

## What a Year It Was and Where We Need To Go in Emerging Memory

Live Webcast 14 January 2020, 11:00 am PT/ 2:00 pm ET

#### **Today's Presenters**





Moderator: Alex McDonald, Co-Chair



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Presenter: Tom Coughlin, President





Presenter: Jim Handy, General Director





Technologies We Cover:

- Solid State Storage
- Persistent Memory
- Computational Storage

Join Us in January and February 2020 for these exciting events:



www.snia.org/pmhackathon

**January 22, 2020** 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Santa Clara, CA

Complimentary registration





www.snia.org/pm-summit

January 23, 2020 8:30 am – 6:30 pm Hyatt Regency Santa Clara

Keynote by Andy Bechtolsheim of Arista Networks Complimentary registration





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## **Many Emerging Memory Types**





**ReRAM** 



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FRAM





# They're <u>All</u> Persistent!

#### AND THEY'RE ALL IN OUR EMERGING MEMORIES REPORT

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SNIA Support Moves Ahead Optane DIMMs Arrive New MRAM types Emerge Business Conditions in Flux More Work is Needed

#### **PM Needs Support**



#### Hardware (JEDEC, Others)

- Supporting early development
- Ongoing requirements
- Form factors, interfaces

#### Software support (SNIA, Others)

- O/S support
- Application program support



Early groundwork has been helpful

- NVDIMM-N
  - > DRAM with flash backup
  - > Deeply investigated in Objective Analysis NVDIMM Report
- BIOS changes
  - > How/when to boot without reloading memory?
- New power fail signal brought to DIMM

3D XPoint Memory/Optane is driving HW changes

Cadence now supports DDR4 MRAM for ASICs & FPGAs

**Ongoing Hardware Requirements** 



- Nonuniform Memory Architecture: "NUMA"
- MMU redesign
- Faster CPU context switches needed
  - Use polling for now
- Updated DDR4 bus
  - Intel has developed proprietary DDR-T
    - > "Transactional"
  - Support for non-deterministic access times

# Software: Operating System Support SSSI | SOLID STATE

SNIA's Persistent Memory Programming Model

https://www.SNIA.org/PM



## **SNIA's Persistent Memory Progress**

#### ◆ 2019

- PM Programing Hackathon and Workshops launched
- Work on PM software interface specifications
  - > Developed PMDK
- Persistent Memory Summit
- White papers

#### Future

- Define Remote PM Programming Model (i.e. RDMA)
- Updates to current PM Programming Model

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#### PM is useless if its advantage is untapped

Persistence is unknown in most software

#### This change will take some time

- Closed systems can use it now
  - > Hyperscale Data Centers, SANs
- Open systems will evolve





SNIA Support Moves Ahead
 Optane DIMMs Arrive
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#### **3D XPoint Must Be Priced Below DRAM**



Otherwise People will Just Buy DRAM





- Optane DIMMs are a key selling point for nextgeneration server "Cascade Lake" CPUs
  - Big performance benefit from Optane + CPU enhancements
- Optane SSDs gaining modest acceptance
  - NAND makers countering with fast SLC SSDs
- Covered in depth by Objective Analysis XPoint report
  - Details at end of slideshow





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Existing MRAM Types: Toggle & STT SNIA.

#### **Toggle Mode**



Magnets aligned = Low resistance: "0"





Magnets unaligned = High resistance. "1"

"Free" magnetic layer Tunnel barrier "Fixed" magnetic layer

#### Spin Transfer Torque (STT)



Parallel Magnetic Polarization <u>Anti</u>-Parallel Magnetic Polarization

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#### New: Spin-Orbit Torque MRAM (SOT) SNIA. | SOLID STATE SSSI | STORAGE

#### Spin-Orbit Torque (SOT)



# Higher reliability in-plane current Faster than STT – As fast as SRAM





- MRAM cache is in certain new IBM SSDs as well as some RAID controllers
- Spin Memory introductions:
  - Precessional Spin Current
  - Endurance Engine Technologies
- Everspin still sole supplier of stand-alone MRAMs
  - Over 123 million units shipped
  - Avalanche is sampling

Today's markets: Space, high-uptime systems, caches and buffers



 Support from all major semiconductor foundries for embedded MRAM:

- Samsung
- Intel
- TSMC
- GLOBALFOUNDRIES
- UMC
- This will increase the volume to lower costs
- New tools are needed for MRAM, driving capital equipment spending

#### **MRAM Capital Spending Up**



MRAM Production Equipment Spending, 2018-2029



2019 Emerging Memories Ramp Up, Coughlin Associates and Objective Analysis, 2019





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#### Who Wants Persistent Memory? 1) If it Costs MORE than DRAM



#### That's NVDIMMs!

- Early adopters:
  - > High-availability systems
  - > Financial databases
  - Some hyperscale applications
- MRAM DIMMs are also interesting (faster but more expensive)



## New Memory Prices Will Move Past Established Technologies



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#### Who Wants Persistent Memory? 2) If it Costs LESS than DRAM



- <u>Everybody</u> will want it!
- It improves cost/performance
  - Persistence is of secondary importance
- This will drive its success
  - > Persistent apps come later



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#### Meanwhile, DRAM Prices Collapse



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- Persistent memory competes against established technologies
  - E.g. 3D XPoint must be cheaper than DRAM
  - MRAM takes up less space on die than SRAM
- A DRAM collapse undermines XPoint pricing
  - Even though XPoint is sole-sourced!

## Big XPoint/Optane Losses For Intel SSSI



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### **New Memory Shipment Growth**





2019 Emerging Memories Ramp Up, Coughlin Associates & Objective Analysis, 2019





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- Application support for PM
- Additional open-source libraries to support PM (PMDK)
- PM hardware support outside of Intel
- Drive cost reductions by ramping production volume
- Standardize Remote PM protocol
- Buy our reports!



# **QUESTIONS?**

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Data Storage Consulting



## **Emerging Memory Report**



- Coughlin Associates/Objective Analysis
- Examines Emerging Memory Ecosystem
  - Technologies (PCM, ReRAM, MRAM, FRAM...)
  - Companies
  - Markets
  - Support requirements

#### Forecasts Emerging Memory consumption

- Embedded Emerging Memories
- Discrete Emerging Memories

#### 172 pages, 30 tables, 125 figures

#### http://www.tomcoughlin.com/techpapers.htm https://Objective-Analysis.com/reports/#Emerging

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And check out these additional resource links:

- SNIA Persistent Memory Summit videos and presentation slides
- SNIA Educational Library resources on Persistent Memory
- SNIA SSSI blog
- SNIA Persistent Memory activities
  - > NVM Programming Technical Work Group
  - > SNIA Persistent Memory and NVDIMM Special Interest Group
  - > SNIA Persistent Memory Programming Tutorial and Hackathon Program



# **Additional Materials**

# Coughlin Associates

- Technical and Market Analysis
- Consulting
- Events
- Reports and Newsletter
  - Emerging Memories Ramp Up: Emerging Memory Report
  - Digital Storage in Media and Entertainment Report
  - Digital Storage Technology Newsletter



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Tom Coughlin President



#### **OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS**

#### **Semiconductor Forecast Accuracy**



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#### **NVDIMM Report**

- Objective Analysis
- Explains the NVDIMM markets
  - NVDIMM-N
  - NVDIMM-P
- Vendor profiles
- Support requirements
- Market forecast



https://Objective-Analysis.com/reports/#NVDIMM

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**NVDIMM MARKN** 



THE MICRON/INCL

3D XPOINT MEMO 2019 UPL

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VE ANALYSIS

July 2019

- 2019 Update from Objective Analysis
- The Why, How, and When of 3D XPoint Memory
  - Why Intel wants it
  - How it fits into the memory hierarchy
    - > Impact on DRAM
  - When will it sell in volume
- Detailed Forecasts

https://Objective-Analysis.com/reports/#XPoint