



Client PCIe* Storage

Smaller FFs and Lower Power

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Outline

- Client Storage Form Factors
- Transitioning from SATA to PCIe*
- Performance impact from low power state entry
- Power usage from a low power PCIe SSD

2013: PCIe* Storage Arrived in Client



The advertisement features a black HP VAIO Pro 13 Ultrabook on the left, displaying the Windows 8 Pro Start screen. To its right is a white text box with the product name and features. Below this, on the left, is text about MacBook Air's flash storage, and on the right is an image of a silver MacBook Air displaying a photo gallery.

VAIO Pro 13 Ultrabook™
The world's lightest 13.3" touch Ultrabook²¹.

Features:

- 4th gen Intel® Core™ i7 processor available
- Windows 8 Pro available
- Full HD TRILUMINOS IPS touchscreen (1920 x 1080)
- Super fast 512GB PCIe SSD available
- Ultra-light at just 2.34 lbs.

Faster all-flash storage.
Ready. Set. Done.

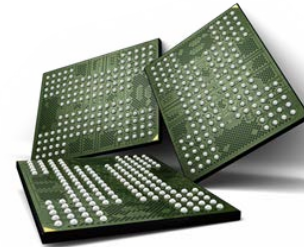
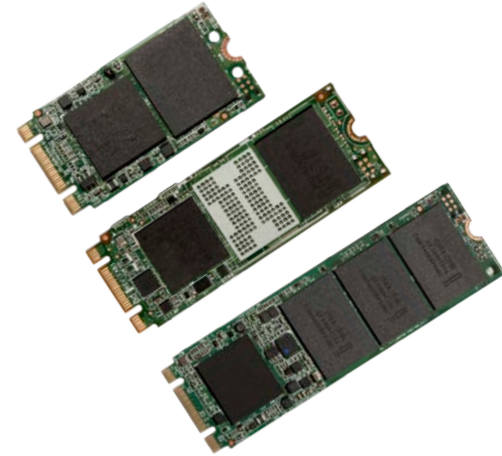
Flash storage in MacBook Air is now up to 43 percent faster than the previous generation. So everything you do is snappier and more responsive. MacBook Air even wakes up faster than ever, thanks to flash storage and the latest Intel Core processors. And now the 11-inch model comes standard with twice the capacity — 128GB — yet still starts at \$999.

Source: FMS '13

... but device power higher than SATA

Client Storage Form Factors

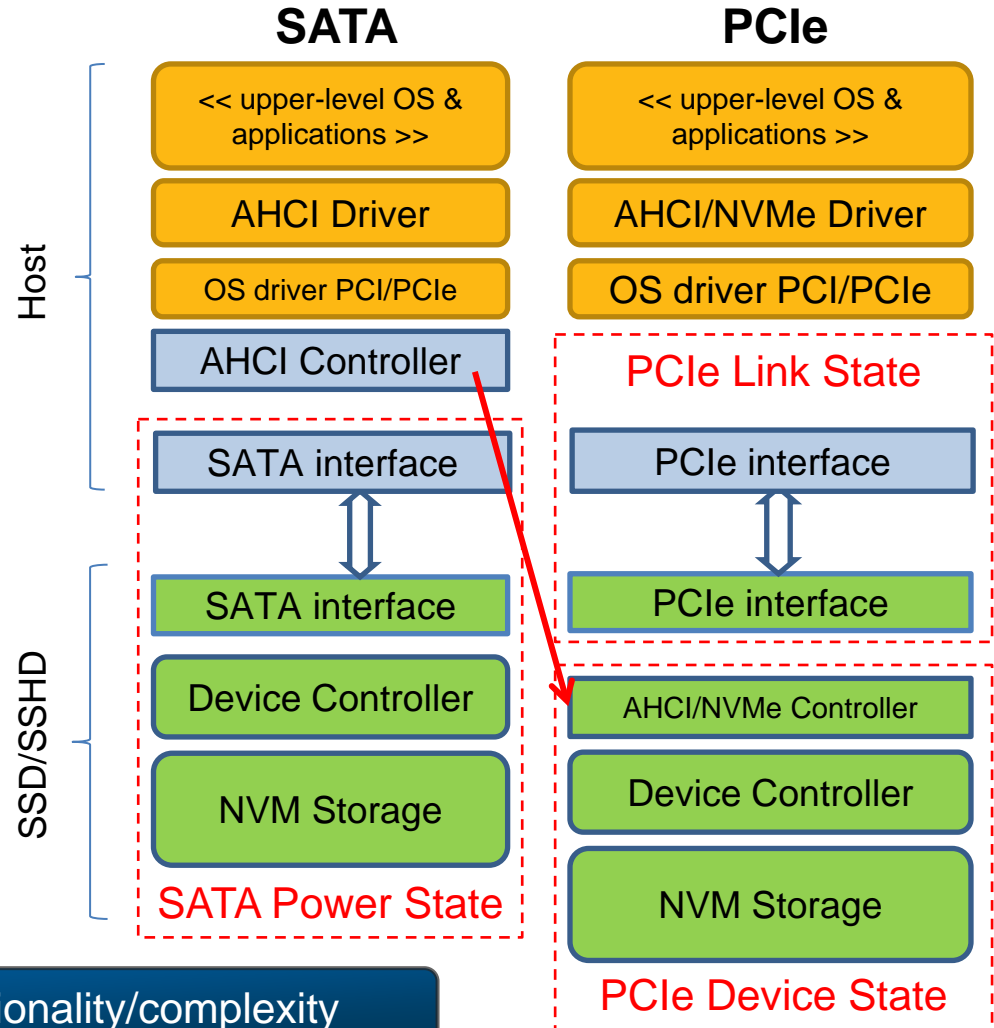
- 2.5" SATA Express* connector for hosts to interchangeably support SSD, SSHD, or HDD
- M.2 is an optimized SSD only form factor
- BGA solution under definition in PCI-SIG for smallest devices



A variety of form factors available for client PCIe* storage adoption;
smaller form factors have less surface area to dissipate heat

How PCIe* is Different

- Controller moves to the device
 - New functionality in the device (LTR and L1.2)
 - Power state splits into 2 independent states
- Aggressively enter low power PCIe link states to reduce PHY power
- Enter low power device states after an extended idle period



PCIe adds power management functionality/complexity

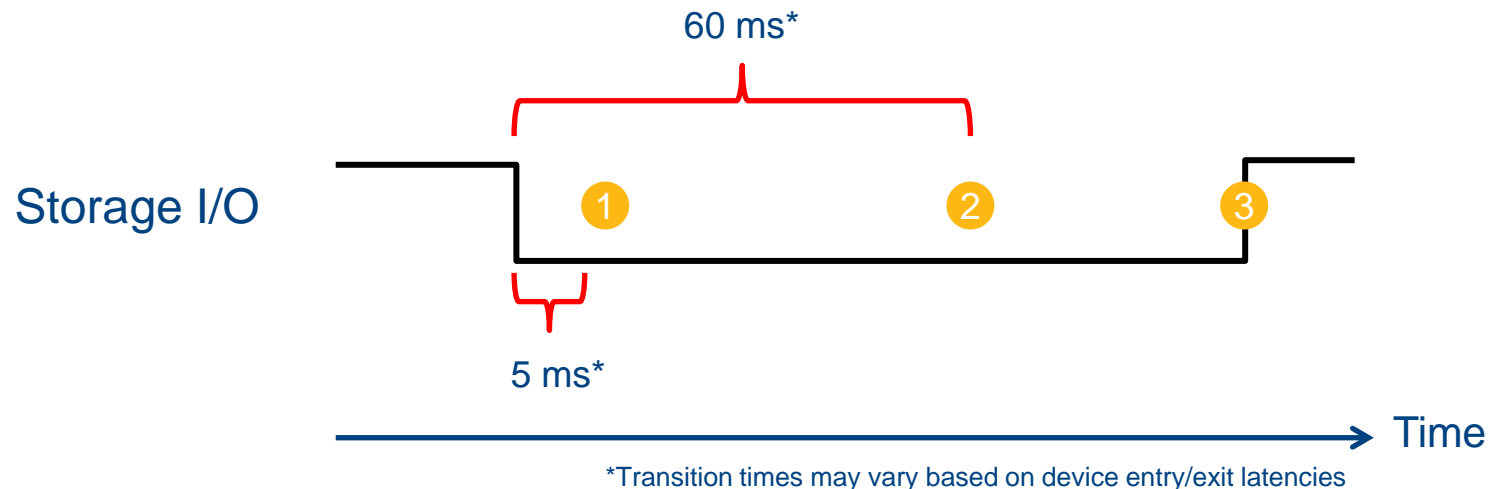
Recommended Device Power States

Power State	Description	Relative Performance	Power	Resume Latency
PS0	Default Operational	100% Performance	High	-
PS1	Light Thermal Throttle	~75% performance	Thermal workload < 2W	-
PS2	Heavy Thermal Throttle	< 50% performance	Thermal workload < 1W	-
PS3	Non-operational with fast recovery	-	Idle < 50 - 100 mW	< 1 ms
PS4	Lowest non-zero power state	-	Idle < 2.5 mW	< 50 ms

Vendors may choose to add additional power states
(e.g., additional intermediate non-operational states, or throttling levels)

Example Power State Transitions

Initial config: PCIe* link in L0 and device active

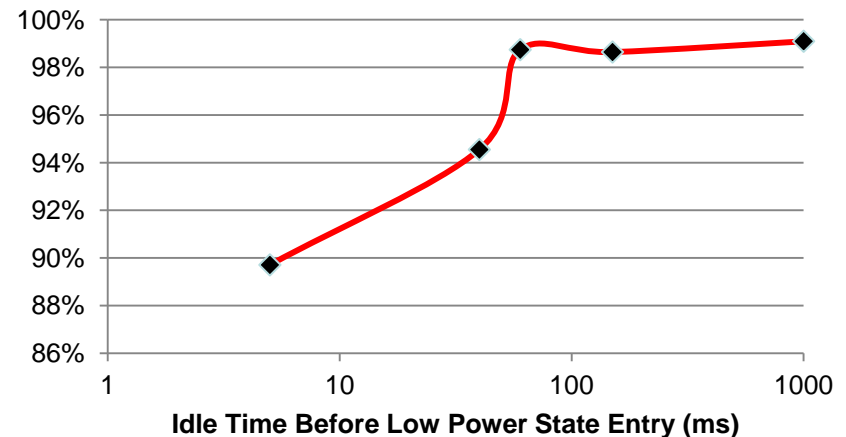


- 1 Controller initiates link transition to L1.2; controller stays in PS0
- 2 After 60ms without an I/O command, controller transitions to PS3
- 3 The host transitions link to L0, sends an I/O request; controller transitions back to PS0

Performance Impact of Low Power Entry

- Aggressive low power state entry negatively impacts device performance
- 10 – 15% performance loss for 5ms low power state entry, as tested in the configuration noted below
- Very aggressive autonomous power state entry also tested - showing 20-25% performance loss

**Relative PC Mark* Vantage
HDD Score**

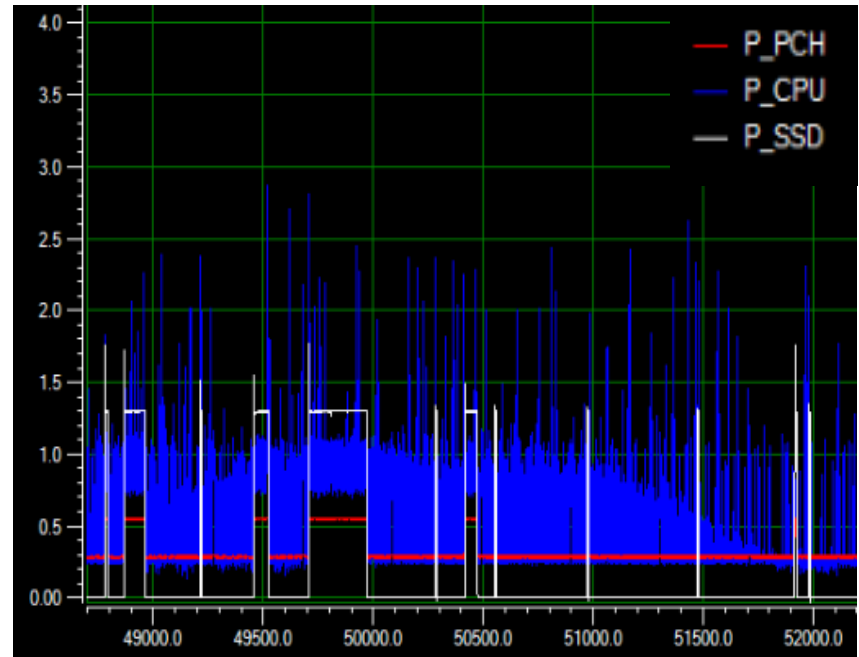


NOTE: Measurements made on next gen Intel Core * SIP platform running Windows 8.1 Standard O/S, Intel RST prototype driver, prototype SSD, data collected by PC Mark Vantage* tool. Scores averaged over 3 runs. 100% = performance on benchmark on same platform with no power management.

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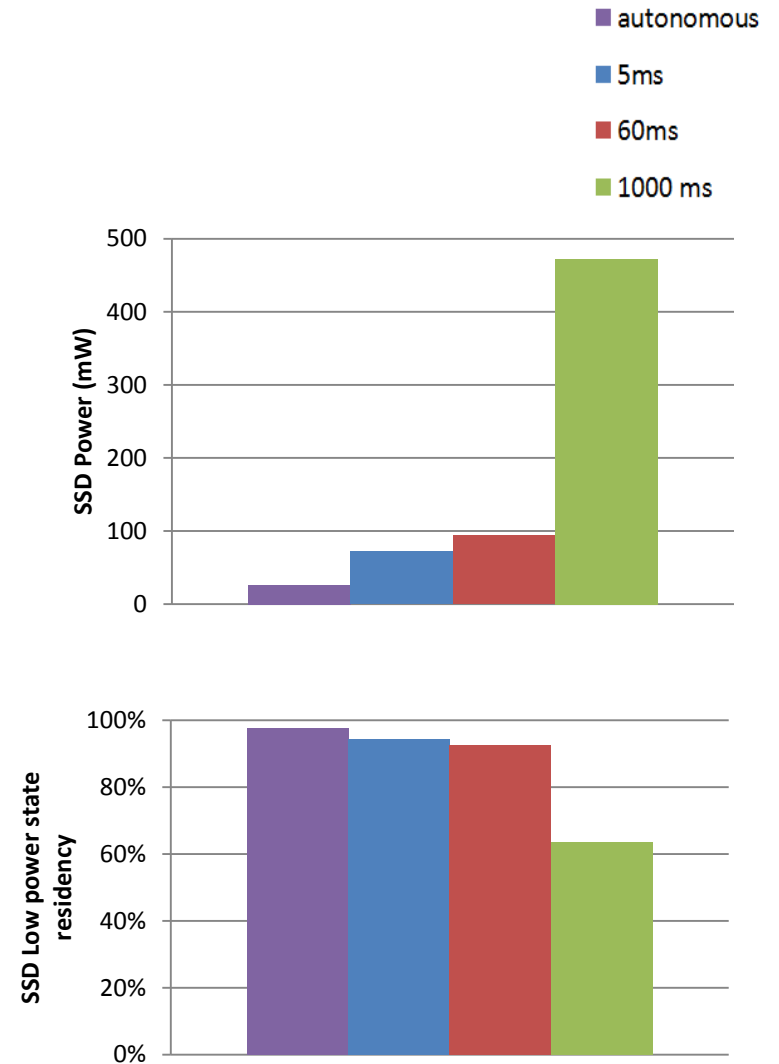
Measuring the Power Impact

- Sample CPU, SSD, and overall platform power while running real workloads
- Focus on 2 workloads:
 - Video Playback (1080p)
 - Windows* Connected Standby



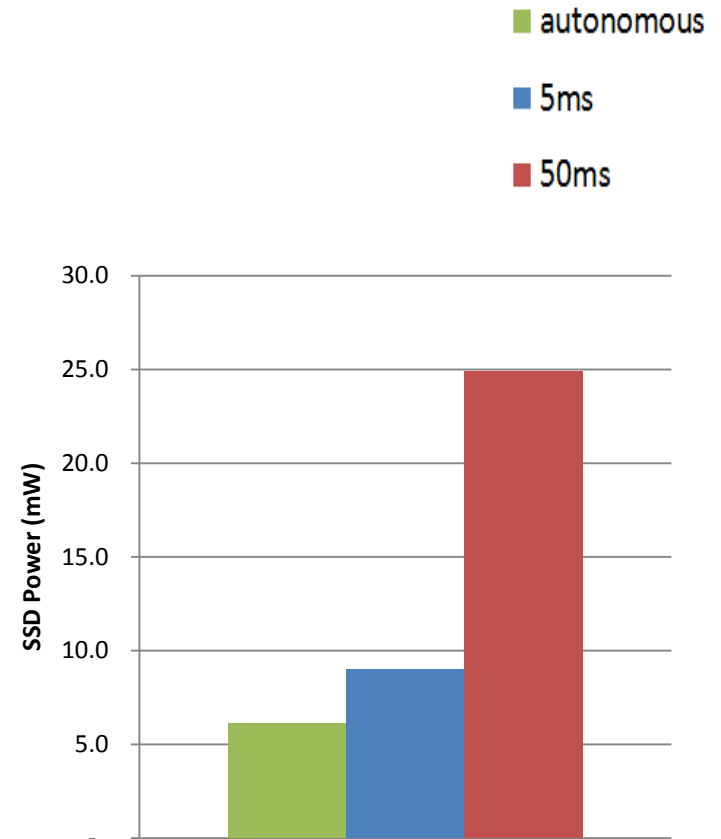
Video Playback

- CPU active during the workload; storage wakes up to retrieve data periodically
- Storage power on this workload similar for 5ms and 60ms entry
- Opportunity for even lower power using autonomous power transitions and aggressive RTD3



Connected Standby

- CPU mostly idle during workload; I/O activity limited with extended idle periods
- Noticeable power difference between 5ms and 50ms entry
- Drivers may need to adjust power policies with workloads like Connected Standby



NOTE: Measurements made on next gen Intel® Core® SIP platform running Windows® 8.1 Standard O/S, Intel prototype driver, prototype SSD. Connected Standby workload description available in Ultrabook® logo documentation. Power data averaged over 3, 4-hour runs.

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Summary

- Smaller client platforms reducing storage form factor size
 - Small size creates thermal challenges with high power
- With low power functionality (e.g., L1.2, LTR, and low power device states), PCIe* power comparable to SATA
- Implementing low power functionality mitigates thermal challenges while enabling higher performance PCIe storage