



# ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY GROUP (ATG)

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## **Accelerate with ATG Webinar: IBM FlashSystem's FlashCore Module 4 & integrated Ransomware Threat Detection**

Matt Key

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IBM Advanced Technology Group – FlashSystem

IBM Technology

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## Accelerate with ATG Technical Webinar Series

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*Advanced Technology Group* experts cover a variety of technical topics.

**Audience:** Clients who have or are considering acquiring IBM Storage solutions. Business Partners and IBMers are also welcome.

To automatically receive announcements of upcoming Accelerate with IBM Storage webinars, Clients, Business Partners and IBMers are welcome to send an email request to [accelerate-join@hursley.ibm.com](mailto:accelerate-join@hursley.ibm.com).



### 2024 Upcoming Webinars – Register Here!

[IBM Storage Ceph S3 Object Storage Deep Dive](#) – May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

[IBM TS7700 Tape Solution Overview 201](#) – June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

[Why IBM Cloud Object Storage System and, why now?](#) – June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

[Unleash the Power of the IBM FlashSystem 5300](#) – June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### Important Links to bookmark:



ATG Accelerate Site: <https://ibm.biz/BdSUFN>

ATG MediaCenter Channel: <https://ibm.biz/BdfEgQ>

## Offerings

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### Client Technical Workshops

- IBM DS8900F Advanced Functions
- IBM Fusion & Ceph: A Deep Dive into Next Gen Storage
- **IBM FlashSystem Deep Dive & Advanced Functions:** May 22-23 in Atlanta, GA
- IBM Cyber Resiliency with IBM Storage Defender

### TechZone Test Drive / Demo's

- IBM Storage Scale and Storage Scale System GUI
- IBM Storage Virtualize Test Drive
- IBM DS8900F Storage Management Test Drive
- Managing Copy Services on the DS8000 Using IBM Copy Services Manager Test Drive
- IBM DS8900F Safeguarded Copy (SGC) Test Drive
- IBM Cloud Object Storage Test Drive - (Appliance based)
- IBM Cloud Object Storage Test Drive - (VMware based)
- IBM Storage Protect Live Test Drive
- IBM Storage Ceph Test Drive - (VMware based)

Please reach out to your IBM Representative or Business Partner for more information.

**\*IMPORTANT\*** The ATG team serves clients and Business Partners in the Americas, concentrating on North America.

# Registration Open!

## Storage @ IBM TechXchange Conference 2024

October 21-24, 2024

Mandalay Bay | Las Vegas  
#IBMTechXchange

### Key Learnings

- Practical how-to advice
- Patterns and best practices
- Success stories, IBM PoV, proven techniques

### Featured Products

IBM Storage Defender

IBM Storage Fusion

IBM Storage Scale + IBM Storage Ceph

IBM Tape + IBM SAN

IBM Storage FlashSystem + IBM Storage DS8000

Collaborate. Learn. Play.

### Community

IBM Champions

User Groups

Tech Peers

Business Partners



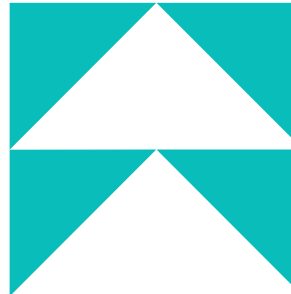
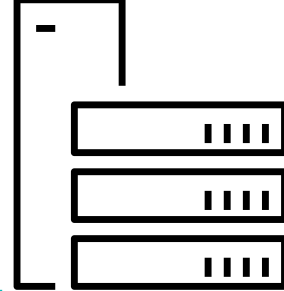
### Sandbox

Network

Learn

Collaborate

Play



### Accelerate your Career

Labs (Instructor-Led, Self-paced)

IBM Certification Testing

Earn up to 25 hours in CPE credits

### Breakout Sessions

Trends and Directions

User Groups

Product Deep Dives

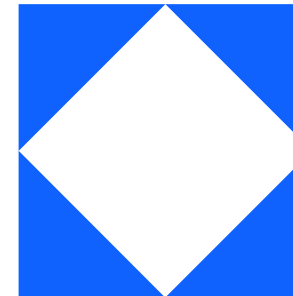
Meet the Expert

Professional Development

Show the Code

Birds of a Feather

Academic/Research



### Roadmaps

Go deep with people in the know and set the stage for where IBM is going in the future



<https://www.ibm.com/community/ibm-techxchange-conference/>

Game On!



## Accelerate with ATG Survey

Please take a moment to share your feedback with our team!

You can access this 6-question survey via [Menti.com](https://www.menti.com) with code 1708 6924 or

Direct link <https://www.menti.com/alwhyze7z1gz>

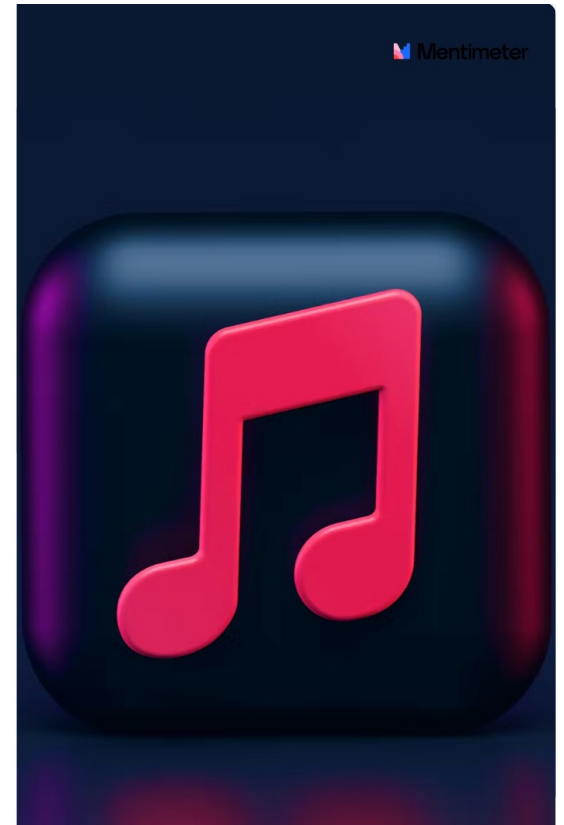
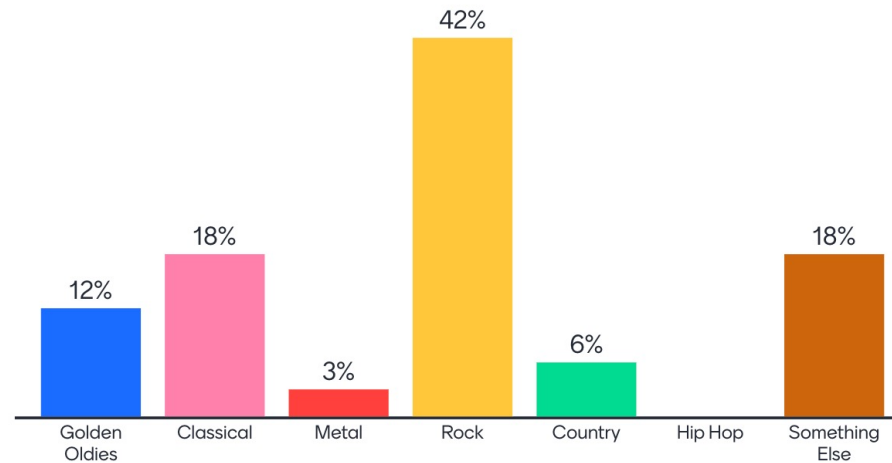
Or

QR Code



Join at [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) | use code 1708 6924

**FUN QUESTION:** If you had to pick one genre of music to listen to the rest of your life, what would it be?





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## **Accelerate with ATG Webinar: IBM FlashSystem's FlashCore Module 4 & integrated Ransomware Threat Detection**

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## Meet the Speakers – Matt Key

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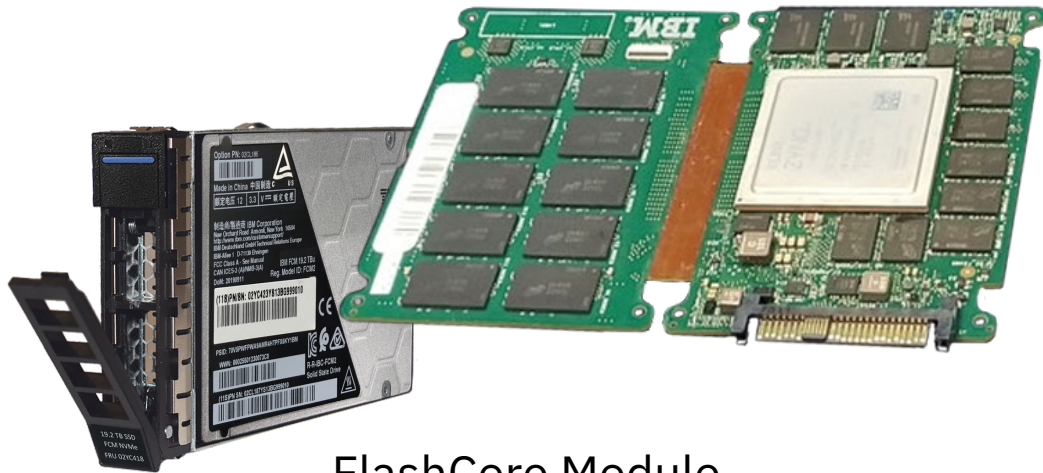
Matt Key is a 18-year veteran of solid state storage and came into IBM through the 2012 acquisition of Texas Memory Systems, the Houston-based engineering group behind the FlashCore Modules in IBM's distributed storage portfolio. Currently, he is the technical lead for Flash in the Advanced Technology Group (ATG), the client-facing group of subject matter experts across the portfolios of storage, servers, and software. Matt graduated Texas A&M (WHOOOP!) in 2006 with an engineering degree in telecommunications.

Any sufficiently advanced technology  
is indistinguishable from magic

- Arthur C. Clarke, 1968



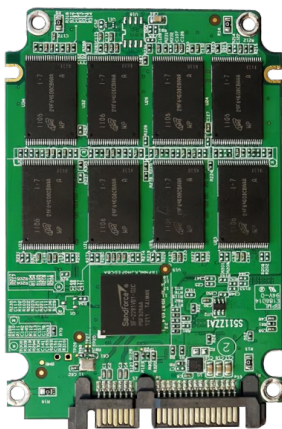
## What is a FlashCore Module (FCM)



FlashCore Module

### IBM FlashCore Module

- Computational Storage Devices
- Offload heavy lifting from software
- FPGA allows for ‘quick’ and subsequent enhancements
- Value-based development model
  - Performance
  - Security
  - Resiliency

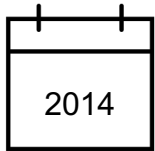


Example 2.5” SSD

### Traditional NVMe SSD

- Most value-add provided by storage/x86 software
- Cost-based
- ASIC controller (cost effective, but mostly static IP)
- Usually defined to a specific storage tier (Tier 0/1/2 Flash)

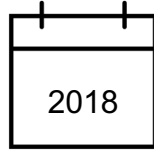
## History of FlashCore Technology



MicroLatency Module

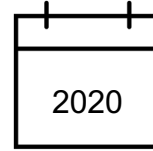
Proprietary interface, single-layer cell (SLC) flash, followed up with multi-layer cell (MLC) flash, and in both cases the data path is in hardware

Multiple protection features, including ECC error correction, variable stripe RAID data protection, overprovisioning, and three-dimensional (AE3 flash modules) or two-dimensional (AE2 flash modules) flash RAID



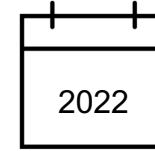
FCM1

NVMe interface, re-implemented into a standard 2.5" form factor, triple-layer cell (TLC) flash with inline 2-to-1 data compression and encryption with no performance penalty



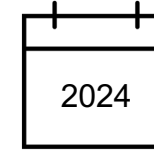
FCM2

NVMe interface, quad-layer cell (QLC) flash with better than TLC performance, inline 2-to-1 data compression and encryption with no performance penalty



FCM3

NVMe interface, quad-layer cell (QLC) flash with SLC abilities, optimized with a "Hinting Architecture" to optimize data placement, with up to 3-to-1 inline data compression, encryption with no performance penalty, L and XL modules based on PCIe G4



FCM4

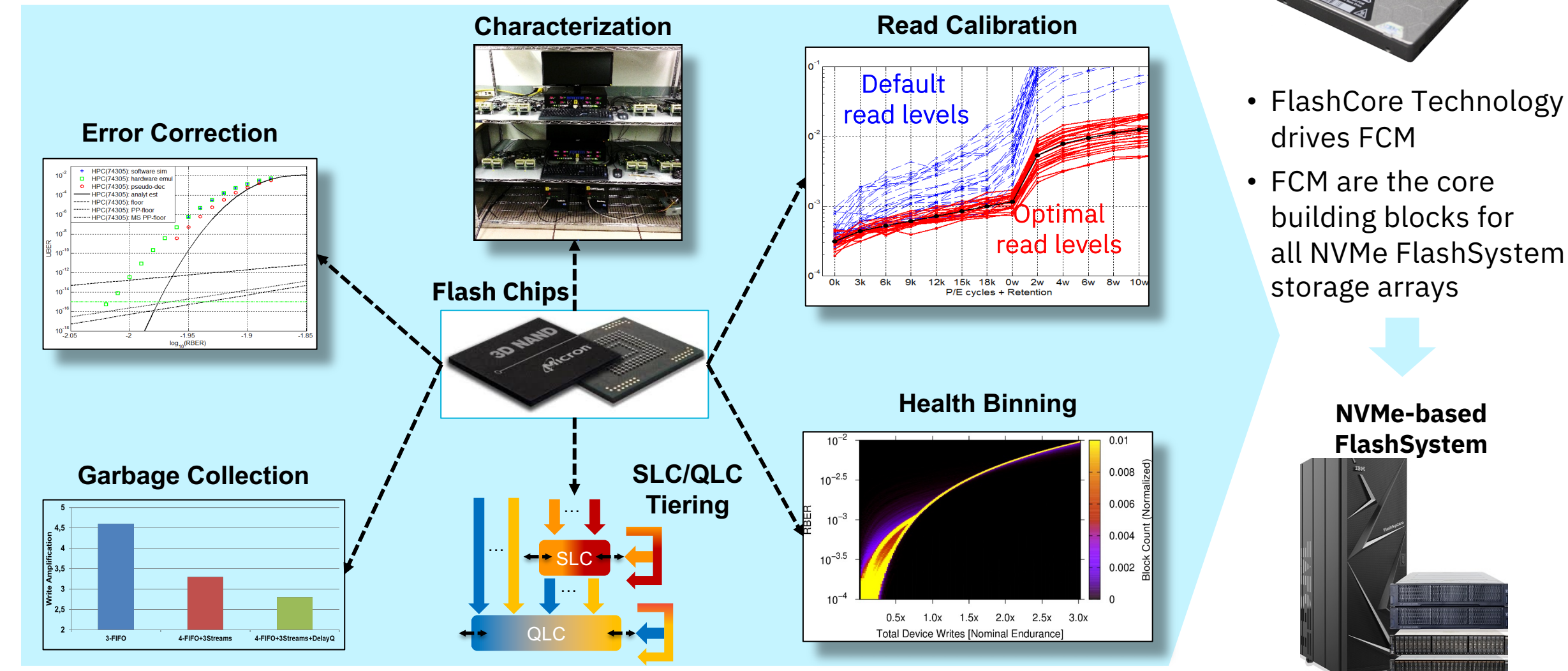
NVMe across PCIe 4.0 interface for all FCM sizes, 176-Layer with SLC and QLC abilities, Quantum-safe encryption, and Ransomware Threat Detection

Backwards Compatible with FCM3

## IBM FlashCore™

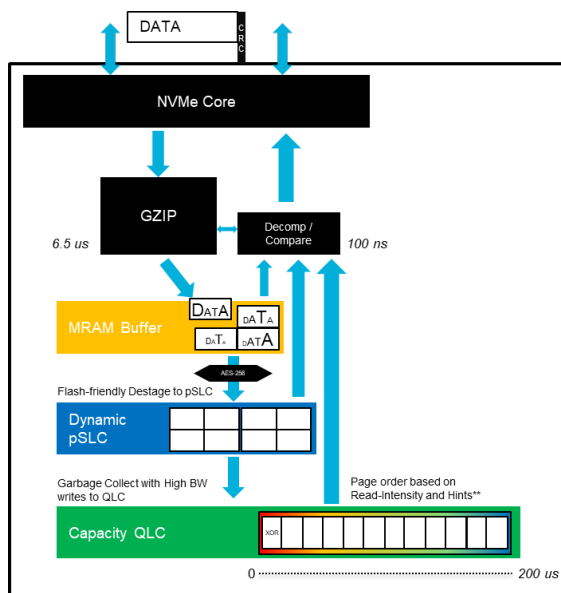
## FlashCore Modules (FCM)

At the Heart of Quad Layer Cell (QLC) Enablement

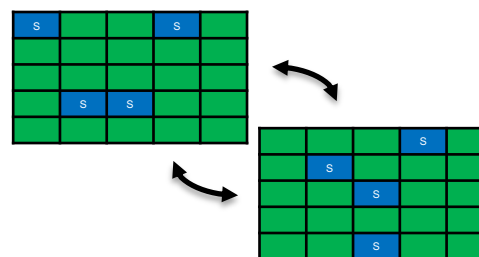


## FlashCore Module 4 Specifications

FCM	Usable Capacity	Endurance (TDW)	PCIe
Small	4.8 TBu	12.2 PBU	PCIe 4.0 x4
Medium	9.6 TBu	24.5 PBU	PCIe 4.0 x4
Large	19.2 TBu	49.0 PBU	PCIe 4.0 x4
XLarge	38.4 TBu	98.1 PBU	PCIe 4.0 x4



FCM Data Path



Dynamic SLC Layer

### FlashCore Hints

- XOR and Metadata Acceleration
- Turbo Power
- Proactive LBA Recovery
- Flash block Sweeper
- FCM RAID Sweeper
- Internal End-to-end CRC
- Volume I/O Tagging (New to FCM4)
- Secure Key Passing (New to FCM4)

New to FCM4

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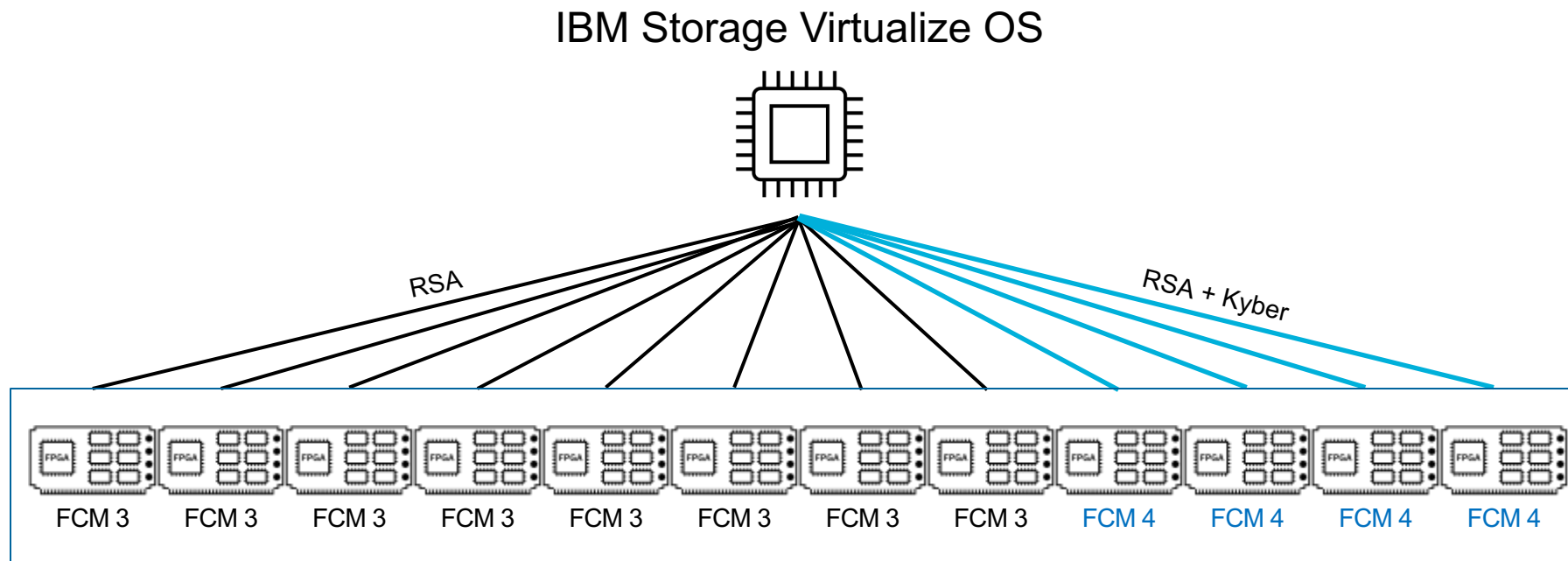
Latest  
176-Layer  
NAND

Post-Quantum  
Cryptography

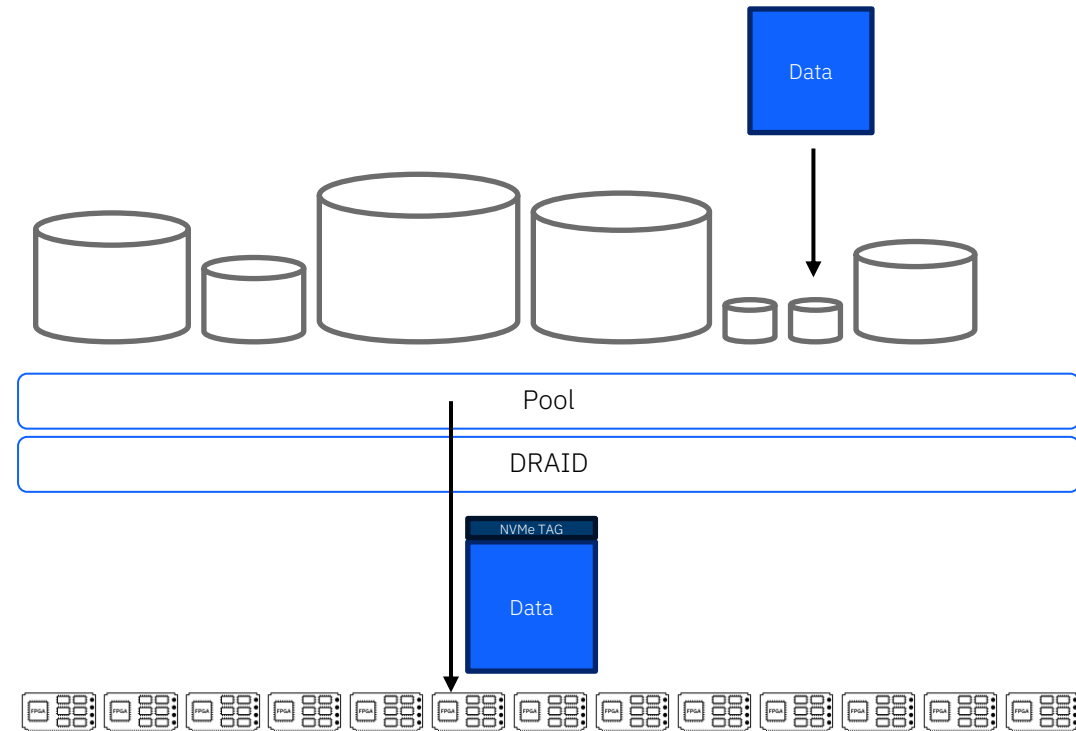
Ransomware  
Threat  
Detection

## Post-Quantum Cryptography

- Data at Rest is continued as AES-256 Encryption
- IBM Storage Virtualize protects the security PINs of each drive through an IBM-specific protocol of Secure Key Passing (SKP)
- FCM4 Embrace CRYSTALS-Kyber algorithm and RSA for SKP
- Transparent to admin & intermixes with FCM3s cleanly



## FlashCore Modules 4 are Volume Aware



**FCM-4**

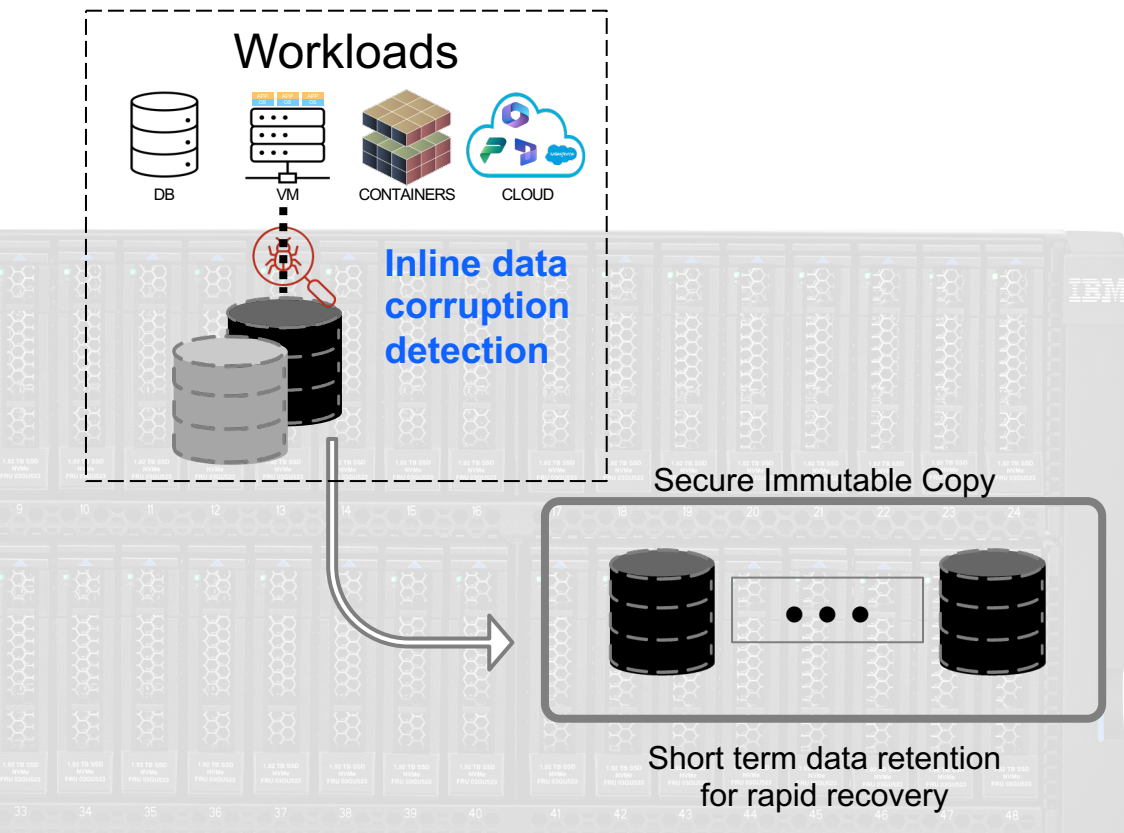
FLASHCORE MODULE 4



**RANSOMWARE**  
**T H R E A T D E T E C T I O N**

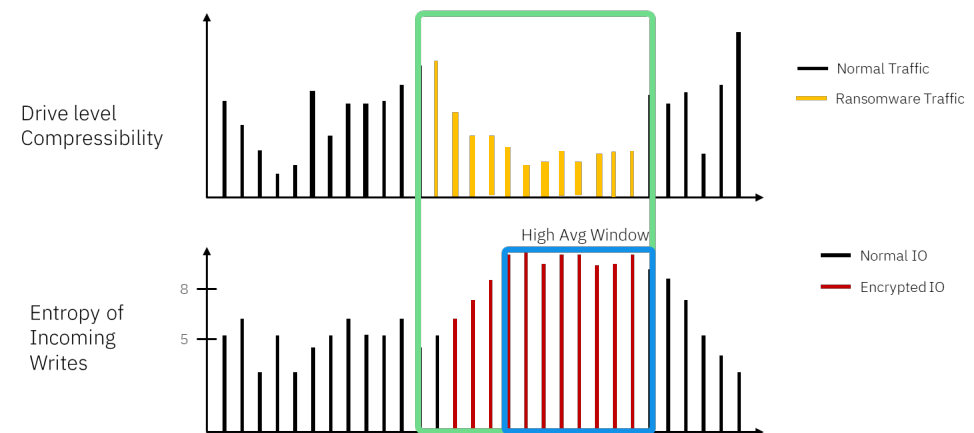


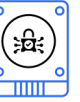
## Inline Data Corruption Detection (Introduced June 2023 w/ Virtualize 8.6.0)



Early detection is essential to containing corruption

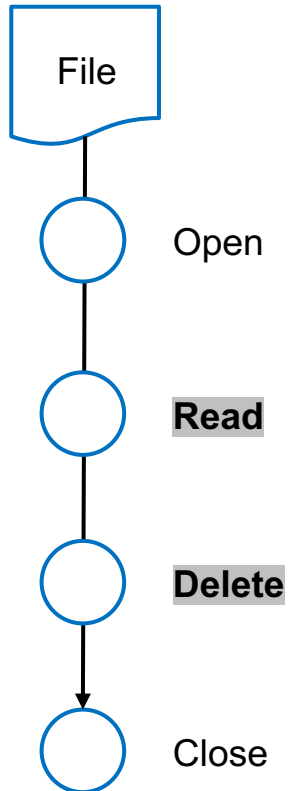
- Actively scanning IO before written to flash can alert of intrusion much earlier, potentially limiting impact to a single application or volume.
- Dramatically reduce the impact of a landed cyber attack, saving time to recovery.



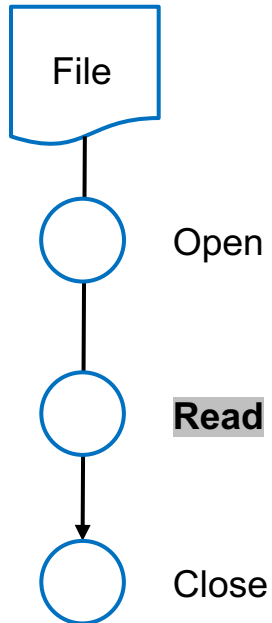


## Cyber Attacks: Similar IO Access Sequences

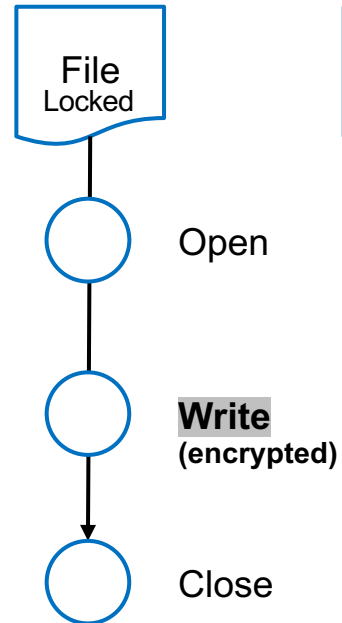
### EXFILTRATE



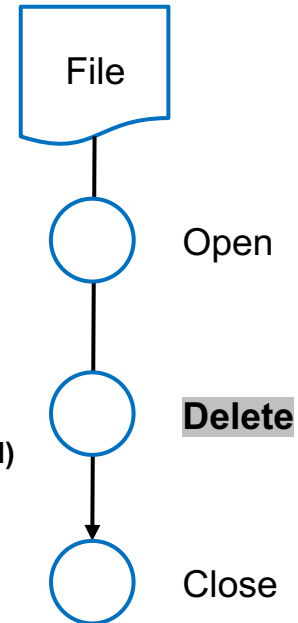
### READ



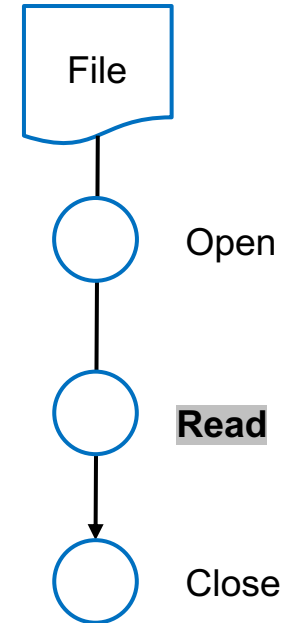
### ENCRYPT



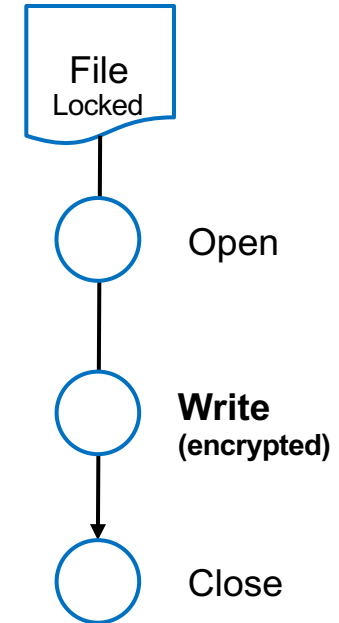
### DELETE



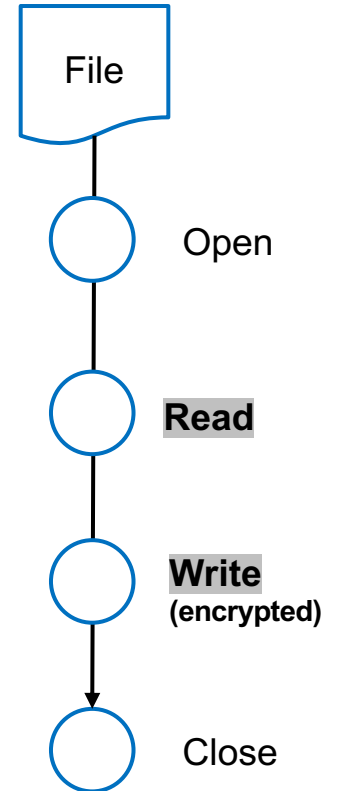
### READ



### ENCRYPT



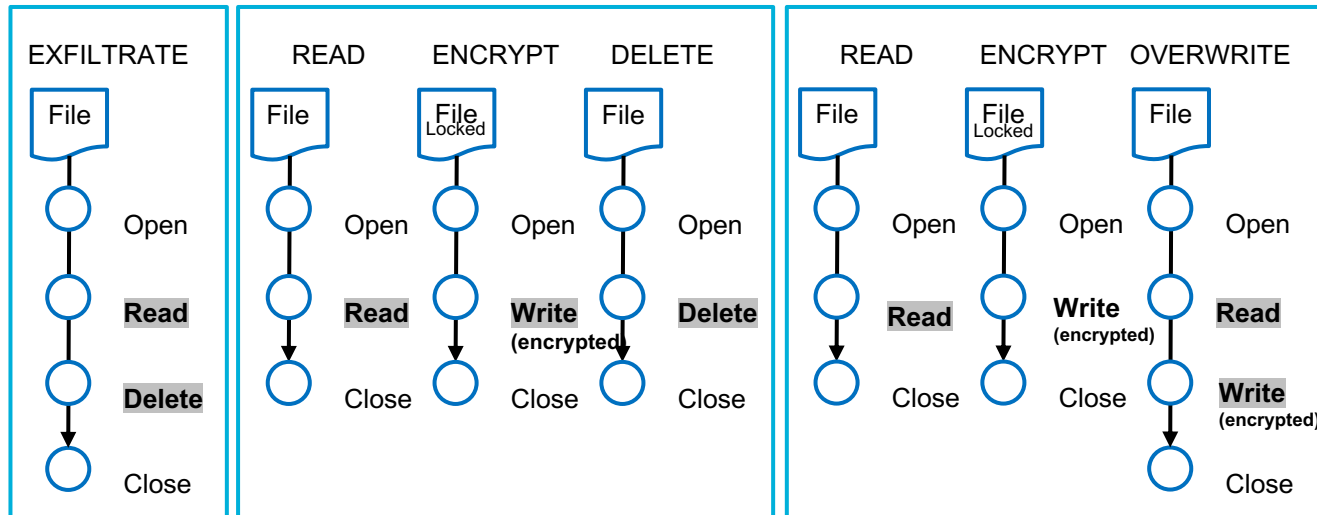
### OVERWRITE



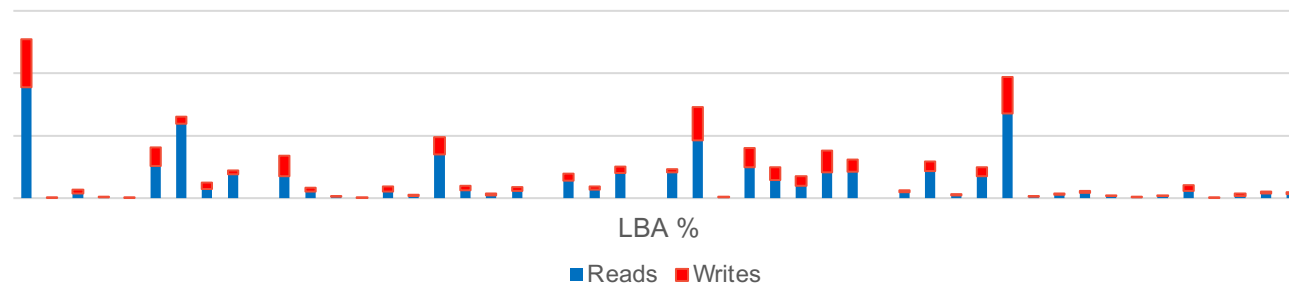


## Dimensions of Analysis (What, Where, and How)

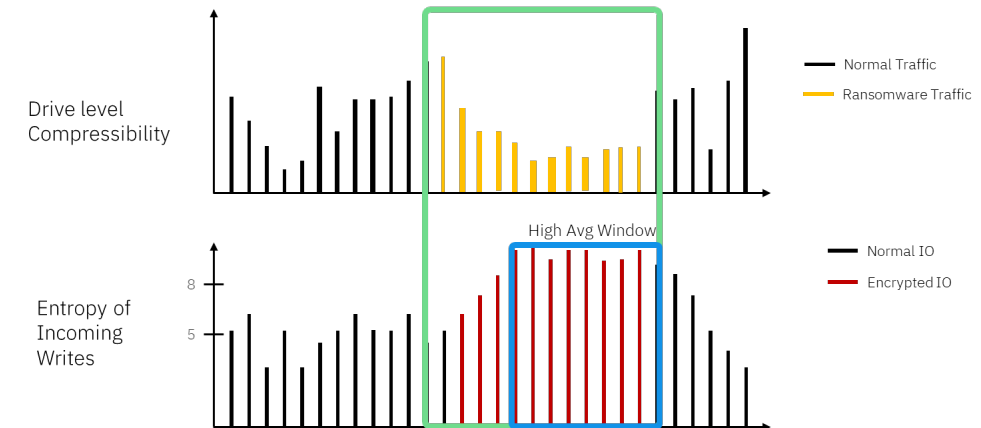
### 1) Cyber Attacks: Similar IO Access Sequences



### 2) Logical Block Addressing (Spatial Locality)

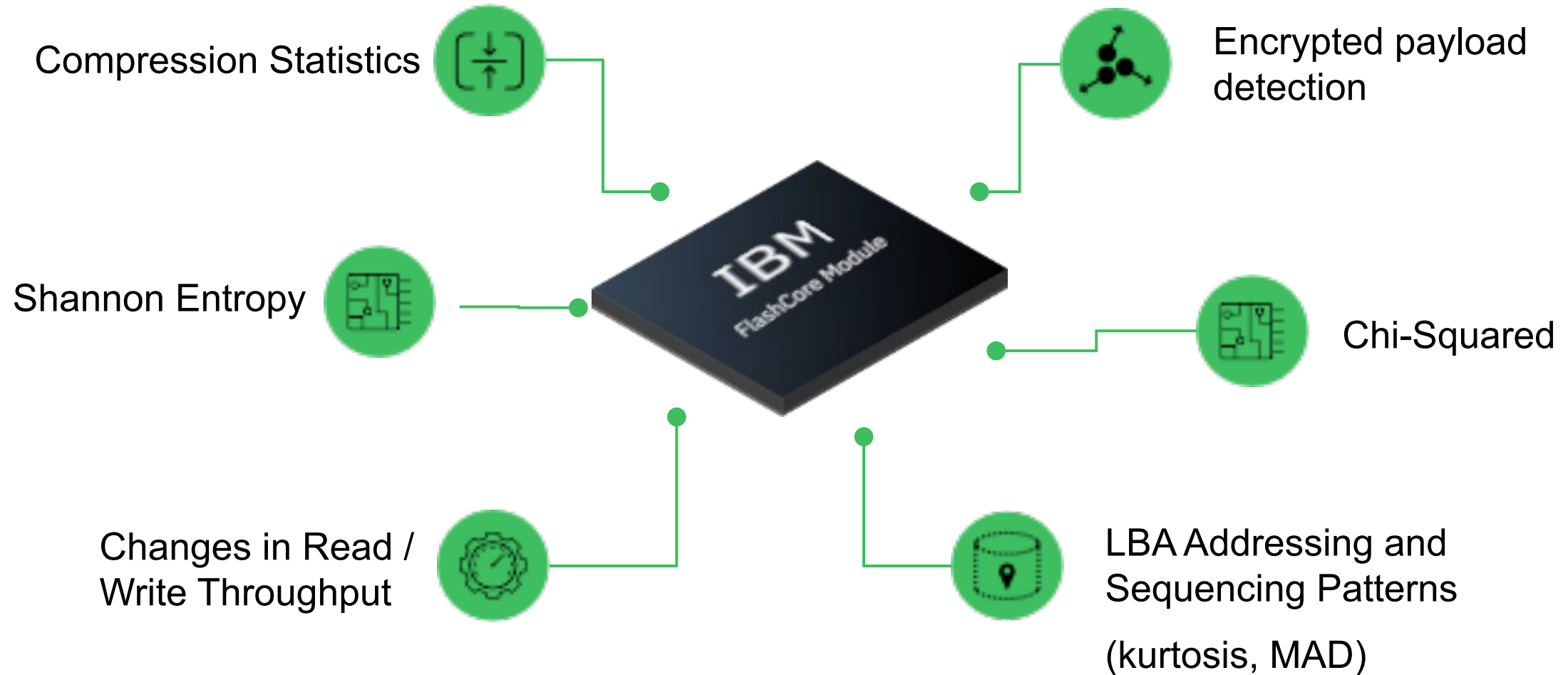


### 3) Data Characteristics



## Ransomware Detection With FCMs

40+ data statistics analyzed in detection engine

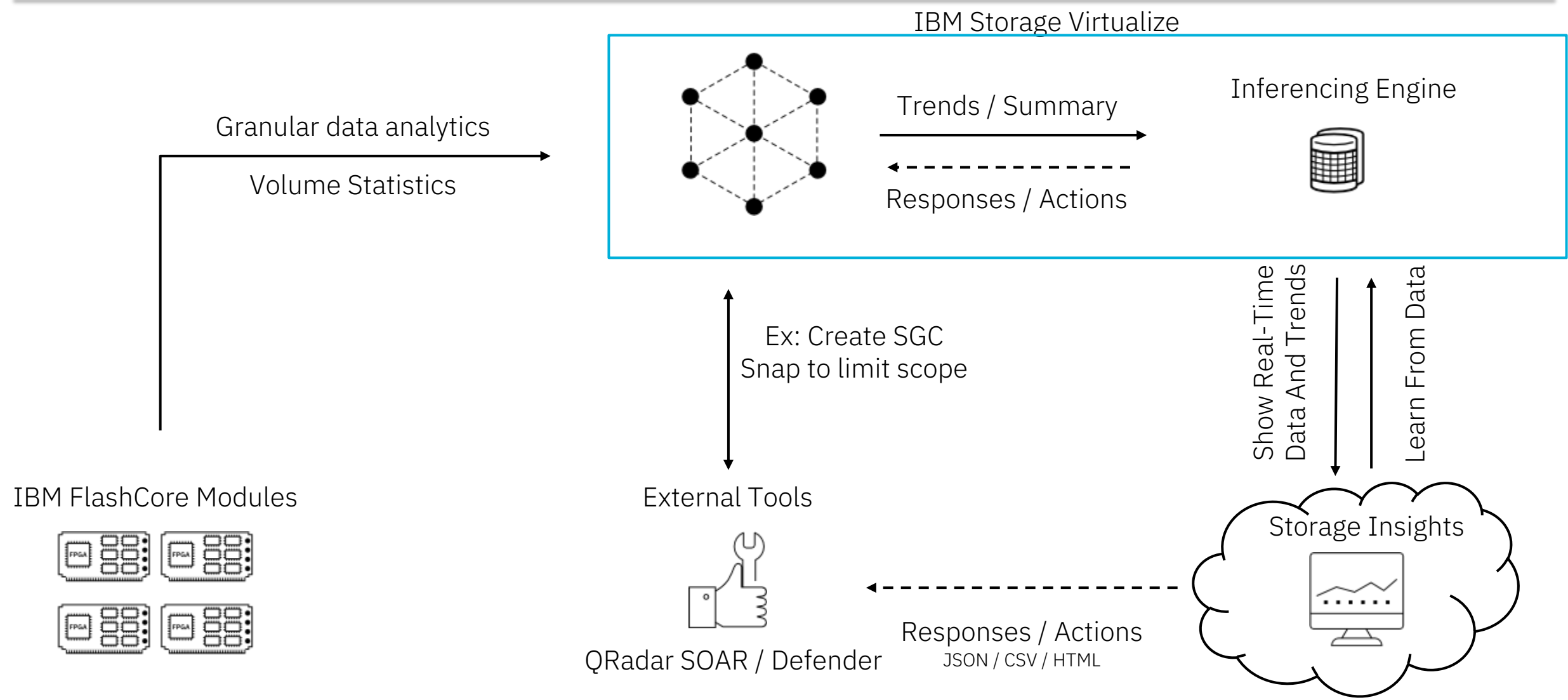


## Prerequisites for Ransomware Threat Detection

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- Pool must be ONLY FCM4s, updated to FW v4.1
- Pool must be created with v8.6.2+
- Only a single FCM DRAID in the pool (pre-existing req)
- DRAID6
- Storage Insights Pro alerting
- 128GB+ RAM per node
- Standard Pools only (and Fully Allocated in DRP is OK)

## Ransomware Monitoring Architectural Overview



## Ransomware Threat Detection in Action

The screenshot displays the IBM FlashSystem 9500 monitoring interface on the left and terminal logs on the right. The interface shows a 'Workload anomaly detected' alert with error code 4300. The terminal logs show the progression of a ransomware attack, including key generation, encryption of private keys, and directory scanning.

**Workload anomaly detected**  
Error Code: 4300

Error Code	Last Time Stamp
4300	5/13/2024 4:55:32 P
4300	5/13/2024 4:55:32 P
4300	5/13/2024 4:55:32 P

**Properties**

Event ID	090036
Event ID Text	Workload anomaly detected in volume copy
Sequence Number	3317
Object Type	vdisk
Object ID	42
Object Name	Tier1App2
Secondary Object ID	
Secondary Object Type	
Copy ID	0
Reporting Node ID	1
Reporting Node Name	node1
Root Sequence Number	
Error Code	4300
Error Code Text	Workload anomaly detected
Dmp Family	IBM
Status	Alert
Fixed	No
Auto Fixed	No
Notification Type	Warning

```
2024-05-13 16:54:19,665 | INFO | wannalaugh.py:1042 | |-> Filesystem: /mnt/fc[21/1980]
> ext4
2024-05-13 16:54:19,666 | INFO | wannalaugh.py:1063 | New infection! Generating random
unique RSA key-pair for this machine
2024-05-13 16:54:20,265 | INFO | wannalaugh.py:1089 | Private key stored at : /tmp/wan
nalaugh-keys/generated/client_private_key_for_debug.PEM (proof-of-safety: it won't be pro
vided by a real ransomware!)
2024-05-13 16:54:20,265 | INFO | wannalaugh.py:1093 | Encrypted private key stored at :
/tmp/wannalaugh-keys/generated/encrypted client private key.key
Scanning directories: 100% | 3733/45671 [01:23<14:29, 7.31it/s]
2024-05-13 16:54:20,471 | INFO | wannalaugh.py:1111 | Selected 45671 out of 45671 scan
ned files in 1 directories
2024-05-13 16:54:20,511 | INFO | wannalaugh.py:1162 | Encryption starts
8% | 3733/45671 [01:23<14:29, 48.21it/s]
8% | 3733/45671 [01:23<15:43, 44.45it/s]
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "/mnt/fcm4/wannalaugh/wannalaugh.py", line 1249, in <module>
    main_wrapper()
  File "/mnt/fcm4/wannalaugh/wannalaugh.py", line 1243, in main_wrapper
    pre_main(sys.argv[1:], interrupt_flag)
  File "/mnt/fcm4/wannalaugh/wannalaugh.py", line 1018, in pre_main
    main(args, interrupt_flag)
  File "/mnt/fcm4/wannalaugh/wannalaugh.py", line 1165, in main
[wannalaugh0: [tmux] * "mkeyfcm4demo" 16:57 13-May-24
```

```
[root@flashlnx4 ~]# tail -n 0 -f /var/log/messages
May 13 17:55:14 FS9500-1 IBM4666[72883]: 4666 3.0 Record Type = WARNING # Error ID = 9003
6 : Workload anomaly detected in volume copy # Error Code = 4300 : Workload anomaly detec
ted # System Name = FS9500-1 # Error Sequence Number = 3314 # Timestamp = Mon May 13 17:5
5:12 2024 # Object Type = vdisk # Object ID = 43 # Object Name = Tier1App3 # Cluster Alia
s = 0x204e12001ae # Copy ID = 0
May 13 17:55:14 FS9500-1 IBM4666[72884]: 4666 3.0 Record Type = WARNING # Error ID = 9003
6 : Workload anomaly detected in volume copy # Error Code = 4300 : Workload anomaly detec
ted # System Name = FS9500-1 # Error Sequence Number = 3315 # Timestamp = Mon May 13 17:5
5:12 2024 # Object Type = vdisk # Object ID = 40 # Object Name = Tier1App0 # Cluster Alia
s = 0x204e12001ae # Copy ID = 0
May 13 17:55:14 FS9500-1 IBM4666[72887]: 4666 3.0 Record Type = WARNING # Error ID = 9003
6 : Workload anomaly detected in volume copy # Error Code = 4300 : Workload anomaly detec
ted # System Name = FS9500-1 # Error Sequence Number = 3316 # Timestamp = Mon May 13 17:5
5:12 2024 # Object Type = vdisk # Object ID = 41 # Object Name = Tier1App1 # Cluster Alia
s = 0x204e12001ae # Copy ID = 0
May 13 17:55:14 FS9500-1 IBM4666[72892]: 4666 3.0 Record Type = WARNING # Error ID = 9003
6 : Workload anomaly detected in volume copy # Error Code = 4300 : Workload anomaly detec
ted # System Name = FS9500-1 # Error Sequence Number = 3317 # Timestamp = Mon May 13 17:5
5:12 2024 # Object Type = vdisk # Object ID = 42 # Object Name = Tier1App2 # Cluster Alia
s = 0x204e12001ae # Copy ID = 0
```

16:54:20 EST – Attack Starts

16:55:14 EST – Alert Received

54 seconds!

## Ransomware Threat Detection

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Brought to you by

IBM Research

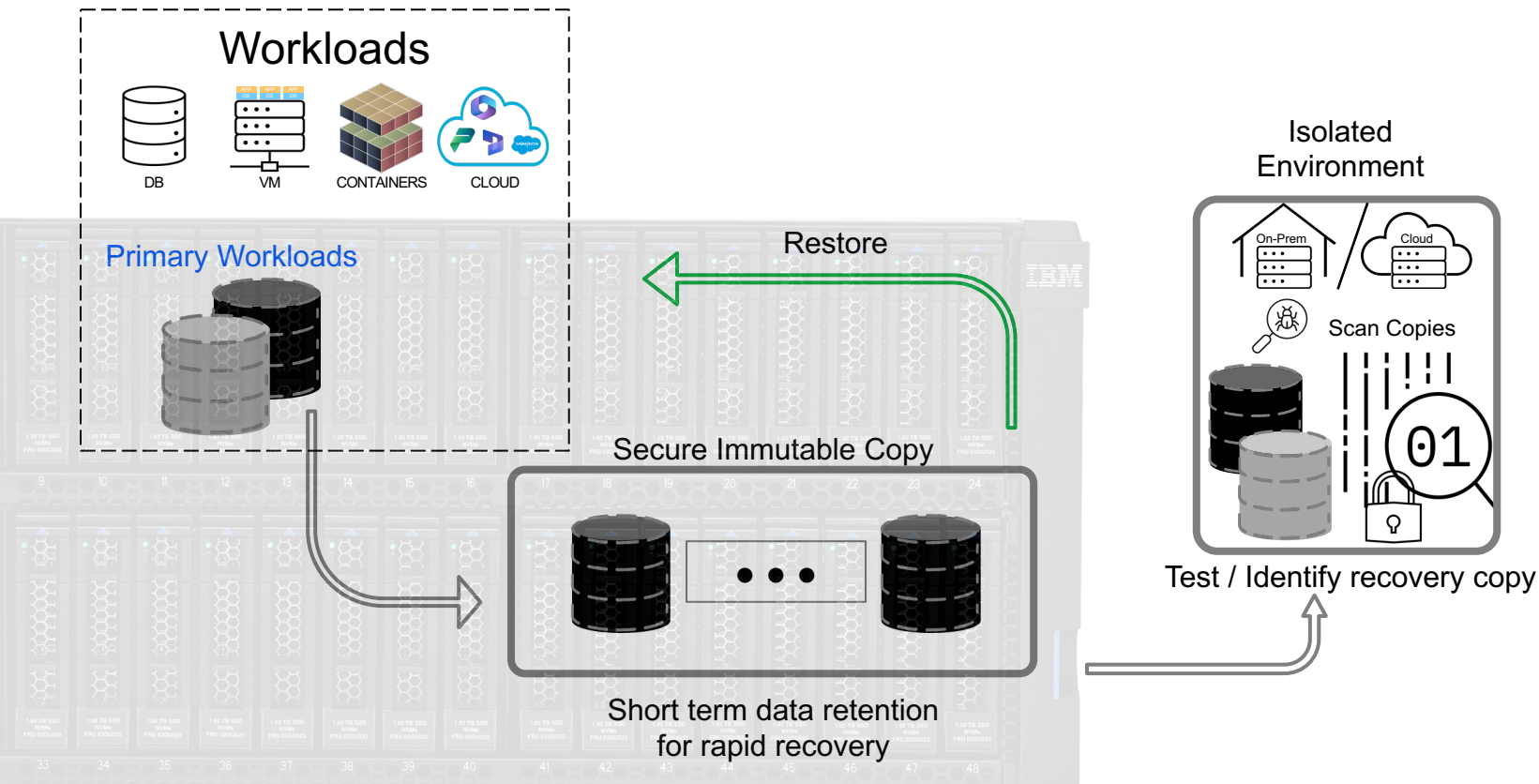
IBM Storage Virtualize

IBM FlashCore

IBM Storage Insights Pro



## Data Validation – Extending Ransomware Threat Detection with Cyber Vault



- Application Aware-ness and App Consistency
- Deep scan data with anomaly detection software
- Automate and catalog with Copy Data Manager
- Identify known-good copy
- Testing builds confidence and ensures compliance

**Thank you!**

## Accelerate with ATG Survey

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Please take a moment to share your feedback with our team!

You can access this 6-question survey via [Menti.com](https://www.menti.com/join/17086924) with code 1708 6924 or

Direct link <https://www.menti.com/alwhyze7z1gz>

Or

QR Code

