



Azure SQL Databases, tales from the trenches

dataMinds Connect 2022



Thank you, sponsors





Database

Trenches

Setup





The old way

SQL Server

Choosing your own hardware
Standard or Enterprise Edition
Configuration

Azure SQL

The new way

Cloud service, Managed Instance or on a VM

What Tier to choose

What SKU to choose

Network connectivity challenges

No more SA!

Migration is... different



Where to look

Where to start
What to look out for



Opinions



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SQL: DBA, Performance tuning

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On premises

SQL Server

Choosing your own hardware
Standard or Enterprise Edition
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Azure SQL

Let's cloud!

Cloud service, Managed Instance or on a VM
What Tier to choose
What SKU to choose
Network connectivity challenges
No more SA!
Migration is... different



- ▶ Datawarehousing
- ▶ From on-premises to Azure
- ▶ New database

| QUESTIONS

- ▶ Lift and shift or migrate?
- ▶ What Tier should I choose?
- ▶ Within the Tier, what SKU?
- ▶ Can I change between Tiers?
- ▶ Do I need to think about other things?

- ▶ On-premises twice as fast
- ▶ Analyse disk performance, wait stats and use Query Store
- ▶ Change tier and SKU
- ▶ Change ETL process
- ▶ Azure 10% quicker than on-premises
- ▶ Writes slow you down!

A close-up photograph of a person's hands playing a piano. The hands are positioned on the keys, with the right hand higher up and the left hand lower. The person is wearing a yellow, textured sweater. The piano keys are white and black. In the top left corner of the piano, there is a small gold-colored letter 'G'.

Key Performance Indicators

- ▶ VM if you want to transfer your workload to the cloud without any changes
- ▶ MI if you want to transfer your workload to the cloud but want to take some advantages of cloud offerings
- ▶ PaaS if you want all the cloud goodies with the least management overhead

- ▶ Basic
- ▶ Standard
- ▶ Premium
- ▶ General Purpose (serverless or provisioned)
- ▶ Hyperscale
- ▶ Business Critical

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- ▶ Basic
- ▶ Standard
- ▶ Premium
- ▶ General Purpose (serverless (< 183 hours per month) or provisioned)
- ▶ Hyperscale
- ▶ Business Critical

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- ▶ Premium
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Full Recovery Model!!

SKU Differences



| STOCK KEEPING UNIT (SKU'S)

- ▶ DTU's (Database Transaction Units)
- ▶ Cores
- ▶ Minimum number of cores
- ▶ Database sizing
- ▶ TempDB files
- ▶ Storage
- ▶ IOPS (Input Output oPerations)
- ▶ Log Rate
- ▶ Replication
- ▶ Backups

- ▶ Blend of CPU, Memory, reads and writes
- ▶ Calculator: <https://dtucalculator.azurewebsites.net/>
 - Total % Processor Time
 - Total disk reads per second
 - Total disk writes per second
 - Total log bytes flushed per second

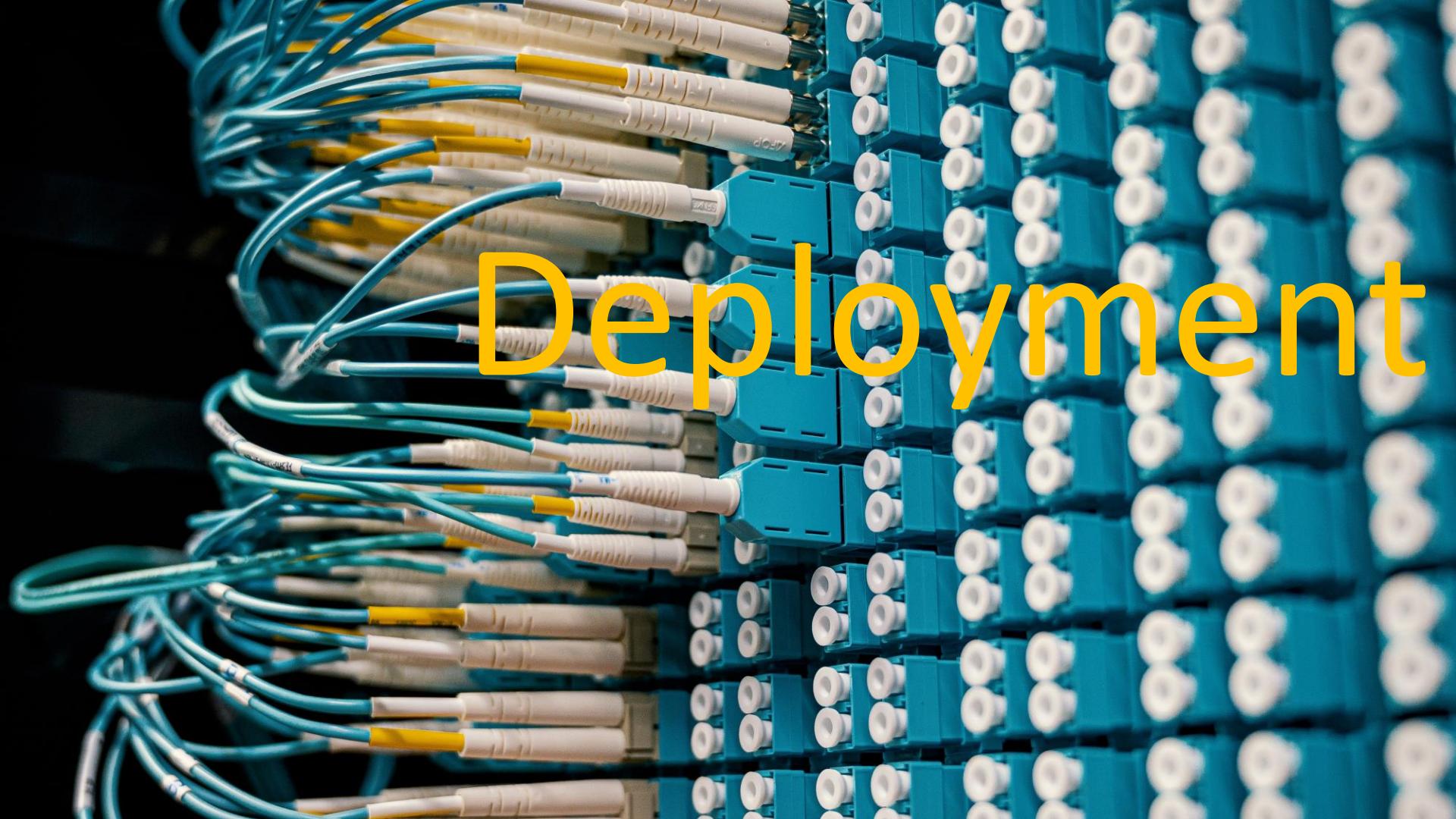
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So, we choose a Tier, choose the SKU and success?

- ▶ Yeah, well... no

- ▶ Start small
- ▶ Keep your KPI in check
- ▶ Keep your budget in check
- ▶ Don't be afraid to experiment
- ▶ Re-evaluate when load or volume changes

A close-up photograph of a network rack. The rack is filled with a dense arrangement of blue and yellow fiber optic cables. These cables are terminated at a series of blue modular connectors, which are mounted on a dark-colored panel. The connectors have white cylindrical ports. The word "Deployment" is overlaid on the image in a large, bold, yellow sans-serif font.

Deployment

- ▶ Connectivity
- ▶ Public or Private Endpoint
- ▶ Network and Firewall
- ▶ Duration

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Feedback

Public access Private access **Connectivity**

Outbound networking

Restrict network access to a specific set of resources by supplying their fully-qualified domain names. [Learn more](#)

Restrict outbound networking

Restrictions disabled.

[Configure outbound networking restrictions](#)

Connection Policy

Configure how clients communicate with your SQL database server. [Learn more](#)

Connection policy

- Default - Uses Redirect policy for all client connections originating inside of Azure and Proxy for all client connections originating outside Azure
- Proxy - All connections are proxied via the Azure SQL Database gateways
- Redirect - Clients establish connections directly to the node hosting the database

Encryption in transit

This server supports encrypted connections using Transport Layer Connections (TLS). Any login attempts from clients using a TLS version less than the Minimum TLS Version shall be rejected. For more

Minimum TLS version

TLS 1.0

- ▶ Connectivity
- ▶ Public or Private Endpoint
- ▶ Network and Firewall
- ▶ Duration

Security



- ▶ Azure AD Administratorsgroup
- ▶ Azure AD Usergroup(s)
- ▶ SQL Accounts
- ▶ Outbound Firewall settings (data exfiltration)

Where to look

Where to start
What to look out for



- ▶ Read the documentation
- ▶ Create a script
- ▶ Run it for baseline
- ▶ Run it against the Azure offerings
- ▶ Read the documentation



- ▶ Hardware check
- ▶ Insert
- ▶ Select
- ▶ Delete
- ▶ Update
- ▶ SqlStress to (over)load the database
- ▶ Databases as-is, no configuration or tuning

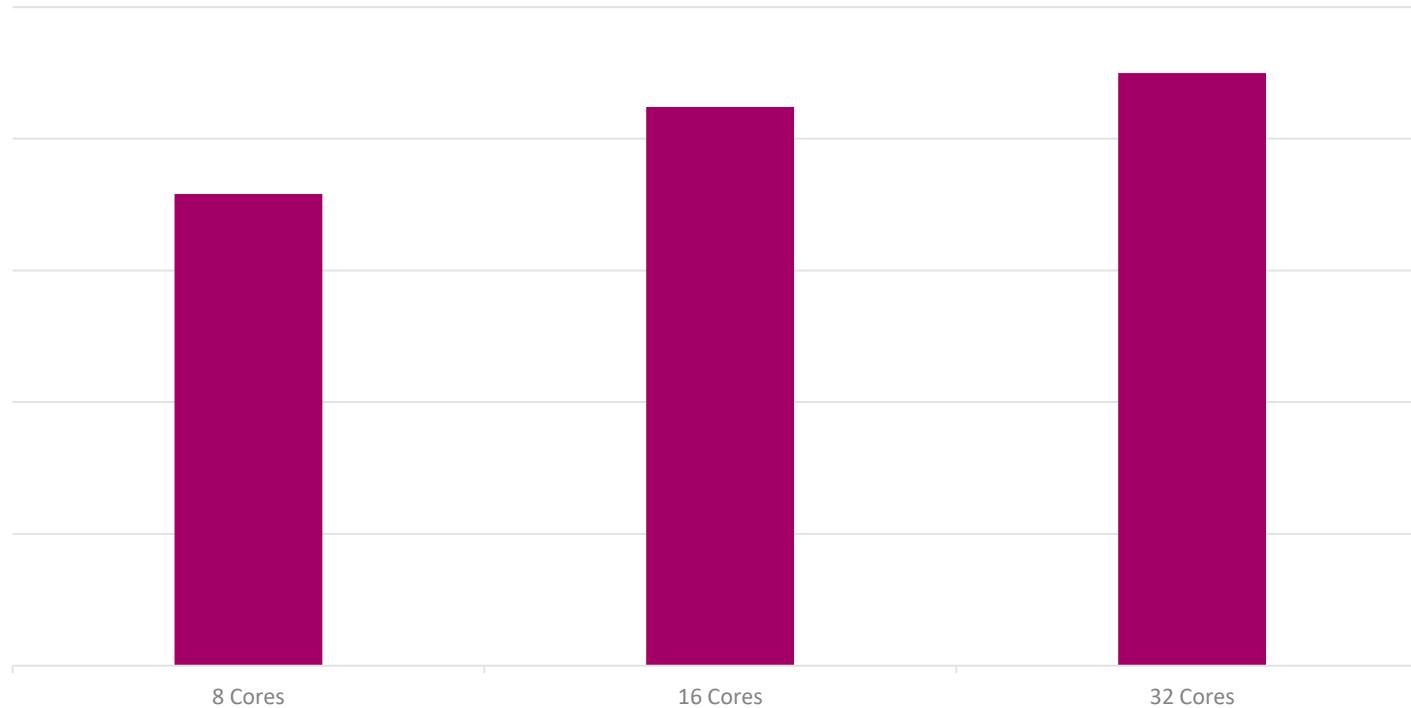
| RESULTS!

- ▶ 8, 16 and 32 core environments
- ▶ Per query graphs

INSERT PERFORMANCE

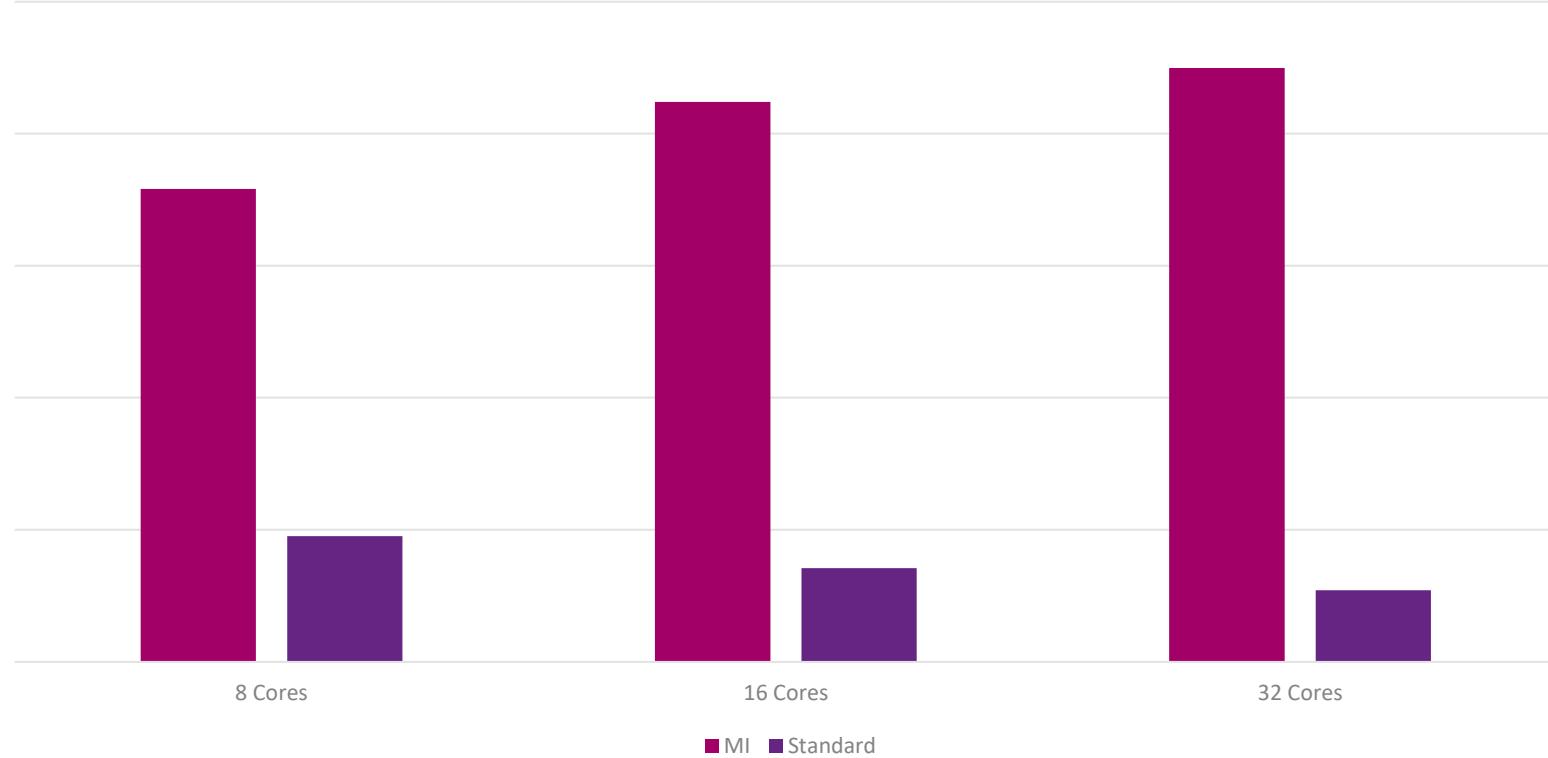
MI Insert duration 1.000.000 rows

Time

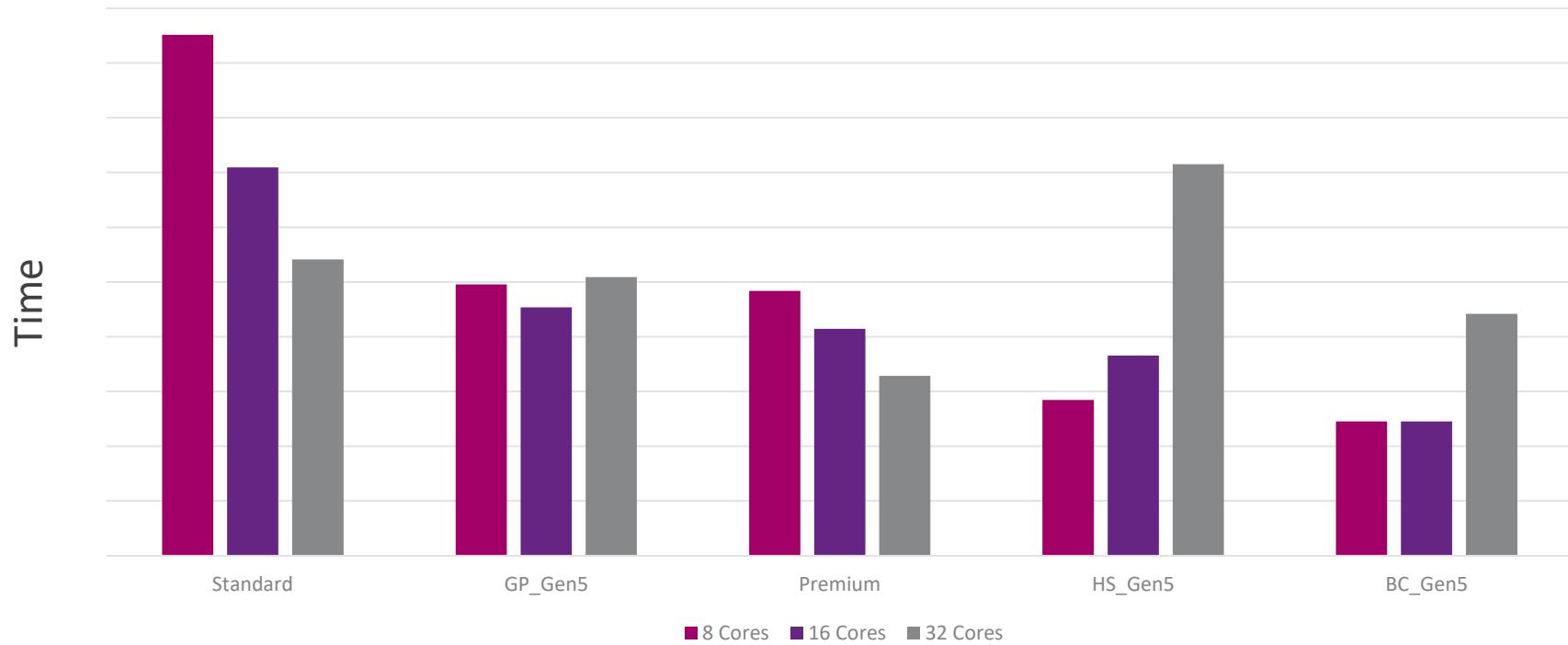


MI and Standard Insert duration 1.000.000 rows

Time



Duration insert 1.000.000 rows



MI Duration Select 30.000 rows

Time

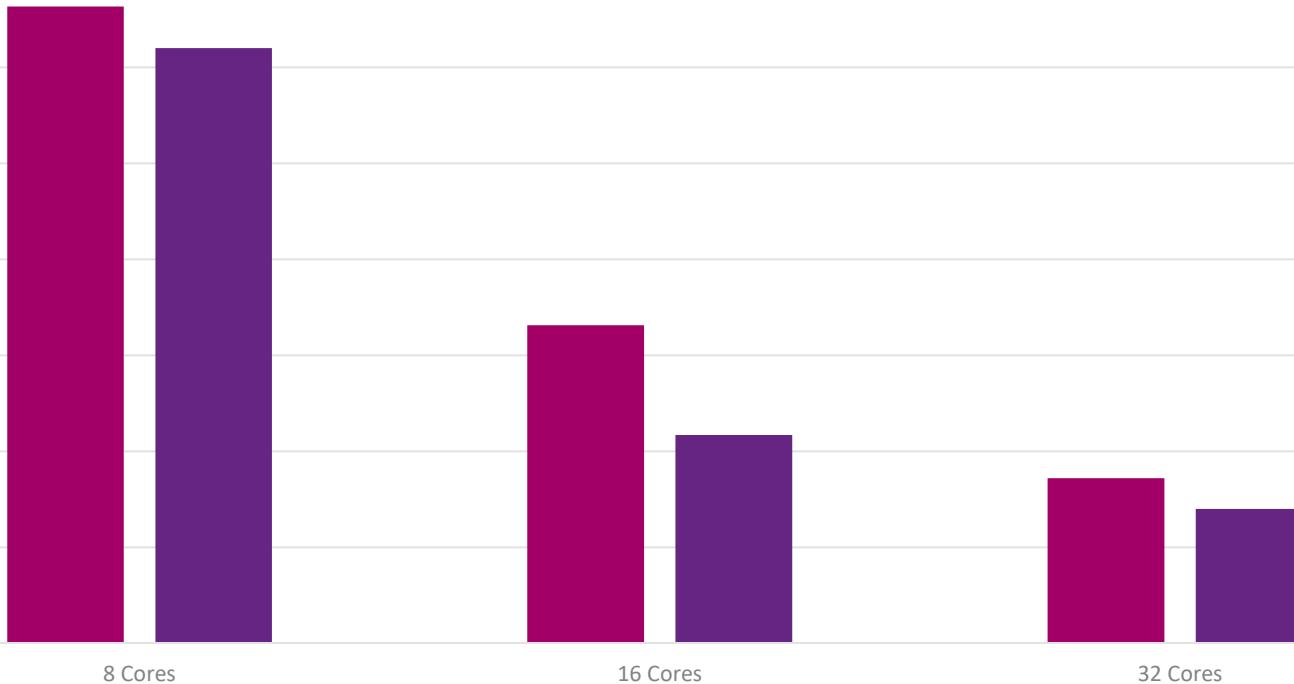


16 Cores

32 Cores

MI and Standard Duration Select 30.000 rows

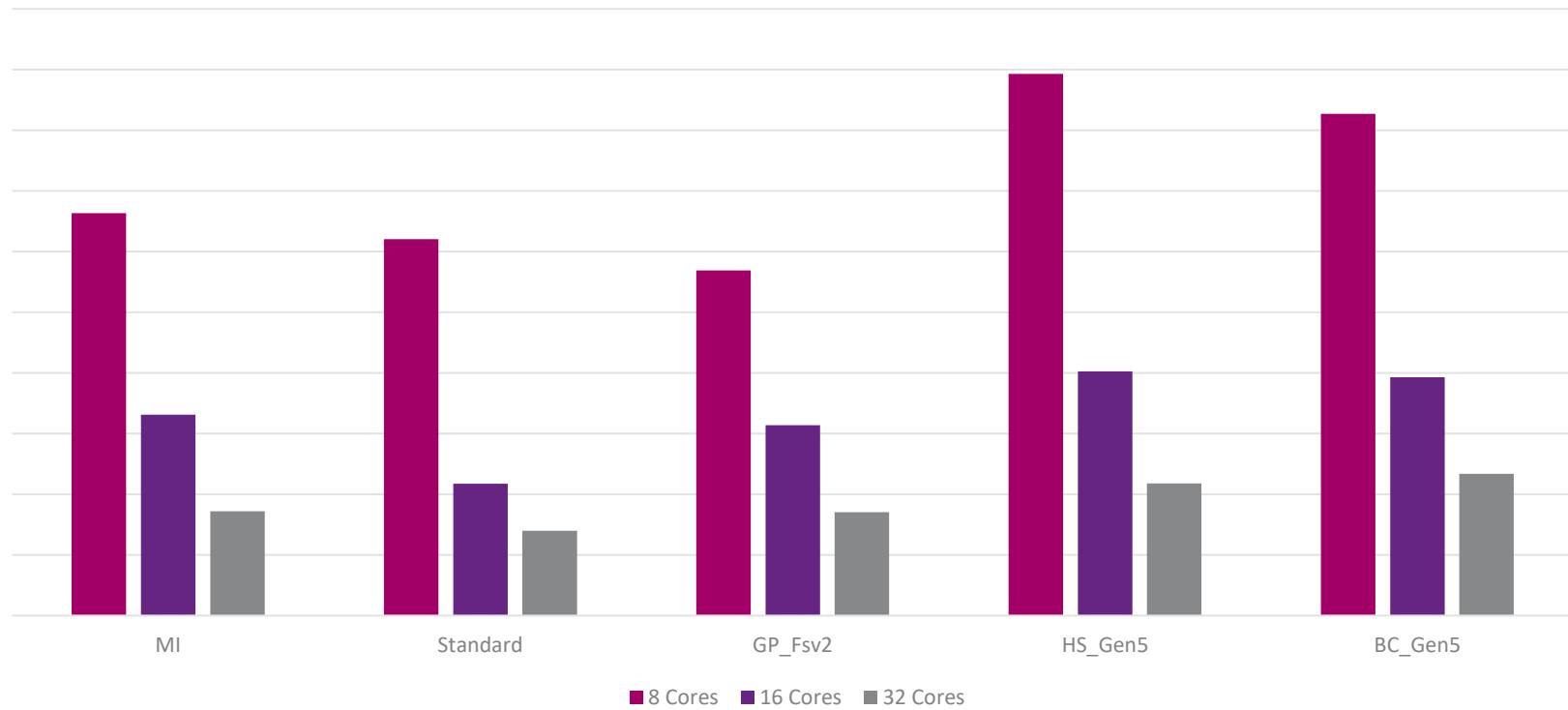
Time



■ MI ■ Standard

Duration Select 30,000 rows

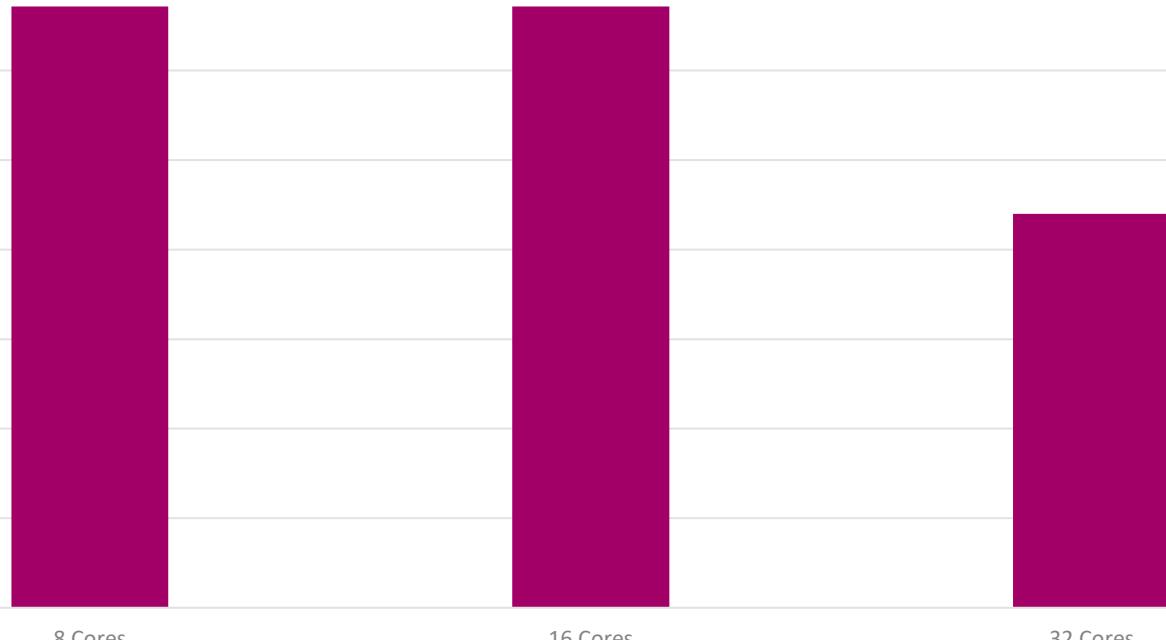
Time



UPDATE AND DELETE PERFORMANCE

MI Duration 300.000 rows

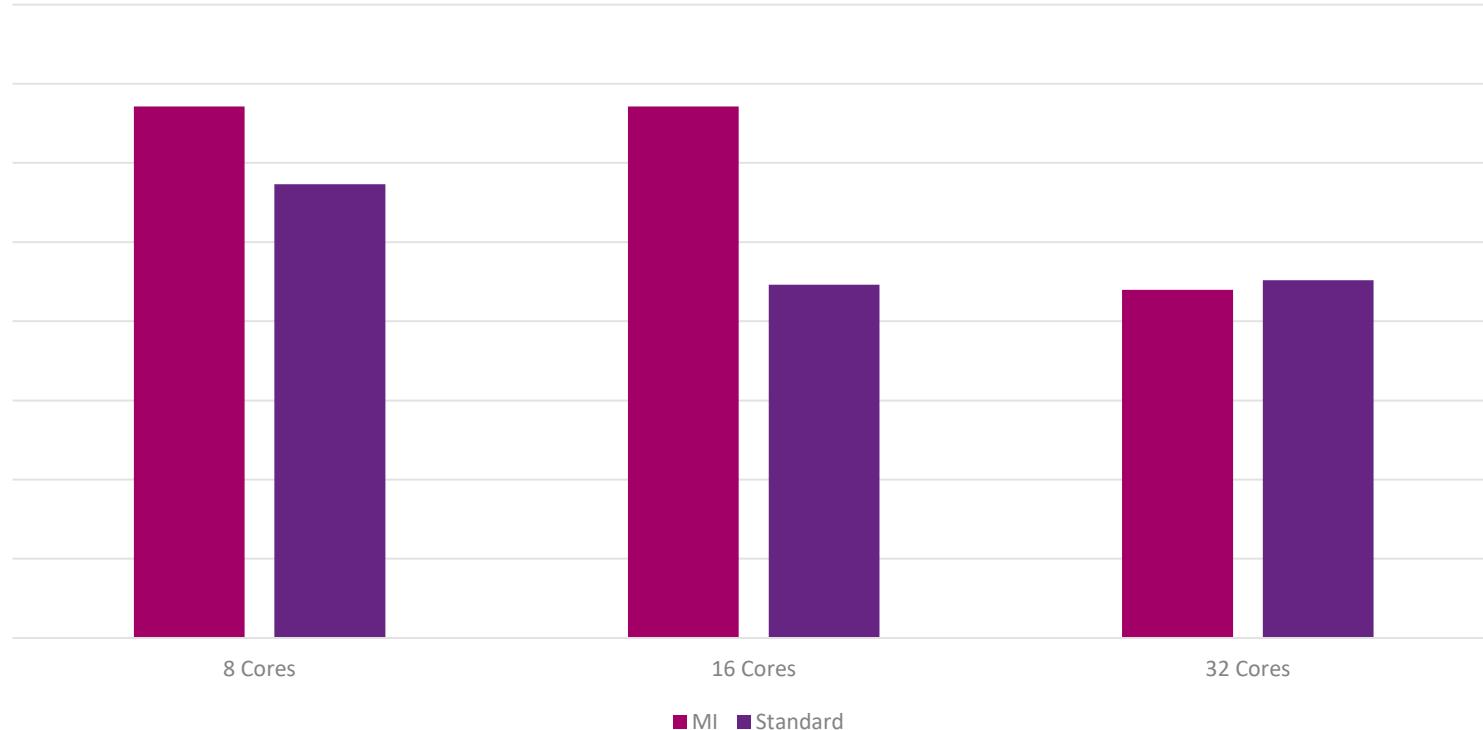
Time



UPDATE AND DELETE PERFORMANCE

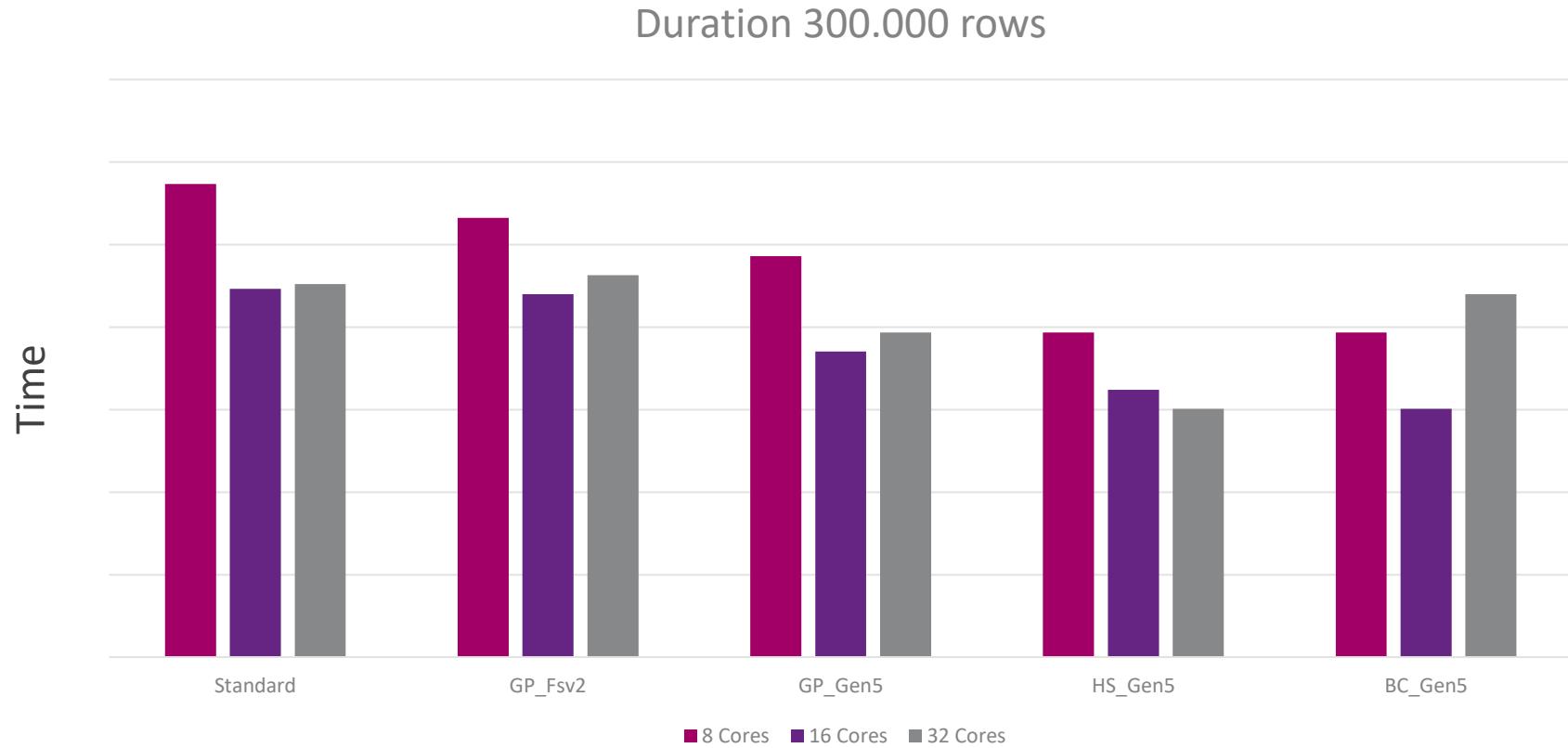
MI and Standard Duration 300.000 rows

Time

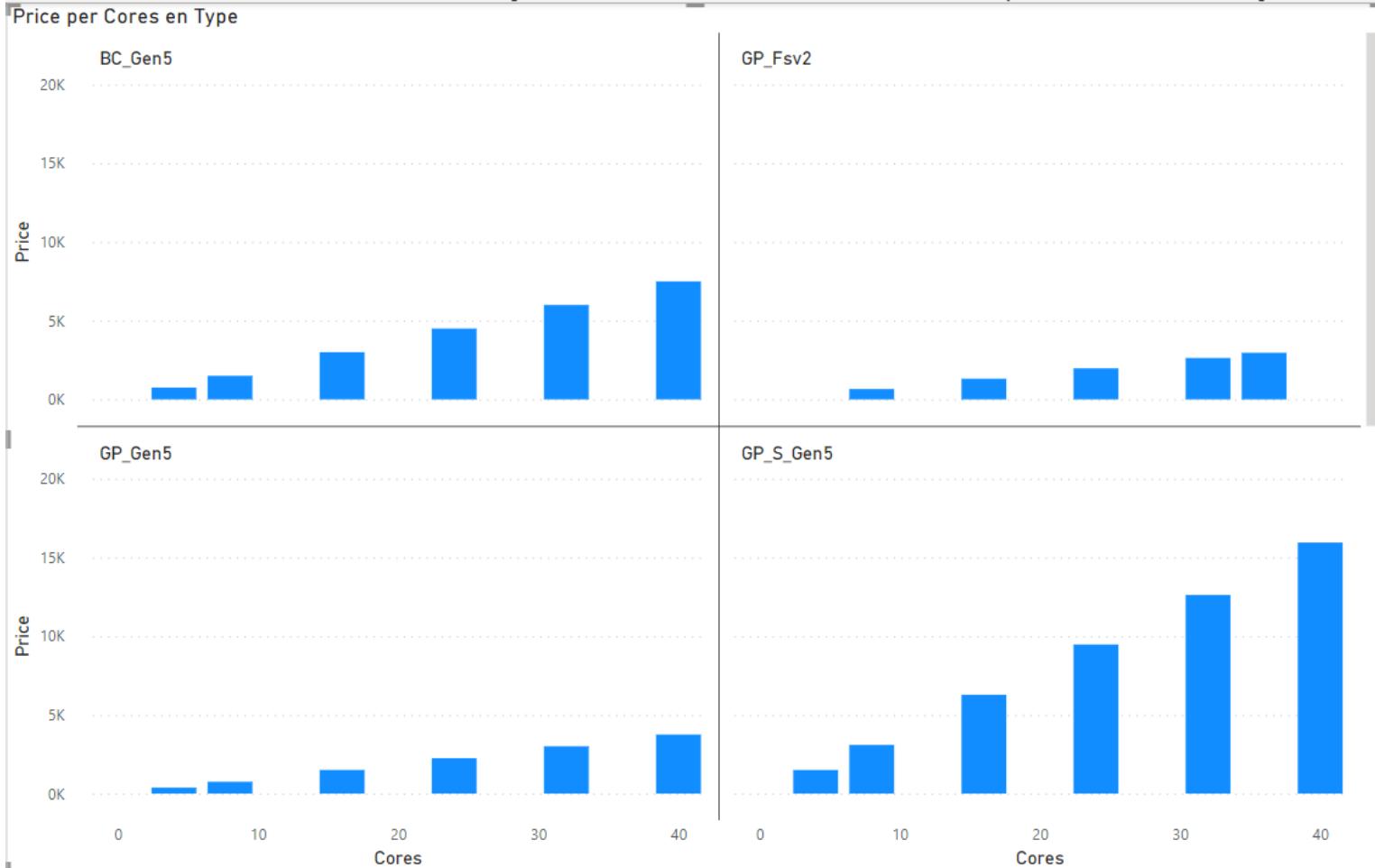


■ MI ■ Standard

UPDATE AND DELETE PERFORMANCE

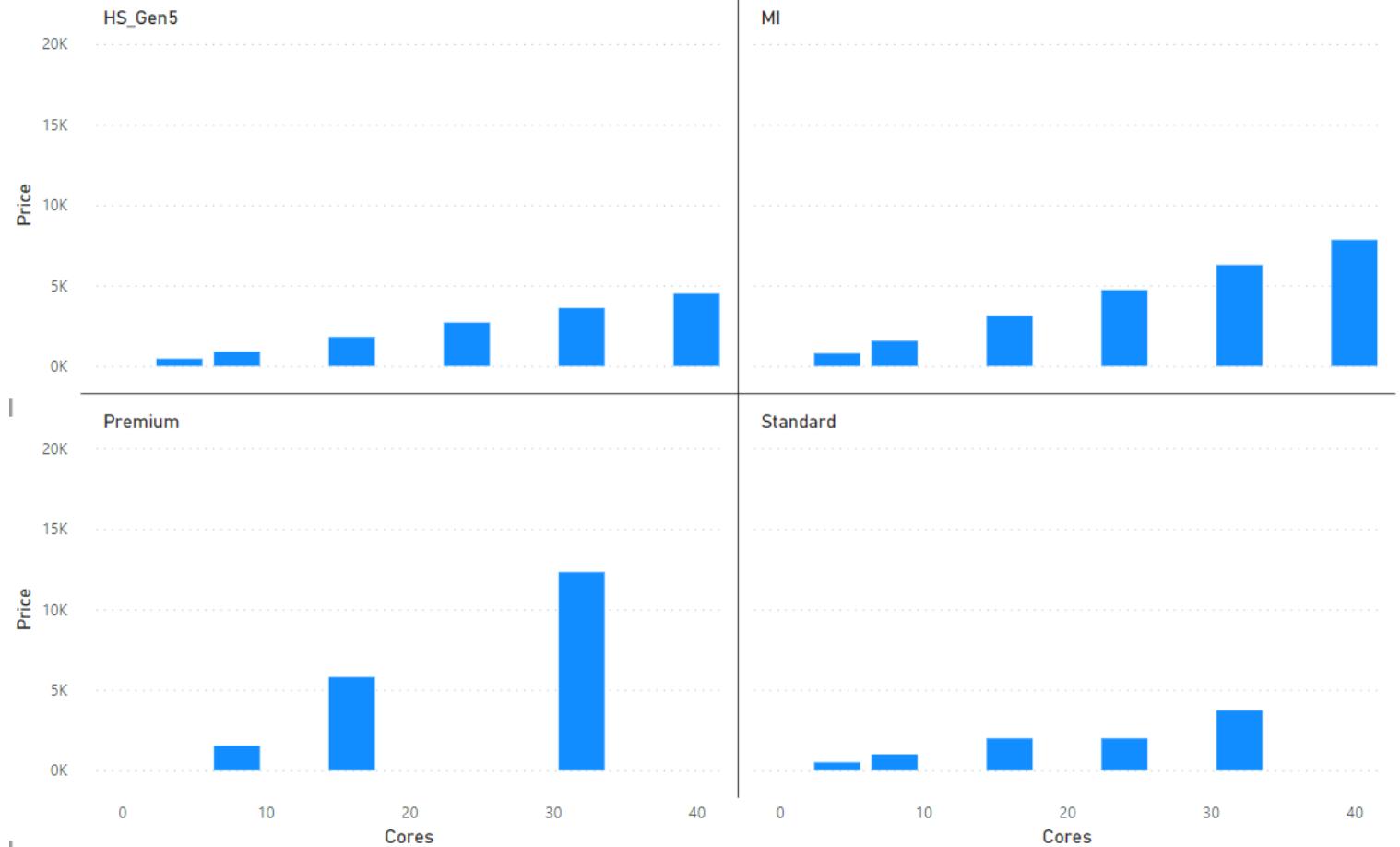


PRICING



PRICING

Price per Cores en Type



| WAIT STATS

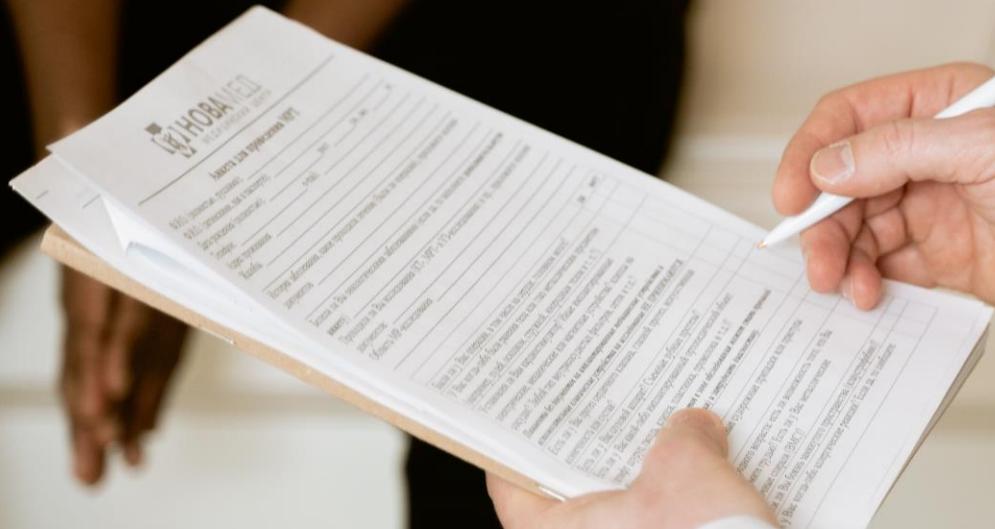
- ▶ Write log
- ▶ Resource Governor
- ▶ IO Queue limit
- ▶ Sos Scheduler Yield
- ▶ Backup IO
- ▶ Page Latch
- ▶ Latch
- ▶ CXPacket
- ▶ Hadr fabric callback

| LIMITATIONS

- ▶ <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-sql/database/resource-limits-vcore-single-databases?view=azuresql>

- ▶ <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-sql/database/resource-limits-dtu-single-databases?view=azuresql>

Concluding



MAIN POINTS

- ▶ If you have intermittent workloads, start with standard or serverless
- ▶ If you have a continuous workload, or at least more than 25% of the time, go provisioned
- ▶ If you need speed, go hyperscale or business critical
- ▶ If you need large databases (over 40 TB), go hyperscale
- ▶ If you have legacy stuff, go either managed instance or use a VM.

TEST





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<https://github.com/reitse/Speaking>

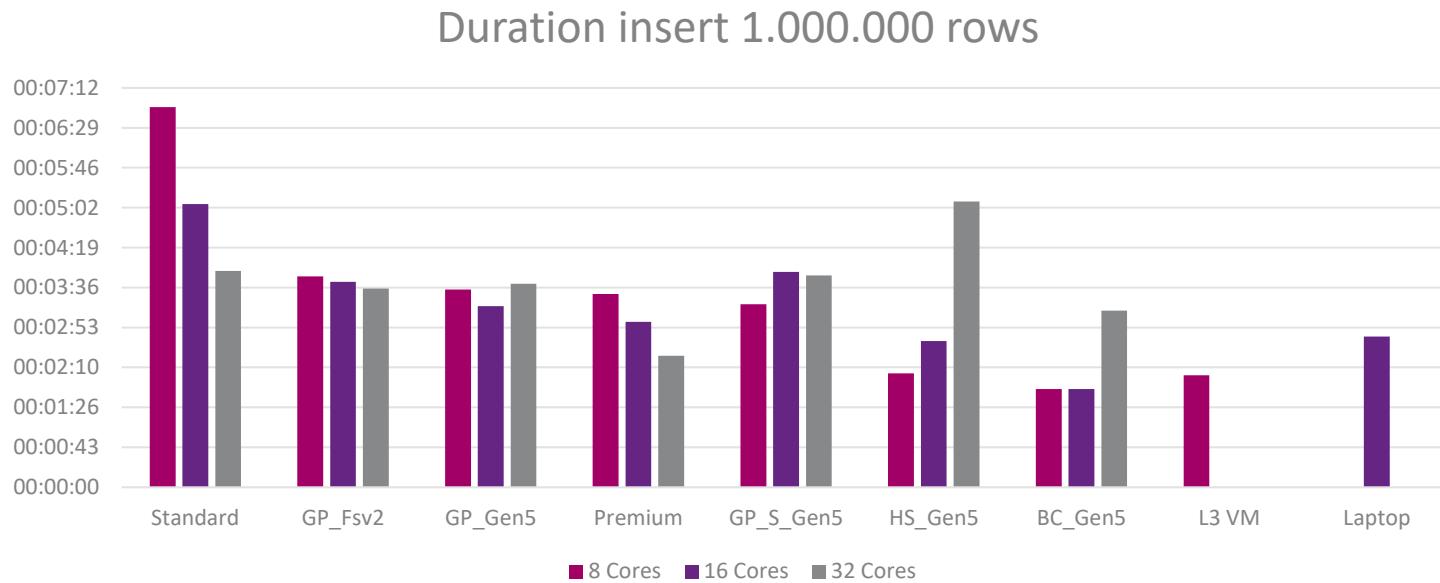
@2meterDBA

Thank you!

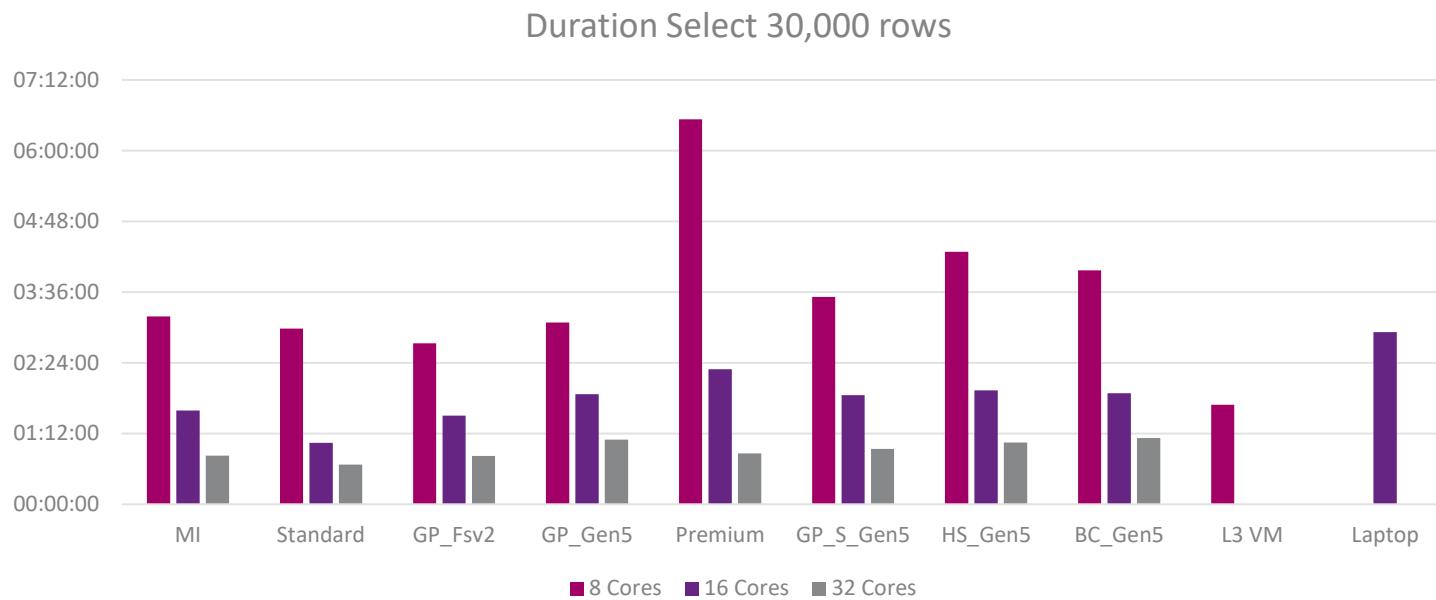
Session Feedback



https://bit.ly/dMC2022_SessionFeedback

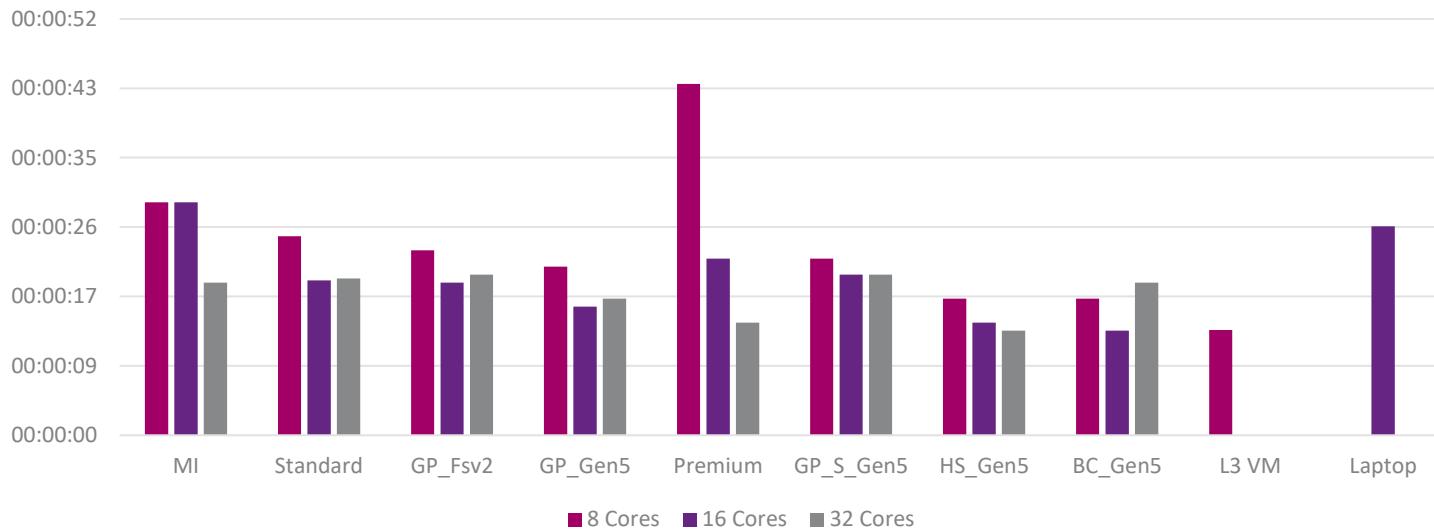


SELECT PERFORMANCE



UPDATE PERFORMANCE

Duration Update 300,000 rows



DELETE PERFORMANCE

