

# HARDWARE-LEVEL PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS OF PLATFORM I/O

or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Uncore

Roman Sudarikov, Perry Taylor, Jeremy Williamson, Neil Achtman

# **Performance monitoring**

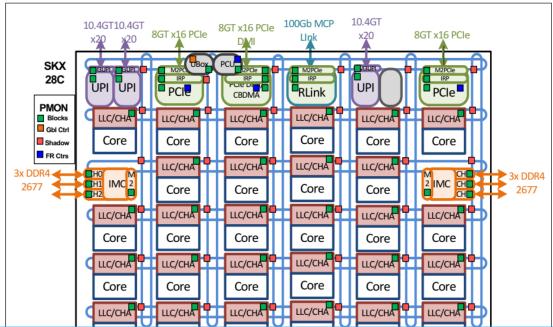
#### ☐ Core

- Execution units (ALU)
- L1 caches
- L2 caches

#### □ Uncore

 Rest of the processor besides the core

Figure 1-1. Skylake Server-28C EX Server Block Diagram



Hardware feedback through publically available tools

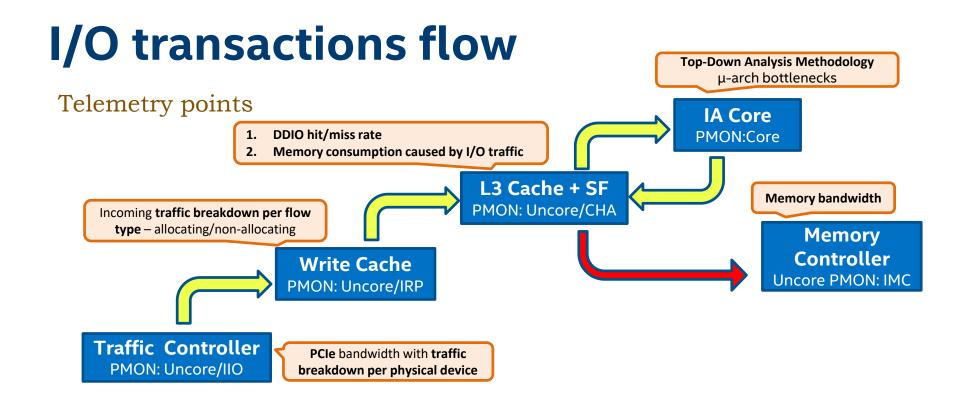




# **Performance monitoring**

□Core monitoring can tell SW how it is performing on an iA core - e.g. was the code scheduled to execute efficiently? Were the tasks well balanced?

□ Uncore monitoring can give SW a better sense where all that traffic was routed and what was involved in processing it



There is so much happens with IO request on the way to the core which is beyond the scope of the core's PMU





#### Terminology

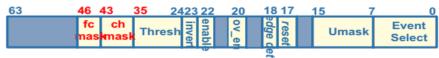
IIO - integrated IO

Outbound direction is from the root port towards the endpoint; Inbound direction is from the endpoint towards the root port;

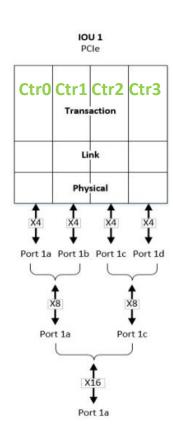
OTC – outbound traffic controller;

ITC – inbound traffic controller;

IIO counter control register for Skylake Server



fc\_mask controls whether it looks at P, NP, or C; ch\_mask controls what PCIe port it looks at.





#### **Events**

#### 2.5.4 IIO Box Events Ordered By Code

The following table summarizes the directly measured IIO Box events.

Symbol Name	Event Code	Ctrs	Max Inc/ Cyc	Description
NOTHING	0×00		0	
CLOCKTICKS	0x01	0-3	0	Traffic Controller Clocks
MASK_MATCH_AND	0x02	0-3	0	AND Mask/match for debug bus
MASK_MATCH_OR	0x03	0-3	0	OR Mask/match for debug bus
LINK_NUM_RETRIES	0x0e		0	Num Link Retries
LINK_NUM_CORR_ERR	0x0f		0	Num Link Correctable Errors
MASK_MATCH	0x21		0	Number packets that passed the Mask/Match Filter
VTD_OCCUPANCY	0x40	0-3	0	Intel® Virtualization Technology (Intel® VT) for Directed I/O (Intel® VT-d) Occupancy
VTD_ACCESS	0x41	0-3	0	Intel VT-d Access
SYMBOL_TIMES	0x82		0	Symbol Times on Link
DATA_REQ_OF_CPU	0x83	0-1	0	Data requested of the CPU
TXN_REQ_OF_CPU	0x84	0-3	0	Number Transactions requested of the CPU
DATA_REQ_BY_CPU	0xc0	2-3	0	Data requested by the CPU
TYN REO RY CHI	0vc1	0-3	n	Number Transactions requested by the CDII

https://software.intel.com/en-us/blogs/2014/07/11/documentation-foruncore-performance-monitoring-units



Application writes to device/device reads from system memory

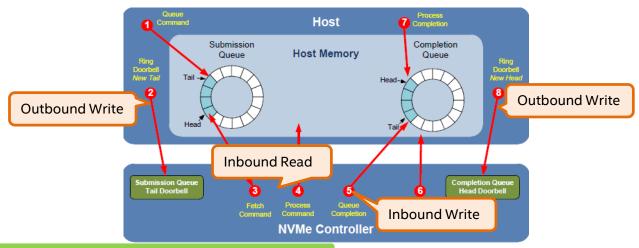
Attaching to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 Attached to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 [8086:2701] Associating INTEL SSDPED1K375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) w Initialization complete. Launching workers. Starting thread on core 24  Device Information INTEL SSDPED1K375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) from core 24  Total	IOPS 555166.80	Latency(us)  MB/s Average min max  2168.62 14.40 6.70 360.12
[root@nntvtune206 perf]#		
Uncore TC Events	Counts/sec	Comment
Inbound Write	2,242,660	Device updates CQ tail (x16B)
Inbound Write Inbound Read	2,242,660 579,660,272	Device updates CQ tail (x16B)  Device fetches data (x4096B) + commands (x64B)



# Traffic controller - explanation

Application writes to device/device reads from system memory

Application reports: **555166** IOPs



Uncore TC Events	Counts/sec	Explanation	Comment
Inbound Write	2,242,660	= <b>555166</b> * 16B / 4B	Device updates CQ tail (x16B)
Inbound Read	579,660,272	= <b>555166</b> * (4096B + 64B) / 4B	Device fetches data (x4096B) + commands (x64B)
Outbound Write	1,123,970	<b>= 555166</b> *2	CPU rings Doorbell (x4B) twice



Application writes to device/device reads from system memory

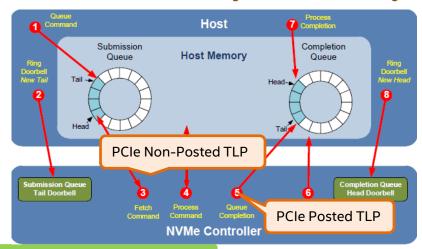
EAL: Probing VFIO support Initializing NVMe Controllers Attaching to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 Attached to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 [8086:2701] Associating INTEL SSDPEDLK375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) with lcore 24 Initialization complete. Launching workers. Starting thread on core 24					
Total	555166.80	168.62 14.40 6.70 360.12			
[root@nntvtune206 perf]#					
Uncore TC Events	Counts/sec	Comment			
Inbound Posted TLPs	559,893	Device updates CQ tail (x16B)			
Inbound Posted TLPs Inbound Non-Posted TLPs	559,893 5,070,096	Device updates CQ tail (x16B)  Device fetches data (x4096B) + commands (x64B)  MRRS=512B so 8 TLPs for Data + 1 for command			



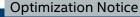
# Traffic controller - explanation

Application writes to device/device reads from system memory

Application reports: **555166** IOPs



Uncore TC Events	Counts/sec	Explanation	Comment
Inbound Posted TLPs	559,893	= 555166	Device updates CQ tail (x16B)
Inbound Non-Posted TLPs	5,070,096	= <b>555166</b> * (8TLP+ 1TLP)	Device fetches data (x4096B) + commands (x64B) MRRS=512B so 8 TLPs for Data + 1 for command





Application reads from device/device writes to system memory

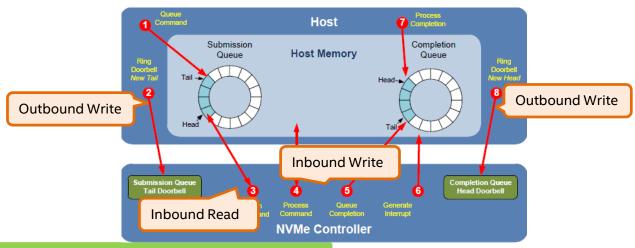
[root@nntvtune206 perf]# ./perf -r 'trtype:PCIe traddr:0000:da:00.0' -q 8 -o 4096 -w read -t 10 -c 0x1000000 Starting SPDK v19.04-pre / DPDK 18.11.0 initialization [DPDK EAL parameters: perfno-shconf -c 0x1000000base-virtaddr=0x200000000000file-prefix=spdk_pid10034 ] EAL: Detected 96 lcore(s) EAL: Detected 2 NUMA nodes EAL: No free hugepages reported in hugepages-1048576kB EAL: Probing VFIO support Initializing NVMe Controllers Attaching to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 Attached to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 [8086:2701] Associating INTEL SSDPEDLK375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) with lcore 24 Initialization complete. Launching workers. Starting thread on core 24				
Device Information : INTEL SSDPED1K375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) from core 24	IOPS 666966.10	Latency(us) MB/s Average min max 2605.34 11.99 6.30 335.15		
Total :	666966.10	2605.34 11.99 6.30 335.15		
[root@nntvtune206 perf]#				
Uncore TC Events	Counts/sec	Comment		
Inbound Write	684,557,476	Device delivers data (x4096B) + updates CQ tail (x16B)		
Inbound Read	10,644,464	Device fetches commands (x64B)		
Outbound Write	1,330,200	CPU rings Doorbell (x4B) twice		



# Traffic controller - explanation

Application reads from device/device writes to system memory

Application reports: **666966** IOPs



Uncore TC Events	Counts/sec	Explanation	Comment
Inbound Write	684,557,476	= <b>666966</b> * (4096B + 64B) / 4B	Device delivers data (x4096B) + updates CQ tail (x16B)
Inbound Read	10,644,464	= <b>666966</b> * 64B / 4B	Device fetches commands (x64B)
Outbound Write	1,330,200	= <b>666966</b> *2	CPU rings Doorbell (x4B) twice



## Application reads from device/device writes to system memory

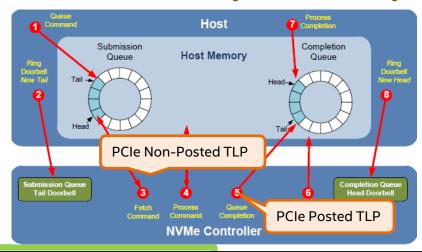
[root@nntvtune206 perf]# ./perf -r 'trtype:PCIe traddr:0000:da:00.0' -q 8 -o 4096 -w read -t 10 -c 0x1000000 Starting SPDK v19.04-pre / DPDK 18.11.0 initialization [DPDK EAL parameters: perfno-shconf -c 0x1000000base-virtaddr=0x200000000000file-prefix=spdk_pid10034 ] EAL: Detected 96 lcore(s) EAL: Detected 2 NUMA nodes EAL: No free hugepages reported in hugepages-1048576kB EAL: Probing VFIO support Initializing NVMe Controllers Attaching to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 Attached to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 [8086:2701] Associating INTEL SSDPEDLK375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) with lcore 24 Initialization complete. Launching workers. Starting thread on core 24					
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Total :  [root@nntvtune206 perf]#	666966.10	2605.34 11.99 6.30 335.15			
Uncore TC Events	Counts/sec	Comment			
Inbound Posted TLPs	11,316,994	Device delivers data (x4096B) + updates CQ tail (x16B) MPS=256B so 16 TLPs for Data + 1 for CQ tail			
Inbound Non-Posted TLPs	666,375	5,375 Device fetches commands (x64B)			



# Traffic controller - explanation

Application writes to device/device reads from system memory

Application reports: **666966** IOPs



Uncore TC Events	Counts/sec	Explanation	Comment
Inbound Posted TLPs	11,316,994	= <b>666966</b> * (16TLP+ 1TLP)	Device delivers data (x4096B) + updates CQ tail (x16B) MPS=256B so 16 TLPs for Data + 1 for CQ tail
Inbound Non-Posted TLPs	666,375	= 666966	Device fetches commands (x64B)



#### **Events**

Symbol Name	Event Code	Ctrs	Max Inc/ Cyc	Description
CLOCKTICKS	0x01		0	IRP Clocks
TxC_BL_DRS_INSERTS	0x02	0-1	0	BL DRS Egress Inserts
TxC_BL_NCB_INSERTS	0x03	0-1	0	BL NCB Egress Inserts
TxC_BL_NCS_INSERTS	0x04	0-1	0	BL NCS Egress Inserts
TxC_BL_DRS_CYCLES_FULL	0x05	0-1	0	BL DRS Egress Cycles Full
TxC_BL_NCB_CYCLES_FULL	0x06	0-1	0	BL NCB Egress Cycles Full
TxC_BL_NCS_CYCLES_FULL	0x07	0-1	0	BL NCS Egress Cycles Full
TxC_BL_DRS_OCCUPANCY	0x08	0-1	0	BL DRS Egress Occupancy
TxC_BL_NCB_OCCUPANCY	0x09	0-1	0	BL NCB Egress Occupancy
TxC_BL_NCS_OCCUPANCY	0x0a	0-1	0	BL NCS Egress Occupancy
TxC_AK_INSERTS	0x0b	0-1	0	AK Egress Allocations
TxS_REQUEST_OCCUPANCY	0x0c	0-1	0	Outbound Request Queue Occupancy
TxS_DATA_INSERTS_NCB	0x0d	0-1	0	Outbound Read Requests
TxS_DATA_INSERTS_NCS	0x0e	0-1	0	Outbound Read Requests
CACHE_TOTAL_OCCUPANCY	0x0f	0-1	0	Total Write Cache Occupancy
COHERENT_OPS	0x10	0-1	0	Coherent Ops
TRANSACTIONS	0x11	0-1	0	Inbound Transaction Count

https://software.intel.com/en-us/blogs/2014/07/11/documentation-foruncore-performance-monitoring-units



## Application reads from device/device writes to system memory

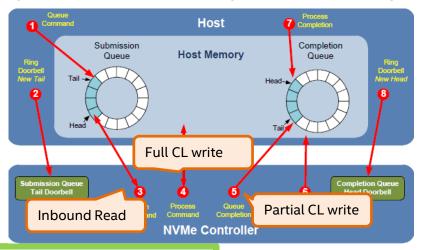
[root@nntvtune206 perf]# ./perf -r 'trtype:PCIe traddr:0000:da:00.0' -q 8 -o 4096 -w read -t 10 -c 0x1000000 Starting SPDK v19.04-pre / DPDK 18.11.0 initialization [DPDK EAL parameters: perfno-shconf -c 0x1000000base-virtaddr=0x20000000000file-prefix=spdk_pid10034 ] EAL: Detected 96 lcore(s) EAL: Detected 2 NUMA nodes EAL: No free hugepages reported in hugepages-1048576kB EAL: Probing VFIO support Initializing NVMe Controllers Attaching to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 Attached to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 [8086:2701] Associating INTEL SSDPEDIK375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) with lcore 24 Initialization complete. Launching workers. Starting thread on core 24					
Device Information : INTEL SSDPED1K375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) from core 24	IOPS 666966.10	Latency(us)  MB/s Average min max  2605.34 11.99 6.30 335.15			
Total :	666966.10	605.34 11.99 6.30 335.15			
[root@nntvtune206 perf]#					
Uncore IRP Events	Counts/sec	Comment			
Full cache line write	42,268,836	836 Device delivers data (x4096B)			
Partial cache line Write	666,934	Device updates CQ tail (x16B)			
Read	666,940	Device fetches commands (x64B)			



# Write Cache - explanation

Application reads from device/device writes to system memory

Application reports: **666966** IOPs



Uncore TC Events	Counts/sec	Explanation	Comment
Full cache line write	42,268,836	= <b>666966</b> * 4096B / 64B	Device delivers data (x4096B)
Partial cache line Write	666,934	= 666966	Device updates CQ tail (x16B)
Read	666,940	= 666966	Device fetches commands (x64B)



## Application writes to device/device reads from system memory

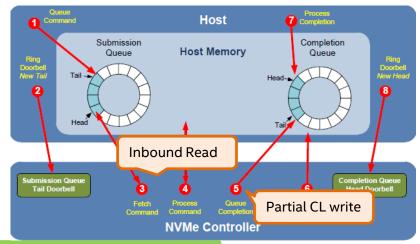
[root@nntvtune206 perf]# ./perf -r 'trtype:PCIe traddr:0000:da:00.0' -q 8 -o 4096 -w write -t 10 -c 0x1000000 Starting SPDK v19.04-pre / DPDK 18.11.0 initialization [DPDK EAL parameters: perfno-shconf -c 0x1000000base-virtaddr=0x200000000000file-prefix=spdk_pid10329 ] EAL: Detected 96 lcore(s) EAL: Detected 2 NUMA nodes EAL: No free hugepages reported in hugepages-1048576kB EAL: Probing VFIO support Initializing NVMe Controllers Attaching to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 Attached to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 [8086:2701] Associating INTEL SSDPEDIK375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) with lcore 24 Initialization complete. Launching workers. Starting thread on core 24									
Device Information : INTEL SSDPED1K375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) from core 24	IOPS 555166.80	Latency(us) MB/s Average min max 2168.62 14.40 6.70 360.12							
Total :	555166.80	168.62 14.40 6.70 360.12							
[root@nntvtune206 perf]#									
Uncore IRP Events	Counts/sec	Comment							
Full cache line write	О								
Partial cache line Write	565,389	Device updates CQ tail (x16B)							
Read	36,403,315	Device fetches data (x4096B) + commands (x64B)							



# Write Cache - explanation

Application writes to device/device reads from system memory

Application reports: **555166** IOPs



Uncore TC Events	Counts/sec	Explanation	Comment
Full cache line write	0		
Partial cache line Write	565,389	= 555166	Device updates CQ tail (x16B)
Read	36,403,315	= <b>555166</b> * (4096B + 64B) / 64B	Device fetches data (x4096B) + commands (x64B)



#### Inbound Write Flows:

#### Two phases

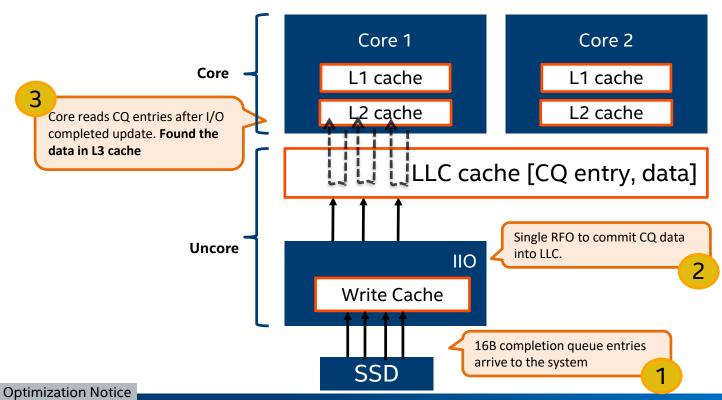
- Get line ownership for IIO
  - full cache line write, ownership without data (I2M)
  - partial cache line write, ownership with data (RFO)
- IIO delivers data to LLC, releases ownership (WbMtol)

## IIO Snoop assumption:

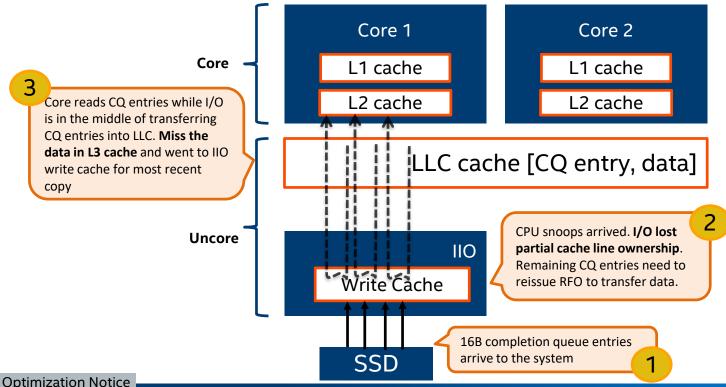
IIO treats all core snoops as invalidating



Basic flow without conflicts – core is polling just right

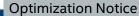


Core/IO conflict flow – core polling is ahead of IO



#### Core/IO interaction

```
[root@nntvtune206 perf]# ./perf -r 'trtype:PCIe traddr:0000:da:00.0' -q 8 -o 4096 -w write -t 10 -c 0x1000000
Starting SPDK v19.04-pre / DPDK 18.11.0 initialization...
DPDK EAL parameters: perf --no-shconf -c 0x1000000 --base-virtaddr=0x20000000000 --file-prefix=spdk pid10329 ]
EAL: Detected 96 lcore(s)
EAL: Detected 2 NUMA nodes
EAL: No free hugepages reported in hugepages-1048576kB
EAL: Probing VFIO support...
Initializing NVMe Controllers
Attaching to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0
Attached to NVMe Controller at 0000:da:00.0 [8086:2701]
Associating INTEL SSDPED1K375GA (PHKS733500A1375AGN ) with lcore 24
Initialization complete. Launching workers.
Starting thread on core 24
                                                                                           Latency (us)
Device Information
                                                                         MB/s
                                                              IOPS
                                                                                 Average
                                                                                                min
                                                                                                           max
                                                          555166.80
                                                                       2168.62
                                                                                    14.40
                                                                                                6.70
                                                                                                         360.12
INTEL SSDPED1K375GA
                     (PHKS733500A1375AGN
                                                         555166.80
                                                                       168.62
                                                                                   14.40
                                                                                               6.70
Total
                                                                                                        360.12
[root@nntvtune206 perf]#
 Uncore IRP Events
                                                         Counts/sec
                                                                                   Comment
 Lost Forward
                                                         0
                                                                                   Snoop pulled away ownership before a write was committed
                                                                                   HIT M means cores missed LLC and snoop into IIO for
 SNOOP RESP.HIT M
                                                         555,721
                                                                                   completion queue entries
```





# The LLC coherence engine (CHA)

#### **Events**

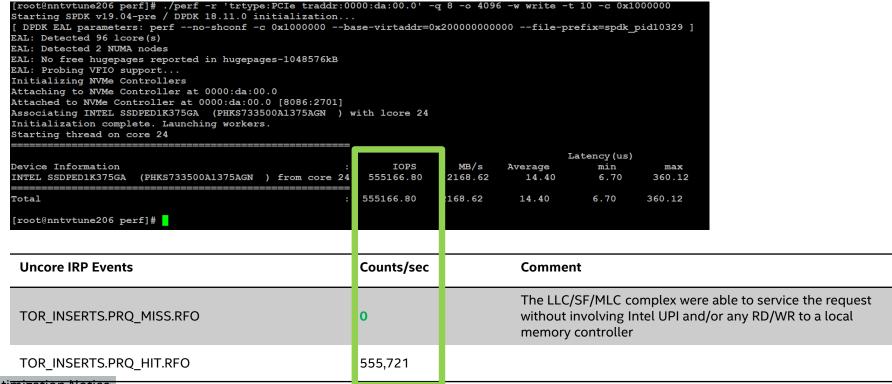
Symbol Name	Event Code	Ctrs	Max Inc/ Cyc	Description	
CLOCKTICKS	0x00	0-3	0	Uncore Clocks	
RxC_OCCUPANCY	0x11	0	0	Ingress (from CMS) Occupancy	
RxC_INSERTS	0x13	0-3	0	Ingress (from CMS) Allocations	
CORE_PMA	0x17	0-3	0	Core PMA Events	
RxC_IRQ0_REJECT	0x18		0	Ingress (from CMS) Request Queue Rejects	
RxC_IRQ1_REJECT	0x19		0	Ingress (from CMS) Request Queue Rejects	
COUNTERO_OCCUPANCY	0x1f	0-3	0	Counter 0 Occupancy	
RxC_PRQ0_REJECT	0x20		0	Ingress (from CMS) Request Queue Rejects	
RxC_PRQ1_REJECT	0x21		0	Ingress (from CMS) Request Queue Rejects	
RxC_IPQ0_REJECT	0x22		0	Ingress Probe Queue Rejects	
RxC_IPQ1_REJECT	0x23		0	Ingress Probe Queue Rejects	
RxC ISMQ0 REJECT	0x24		0	ISMQ Rejects	

https://software.intel.com/en-us/blogs/2014/07/11/documentation-foruncore-performance-monitoring-units



# The LLC coherence engine (CHA)

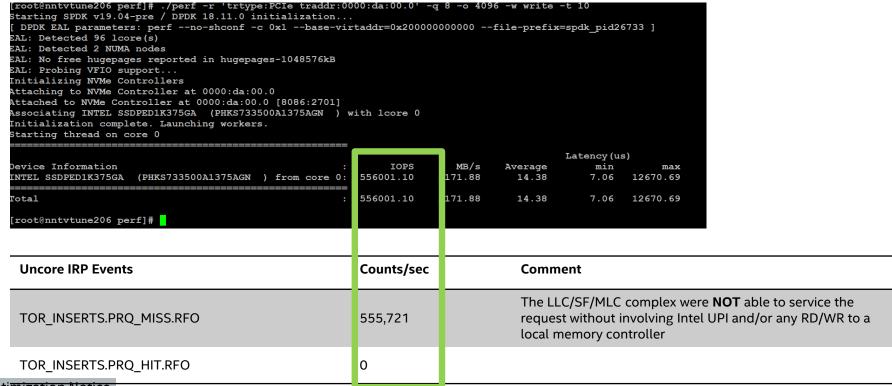
### Data Direct I/O





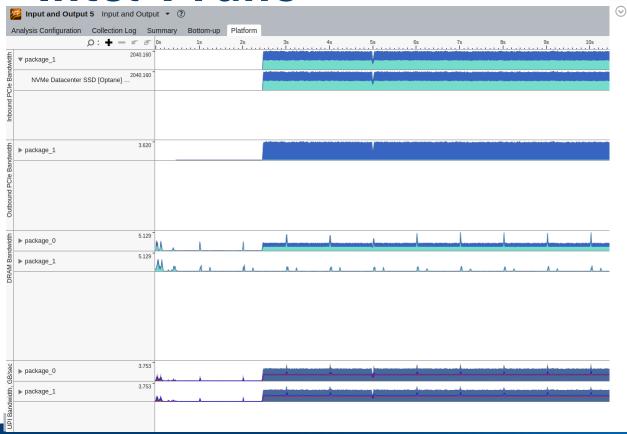
# The LLC coherence engine (CHA)

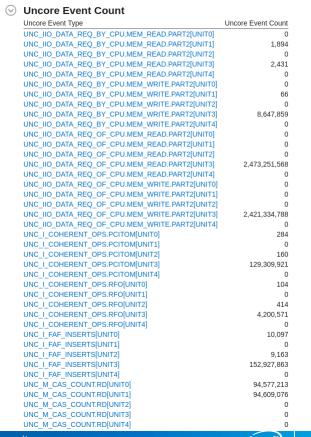
#### Data Direct I/O





## **Intel VTune**





Input and Output 5 Hardware Events ▼ ② ∰

Analysis Configuration Collection Log Summary Event



Event Count Sample Count Uncore Event

# Recap

## Hardware-Level Performance Analysis of Platform I/O

Total Bytes Transferred		Data	a B/W T		TLP/sec		Average Transfer Size			DDIO Usage		CPU/IO	
Read	V Full	Vrite Partial	Read	Write	Р	NP	С	Р	NP	С	Hit	Miss	Conflicts
6798660	7863	8666790	7986660	6798066	769	7968	0	679	7968	0	4358	86766	Not Detected

- TLP Transaction Layer Packet
- P Posted, NP NonPosted, C Completions
- DDIO Intel Data Direct I/O
- Full/Partial @64B aligned/not aligned



# **Summary**

- Building performance tuning methodology on top of server Uncore perfmon continues to be an area of ongoing research and development
- Uncore perfmon events are proved to be really useful for debugging performance of I/O intensive applications, especially in the field
- Intel VTune Amplifier forms all-in-one approach putting the all necessary information in one place for developers to analyze various CPU/IO interactions

#### **Contacts**

Roman Sudarikov <u>roman.sudarikov@intel.com</u>



## Reference Information

#### Documents and links

- SDM w/PMU chapter <a href="https://www-ssl.intel.com/content/www/us/en/architecture-and-technology/64-ia-32-architectures-software-developer-vol-3a-part-1-manual.html">https://www-ssl.intel.com/content/www/us/en/architecture-and-technology/64-ia-32-architectures-software-developer-vol-3a-part-1-manual.html</a>
- List of publically available Uncore PMON docs JKT -> SKX <a href="https://software.intel.com/en-us/blogs/2014/07/11/documentation-for-uncore-performance-monitoring-units">https://software.intel.com/en-us/blogs/2014/07/11/documentation-for-uncore-performance-monitoring-units</a>
- Intel VTune Amplifier <a href="https://software.intel.com/en-us/vtune">https://software.intel.com/en-us/vtune</a>
- "Intel® Xeon® Scalable Family (Purley) Platform Integrated I/O Performance Guide", ref#598895

