

# 9. Storage Architecture

**Special Topics in Computer Systems:**  
Modern Storage Systems  
(IC820-01)

**Instructor:**

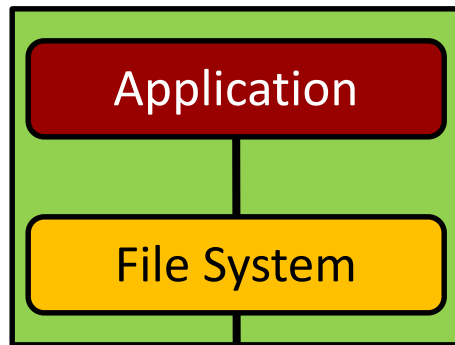
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# DAS, NAS, and SAN

## ■ Directly-Attached Storage (DAS)

- Direct-attached storage device
- Generally attached/dedicated to a specific server

### Directly-Attached Storage



Protocols: SATA, SAS, NVMe

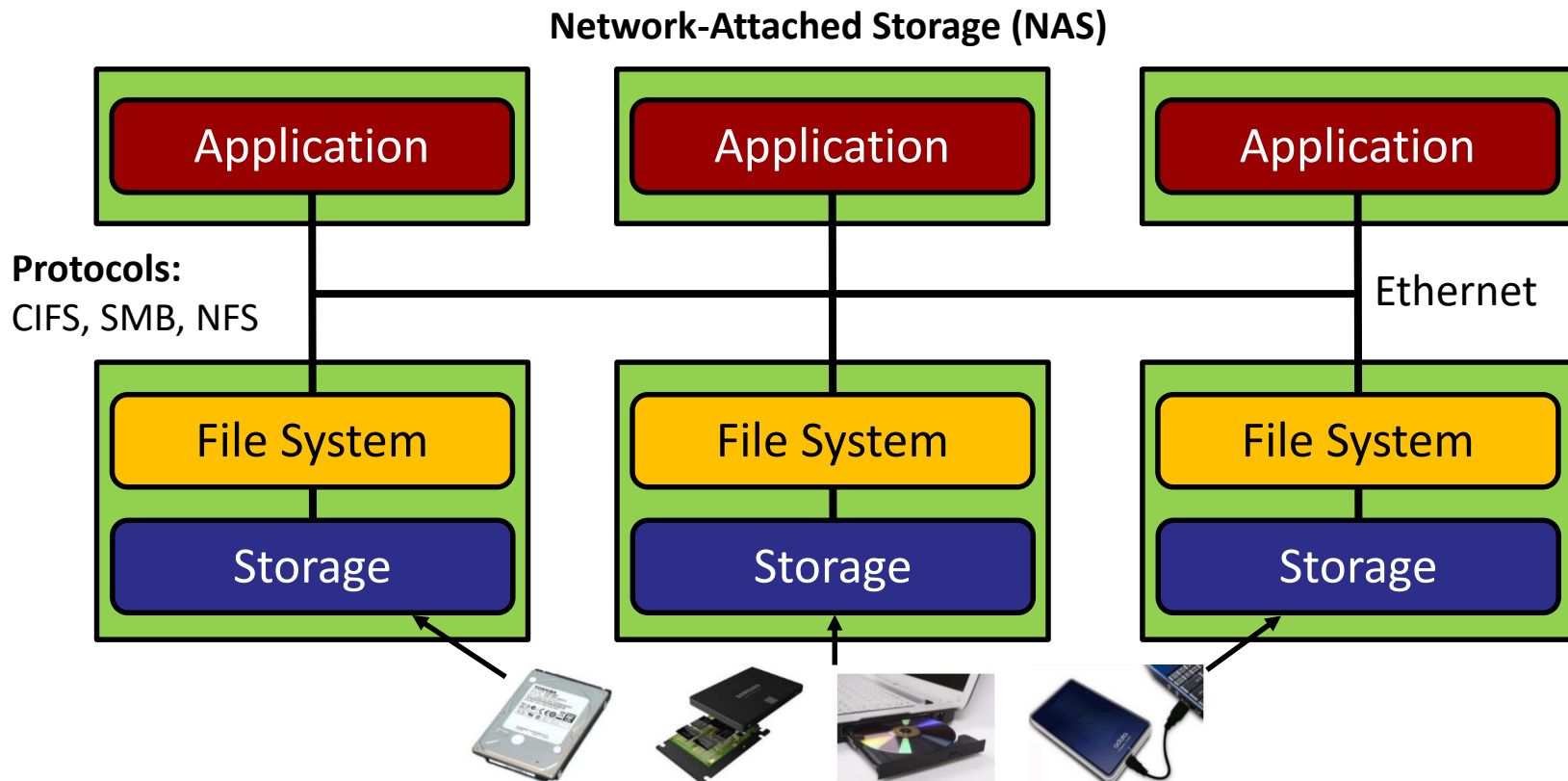
Storage



# DAS, NAS, and SAN (Cont.)

## ■ Network-Attached Storage (NAS)

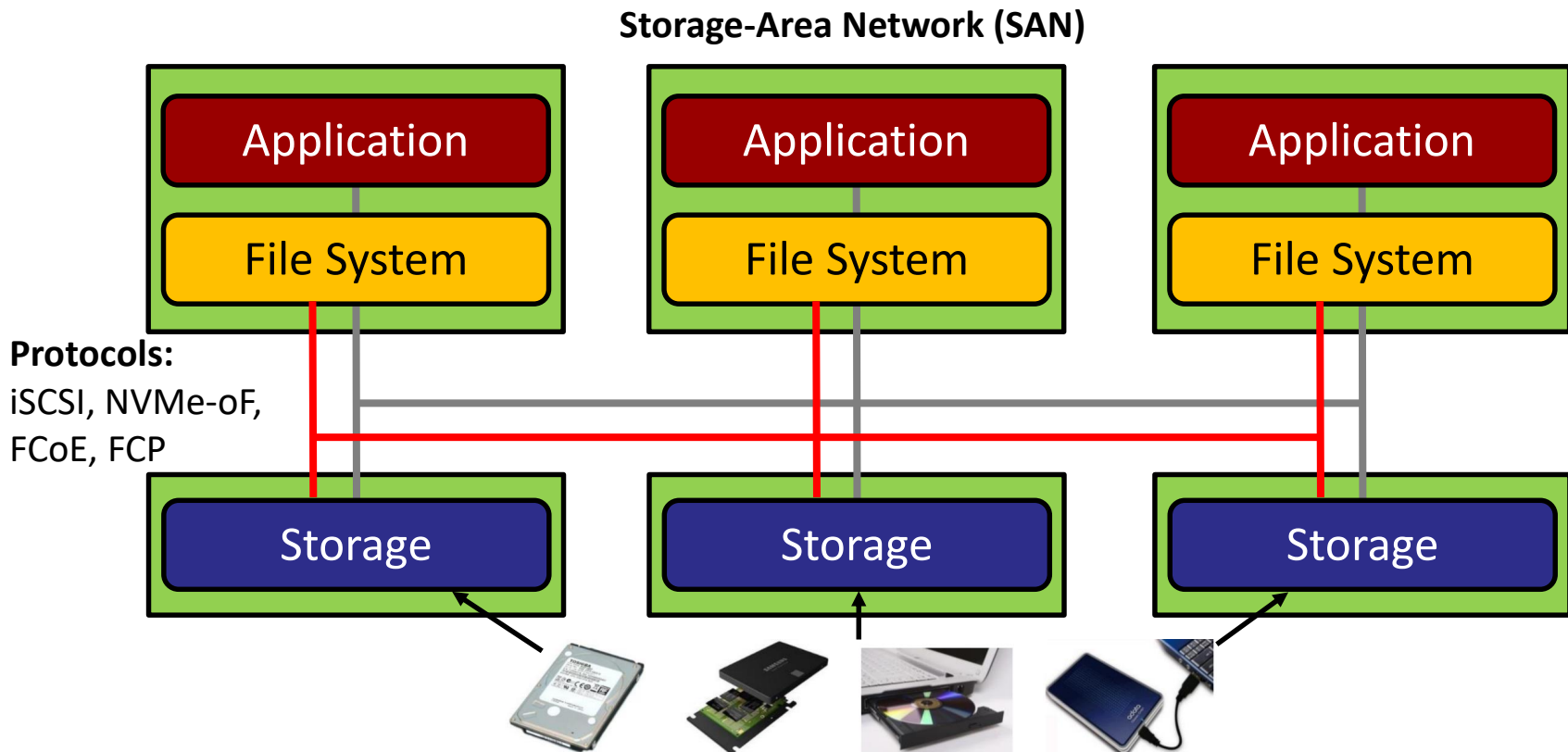
- Connected to a server via a network
- Can be shared or dedicated



# DAS, NAS, and SAN (Cont.)

## ■ Storage-Area Network (SAN)

- Connected to a server via a storage network
- Can be shared or dedicated



# Outline

- **Directly-Attached Storage (DAS)**
- Network-Attached Storage (NAS)
- Storage-Area Network (SAN)

# Storage Interface

- **Hard drives and SSDs use four major interfaces to communicate with the host system**
  - PATA: Parallel Advanced Technology Attachment
  - SATA: Serial Advanced Technology Attachment
  - SAS: Serial-Attached SCSI
  - NVMe: NVMe over peripheral component interconnect express
  - DIMM: The memory channel

# Parallel ATA

16 - bit frequency가 .

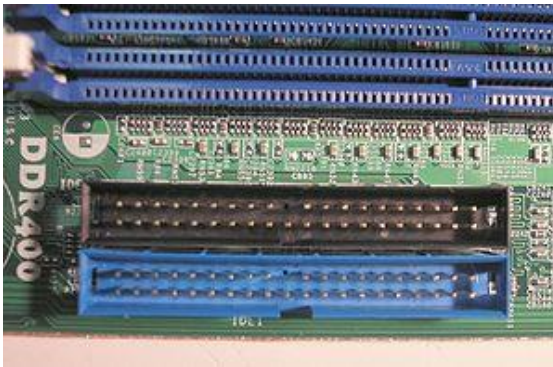
## ■ A direct connection to the 16-bit ISA bus introduced with the IBM PC/AT

- Use the Integrated Drive Electronics (IDE) protocol
- With a 16-bit bus, two bytes are transmitted per bus transaction
- Double-edge clocking mechanism for DMA transfers  
can't increase frequency

$$100 \text{ MB/s} = 25 \text{ MHz stroke} \times 2 \text{ (double data rate clocking)} \times 16 \text{ bits per edge} / 8 \text{ bits per byte}$$

## ■ Provide up to the maximum throughput of **133 MB/s**

- No further development



Motherboard sockets



IDE Cable

# Serial ATA

- The proactive evolution of the ATA interface from a parallel bus to a serial bus architecture
  - Overcome the electrical constraints that are increasing the difficulty of continued speed enhancements of the parallel communication
  - Use either the IDE or Intel's Advanced Host Controller Interface (AHCI) protocol

$$150 \text{ MB/s} = 1500 \text{ MHz clock} \times 1 \text{ bit per clock} \times 8\text{b}/10\text{b encoding} / 8 \text{ bits per byte}$$

- SATA 3.0 provides up to **600 MB/s** throughput

HDD

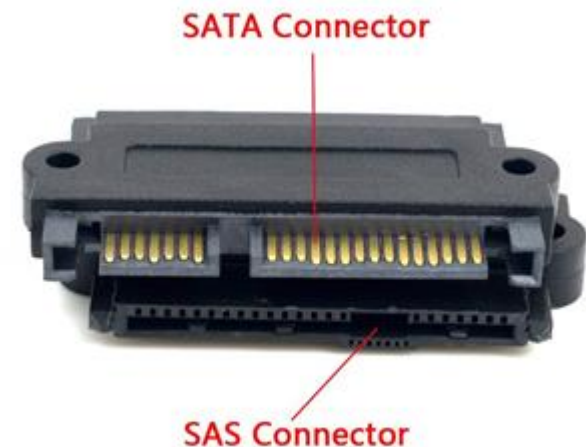


SATA Cable and Connector



# Serial-Attached SCSI

- **Based on Small Computing System Interface (SCSI) by a floppy disk maker**
  - Improved to support a parallel bus later
- **Higher performance with full duplex**
  - The link can transfer data to and from the device simultaneously
- **High reliability and scalability**
  - High-Availability (HA): two ports for failover, error recovery, and error correction
  - A large number of disks: up to 255 device single system .
  - But, need a special controller (e.g., HBA)
- **SAS 3.0 provides up to 1.2 GB/s throughput**



# PCIe/NVMe

PCIe . GPU , Storage device  
bottleneck PCIe ,  
NVMe가 .

- For nonvolatile memory attached to a computer over the high-speed PCIe bus (which is devised to support graphics)
- Provide much greater storage bandwidth than SATA and SAS
  - Support multiple lanes (e.g., 1x, 2x, 4x, 8x, 16x): 1 GB/s per lane (PCIe 3.0)
  - Support multiple queues for better performance
    - 65,535 command queues (c.f., a single queue in AHCI)
    - 65,535 outstanding commands (c.f., 32 in AHCI)
  - Support full duplex



NVMe SSD with M.2 form factor

# DIMM

- **The fastest interface to the CPU, outperforming the NVMe/PCIe interface**
  - Storage media is seen as byte-addressable memory
  - No interrupt interrupts and deterministic latency
  
- **Products available in market**
  - **NVDIMM-N:**
    - Standard DRAM with the addition of NAND flash that stores DRAM's data in event of power failure
  - **NVDIMM-F:**
    - Connect multiple SSDs to the DRAM bus
  - **Optane DIMM: (Introduced in 2019)**
    - Based on Intel's 3D-Xpoint memory

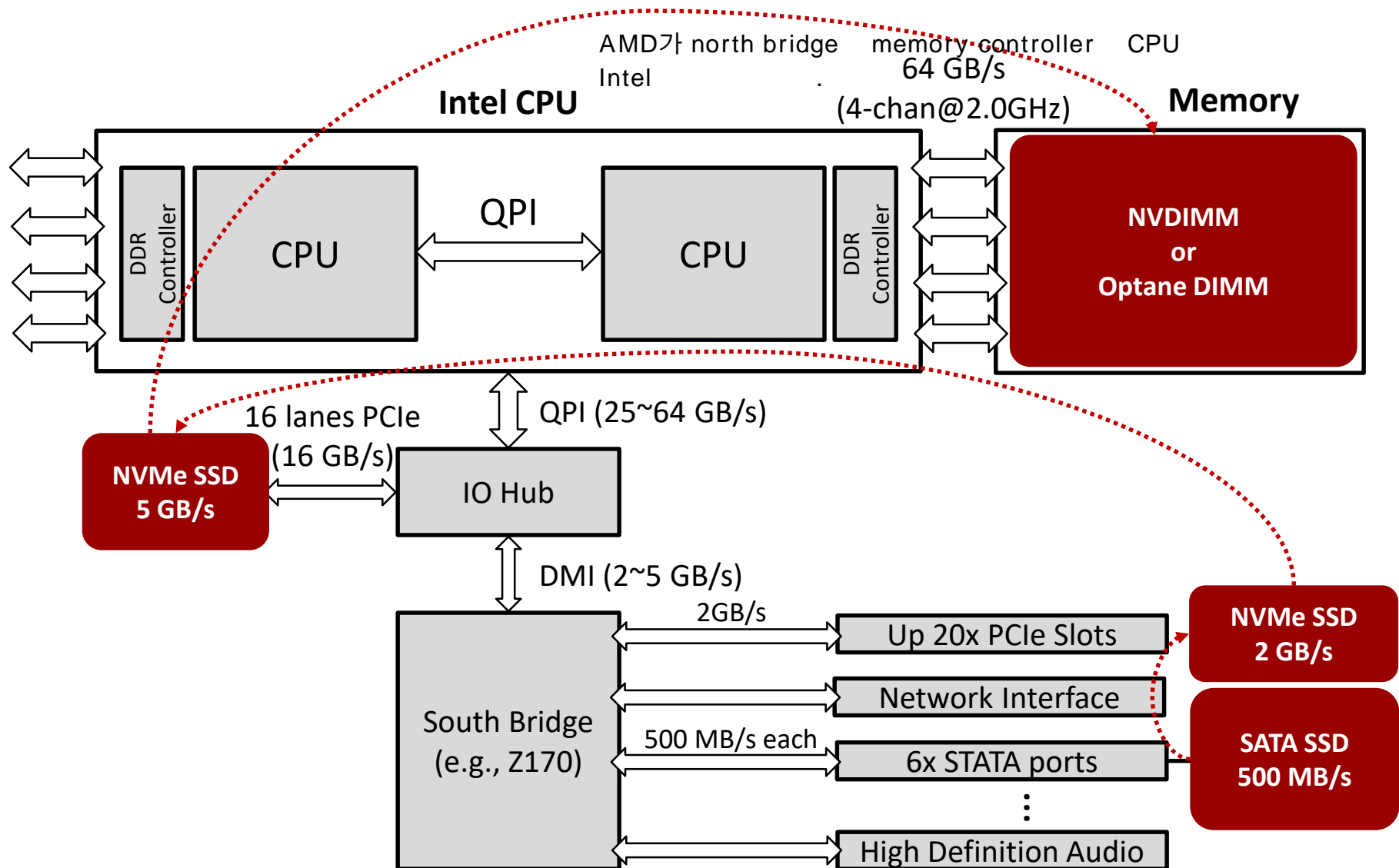
# Summary

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Interface	Mnemonic Meaning	Transfer Speed	Characteristics
<b>SATA</b>	Serial ATA	0.6 GB/s	Low cost
<b>SAS</b>	Serial Attached SCSI	1.2 GB/s	Supports multiple ports Error detection/correction
<b>NVMe</b>	Nonvolatile memory express over PCIe	1 GB/s per lane (3.0) 2 GB/s per lane (4.0)	Up to 16 lanes High command queue support
<b>DIMM</b>	Nonvolatile memory on memory channel	Up to 1 GB/s over 64-bit bus	Very low latency No interrupt Deterministic

- NVMe is becoming a standard interface both for desktop or server systems based on its high performance
- Optane DIMM will be alternative that will replace costly DRAM and slow SSD cache

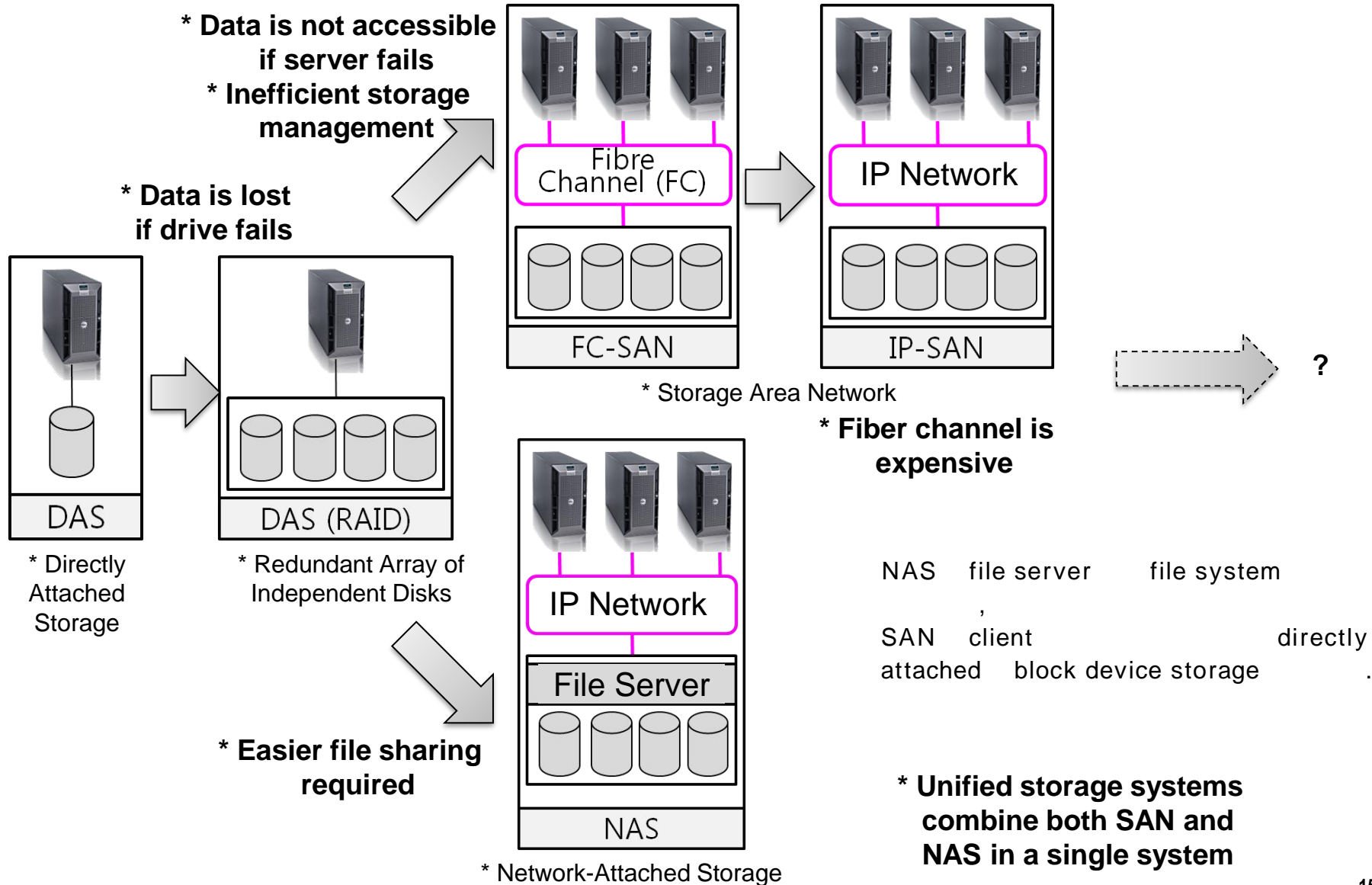
# Storage Bandwidth Hierarchy



# Outline

- Directly-Attached Storage (DAS)
- **Network-Attached Storage (NAS)**
- Storage-Area Network (SAN)

# Evolution of Storage System

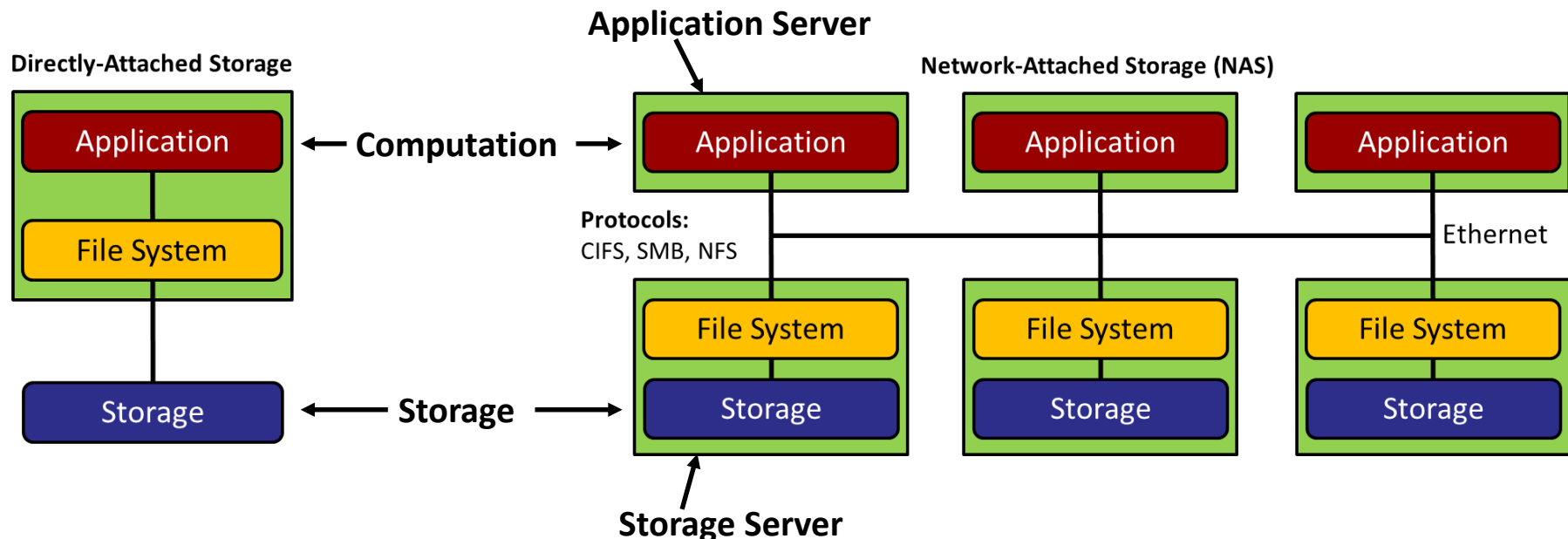


# Computation & Storage Separation

Scalability, Better management, Availability/Reliability, Sharing, Cost

## ■ Computation and storage are often separated in large scale systems

- **Scalability**: add new application or storage servers depending on client's needs
- **Better management**: automatically back up user data
- **Availability / Reliability**: failure of a single server does not affect other servers
- **Sharing**: easy to share user contents
- **Cost**: thin provisioning, deduplication, and compression





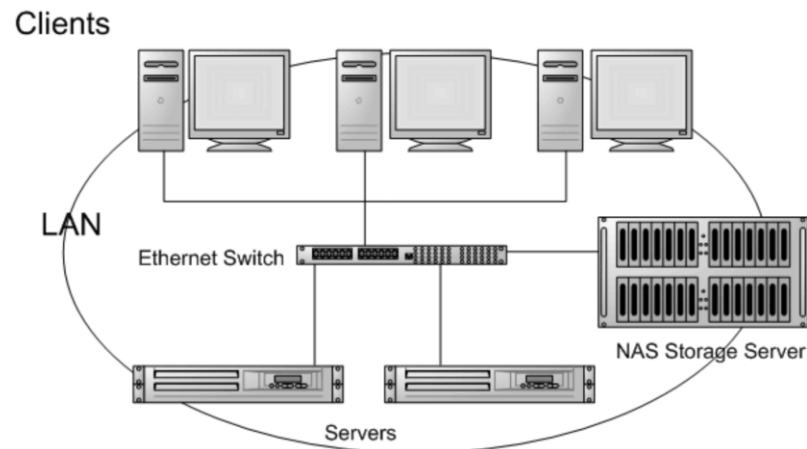
# NAS Detail

## ■ Provides file-level access to storage

- Ethernet connectivity through TCP/IP
- NFS (Network File System)
- CIFS (Common Internet File System)
- SMB (Server Message Block)

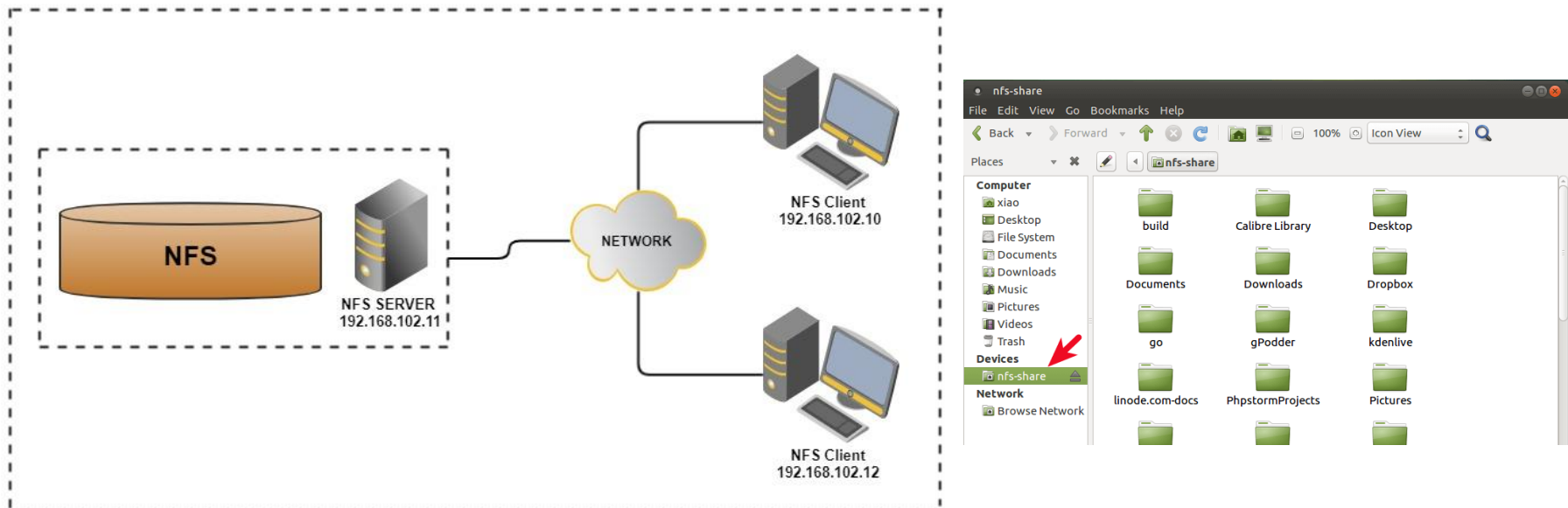
## ■ *Networked file system* allows for concurrent access to data

## ■ Several layers between data request and receipt



# NFS\*

- A distributed file system protocol developed by Sun Microsystems in 1984
- Allow a user on a client computer to access files over a computer network much like local storage is accessed
- The NFS is an open standard defined in a Request for Comments (RFC), allowing anyone to implement the protocol

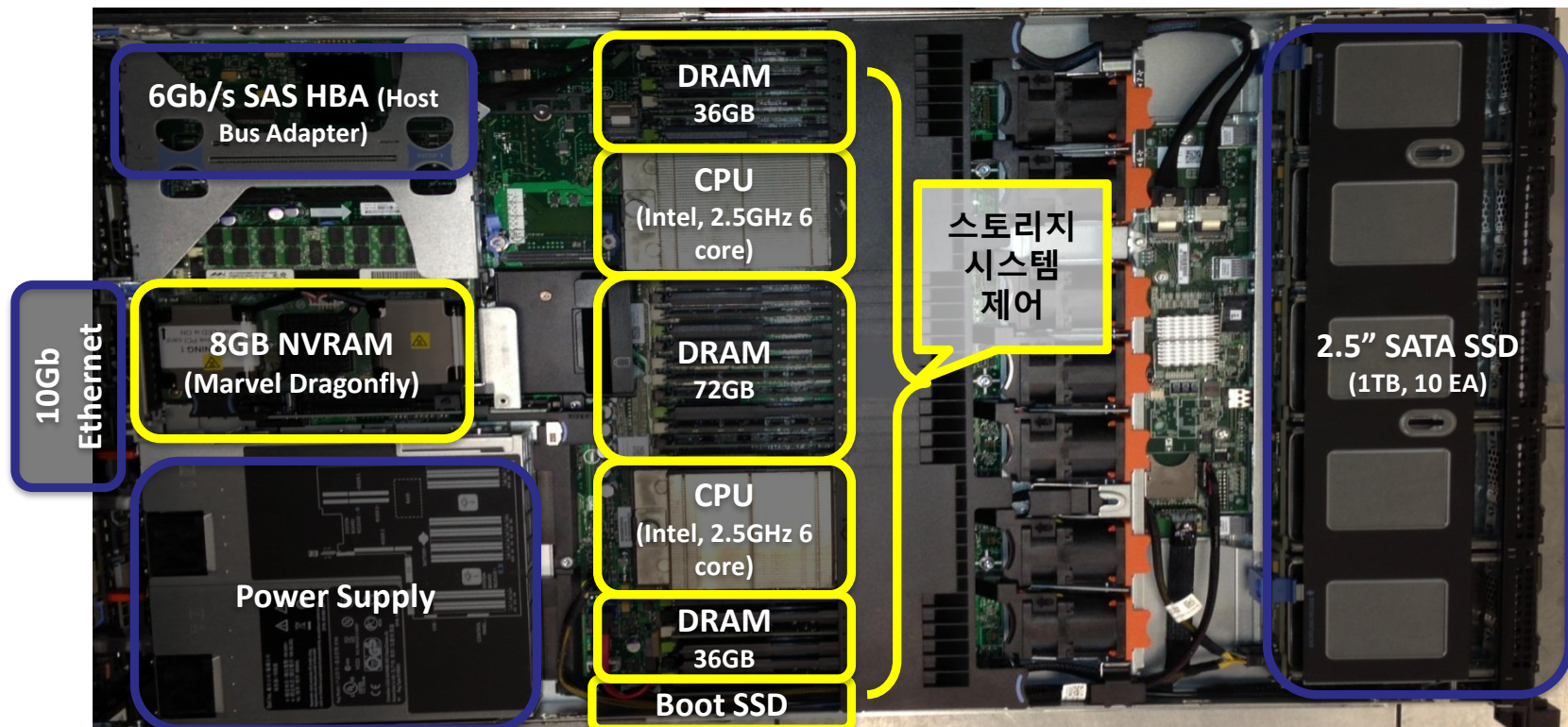


\* Design and Implementation of the Sun Network Filesystem, USENIX ATC '85

# Enterprise NAS Server

- Responsible for servicing user requests over the network
- Hardware specification is similar to high-end enterprise servers
- Perform *lots of jobs* internally

[ Solidfire HW Architecture ]



# Enterprise NAS Server Features

NAS ?  
file - sharing protocol , disk , Scalability, Fault tolerant, Data protection ..

## ■ Support various file-sharing protocols

- Windows (CIFS), UNIX (NFS), Web (HTTP), FTP

## ■ Disk management

- Manage many disks (32 ~ 250 HDDs or SSDs)

## ■ Scales from GBs to TBs

- Scale up & scale out

## ■ Fault tolerant

NVRAM

backup port

- Dual, redundant, hot-swap components

## ■ Data protection

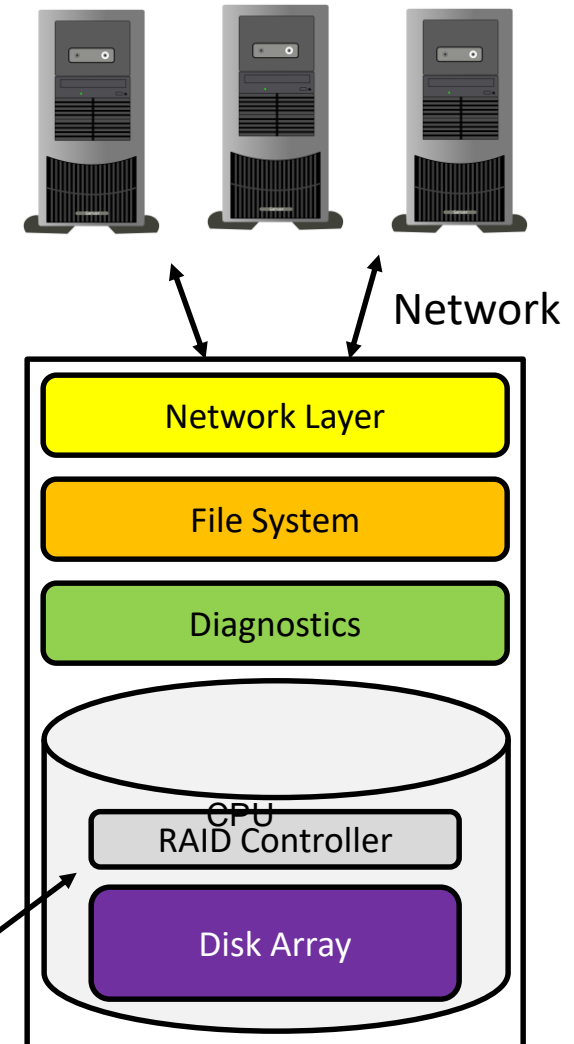
- RAID, Backup to disks & tape

## ■ Management software

- Manage & setup from remote location

## ■ Diagnostic software

- Predictive failure analysis and alters



Same as DAS

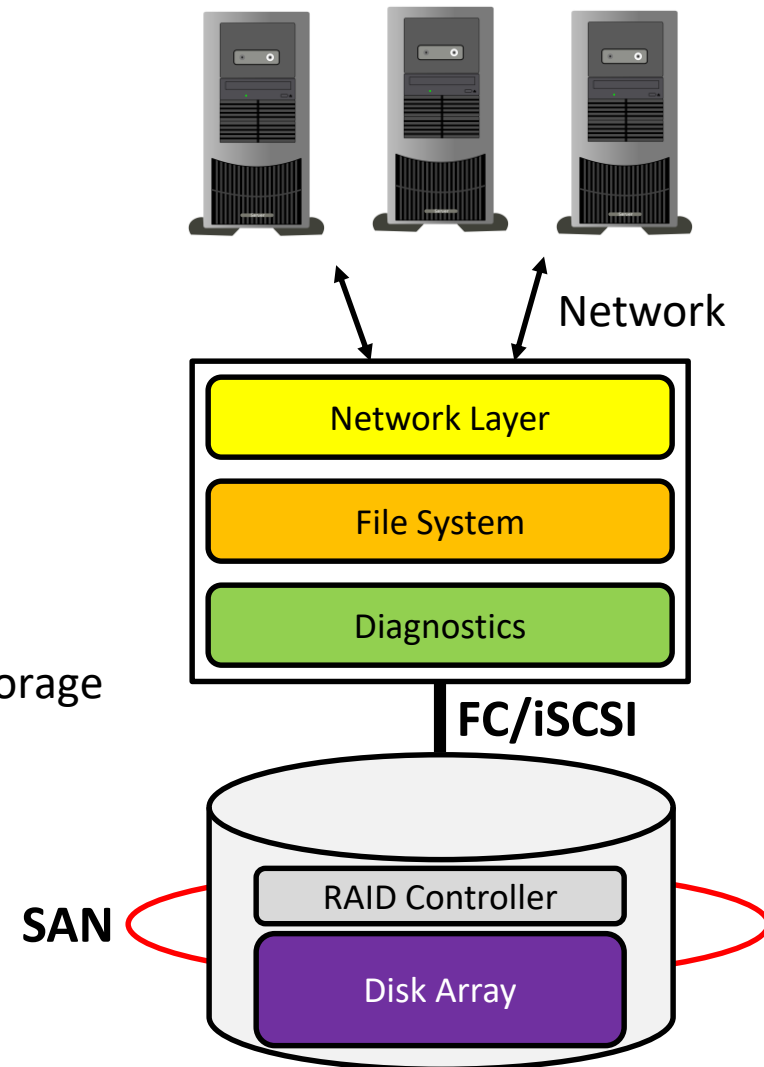
# NAS Gateway

## ■ Offers benefits and characteristics of NAS

- Connect to IP networks
- Performs as a file server
- Heterogeneous file sharing
- Data protection
- Clustering and failover features

## ■ NAS gateway is a NAS appliance with one exception

- Supports direct attachment to Fibre Channel storage or connection to a storage device across SAN
- Do not have integrated disks for data storage



# Outline

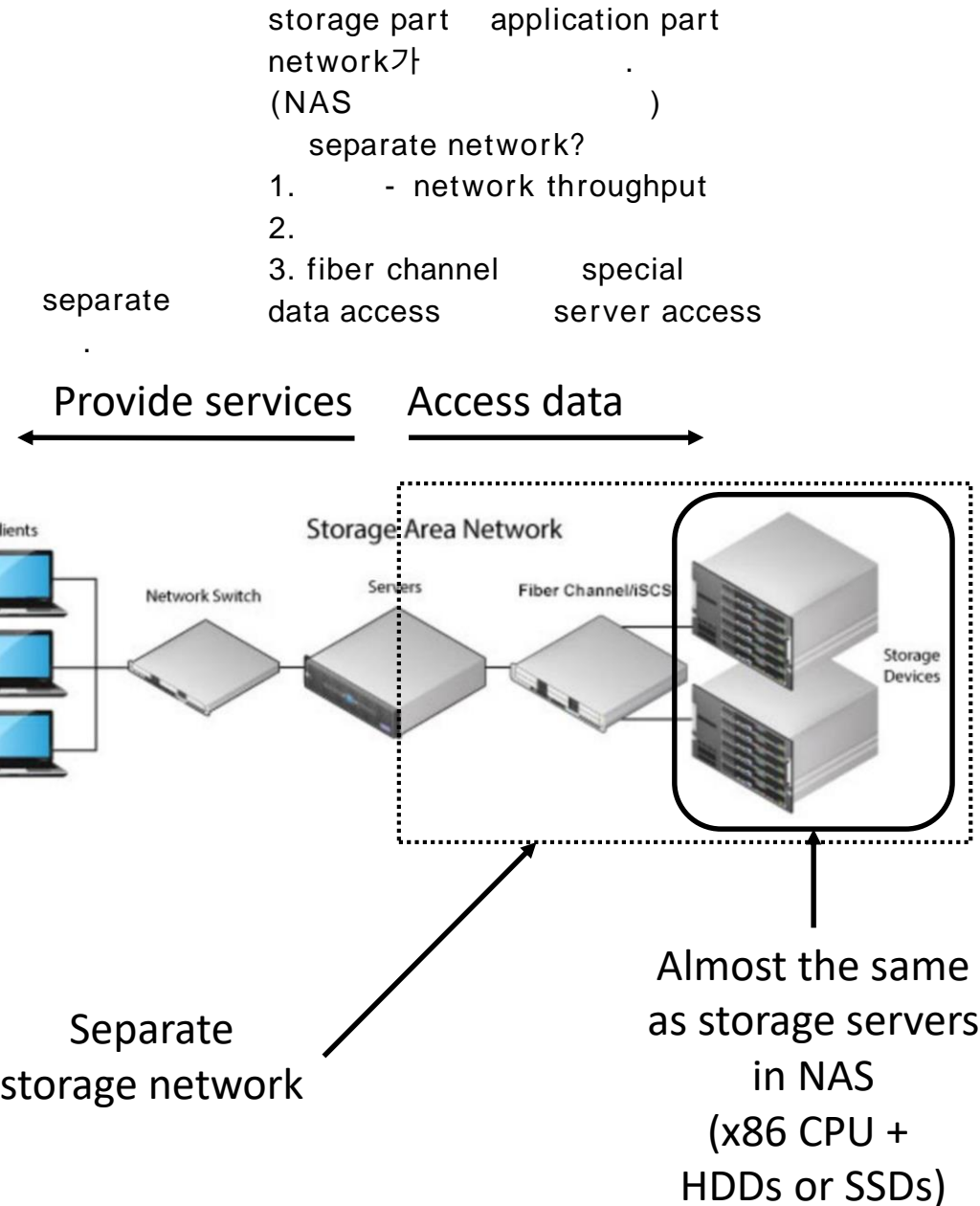
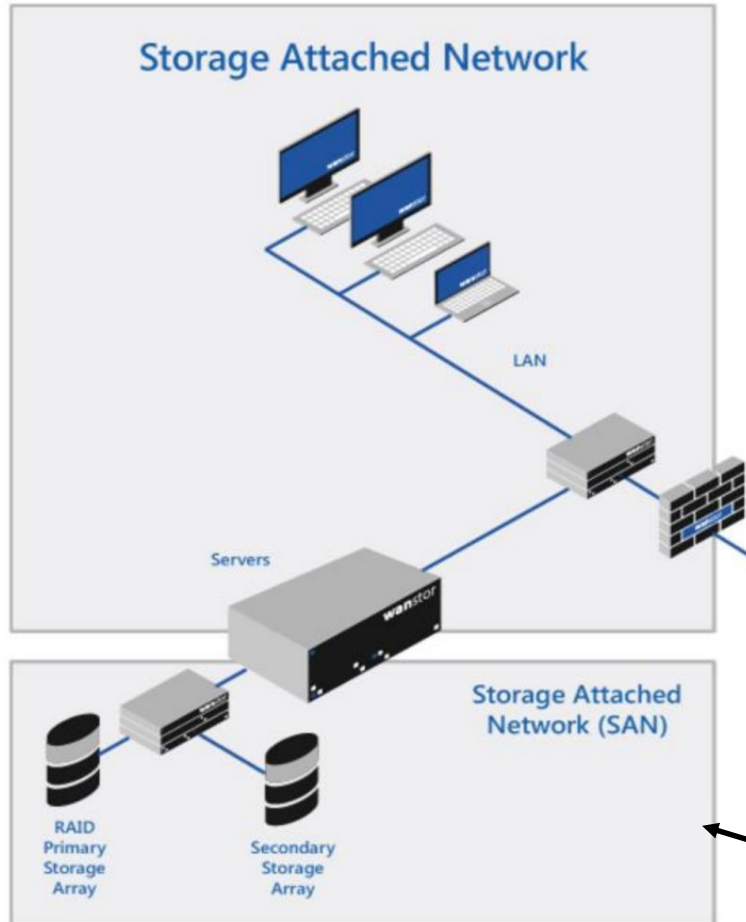
- Directly-Attached Storage (DAS)
- Network-Attached Storage (NAS)
- **Storage-Area Network (SAN)**

# SAN Detail

SAN    block - level storage

- SAN storage devices are connected over the network to servers
- Provides *block-level storage* that can be accessed by the applications running on any networked servers
  
- Differences between SAN and NAS
  - While SANs provide block-level storage for servers, a NAS device provides file-level storage for end users
  - OS sees a SAN as a disk, while they see a NAS device as a file server
- Latest storage boxes support either NAS, SAN, or both, depending on configuration

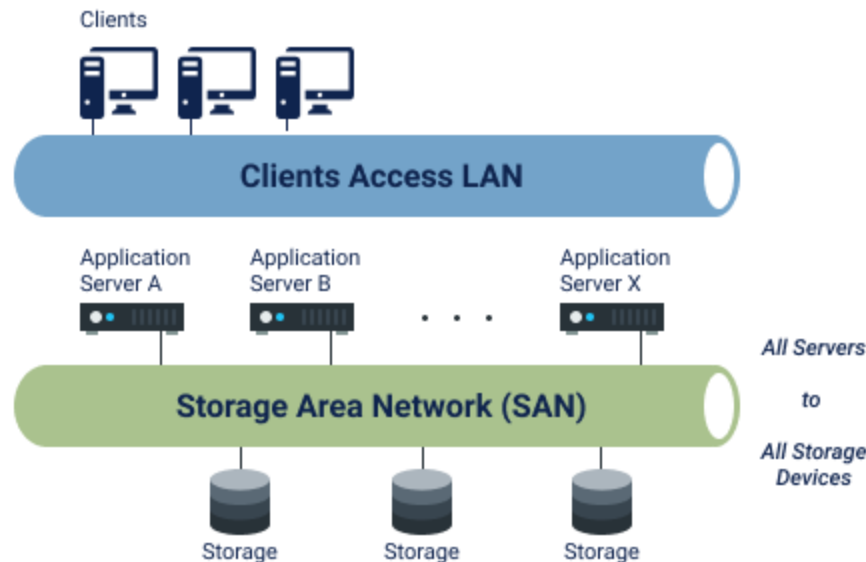
# SAN Architecture





# Fibre Channel

- **Fibre Channel (FC) stands for a set of protocols, technologies and services used to build a “classic” SAN network**
  - Fibre Channel Protocol (FCP) - data transfer protocol that lets through SCSI commands.
  - Fibre optic infrastructure - used to transmit data to and/or from FC devices.
  - Name Service - acts as a database for connected devices. It is quite similar to a domain name system (DNS).
  - Set of flow control service



# Fibre Channel (Cont.)

- **“FC SAN” implies a storage network built up of dedicated hardware adapters and switches, connected using fiber optics**
  - As the network is developed for high-loaded storage devices, it uses a strong cyclic redundancy check (CRC) – data is not corrupted when transmitted
  - Fewer retransmissions compared to TCP/IP and connection retries due to loss of data
  - More isolated compared to TCP/IP-based networks – lower security risks
  - Support 8Gbps, 16Gbps, and 32Gbps
- **Disadvantage**
  - Expensive – FC requires buying special network switches and storage adapters

# iSCSI

IP

SCSI

SCSI

TCP/IP channel

## ■ The basic concept of iSCSI is simply putting SCSI commands inside of a typical TCP/IP channel

SCSI command TCP/IP channel

- Just install *iSCSI Target/Initiator* software onto your **storage server** and its **clients**

## ■ Ethernet and TCP/IP are widely deployed and dominant

Fiber channel

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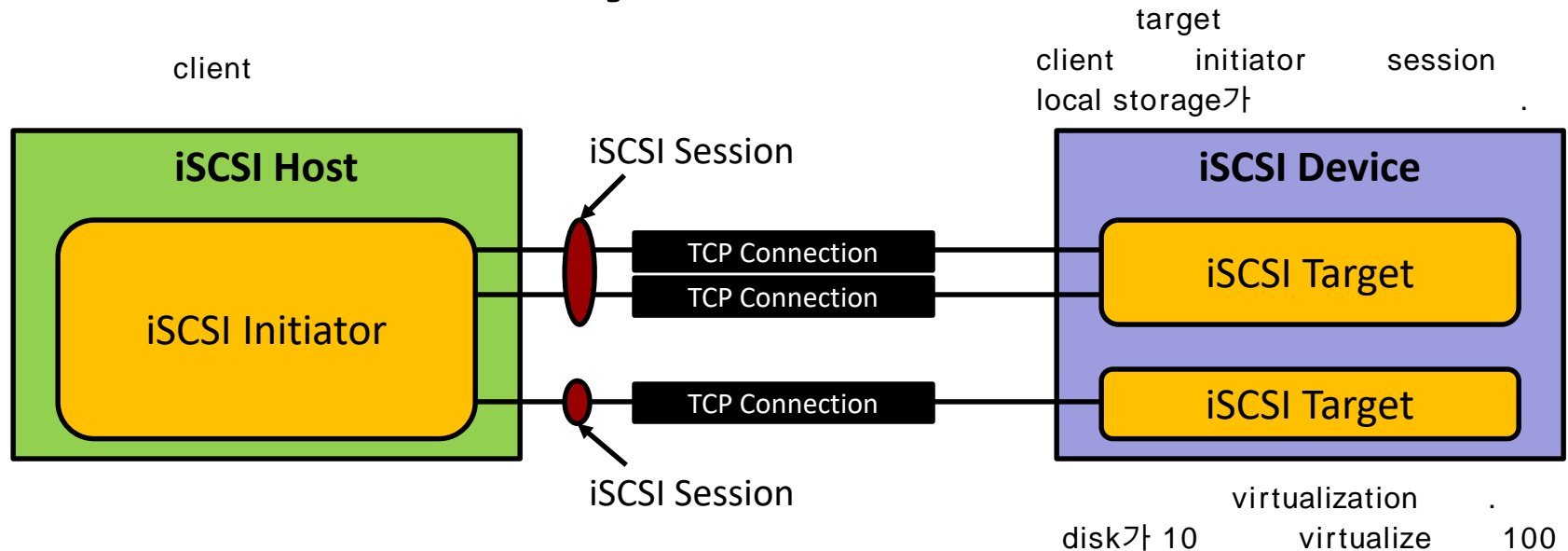
tcp/ip

- Well understood technology; Low acquisition cost; Unlimited distance
- A scalable technology with 10/100/1000/10000 Mbps
- Allow the creation of a single physical network using familiar standards
  - VLAN may be used for separating storage traffic from intranet traffic
- Bring interoperability & Ethernet economics to storage

# iSCSI (Cont.)

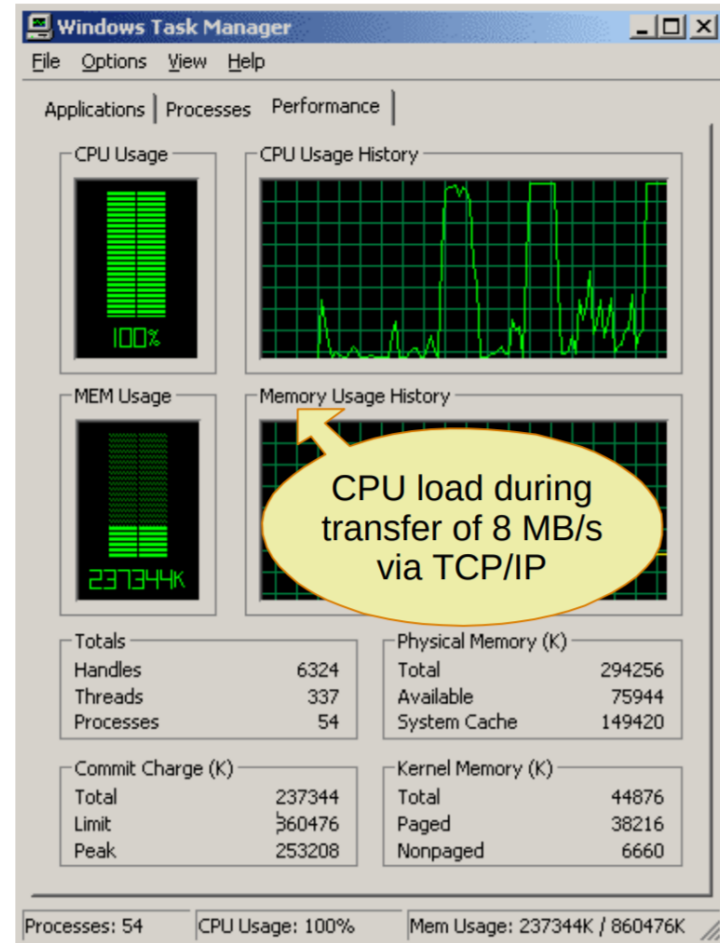
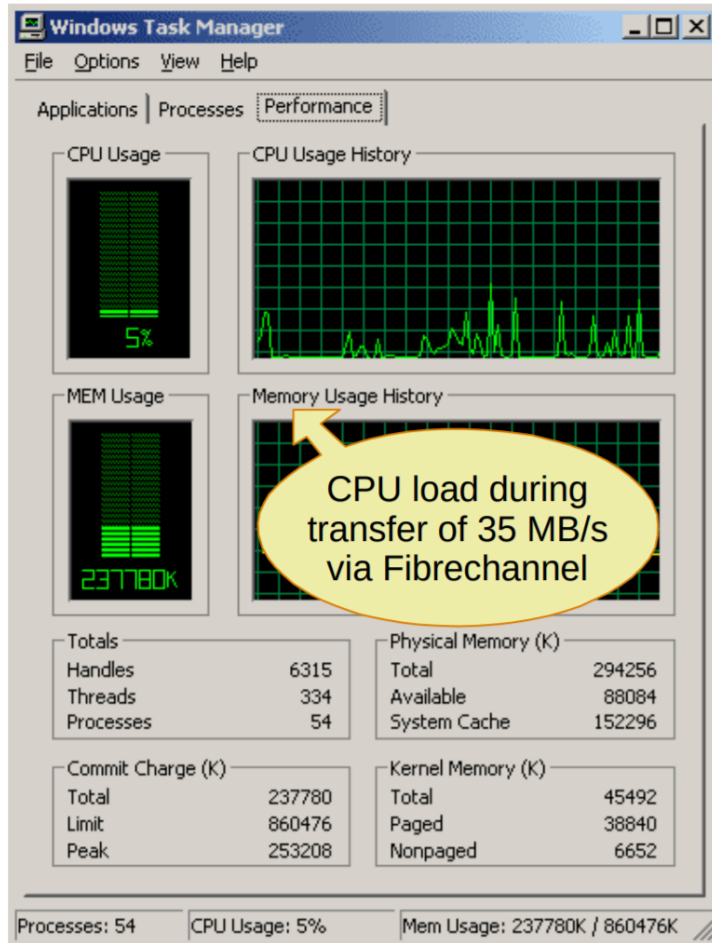
- **TCP/IP over Ethernet are designed for common usage**
- **No strong data flow controls or built-in storage discovery services**
  - IP addresses of iSCSI storage and clients, frame sizes, LUN visibility, etc
  - Optimize the network for large data block transfers to get relatively high performance
  - Hardware-accelerated network adapters to offload iSCSI processing from a host server or client

# iSCSI Connectivity



- **Initiators and targets can be implemented in H/W or S/W**
- **Session between initiator and target**
  - One or more TCP connections per session
  - Login phase begins each connection
- **Services (e.g., authentication, security) negotiated during login**
- **TCP protocol provides**
  - Delivery of SCSI commands in order
  - Recovery from lost connections

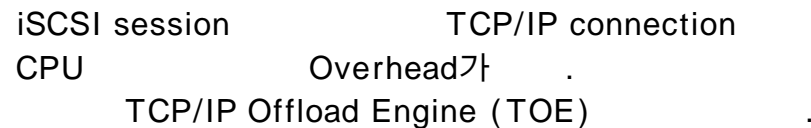
# CPU Load



# TCP/IP Overhead

## ■ Every TCP/IP connection that is part of an iSCSI session has processing overhead

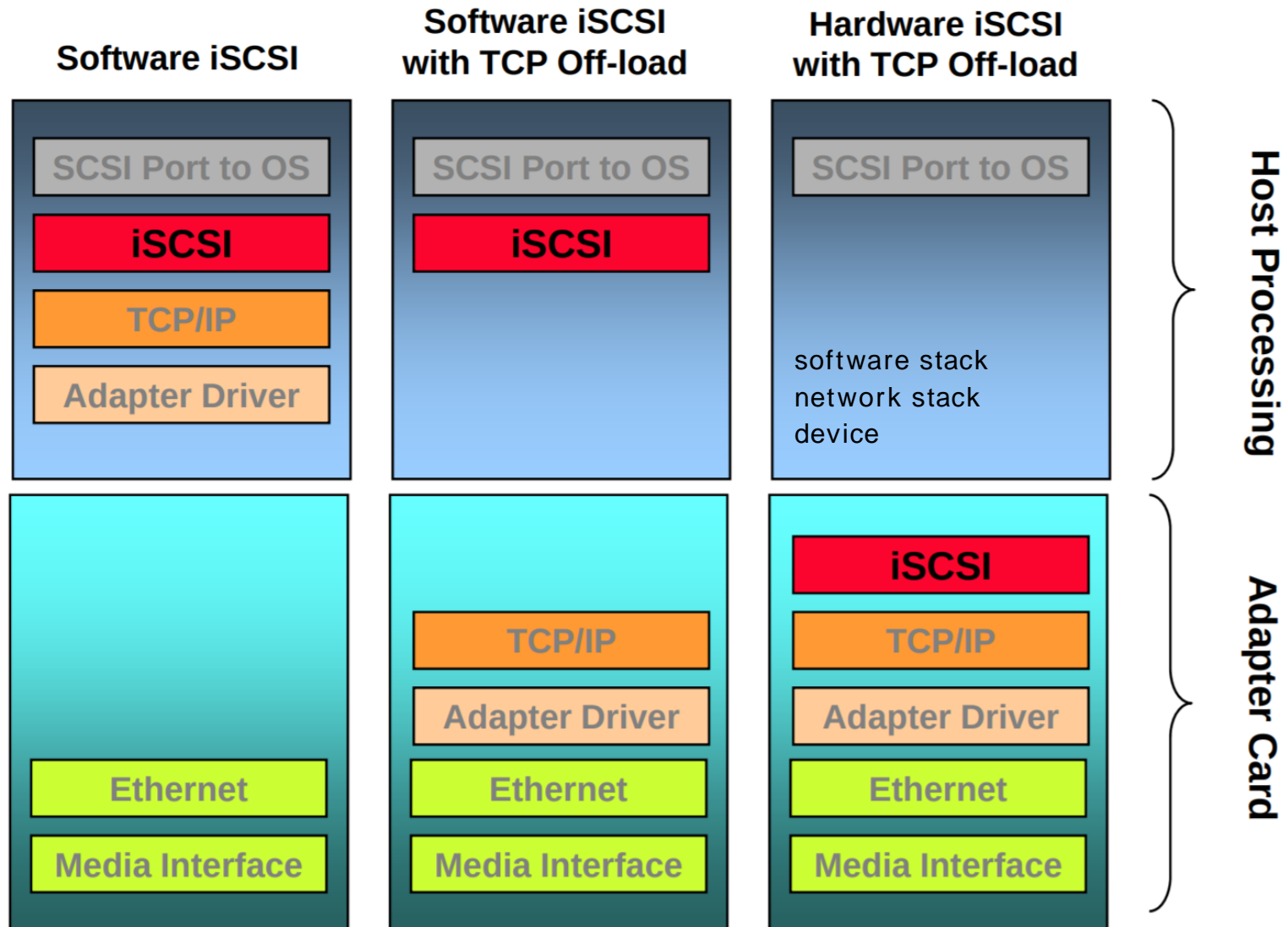
- Connection setup / teardown
- TCP state machine:
  - Acknowledge, timeout, and retransmission
  - Window management
  - Congestion control
- Checksum calculation
- TCP segmentation



## ■ **TCP/IP Offload Engine (TOE)** helps at GbE NICs!

- 1 GbE links will not require full integrated TOEs
  - Increasing CPU performance might be sufficient
- For higher than 10 GbE, TOE is necessary!

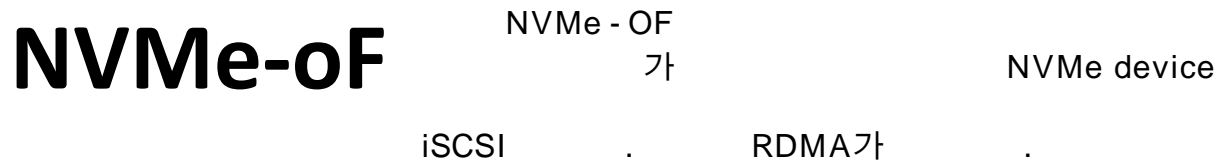
# iSCSI & TOE Adapters





# Outline

- Directly-Attached Storage (DAS)
- Network-Attached Storage (NAS)
- **Storage-Area Network (SAN)**
  - NVMe-over-Fabric (NVMe-oF)



## ■ NVMe-OF is a communication protocol that allows one computer to access NVMe devices attached to another computer

- Contrary to the standard NVMe protocol where NVMe devices are connected directly to PCIe bus

concept

## ■ Combined with remote direct-memory access (RDMA)

- One computer can access another computer's memory as if that memory actually resided within the first computer
- Don't need to go through the OS's I/O stack – run at speeds closer to the speed of memory

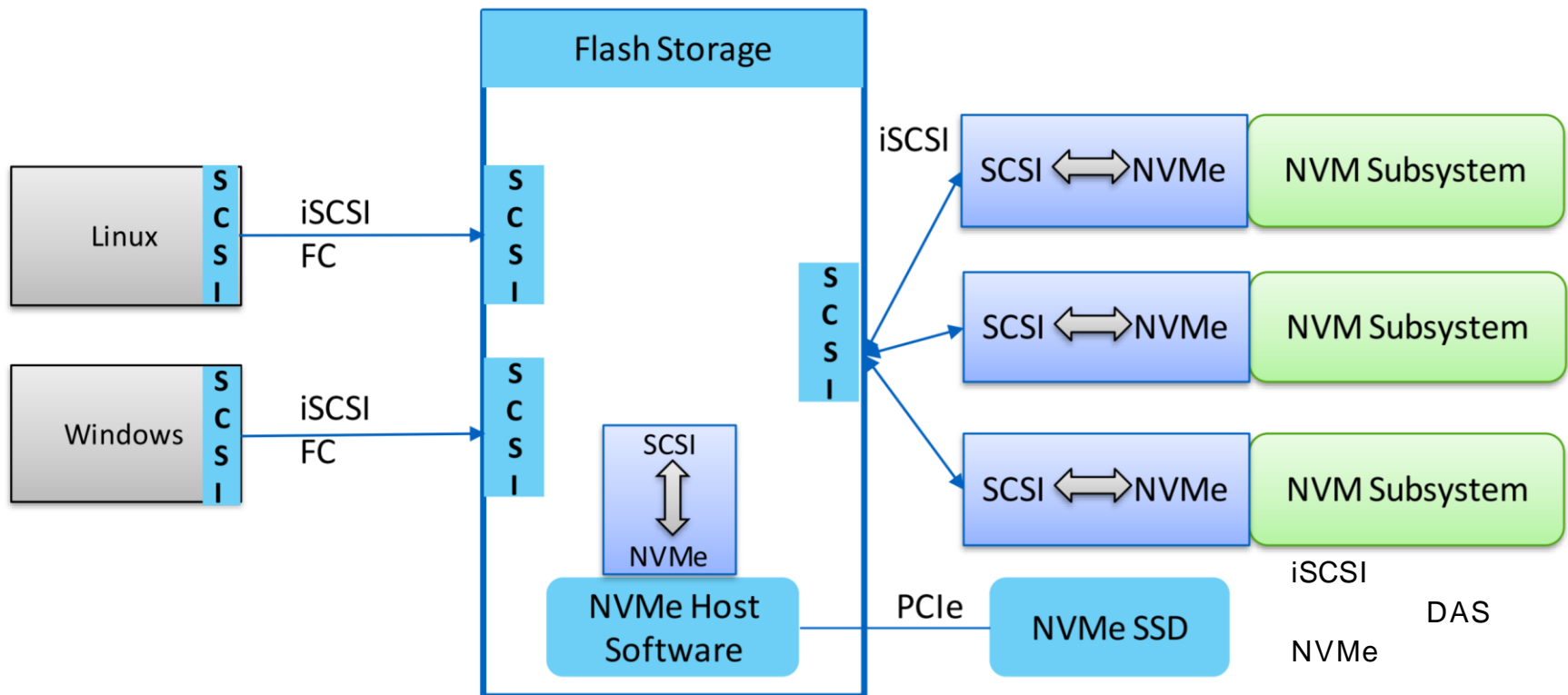
## ■ Implemented over Ethernet or InfiniBand

- *NVMe-oF will replace iSCSI in the future!*

device가 NVMe interface  
iSCSI

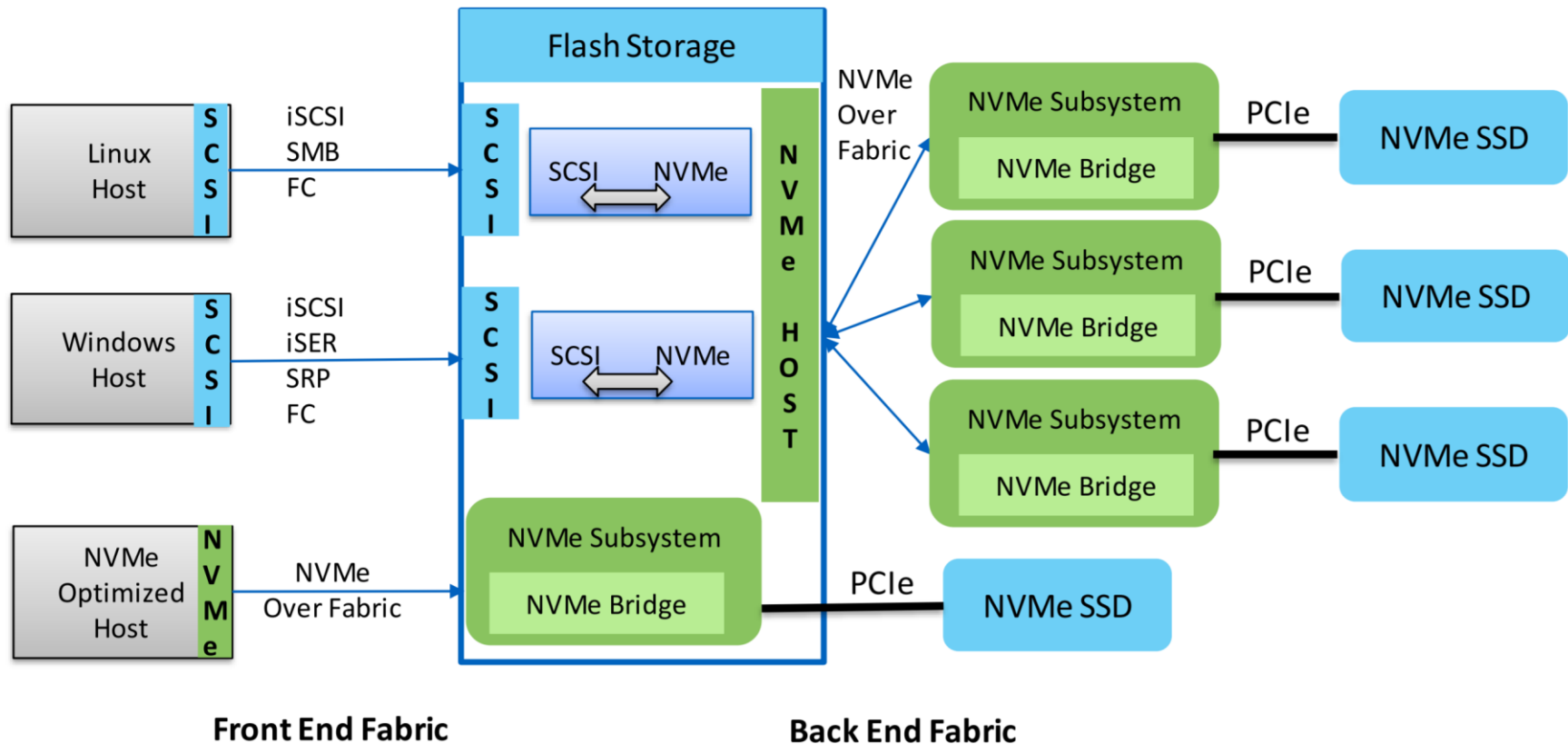
# Why NVMe-oF?

- Protocol conversion bridge is required to access the data over network which increases I/O latency



# Why NVMe-oF? (Cont.)

- NVMe-oF removes a burden on converting iSCSI comds to NVME cmds
- Enable us to take advantage of unique features of NVMe devices like multiple-queue architectures for fast storage



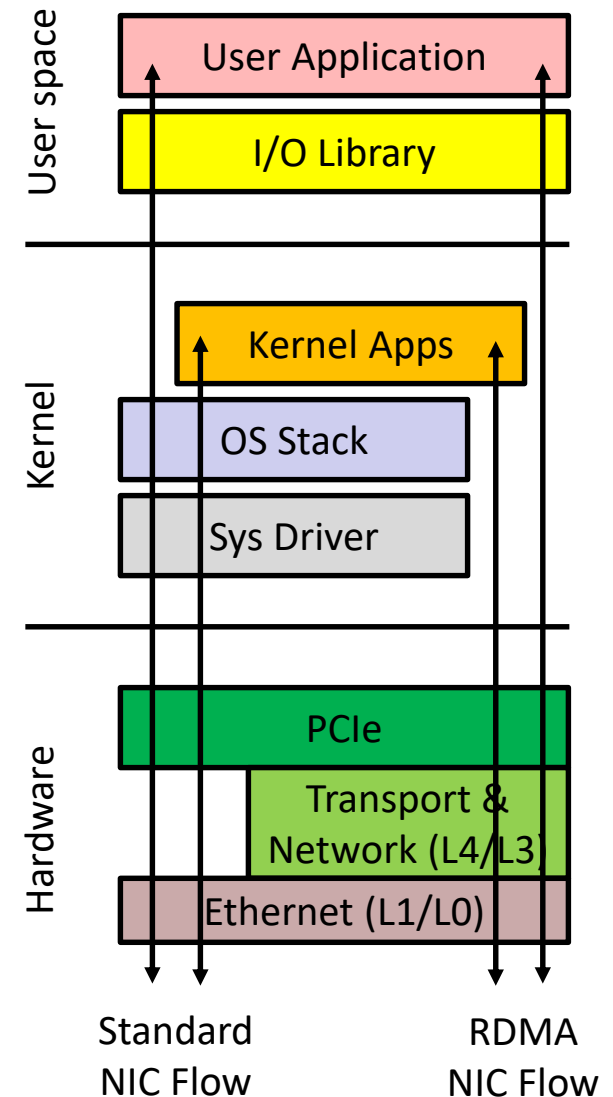
# What is RDMA?

RDMA

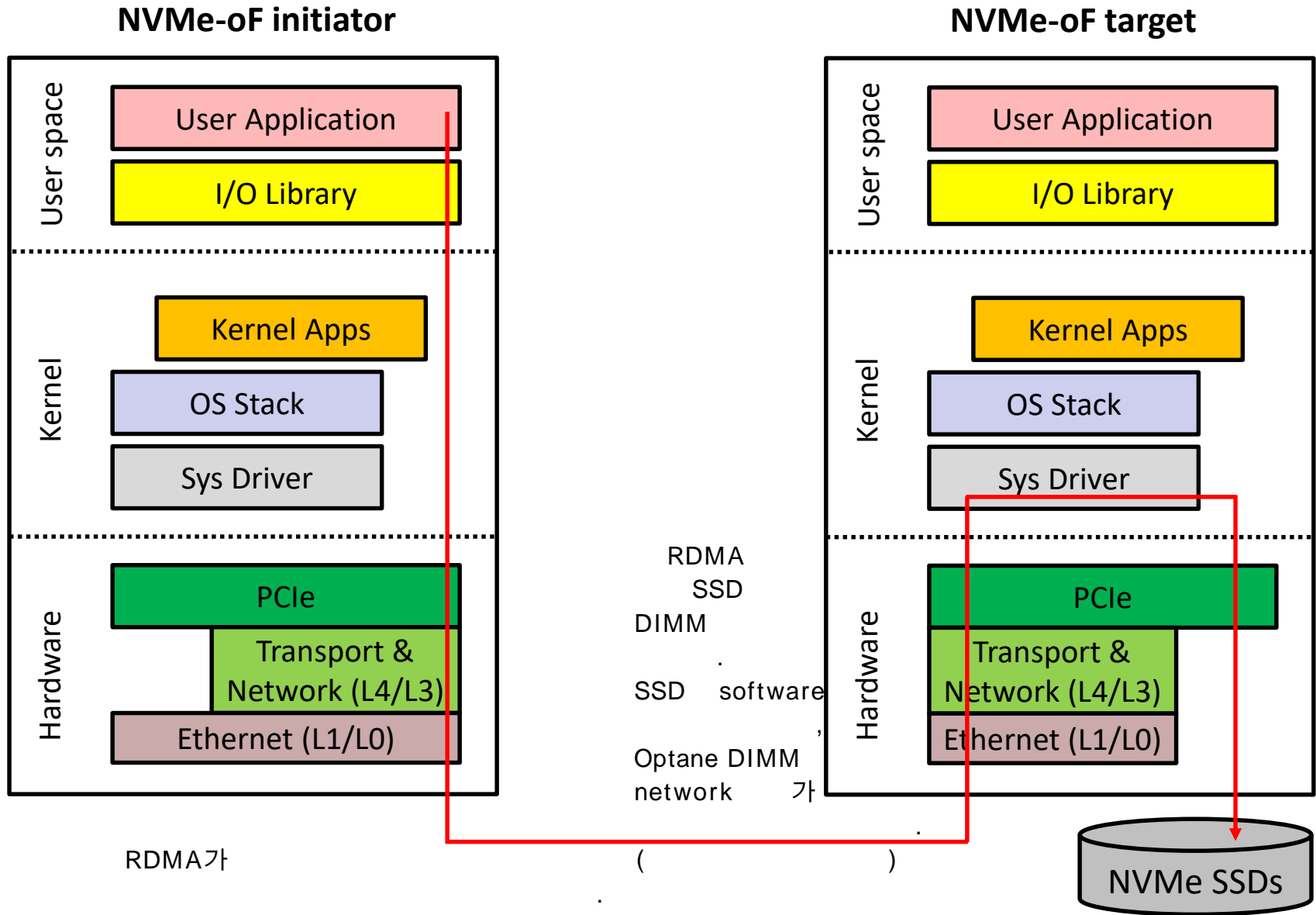
- RDMA is a host-offload, host-bypass technology that allows an application (including storage) to make data transfers directly to/from another application's memory space
- The RDMA-capable Ethernet NICs (RNICs) – not the host – manage reliable connections between source and destination
- Applications communicate with the RDMA NIC using dedicated Queue Pairs (QPs) and Completion Queues (CQs)
  - Suitable for the NVMe architecture

# Benefits of RDMA

- **Bypass of system SW stack components that processes network traffic**
  - For user applications, RDMA bypasses the kernel altogether
  - For kernel applications, RDMA bypasses the OS stack and the system drivers
- **Direct data placement of data from one machine (real or virtual) to another machine – without copies**
- **Increased bandwidth while lowering latency, jitter, and CPU utilization**
- **Great for networked storage!**



# How NVMe-oF w/ RDMA Works?



*End of Chapter 9*