenStore: A High-Performance and Energy-Efficient In-Storage Computing System for Genome Sequence Analysis

Nika Mansouri Ghiasi<sup>1</sup> Jisung Park<sup>1</sup> Harun Mustafa<sup>1</sup> Jeremie Kim<sup>1</sup> Ataberk Olgun<sup>1</sup>  
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Rachata Ausavarungnirun<sup>3</sup> Nandita Vijaykumar<sup>4</sup> Mohammed Alser<sup>1</sup> Onur Mutlu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>ETH Zürich <sup>2</sup>Bionano Genomics <sup>3</sup>KMUTNB <sup>4</sup>University of Toronto



# GenStore

## A High-Performance In-Storage Processing System for Genome Sequence Analysis

**Nika Mansouri Ghiasi**, Jisung Park, Harun Mustafa, Jeremie Kim, Ataberk Olgun, Arvid Gollwitzer, Damla Senol Cali, Can Firtina, Haiyu Mao, Nour Almadhoun Alserr, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, Nandita Vijaykumar, Mohammed Alser, and Onur Mutlu

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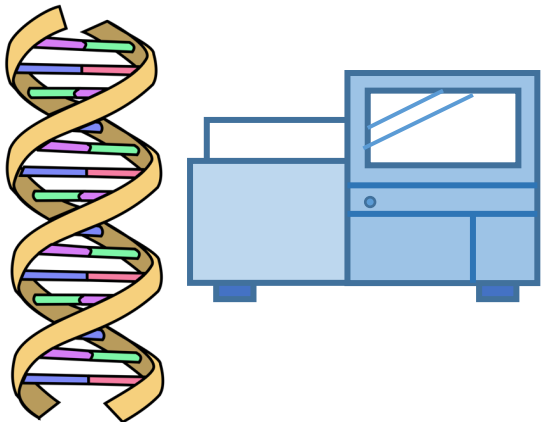
**bionano**  
GENOMICS



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**

# Genome Sequence Analysis

- **Genome sequence analysis** is critical for many applications
  - Personalized medicine
  - Outbreak tracing
  - Evolutionary studies
- Genome sequencing machines extract smaller fragments of the original DNA sequence, known as **reads**



# Genome Sequence Analysis

- **Read mapping:** first key step in genome sequence analysis
  - Aligns **reads** to potential **matching locations** in the **reference genome**
  - For each matching location, the **alignment step** finds the degree of **similarity (alignment score)**



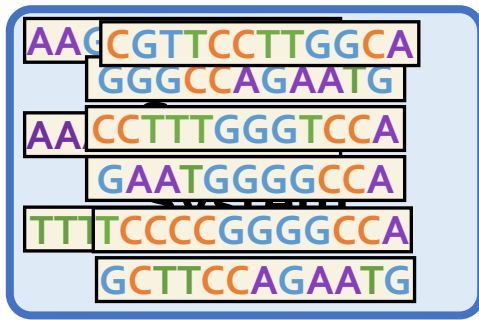
- Calculating the alignment score requires **computationally-expensive approximate string matching (ASM)** to account for **differences** between reads and the reference genome due to:
  - Sequencing errors
  - Genetic variation



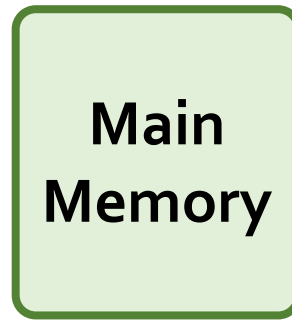
# Key Idea



*Filter reads that do not require alignment inside the storage system*



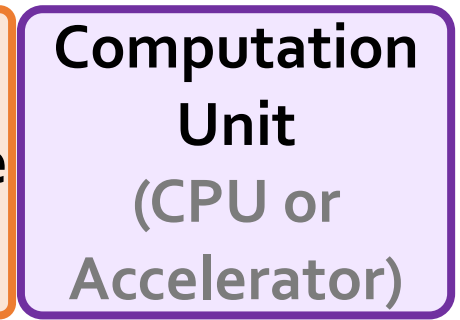
**Filtered Reads**



**Main  
Memory**



**Cache**



**Computation  
Unit  
(CPU or  
Accelerator)**

## Exactly-matching reads

Do not need expensive approximate string matching during alignment

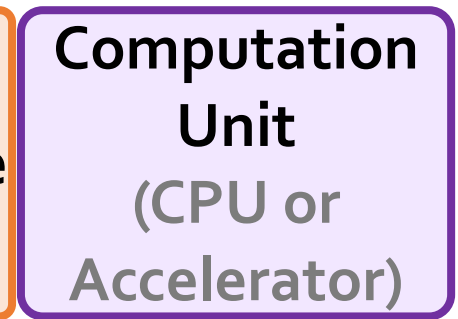
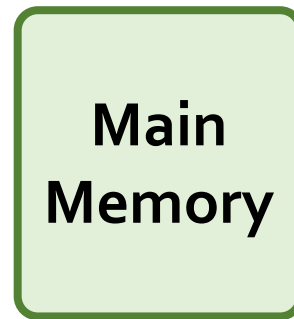
## Non-matching reads

Do not have potential matching locations and can skip alignment

# Challenges



*Filter reads that do **not** require alignment  
inside the storage system*



Filtered Reads

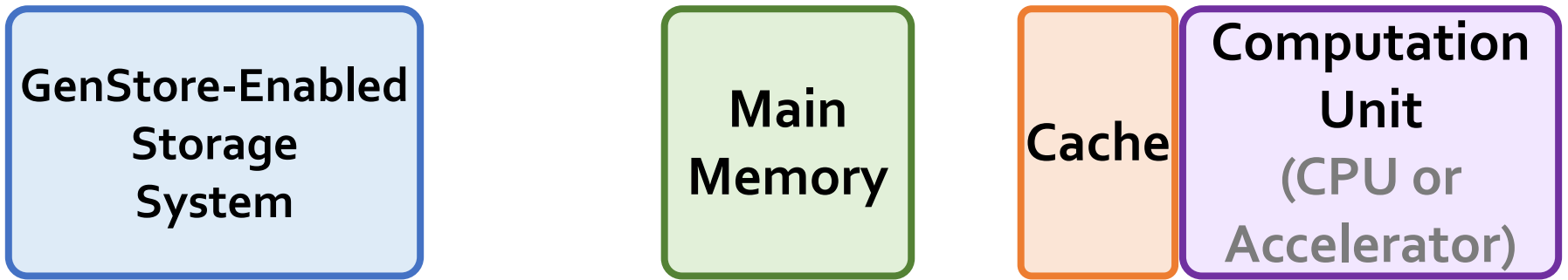
Read mapping workloads can exhibit different behavior

There are **limited hardware resources**  
in the storage system

# GenStore



*Filter reads that do not require alignment inside the storage system*



Computation overhead

Data movement overhead

GenStore provides significant speedup (1.4x - 33.6x) and energy reduction (3.9x - 29.2x) at low cost

# Outline

Background

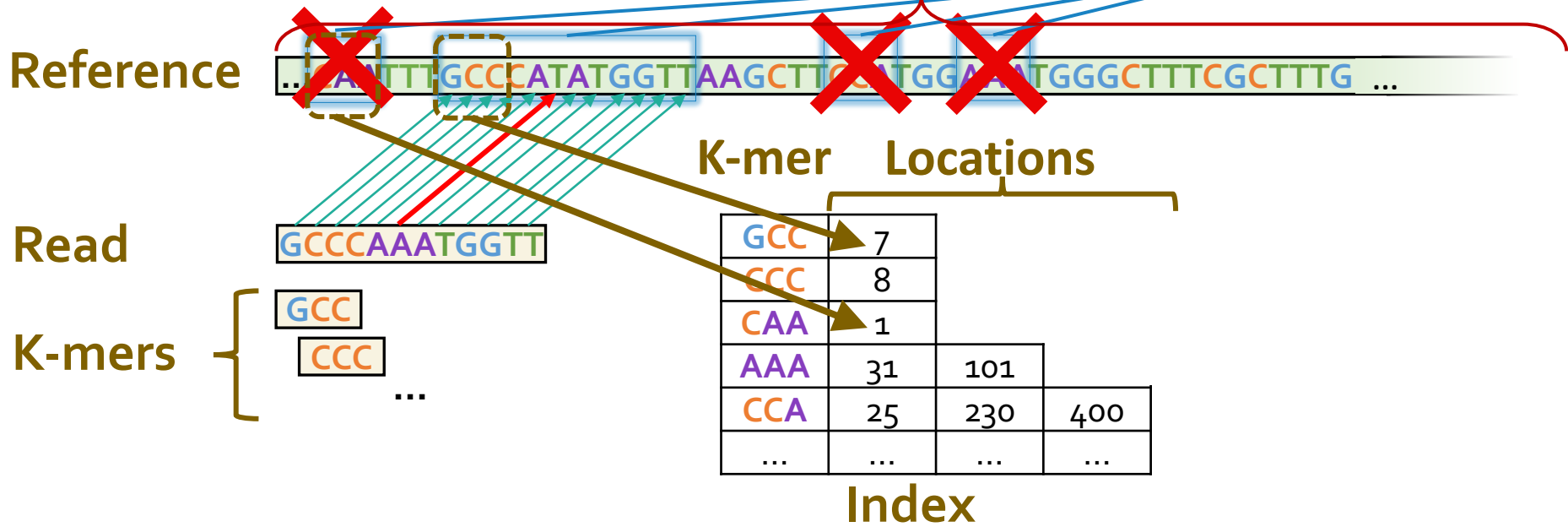
Motivation and Goal

GenStore

Evaluation

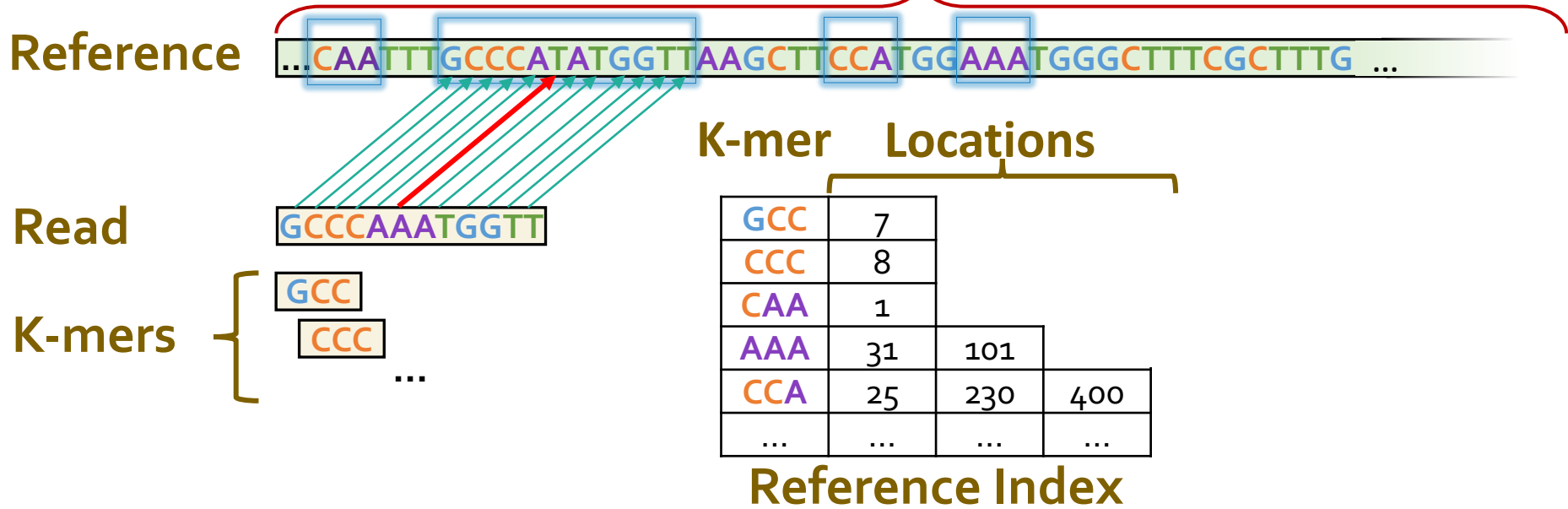
Conclusions

# Read Mapping Process > 3 billion characters Seeds



- Seeding** Determine potential matching locations (seeds) in the reference genome
- Seed Filtering (e.g., Chaining)** Prune some seeds in the reference genome
- Alignment** Determine the exact differences between the read and the reference genome

# Read Mapping Process > 3 billion characters



- Seeding** Determine potential matching locations (seeds) in the reference genome
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- Alignment** Determine the exact differences between the read and the reference genome

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Motivation and Goal

GenStore

Evaluation

Conclusions

# Motivation

- Case study on a real-world genomic read dataset
  - Various read mapping systems
  - Various state-of-the-art SSD configurations

**The ideal in-storage filter significantly improves performance by**

- 1) **reducing the computation overhead**
- 2) **reducing the data movement overhead**



# Motivation

- Case study on a real-world genomic read dataset
  - Various read mapping systems
  - Various state-of-the-art SSD configurations

**Filtering outside SSD provides lower performance benefit since it**

- 1) does not reduce the data movement overhead**
- 2) must compete with read mapping for system resources**

**A HW accelerator reduces the computation bottleneck,  
which makes I/O a larger bottleneck in the system**

# Our Goal

*Design an in-storage filter for genome sequence analysis  
in a cost-effective manner*

## Design Objectives:

### Performance

Provide high in-storage filtering performance to **overlap the filtering with the read mapping** of unfiltered data

### Applicability

Support reads with 1) different **properties** and 2) different degrees of **genetic variation** in the compared genomes

### Low-cost

Do not require significant hardware **overhead**

# Outline

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Motivation and Goal

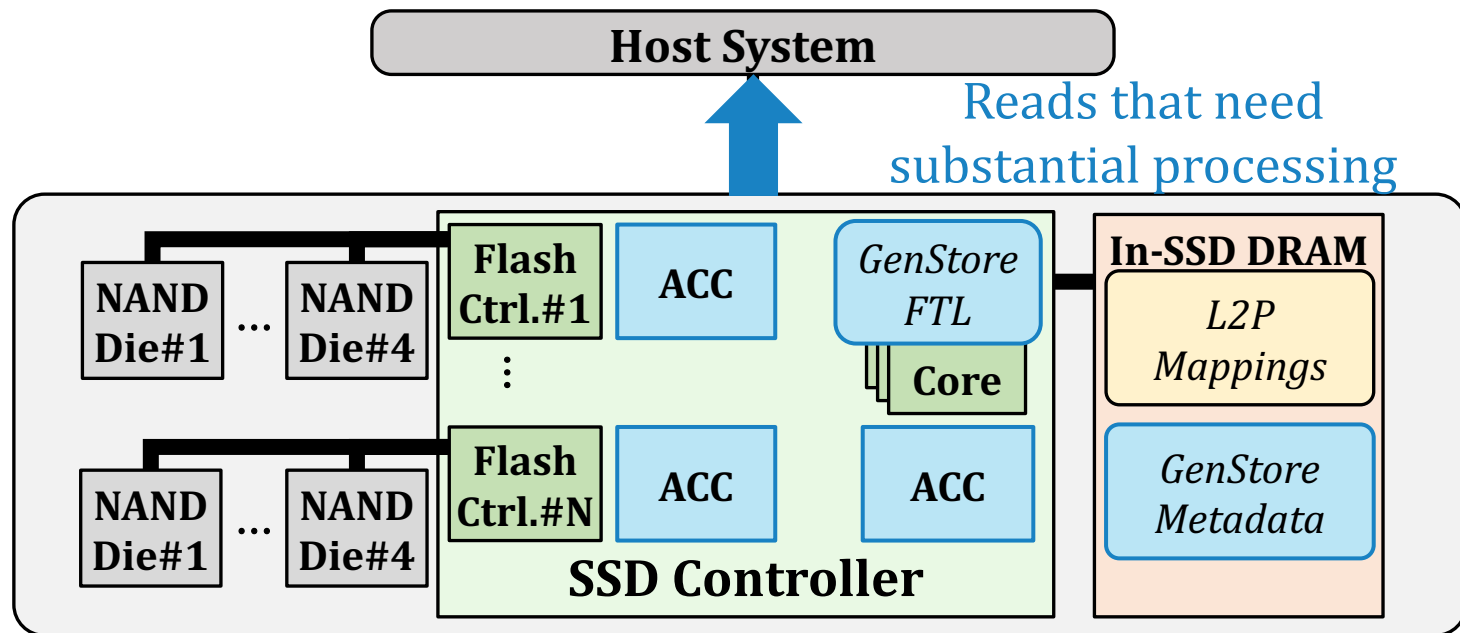
GenStore

Evaluation

Conclusions

# GenStore

- **Key idea:** Filter reads that do not require alignment **inside the storage system**
- **Challenges**
  - **Different behavior** across read mapping workloads
  - **Limited** hardware resources in the SSD



# Filtering Opportunities

- Sequencing machines produce one of two kinds of reads
  - **Short reads:** highly accurate and short
  - **Long reads:** less accurate and long

## Reads that do not require the expensive alignment step:

### Exactly-matching reads

Do not need expensive approximate string matching during alignment

- Low sequencing error rates (short reads) combined with
- Low genetic variation

### Non-matching reads

Do not have potential matching locations, so they skip alignment

- High sequencing error rates (long reads) or
- High genetic variation (short or long reads)

# GenStore

GenStore-**EM** for Exactly-Matching Reads

GenStore-**NM** for Non-Matching Reads

# GenStore

GenStore-EM for Exactly-Matching Reads

GenStore-NM for Non-Matching Reads

# GenStore-EM

- Efficient in-storage filter for reads with at least one **exact match** in the reference genome
- Uses **simple operations**, without requiring alignment
- **Challenge:** large number of **random accesses per read** to the reference genome and its index

**Expensive random accesses to flash chips**

**Limited DRAM capacity inside the SSD**



# GenStore-EM: Data Structures

- **Read-sized k-mers:** to reduce the number of accesses per each read



- **Sorted read-sized k-mers:** to avoid random accesses to the index

✓ Sequential scan of the read set and the index

# GenStore-EM: Data Structures

## Sorted Read Table

	Read
	AAAAAAAAAAAA
	AAAAAAAAAAG
	AAAAAAAAACT
	...



## Sorted K-mer Index

K-mer	
AAAAAAAAAAAA	
AAAAAAAAAAC	
AAAAAAAAAAT	
...	

Read-sized  
K-mers

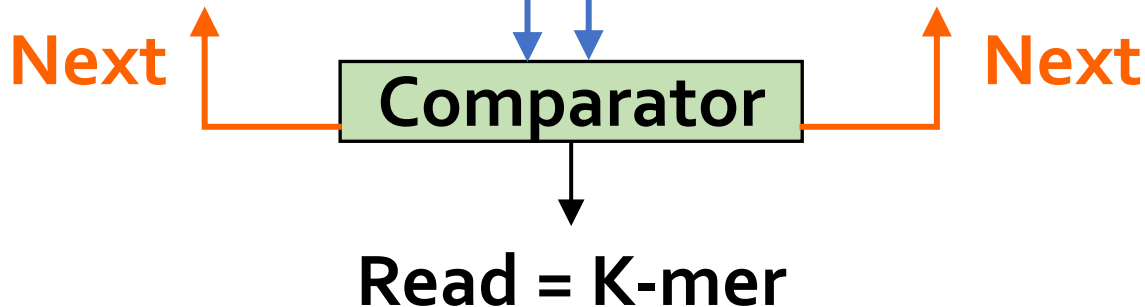
# GenStore-EM: Finding a Match

Sorted Read Table

	Read
	AAAAAAAAAAAA
	AAAAAAAAAAG
	AAAAAAAAACT
	...

Sorted K-mer Index

K-mer	
AAAAAAAAAAAA	
AAAAAAAAAAC	
AAAAAAAAAAT	
...	



Exact match → Filter the read

# GenStore-EM: Not Finding a Match

Sorted Read Table

	Read
	AAAAAAAAAAAA
	AAAAAAAAAAG
	AAAAAAAAACT
	...

Sorted K-mer Index

K-mer	
AAAAAAAAAAAA	
AAAAAAAAAAC	
AAAAAAAAAAT	
...	

Comparator

Read > K-mer

Next

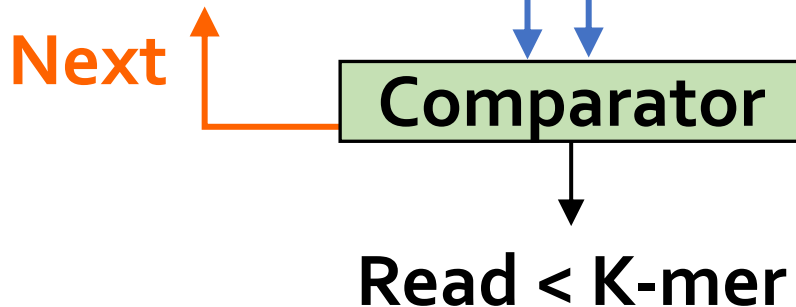
# GenStore-EM: Not Finding a Match

Sorted Read Table

	Read
	AAAAAAAAAAAA
	AAAAAAAAAAG
	AAAAAAAAACT
	...

Sorted K-mer Index

K-mer	
AAAAAAAAAAAA	
AAAAAAAAAAAC	
AAAAAAAAAAAT	
...	



Not an exact match → Send to read mapper

# GenStore-EM: Not Finding a Match

Sorted Read Table

	Read
	AAAAAAAAAAAA

Sorted K-mer Index

K-mer	
AAAAAAAAAAAA	



**Avoids random accesses**



**Simple low-cost logic**

Comparator



Read < K-mer

Not an exact match → Send to read mapper

# GenStore-EM: Optimization

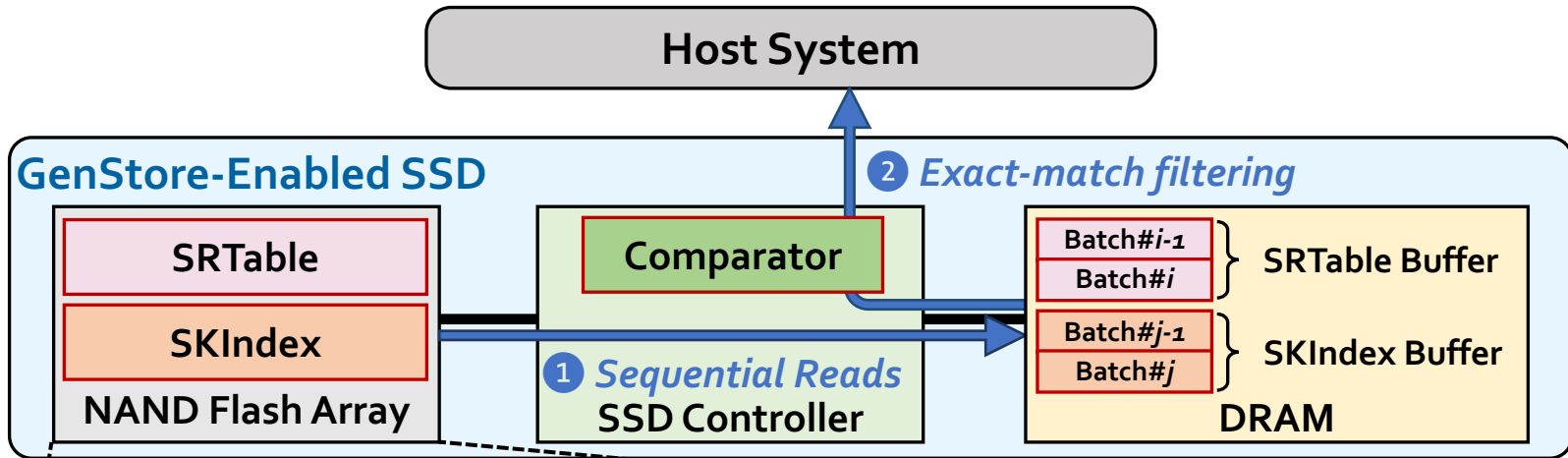
- Read-sized k-mer index takes up a **large amount of space** (126 GB for human index) due to the larger number of unique k-mers

## Sorted K-mer Index

Strong Hash Value	Loc.
1	1, 8, ...
4	51
7	23, 37
16	...

Using strong hash values instead of read-sized k-mers  
reduces the size of the index by 3.9x

# GenStore-EM: Design



Steps 1 and 2 are **pipelined**.

During filtering, GenStore-EM sends the unfiltered reads to the host system.

Data is evenly distributed between channels, dies, and planes to **leverage the full internal bandwidth** of the SSD



# GenStore

GenStore-EM for Exactly-Matching Reads

GenStore-NM for Non-Matching Reads

Details on GenStore-NM's design are in the paper

# Outline

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GenStore

Evaluation

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# Evaluation Methodology

## Read Mappers

- **Base:** state-of-the-art software or hardware read mappers
  - **Minimap2** [Bioinformatics'18]: software mapper for **short and long reads**
  - **GenCache** [MICRO'19]: hardware mapper for **short reads**
  - **Darwin** [ASPLOS'18]: hardware mapper for **long reads**
- **GS:** Base integrated with GenStore

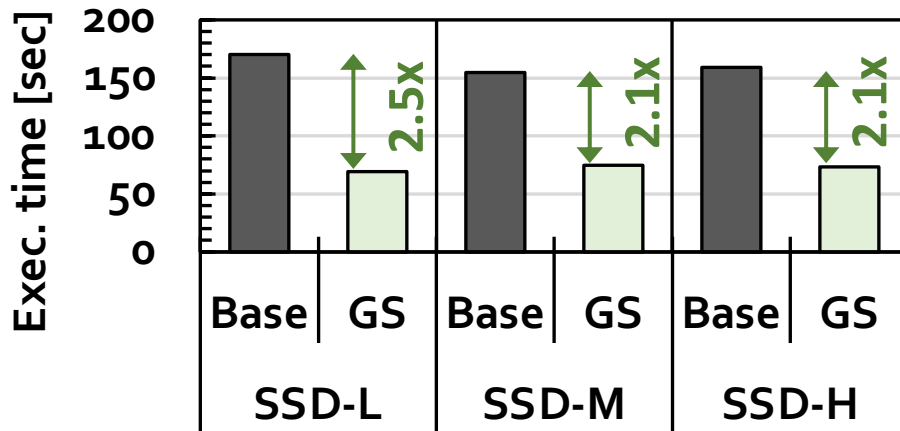
## SSD Configurations

- **SSD-L:** with **SATA<sub>3</sub>** interface (**0.5 GB/s** sequential read bandwidth)
- **SSD-M:** with **PCIe Gen<sub>3</sub>** interface (**3.5 GB/s** sequential read bandwidth)
- **SSD-H:** with **PCIe Gen<sub>4</sub>** interface (**7 GB/s** sequential read bandwidth)

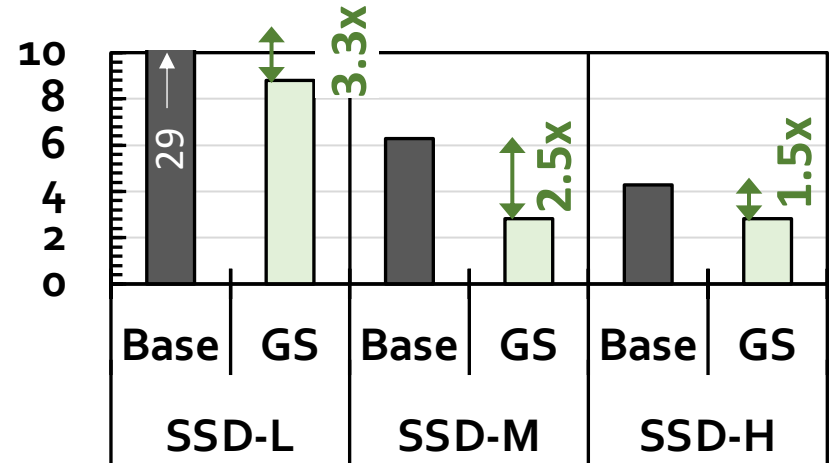
# Performance – GenStore-EM

For a read set with 80% exactly-matching reads

With the Software Mapper



With the Hardware Mapper



2.1x - 2.5x speedup compared to the software Base

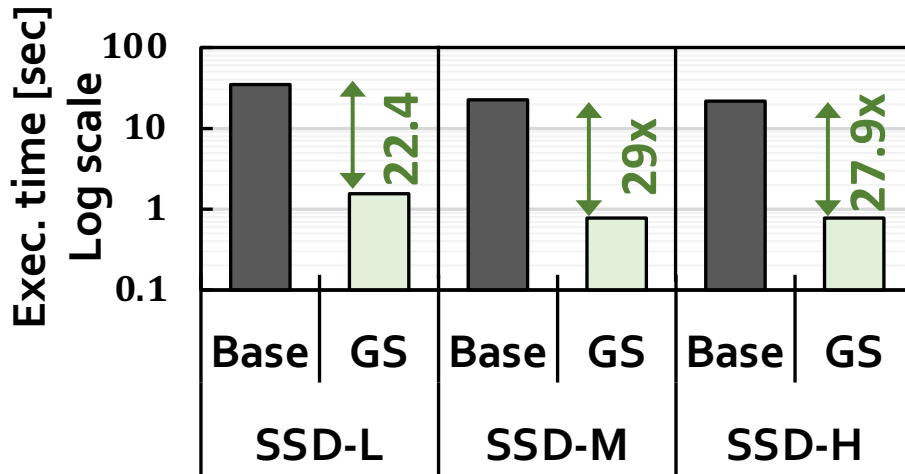
1.5x – 3.3x speedup compared to the hardware Base

On average 3.92x energy reduction

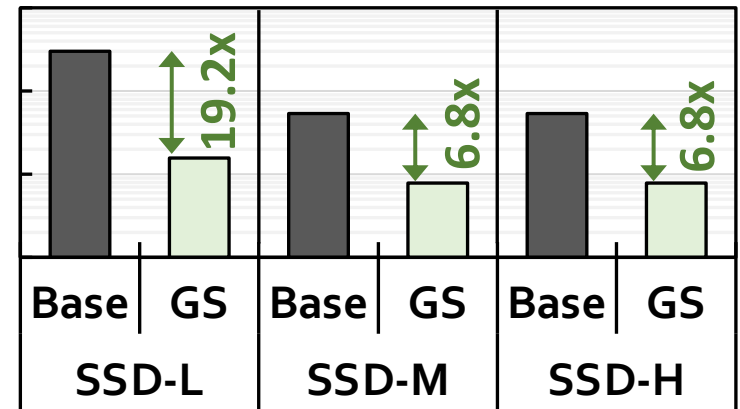
# Performance – GenStore-NM

For a read set with 99.7% non-matching reads

With the Software Mapper



With the Hardware Mapper



22.4x – 27.9x speedup compared to the software Base

6.8x – 19.2x speedup compared to the hardware Base

On average 27.2x energy reduction

# More in the Paper

- Effect of **read set features** on performance
  - **Data size** (up to 440 GB)
  - **Filter ratio**
- Performance benefit of an implementation of GenStore **outside the SSD**
  - In some cases, it provides performance benefits due more efficient **streaming accesses**
  - Provides **significantly lower benefit** compared to GenStore
- More detailed characterization of non-matching reads across different **read mapping use cases and species**

# GenStore

## A High-Performance In-Storage Processing System for Genome Sequence Analysis

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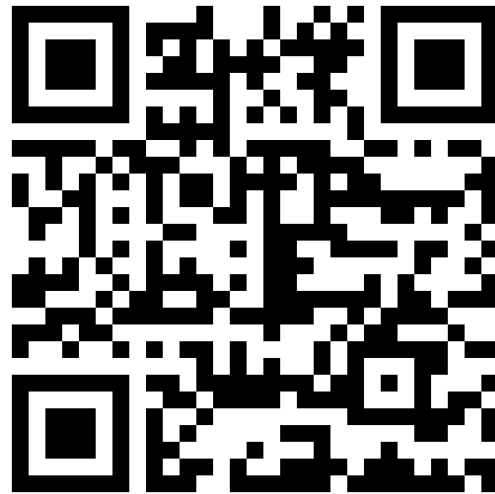
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- **Conclusion**



## MegIS: High-Performance, Energy-Efficient, and Low-Cost Metagenomic Analysis with In-Storage Processing

Nika Mansouri Ghiasi<sup>1</sup> Mohammad Sadrosadati<sup>1</sup> Harun Mustafa<sup>1</sup> Arvid Gollwitzer<sup>1</sup>  
Can Firtina<sup>1</sup> Julien Eudine<sup>1</sup> Haiyu Mao<sup>1</sup> Joël Lindegger<sup>1</sup> Meryem Banu Cavlak<sup>1</sup>  
Mohammed Alser<sup>1</sup> Jisung Park<sup>2</sup> Onur Mutlu<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>ETH Zürich <sup>2</sup>POSTECH



# MegIS

High-Performance, Energy-Efficient, and Low-Cost  
Metagenomic Analysis with In-Storage Processing

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# Outline

Background

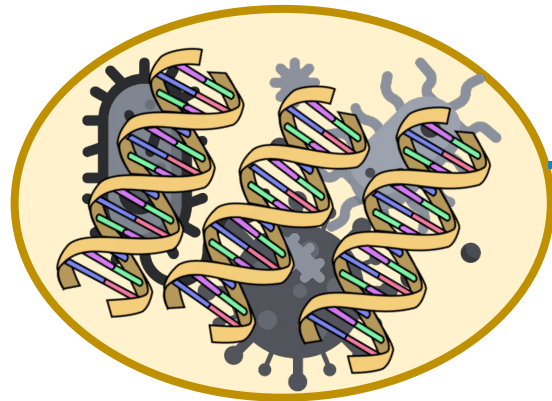
Motivation and Goal

MegIS

Evaluation

Conclusion

# Metagenomic Analysis



Metagenomic sample with species that are not known in advance



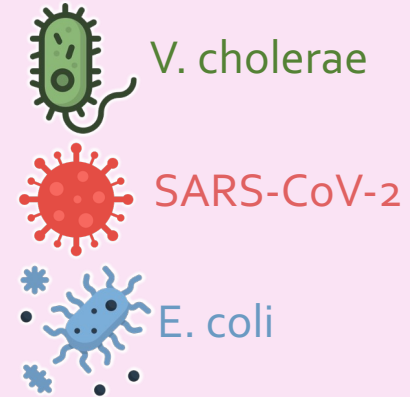
A large database containing information on **many species**

Preparation of Input Queries

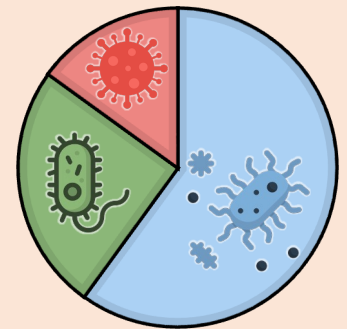
Query K-mers

GCTCA  
CTCAT  
TCATG  
...

Presence/Absence Identification



Abundance Estimation



**SAFARI** (e.g., > 100 TBs in emerging databases)

# Outline

Background

Motivation and Goal

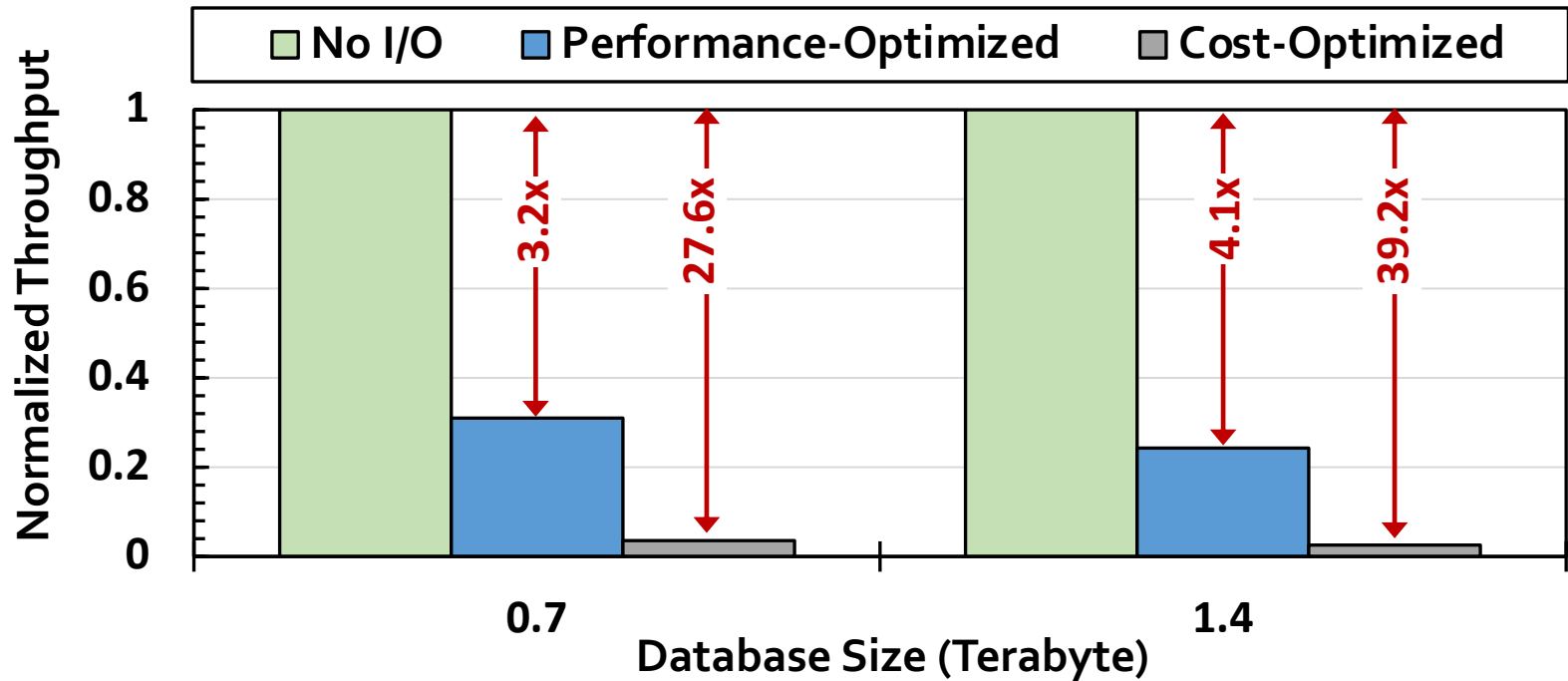
MegIS

Evaluation

Conclusion

# Motivation

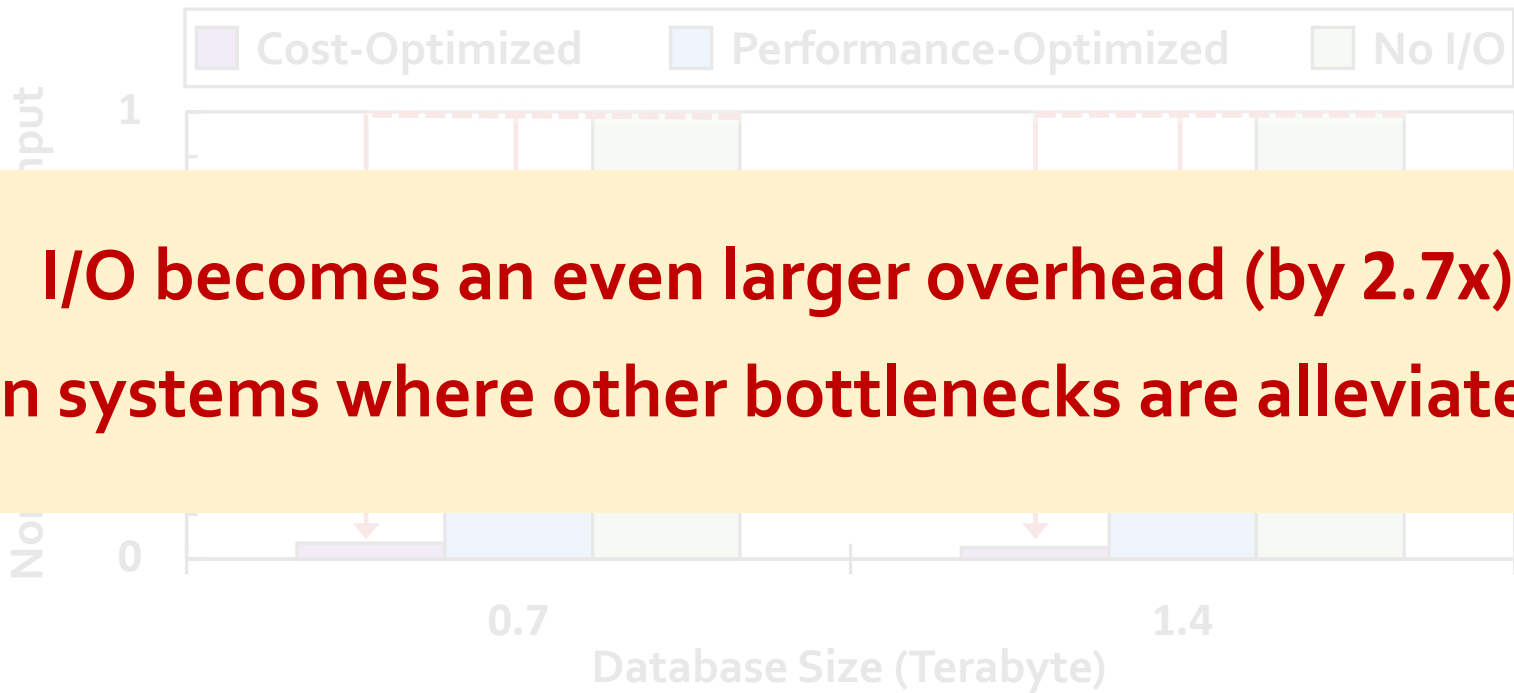
- Case study of the performance of metagenomic analysis tools
- With various state-of-the-art SSD configurations



**I/O data movement causes significant performance overhead**

# Motivation

- Case study on the throughput of metagenomic analysis tools
- With Various state-of-the-art SSD configurations



**I/O becomes an even larger overhead (by 2.7x)  
in systems where other bottlenecks are alleviated**

I/O data movement causes significant performance overhead

# I/O Overhead is Hard to Avoid

I/O overhead due to accessing **large, low-reuse** data is hard to avoid

## Sampling techniques to shrink database sizes

*[Wood+, Genome Biology'19], [Ounit+, BMC Genomics'15], [Kim+, Genome Research'16], ...*

**✗** *Reduce accuracy to levels unacceptable for many use cases*

Keeping all data required by metagenomic analysis completely and always resident in main memory

**✗** *Energy inefficient, costly, unscalable, and unsustainable*

- Database sizes **increase rapidly** (doubling every few months)
- Different analyses need **different databases**



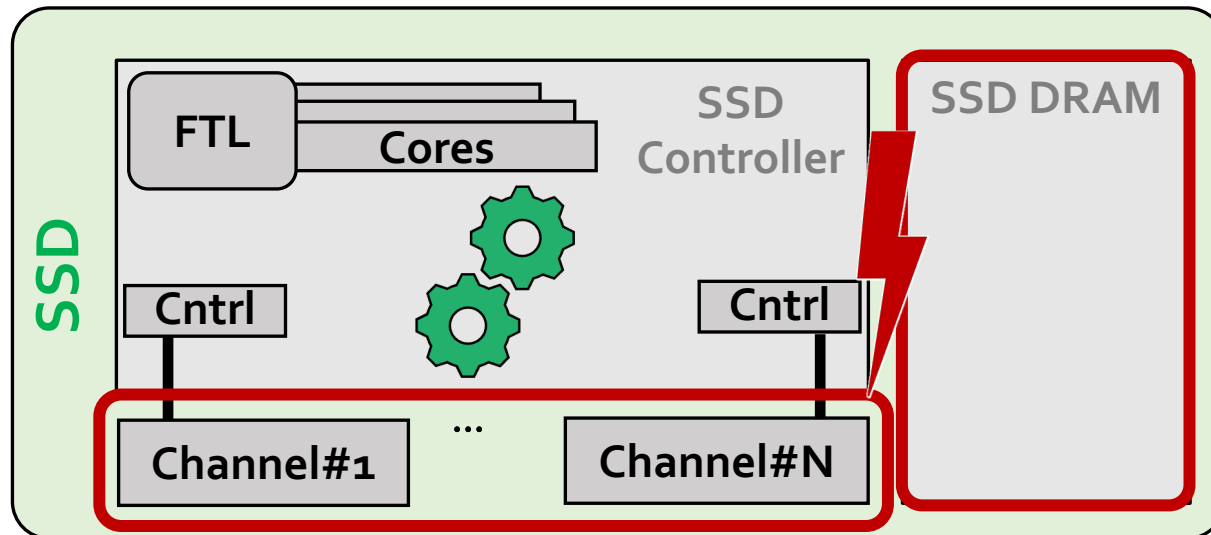
# Our Goal

*Improve metagenomic analysis **performance**  
by reducing large **data movement overhead**  
from the storage system  
in a **cost-effective** manner and with **high accuracy***

# Challenges of In-Storage Processing

No metagenomic analysis tools can run in-storage due to SSD limits

- Long **latency of NAND flash** chips
- Limited **DRAM capacity** inside the SSD
- Limited **DRAM bandwidth** inside the SSD



# Outline

Background

Motivation and Goal

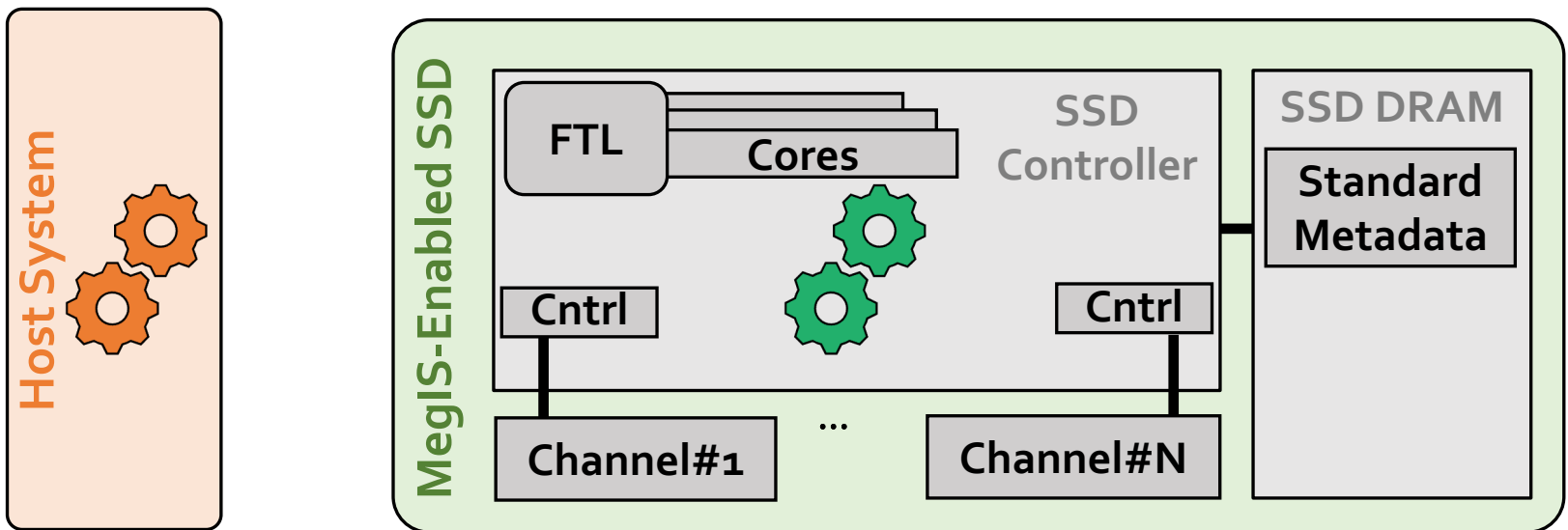
MegIS

Evaluation

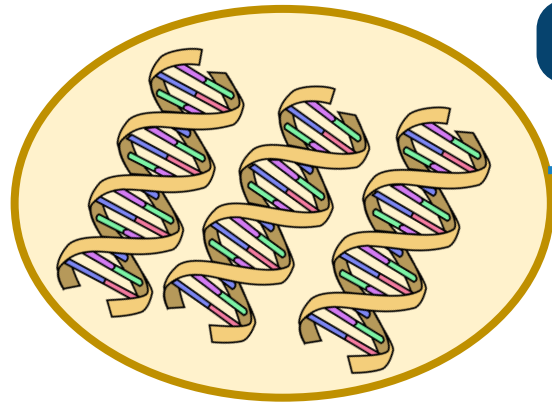
Conclusion

# MegIS: Metagenomics In-Storage

- First in-storage system for *end-to-end* metagenomic analysis
- **Idea:** Cooperative in-storage processing for metagenomic analysis
  - Hardware/software co-design between



# MegIS's Steps



Metagenomic sample with species that are not known in advance



A large database containing information on **many species**

## Step 1

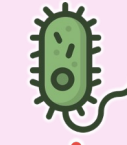
Preparation of Input Queries

Query K-mers

GCTCA  
CTCAT  
TCATG  
...

## Step 2

Presence/Absence Identification



V. cholerae



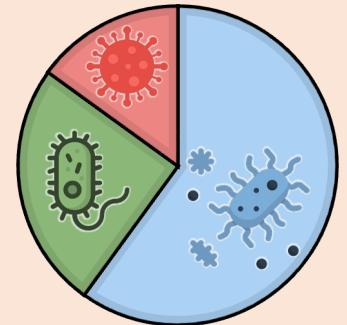
SARS-CoV-2



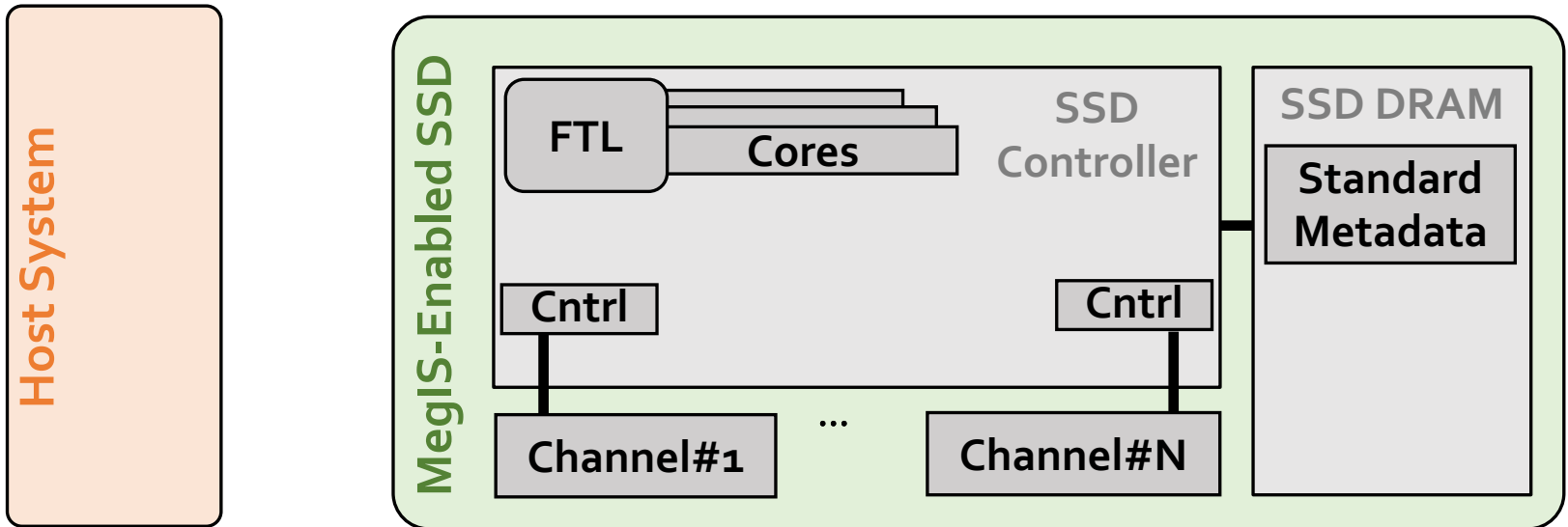
E. coli

## Step 3

Abundance Estimation



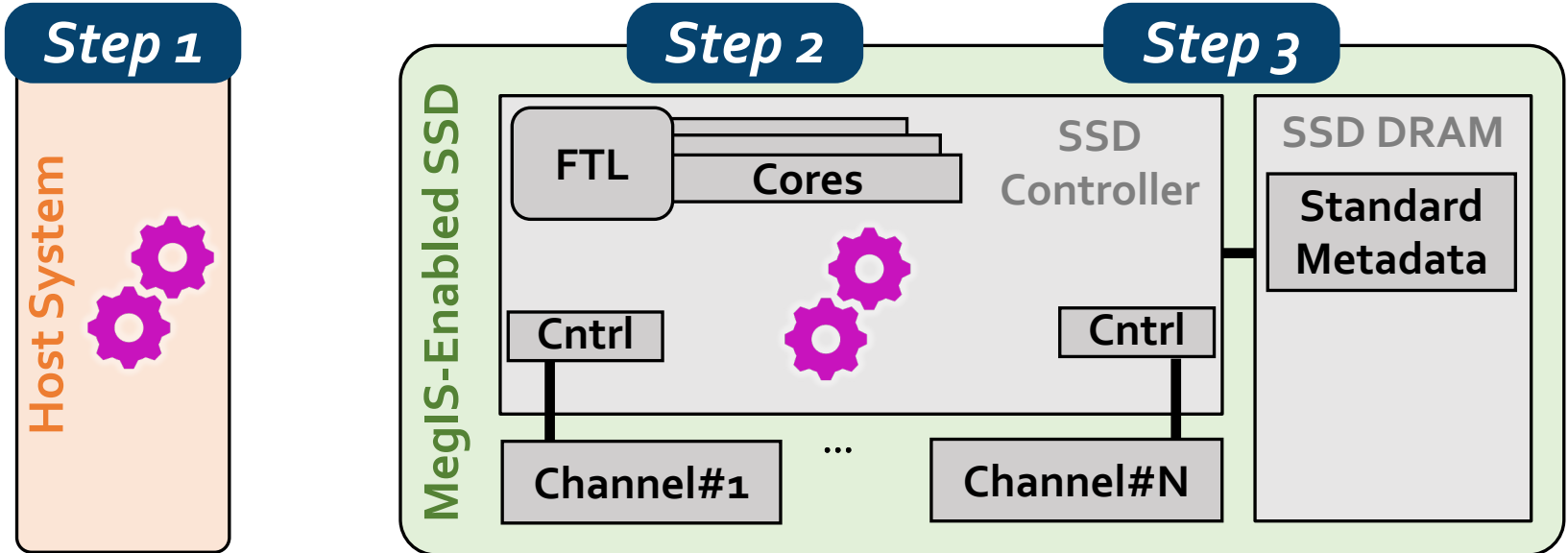
# MegIS Hardware-Software Co-Design



# MegIS Hardware-Software Co-Design

## Task partitioning and mapping

- Each step executes in its most suitable system



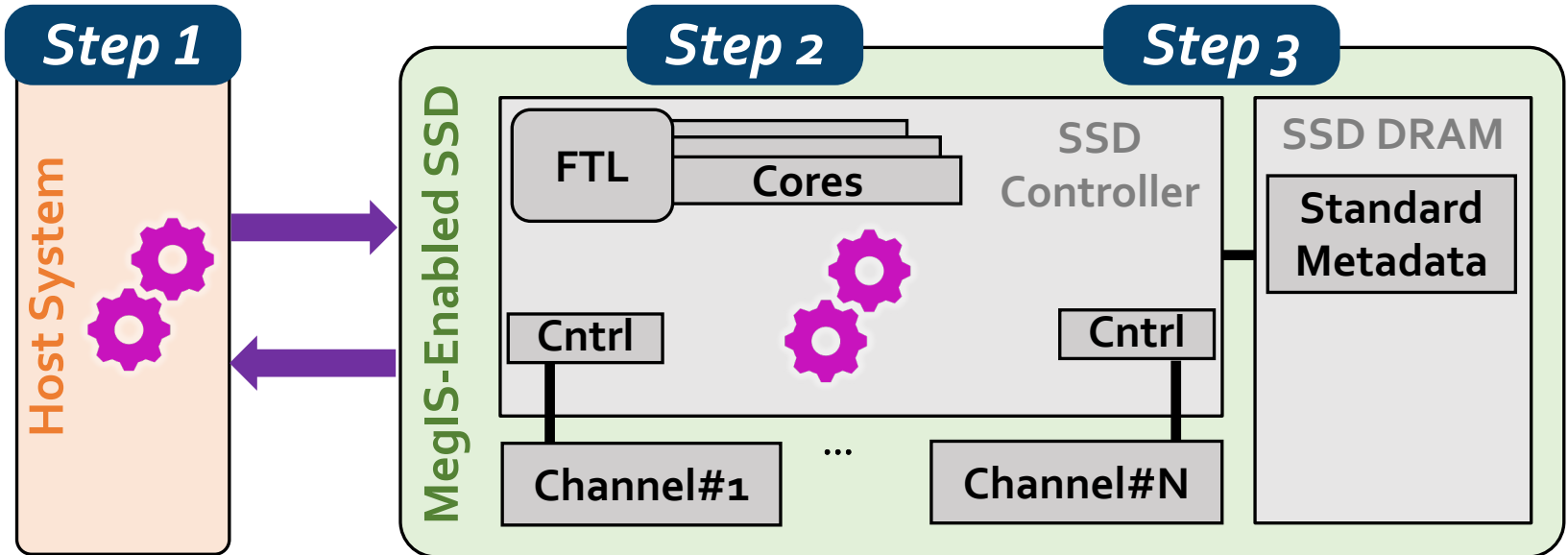
# MegIS Hardware-Software Co-Design

## Task partitioning and mapping

- Each step executes in its most suitable system

## Data/computation flow coordination

- Reduce communication overhead
- Reduce #writes to flash chips





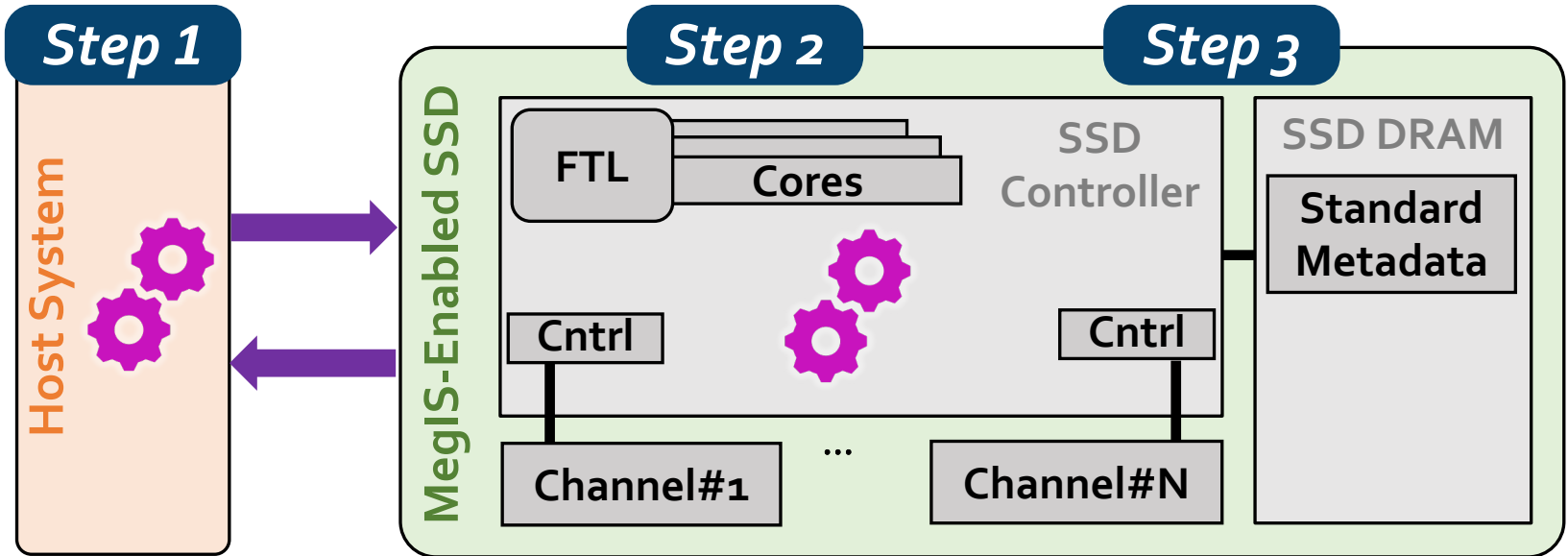
# MegIS Hardware-Software Co-Design

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## Storage-aware algorithms

- Enable efficient access patterns to the SSD

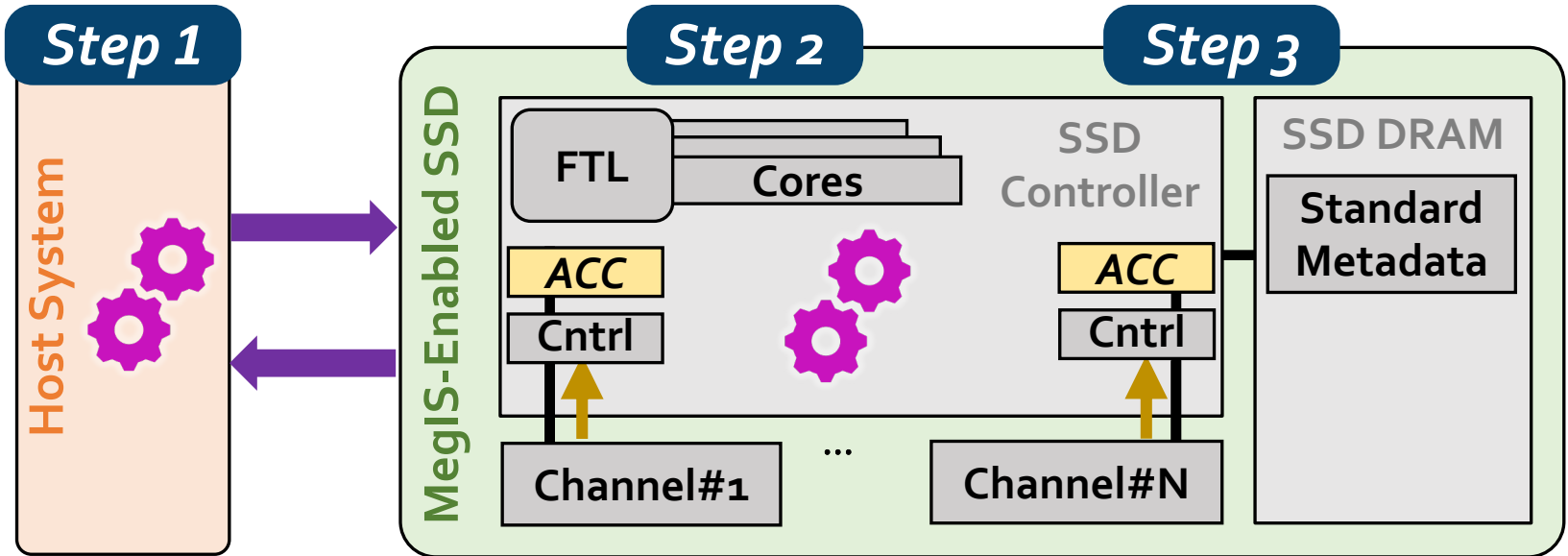
# MegIS Hardware-Software Co-Design

## Task partitioning and mapping

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## Storage-aware algorithms

- Enable efficient access patterns to the SSD

## Lightweight in-storage accelerators

- Minimize SRAM/DRAM buffer spaces needed inside the SSD

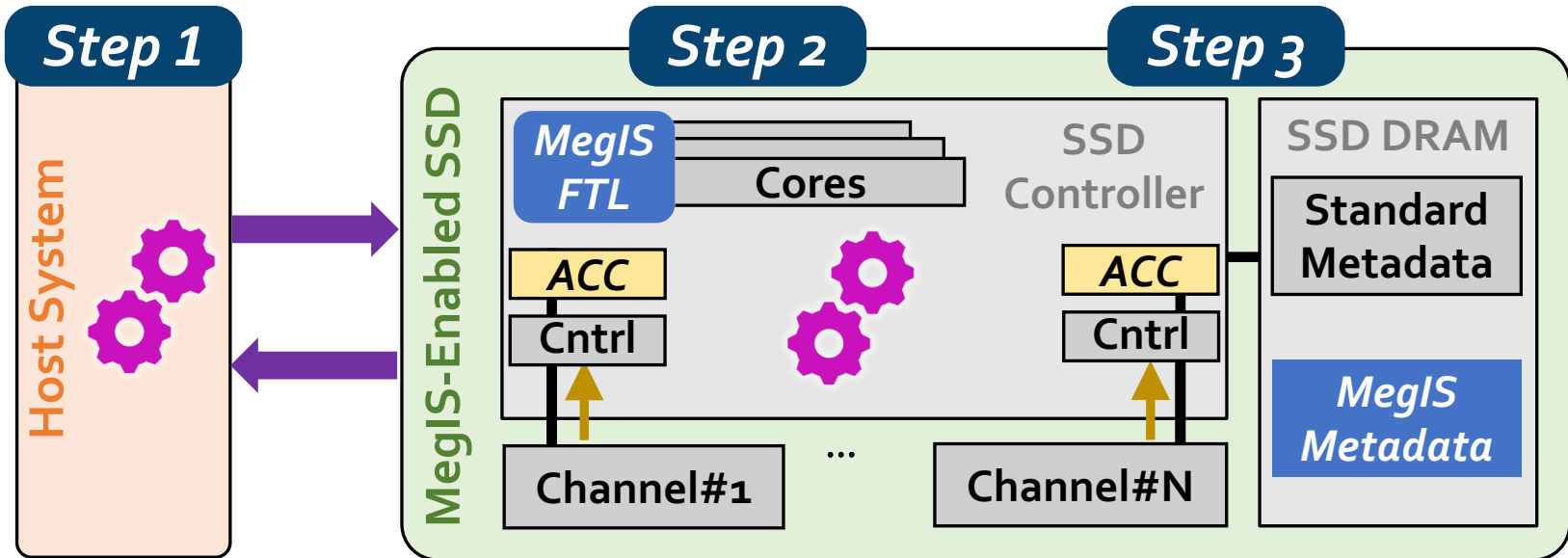
# MegIS Hardware-Software Co-Design

## Task partitioning and mapping

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## Storage-aware algorithms

- Enable efficient access patterns to the SSD

## Lightweight in-storage accelerators

- Minimize SRAM/DRAM buffer spaces needed inside the SSD

## Data mapping scheme and Flash Translation Layer (FTL)

- Specialize to the characteristics of metagenomic analysis
- Leverage the SSD's full internal bandwidth

# Outline

Background

Motivation and Goal

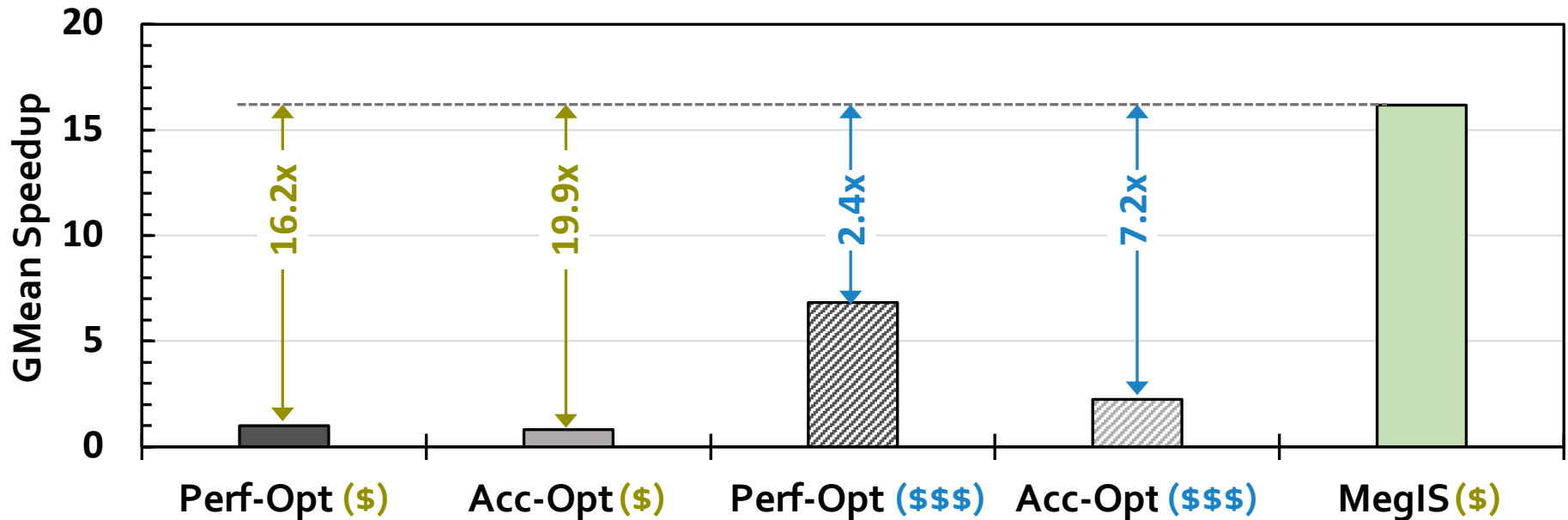
MegIS

Evaluation

Conclusion

# System Cost-Efficiency

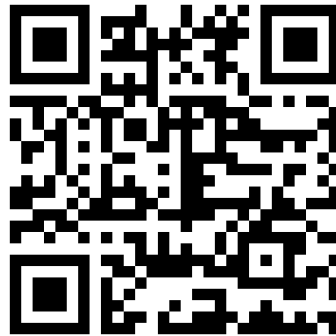
- **Cost-optimized system (\$):** With SSD-C and 64-GB DRAM
- **Performance-optimized system (\$\$\$):** With SSD-P and 1-TB DRAM



**MegIS outperforms the baselines**  
*even when running on a much less costly system*

# MegIS

High-Performance, Energy-Efficient, and Low-Cost  
Metagenomic Analysis with In-Storage Processing



<https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.19113>

**SAFARI**

**ETH** zürich

**POSTECH**

# Outline

- **Brief Intro to (Meta)Genomics**
- **Storage-Centric Designs for (Meta)Genomics**
  - **GenStore**
  - **MegIS**
- ***Conclusion***

**Specializing the Storage System  
for Genomics & Metagenomics  
Can Provide Large Benefits**



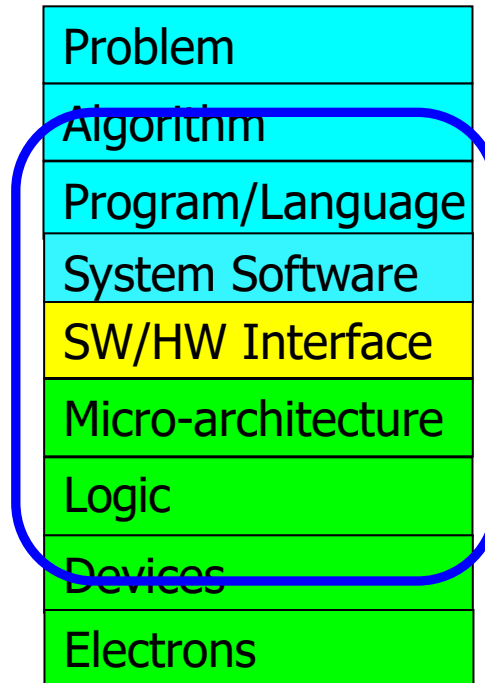
# Specializing the Storage System for Genomics & Metagenomics

**Storage-centric designs**

**improve system *cost-efficiency*  
and makes accurate (meta)genomics  
*more accessible for wider adoption***

**(Co-)Optimizing  
Algorithm-Architecture-Device  
is Critical**

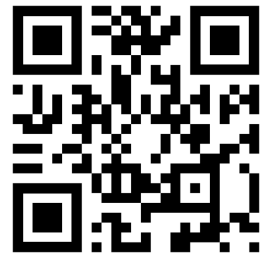
# Computer Architecture (Expanded View)



# More About My Research

My Website:

<https://bit.ly/nikamgh>



## Works Described in This Talk

**GenStore**  
ASPLOS'22

**MegIS**  
ISCA'24

## Near-Data Processing (Other Works)

**ALP**  
IEEE TETC'22

**CODIC**  
ISCA'21

**SIMDRAM**  
ASPLOS'21

## Optimizing Memory and Storage Systems

**Venice**  
ISCA'23

**FIGARO**  
MICRO'20

**CROW**  
ISCA'19

**CAL**  
MICRO'18

**FLIN**  
ISCA'18

## Algorithms

**MLA**  
ISMB'24

**RawHash**  
ISMB'23

**BLEND**  
Bioinformatics'23

**TargetCall**  
APBC'23

## Algorithm-Architecture Co-Design

**Scrooge**  
Bioinformatics'23

**SeGraM**  
ISCA'22

**SMASH**  
MICRO'19

## Device-Architecture Co-Design

**Understanding and Modeling  
Ultra-Dense 3D Memory Systems**  
PACT SRC'24

# Storage-Centric Computing for Genomics and Metagenomics

Nika Mansouri Ghiasi

[n.mansorighiasi@gmail.com](mailto:n.mansorighiasi@gmail.com)

**ETH** zürich

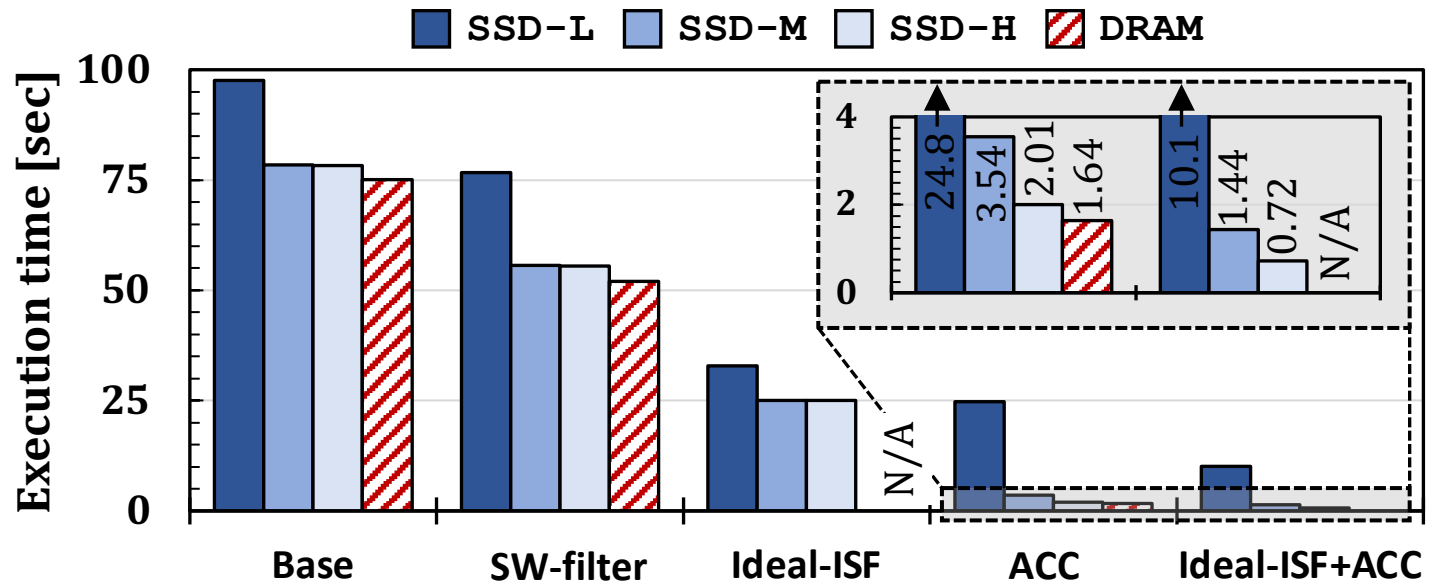
**SAFARI**

# Backup Slides

# End-to-End Workflow of Genome Sequence Analysis

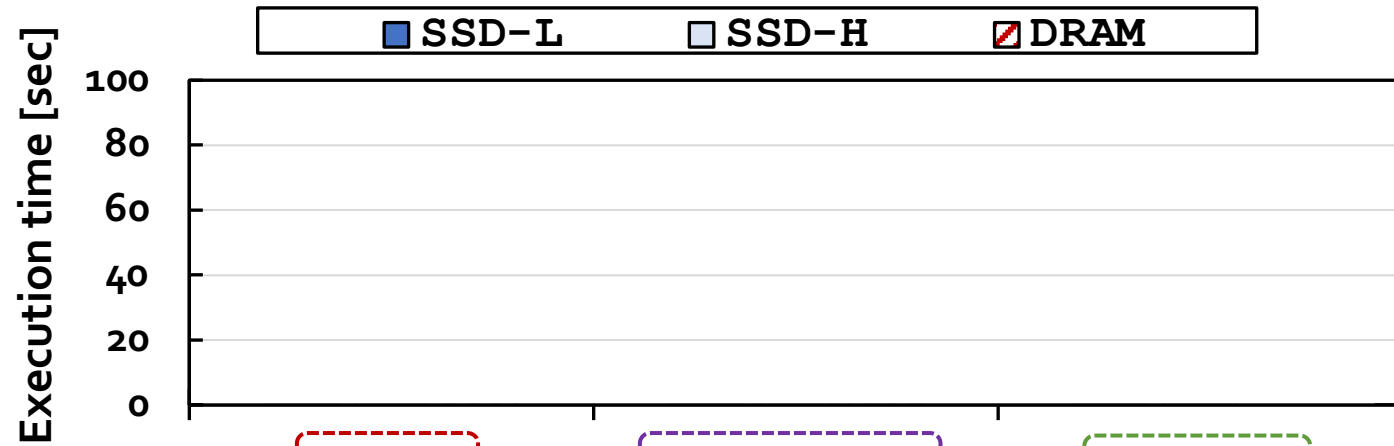
- There are **three key initial steps** in a standard genome sequencing and analysis workflow
  - Collection, preparation, and sequencing of a DNA sample in the laboratory
  - Basecalling
  - Read mapping
- Genomic read sets can be obtained by
  - Sequencing a DNA sample and **storing the generated read set into the SSD of a sequencing machine**
  - Downloading read sets from **publicly available repositories and storing them into an SSD**
- We focus on optimizing the performance of read mapping because sequencing and basecalling are performed only once per read set, whereas read mapping can be performed many times
  - Analyzing the differences between a reads from an individual and **many reference genomes of other individuals**
  - Repeating the read mapping step many times **to improve the outcome of read mapping**
- Improving read mapping performance is critical in almost all genomic analyses that use sequencing
  - 45% of the execution time when discovering **sequence variants in cancer genomics** studies
  - 60% of the execution time when profiling the species composition of **a multi-species (i.e., metagenomic) read**

# Motivation





# Motivation



**Base**  
State-of-the-art software read mapper, Minimap2

**SW-filter**  
Base integrated with a software filter that prunes **80%** of exactly-matching reads

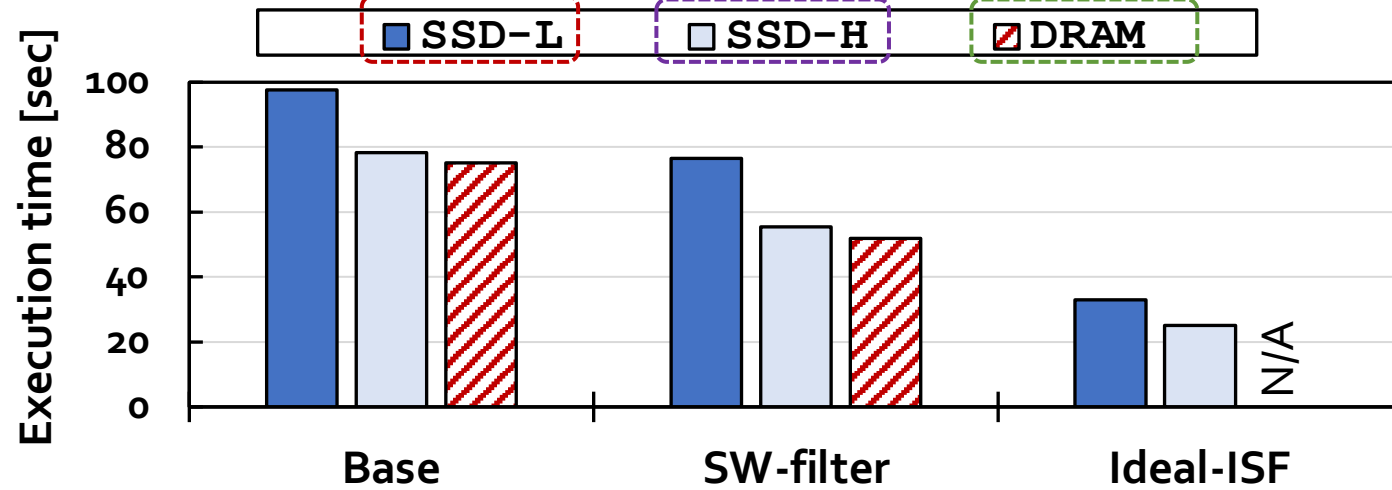
**Ideal-ISF**  
Base integrated with an ideal in-storage filter

# Motivation

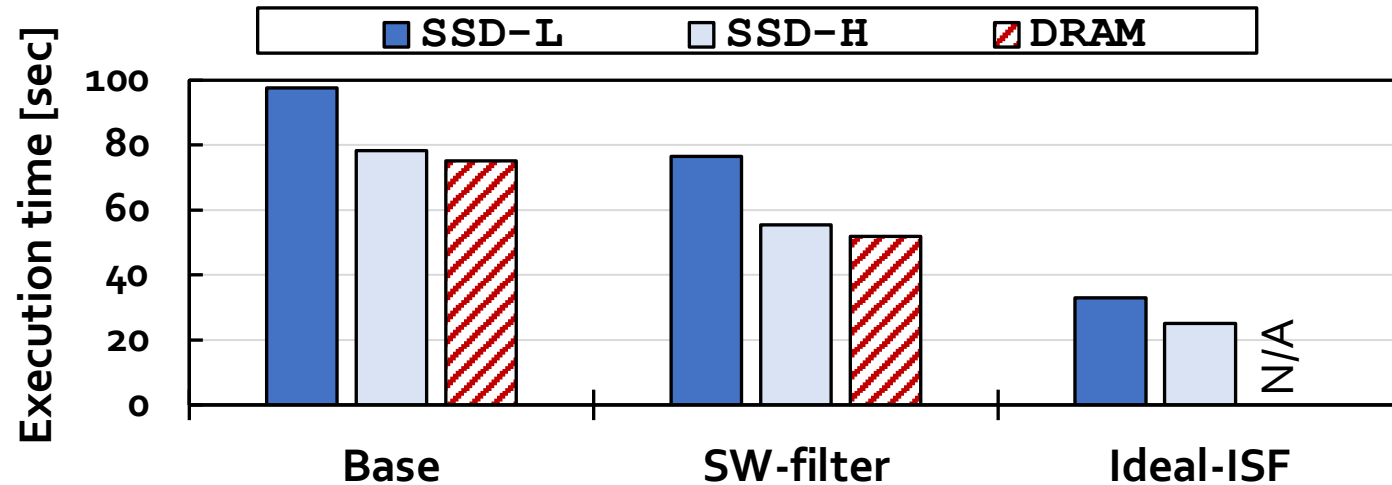
Low-end SSD with SATA3 interface (0.5 GB/s)

High-end SSD with PCIe Gen4 interface (7 GB/s)

Data preloaded in DRAM, with no I/O overhead



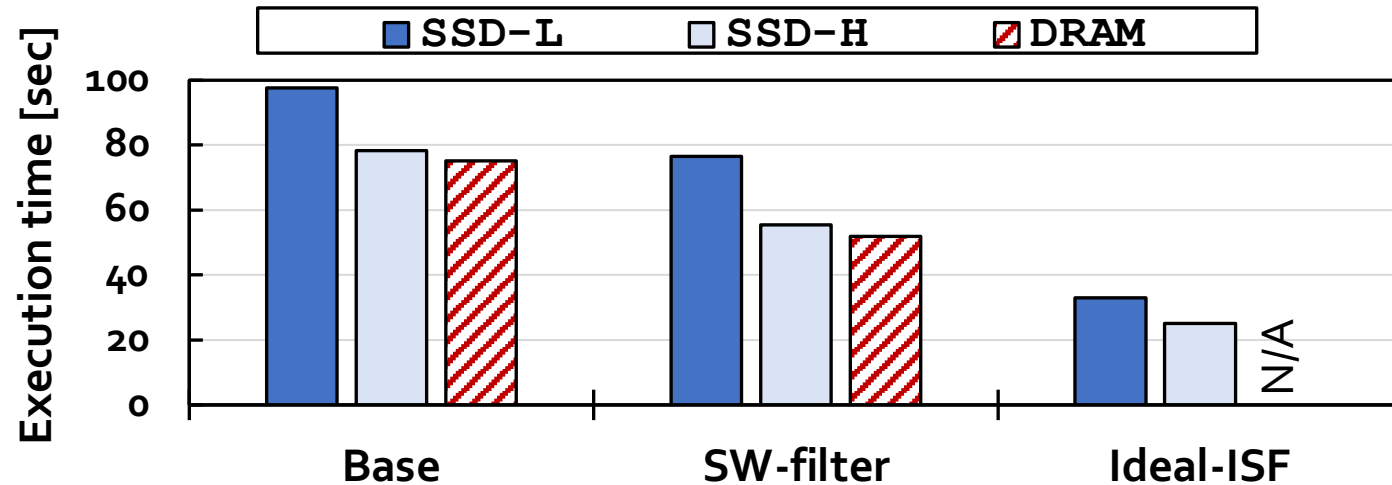
# Benefits of Ideal In-Storage Filter



The ideal in-storage filter significantly improves performance by

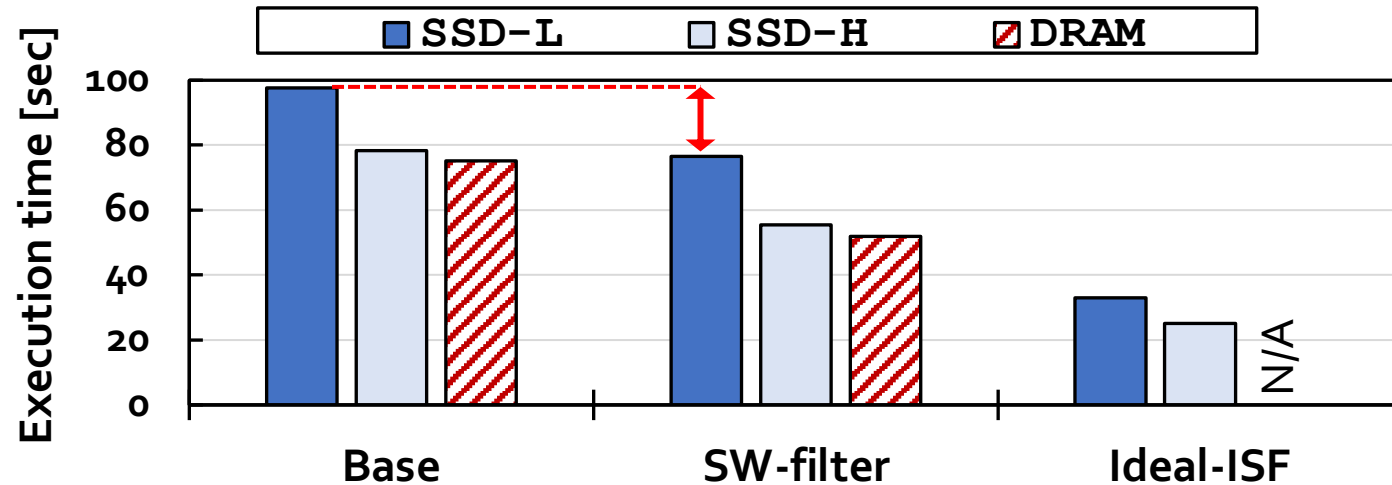
- 1) Reducing computation overhead
- 2) Reducing data movement overhead

# Overheads of Software Mappers



I/O has a **significant impact** on application performance which can be alleviated at the cost of **expensive** storage devices and interfaces

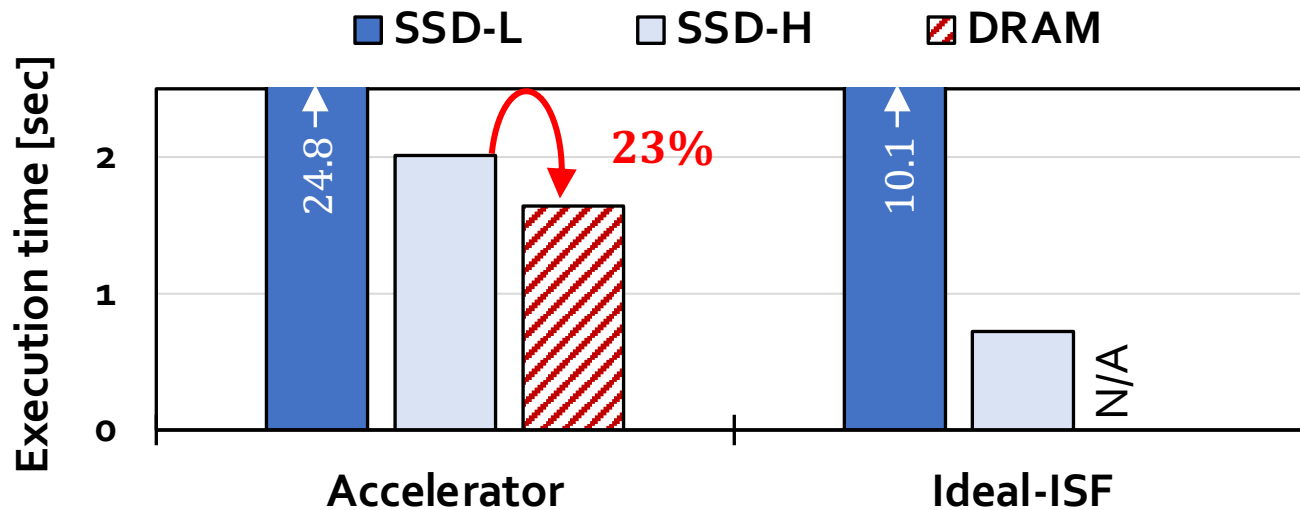
# Overheads of Software Mappers



SW-filter provides limited benefits compared to Base

The filtering process **outside the SSD** must **compete** with the read mapping process for the resources in the system

# Overheads of Hardware Mappers



Even the high-end SSD **does not fully alleviate** the storage bottleneck

The ideal in-storage filter significantly improves performance

# Ideal-OSF

- Execution time of an **ideal in-storage filter**:

$$T_{\text{Ideal-ISF}} = T_{\text{I/O-Ref}} + \max \{ T_{\text{I/O-Unfiltered}}, T_{\text{RM-Unfiltered}} \}$$

- Execution time of an **ideal outside-storage filter**:
  - **60% slower** than Ideal-ISF in our analysis

$$T_{\text{Ideal-OSF}} = T_{\text{I/O-Ref}} + \max \{ T_{\text{I/O-All-Reads}}, T_{\text{RM-Unfiltered}} \}$$

# Comparison to PIM

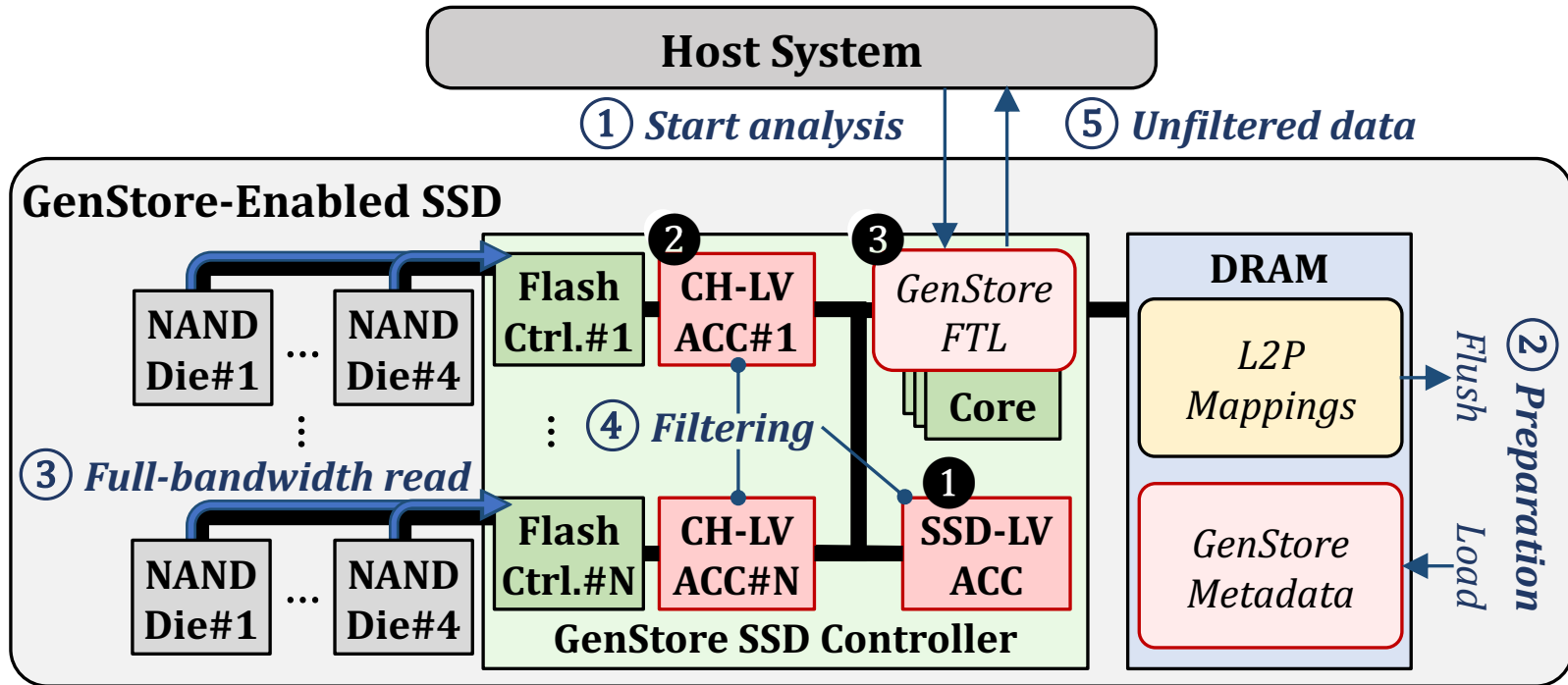
- Even though read mapping applications could also benefit from other near-data, in-storage processing can fundamentally address the data movement problem by filtering **large, low-reuse data** where the data initially resides.
- Even if an ideal accelerator achieved a zero execution time, there would still exist the need to bring the data from storage to the accelerator.
  - **2.15x slower** than the execution time that Ideal-ISF+ACC provides in our motivational analysis

**In-storage filter can be integrated with any read mapping accelerator, including PIM accelerators, to alleviate their data movement overhead.**



# Long Read Use Cases

Use case	Input read set (Short/Long)	Size [GB]	Reference	Align [%]
Sequencing errors	ERR3988483 (L) [157]	54	hg38 [144]	47.4
	HG002_ONT_20200204 (L) [158]	371		69.3
Rapidly evolving samples	SRR5413248 (L) [157]	1.69	NZ_NJEX02 [159]	60.0
	SRR12423642 (S) [157]	0.466	NC_045512.2 [160]	23.1
No reference	SRR6767727 (L) [157]	12.4	NZ_NJEX02 [159]	0.35
	SRR9953689 (L) [157]	15.9		37.0
Contamination	SRR9953689 (L) [157]	15.9	hg38 [144]	1.0



# FTL: Metadata

- GenStore metadata includes the **mapping information** of the data structures necessary for read mapping acceleration
- In accelerator mode, GenStore also keeps in internal DRAM other metadata structures of the regular FTL
  - Examples include the **page status table and block read counts** which need to be updated during the filtering process
- We carefully design GenStore to only **sequentially access** the underlying NAND flash chips while operating as an accelerator
  - Requires **only a small amount of metadata** to access the stored data

# FTL: Data Placement

- GenStore needs to properly place its data structures to enable the **full utilization of the internal SSD bandwidth**
- When each data structure is initially written to the SSD, GenStore **sequentially and evenly** distributes it across NAND flash chips
- GenStore can specify the physical location of a 30-GB data structure by maintaining only the list of 1,250 (30 GB/24 MB) physical block addresses
- It significantly reduces the size of the necessary mapping information from **300 MB** (with conventional 4-KiB page mapping) to only **5 KB** (1,250  $\times$  4 bytes)

# FTL: SSD Management Tasks

- In accelerator mode, GenStore only reads data structures to perform filtering, and does not write any new data
  - GenStore does not require any write-related SSD-management tasks such as **garbage collection** and **wear-leveling**
- The other tasks necessary for ensuring data reliability can be done before or after the filtering process
  - GenStore significantly limits the amount of data whose **retention age** would exceed the manufacturer-specified threshold since GenStore's filtering process takes a short time.
  - GenStore-FTL can easily **avoid read disturbance errors** for data with high read counts since GenStore sequentially reads NAND flash blocks only once during filtering

# Data Sizes

- Conventional k-mer index in Minimap2 + reference genome: 7 GB (k = 15)
- Read-sized k-mer index before optimization: 126 GB (k= 150)
- Read-sized k-mer index after optimization: 32 GB (k = 150)

# SSD Specs

- **SSD-L:** SATA3 interface (0.5 GB/s sequential read)
  - 1.2 GB/s per channel bandwidth
  - 8 channels
- **SSD-L:** PCIe Gen3 M.2 interface (3.5 GB/s sequential read)
  - 1.2 GB/s per channel bandwidth
  - 16 channels
- **SSD-L:** PCIe Gen4 interface (7 GB/s sequential read)
  - 1.2 GB/s per channel bandwidth
  - 16 channels

# Evaluation Methodology

- **Performance modeling**

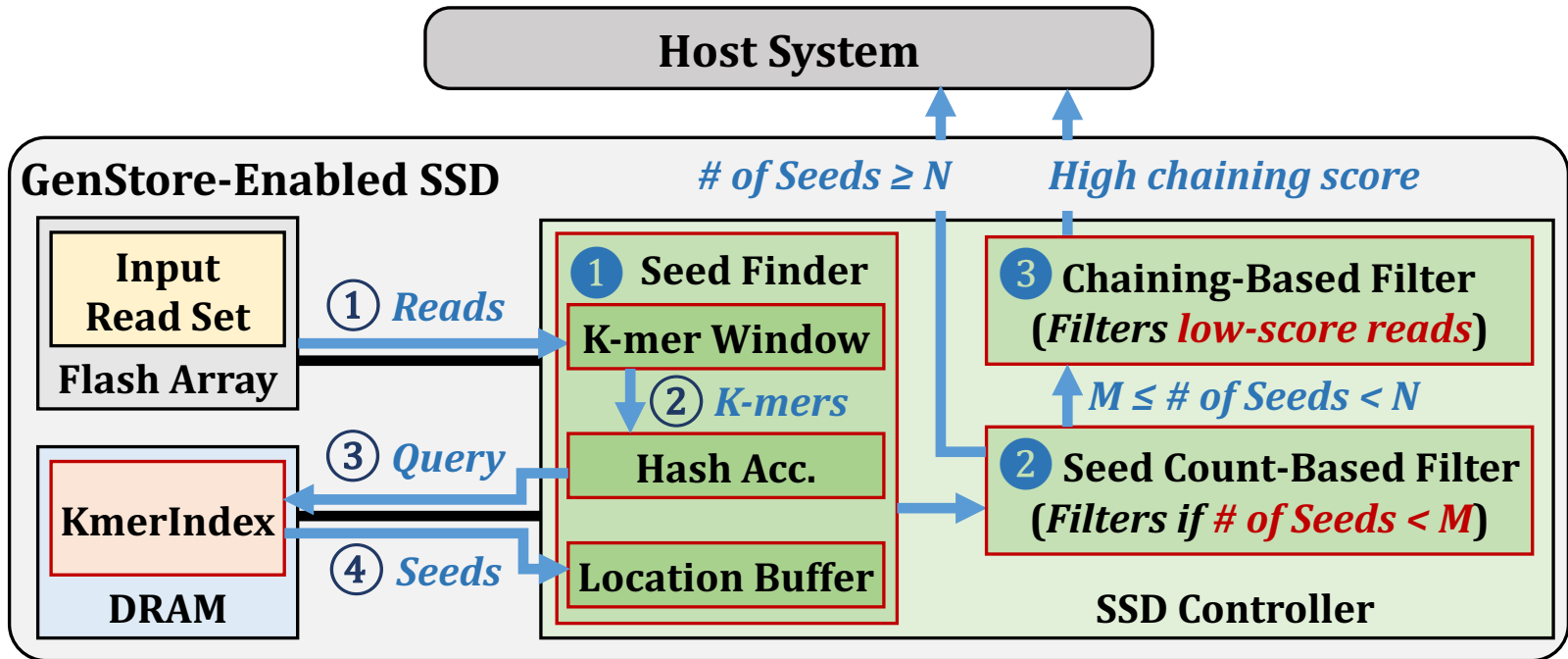
- Ramulator for DRAM timing
- MQSim for SSD timing
- We model the end-to-end throughput of GenStore based on the throughput of each GenStore pipeline stage
  - Accessing NAND flash chips
  - Accessing internal DRAM
  - Accelerator computation
  - Transferring unfiltered data to the host

- **Real system results**

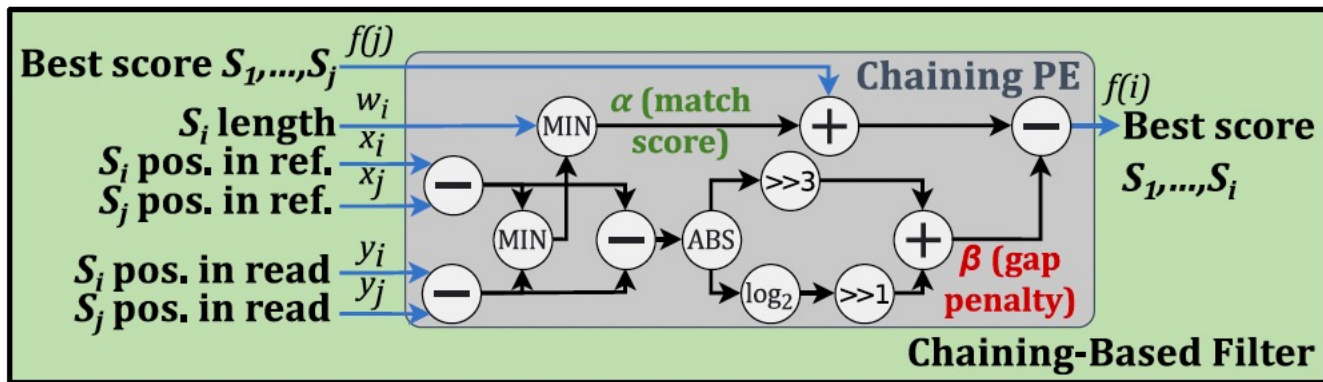
- AMD EPYC 7742 CPU
- 1TB DDR4 DRAM
- AMD  $\mu$ Prof



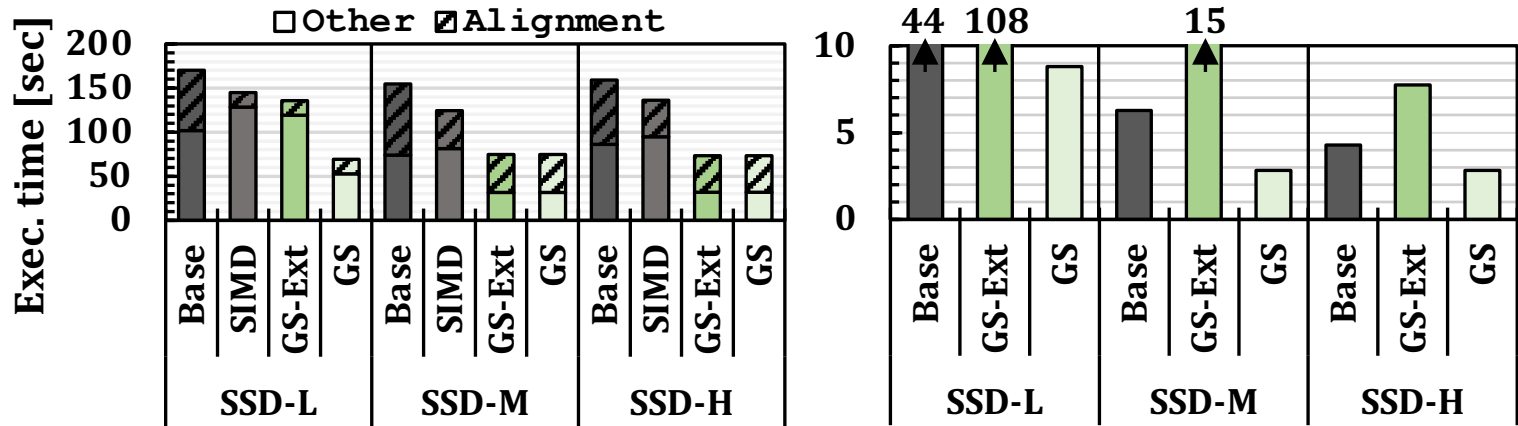
# GenStore-NM



# Chaining Processing Element



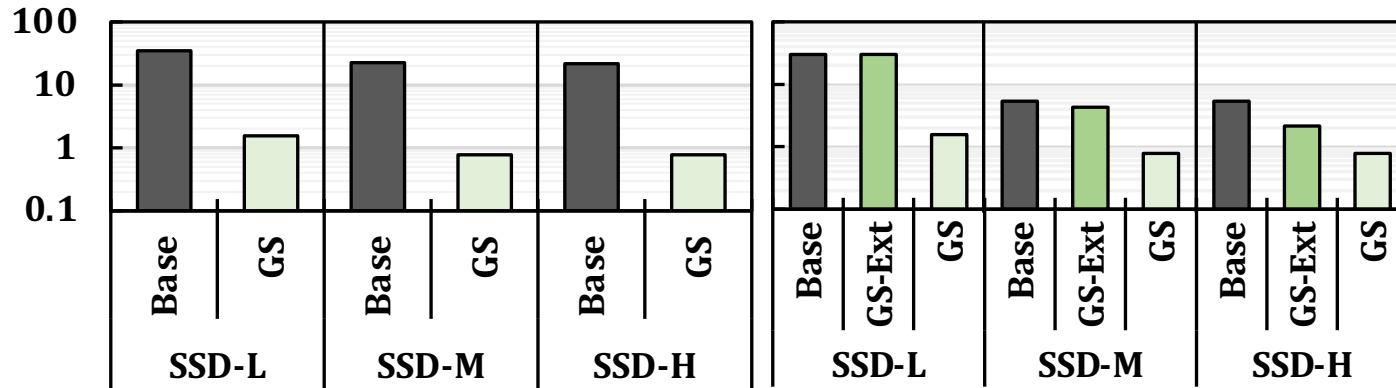
# GenStore-EM



GS-Ext provides significant performance improvements over both Base and SIMD in SSD-M and SSD-H.

GS-Ext provides limited benefits over SIMD in SSD-L due to low external I/O bandwidth.

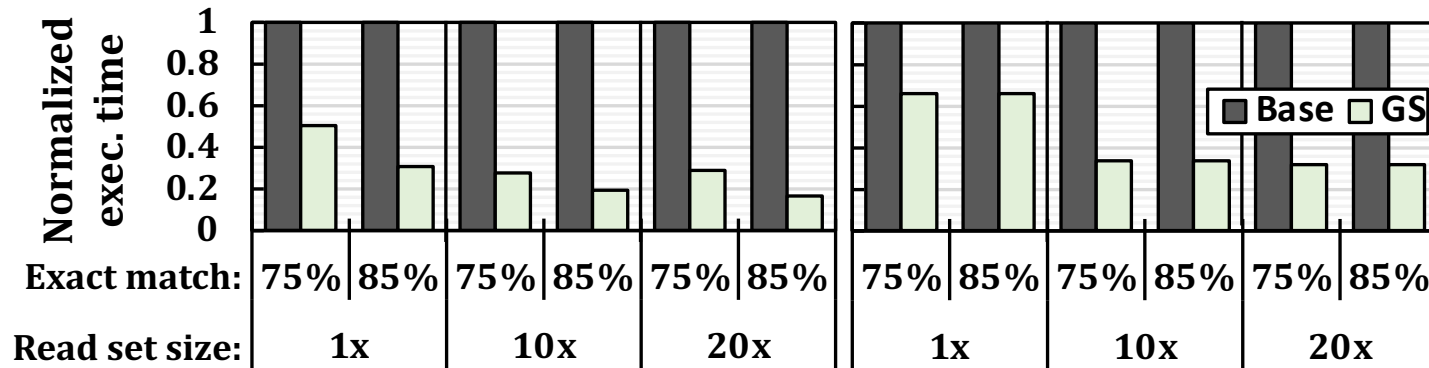
# GenStore-NM



**GS-Ext performs significantly slower than Base (2.28x - 1.91x)  
on all systems.**

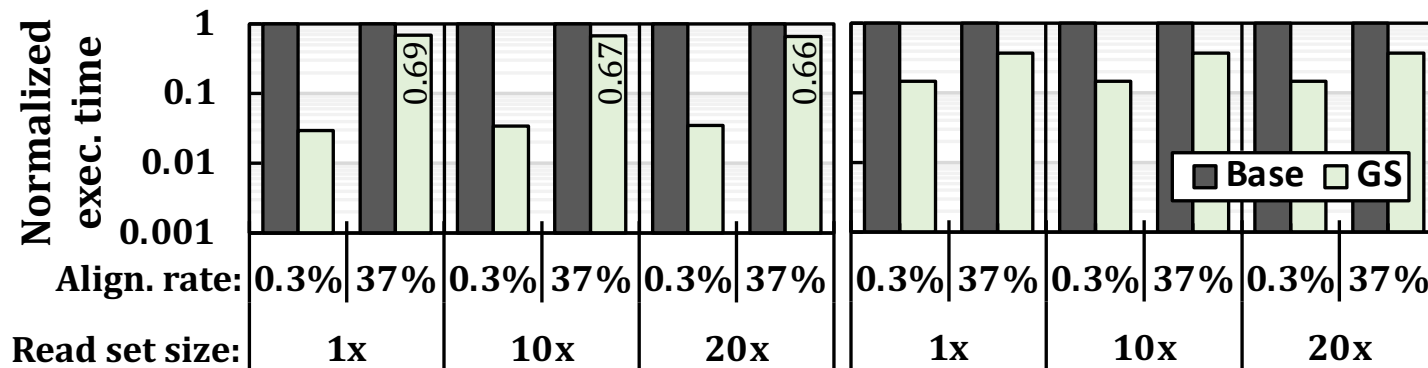
# Effect of Inputs on GenStore-EM

$$DM\_Saving = \frac{Size_{Ref} + Size_{ReadSet}}{Size_{Ref} + Size_{ReadSet} \times (1 - Ratio_{Filter})}$$



# Effect of Inputs on GenStore-NM

$$DM\_Saving = \frac{Size_{Ref} + Size_{ReadSet}}{Size_{Ref} + Size_{ReadSet} \times (1 - Ratio_{Filter})}$$



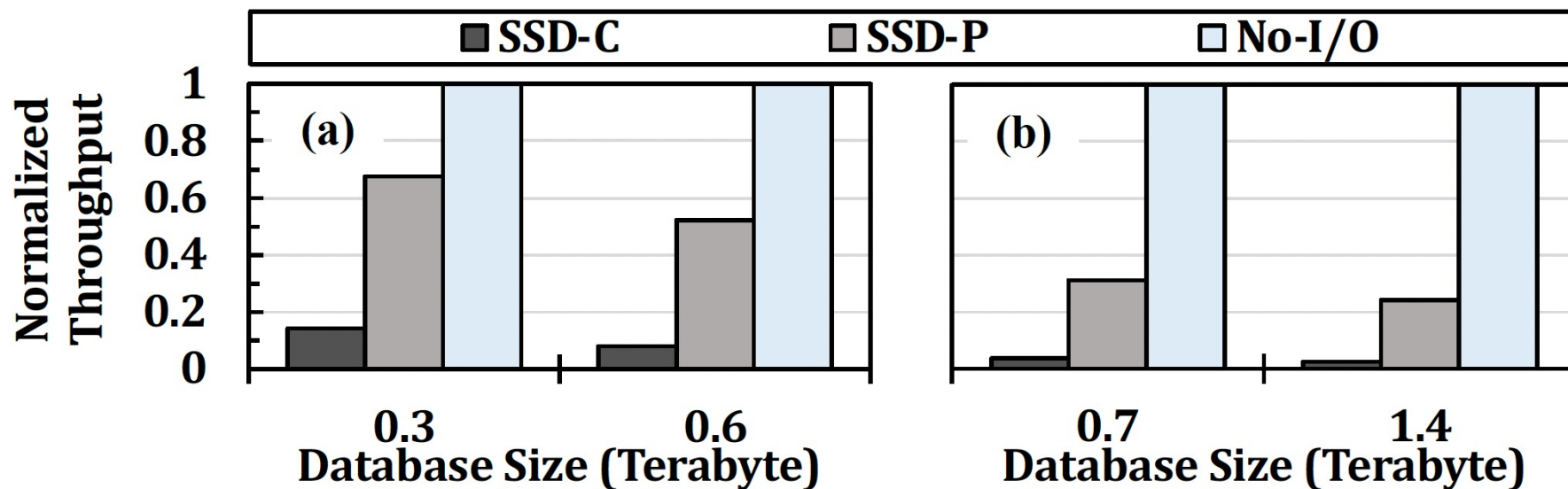
# MegIS Backup Slides

# Motivational Analysis

Database access patterns

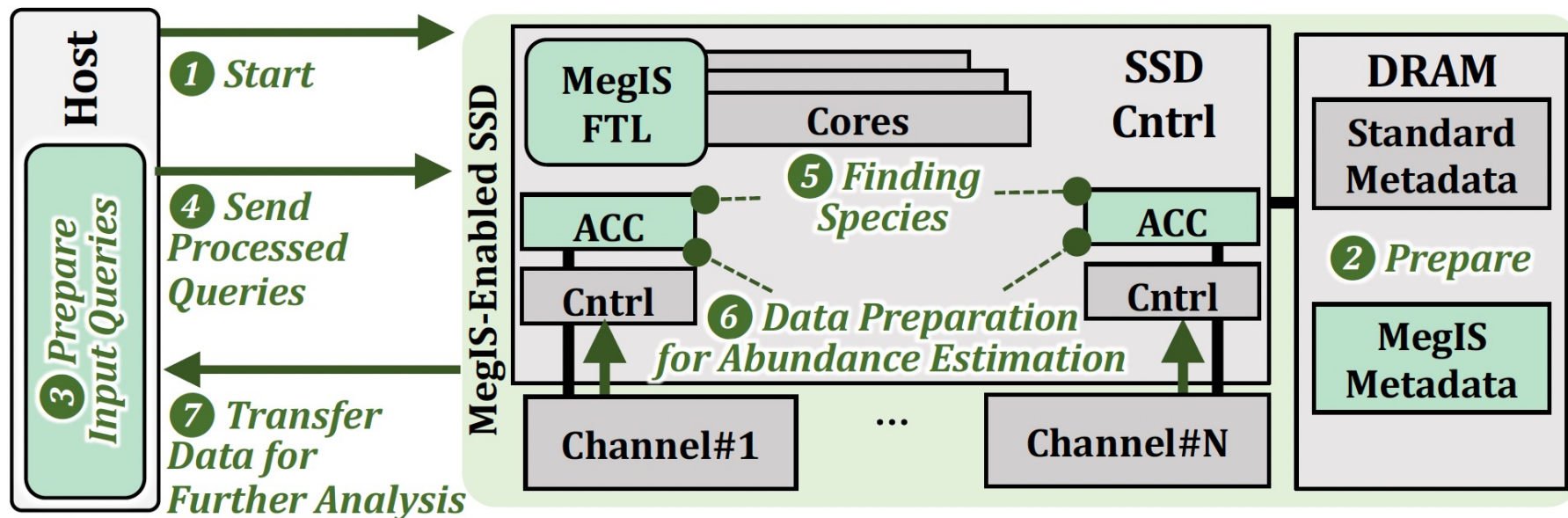
(a) Random Query

(b) Streaming Query

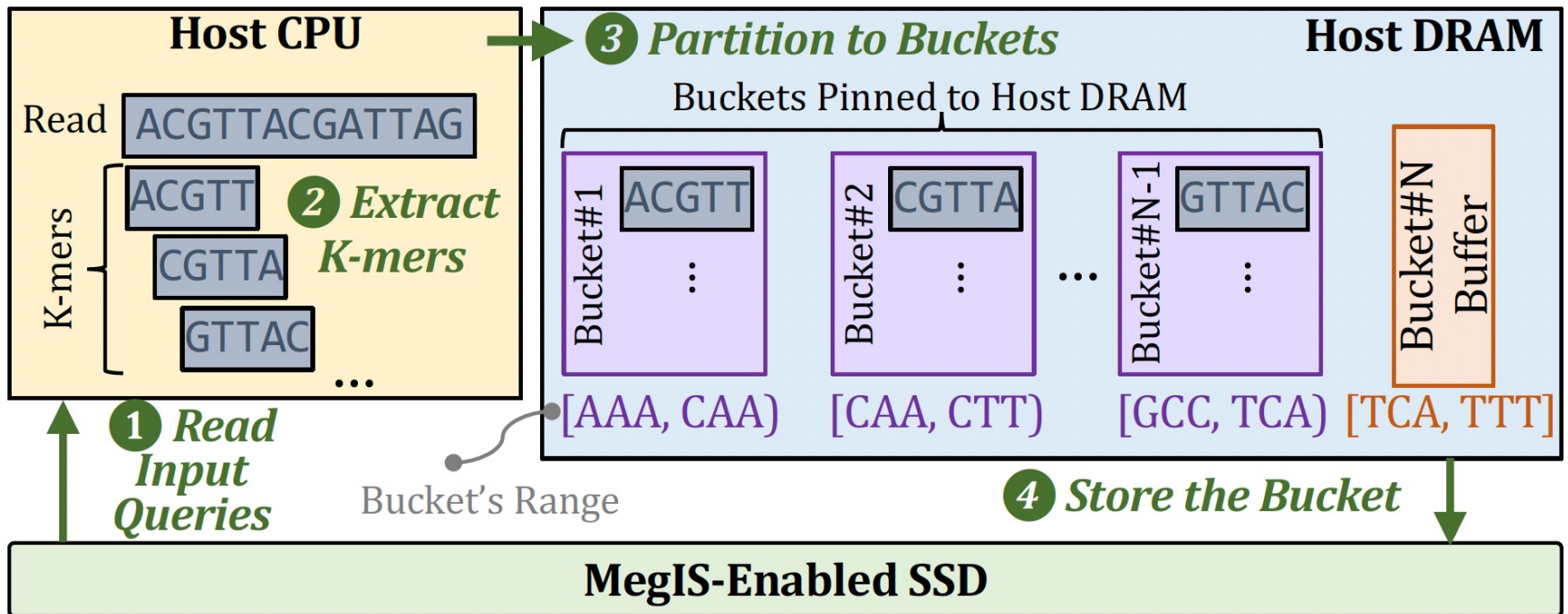




# Overview of MegIS's Steps



# More Details on Step 1



# K-mer Sketch Data Structures

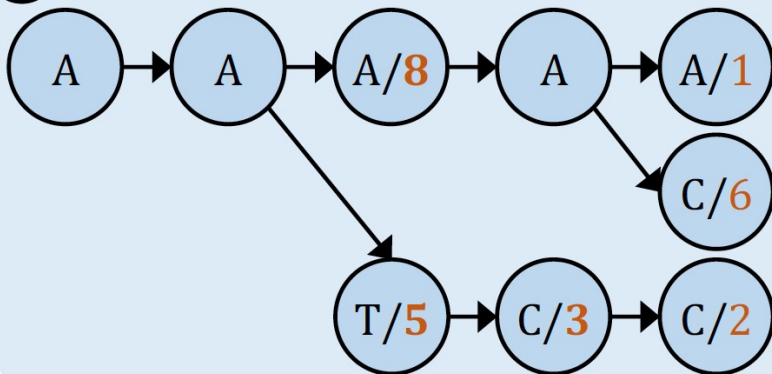
## a Baseline K-mer Sketch Tables

5-mer	ID
AAAAA	1
AAAAC	6
AATCC	2
...	...

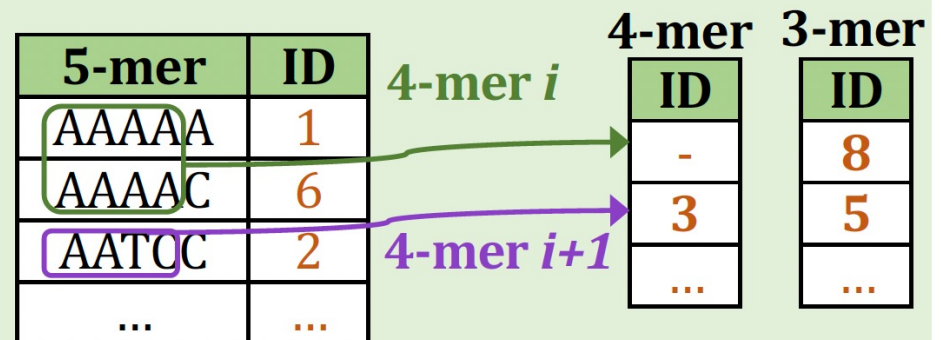
4-mer	ID
AAAA	1, 6
AATC	2, 3
...	...

3-mer	ID
AAA	1, 6, 8
AAT	2, 3, 5
...	...

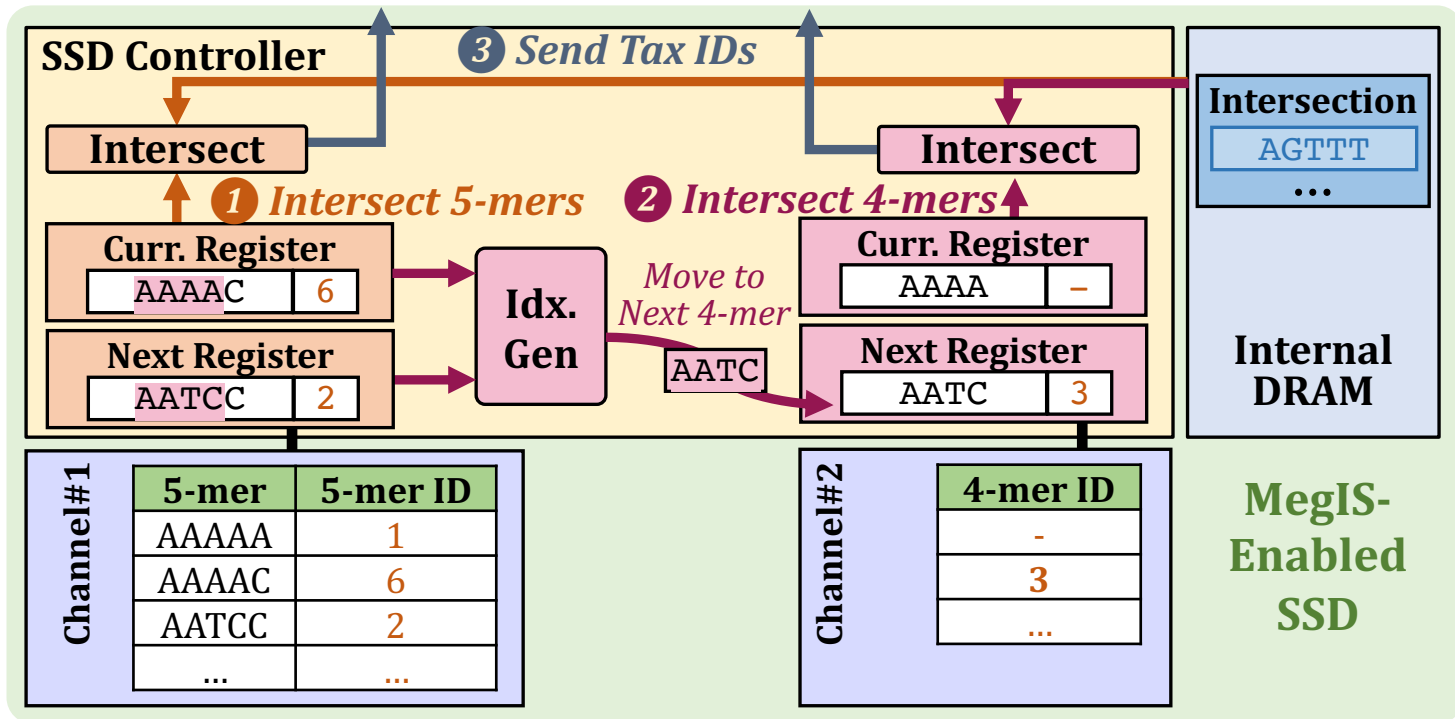
## b Ternary Search Tree



## c K-mer Sketch Streaming Tables



# K-mer Sketch Streaming Hardware Design



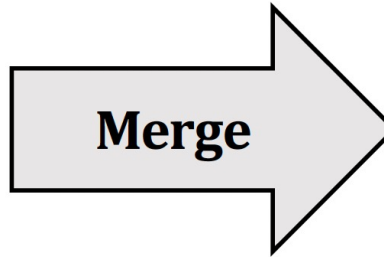
# Index Generation in Step 3

K-mer	Loc.
ATT	14
CCA	9
GCT	5
...	...

Reference Index  
Organism A

K-mer	Loc.
AAG	2
CCA	21
TGC	4
...	...

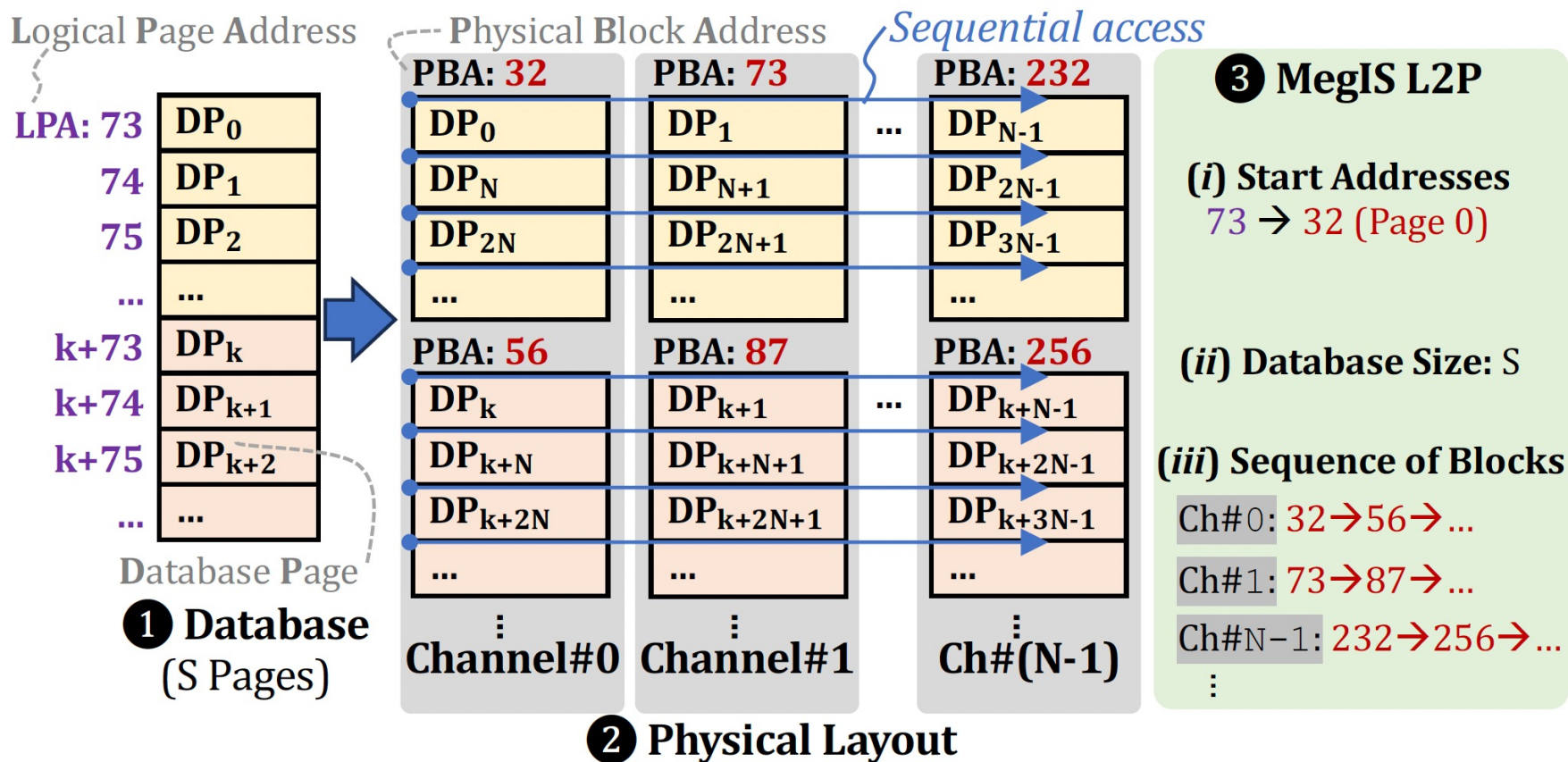
Reference Index  
Organism B



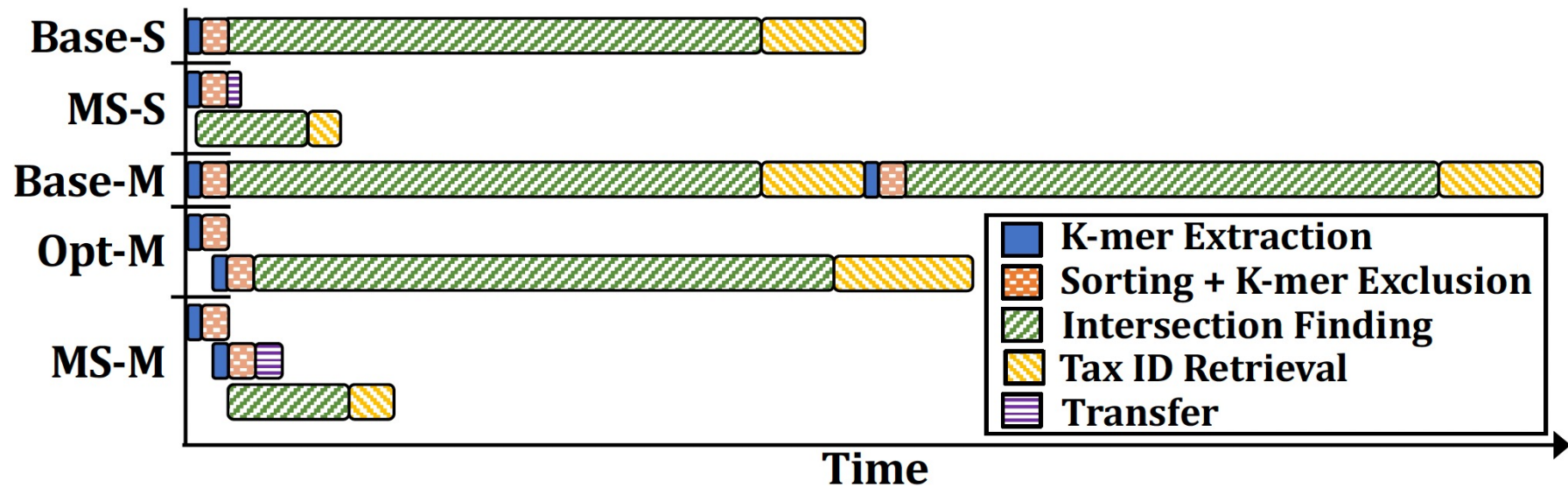
K-mer	Loc.
AAG	1002
ATT	14
CCA	9, 1021
GCT	5
TGC	1004
...	...

Unified  
Reference Index

# MegIS FTL



# Multi-Sample Analysis

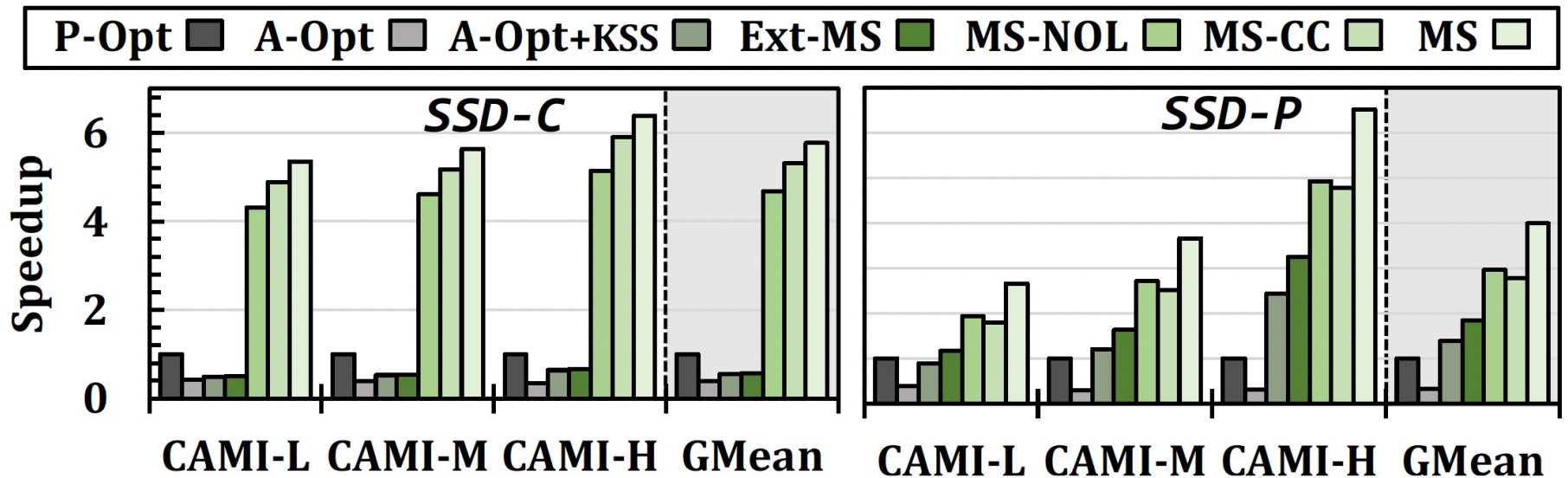


# SSD Configurations

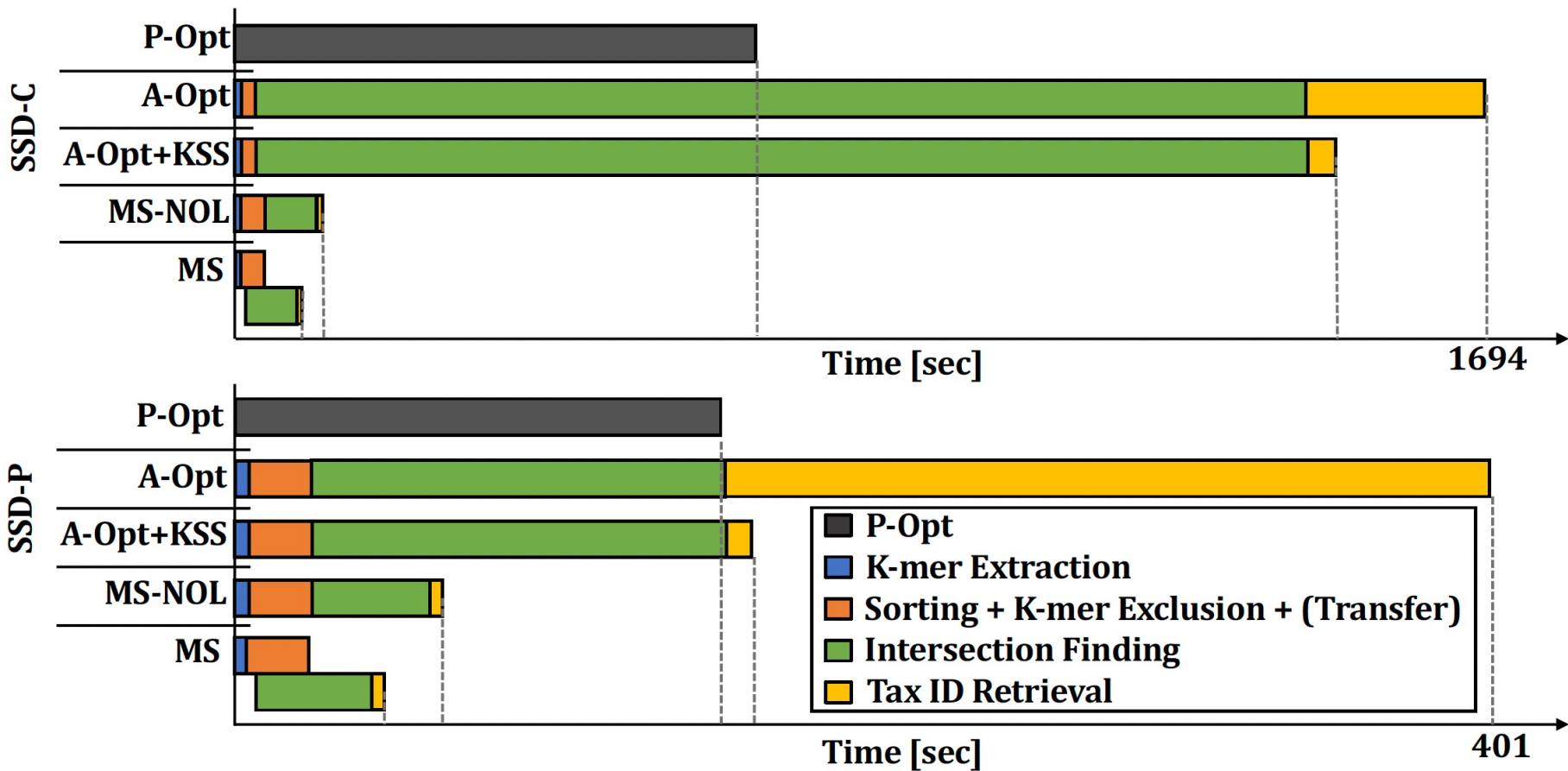
Specification	SSD-C	SSD-P
<b>General</b>	48-WL-layer 3D TLC NAND flash-based SSD 4 TB capacity, 4 GB internal LPDDR4 DRAM [226]	
<b>Bandwidth (BW)</b>	600 MB/s interface BW (SATA3); 560 MB/s sequential-read BW 1.2-GB/s channel I/O rate	8 GB/s interface BW (4-lane PCIe Gen4); 7 GB/s sequential-read BW 1.2-GB/s channel I/O rate
<b>NAND Config</b>	8 channels, 8 dies/channel, 4 planes/dies, 2,048 blocks/plane, 196 WLS/block, 16 KiB/page (4/8/16 channels in Fig. 17)	16 channels, 8 dies/channel, 2 planes/dies, 2,048 blocks/plane, 196 WLS/block, 16 KiB/page (8/16/32 channels in Fig. 17)
<b>Latencies</b>	Read (tR): 52.5 $\mu$ s, Program (tPROG): 700 $\mu$ s	
<b>Embedded Cores</b>	3 ARM Cortex-R4 cores [86]	4 ARM Cortex-R4 cores [86]



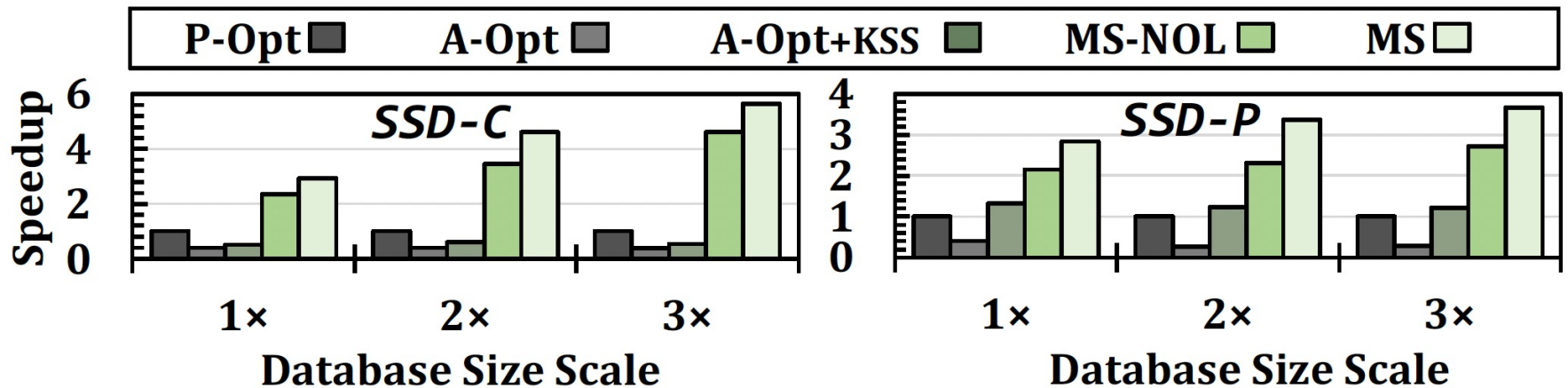
# Impact of Different Optimizations



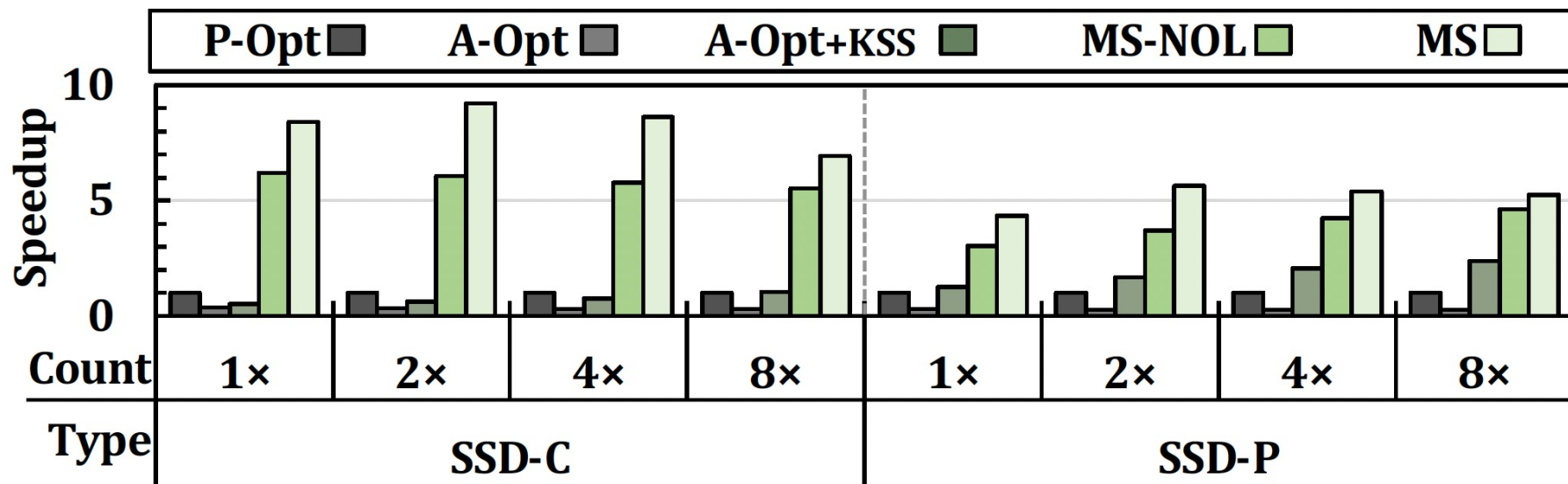
# Impact of Different Optimizations



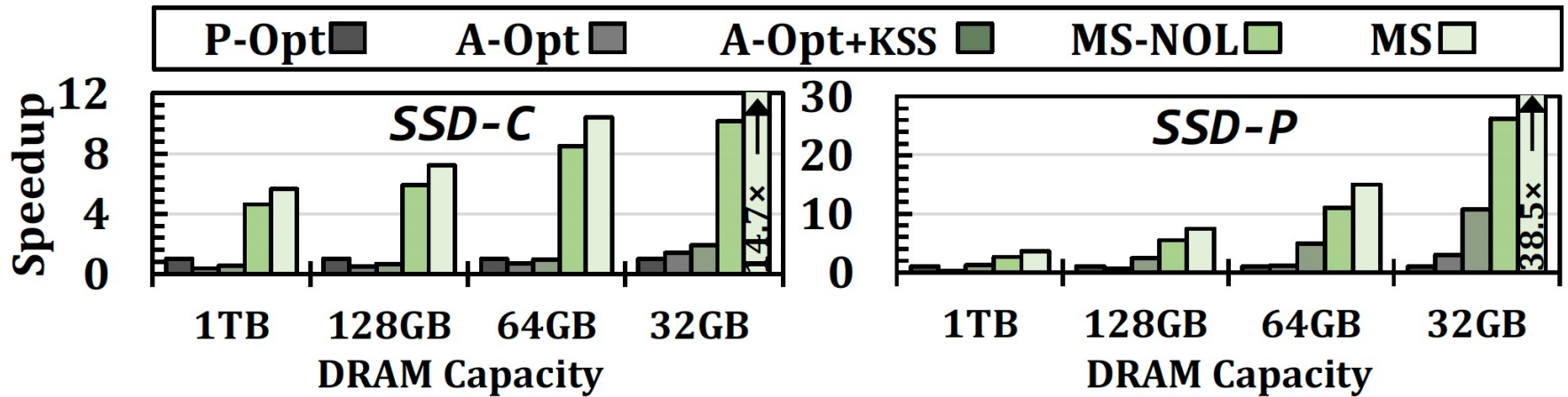
# Speedup with Different Database Sizes



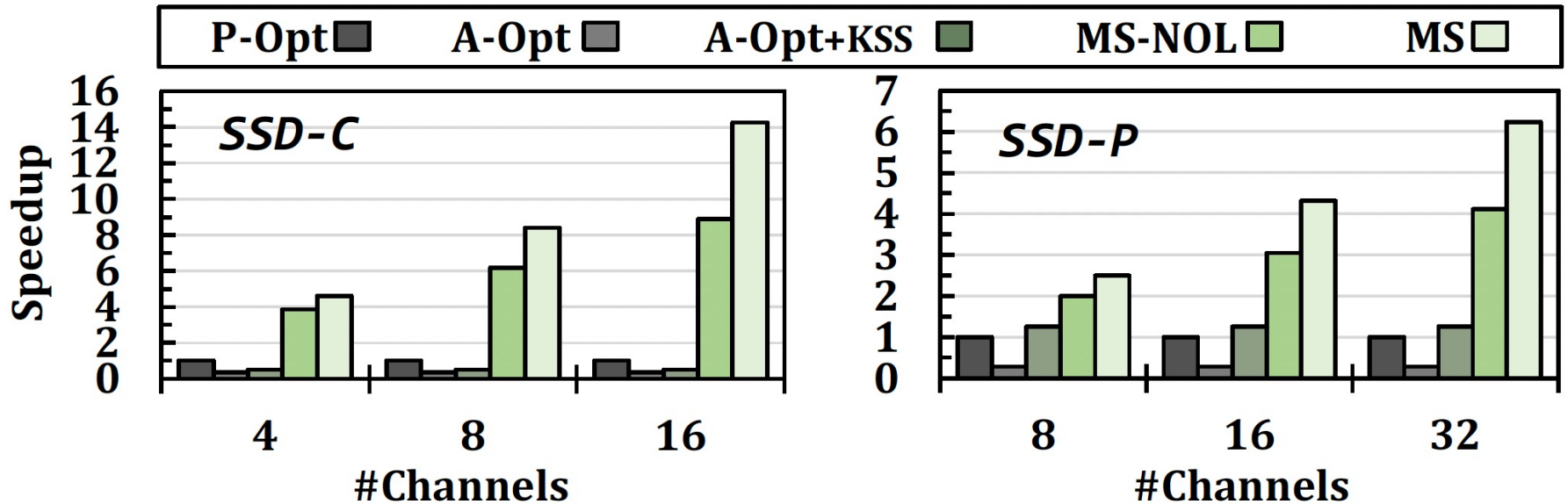
# Speedup with Different #SSDs



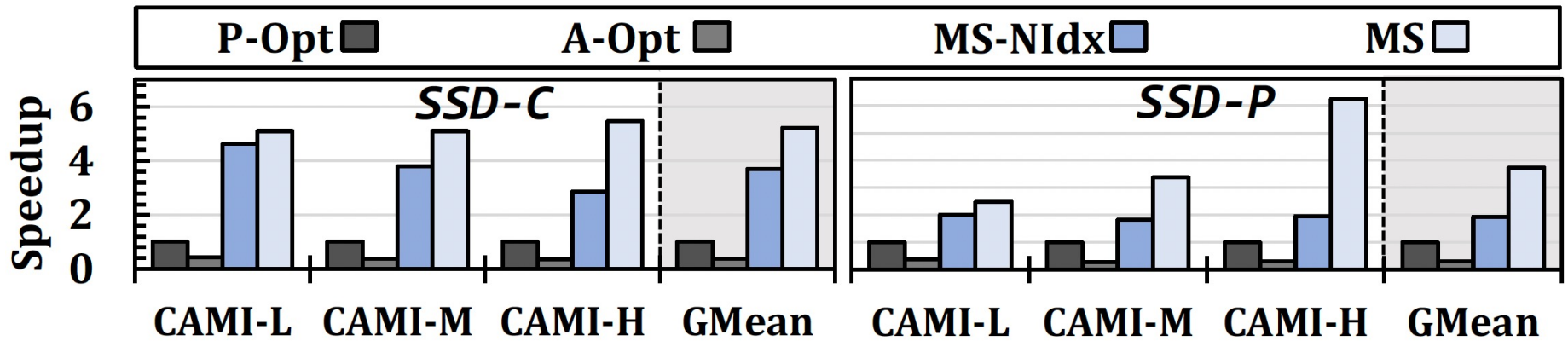
# Speedup with Different Main Memory Capacities



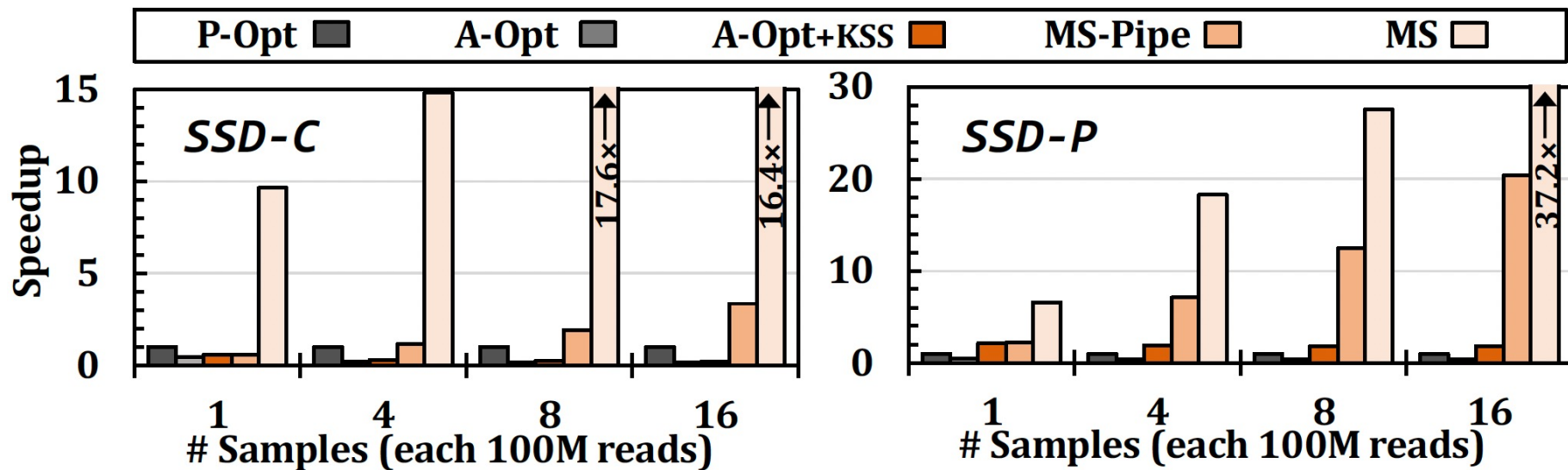
# Speedup with Varying SSD Internal Bandwidth



# Speedup of Abundance Estimation



# Multi-Sample Use Case





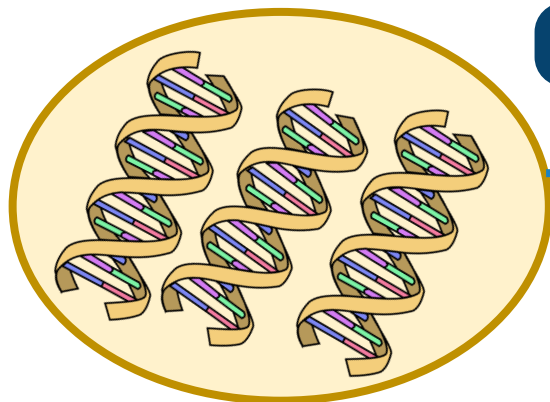
# Area and Power

- Based on **synthesis** of **MegIS** accelerators using the Synopsys Design Compiler @ 65nm technology node

Logic Unit	# of instances	Area [mm <sup>2</sup> ]	Power [mW]
Intersect (120-bit)	1 per channel	0.001361	0.284
k-mer Registers (2 x 120-bit)	1 per channel	0.002821	0.645
Index Generator (64-bit)	1 per channel	0.000272	0.025
Control Unit	1 per SSD	0.000188	0.026
<b><i>Total for an 8-channel SSD</i></b>	-	<b><i>0.04</i></b>	<b><i>7.658</i></b>

Only **1.7%** of the area of three 28-nm ARM Cortex R4 cores  
in a SATA SSD controller

# Step 1 Overview



Metagenomic sample with species that are not known in advance



A large database containing information on **many species**

## Step 1

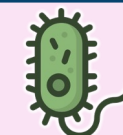
Preparation of Input Queries

Query K-mers

GCTCA  
CTCAT  
TCATG  
...

## Step 2

Presence/Absence Identification



V. cholerae



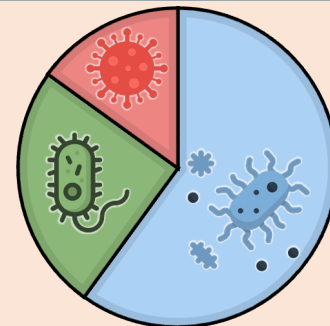
SARS-CoV-2



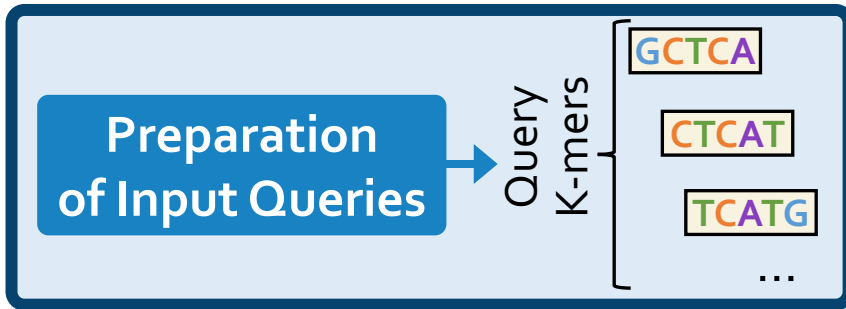
E. coli

## Step 3

Abundance Estimation

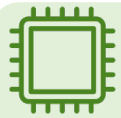


# Step 1 Overview



*MegIS employs sorted data structures to avoid expensive random accesses to the SSD*

- **Extract k-mers** from the sample
- **Sort** the k-mers (database is sorted offline)



*MegIS executes Step 1 in the host system*

- Benefits from **larger DRAM** and **more powerful computation**
- Incurs **fewer writes** to NAND flash chips (than processing this step in the SSD)
- Enables **overlapping** Step 1 with Step 2

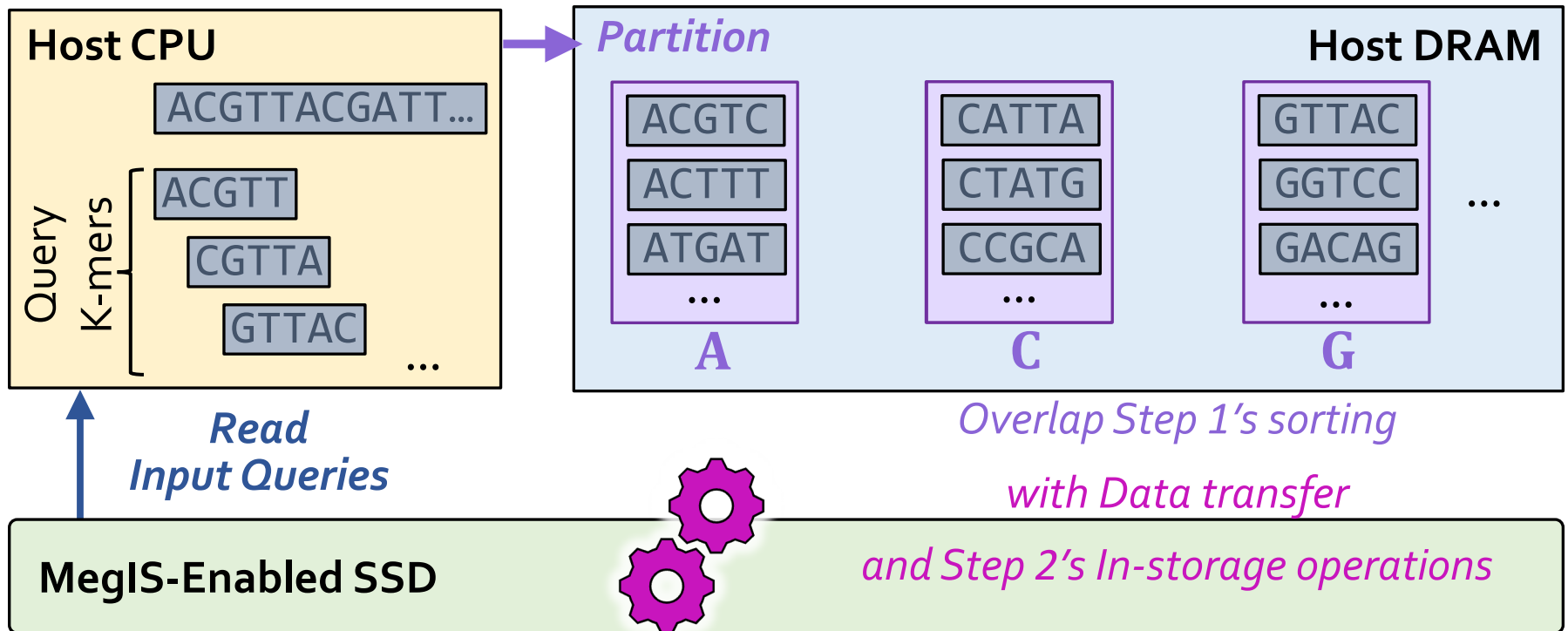
*To execute Step 1 efficiently in the host system, MegIS needs to:*

- Avoid significant overhead due to **data transfer time** between the steps
- Minimize **performance** and **lifetime** overheads *even* when host DRAM cannot hold all query k-mers

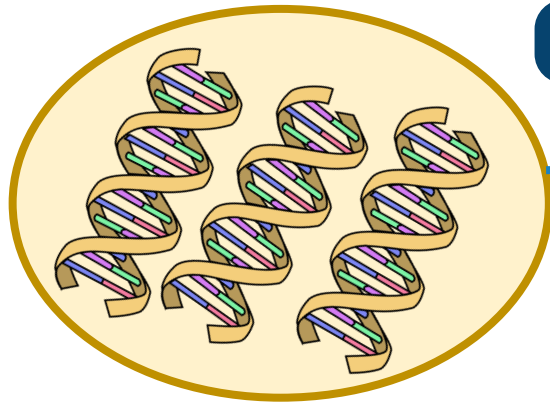
# Step 1 Design

Divide k-mers into **independent partitions** by their alphabetical range

✓ Can overlap operations on different partitions



# Step 2 Overview



Metagenomic sample with species that are not known in advance



A large database containing information on **many species**

**Step 1**

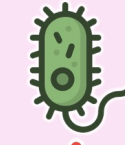
Preparation of Input Queries

Query K-mers

GCTCA  
CTCAT  
TCATG  
...

**Step 2**

Presence/Absence Identification



V. cholerae



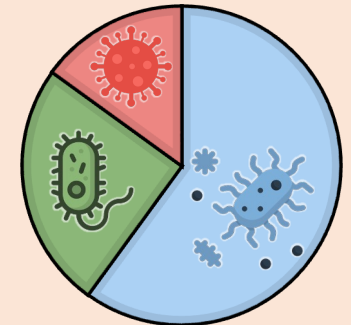
SARS-CoV-2



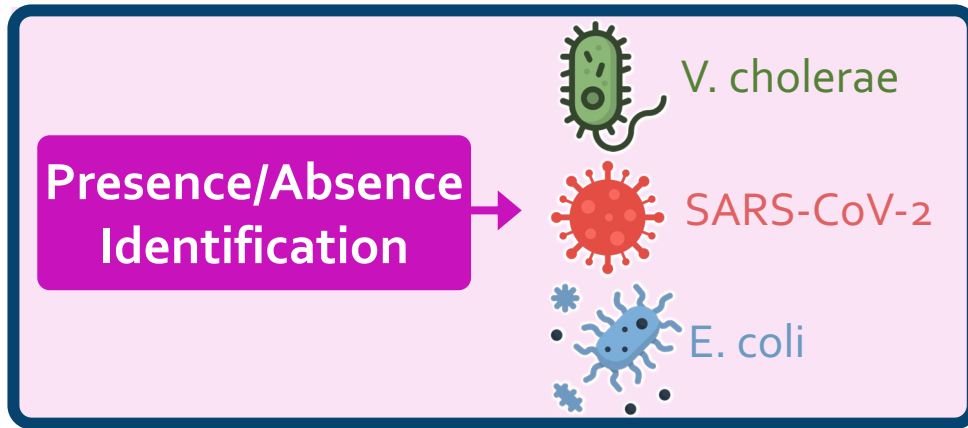
E. coli

**Step 3**

Abundance Estimation



# Step 2 Overview



- **Identify the common k-mers** between the query k-mers and the database k-mers
- **Retrieve the species IDs** of the common k-mers



*MegIS executes Step 2 in the SSD*

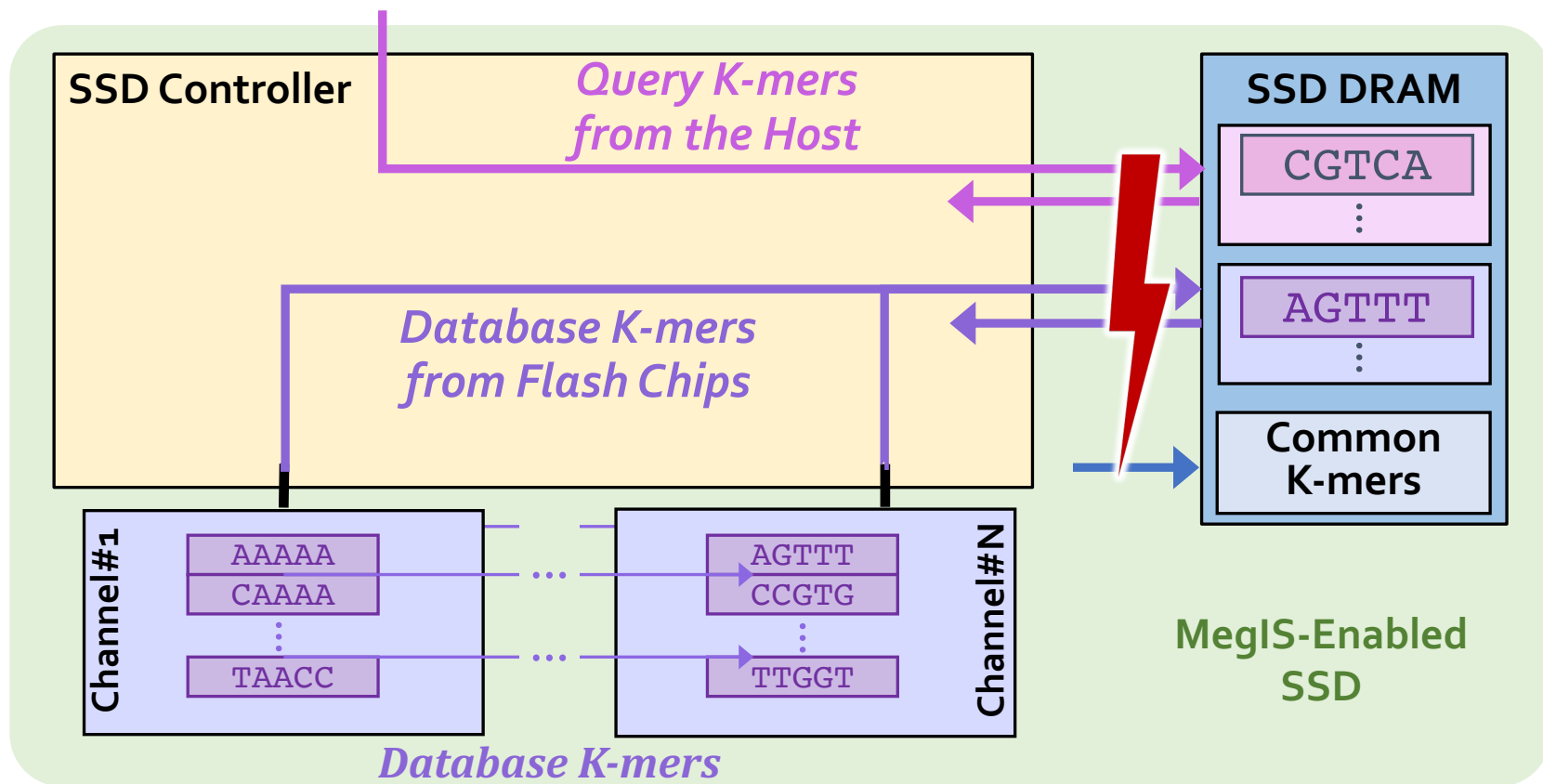
- Accesses **large data** with **low reuse**
- Involves **lightweight computation**

*To execute Step 2 efficiently in the SSD, MegIS needs to:*

- Leverage **internal bandwidth** efficiently
- Not require **expensive hardware inside the SSD**  
(e.g., large DRAM bandwidth/capacity and costly logic units)

# Step 2 Design: Identifying the Common K-mers

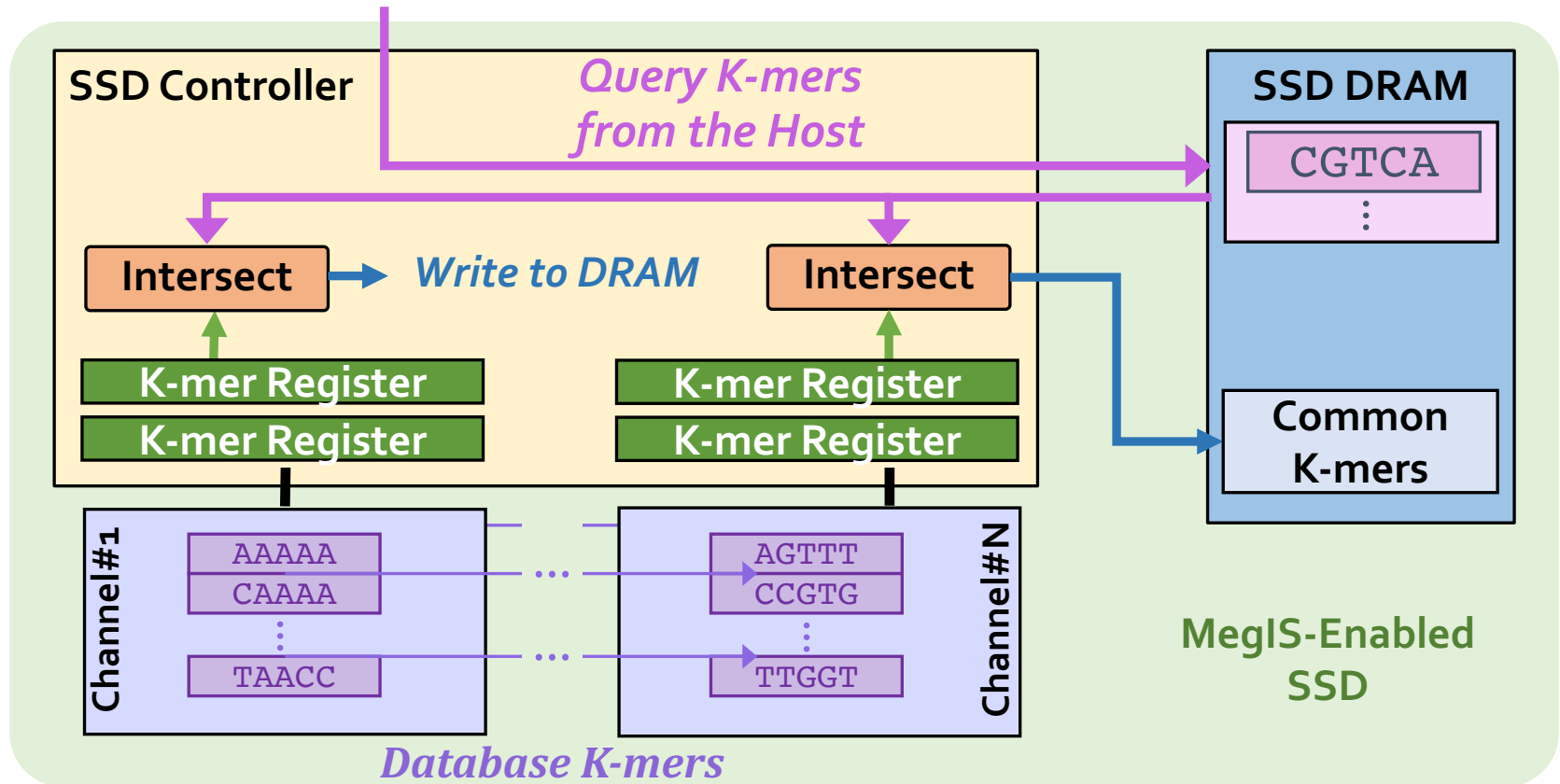
- **Challenge:** Limited internal DRAM bandwidth



# Step 2 Design: Identifying the Common K-mers

- **Challenge:** Limited internal DRAM bandwidth

- ✓ *Compute directly on the flash data streams* [Zou+, MICRO'22]
- ✓ *Reduce buffer size based on application features*



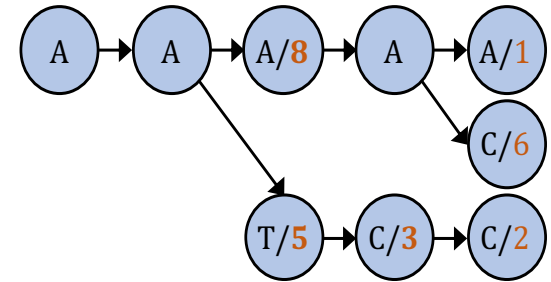


# Step 2 Design: Retrieving the Species ID

- MegIS retrieves the species IDs of the **common k-mers** by looking up a **sketch database**

K-mer	
AAAAA	
AAAAC	
AATCC	
...	

Space-Inefficient



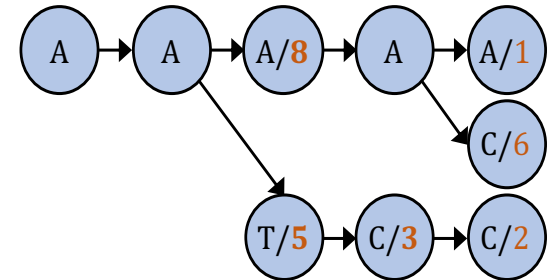
Space-Efficient

✗ *Slow inside the SSD  
due to long  
NAND flash latency*

# Step 2 Design: Retrieving the Species ID

- MegIS retrieves the species IDs of the **common k-mers** by looking up a **sketch database**

K-mer	ID
AAAAA	1,5
AAAAC	6
AATCC	2,9
...	...



*K-mer Sketch Streaming is much more suitable for in-storage processing due to its streaming accesses*

# Step 2 Design: Retrieving the Species ID

- MegIS retrieves the species IDs of the **common k-mers** by looking up a **sketch database**

K-mer	ID
AAAAAA	15



Design details are in the paper

Space-efficient

Space-Efficient

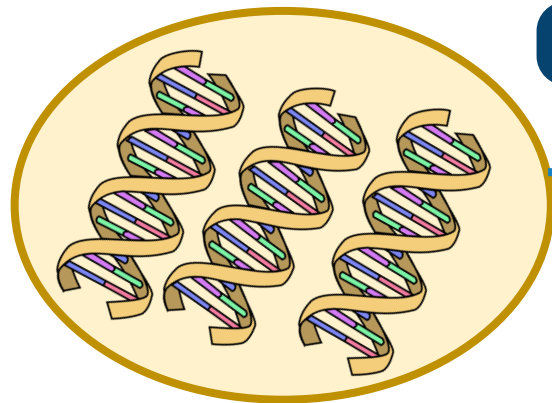
7.5x Smaller

2.1x Larger

K-mer Sketch Streaming

*K-mer Sketch Streaming is much more suitable for in-storage processing due to its streaming accesses*

# Step 3



Metagenomic sample with species that are **not known** in advance



A large database containing information on **many species**

## Step 1

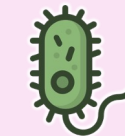
Preparation of Input Queries

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TCATG  
...

## Step 2

Presence/Absence Identification



V. cholerae



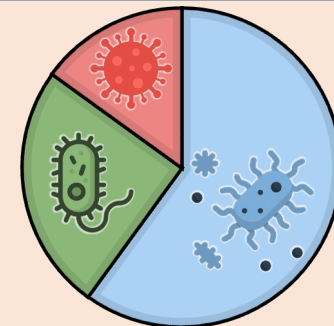
SARS-CoV-2



E. coli

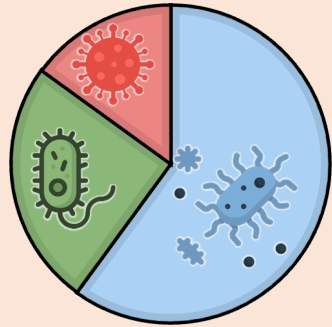
## Step 3

Abundance Estimation



# Step 3

Abundance Estimation



MegIS performs additional analysis on species identified in the sample to estimate their abundance

## *MegIS can flexibly integrate with different approaches*

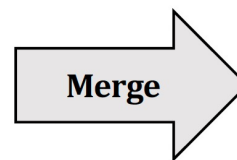
1. **Lightweight statistical approaches:** Directly uses the output of Step 2
2. **More accurate and costly read mapping:** MegIS facilitates integration by preparing mapping indexes in the SSD

K-mer	Loc.
ATT	14
CCA	9
GCT	5
...	...

Reference Index  
Organism A

K-mer	Loc.
AAG	2
CCA	21
TGC	4
...	...

Reference Index  
Organism B



Unified  
Reference Index

K-mer	Loc.
AAG	1002
ATT	14
CCA	9, 1021
GCT	5
TGC	1004
...	...

Step 3 and MegIS FTL are in the paper