

IEEE Distinguished Lecturer for 2023

Computational I/O Stack Workshop, August 17, 2023

# **Magnetic Data Storage Technology from the invention of perpendicular magnetic recording (PMR) to computational storage**

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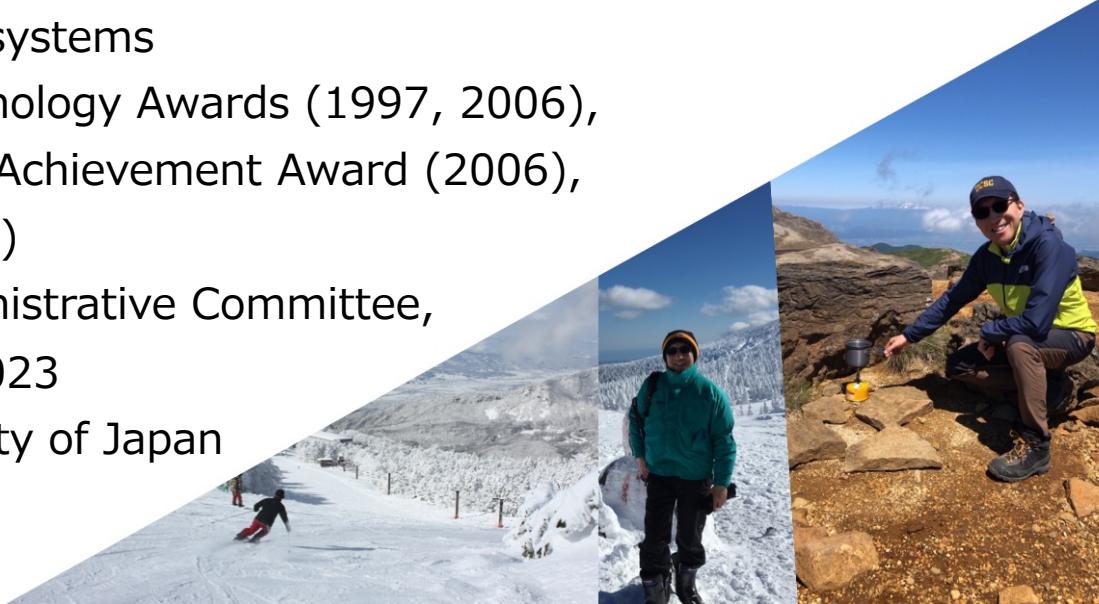


# Yoichiro Tanaka, PhD

Professor

**Research Institute of Electrical Communication  
Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan**

- Research & development of **perpendicular magnetic recording (PMR)** in industry and academia over 30 years
  - ✓ Achieved **the world's first PMR HDD to commercialize**
  - ✓ Recording physics, a giant magnetoresistive head, granular thin film media materials, signal processing
  - ✓ Computational storage systems
- Awards: The Nikkei BP Technology Awards (1997, 2006), The Japan Magnetic Society Achievement Award (2006), Okochi Memorial Prize (2007)
- IEEE Magnetic Society Administrative Committee, Distinguished Lecturer for 2023
- Fellow of the Magnetic Society of Japan
- The Secretary General for INTERMAG 2023 Sendai



# Agenda

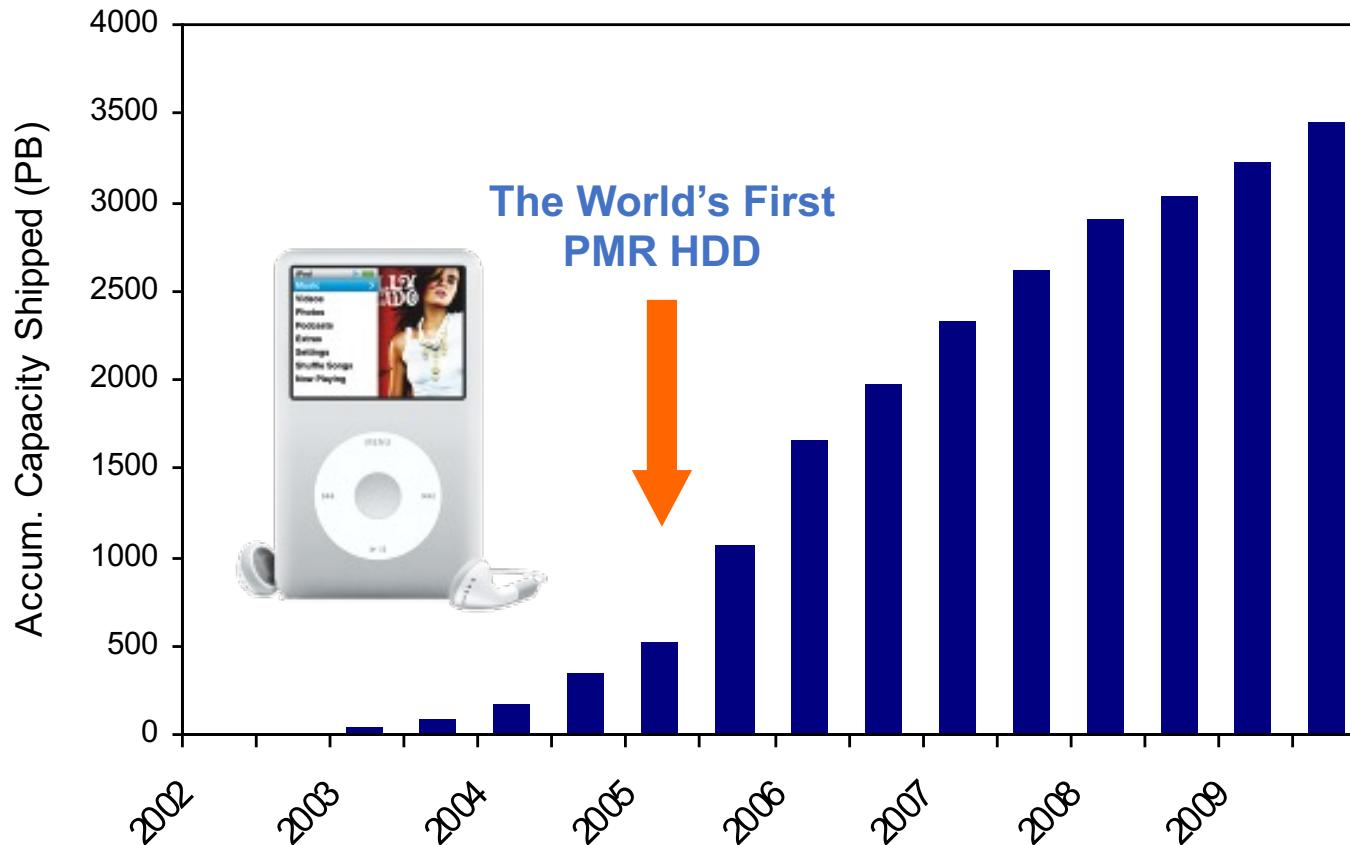
1. Innovation in Magnetic Storage Technology,  
Perpendicular Magnetic Recording (PMR)
2. Data in Brain Neuroscience, Features, and Issues
3. Close Unification of Data and Computing
4. 3-D Visualization of Neural Structure
5. Summary



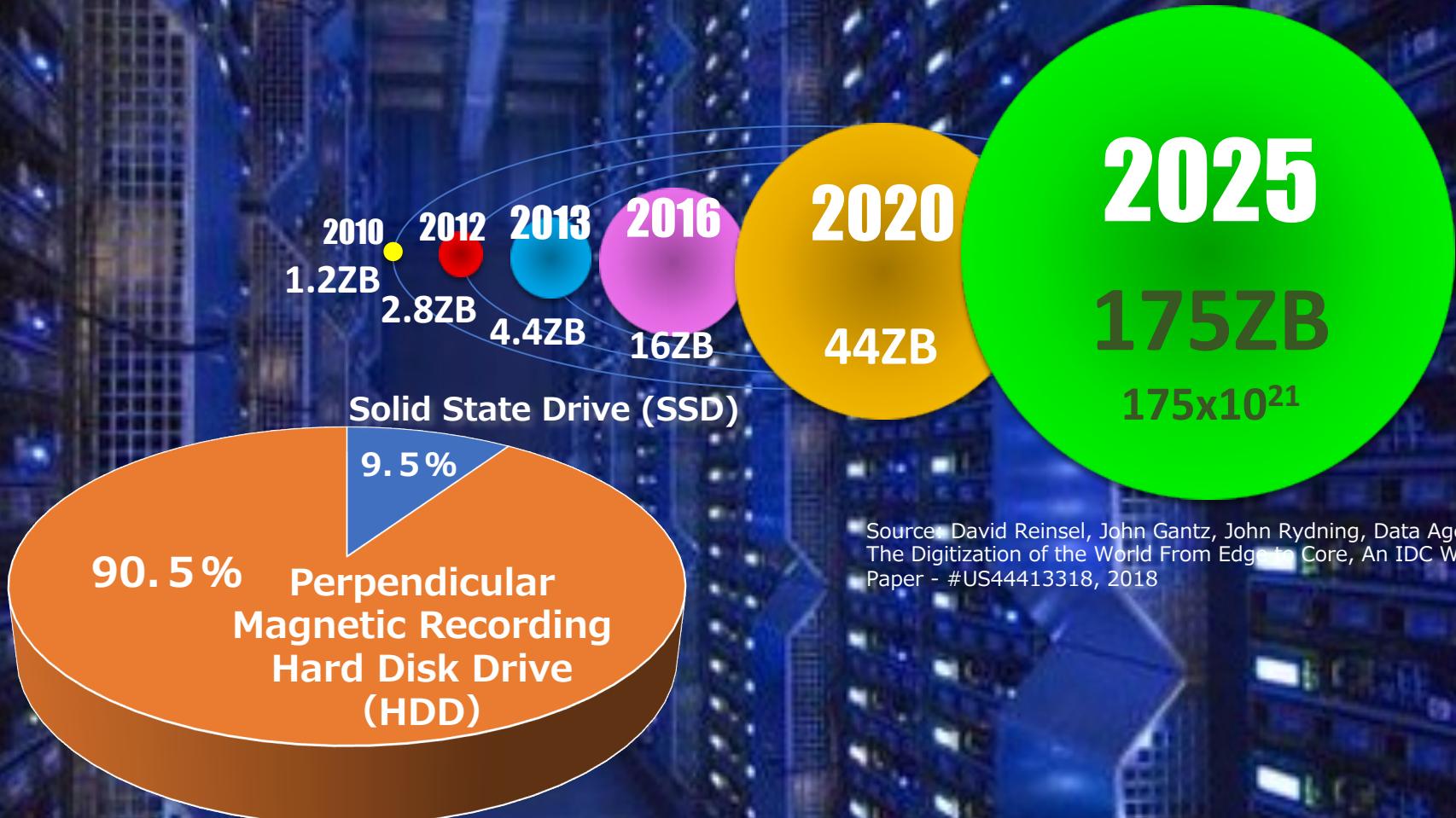
# Power of Perpendicular Magnetic Recording

## ■ Personal media player

- ✓ Larger than 3,500 PB of tiny HDD are playing music
- ✓ Creates contents business through Cloud



# Data Explosion in the World



Source: David Reinsel, John Gantz, John Rydning, Data Age 2025  
The Digitization of the World From Edge to Core, An IDC White Paper - #US44413318, 2018

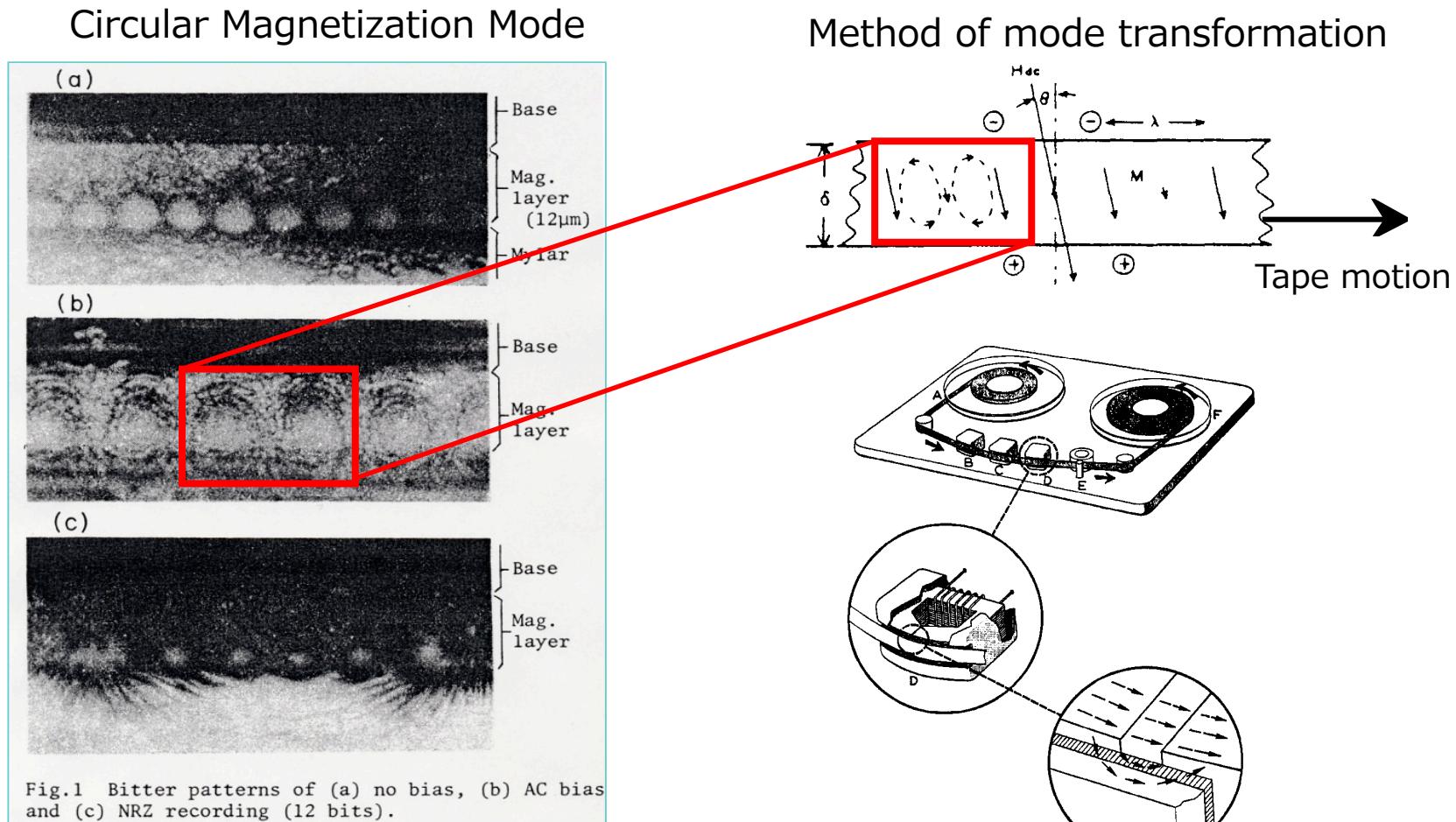
Total Shipment Capacity of HDD + SSD : 5.23ZB (2015~2020)

Source: Based on IDEMA Japan Seminar Presentation by Techno System Research (October, 2020)



# Observation of Perpendicular Magnetization

- ◆ Perpendicular magnetization was observed in longitudinal recording media.



S. Iwasaki and K. Takemura, "An analysis for the circular mode of magnetization in short wavelength recording," IEEE Trans. Magn., vol. MAG-11, no. 5, pp. 1173-1175, Sep. 1975

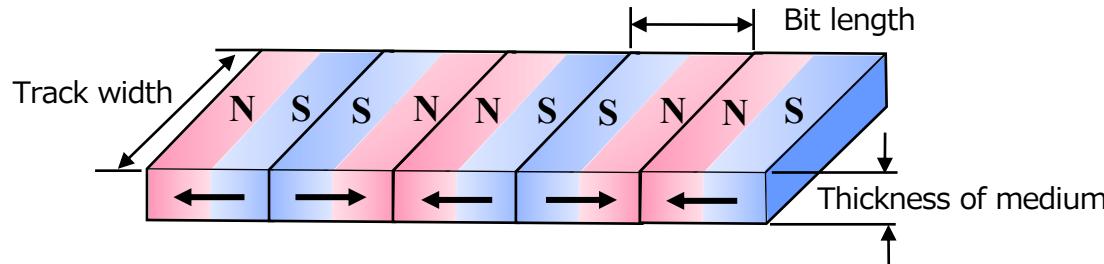
Fig. 1.1. Representation of basic tape recording and reproducing system.



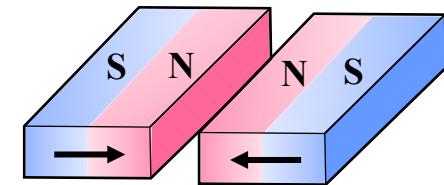
# Longitudinal and Perpendicular Recording

- ◆ Demagnetization field “enhances” the perpendicular magnetization in high recording density.
- ◆ Thick recording layer stabilizes the magnetization, which suppresses thermal demagnetization.

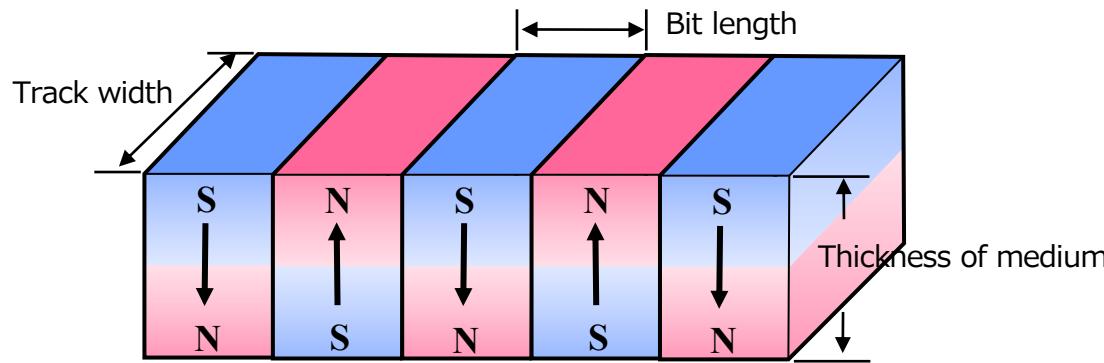
## (a) Longitudinal (in-plane) magnetic recording



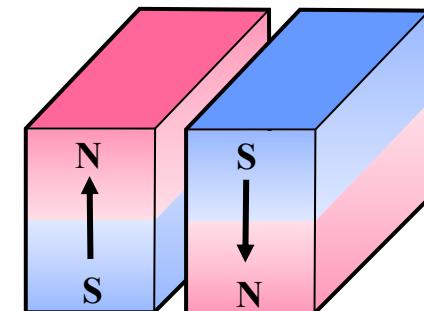
Unstable in high density



## (b) Perpendicular magnetic recording



Stable in high density

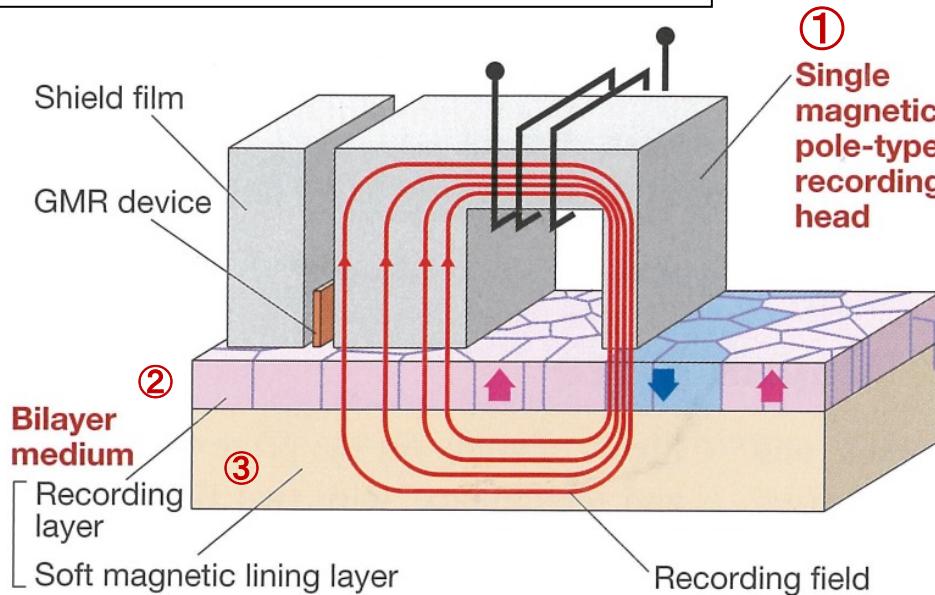


S. Iwasaki, Y. Nakamura, IEEE Trans. Magn., MAG-15, 1272, 1980

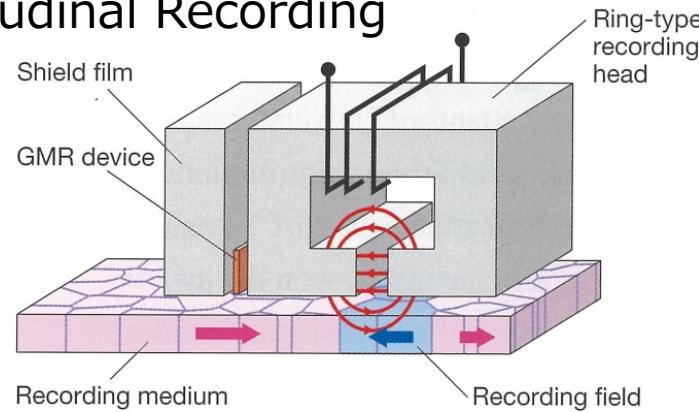


# Invention of Perpendicular Magnetic Recording

## Perpendicular Recording



## Longitudinal Recording



The inventor of perpendicular magnetic recording, Dr. Shunichi Iwasaki  
(Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University)

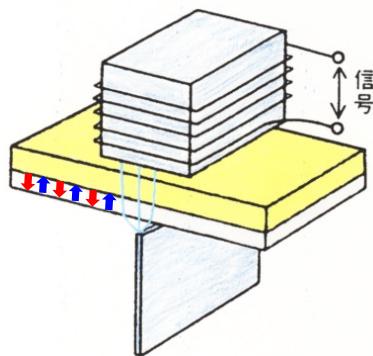


Co-researcher Dr. Yoshihisa Nakamura  
(Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University)



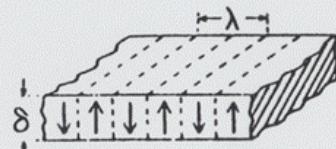
# Complementarity Relationship as Guiding Principle

- Complete picture of magnetic recording by Dr. S. Iwasaki
  - Leads us to high density recording direction



Complementarity relationship between perpendicular and longitudinal magnetic recording.

a) Perp. Mode



$$\lambda \rightarrow 0 \quad H_d \rightarrow 0$$

Head Single pole-type

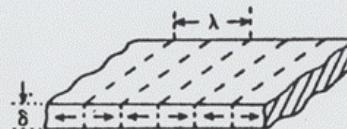
Medium Perp. Anisotropy  
Thick  $\delta$   
High  $M_s$ , High  $H_c$

Signal Digital (Sat.)

Rec. Modulation  
Method (FM, PCM)

Erase DC Field

b) Longi. Mode



$$\lambda \rightarrow 0 \quad H_d \rightarrow 4\pi M$$

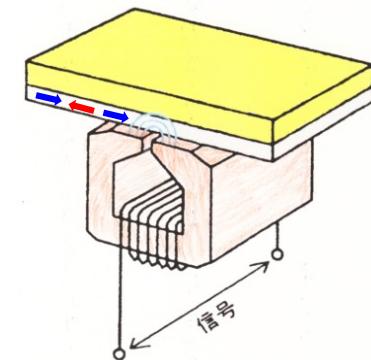
Dipole (ring)-type

Longi. Anisotropy  
Thin  $\delta$   
Low  $M_s$ , High  $H_c$

Signal Analog (non-Sat.)

AC Bias Method

AC Field

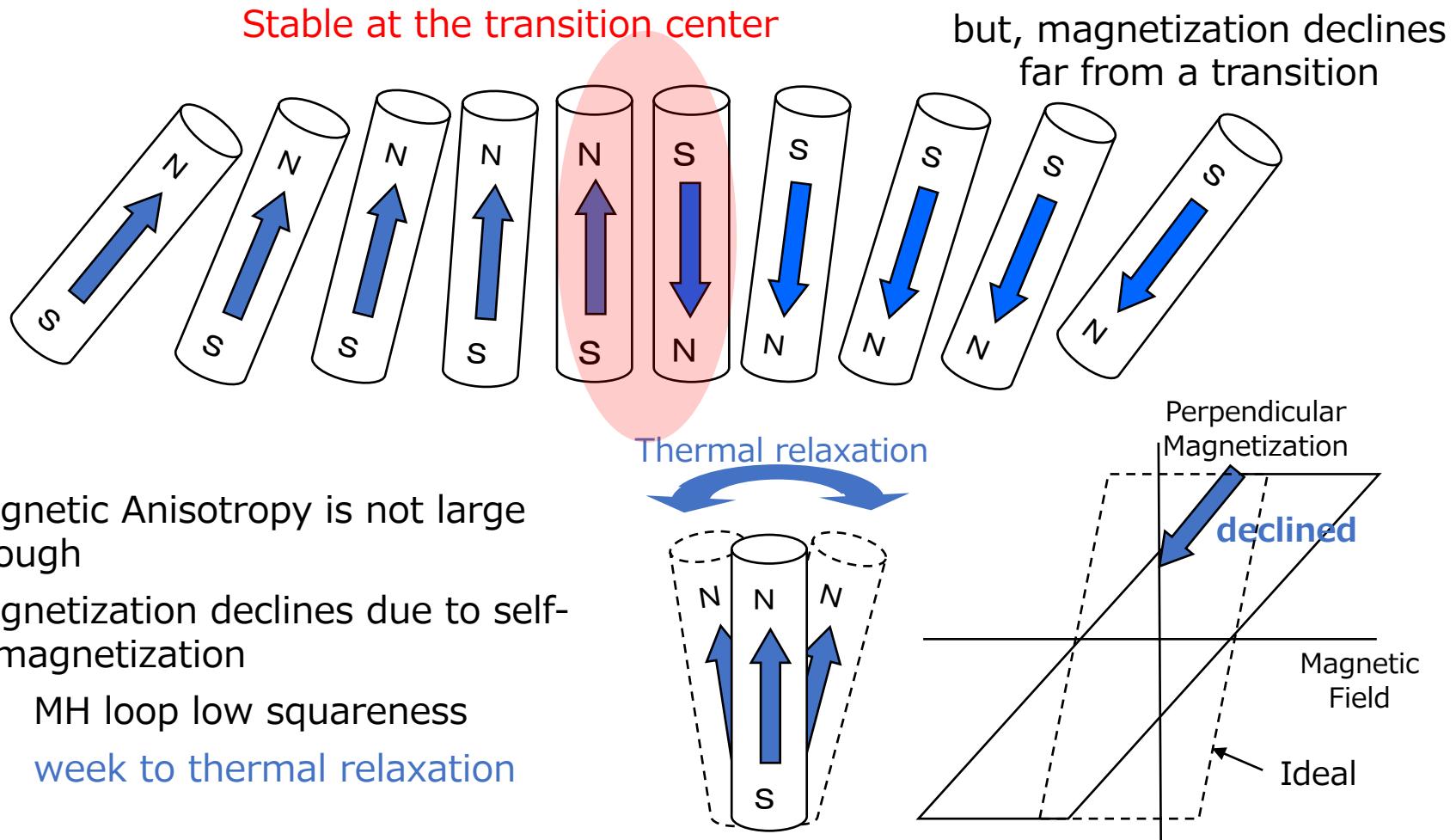


S. Iwasaki, IEEE Trans. Magn., vol. MAG-15, 71 (Jan. 1980).



# A Big Issue of Magnetization

Originally proposed CoCr PMR medium



# Bird's Eye View

## Perpendicular

Nature\*

$$\lambda \rightarrow 0 \quad H_d \rightarrow 0$$

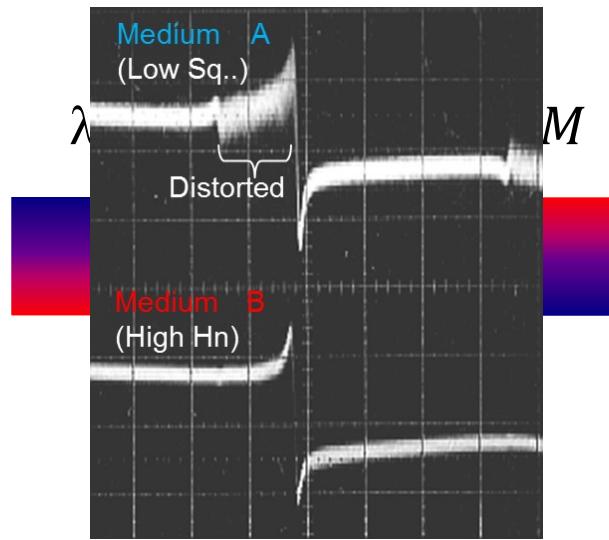


## Longitudinal

$$\lambda \rightarrow 0 \quad H_d \rightarrow 4\pi M$$



Signal from an Isolated Transition



Worst Case

$$\lambda \rightarrow \infty \quad H_d \rightarrow 0$$

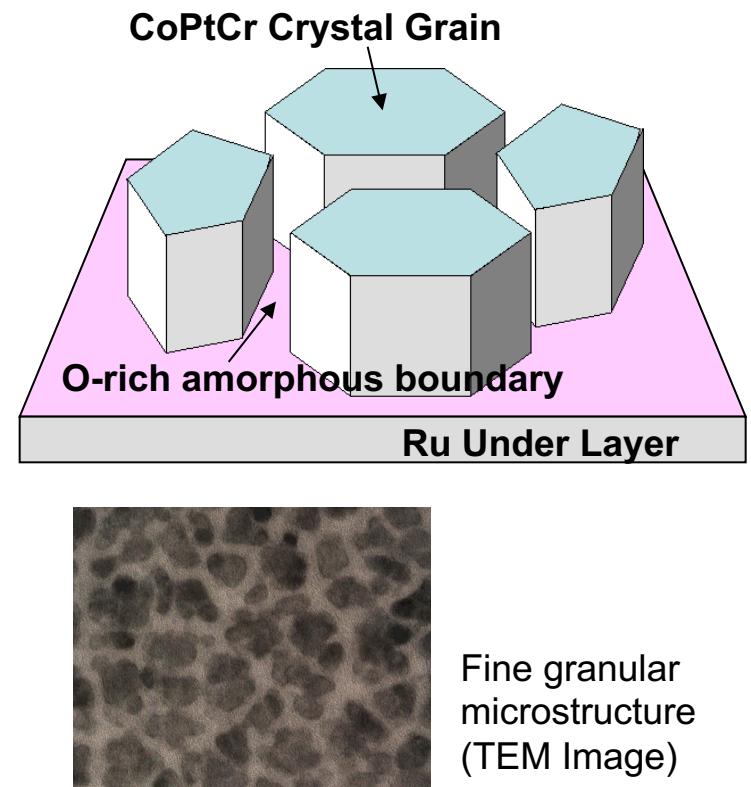
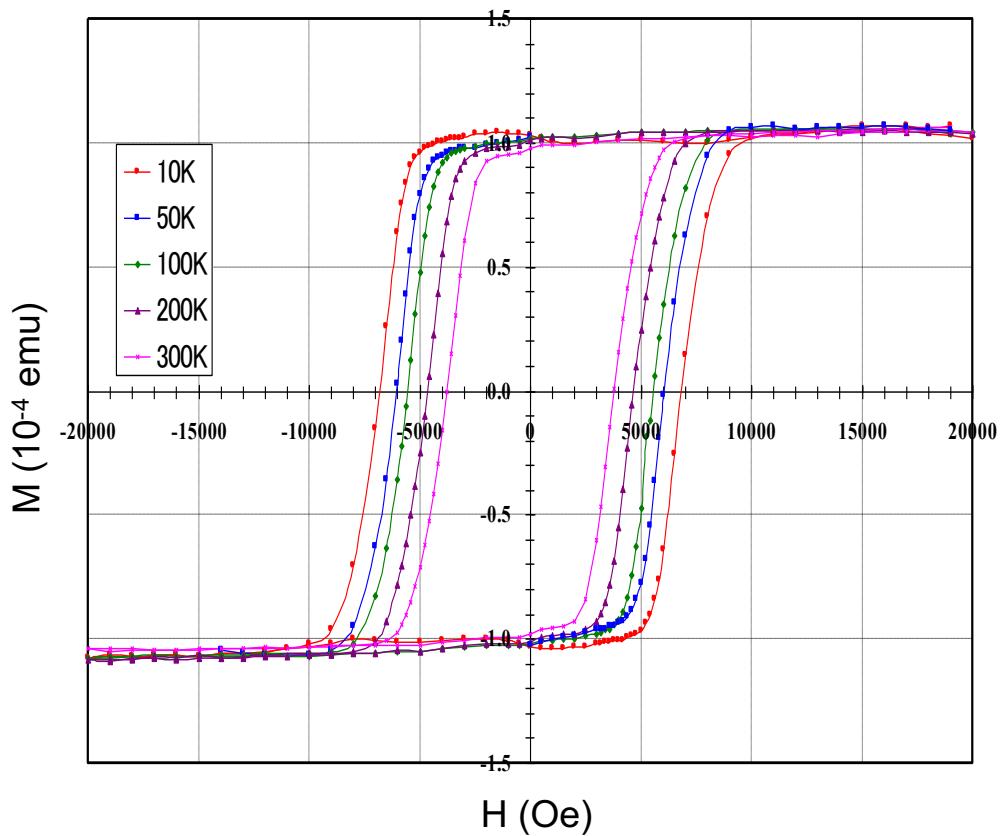


A. Takeo, S. Oikawa, T. Hikosaka, Y. Tanaka, "A new design to suppress recording demagnetization for perpendicular recording", IEEE Trans. Magn., vol. 36, no. 5, pp. 2378-2380, Sep. 2000



# High Magnetic Energy Perpendicular Media

- Developed CoPtCrO medium on Ru underlayer
- High squareness by exchange coupling



Y. Tanaka, T. Hikosaka, Perpendicular recording with high squareness CoPtCrO media, J. Magn. Magn. Mater., 235, pp.253-258, 2001



# Unstable Magnetic Structure

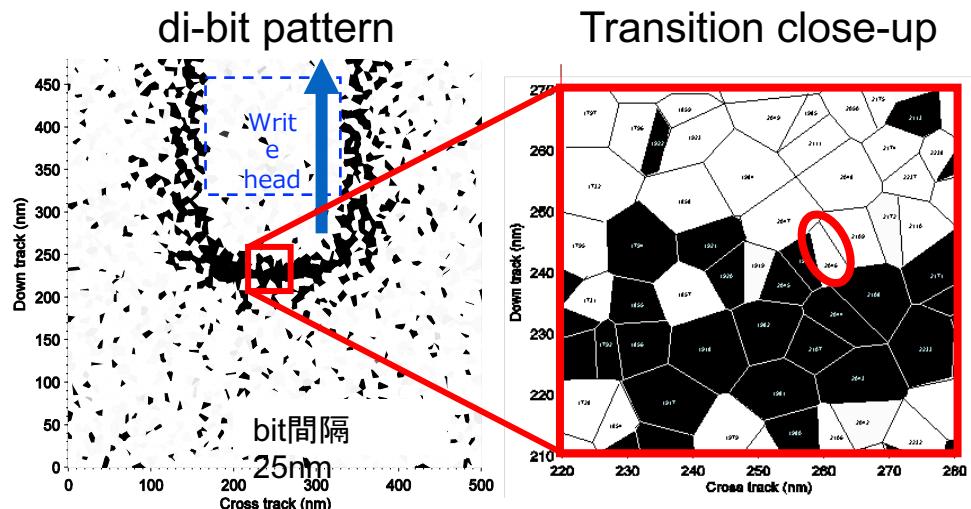
## Traditional CoCr Medium

Grain boundary of metal Cr  
CoCr magnetic core

The diagram shows two cylindrical magnets side-by-side. Each magnet has a North pole ( $N$ ) at its top and a South pole ( $S$ ) at its bottom. Blue arrows representing magnetic field lines emerge from the North poles and enter the South poles. The regions around each magnet are enclosed by dashed ellipsoids, representing the magnetic field's influence or flux. A vertical arrow on the left points downwards, indicating the direction of increasing magnetic flux.

Cr reduces magnetic anisotropy of the magnetic core resulting in unstable magnetization.

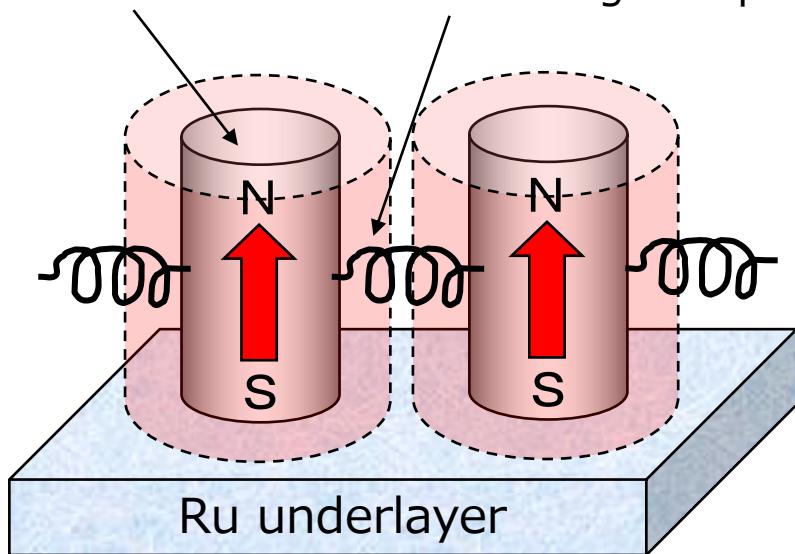
# Magnetization reversal behavior of a single particle in writing process



# Stable PMR Structure

## New CoPtCr/Ru PMR medium

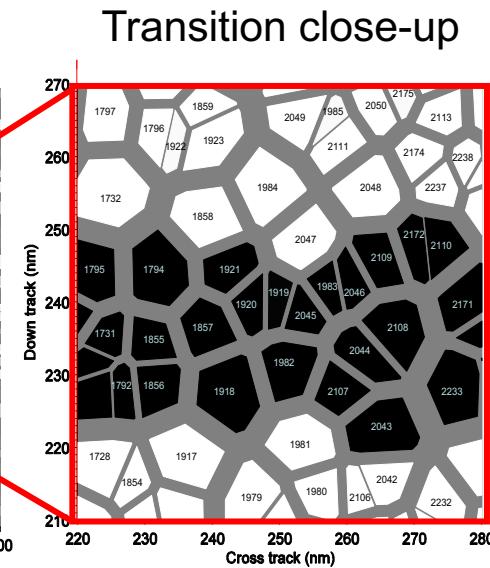
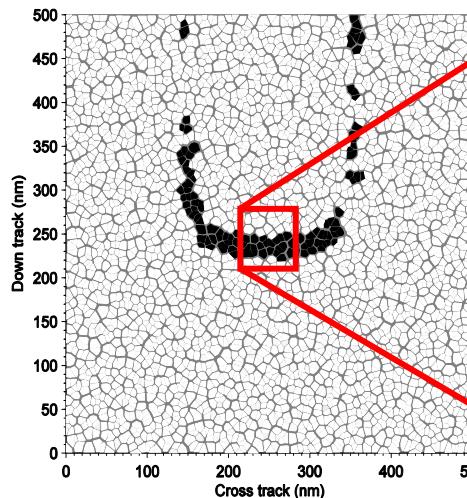
High anisotropy  
energy CoPtCr  
magnetic core



# Oxide-rich grain boundary with exchange coupling

High  $H_n$  medium forms stable transitions

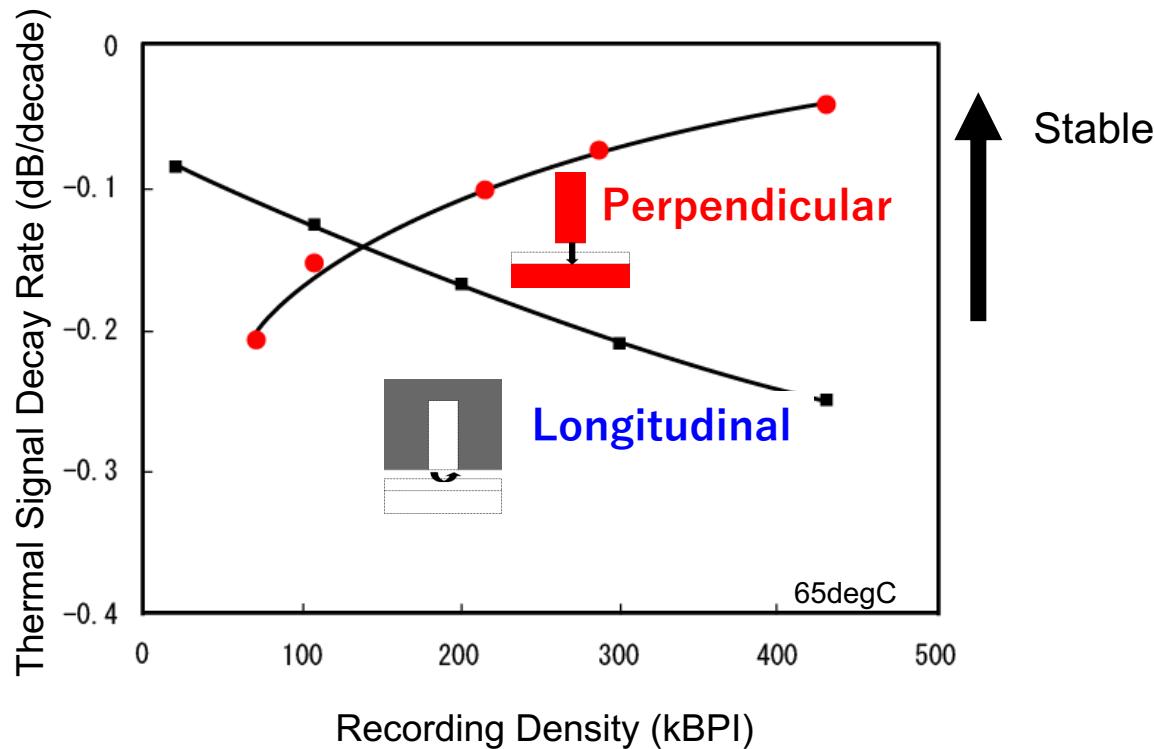
## di-bit pattern



- Grains supports each other to make stable structure
  - Oxygen, we have avoided, plays a big role to isolate CoPtCr magnetic grains

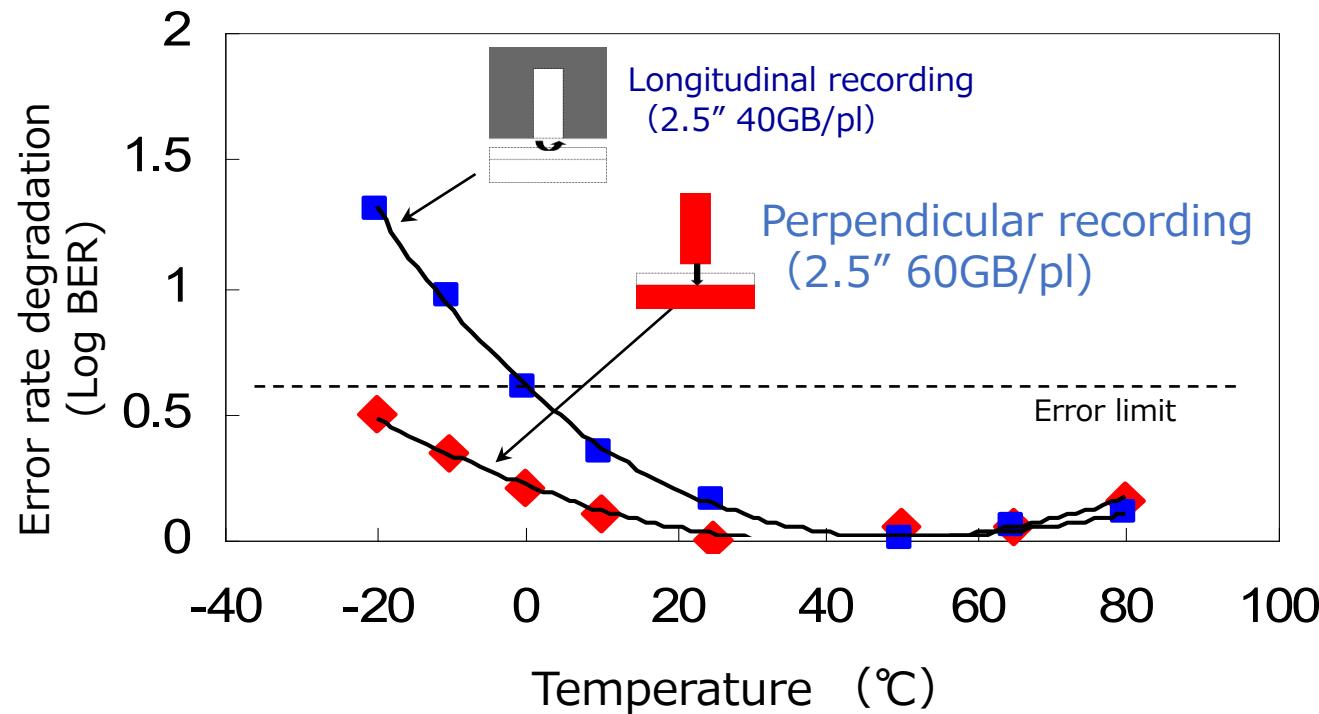
# Complementarity in Thermal Stability

- Perpendicular: Higher density, better thermal stability
- Intrinsically Opposite Characteristics



# Superior Write Performance at Low Temp

- PMR is very robust even at low temperature
- PMR can expand the temperature range by 20 degrees
- Medium in write magnetic flux path



# Complementarity as Backbone Principle

Original findings by Dr. S. Iwasaki

	Perpendicular	Longitudinal
Head Medium	$\lambda \rightarrow 0, H_d \rightarrow 0$ Single pole-type Perpendicular anisotropy Thick $d$ $H_s$ , High $H_c$ Digital (saturation) (FM, PCM) DC field	$\lambda \rightarrow 0, H_d \rightarrow 4\pi M$ Dipole (Ring)-type Longitudinal anisotropy Thin $d$ Low $M_s$ , High $H_c$ Analog (non-saturation) AC bias method AC field
Signal Rec. Method Erase		

Performance-related relationship in HDD integration by Y. Tanaka\*

Media	High squareness With soft underlayer	Low squareness Recording layer only
Thermal Stability	Good at high density	Good at low density
Write Process	Medium in write flux path Low spacing sensitivity Sharp transition	Medium outside of path High spacing sensitivity Broad transition
Read Process	High output Narrow reading	Low output Wide reading
Signal Signal Processing Channel	With DC component Positive coefficient PRML	Without DC component Negative coefficient PRML

\* Y. Tanaka, "Fundamental features of perpendicular magnetic recording and design consideration for future portable HDD integration", IEEE Trans. Magn., vol. 41, no. 10, pp. 2834-2838, Oct. 2005



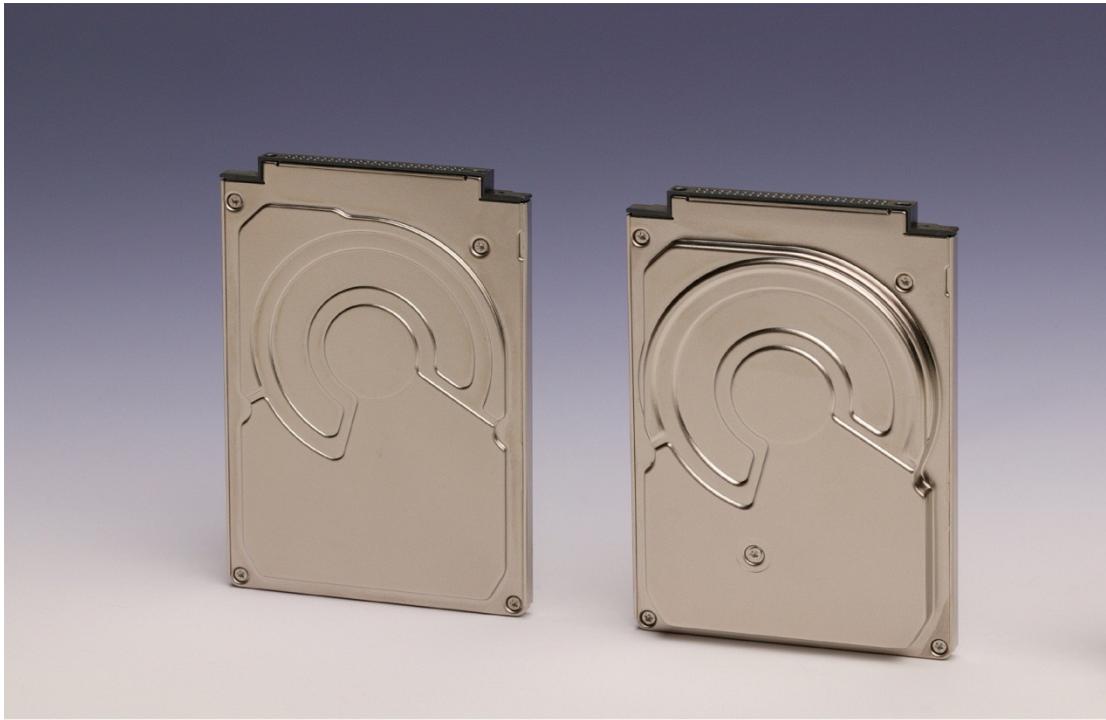
# All Green for Takeoff; All Issues Solved

- Head pole/yoke-related erasure
- External magnetic field sensitivity
- Spacing sensitivity
- Media SNR
- Soft under layer noise
- Thermal relaxation at low BPI
- Too-narrow side erase band

Y. Tanaka, "Fundamental features of perpendicular magnetic recording and design consideration for future portable HDD integration", IEEE Trans. Magn., vol. 41, no. 10, pp. 2834-2838, Oct. 2005



# The World First Product of Perpendicular Recording HDD



**TOSHIBA**

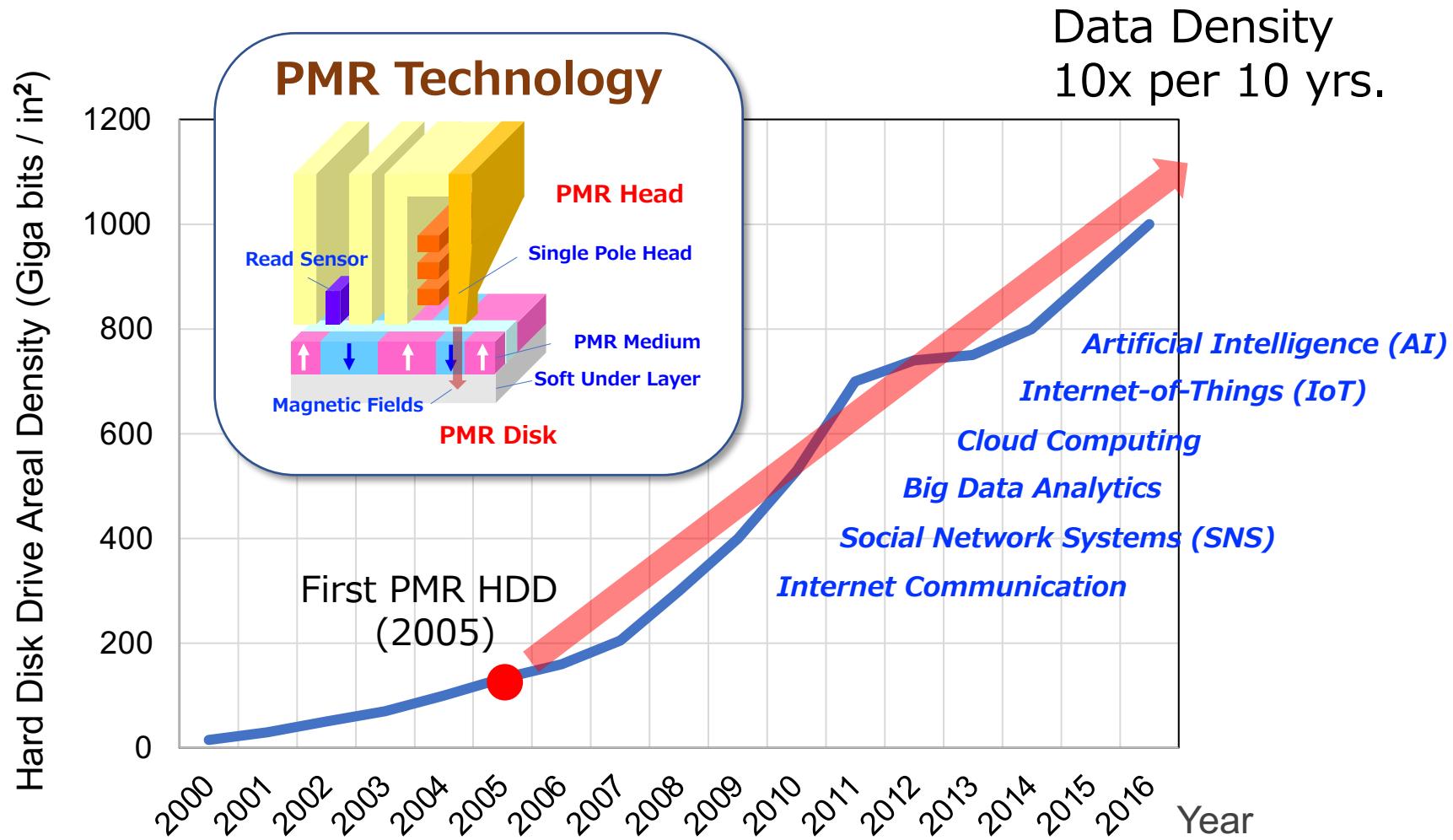
1.8" HDD 40GB "MK4007GAL" and 80GB "MK8007GAH" (2005)

The highest areal density at 133 Giga bits/in<sup>2</sup> at launching

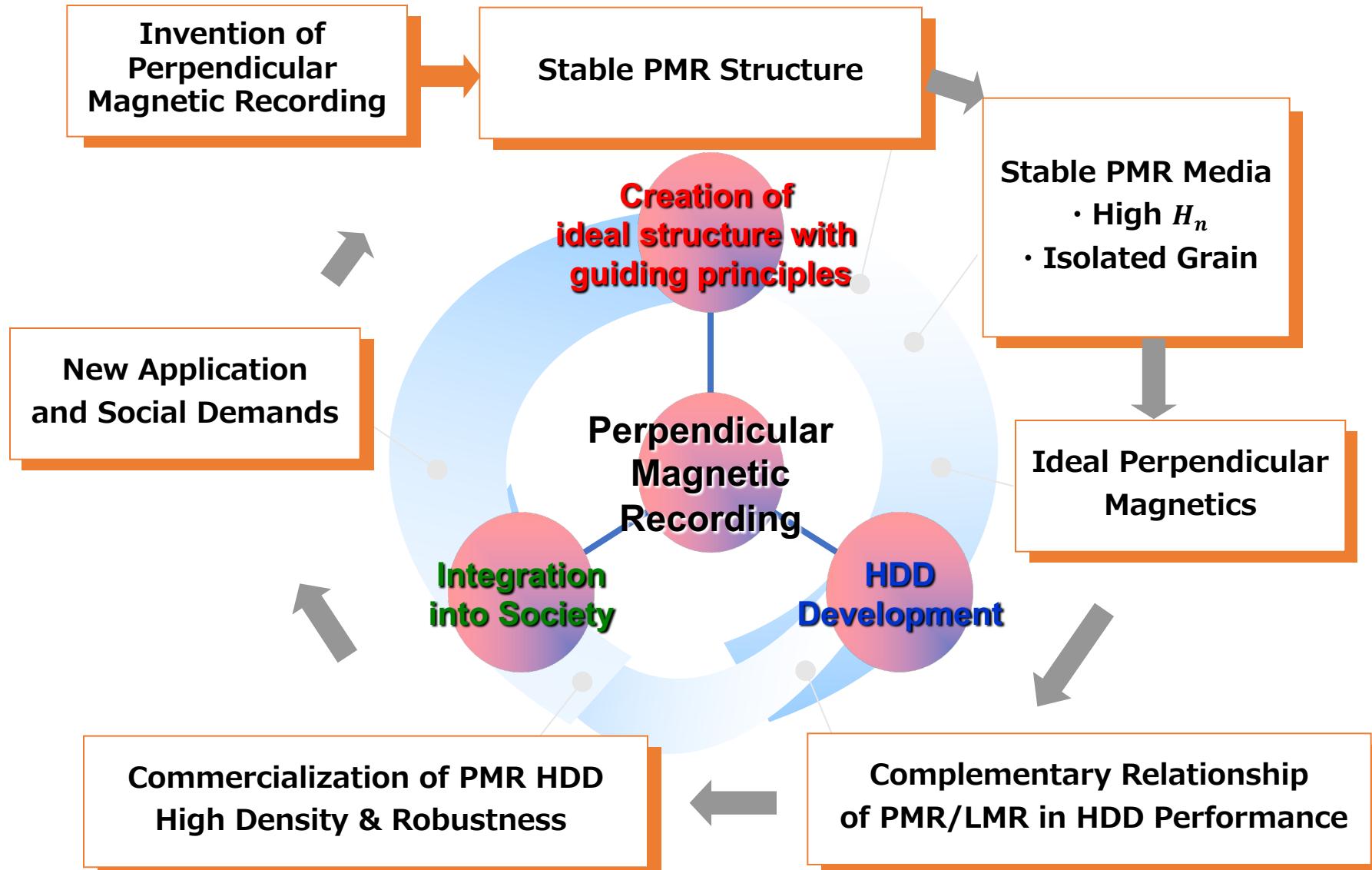
[http://www.toshiba.co.jp/about/press/2004\\_12/pr1401.htm](http://www.toshiba.co.jp/about/press/2004_12/pr1401.htm)



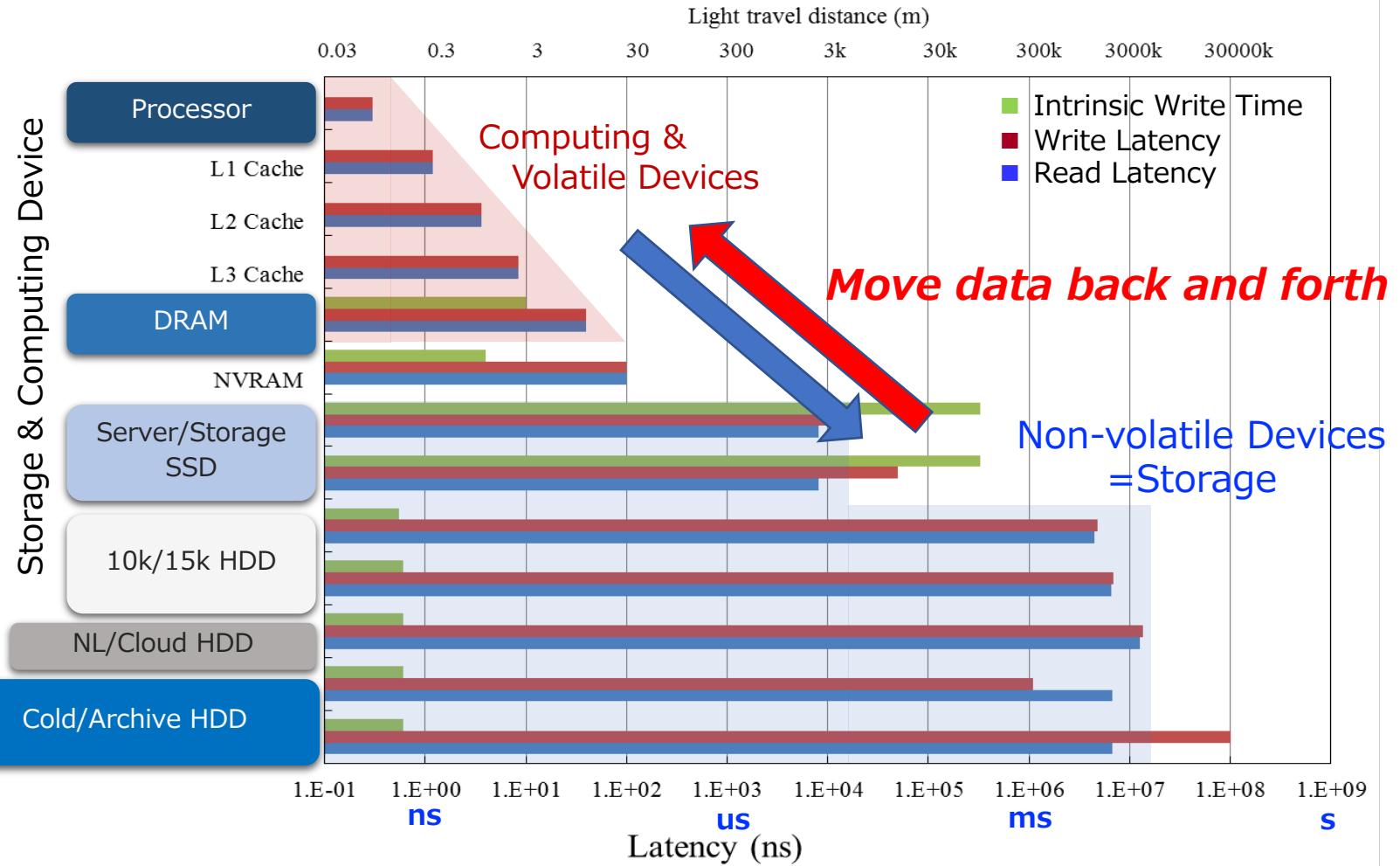
# Bigdata Platform by Large Capacity Storage



# Innovation Clock of PMR



# Look back Current Data Tiers



Yoichiro Tanaka, Characterizing Advanced Recording Technology Assets with Hyper-Scale Applications, IEEE Trans. Magn., Vol.52, No.2, pp.1-4, 2016

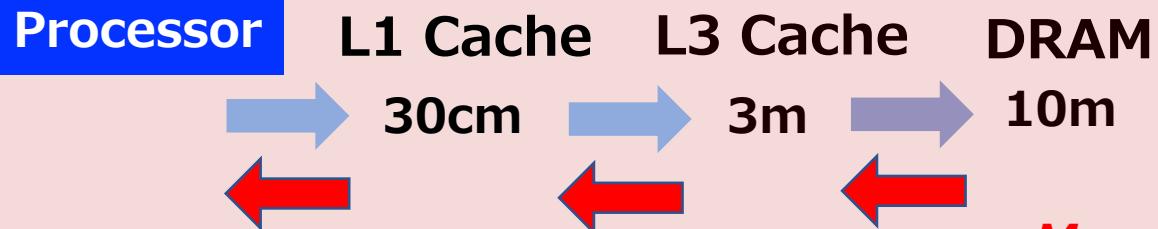


# Latency Kitchen Model

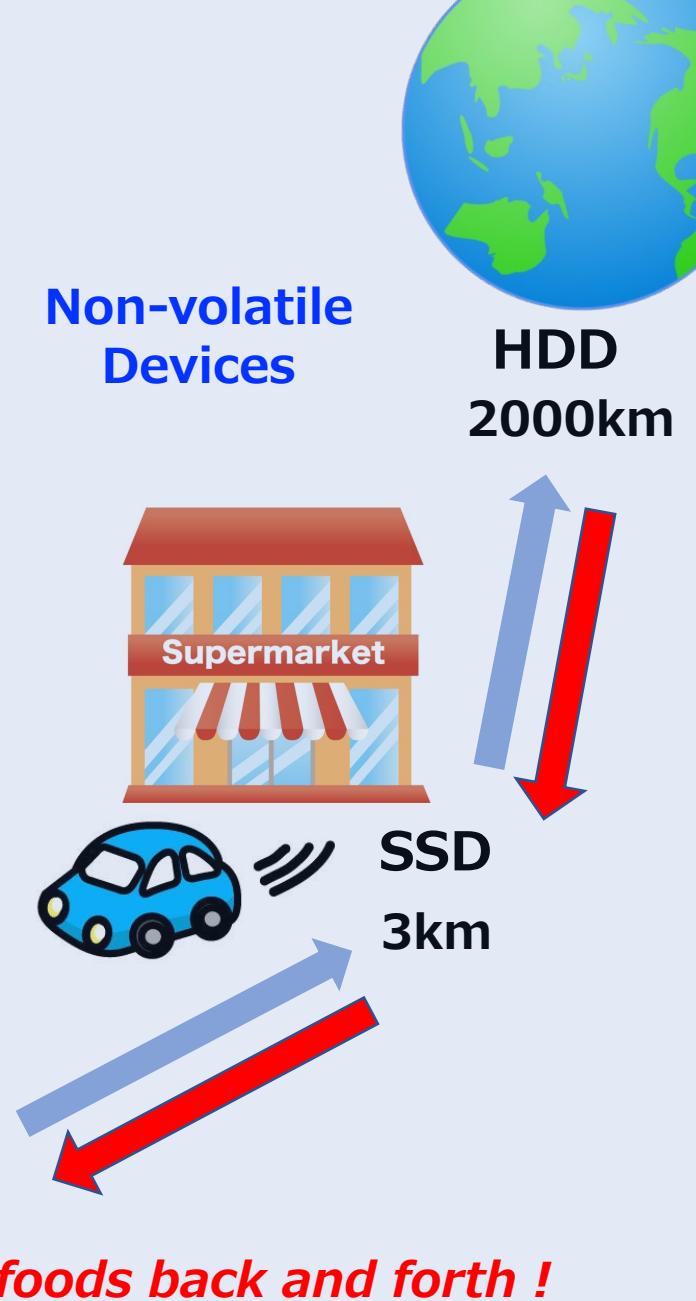
Convert the latency to light travel distance



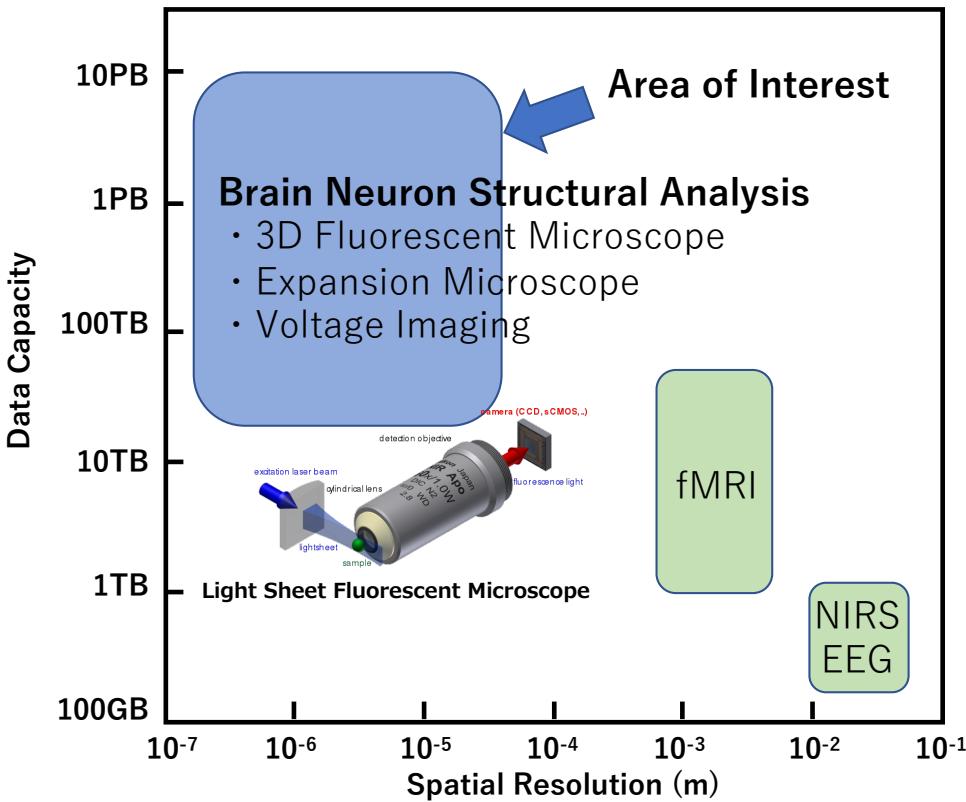
## Volatile Devices



## Non-volatile Devices



# Increased data capacity in microscopic neuron observation

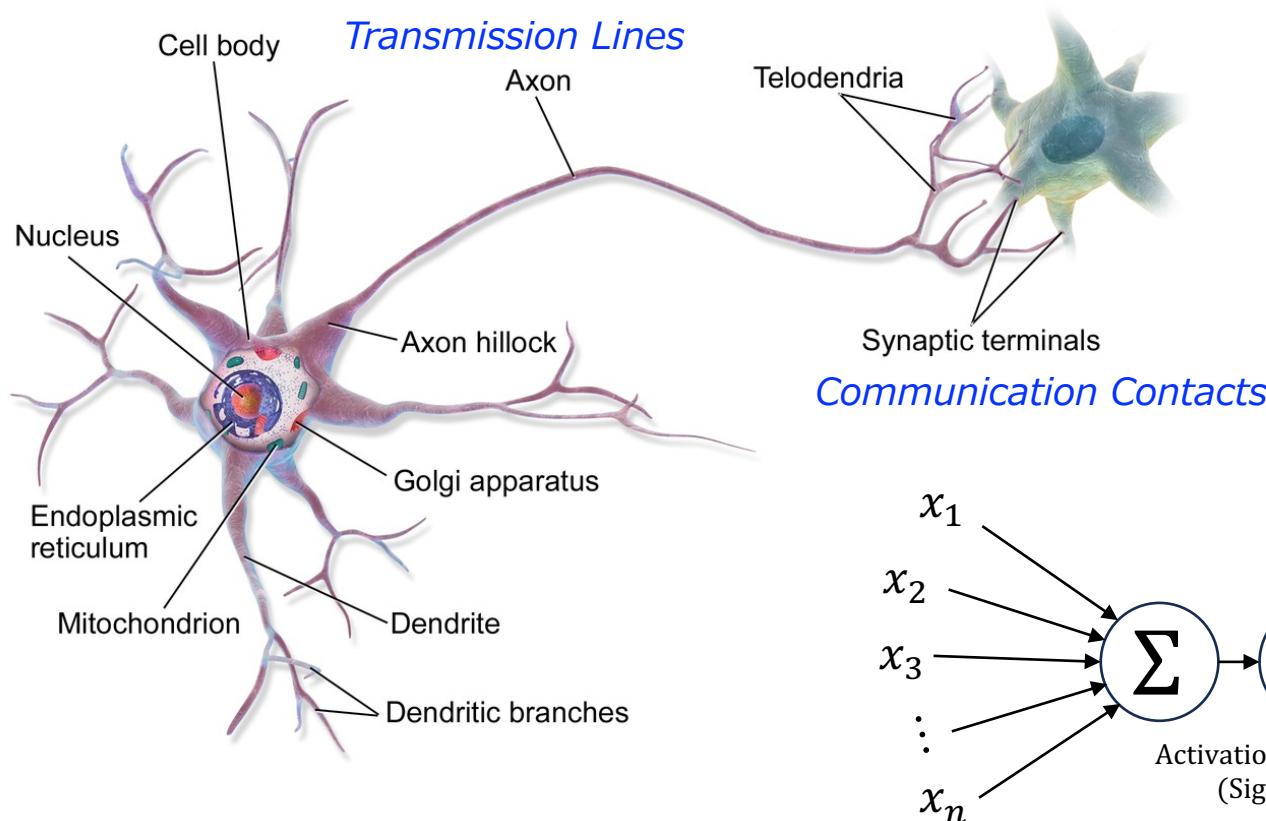


- Long time-sequence data
- Multi-channel data streams from sensors
- Real time data acquisition
- Complex data analytics and visualization
- Highly frequent data access from multiple clients
- Secure store of precious data

\*Source : Patric Hagmann, "Chairman's introduction: definitions and basic imaging technique", NH7: The human connectome: a comprehensive map of brain connections, ECR 2014 (Courtesy of Dr. Hitoshi Yamagata, Currently Canon Medical Co.)



# Neurons and Synapses



Neurons      100,000,000,000 approx.  
Synapses 150,000,000,000,000 approx. in a human brain system

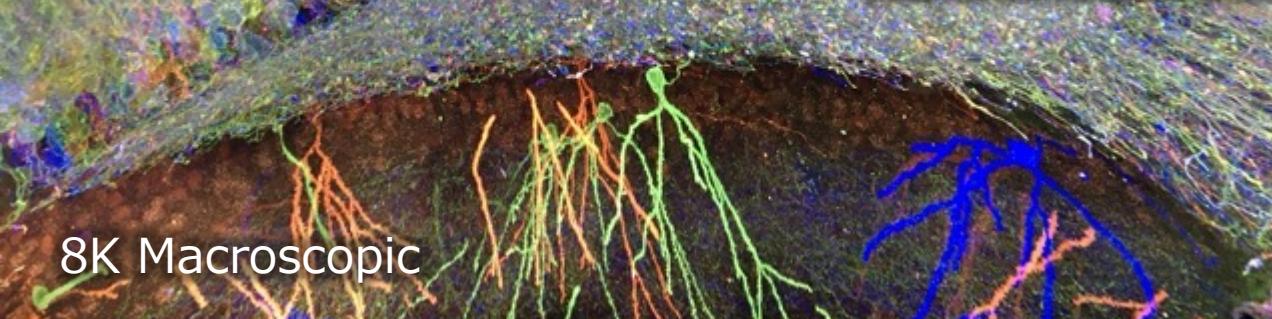
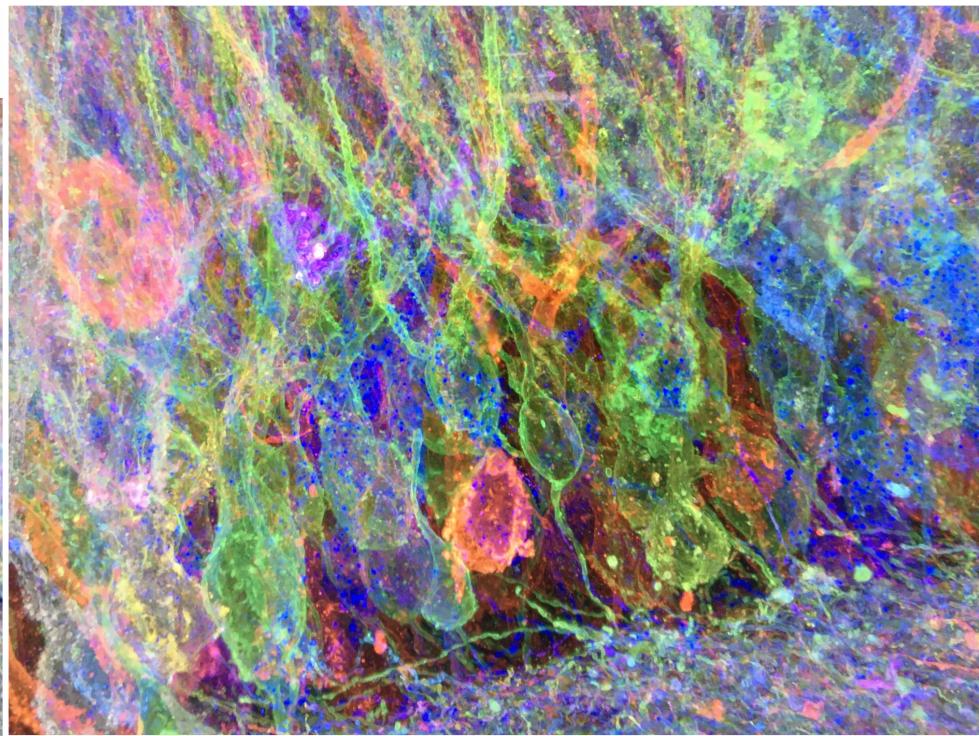
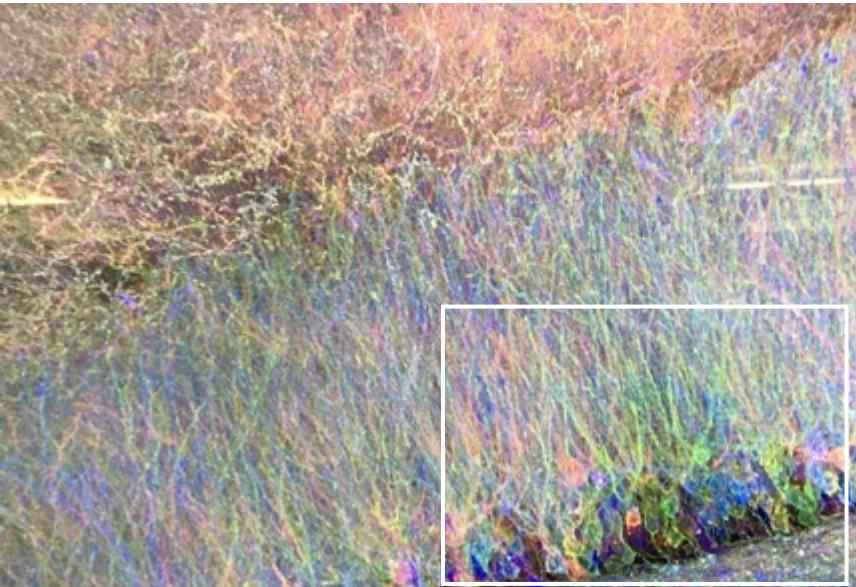
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neural\\_circuit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neural_circuit)



# Multi-scale 3D Analytics of Brain Structure

**From synaptic contacts ( $10^{-9}$ m) to whole brain ( $10^{-1}$ m)**

Mouse hippocampus neuron structures



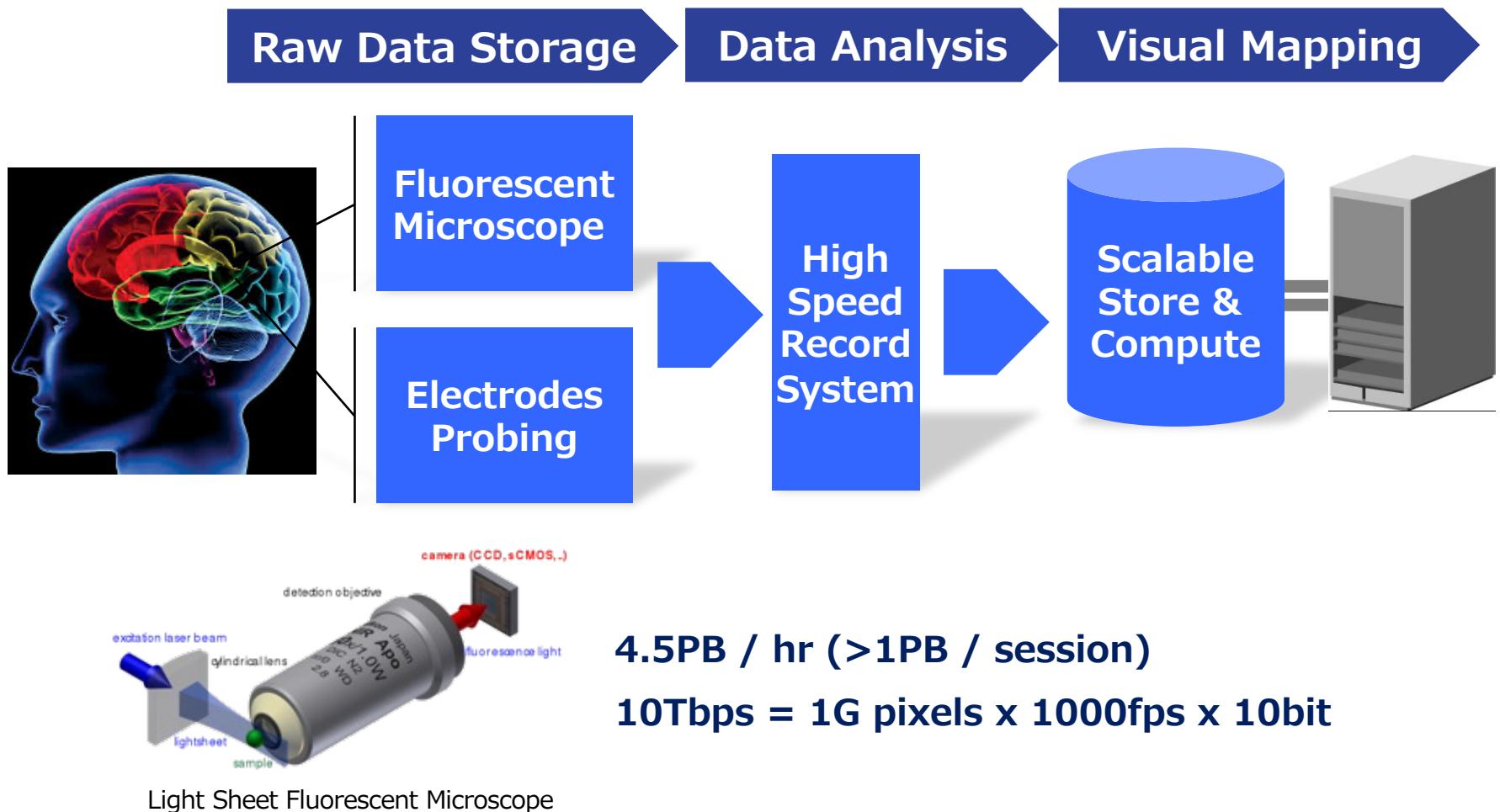
8K Macroscopic

Macroscopic & microscopic 8K images (85" display) of mouse hippocampus neuron structures, scanned by Light Sheet Microscope  
Data set size; 6TB ~ 60TB  
Specimen: 1.5mm x 0.8mm x 0.2mm<sup>t</sup>  
2000 scans per 0.2mm<sup>t</sup> (100nm<sup>t</sup> each)  
Scan section 80um x 8.3um

(Brain Data Center Project; MIT, NHK, Toshiba Memory, Y. Tanaka, July 2017)



# Brain Sensing: Micro-scale Structural Mapping



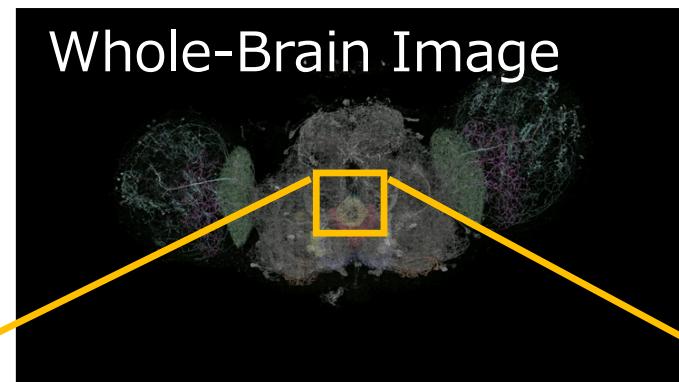
# Visualization of Whole Brain

A 3D-image sample from Drosophila (fruitfly) whole-brain neuron structures observed by Ex-LLSM<sup>1)</sup>.

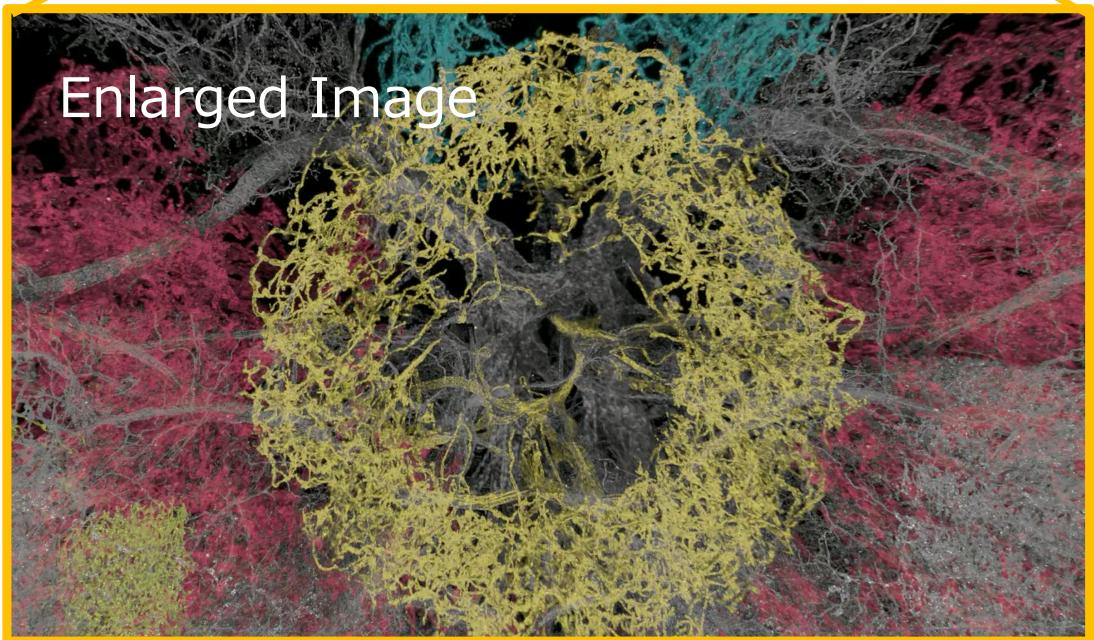
Only selected neurons which are about 10% of whole 100,000 ones are shown.

The images are retrieved from disaggregated data store using 3D-visualization tool<sup>2)</sup> in a compute node.

Whole-Brain Image



Enlarged Image



1) Ruixuan Gao, et al., "Cortical column and whole-brain imaging with molecular contrast and nanoscale resolution", Science 363, 245, 2019

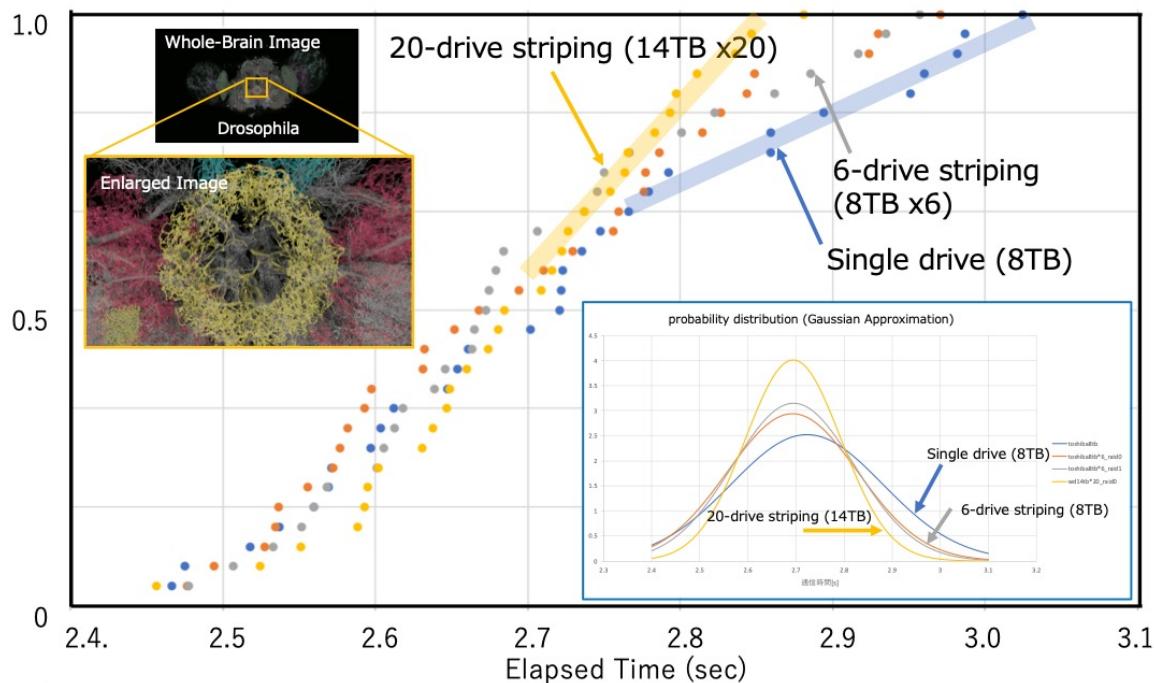
2) Supported by MIT and Kioxia Corp.



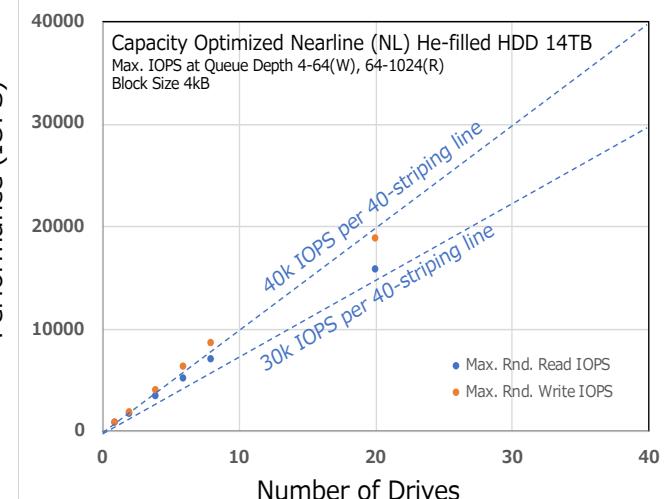
# Data Access Performance of 3D Neuron Datasets

Multi-parallel striping in disaggregated storage pool suppressed the tailing of access latency.

Access latency distribution of retrieving Drosophila's whole brain datasets from disaggregated files



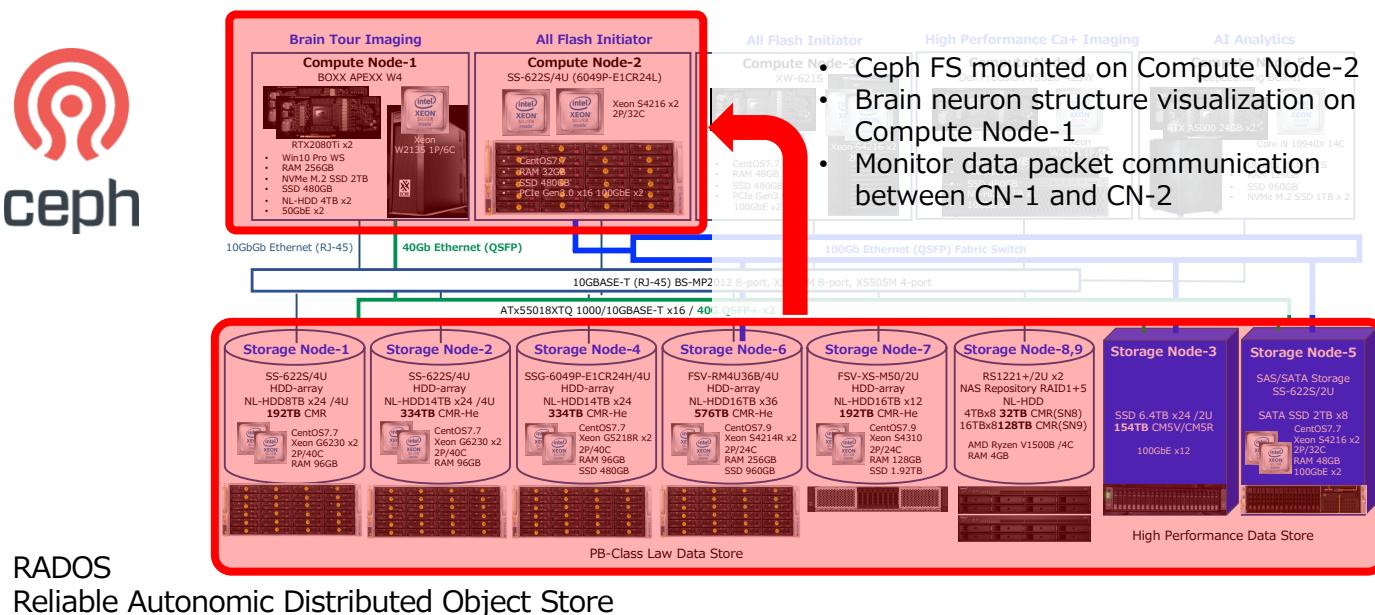
HDD 40-striping:  
Random Performance 30k~40k IOPS



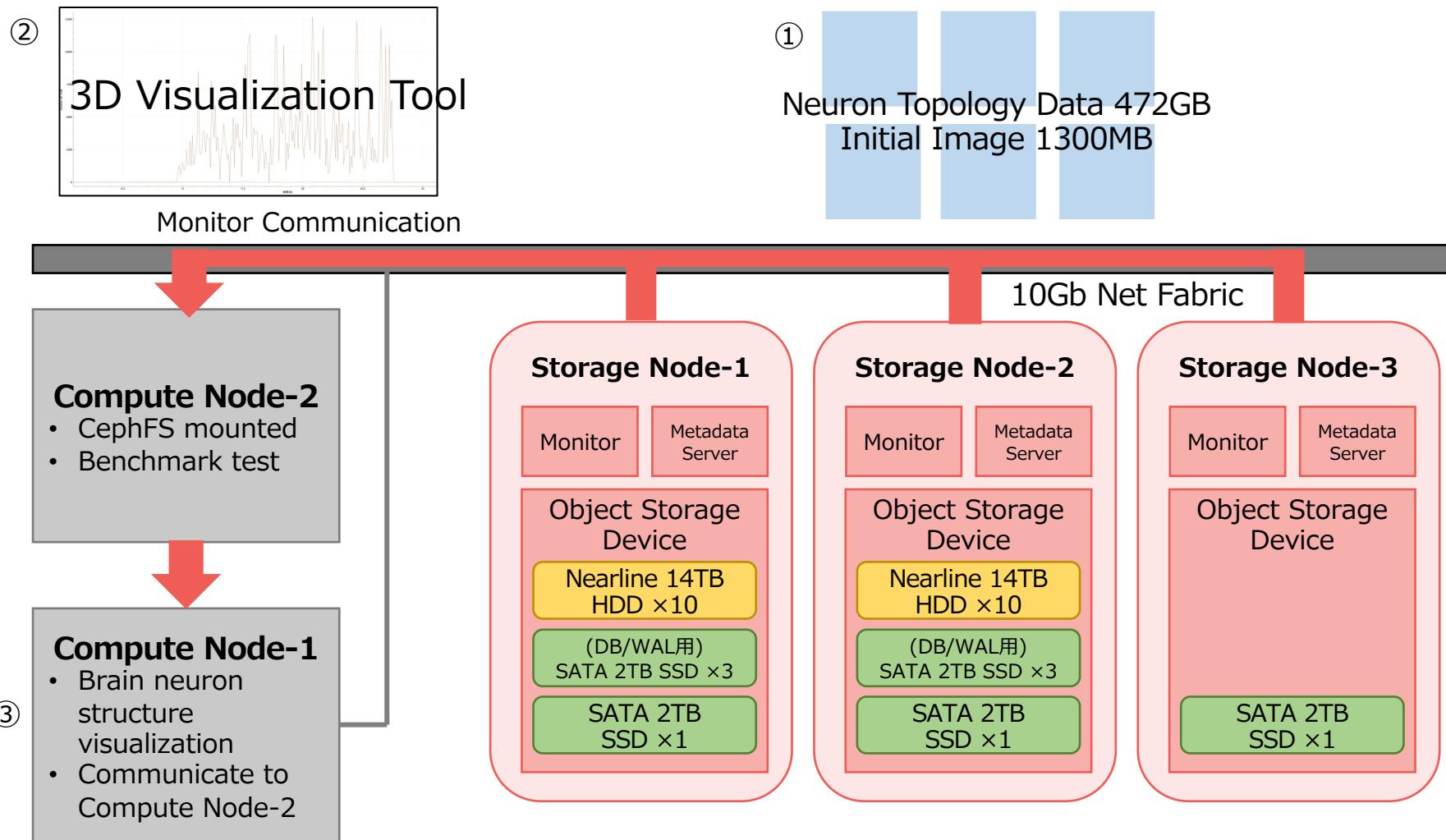
# Object Storage System “Ceph”

## Compute and Storage Testbed

2PB Storage (HDD,SSD), 6GPU/21CPU, 1TB memory

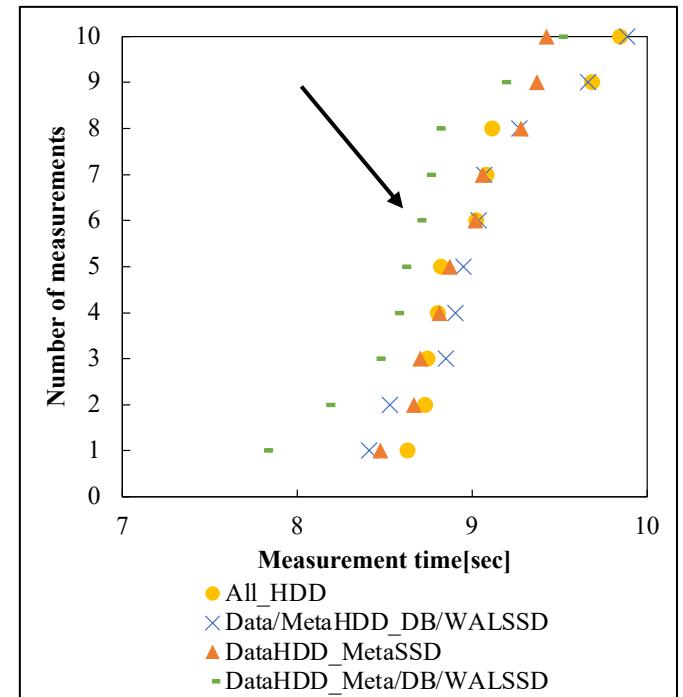
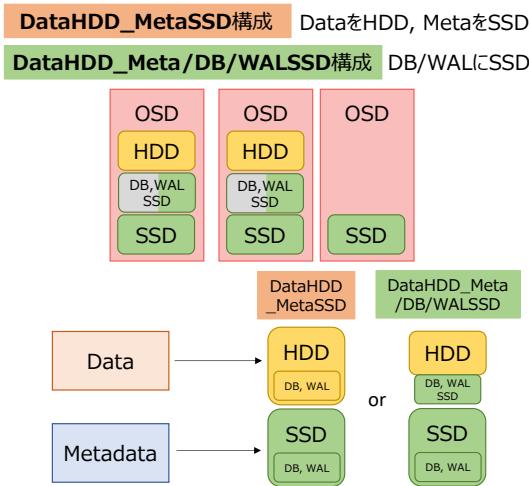
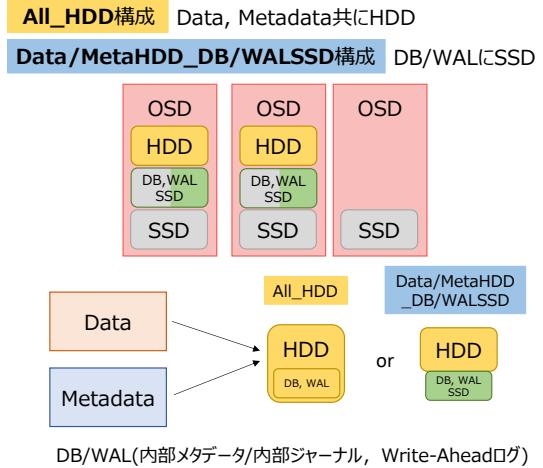


# Data Access Performance



# Backend data stored in SSD

Performance of data access to HDD improved by storing DB and WAL in SSD

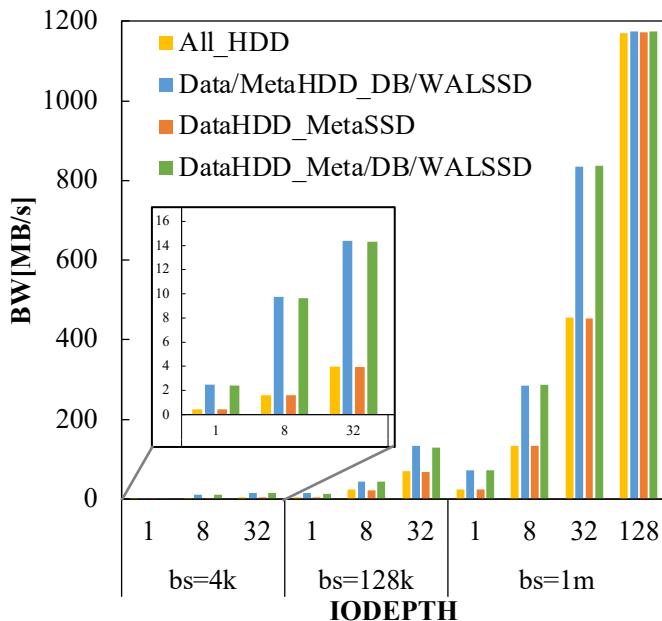


Yuki Kawada, Yoichiro Tanaka, Evaluation study of data access performance of distributed storage Ceph, using a brain neuronal structure visualization application, IEICE Tech. Rep., vol. 122, no. 63, MRIS2022-5, pp. 24-29, June 2022

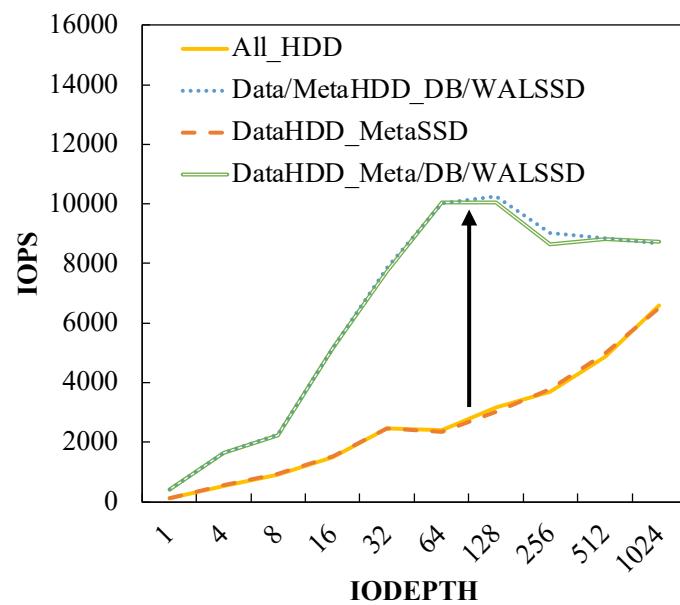


# Benchmark: DB/WAL stored in SSD

Write Bandwidth 2~6x



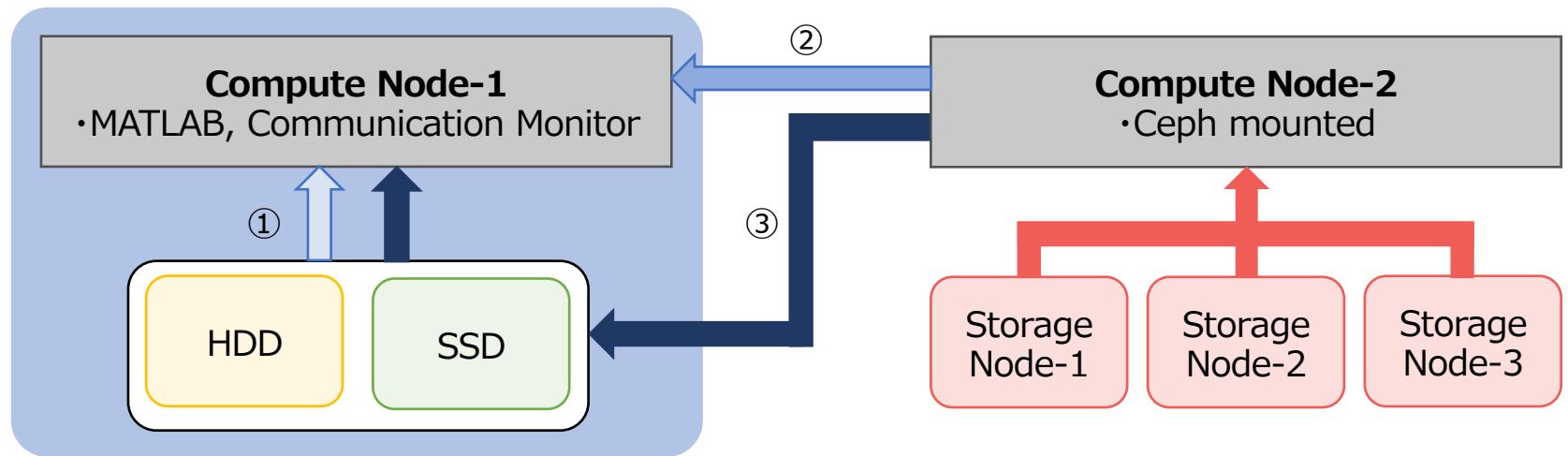
Random Write: IOPS up to 4x



Yuki Kawada, Yoichiro Tanaka, Evaluation study of data access performance of distributed storage Ceph, using a brain neuronal structure visualization application, IEICE Tech. Rep., vol. 122, no. 63, MRIS2022-5, pp. 24-29, June 2022



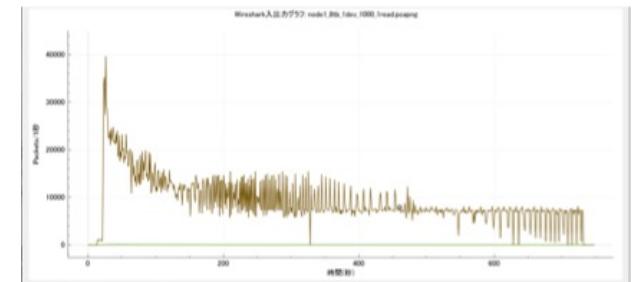
# Retrieving Neuron Structure Data



## Data Retrieval Path

- ① Read directly from CN-1 device
- ② Read from CN-2-mounted Ceph
- ③ Copy data from CN-2 Ceph to CN-1, then read from CN-1 device

**Dataset**  
1000frames: 10GB  
5000frames: 50GB

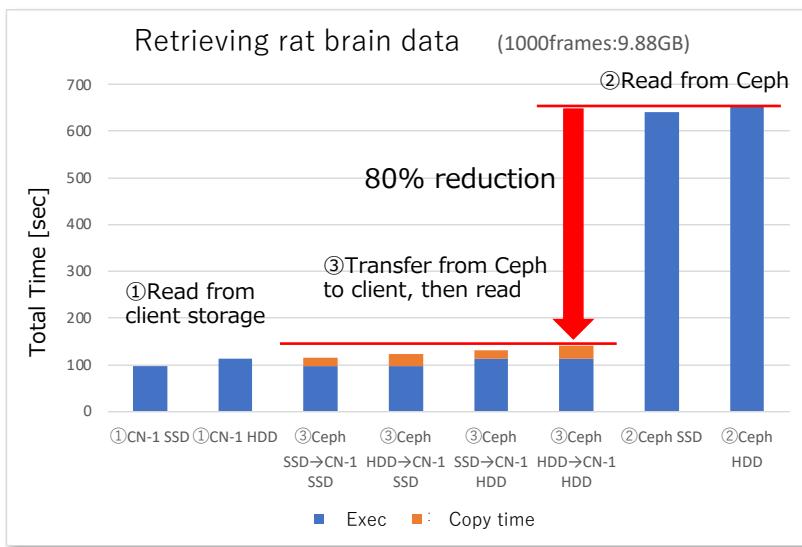


Communication

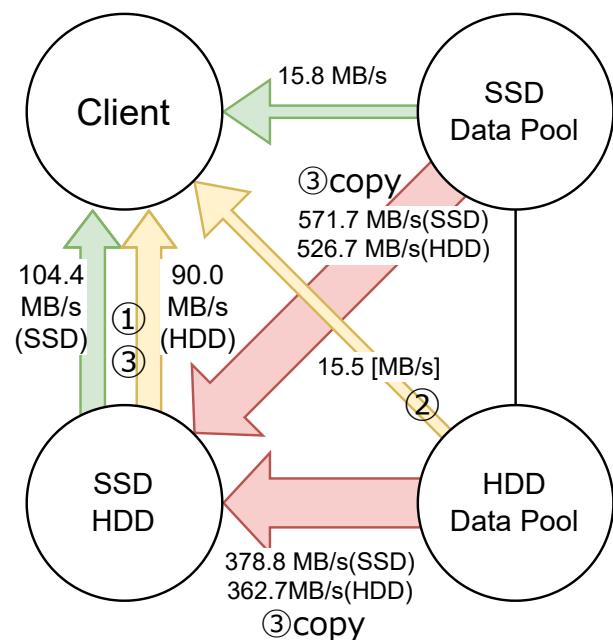


# Optimizing Data Path

Improve total data transaction efficiency by eliminating gating path in both compute and storage

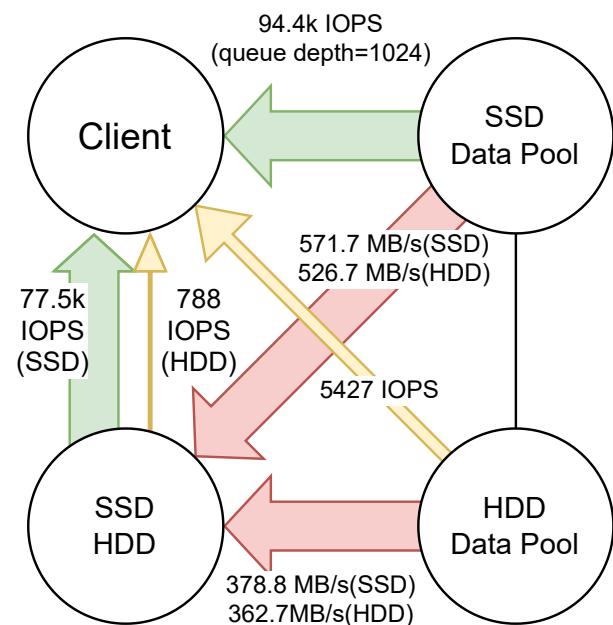
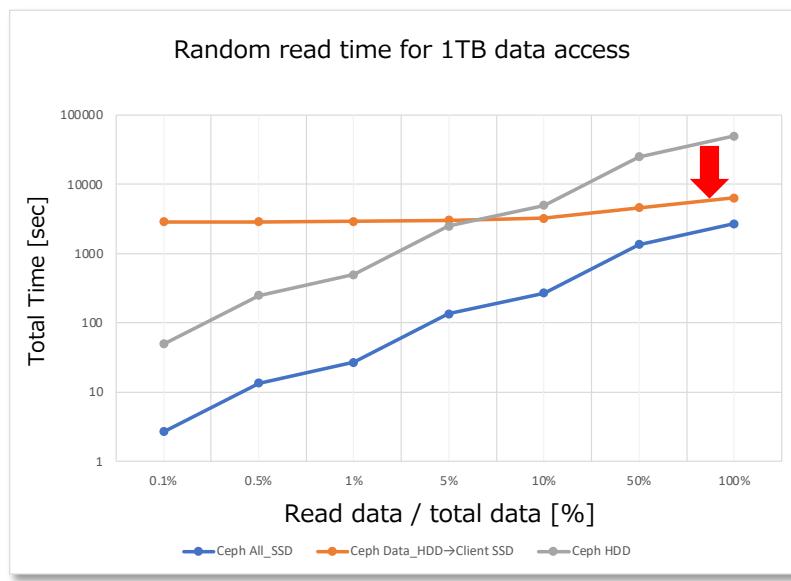


Exec	実行時間	96.9	112.4	96.9	96.9	112.4	112.4	641.2	651.6
Copy	コピー時間					17.7	26.7	19.2	27.9
Total	合計時間	96.9	112.4	114.6	123.6	131.6	140.3	641.2	651.6

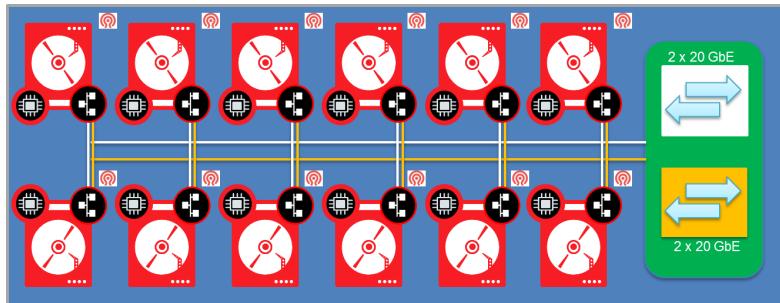
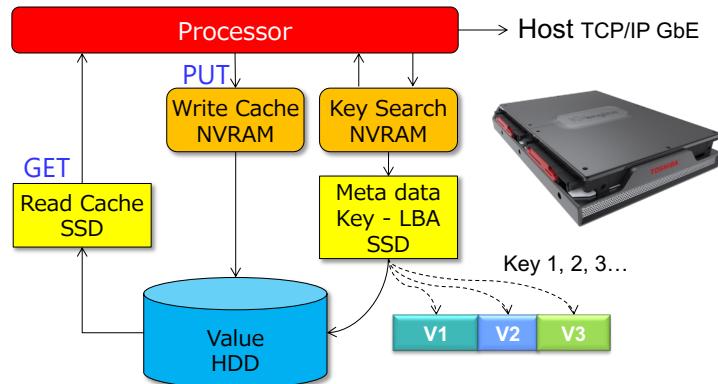


# Optimizing Random Read

In case random read is more than 5% of total access data, total read time will be faster after transferring to client SSD

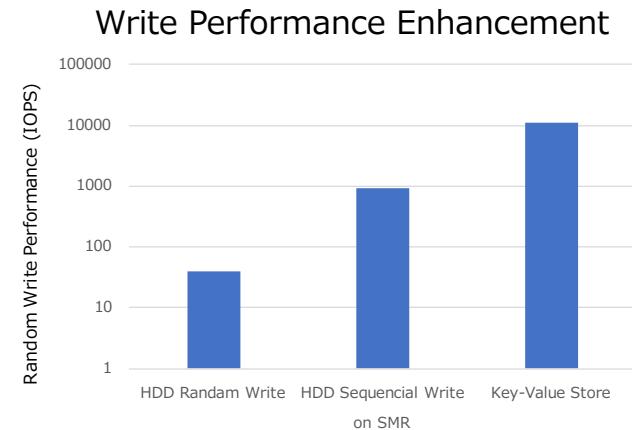


# Key-Value Store as an Atomic Module



72 TB/12 Node Ceph Cluster in 1U Ethernet JBoD with KVS

- Supermicro 1U/12 Drive Ethernet Chassis with 4 x10 GbE
- KVDrive with Ceph OSD – 12 Node Scale Out Cluster in a 1U
- Total of 72 TB of PMR Hard Drive Storage Capacity



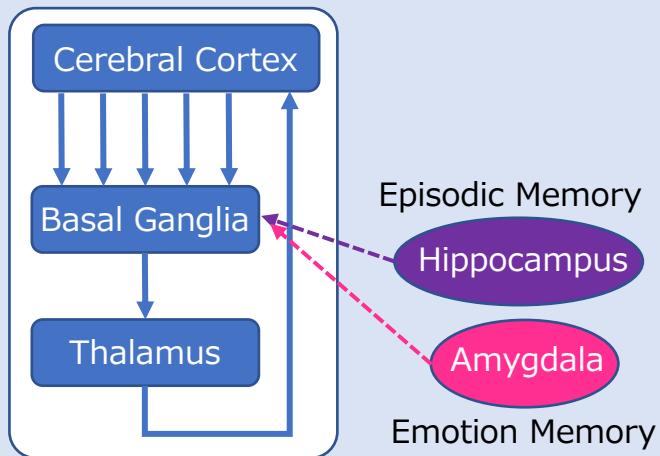
S. Tanaka, M. Goto, and P. Kufeldt, KVDrive' Internet protocol drive for object storage systems, Toshiba Rev., Vol. 70, No. 8, 9–12, 2015  
Toshiba Corp., Presented at Openstack Summit 2015, Vancouver, May 2015

Yoichiro Tanaka, Characterizing Advanced Recording Technology Assets with Hyperscale Applications, IEEE Trans. Magn., Vol. 52, No. 2, 3100404, 2016



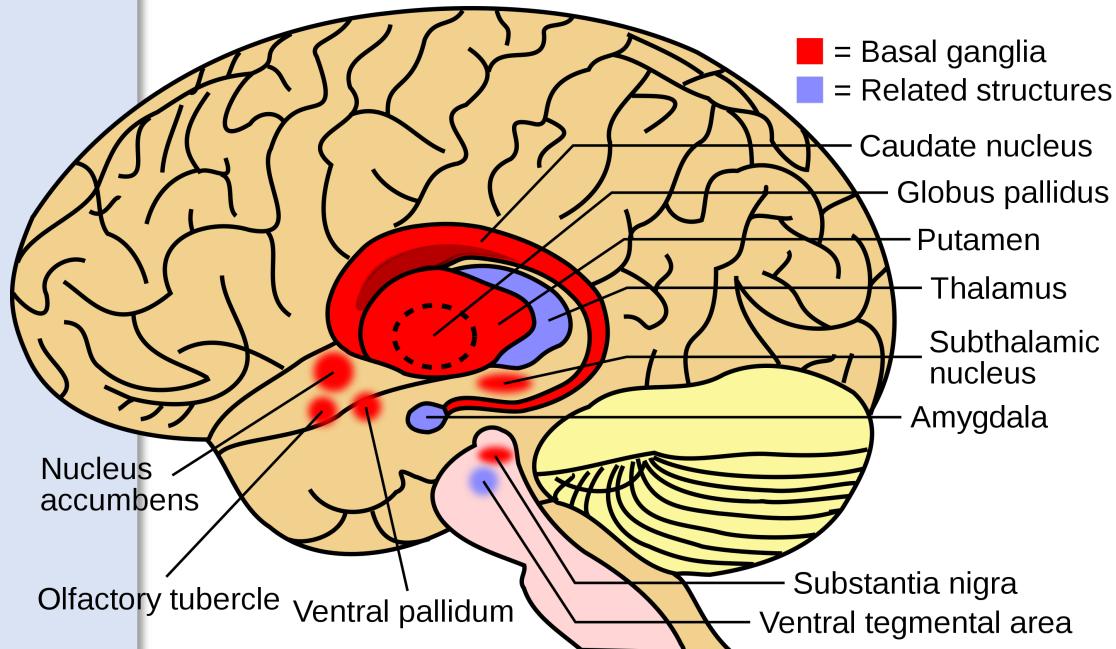
# Basal Ganglia as a Compute Module

## Cortico-basal Ganglia Loop



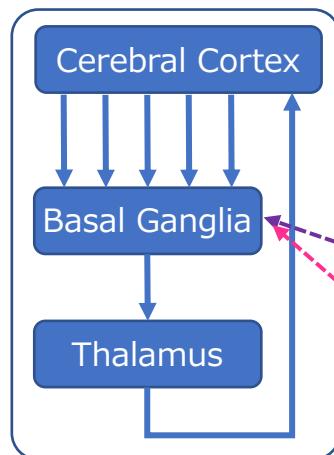
### Simple Program Compute

- Long-term & Short-term Memory
- Information Path Selection
- Weighing Connections



# Parallel Cortico-basal Ganglia Network

## Simple Program



*fish*

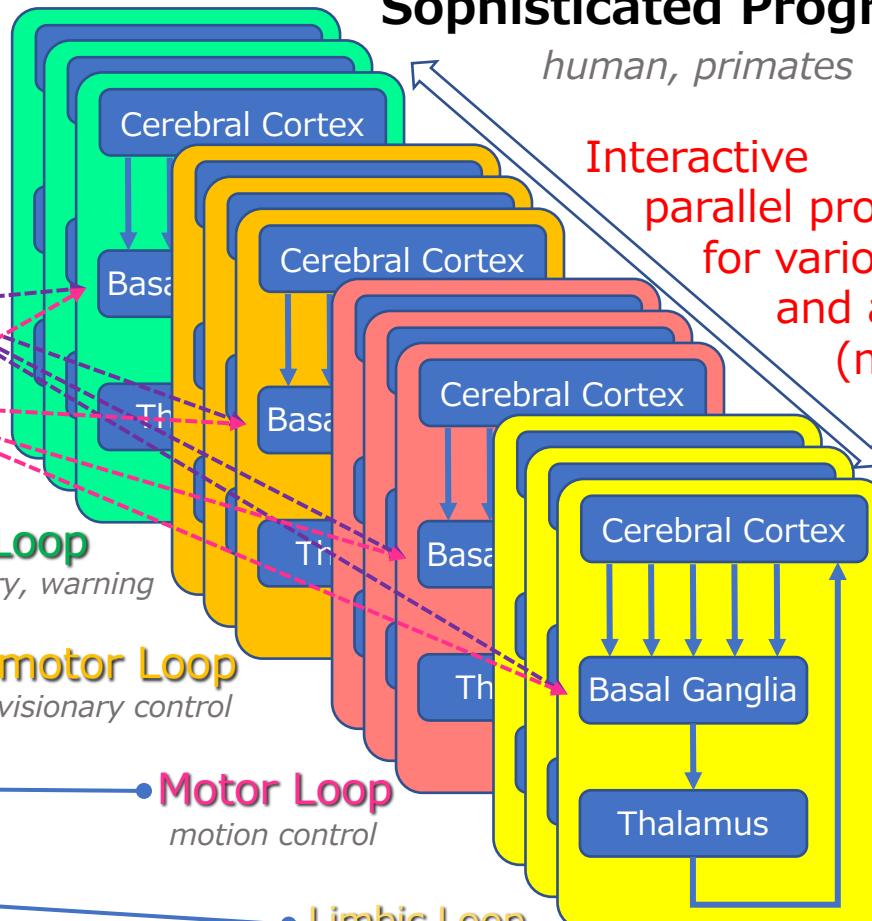
**Cortico-basal  
Ganglia Loop  
(micro)**

Episodic Memory  
Hippocampus  
Amygdala  
Emotion Memory

## Sophisticated Program

*human, primates*

Interactive parallel processors for various info and actions (macro)

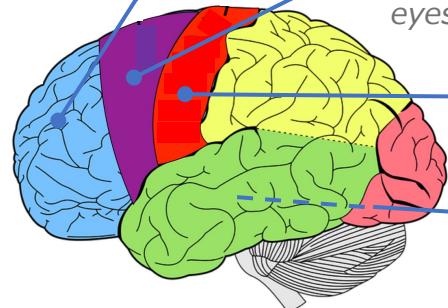


**Prefrontal Loop**  
*planning, memory, warning*

**Oculomotor Loop**  
*eyes, visionary control*

**Motor Loop**  
*motion control*

**Limbic Loop**  
*emotion, motivation*



McHaffie JG1, Stanford TR, Stein BE, Coizet V, Redgrave P.(2005) Subcortical loops through the basal ganglia. Trends Neurosci. 28(8):401-407



# Modularized Compute in Brain

In Cortico-basal Ganglia Loop;

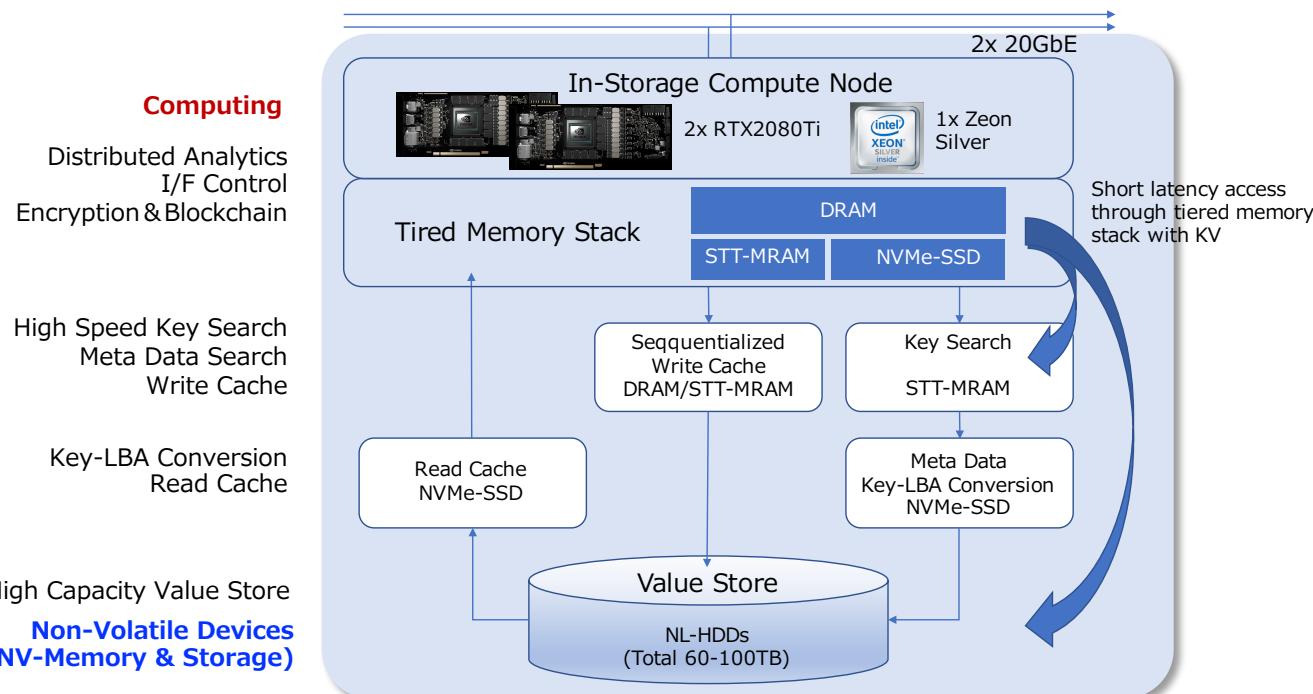
- Long-term & Short-term Memory
- Information Path Selection
- Weighing Connections

There is NO digital bit stored.  
There are weighing connections.



# Modularized Computational Storage

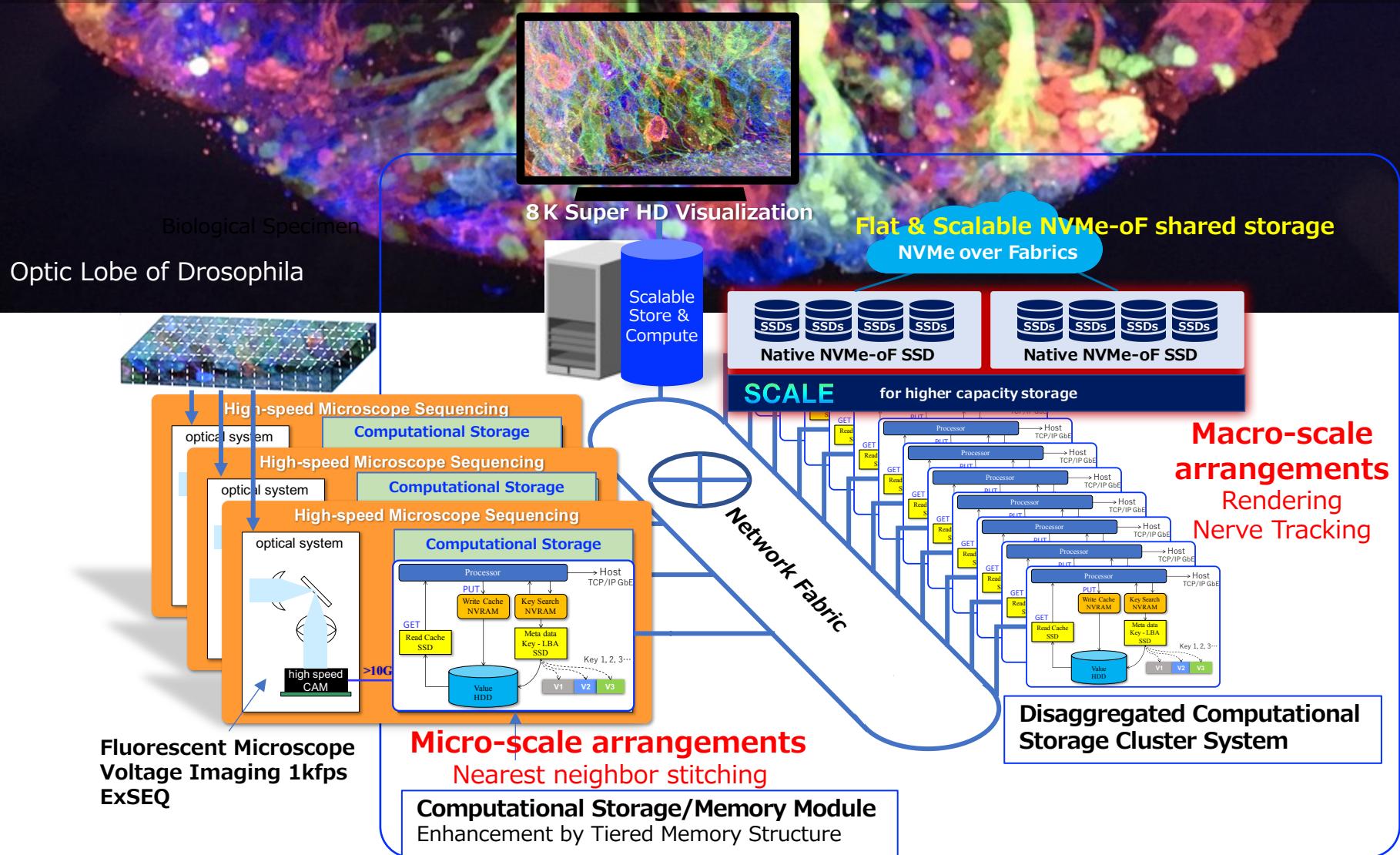
- Key-Value data allocation in tiered memory stack for fast access to data
  - ✓ Long-term & Short-term Memory
  - ✓ Information Path Selection
  - ✓ Weighing Connections



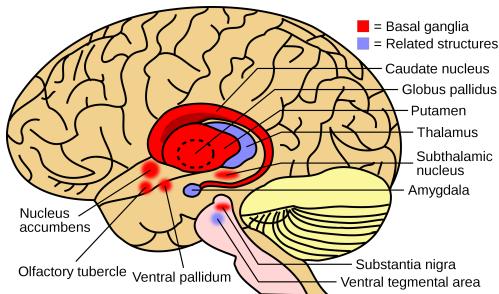
Yoichiro Tanaka, Characterizing Advanced Recording Technology Assets with Hyper-Scale Applications, IEEE Trans. Magn., Vol.52, No.2, pp.1-4, 2016  
<http://news.toshiba.com/press-release/business-and-retail-solutions/toshiba-demonstrates-high-performance-object-storage-tec>, also presented at Openstack Summit 2015, Vancouver, May 2015



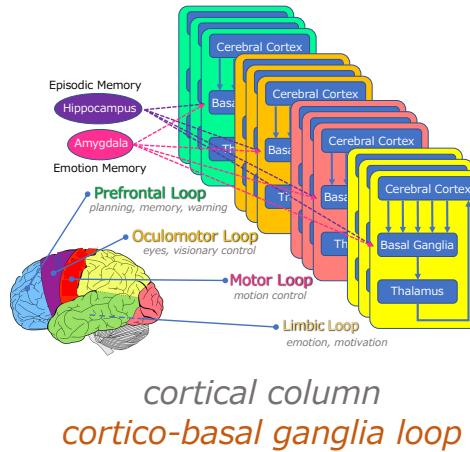
# 3D Visualization of Neural Structure inspired by brain functions



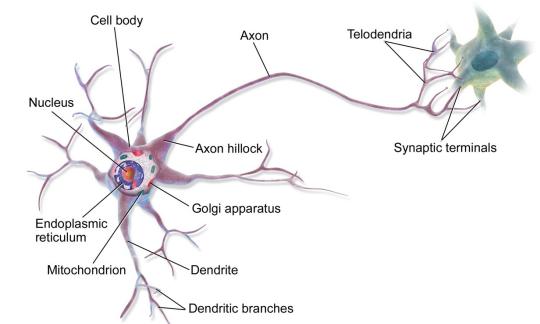
# Multi-scale Structures as a System



*Node:* cortical region  
*Edge:* white matter pathway



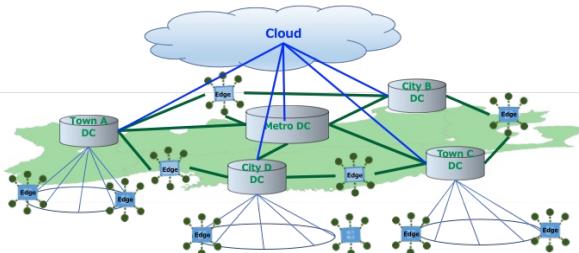
cortical column  
cortico-basal ganglia loop



neuronal soma  
neuron & synapse

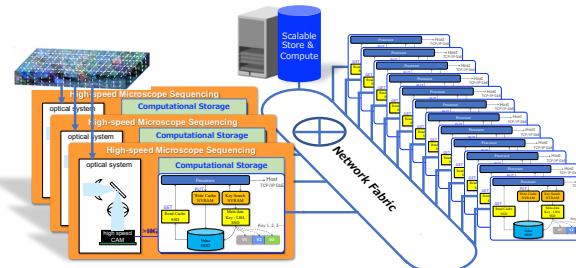
## Macro-scale

*Node:* cloud  
*Edge:* local data center



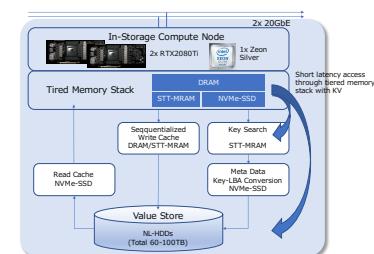
## Meso-scale

disaggregated cluster  
computational storage system

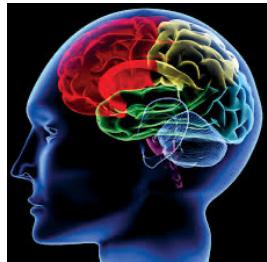


## Micro-scale

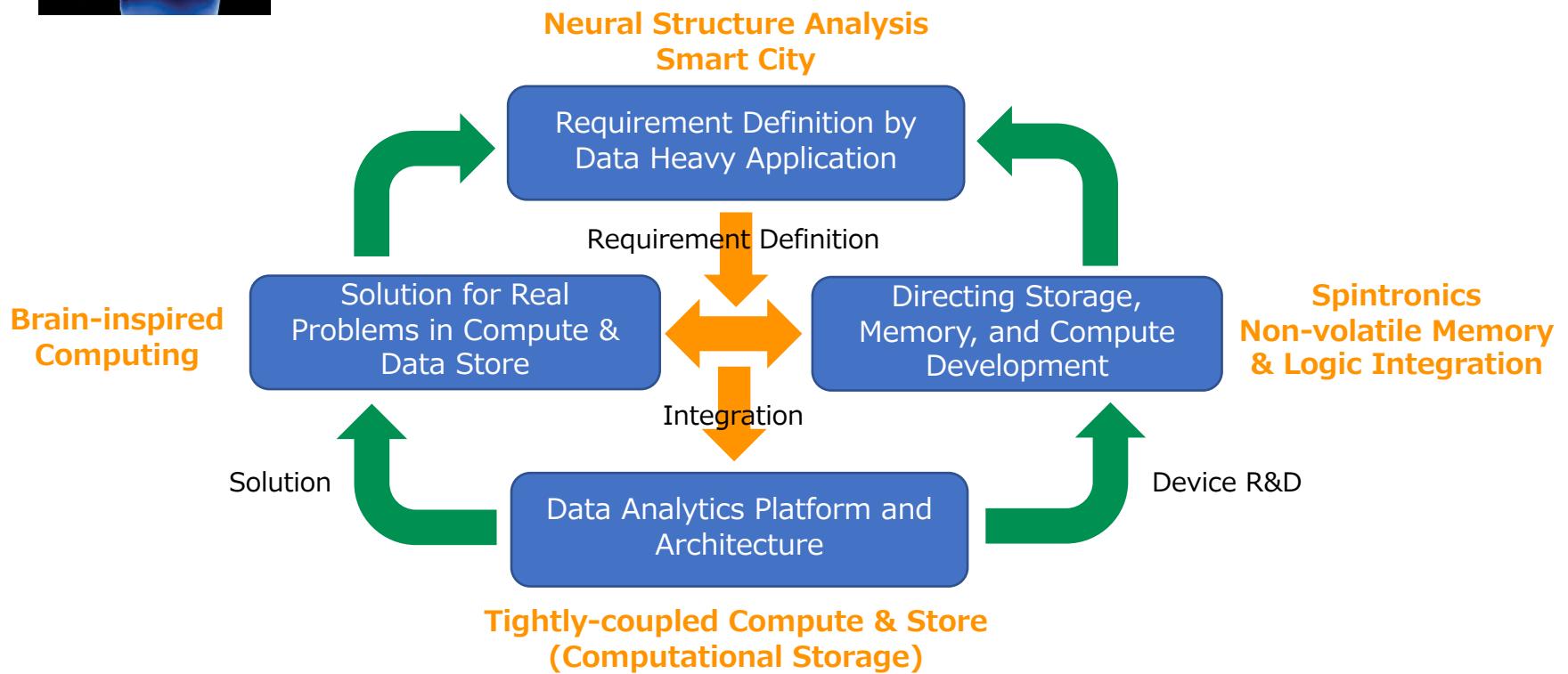
atomic module  
integrated module



# Data Store and Brain



Re-define “data storage” as a computation-unified active system by learning from brain functions



# Summary

1. Perpendicular magnetic recording has created the foundation of digital data society. The storage technology provides the most significant contribution to our society in ICT and Big Data.
2. In life science analytics, handling large scale real-time data analysis and secure management of unstructured datasets are important. Unification of compute and storage closely to data source is required.
3. Parallel processing in the “Cortico-basal Ganglia Loop” module structure is a good references for modularized computational storage scheme. This is scalable and applicable to large scale dataset analytics.



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**KIOXIA**

**Western Digital**

