



Sveučilište u Rijeci  
Fakultet informatike  
i digitalnih tehnologija



Master's Thesis Defense

# Comparison of Orchestration Systems for Microservices Applications

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# Research Question

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*Research Focus.*



*Why It's Important?*



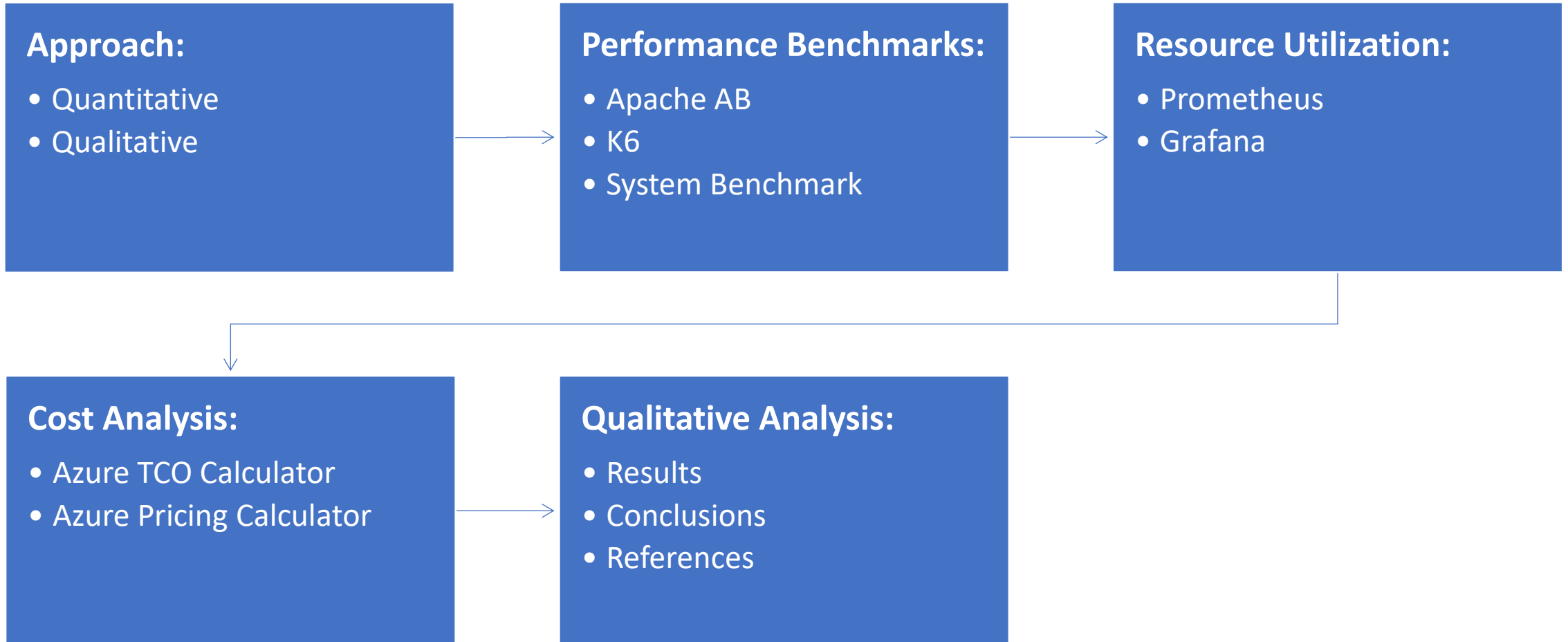
**Objective.**

# Problem Statement



- The increasing complexity of managing microservices in modern application architectures requires efficient orchestration tools that simplify deployment, scaling, and management.

# Methodology



Resource Utilization

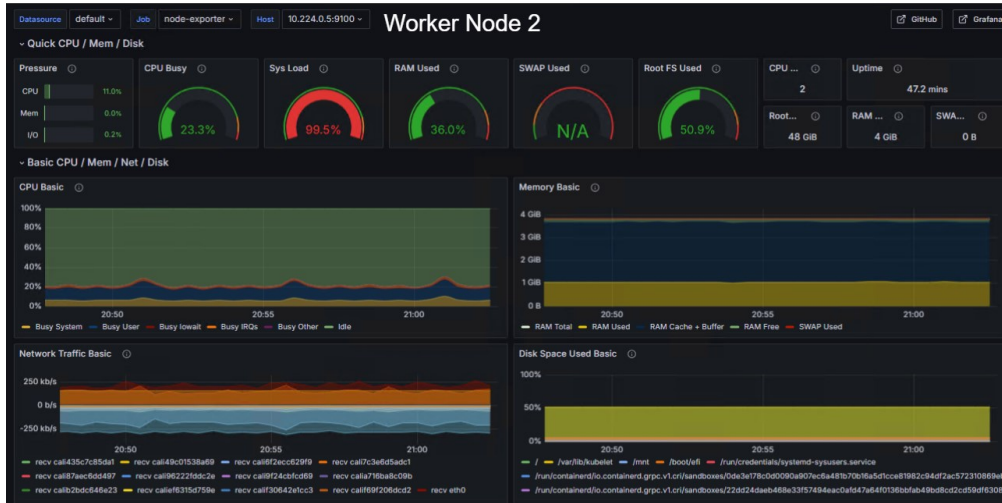
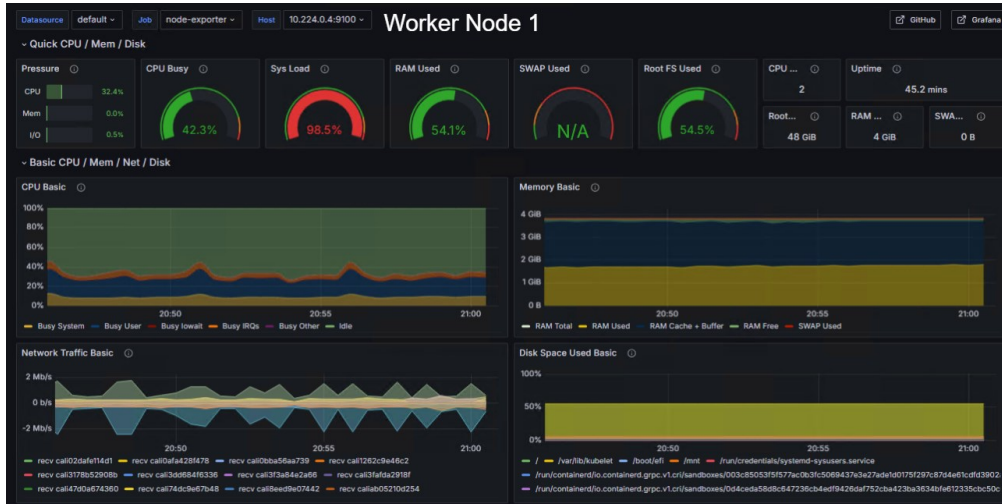
Performance  
Benchmarks

Cost Analysis

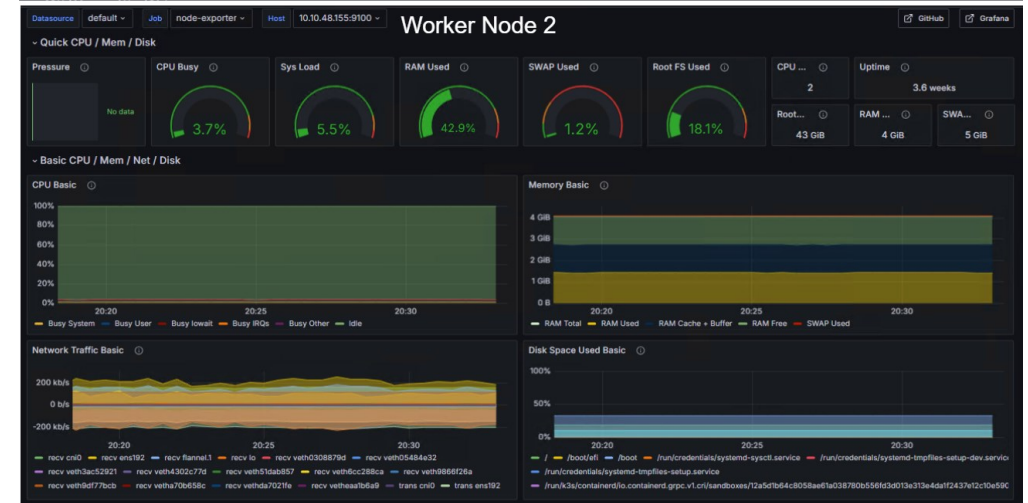
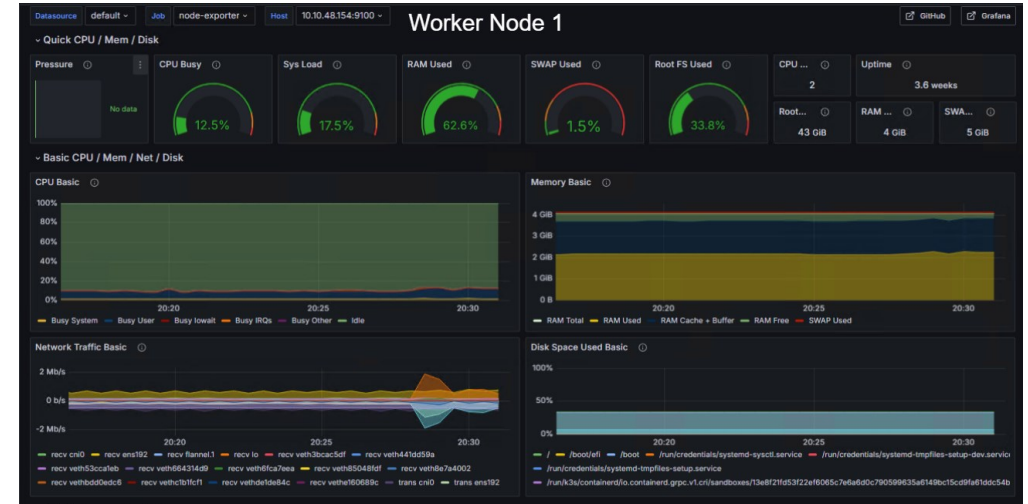
Qualitative  
Comparison



# Resource Utilization



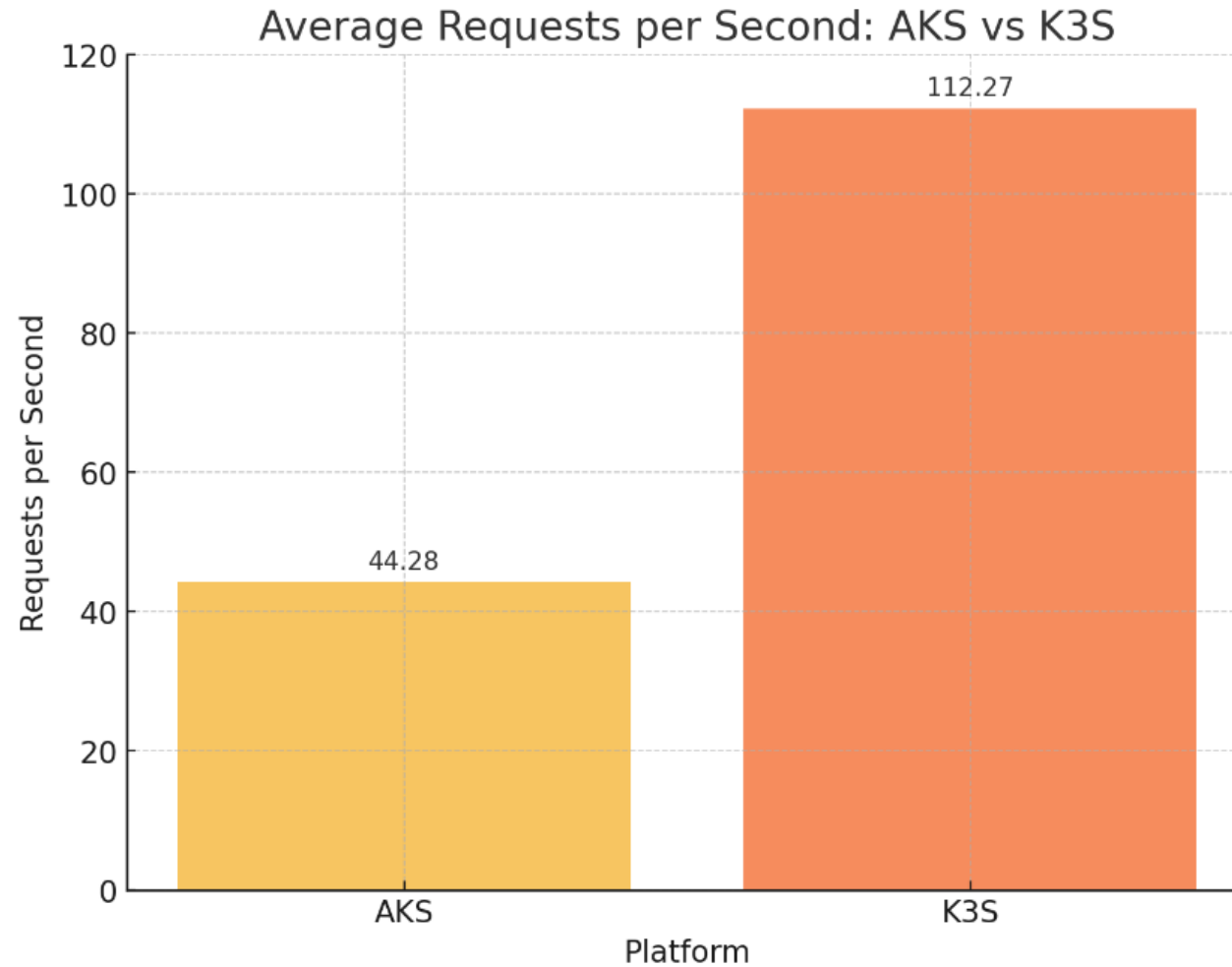
Grafana AKS Cluster Resource Utilization



Grafana K3S Cluster Resource Utilization

# > Performance Benchmarks – AB

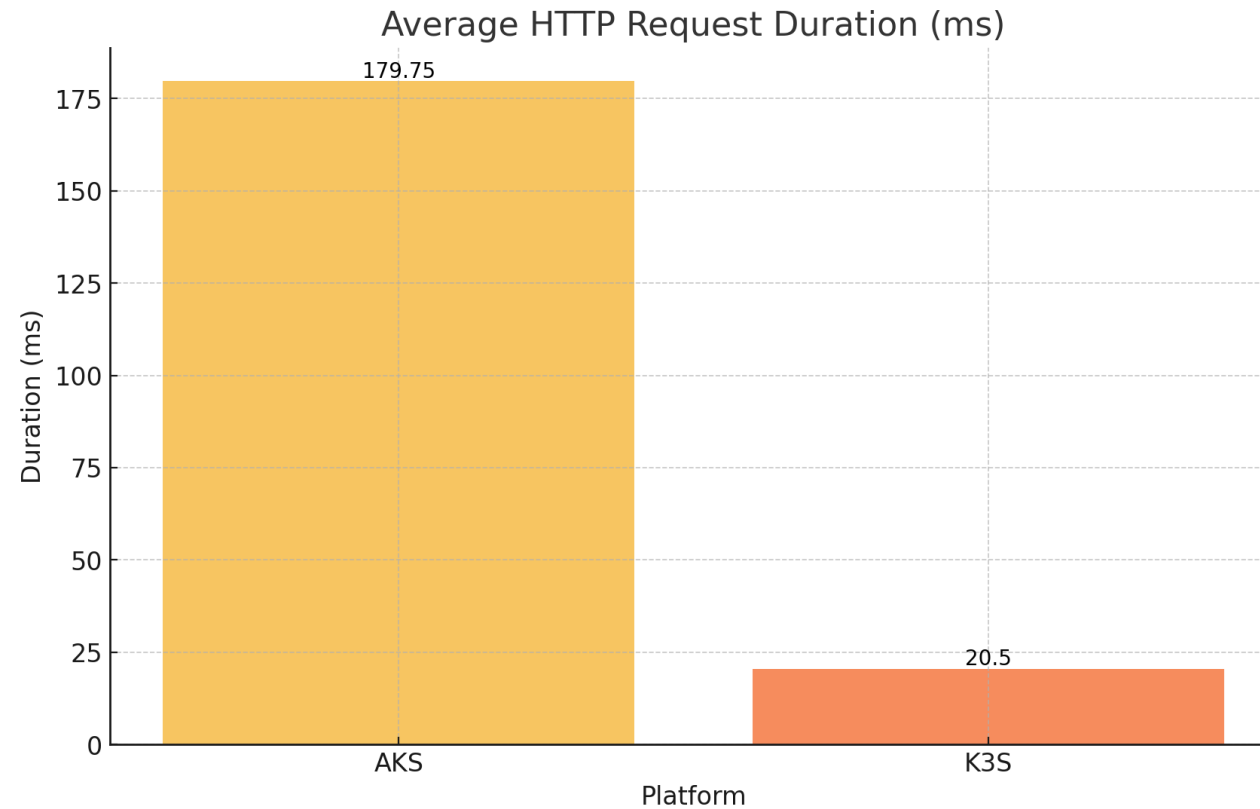
Higher is better.





# > Performance Benchmarks – K6

Lower is better.



# Performance Benchmarks – System



**K3S shows better system performance than AKS.**

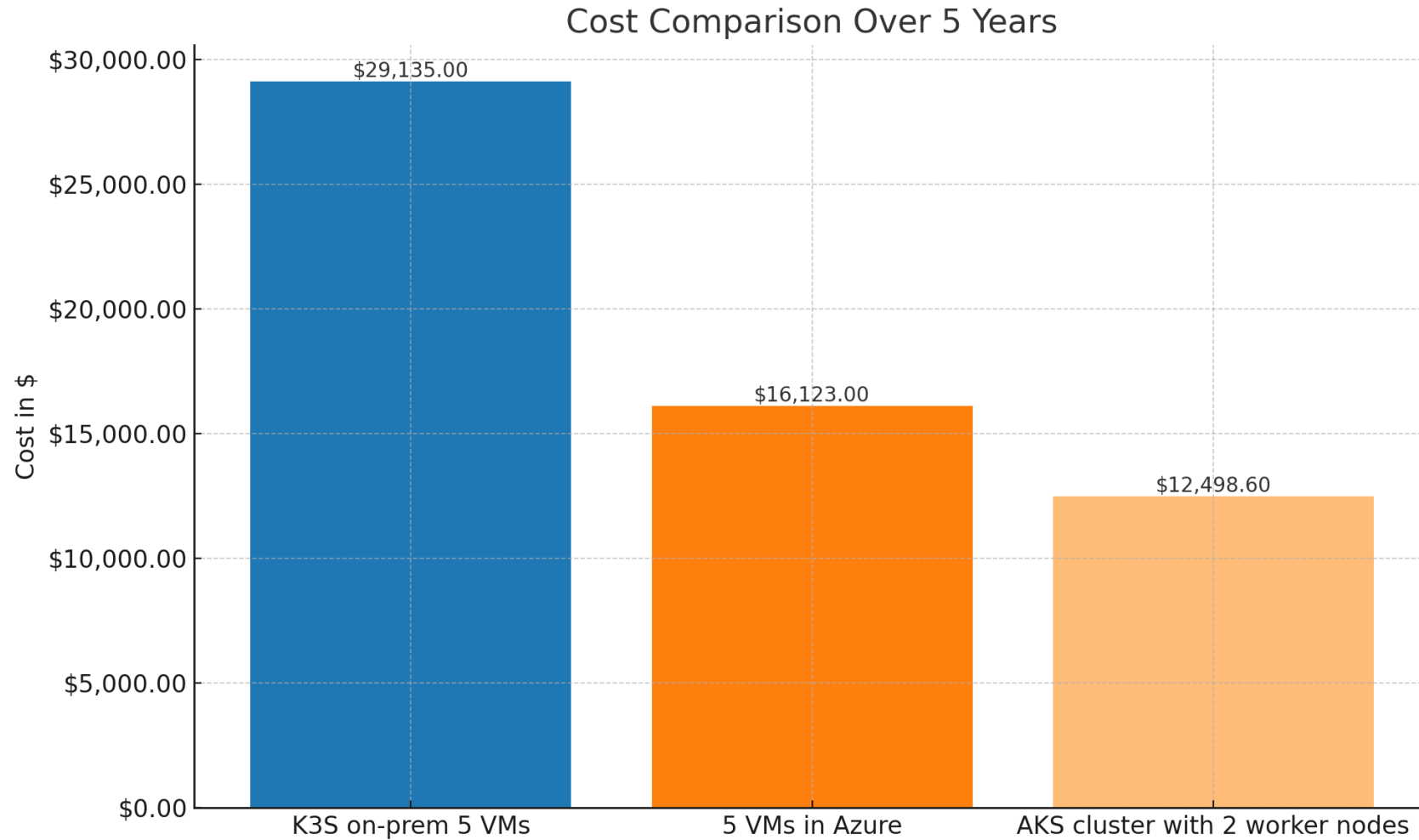
**Despite both clusters having the same number of cores and memory.**

**Difference in:**

- CPU architecture
- Hypervisor

**The infrastructure was matched as closely as possible.**

# > Cost Analysis



# > Qualitative Analysis

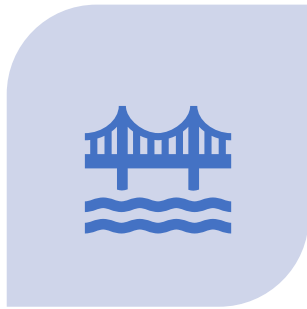


Criteria	Winner
Performance	K3S
Cost (5-Year Total)	AKS
Implementation and Configuration	AKS
Ease of Deployment and Integrations	Tie – AKS better with Azure integrations
Management Complexity	AKS
Scalability	AKS
Flexibility and Customization	Tie
Security	AKS
Documentation and Community Support	AKS
Overall, Winner	AKS Wins

# Conclusion

- If no existing infrastructure:
  - Use AKS for cloud-native efficiency and lower operational overhead.
- If existing on-prem infrastructure:
  - Use K3S for better performance and resource utilization.
  - Also, use K3S for IoT and Edge Devices.

# > Future Work



COST OPTIMIZATION  
(AKS & K3S)



LONG-TERM  
PERFORMANCE STUDIES



HYBRID & MULTI-CLOUD  
INTEGRATION



SECURITY  
ENHANCEMENTS

# Thesis Contributions

Deployment process documentation and GitHub repository

Detailed performance benchmarks (AB, K6, Sysbench)

Comprehensive cost analysis methodology (TCO comparison)

In-depth qualitative comparison

Clear decision-making framework for orchestration tool selection