



TOPIC



# What's new on Azure IaaS for SQL VMs

Marco Obinu  
@OmegaMadLab



- What's new on Azure IaaS for SQL VMs
  - IaaS??? Is it still worth?
  - Performance guidelines
  - HA and networking



Marco Obinu

- Geek to the bone 😊
- Advisory Engineer @ SoftJam S.p.A.
- Azure Solution Architect Expert



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<http://www.omegamadlab.com>



<https://github.com/OmegaMadLab>



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/marco-obinu-omegamadlab/>



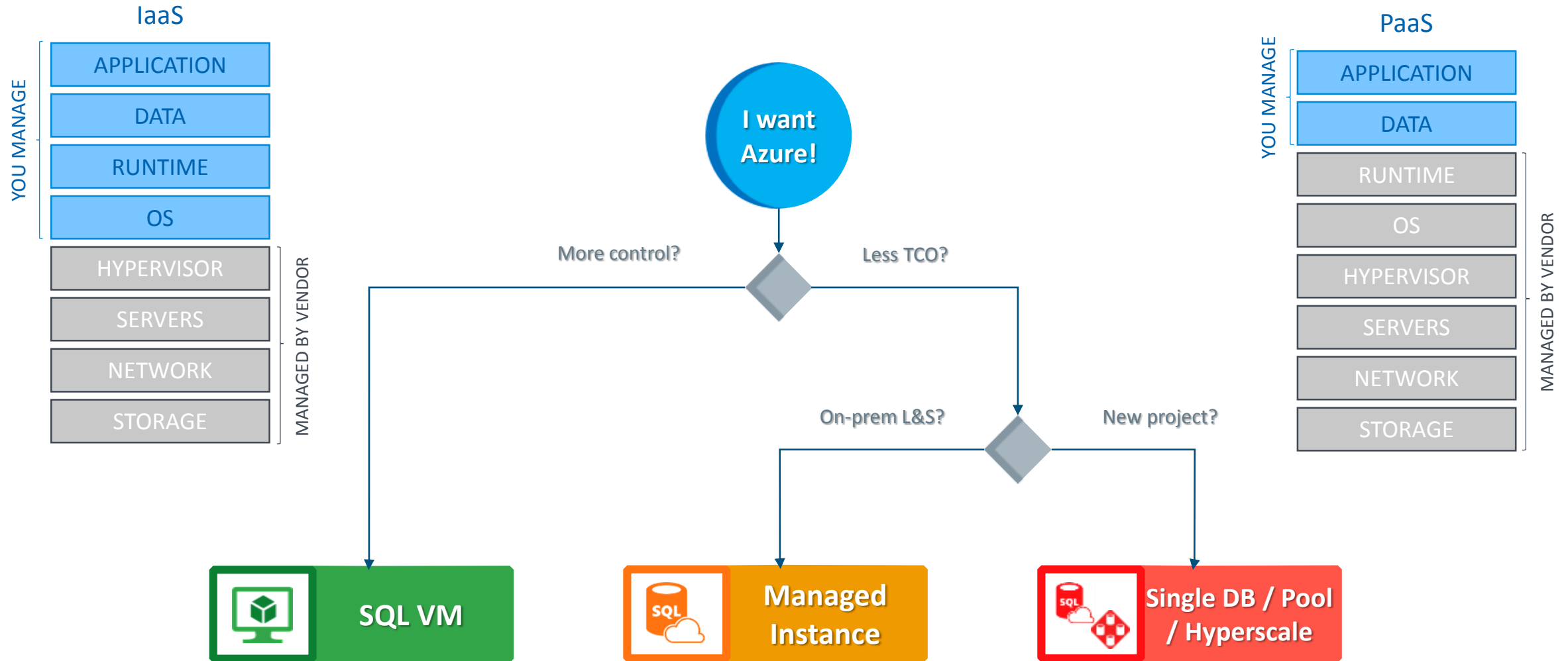
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpkBeQSScC1iBvpNP4VNTKQ>





IaaS??? Is it still worth?

# SQL Server on Azure: proposition



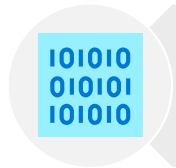
# Azure SQL Database



Business continuity



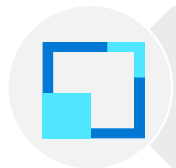
High availability



Automated backups



Long term backup retention



Geo-replication



Scale



Advanced security



Automatic tuning



Built-in monitoring



Built-in intelligence

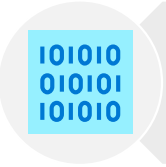
**Everything built-in!**



Business continuity



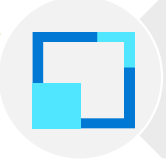
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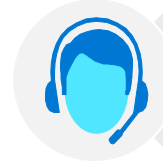
Scale



Advanced security



Automatic tuning



Built-in monitoring



Built-in intelligence

Everything **configurable**

# SQL Server on Azure VMs



## SQL Server 2017 Enterprise (Windows) on Azure and AWS

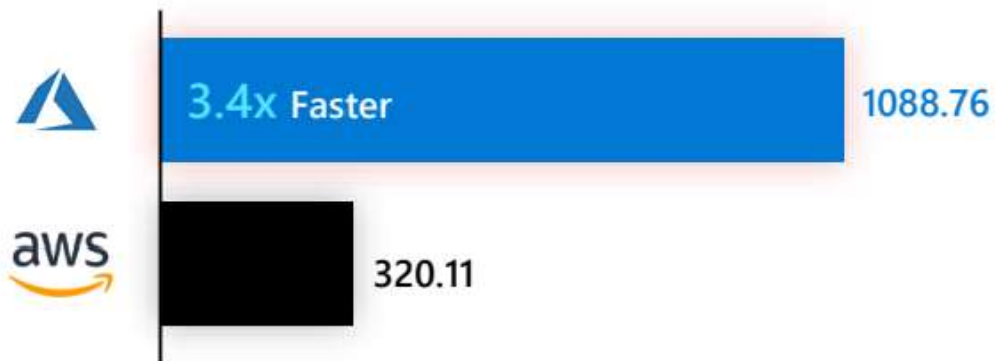
- SQL Server on Azure includes Azure Hybrid Benefit
- SQL Server on AWS includes license mobility

**GIGAOM**



### Performance

Transactions per second (TPS)



### Price/performance\*

3-year pricing / TPS



<https://azure.microsoft.com/mediahandler/files/resourcefiles/sql-transactional-processing-price-performance-testing/GigaOm%20Azure%20SQL%20DB-AWS%20RDS%20Price-Performance%20Benchmark%20Report.pdf>



# SQL Server on Azure VMs



## Secure and compliant



Most compliant cloud



## Seamless cloud migration



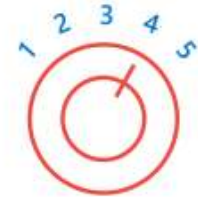
100% SQL Server compatibility and only cloud with pre-configured Developer edition

## Leading TCO



Save up to 43% vs. AWS EC2 with Azure Hybrid Benefit

## Flexibility and control with automation



Easier to maintain than EC2 with automated security patches and automated backup

# SQL Server on Azure VMs



## Secure and compliant



Most compliant cloud



## Seamless cloud migration



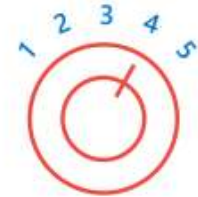
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# Performance guidelines

# Choosing the right VM



Family	Series	Optimized for
<a href="#">General purpose</a>	B, Dsv3, Dv3, Dasv4, Dav4, DSv2, Dv2, Av2, DC, DCv2	Balanced CPU-to-memory ratio. Ideal for testing and development, small to medium databases, and low to medium traffic web servers.
<a href="#">Compute optimized</a>	Fsv2	High CPU-to-memory ratio. Good for medium traffic web servers, network appliances, batch processes, and application servers.
<a href="#">Memory optimized</a>	Esv3, Ev3, Easv4, Eav4, Mv2, M, DSv2, Dv2	High memory-to-CPU ratio. Great for relational database servers, medium to large caches, and in-memory analytics.
<a href="#">Storage optimized</a>	Lsv2	High disk throughput and IO ideal for Big Data, SQL, NoSQL databases, data warehousing and large transactional databases.
<a href="#">GPU</a>	NC, NCv2, NCv3, ND, NDv2 (Preview), NV, NVv3, NVv4	Specialized virtual machines targeted for heavy graphic rendering and video editing, as well as model training and inferencing (ND) with deep learning. Available with single or multiple GPUs.
<a href="#">High performance compute</a>	HB, HBv2, HC, H	Our fastest and most powerful CPU virtual machines with optional high-throughput network interfaces (RDMA).

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## What you're looking for:

### DSv2-series 11-15

DSv2-series sizes run on the Intel® Xeon® 8171M 2.1 GHz (Skylake) or the Intel® Xeon® E5-2673 v4 2.3 GHz (Broadwell) or the Intel® Xeon® E5-2673 v3 2.4 GHz (Haswell) processors.

ACU: 210 - 250 <sup>1</sup>

### Esv3-series

Esv3-series instances are based on feature the Intel® Xeon® 8171M 2.1 GHz (Skylake) or the Intel® Xeon® E5-2673 v4 2.3 GHz (Broadwell) processor, Intel Turbo Boost Technology 2.0, and use premium storage. Esv3-series instances are ideal for memory-intensive enterprise applications.

Esv3-series VM's feature Intel® Hyper-Threading Technology.

ACU: 160-190

# Choosing the right VM



Family	Series	Optimized for
<a href="#">General purpose</a>	B, <b>Dsv3</b> , Dv3, <b>Dasv4</b> , Dav4, <b>DSv2</b> , Dv2, Av2, DC, DCv2	Balanced CPU-to-memory ratio. Ideal for testing and development, small to medium databases, and low to medium traffic web servers.
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## What you're looking for:

- ACU value
- CPU to RAM ratio
- At least 4 cores
- Premium Storage



# Choosing the right VM

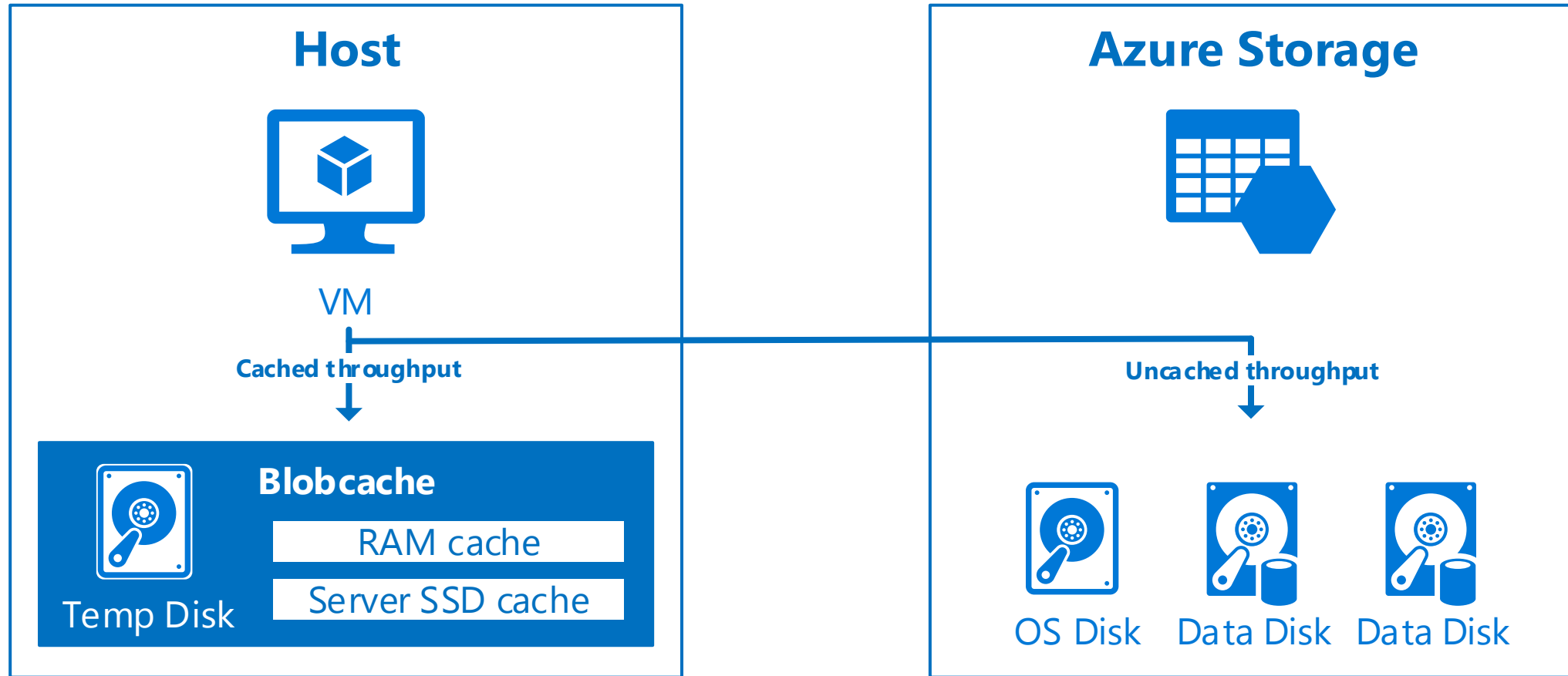


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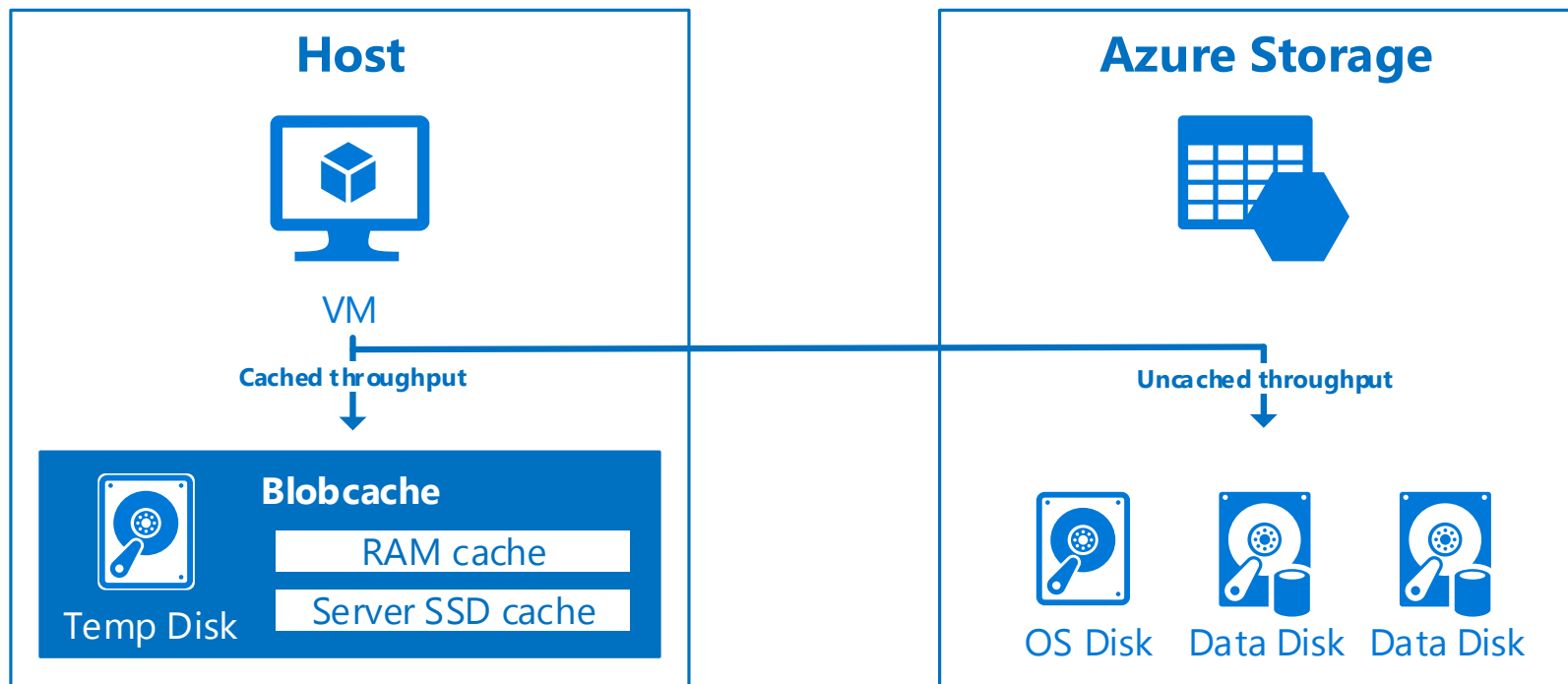
## What you're looking for:

- ACU value
- CPU to RAM ratio
- At least 4 cores
- Premium Storage
- Disk and network throughput

# Choosing the right VM



# Choosing the right VM



## DS12v2 – 4 core 28 GB

Cached tp. 16000/128 (144)

Uncached tp. 12800/192

NIC/Mbps 4/3000

## DS13v2 – 8 core 56 GB

Cached tp. 32000/256 (288)

Uncached tp. 25600/384

NIC/Mbps 8/6000

## Easv4 – 8 core 64 GB

Cached tp. 16000/128 (200)

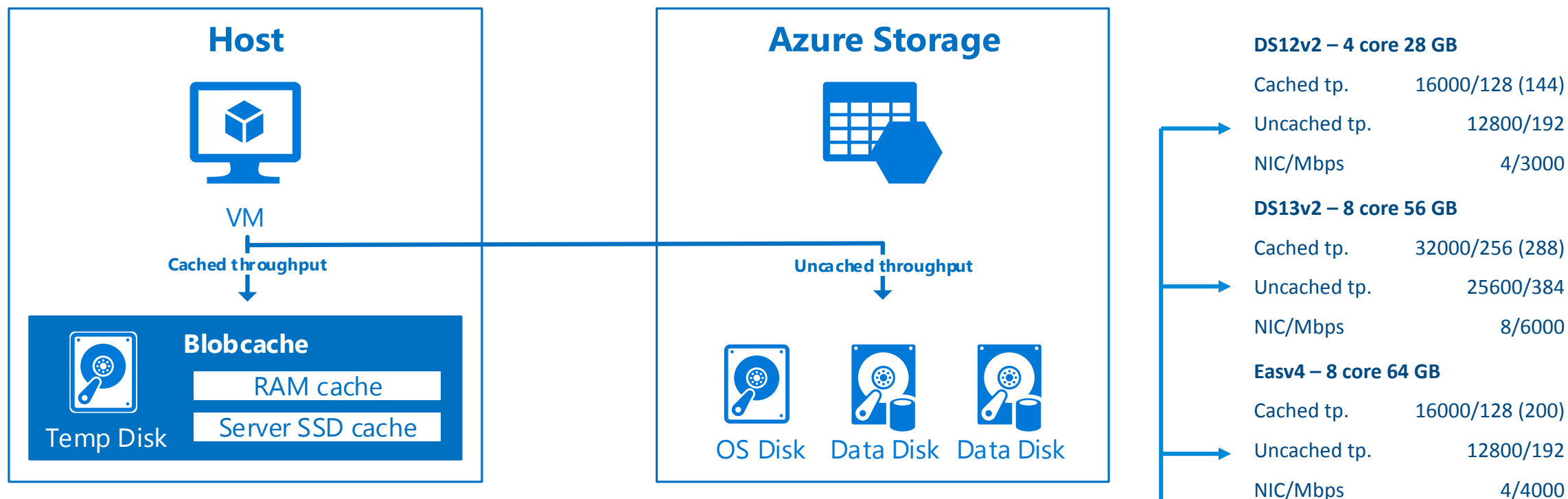
Uncached tp. 12800/192

NIC/Mbps 4/4000

The size of the VM also affects:

- Disk throughput
- Cache and Temporary disk size & throughput
- Network bandwidth
- Accelerated Network availability

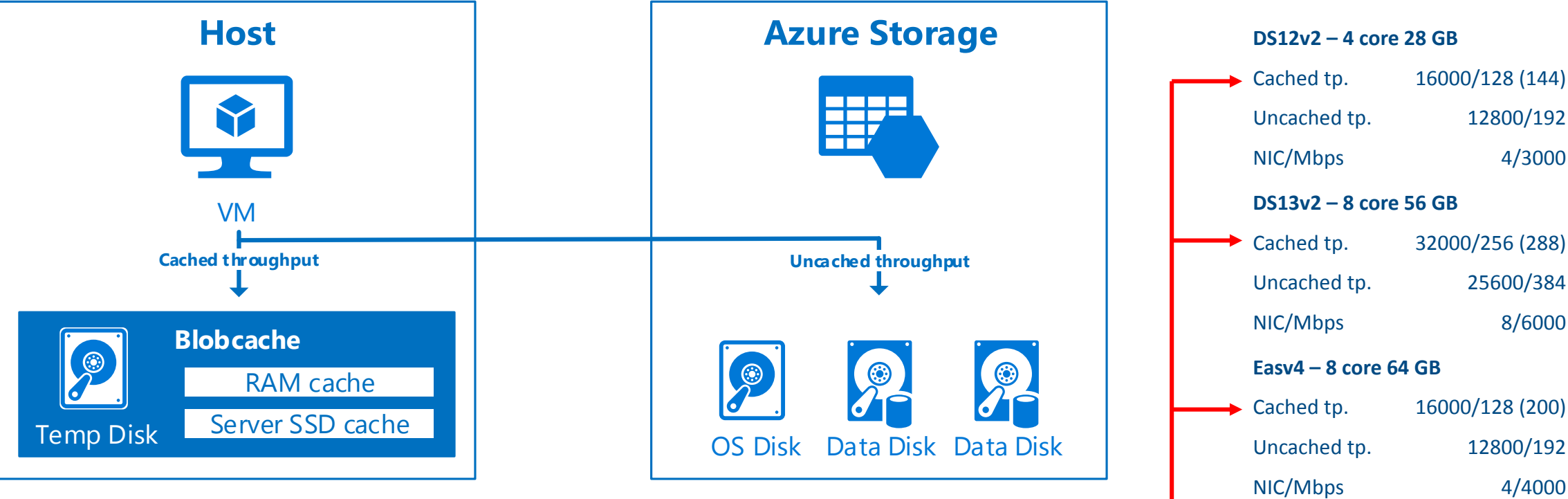
# Choosing the right VM



The size of the VM also affects:

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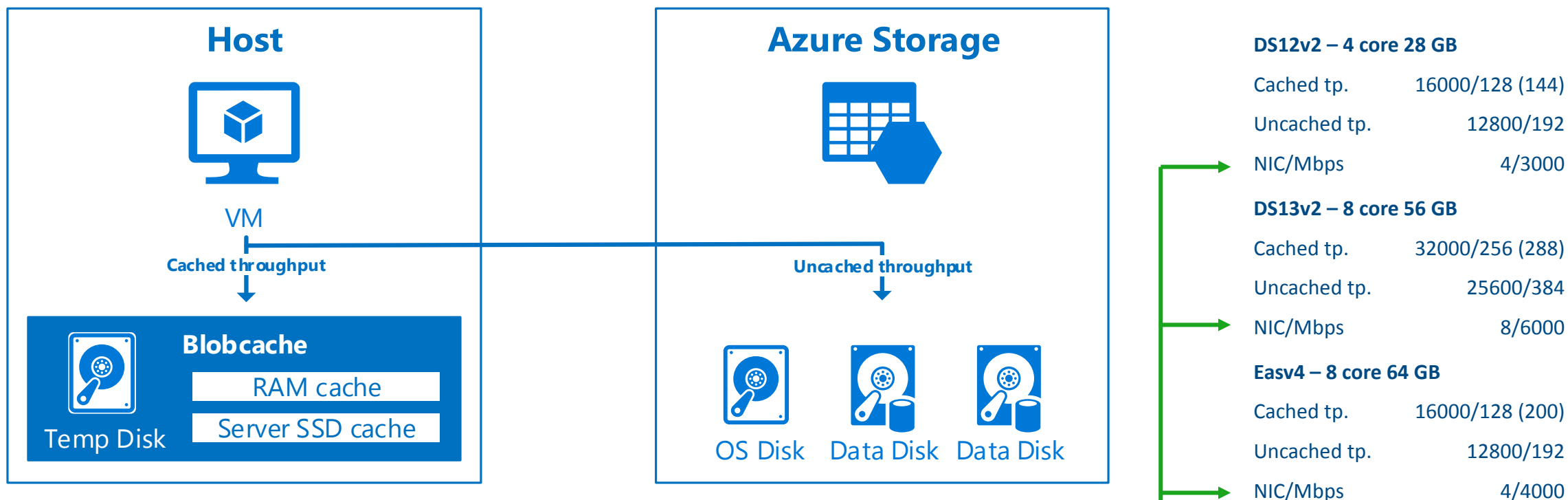
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The size of the VM also affects:

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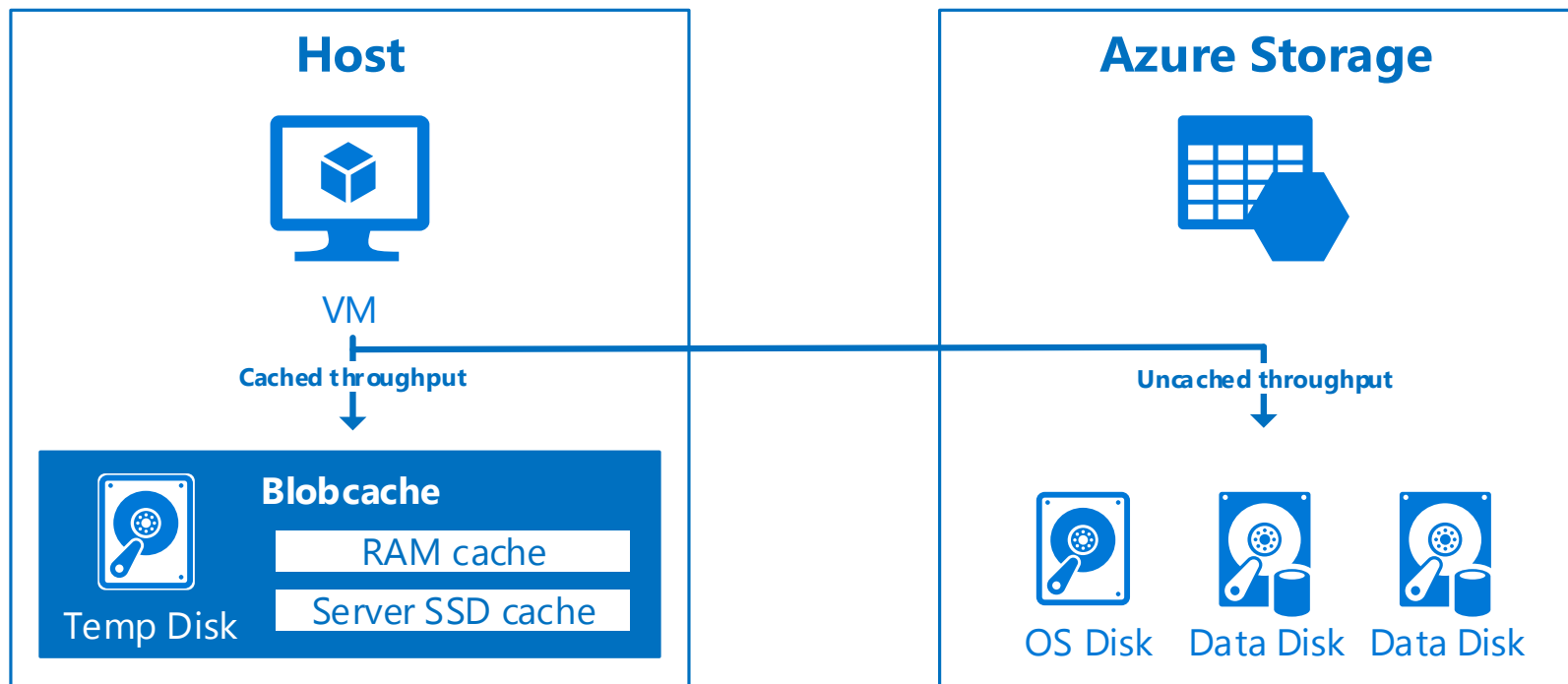
# Choosing the right VM



The size of the VM also affects:

- Disk throughput
- Cache and Temporary disk size & throughput
- Network bandwidth
- Accelerated Network availability

# Choosing the right VM



## DS13-2v2 – 2 core 56 GB

Cached tp. 32000/256 (288)

Uncached tp. 25600/384

NIC/Mbps 8/6000

## DS13-4v2 – 4 core 56 GB

Cached tp. 32000/256 (288)

Uncached tp. 25600/384

NIC/Mbps 8/6000

## DS13v2 – 8 core 56 GB

Cached tp. 32000/256 (288)

Uncached tp. 25600/384

NIC/Mbps 8/6000

The size of the VM also affects:

- Disk throughput
- Cache and Temporary disk size & throughput
- Network bandwidth
- Accelerated Network availability

***Need more of these, but have to contain licensing costs???***

***Go for Constrained vCPU!***

# Choosing the right disks



	Ultra SSD	Premium SSD	Standard SSD	Standard HDD
Disk type	SSD	SSD	SSD	HDD
Scenario	IO-intensive workloads such as SAP HANA, top tier databases, and other transaction-heavy workloads.	Production and performance sensitive workloads	Web servers, lightly used enterprise applications and dev/test	Backup, non-critical, infrequent access
Disk size	65,536 gibibyte (GiB)	32,767 GiB	32,767 GiB	32,767 GiB
Max throughput	2,000 MiB/s	900 MiB/s	750 MiB/s	500 MiB/s
Max IOPS	160,000	20,000	6,000	2,000
Latency	1 ms	5-10 ms	Variable	Variable

✓ Separate disks for data and logs

✓ Pay Attention to cache settings!

✓ Use Temporary disk for TempDB **NEW**

✓ Use striping to achieve more

- Columns = # of disks
- Interleave = 64KB for OLTP, 256KB for DWH

✓ Format with allocation unit size = 64 KB

*Consider disk bursting for Premium SSD up to 512 GB* **NEW**



# Apply the right configurations



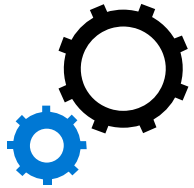
- Enable database page compression.
- Enable instant file initialization for data files.
- Limit autogrowth of the database.
- Disable autoshrink of the database.
- Move all databases to data disks, including system databases.
- Move SQL Server error log and trace file directories to data disks.
- Configure default backup and database file locations.
- Enable locked pages in memory.
- Apply SQL Server performance fixes.

# Apply the right configurations



- Back up directly to blob storage
- Use file snapshot backups for databases larger than 12 TB **NEW**
- Use multiple Temp DB files, 1 file per core, up to 8 files
- Set max server memory at 90% or up to 50 GB left for the Operating System. **NEW**
- Enable soft NUMA **NEW**

## Key benefits of Resource Provider (RP) on self-installations NEW

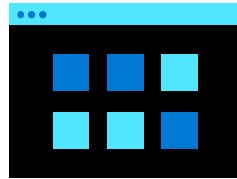


Comprehensive  
feature set

Self-installed VMs registered with RP now can access automation features in Azure Marketplace images



Leverage auto-backup and auto-patching to avoid time-consuming admin and VM customization



Dashboard view for  
VM awareness

Azure VMs are now discoverable on the new Azure SQL blade in Azure Marketplace



Easily manage your SQL VM and SQL PaaS deployments from one central location



Simple license  
conversions

Self-installed VMs with RP can be easily converted to PAYG images



Save money by converting variable workloads with Software Assurance to PAYG images



Straightforward  
compliance

Self-installed VMs with RP automatically indicate usage of Azure Hybrid Benefit

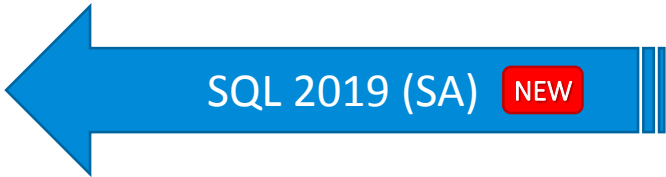
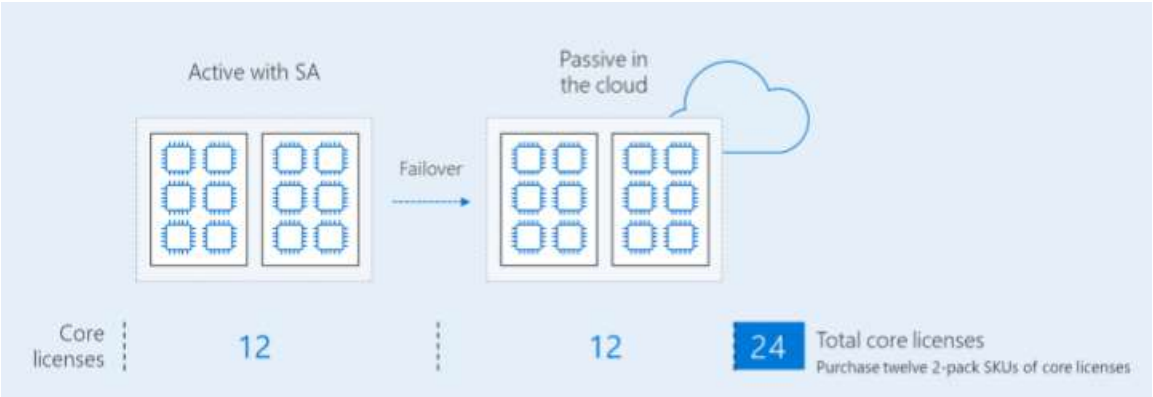
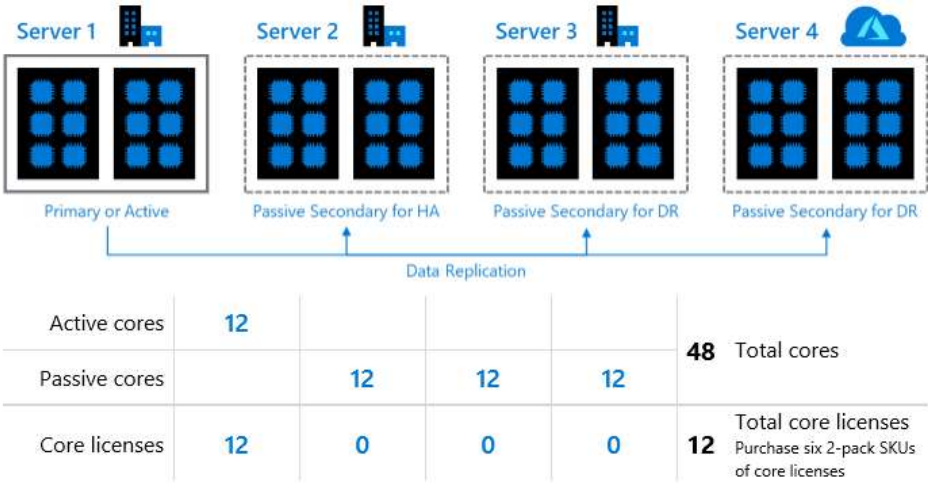


Ensure compliance with Azure terms and conditions without any extra effort



# DEMO

# SQL Server 2019 licensing rights



## How to take advantage of Resource Provider

1. Register the resource provider to your subscription (one-time only) via the Azure Portal or Azure CLI below:

```
# Register the new SQL resource provider to your subscription
az provider register --namespace Microsoft.SqlVirtualMachine
```

2. Once **subscription registration is complete**, register your VM with the SQL VM Resource Provider:

```
# Register your existing SQL Server VM with the new resource provider
az sql vm create -n <VMName> -g <ResourceGroupName> -l <VMLocation>
```

### Ways to get Resource Provider\*

#### Recommended approach

##### Full version

Get full access to auto-patching, Always On, auto-backup and other features.

Note: Requires full SQL Server restart.

##### Lightweight version **NEW**

Speed your provision of Resource Provider with a lightweight process which does not require restarting your VMs.

Note: Does not enable full functionality.

Learn more [aka.ms/sqlvm\\_rp](https://aka.ms/sqlvm_rp) and [aka.ms/sqlvm\\_rp\\_documentation](https://aka.ms/sqlvm_rp_documentation)

\*If you're unable to select Full or Lightweight RP, choose an Agentless approach. Note this option does not enable verification of Resource Provider.



# HA and networking

# VMs and SLA



**STANDARD**

**STANDARD  
STORAGE**

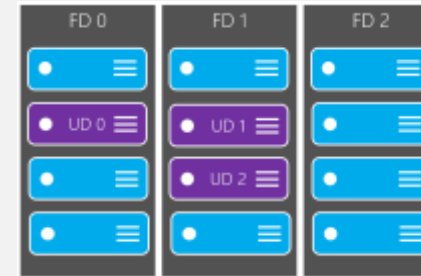
No SLA ☹️



**PREMIUM**

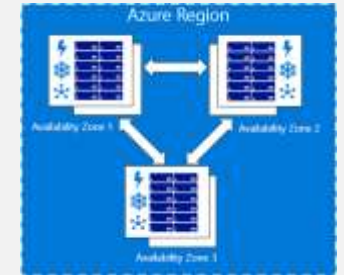
**PREMIUM  
STORAGE**

99.5%



**AVAILABILITY  
SET**

99.95%

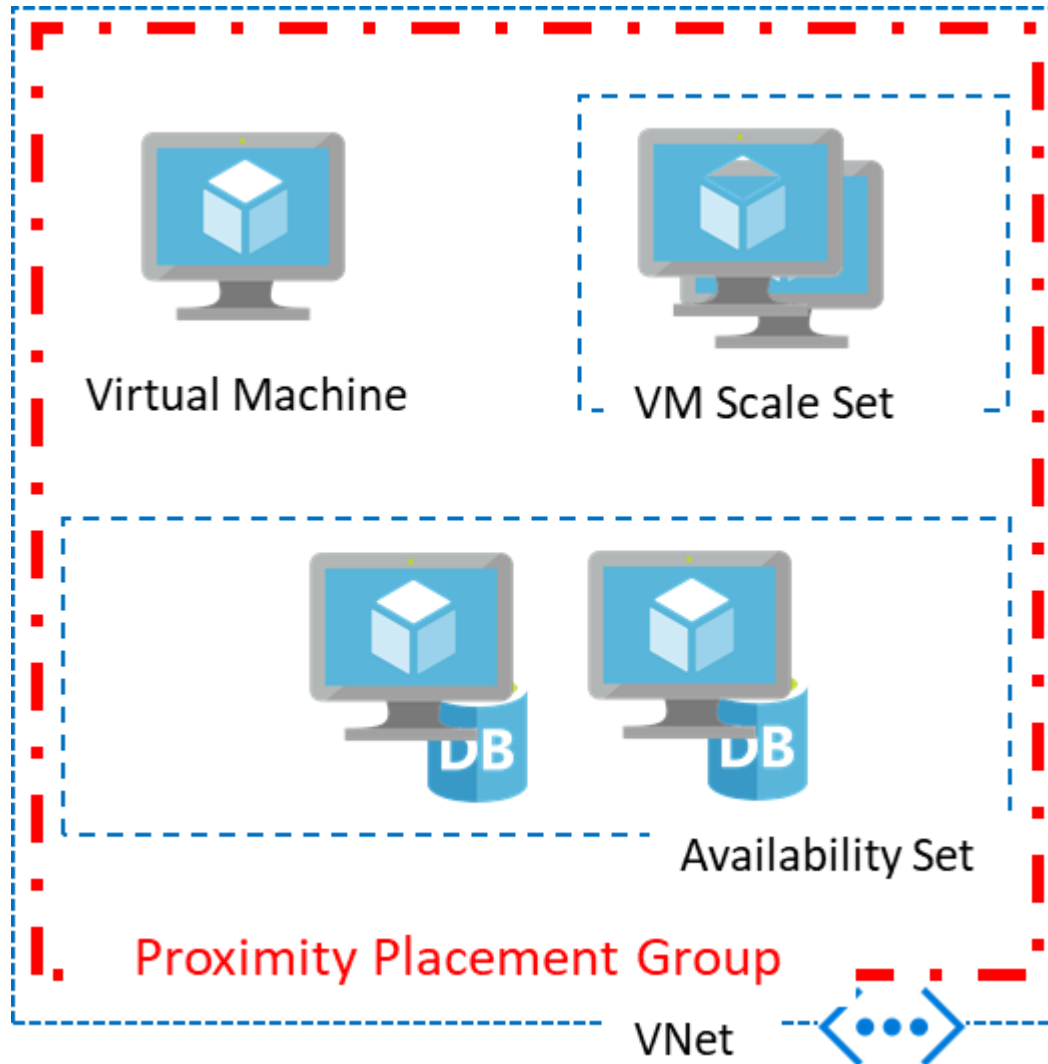


**AVAILABILITY  
ZONE**

99.99%



# Proximity placement groups NEW

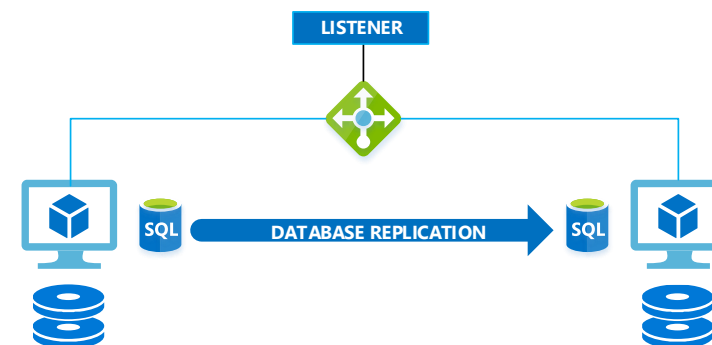


😊 Reduce latency to  $\mu\text{s}$

😞 Possible allocation issues

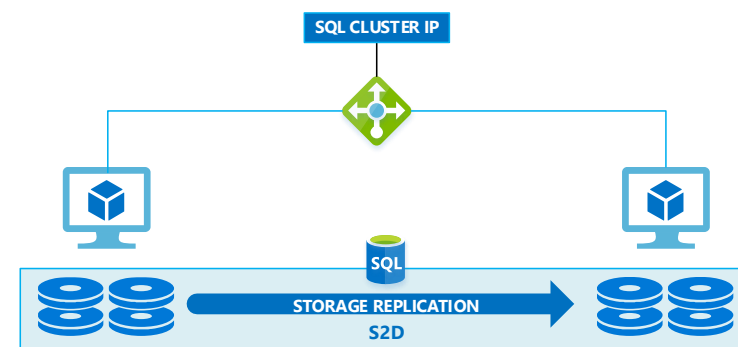
- Always On Availability Groups

SQL2012+ Enterprise Edition



- SQL Failover Cluster Instance with S2D

Windows Server 2016, SQL 2016+ Standard Edition

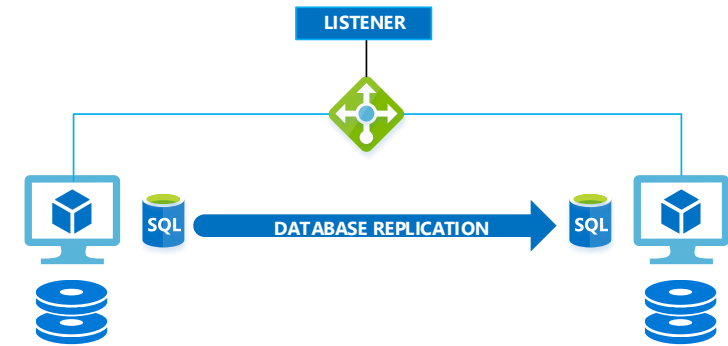


# Native HA technologies



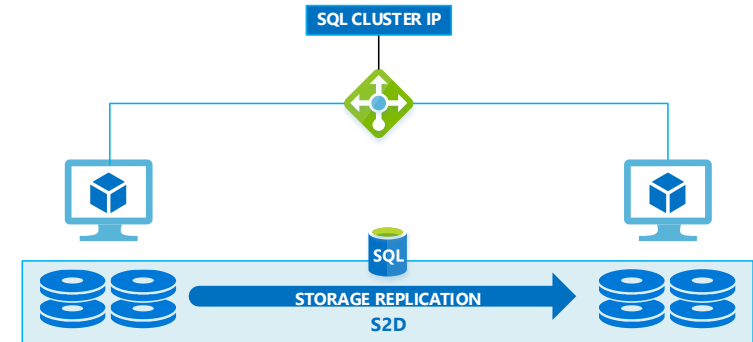
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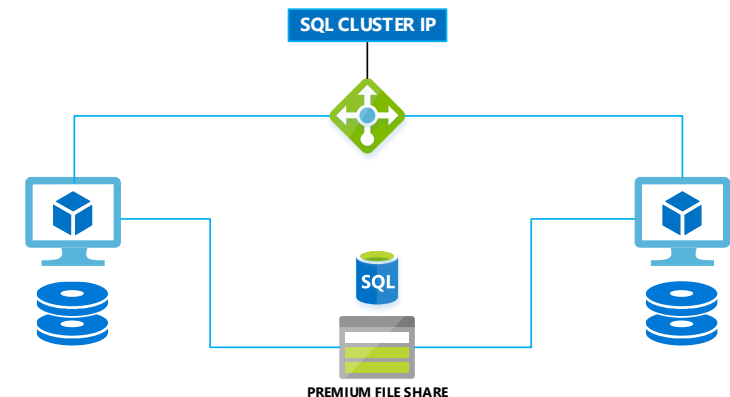
Windows Server 2016, SQL 2016+ Standard Edition



*While waiting for shared disks...*

- SQL Failover Cluster Instance with PFS **NEW**

Windows Server 2012 R2+, SQL 2012+ Standard



Windows Server 2019 recommended!

# Azure Premium File Share



PREMIUM	RANGE	CALCULATED AS
Provisioned share size (GiB)	100 - 102,400 (in increments of 1 GiB)	Specified by share quota
Baseline IOPS	100 - 100,000	1 * provisioned GiB
Burst IOPS (on a best effort basis)	300 - 100,000	3 * Baseline IOPS
Egress rate (MiB/s)	66 - 6,204	60 MiB/s + 0.06 * provisioned GiB
Ingress rate (MiB/s)	44 - 4,136	40 MiB/s + 0.04 * provisioned GiB
Price	West Europe, as of 23/04/2020	0,243€ GB

Example for a 2TB share:

Baseline IOPS	2048
Burst IOPS	6144
Egress	182,88 MB/s
Ingress	121,92 MB/s
Price	497 €/month



# DEMO

- Demo repository  
<https://github.com/OmegaMadLab/SqlIaasVmPlayground>
- Optimized ARM Template  
<https://github.com/OmegaMadLab/OptimizedSqlVm-v2>
- Official documentation  
<http://aka.ms/SQLIaaSPerf>
- Dbatools module  
<https://dbatools.io>

# Thanks

Questions?

 @OmegaMadLab

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 <http://www.omegamadlab.com>

 <https://github.com/OmegaMadLab>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/marco-obinu-omegamadlab/>

 <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpkBeQSscC1iBvpNP4VNTKQ>

