

Cloud Native MongoDB: building a scalable infrastructure with Open Source components



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Athens, Greece 2023

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Agenda

- I. Cloud Native
- II. Cloud Native MongoDB Options
 - A. Proprietary
 - B. Open
- III. Comparing Proprietary vs. Open Source
- IV. Conclusions





MongoDB?

Why?

- Natively web-scale ready
- Built in resilience, High Availability
- Low entry barrier for development & installation
- NoSQL

Is everything perfect?

Relied on open source components

Initially open source itself

“Source-Available” now

SSPL means MongoDB being the Single Public DBaaS provider

Cloud Native MongoDB Options



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Cloud Native Definition

Source: <https://github.com/cncf/toc/blob/main/DEFINITION.md>

Cloud native technologies empower organizations to build and run scalable applications in modern, dynamic environments such as public, private, and hybrid clouds. Containers, service meshes, microservices, immutable infrastructure, and declarative APIs exemplify this approach.

These techniques enable loosely coupled systems that are resilient, manageable, and observable. Combined with robust automation, they allow engineers to make high-impact changes frequently and predictably with minimal toil.



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The proprietary way



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MongoDB, Inc.

Atlas

What?

Fully Managed
Database as a Service
(DBaaS)

MongoDB Enterprise
Features and more

Strengths

- Great UX!
- Pay-as-you go
- Cloud resources *seem* virtually unlimited
- Available in *major* Public Clouds
 - AWS, Azure, GCP

Traps?

Scaling Granularity

Couple of sizes fit all!

MongoDB Atlas, 3-node RS, AWS eu-west-1

M40	16 GB	80 GB	4 vCPUs	from \$1.15/hr
M50	32 GB	160 GB	8 vCPUs	from \$2.20/hr
M60	64 GB	320 GB	16 vCPUs	from \$4.36/hr
M80	128 GB	750 GB	32 vCPUs	from \$8.06/hr
M140	192 GB	1000 GB	48 vCPUs	from \$12.13/hr
M200	256 GB	1500 GB	64 vCPUs	from \$16.10/hr
M300	384 GB	2000 GB	96 vCPUs	from \$24.11/hr
M400	512 GB	3000 GB	64 vCPUs	from \$24.73/hr
M700	768 GB	4096 GB	96 vCPUs	from \$36.73/hr

Scaling up:

- Only 10 production-grade tiers
- Any upgrade costs double
- Limited options available

M50 \$2.20/h = **\$19,272/year**

M60 \$4.36/hr = **\$38,193.6/year**



Flexibility

lack of

What?

How?

Autoscaling

Scale Up

Avg. CPU Util > 75% for past 1h

Avg. Mem > 75% for past 1h

Next highest cluster tier

Scale down

Avg. Util. < 50% for the past 24h*

**<https://www.mongodb.com/docs/atlas/cluster-autoscaling/>*

Topology

No arbiter nodes

No single node dev clusters

Uniform offering

AWS, Azure, GCP common denominator

Grow by Credit Card

but is it efficient?

Overprovisioning

- Instead of Root Cause Analysis

Less careful planning

- Convenient to add nodes and shards
- Non-optimal architectures
- Building 20-shard 5-node each cluster? Easy!

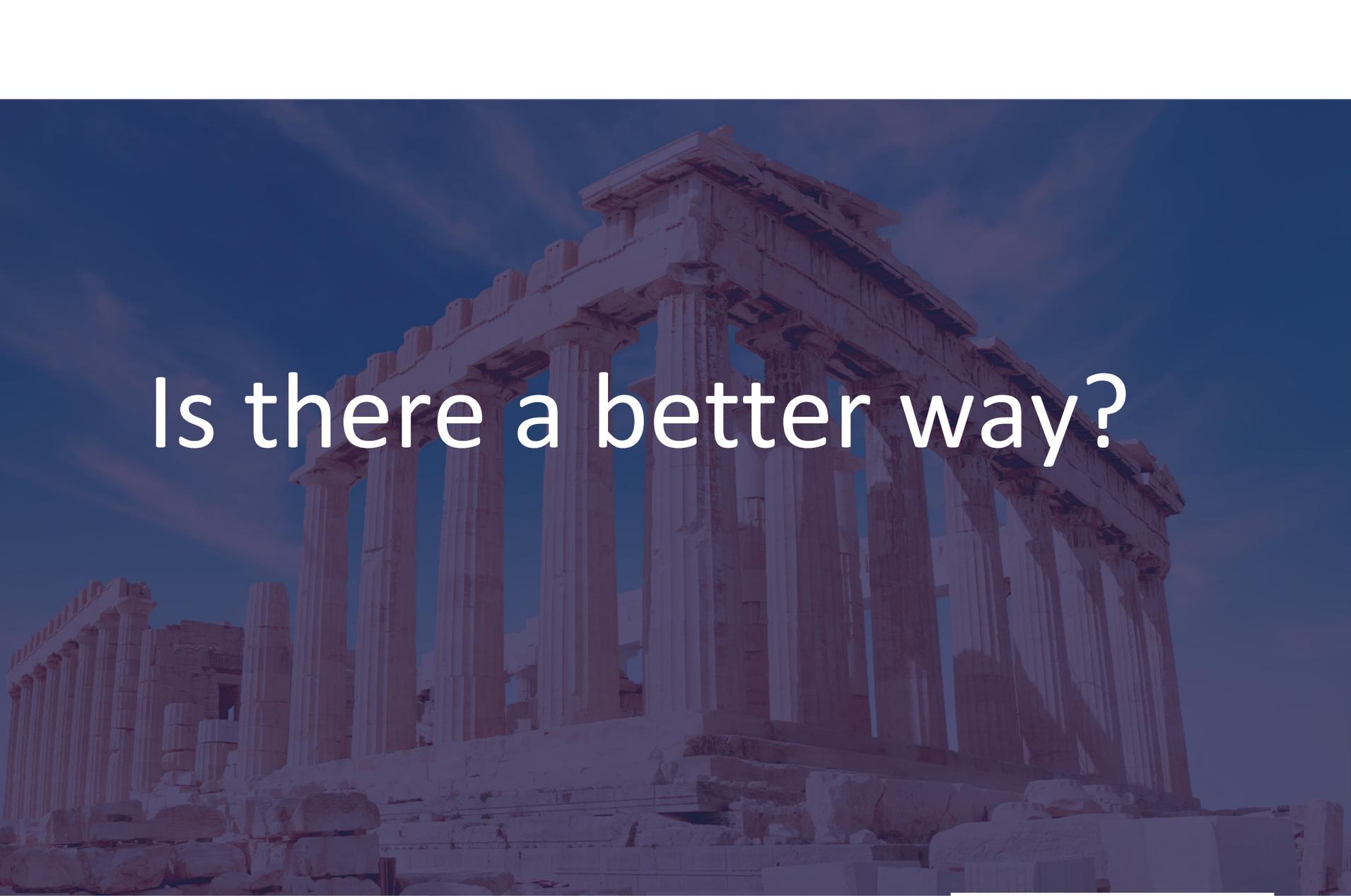
Pay as you go quickly adds-up



Cloud DBaaS lock-in

**You can check-out
any time you like, but
you can never leave**





Is there a better way?



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The Open Cloud Native way



MongoDB Container Image

**Observable, Containers,
Microservices, ...**



K8s Operators

**Automated, Manageable,
Easy to use, ...**



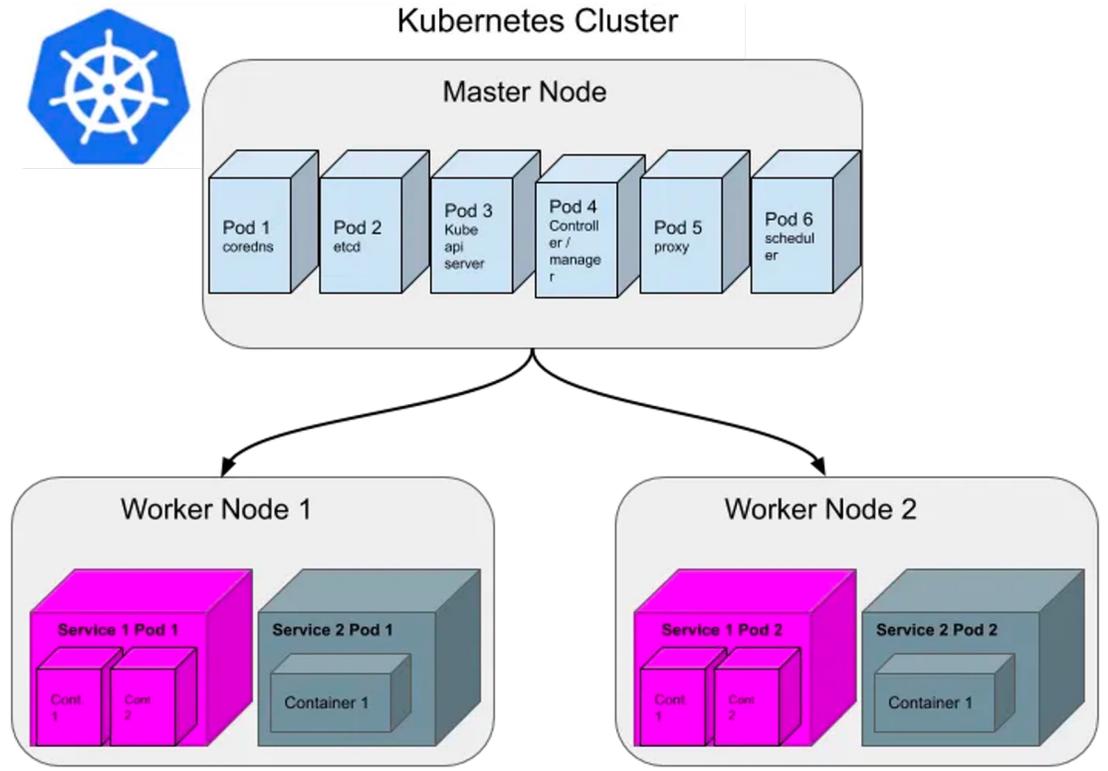
Kubernetes (K8s)

**Scalable, Cloud
Independent, Resilient,
Declarative, ...**



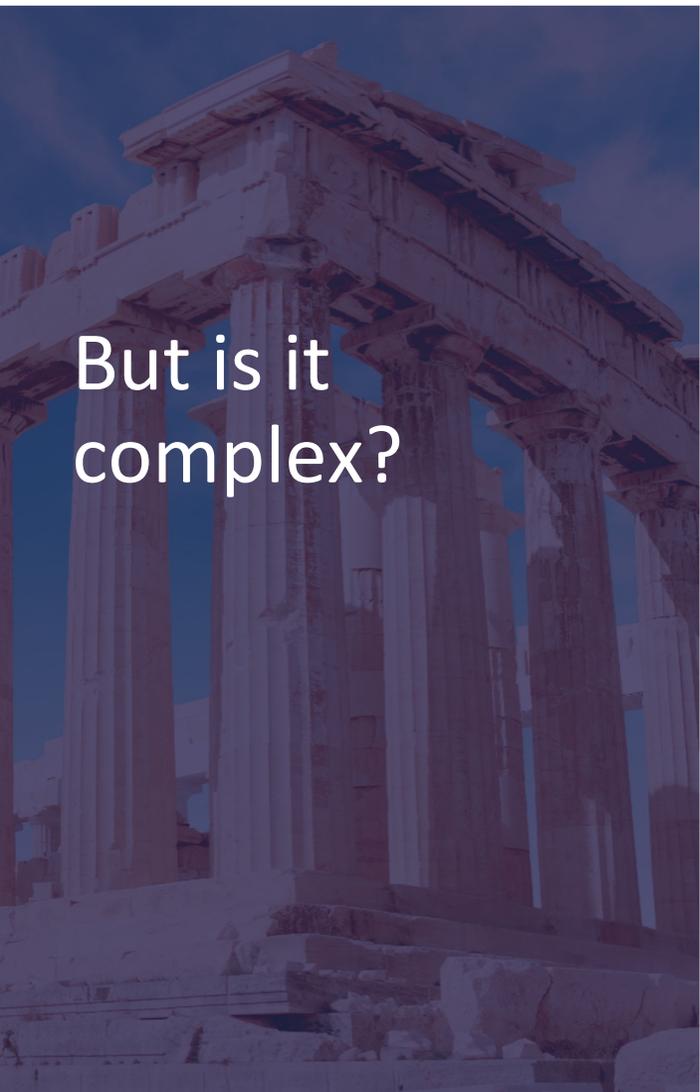
Kubernetes in a single slide

Stateless vs. Stateful

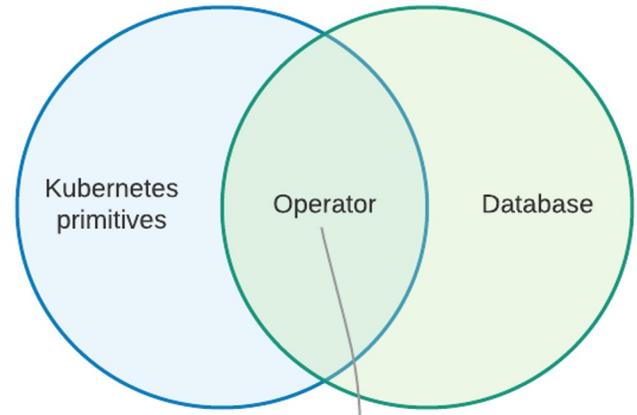
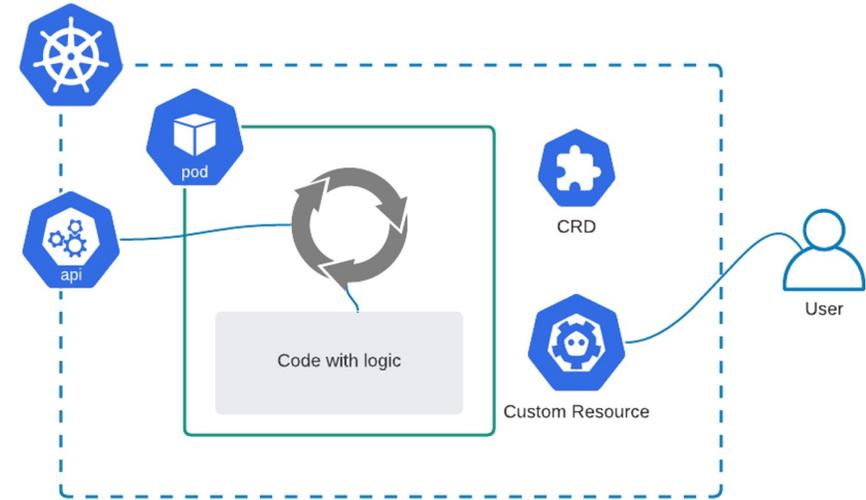


Basic objects

Cluster, Pods, Worker Nodes, Volumes, Secrets, Deployments, Services, ReplicaControllers, StatefulSets, Persistent Volume Claims ...



But is it complex?



```
spec:
  image: percona/percona-server-mongodb:4.4.6-8
  replsets:
    - name: rs0
      size: 3
  sharding:
    mongos:
      size: 3
    configsvrRep1Set:
      size: 3
  backups:
    ...
```

Operators are software extensions to Kubernetes that make use of Custom Resources Definitions (CRDs) to manage applications and their components.

Operators abstract and automate Database - level concepts to K8s primitive transparently for the end - user

Deploying a MongoDB cluster via Percona Operator for MongoDB

```
apiVersion: psmdb.percona.com/v1
kind: PerconaServerMongoDB
metadata:
  name: percona-live-cluster
spec:
  crVersion: 1.15.0
  image: percona/percona-server-mongodb:6.0.4-
  3
  secrets:
    users: minimal-cluster
  replsets:
  - name: shard1
    size: 3
    resources:
      limits:
        cpu: "4"
        memory: "8G"
      requests:
        cpu: "4"
        memory: "8G"
    volumeSpec:
      persistentVolumeClaim:
        resources:
          requests:
            storage: 30Gi
```

```
sharding:
  enabled: true
  configsvrReplSet:
    size: 3
    resources:
      limits:
        cpu: "2"
        memory: "4G"
      requests:
        cpu: "2"
        memory: "4G"
    volumeSpec:
      persistentVolumeClaim:
        resources:
          requests:
            storage: 3Gi
  mongos:
    size: 3
```

```
$kubectl apply -f cr.yaml
```

<https://docs.percona.com/percona-operator-for-mongodb/compare.html>
Operators compared



Percona Operator for MongoDB

1. Deploy easily: replica sets, shards, (mongo/d/s/c)
2. Topology management (arbiters, node affinity, scaling)
3. Monitoring integration
4. Network exposure and load balancing
5. Backups management with Percona Backup for MongoDB
6. Self-healing
7. Upgrade automation (minor, manual major)
8. Configuration adjustments



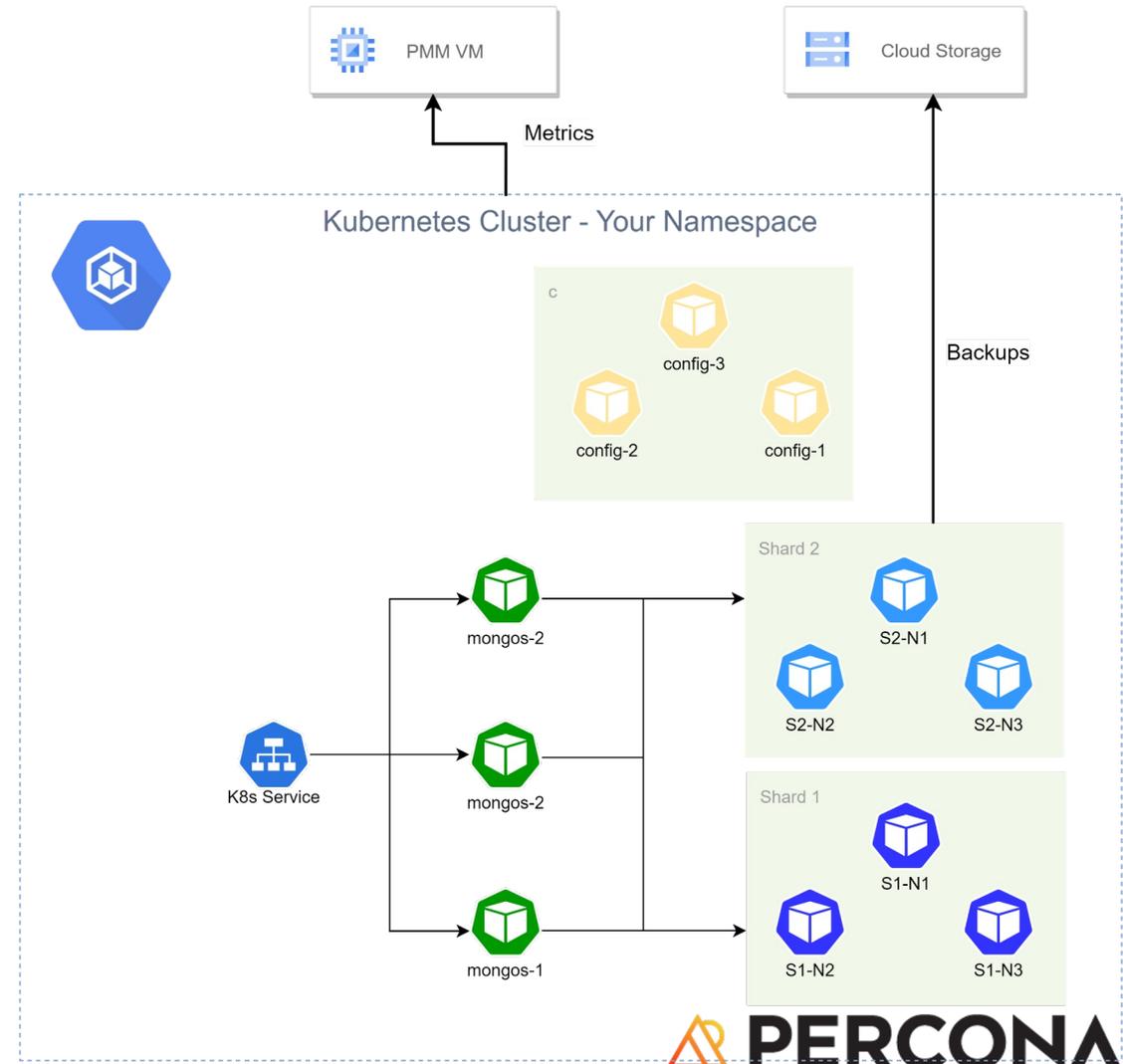
kubernetes



OPENSIFT



Google Cloud Platform



Percona Server for MongoDB



Binary compatible, drop-in replacement

for MongoDB CE . No license fees, free to use

Enterprise features, without the restrictions

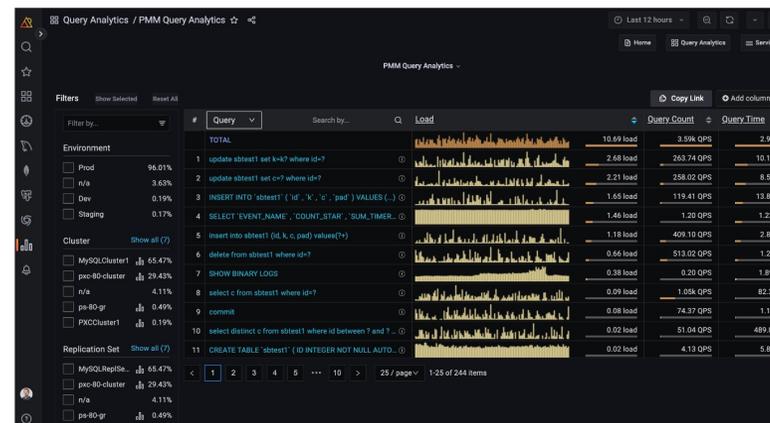
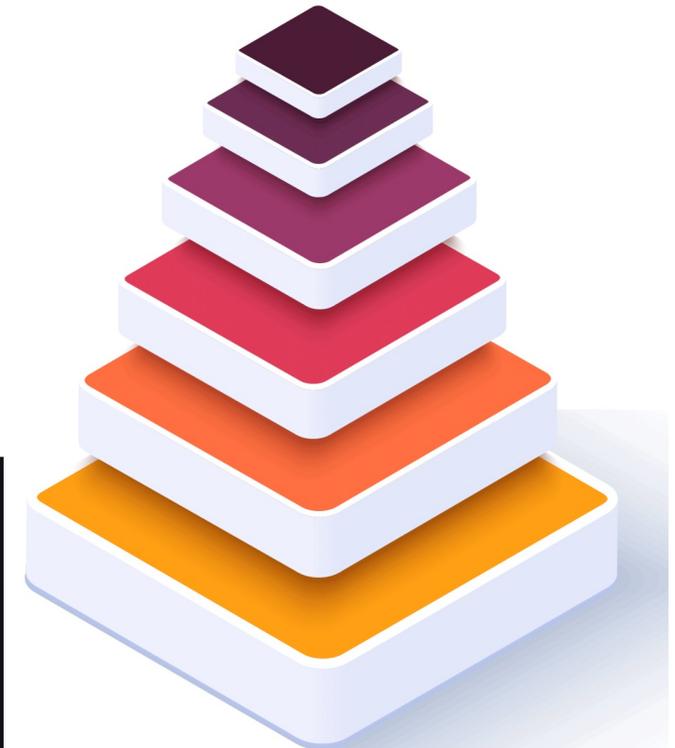
1. Advanced backups (Physical, PITR)
2. LDAP Integration
3. Data-at-rest encryption
4. KMIP integration
5. Auditing
6. PMM Monitoring

Enterprise
Level QA

Test and package for
everyone!

Enterprise
Features

Bring in the enterprise
features companies need.



It's open.

Is it better?



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K8s resources
are cost-
efficient

- **K8s runs everywhere!**
- **Managed K8s options**
 - ~\$70/month at any major cloud provider
 - Runs on IaaS cost-efficient resources
 - Utilize “raw” resources at “raw” resource prices

DBaaS convenience fee vs IaaS cost

Cloud and region	MongoDB Atlas	IaaS pay-as-you-go	IaaS reserved (3y)
M30 (3-node RS, 2vCPU, 8GB RAM, 40GB disk)			
AWS us-east1	\$4,730	\$2,666	\$1,204
Azure centralus	\$5,256	\$2,450	\$1,049
GCP us-east1	\$3,854	\$2,796	\$1,393
M200 (4x3-node RS, 64vCPU, 256GB RAM, 2TB storage)			
AWS us-east1	\$555,822	\$355,086	\$159,674
Azure centralus	\$626,515	\$366,672	\$162,575
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No backup, no data transfer fees, yearly

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Scaling Granularity

~~4 CPU → 8 CPU → 16 CPU → 32 CPU~~

~~16GB → 32GB → 64GB → 128 GB~~

1m (0.001 CPU) and 1 (CPU)
k, M, G, T...

12,5 CPU and 19GB RAM

- Multiple tiers
- Scale up earlier
- Scale up more gracefully



Resource flexibility

- **Optimize your K8s environment**
 - Define multiple node groups types
 - Choose CPU/memory ratio wisely
 - Utilize Local NVMe's vs. EBS storage
 - Storage can be extremely expensive for larger workloads



Configuration Flexibility

What?

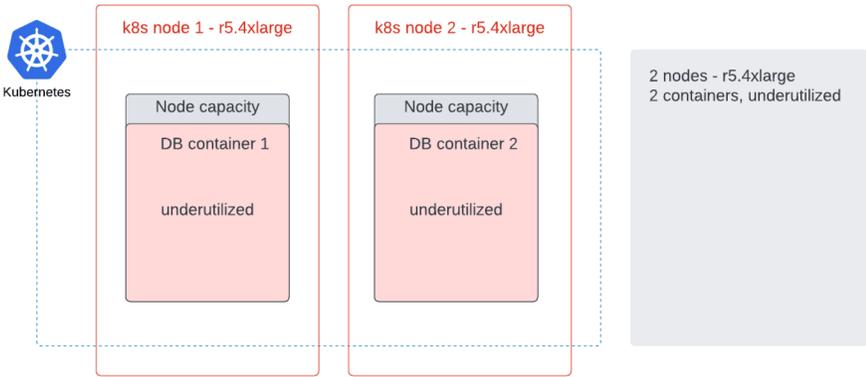
How?

Autoscaling

VPA

HPA/KEDA

Cluster Autoscaler



Topology

Select arbiter nodes

Any topology

Efficiency

Tap into local environment features (NVMe, ...)

Leverage workload understanding efficiencies

Conclusions



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Key takeaways

1. No Silver bullet

Understand your workload and growth projections

1. Cloud DBaaS such as MongoDB Atlas comes with a huge premium fee

In some cases 5x cloud resources cost.

1. Hidden costs and suboptimal MongoDB configuration make the situation worse

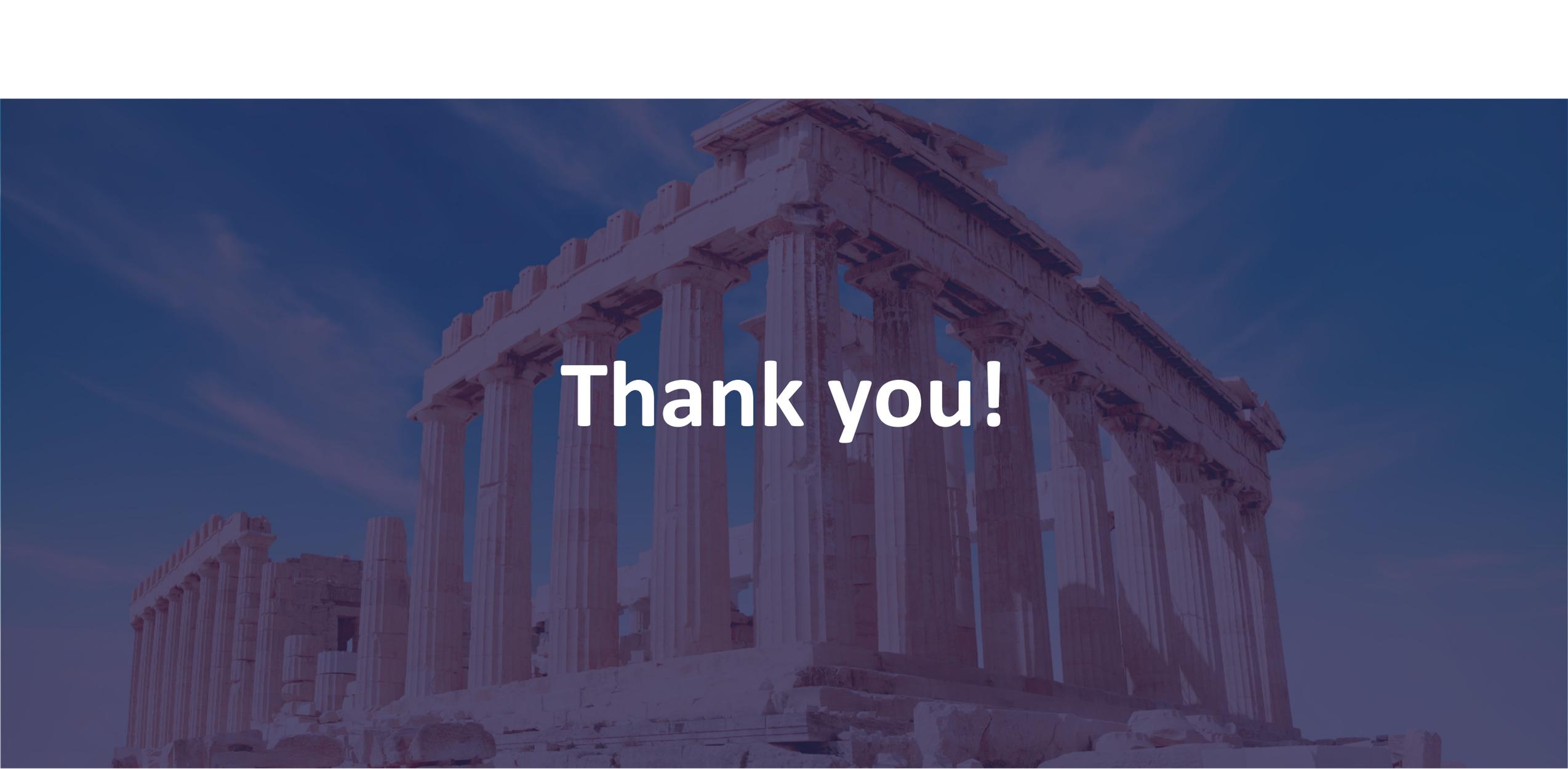
Cloud DBaaS fees are difficult to predict and understand.

1. Kubernetes and Percona MongoDB Operator can handle any MongoDB workload

The solution has been proven in production for many years.

1. Running MongoDB on K8s has a significant cost saving potential

It makes it possible to utilize cheap “raw” cloud resources without giving up convenience and automation



Thank you!

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