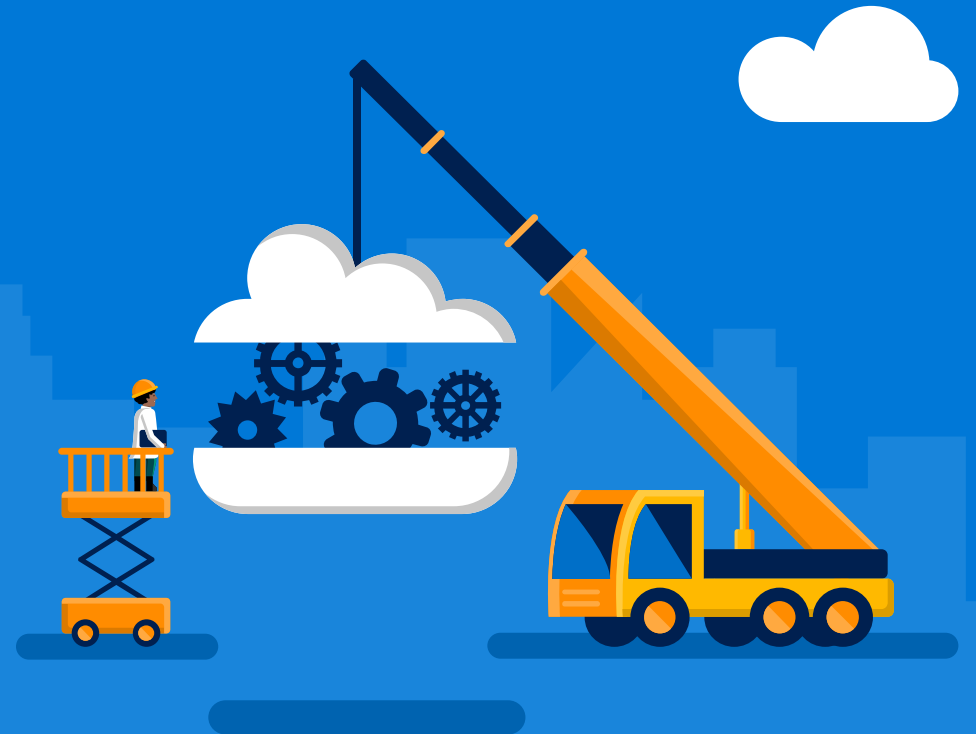




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SAIIK: PaaS v IaaS

Navigating the Decision Tree: Azure SQL vs SQL Server in a VM

Shawn Weisfeld



About Me



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SQL Server on Azure IaaS Implementation Kit

aka "SAIIK"

Brian Hitney, Peter Laudati, Keith Mayer, Bart Czernicki

[Azure Technical Architects](#)

Microsoft US DX ISV Team

SAIIK: PaaS v IaaS

Navigating the Decision Tree: Azure SQL vs SQL Server in a VM

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SAIIK: SQL Server on Azure IaaS Implementation Kit

Agenda & Goals

- PaaS vs IaaS
- Review pre-planning elements
- Understand Availability Requirements
- Understand relational database options in Azure
- Takeaway: What database type in Azure should I use?

Cloud Computing Jargon



IaaS

Infrastructure-as-a-Service

host



PaaS

Platform-as-a-Service

build



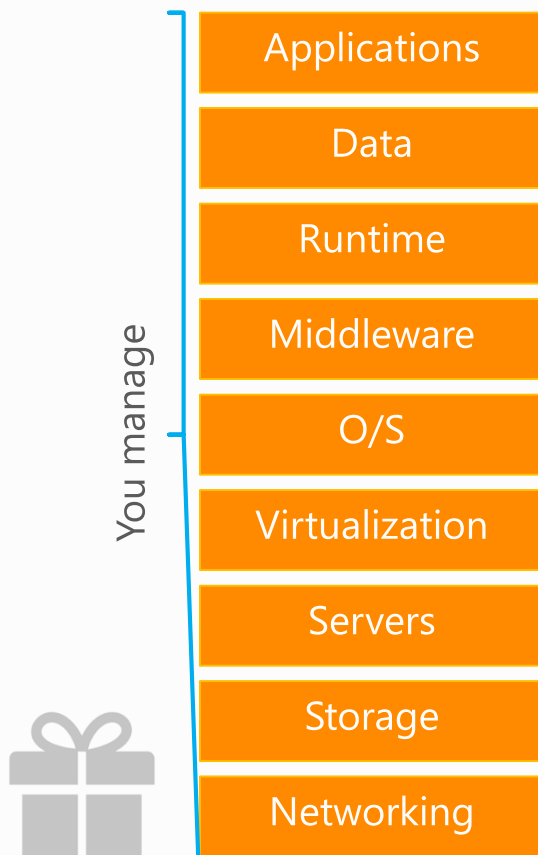
SaaS

Software-as-a-Service

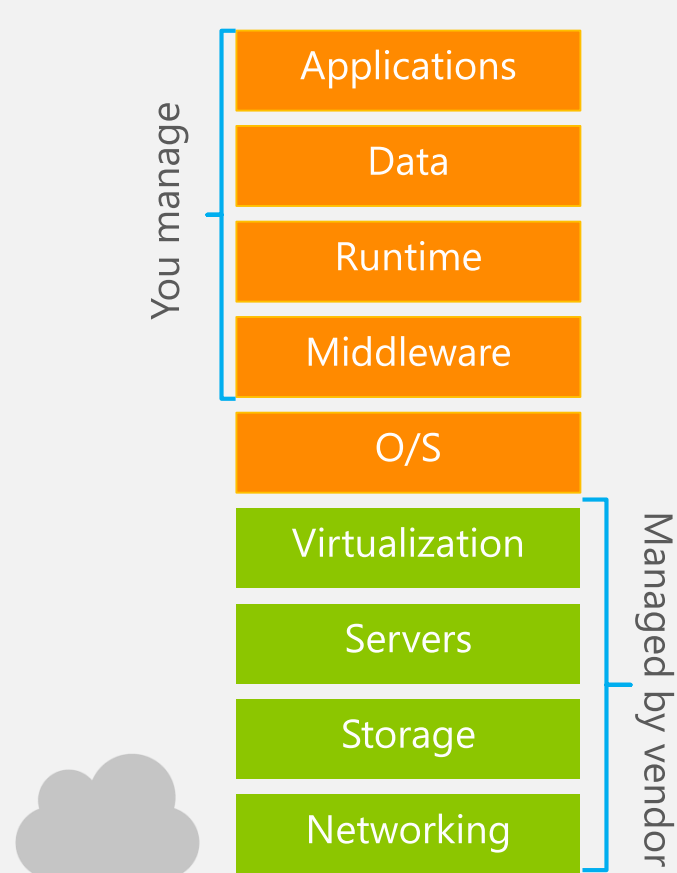
consume

Defining these things...

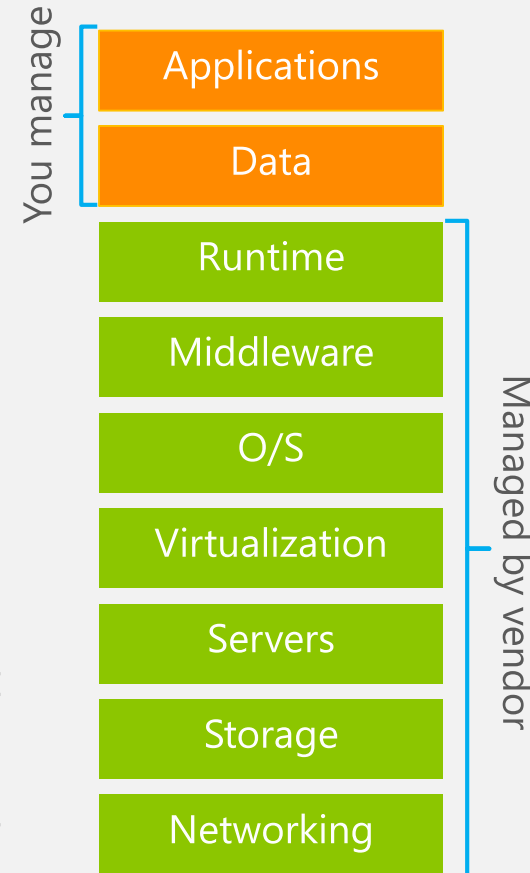
On Premises



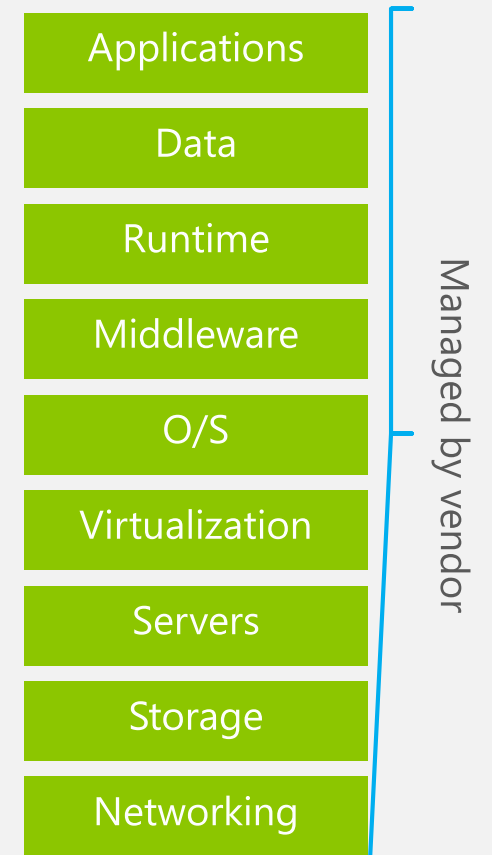
Infrastructure (as a Service)



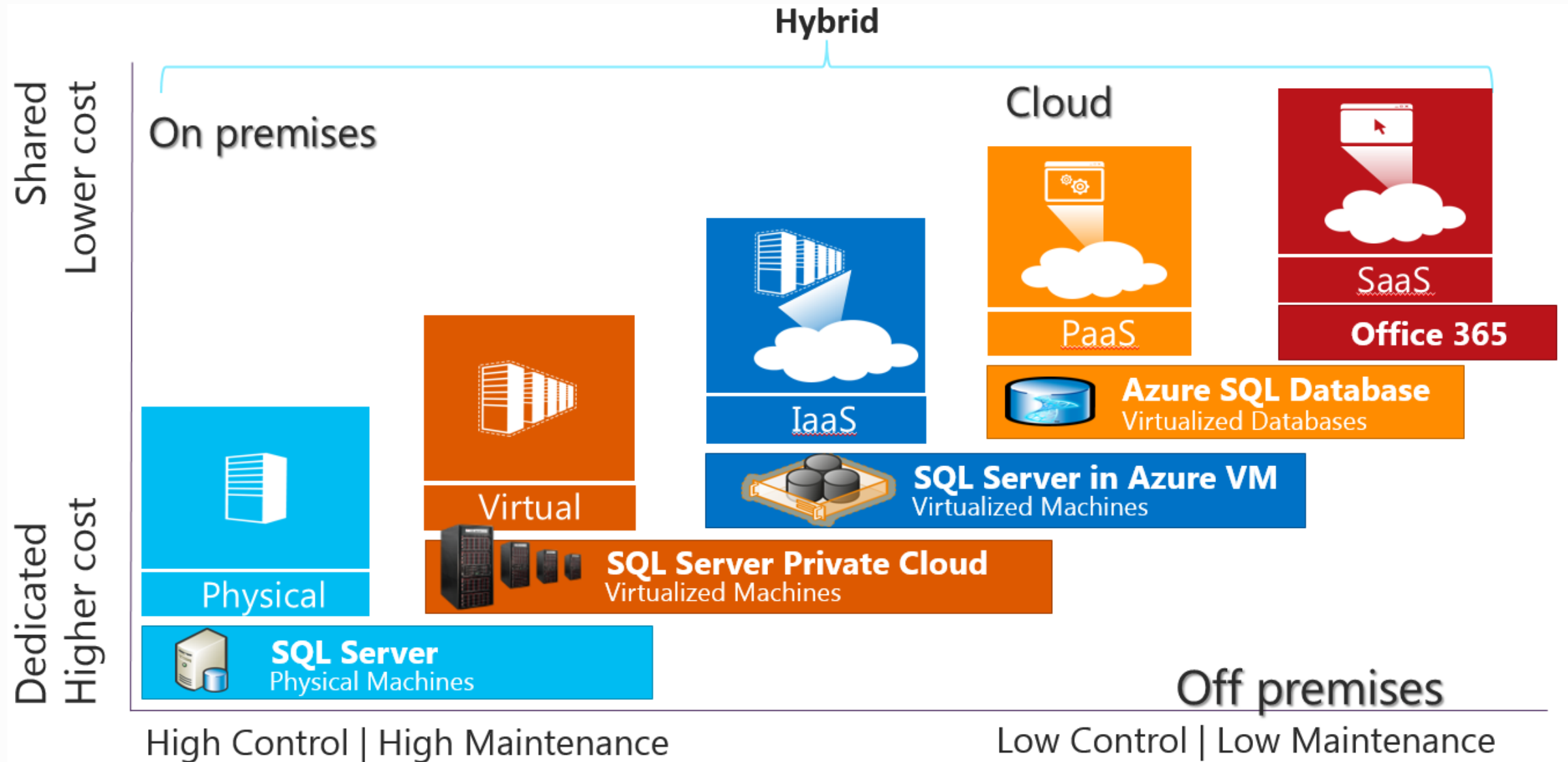
Platform (as a Service)



Software (as a Service)

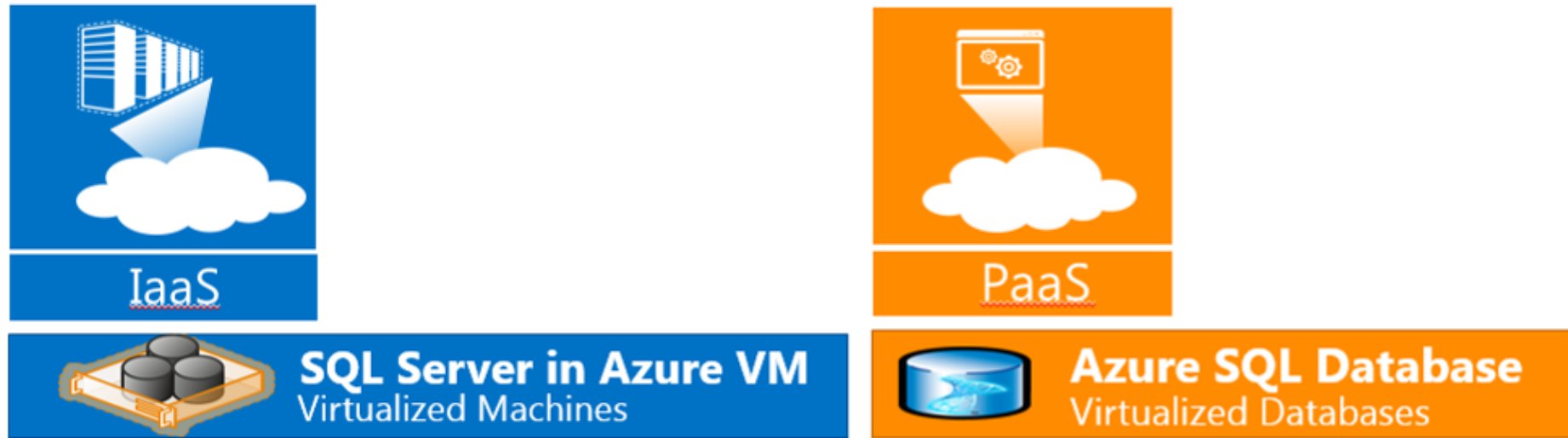


SQL Server Cloud Continuum



SQL Server Cloud Continuum

Cloud



High control | High maintenance

Low control | Low maintenance

Azure: The Power Of Choice

Which one do I choose?



The classic Microsoft answer...

It Depends!



So let's navigate this decision
tree together...

Enough about Azure, let's talk about YOU!

- Do you have a Database Administrator (DBA)?



Enough about Azure, let's talk about YOU!

What are you trying to do?

- Are you creating a database to support a new application?
- Are you moving an existing database workload to the cloud?
- Do you need to access on-premises resources?
- Do you need a customized IT environment with full admin rights?
- Are you looking to keep secondary database replicas in the cloud for disaster recovery?

Enough about Azure, let's talk about YOU!

What is *your* database's profile?

- Current resource utilization
- CPU/Memory/Networking/Disk
- Size & structure of database
- Single or multi-tenant
- Few large DBs or multiple small DBs
- What is your app's current data access layer like?
 - Tightly coupled?
 - Retry logic?
 - Transient fault handling?

Enough about Azure, let's talk about YOU!

What are your Availability Requirements?

- How much downtime can you afford?
- Do you offer your users an SLA?
- Do you have maintenance windows?
- What are your RPO and RTO goals?

Defining High Availability & Disaster Recovery in Azure

Defining (High) Availability

within Azure


- Most Azure services have a Service Level Agreement (SLA)
- SLAs define availability within a region/datacenter
- “High”* - an adjective most of us apply to the availability of a service backed by an SLA.

* - The presenter is not a lawyer and is merely offering a human friendly translation ☺

Defining Disaster Recovery

within Azure

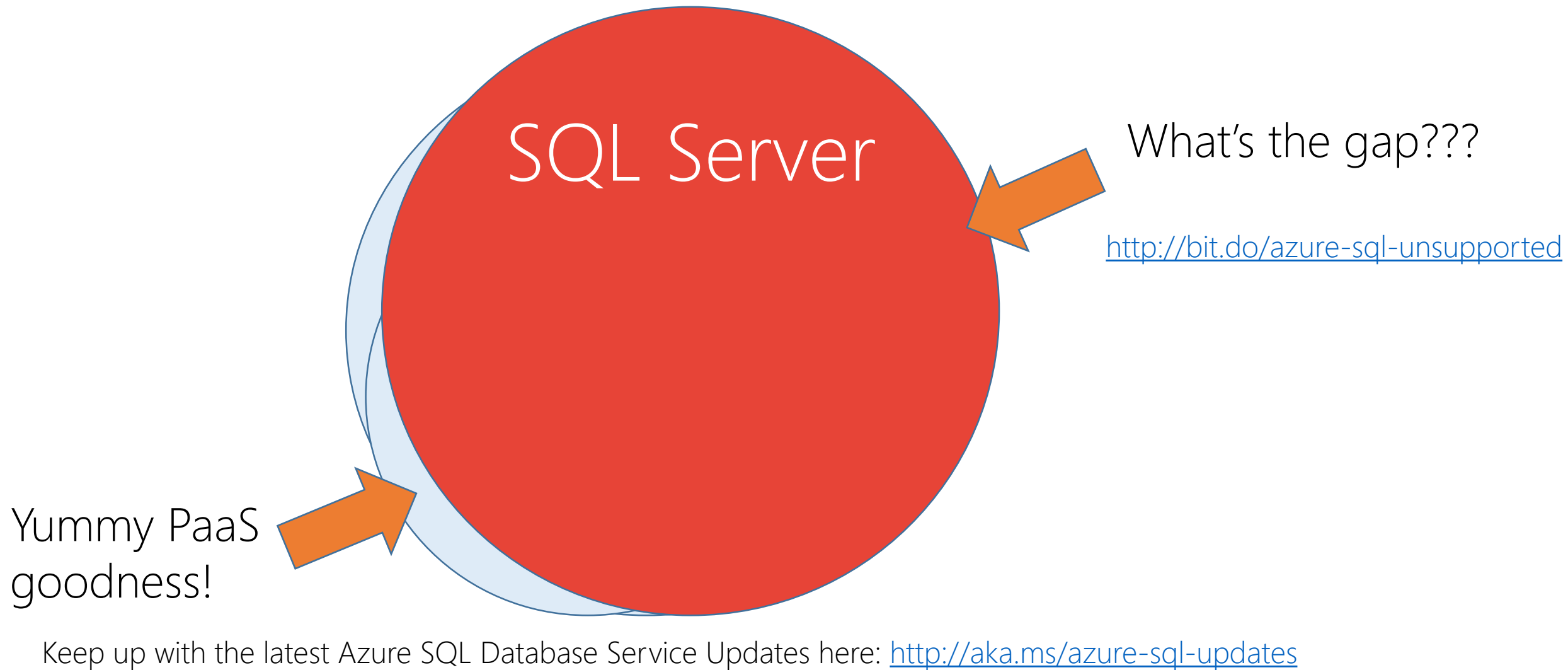
- Disaster recovery is being able to recover your application into another Azure datacenter
- Keywords:
 - RTO: Recovery Time Objective
 - RPO: Recovery Point Objective
- Options range from:
 - Active deployment in one datacenter, with backups stored in 2nd datacenter
 - Active/Passive deployment in multiple datacenters
 - Complete active/active deployment in multiple datacenters

Azure  Database

VS.



Azure SQL Database vs SQL Server



Azure SQL Database

The “easy” way...

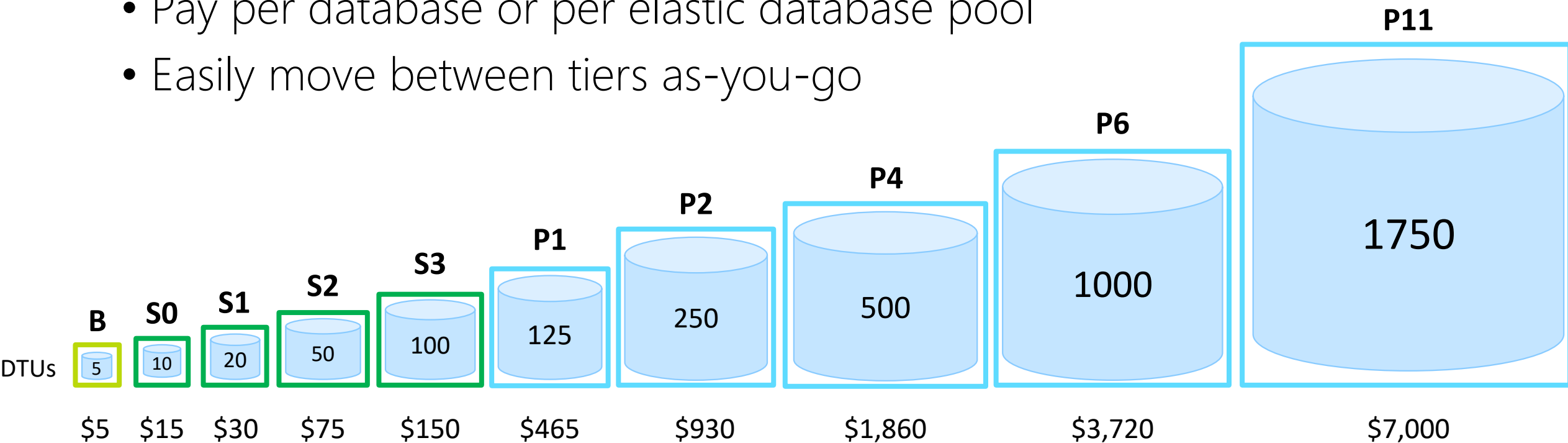
- Provision a database in the portal
- Connect with existing SQL tools
- Migrate your schema and data to the cloud!
- High Availability built in by default
- Disaster Recovery available as a “check in the box” via Active Geo-Replication
 - RTO – max time interval of database service uptime (can be as low as ~30s)
 - RPO – max time interval of lost database transactions (can be as low as 5s)



Azure SQL Database

Billing: A new way to pay!

- Pay-by-performance-level
 - Introducing the DTU (database throughput unit)
 - DTU Calculator: <http://aka.ms/dtucalculator>
- Pay per database or per elastic database pool
- Easily move between tiers as-you-go



Azure SQL Database

Take the off ramp now and get started with more information...

- See Ben Tabor's overview & Microsoft Virtual Academy Course:
 - <http://aka.ms/azure-sql-mva>
- Get Started: SQL Migration Cookbook:
 - <http://aka.ms/SQLMigrationCookbook>



SQL Server in an Azure VM

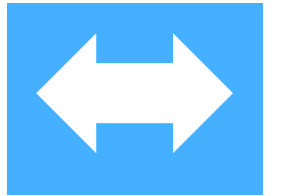
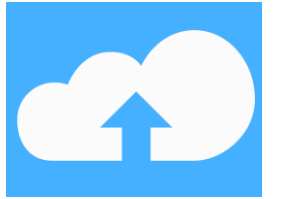
The "Other" way...

- Know what you are getting yourself into
- You will want to have a DBA on hand!!!
- Design and plan your infrastructure, high availability, & disaster recovery
- Install and manage Azure Windows VMs
- Install and manage the SQL Server software
- Migrate your data to the cloud!
- High availability & disaster recovery are YOUR responsibility

SQL Server in an Azure VM

Lots of flexibility...

- Choose your version of SQL Server
 - Azure Marketplace gallery images or your own images
 - SQL 2008R2, 2012, 2014, 2016 (Preview)
 - Web, Standard, or Enterprise Editions
- Elasticity
 - 1 core / 2GB Mem / 1 TB → 32 cores / 512GB mem / 32TB
- Infrastructure & SQL Security
 - Deployments are isolated in their own private networks
 - Encryption of Databases and Backups, Integrated with Azure Key Vault
 - Client Authentication (SQL/Windows)
 - Accessible via RDP & PowerShell



SQL Server in an Azure VM

Storage

- Standard Storage (spindle based)
 - 500 iops/disk
 - Can be virtually striped up to 8,000 iops
 - Pay-as-you-go (PAYG) – Not for allocated storage
- Premium Storage (SSD based)
 - 5000 iops/disk
 - Can be virtually striped up to 80,000 iops
 - Pay for allocated storage

SQL Server in an Azure VM

Maintaining Availability (and protecting your job)

- High Availability Options
 - Always On Availability Groups
 - Failover Cluster Instances (via 3rd party tools)
- Disaster Recovery Options
 - Always On Availability Groups
 - Database Mirroring
 - Backup and restore with storage blobs
 - Log shipping (hybrid scenarios only)

Understanding Azure VM Availability

Understanding Azure VM Availability

Single VM

- Azure provides data durability, but no uptime SLA
- Subject to un-planned maintenance events due to physical failures
 - If VM becomes unavailable, Azure migrates VM and restarts in another host
 - ~15 minutes to complete this process
- Subject to planned maintenance events due to host OS servicing
 - All VMs on host are shut down.
 - Host OS is serviced and rebooted
 - All VMs on host are restarted
 - ~15 minutes to complete this process
 - 7 days notice of maintenance window provided to VM owner

Understanding Azure VM Availability

2 or more Azure VMs

- Multiple VMs can be configured in an “availability set”
 - 2 or more VMs on separate fault domains
 - Workload typically load balanced across the VMs
- Azure SLA: 2 (or more) VMs in Availability Set:
 - 99.95% (<22 min downtime/month)
 - Includes
 - Unplanned downtime due to physical failures
 - Planned downtime due to host OS servicing
 - Doesn't include servicing of guest OS or software inside (e.g. SQL)
- For more info, see:
 - <http://aka.ms/vm-availability>
 - <http://aka.ms/planned-maintenance>

SQL Server in an Azure VM

High Availability Options

- Failover Cluster Instances
 - via Azure File Service? Not yet.
 - via 3rd party SIOS DataKeeper
- Always On Availability Groups
 - If one SQL VM becomes unavailable, SQL fails over to another VM: ~20s
 - SQL Enterprise only
 - Basic Always On Availability Groups coming in SQL Standard 2016

SQL Server in an Azure VM

Disaster Recovery Options

- Always On Availability Groups (SQL Enterprise only)
- Database mirroring
- Backup and restore with storage blobs
- Log shipping (hybrid scenarios only)

SQL Server in an Azure VM

Billing: How do you pay for this?

- PAYG – Pay-as-you-go
 - VM hourly rate includes Windows + SQL Server license cost
 - Cost depends on VM size
 - Must pay for SQL Server on all nodes (active & passive)
- PAYG + BYOL (bring-your-own-license)
 - Must have Software Assurance
 - VM hourly rate includes only Windows VM
 - Passive node included “for free” with BYOL license
 - Most cost effective for long running SQL workloads (>6 months)

SQL Server in an Azure VM

Billing: How much will this cost?

- Cost = Windows VM + SQL + Storage + Outgoing Bandwidth
- Running a SQL environment with HA & DR uses a lot of resources!!!



SQL Server in an Azure VM

Billing: Lessons learned

- Manage your instances carefully!
- Use your MSDN subscription to save costs
 - SQL license is included/free
 - VMs are Linux costs

SQL Server in Azure VM & Azure SQL Database

In summary: Which one to use?

SQL Server in Azure VM

Need a specific version of SQL Server or Windows

Need instance-level SQL features (e.g. Agent Job, Linked Servers, DTC)

Ok configuring/managing SQL Server and Windows (patching, high availability, backups)

Great for migrating existing apps

Azure SQL Database

Don't need a specific version of SQL Server or Windows

Don't need instance-level SQL features

Don't want to configure and manage SQL Server or Windows

Great for new apps

Many customers use both

SQL Server in Azure VM & Azure SQL Database

Recap

SQL Server in Azure VM

You access a VM with SQL Server installed

You manage SQL Server and Windows (patching, high availability, backups)

You select the SQL Server and Windows version and edition

Different VM sizes: A0 (1 core, 1GB mem, 100GB) to G5 (32 cores, 512GB mem, 32TB)

VM availability SLA: 99.95% (No SQL SLA)

Azure SQL Database

You access a database

Database is fully managed

Runs latest SQL Server version with Enterprise edition

Different DB sizes: Basic (2GB, 5tps) to Premium (500GB, 735tps)

DB availability SLA: 99.99%

What's Next?

- If you want to use Azure SQL Database, get started with the existing resources: <http://aka.ms/azure-sql-database>
- If you want to use SQL Server in Azure VMs, continue on to our next module, "SAIHK: High Availability with SQL Server 2014 in Azure: Always On Availability Groups"
 - <http://aka.ms/SAIHK>

Q&A



Questions...

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(case sensitive)

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 - Blog: <http://www.shawnweisfeld.com>
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