



# UCS X-Series

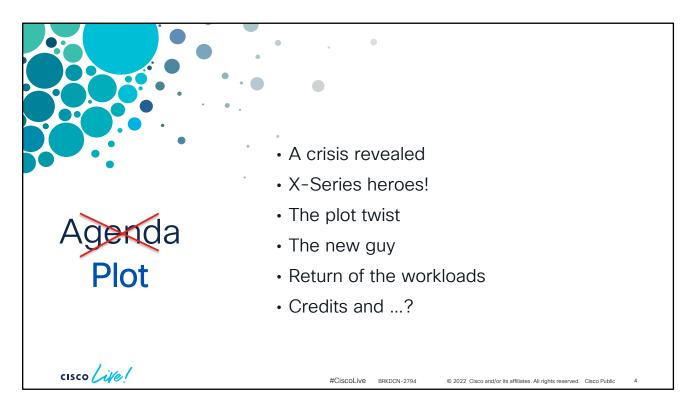
Bring your applications together

Scott Garee Senior UCS Platform TME BRKDCN-2794



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They say a presentation should tell a story. Well, isn't a movie better than just a story?

Applications were always happy with access to some CPU, memory, storage, and networking to talk to their friends.

But as applications matured they began to try new things.

Big data came around, requiting lots of local storage. Databases want crazy amounts of memory. AI/ML wants compute acceleration.

Virtual desktops want faster and faster GPUs to play their YouTube videos.

Then there are these new little ones that don't even want a whole server.

They want to be kept in little containers and run around in the cloud. Now they think they don't even need a server!

All this causes datacenter sprawl. Form factors, devices, management endpoints, aggregation challenges (notifications, logs, ...)

The X-Series modular system brings them back together.

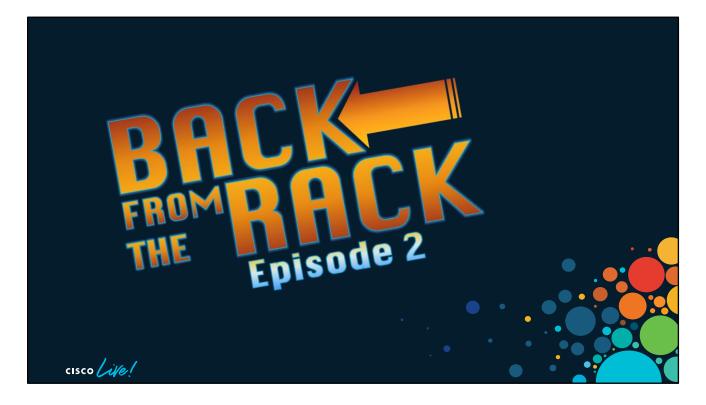
Having a more adaptable platform is great, but you are still challenged with management sprawl. Different devices, different clouds, different environments.

Sometimes you want the cloud for good reason, but may want the same application to run on-prem. (dev and prod, data sovereignty.)

Intersight provides a single, flexible control plane for a complete hybrid cloud environment.

Run your workload where it makes the best sense with on-prem covered by the modular X-Series system.

UCS-X offers a long-term roadmap of continuing innovation without critical choke points leading to a limited life.



Should now be obvious why I went to engineering school, not art.

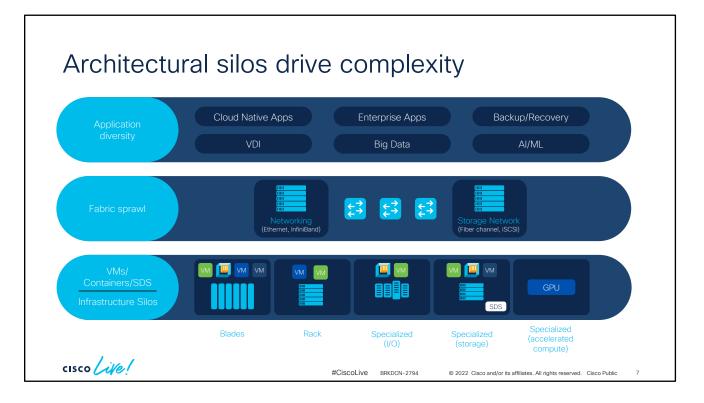


A lot has changed and will continue to change in the computing landscape:

Several years ago, technologies and innovations around software defined storage and accelerated computing with GPUs created architectural shifts in infrastructure and spawned new workloads (AI/ML) and solutions (HCI).

As we look just over the horizon, new technologies will shape infrastructure for the next several years. PCIe and CXL will enable the disaggregation of resources and the custom reassembly of those resources to best serve applications. In addition, high performance CPUs and GPUs need to be accommodated and 100/200G networking to bring next gen performance and bandwidth.

We believe there are a few of key trends happening – hybrid cloud is driving macro-orchestration across resources, on-premise and in the public cloud, to drive simplicity and agility. Micro-segmentation and the disaggregation of technologies/resources to meet the growing application diversity with system designs that can be molded or adapted to modern applications. Lastly, operations at scale to provide visibility, optimization, orchestration, automation and support across a hybrid cloud landscape.

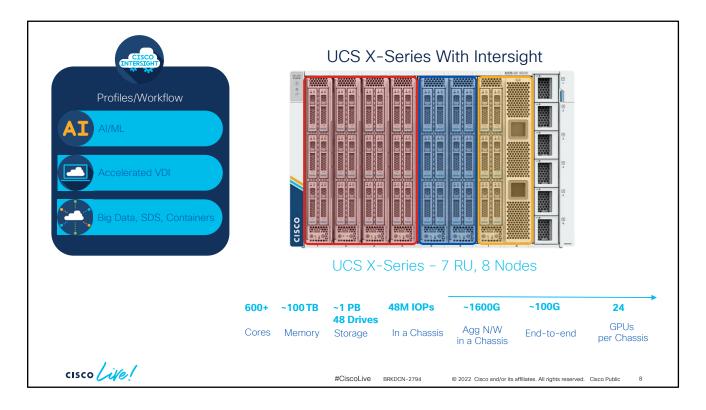


### Traditional Infrastructure will continue to fail

Workloads are expanding beyond just leveraging virtualization and cloud for legacy applications. Big Data and analytics are requiring new approaches to infrastructure and the IoT is blurring the lines of where data is generated and processed. IT teams are choosing the optimal infrastructure architecture to accommodate this application diversity but that can create silos, complex management models, and a lack of visibility and control.

Complexity continues to be the data centers Achilles heel. In the face of tremendous application growth, IT teams still choose unique systems and solutions for each application. The overhead to plan, procure, operate, optimize, a portfolio of non-standard architectural choices (i.e. blades, racks and specialized systems) can require unique management tools and make it difficult to adapt, scale, and maximize efficiency, resulting in higher power and cooling costs, forklift upgrades to accommodate new technologies, and the inability to quickly respond to dynamic changes in application requirements. For example, in traditional rack environments, scale may come in small increments but at the expense of operational efficiency resulting in higher power and cooling costs. In most instances, automation and agility remain out of reach.

In an era where orchestration and automation is the key to agility, complex integration if disparate architectures is complexity that needs to be avoided.



X-Series has greatly expanded the applicability of a modular system to workloads that have been tied to rack systems.

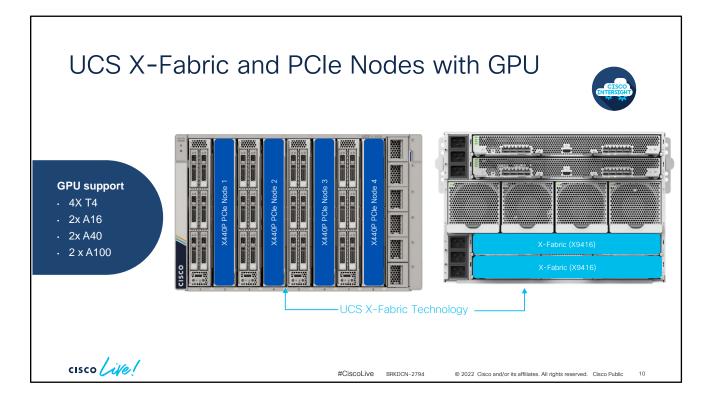
Tailor the chassis, or parts of the chassis, to the needs of the workload.

Provision only what's needed.

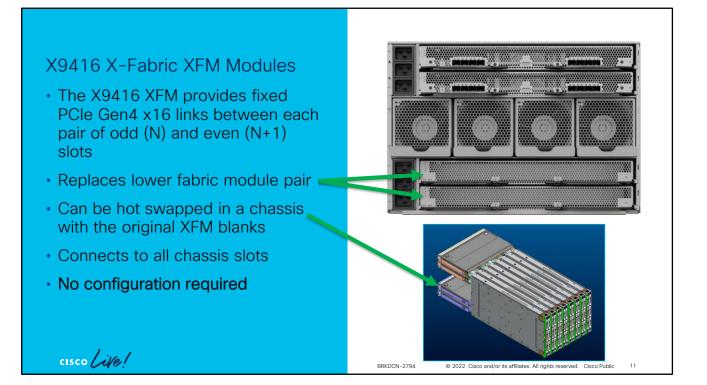
Cooling scales with the nodes, so capacity isn't wasted when high performance options aren't needed.

### X-Series Heroes (and a sidekick) X-Fabric 5<sup>th</sup> Gen Networking





- 1. Overview of the season 2 X-Fabric innovation.
- 2. GPUs on PCIe nodes connected to the compute nodes through the X-Fabric modules.



#### **XFM Components**

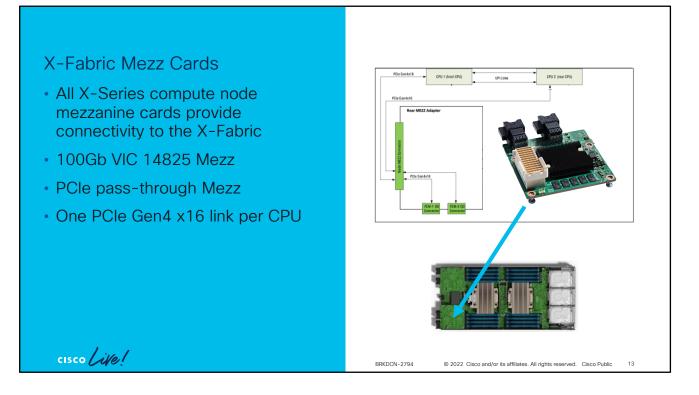
- No active fabric components on the system board
- Three replaceable fan modules
- Same fans as IFM



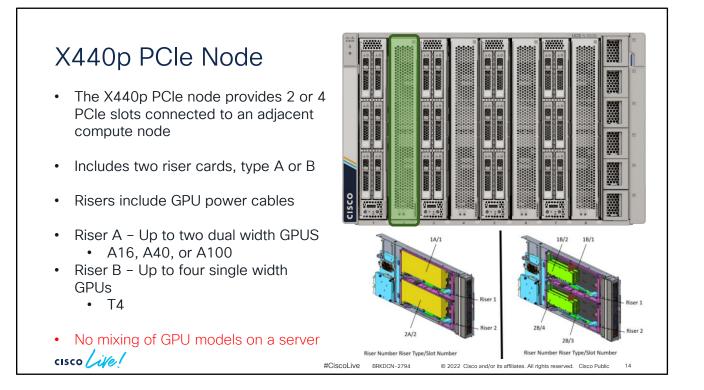


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Just like the VIC mLOMs the physical connectors from the compute node to the XFM are located on the Mezzanine card, so the fabric is independent of the compute node.

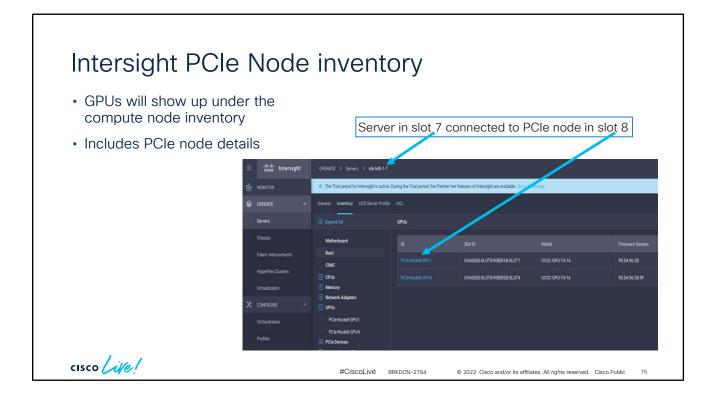


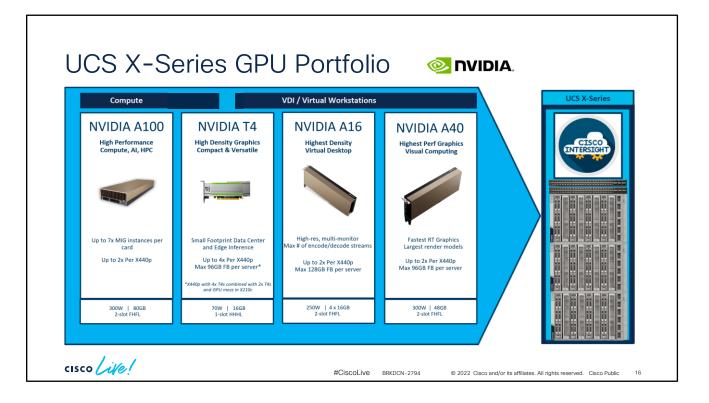
X-Fabric connectivity is integrated on the PCIe node. No separate mezzanine required.

Different GPUs may be used on separate PCIe nodes, as long as they are connected to separate servers.

Compute and PCIe node position are interchangeable. E.g. PCIe node in slot 1 and X210c in slot 2 is also valid.

NVIDIA does not support mixed GPU models on a single server.





UCS-X with the A16 is a fantastic accelerated VDI solution. Up to 8 A16 on 4 compute nodes in 7RU, providing a total of 32 GPUs for amazinf density and performance.

A40 delivers a new top-end experience for virtual engineering workstations.

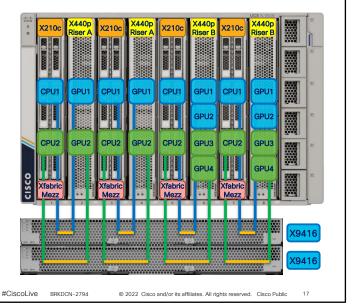
Up to 24 T4 in a single chassis with 6 on each of 4 compute nodes for an excellent accelerated knowledge worker experience.

For raw AI/ML up to 8 A100-80G on 4 compute nodes.

### UCS X-Fabric - X210c and X440p PCle Node

- An X-Fabric Mezz card (VIC or Pass-through) on the compute node connects it to the XFM pair
- One Gen4 x16 link per CPU is routed to the XFM pair (CPU1 to XFM1 and CPU2 to XFM2)
- The X440p connects the XFM1 link to Riser 1 and XFM2 to Riser 2
- GPU firmware is updated with the attached server firmware upgrade

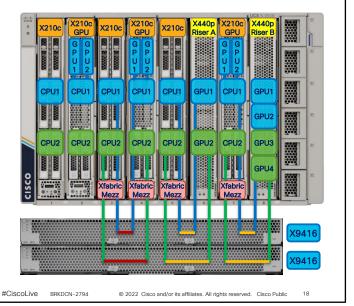
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No failover or redundancy of the PCle fabric. The two fabrics provide higher total bandwidth.

# UCS X-Fabric, X440p PCIe Node, and GPU Mezz

- Compute nodes can continue to exist in adjacent slots where the PCle node is not needed (example slots 1 and 2)
- PCIe links through the X-Fabric between compute nodes will not come up, even with an X-Fabric Mezz card installed on the compute node (example slots 3 and 4)
- Compute with the GPU Front Mezz can be used with the PCIe node and Riser B to support up to six GPU per node (slots 7 and 8)



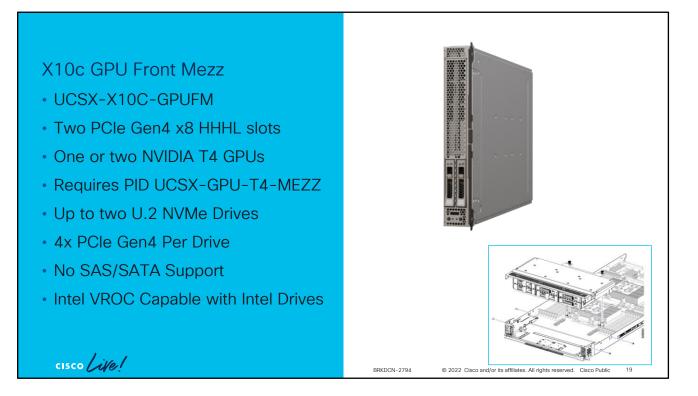
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Using X-Fabric does not force slots to be dedicated to a specific node type.

Compute can still be populated in any slot.

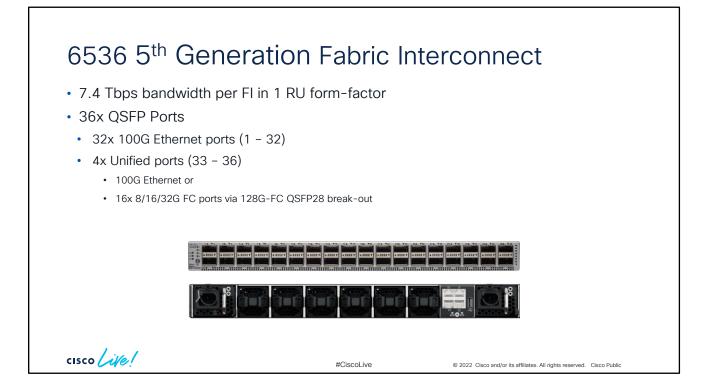
Both GPUs in slots 2, 4, and 6 must be the same.

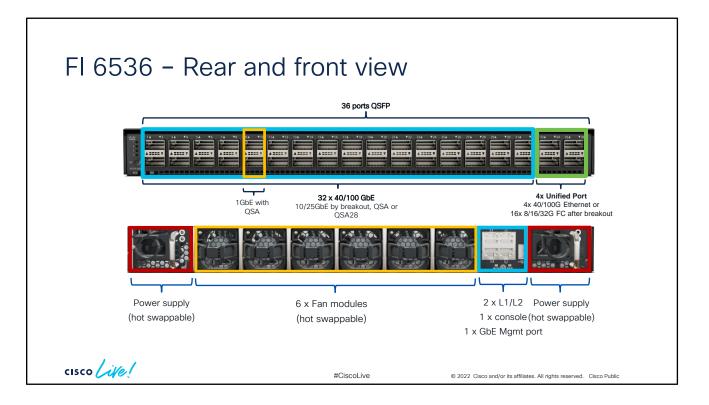
In the slot 7 and 8 example all 6 GPUs must be the same type (T4 in this case.)



These T4's have a different heatsink to allow the proper airflow with the vertical GPU orientation, thus a unique PID.







16x 8/16/32G FC ports using 128G-FC QSFP28 break-out

#### Front-to-back cooling

Fan-side intake, port-side exhaust

#### hot-swappable fans and power supplies

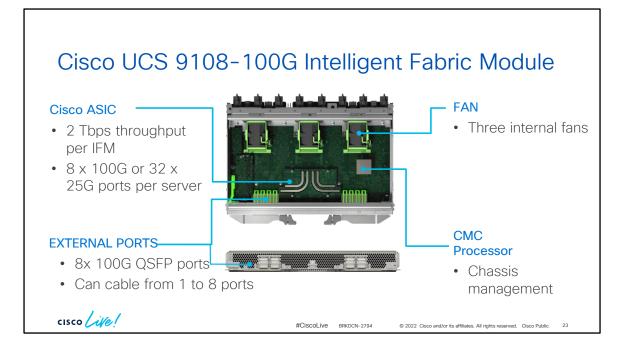
• Each fan module consists of two fan rotors. Redundancy of fan is implanted in rotor level. With a total of 12 rotors, the system continues to operate with 9 fan rotors.

• Helps enable high availability in multiple configurations

- Increase serviceability
- Provides uninterrupted service during maintenance

#### Power supply





When you first look at the IFM, you see three fans that snap in and snap out. Although they are not hot-swappable, they are easily replaceable because the IFM can be removed from the chassis to replace the fans taking down only one side of the fabric. On the back, each IFM has eight ports, and each port is capable of 100 gigabits. In this architecture, the fabric interconnects (FIs) are 100 gigabit. The connections supporting the transceivers and the copper or optical cables are 100 gigabit.

- Three fans snap in and snap out
- Not hot-swappable
- High reliability
- Each IFM has eight ports, each port is capable of 100 gigabits
- 1-8 ports cabled to FI, numbered 1-8, port groupings are based on space, no functional difference
- In this architecture, FIs are 100 gigabit
- 100-gigabit connections supporting transceivers, copper or optical cables

# VIC 15231 mLOM

- 2 x 100G with 5<sup>th</sup> Gen FI
- 100Gb Ethernet vNIC •
- 100Gb FC vHBA
- PCle Gen 4 x16
- NVMeoF: FC-NVMe, RoCEv2







Does the system really deliver what applications need and have been getting from rack servers.

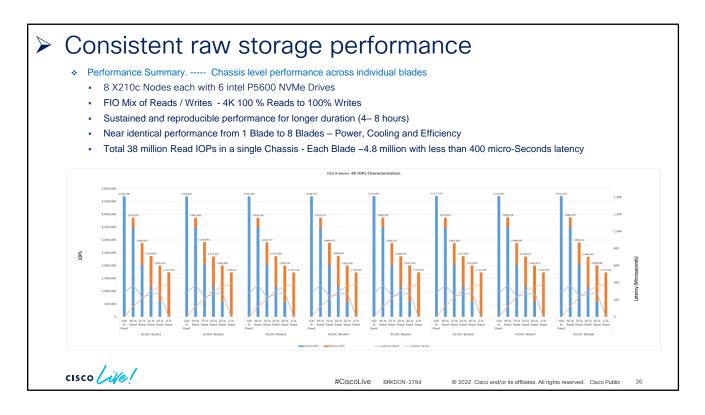
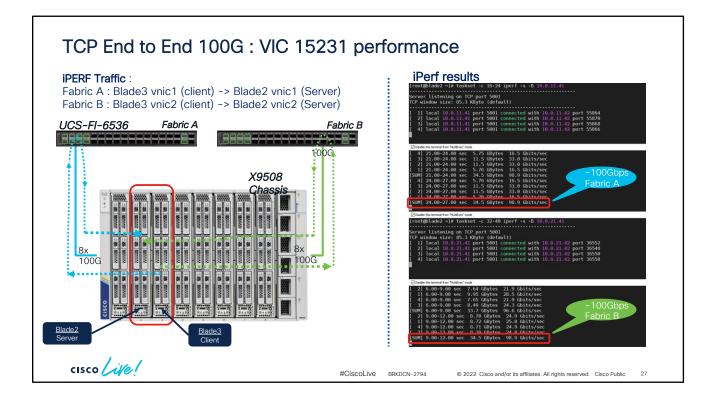


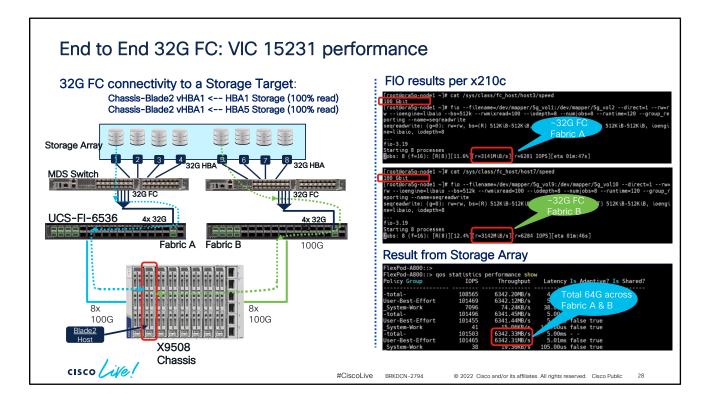
Chart shows performance from 100% read to 100% write across all 8 compute node slots.

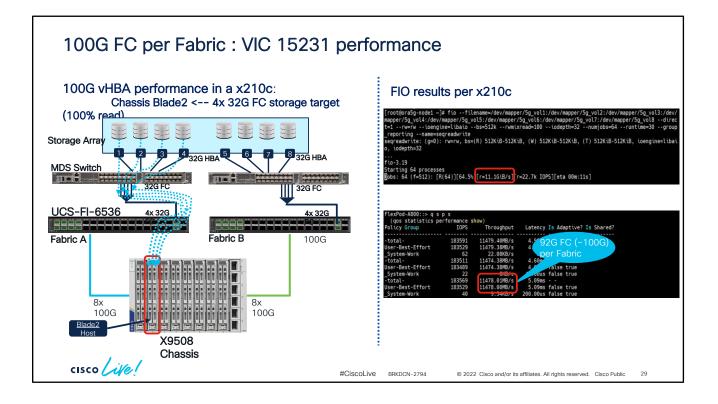
Higher level storage constructs are doomed if basic storage performance is compromised.

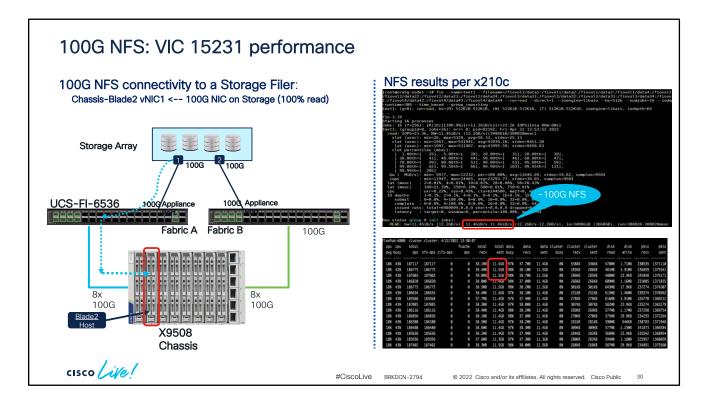
No hot spots, no weak power corners.

No concern for where or how much storage is provisioned.







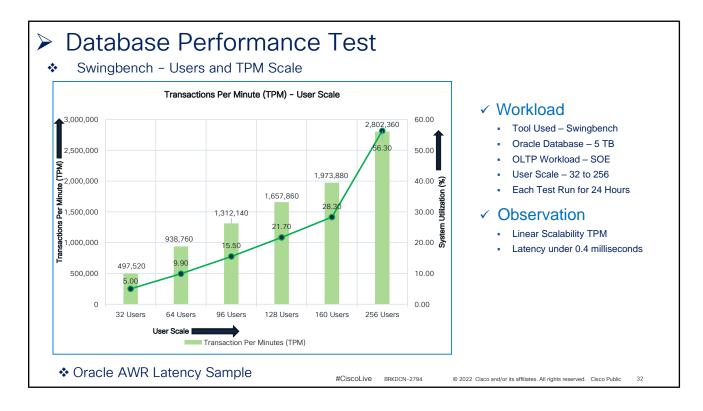


♦ Perfe	eds and Fe ormance Summary SLOB – Silly Little Oracle I/O wo • SLOB is an Oracle I/O wo • Tests physical random sir capacity	<b>Benchmark</b> rkload generation tool k	it	·					
<ul> <li>Near linear User Scale with a mix of Database 8K Reads and Updates at 100 %, 70% and 50% Reads/Updates</li> </ul>									
6 x 2.9 TB NVMe Disks as single "DATA" Disk Group									
• 2	2 TB Schema, 16 GB SGA     SLOB User Scalability - Total IOPS								
2,50	0,000				2,057,271	2,372,837			
12,00	0,000				1,791,891	1,915,984			
ب س 1.50	0.000		1,331,062	1,557, <u>914</u> 1,456,991	1 100 405				
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50	0,000 572,136 539,6448,60	4							
	0								
	64	128	192	256	384	512			
		User Scale	$\longrightarrow$						
	Read/Write %	Read/Write % (100-0) Read/Write % (90-10) Read/Write % (70-30) Read/Write % (50-50)							
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Now laying an Oracle DB on the local storage using Oracle ASM (Automatic Storage Management)

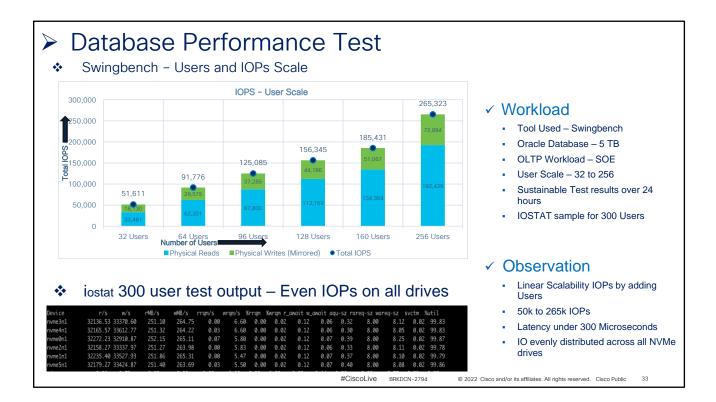
And using SLOB to measure performance.

As users scale the IOPs also scale. The limit is the read/write bandwidth of the physical drives.

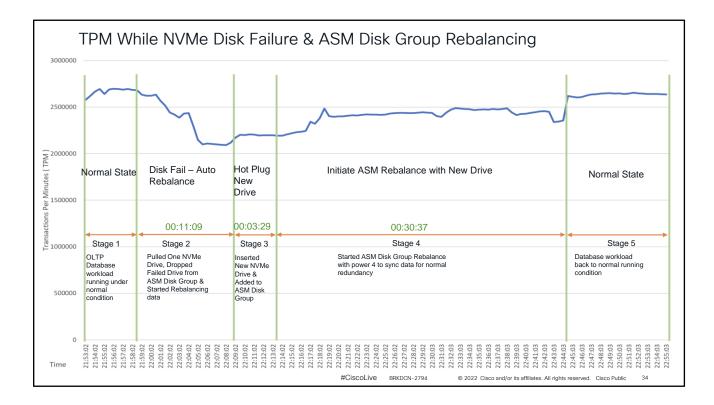


Similar testing using an alternate benchmark (SwingBench))

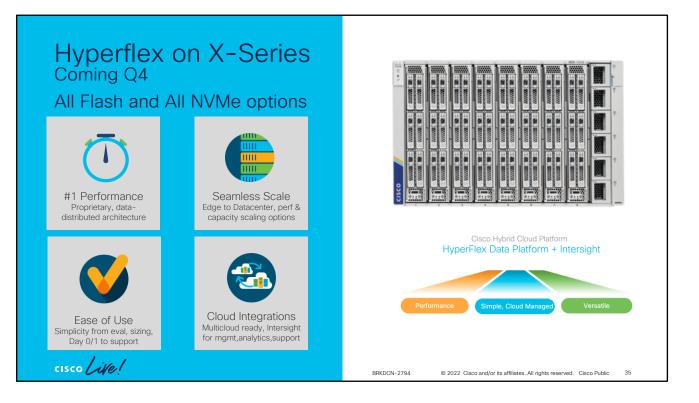
The limiting factor is increasing CPU utilization as user count reaches maximum.



Again performance scales until CPU is maxed out. No hot spots across the available drives.



Performance across the full test remains consistent and high.



Hyperconverged infrastructure requires high, consistent performance from the storage and network fabrics.

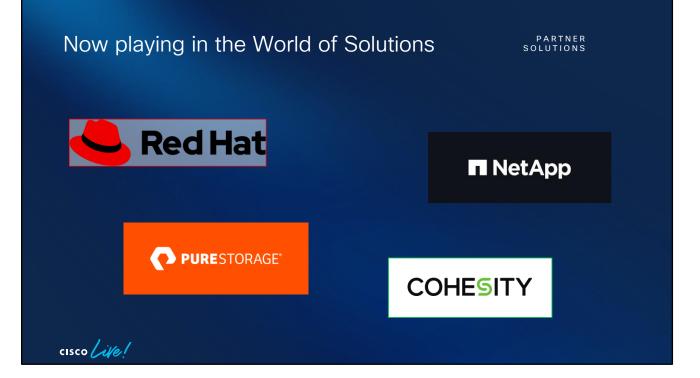
X-Series provides compute with SSD or NVMe drives.

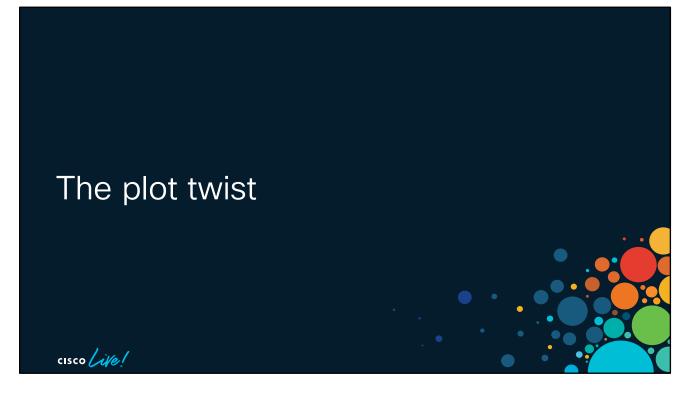
AF-4: UCSX-210c-M6 Generation: Intel Xeon Scalable (Ice-Lake-SP) - Profile: AF-4 Series - Raw Storage Capacity: Up To 7.68 TB						
SKU	UCS-VSAN-X210c-M6N					
ESXi Pre-Installed?	No					
SYSTEM	UCSX-210C-M6 Intel Xeon Ice lake 6348 2.60Ghz 28Core 32GB DDR4-3200-MHz					
CPU						
MEMORY						
CachingTier	ngTier Cisco SSD DC P5600 Series SSDPF2KE016T9K (1.6TB, 2.5" U.2, PN: UCS- NVMEI4-I1600)					
CapacityTier	Tier Cisco SSD DC P5500 Series SSDPF2KX038T9K (1.92TB, 2.5" U.2, PN: UCS-NVMEI4-I1920					
Controller	ller N/A					
NIC	VIC 14425					
BootDevice	UCS-M2-HWRAID M.2 Raid controller with 2x240GB SATA M.2	8				
Supported Releases	ESXi 7.0 U3 (vSAN 7.0 Update 3)					

Hyperconverged infrastructure requires high, consistent performance from the storage and network fabrics.

X-Series provides compute with SSD or NVMe drives.

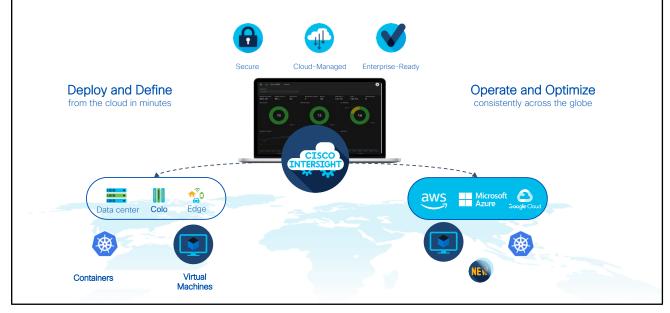
NVMe nodes coming soon.





It's not always about the platform. Our reality is hybrid cloud. No one wants to be forced to use a different management tool depending on where an application is deployed.

#### Public Cloud Integrations for Container and Virtual Machine Operational Consistency across Hybrid Cloud



We can't forget it's all about hybrid clouds now. Not every application will run on-prem.

Intersight is ready for hybrid cloud management.

For containers:

IKS now bridges to the public cloud

We're introducing an open-source hypervisor to lower cost in container environments where customers are encapsulating with VMs

VM integration with AWS

For VMs (AWS only)

- Start/Resume
- Stop
- Suspend
- Reset/Restart
- Launch VM Console



Closing it out, we see we're able to check of the needs of even more workloads using the X-Series modular system.

X-Series will continue to innovate to bring new technology into the datacenter in a disaggregated model.

Intersight will continue to innovate to bring unified management of traditional and cloud native applications.

## Also playing in the World of Solutions

#### X-SERIES & FABRIC DEMOS

Product Innovation On Display	On Demo						
X-Series X-Fabric 5th Gen Fabric Interconnect 5th Gen VIC GPU Node	EXPERIENCE Simplicity with X-Series Deploy X-Series Live with just a few clicks (Power of Intersight) Flexpod: Define FlexPod with X-Series in Intersight FlashStack: Pervasive visibility across X-Series FlashStack with Intersight Deploy Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform with confidence (Ceph)	EXPERIENCE Innovative X-Fabric: Blurring line between Rack and Blade Simplicity of adding GPUs to Compute nodesin few minutes!	EXPERIENCE Amazing Performances on X-Series Performance out of the box Oracle Swing bench Performance	EXPERIENCE New 5th Gen Unified Fabric: Simplify, Accelerate and Reduce Components 100G/200G Ethernet and NFS with a single VIC 15231 100G FC aggregate and 32G E2E FC per vHBA on a single VIC 15231			
	Automation with X-Series leveraging Intersight Ansible						
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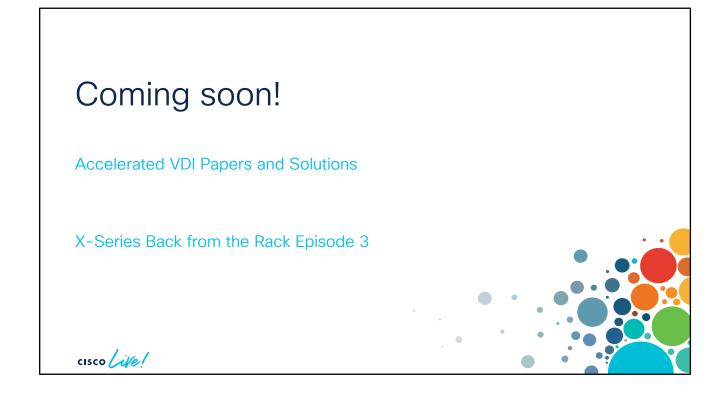
#### X-Series white papers

- <u>Cisco UCS X-Series Ouick Start Guide</u>
- <u>Cisco UCS X210c M6 Compute Node Disk I/O Characterization</u>
- Deploy Cisco UCS X210c Compute Node with Cisco Intersight Management Mode for VDI
- FlashStack with Cisco UCS X-Series and Cisco Intersight
- FlexPod Datacenter with Cisco UCS X-Series and Cisco Intersight
- Power SAP HANA with the Cisco UCS X-Series Certified by SAP
- Deploy SAP HANA Scale-Up Appliance with UCS X-Series
- <u>Cisco UCS and Intel SGX with Fortanix Confidential Computing Manager</u>
- Deploy a High-Performance Standalone Oracle Database Solution: Oracle 19c on Cisco UCS X-Series
- FlexPod Datacenter with Citrix VDI and VMware vSphere 7 for up to 2500 Seats
- FlexPod XCS Solution with Cisco Intersight Platform Tech Preview
- Red Hat OpenShift Container Platform with OpenShift Data Foundation on Cisco UCS X-Series
- <u>Cisco UCS X-Series Servers with Intel Optane Persistent Memory for Virtual Desktop Infrastructure White Paper</u>
- Get Answers from Your Data with Cisco UCS Integrated Infrastructure for Splunk Enterprise

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# Catch up on the prequels!

BRKCLD-3010 UCS X-Series: Blurring the Line Between Rack and Blade for Modern Applications

BRKDCN-2587 Best Practices for Cloud and Compute Connectivity with the 5th Generation UCS Fabric and Intersight

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Cisco Learning Network Resource community portal for certifications and learning

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