

# The Emerging Cloud Computing

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***Abstract:** Latest technological development has brought a dramatic change in every field, and library science is not exception to it. Information technology impacted positively on library and information system and services they provide for users. The libraries have been automated, networked and now moving towards paper less or virtual libraries. To gather challenges in the profession librarians are also applying different platforms in Library science filed for attaining economy in information handling. This paper overviews the basic concept of newly develop area known as cloud computing. The use of cloud computing in libraries and how cloud computing actually works is illustrated in this communication.*

## INTRODUCTION

Library is a growing organism. Automation is a technique to make a system automated, i.e. self service. A properly computerized library will help its user with quick and prompt predominantly by computerization. Thus library automation means the application of machines to perform different routines, such as repetitive and clerical job involved in the function and services of the libraries. Before the birth of computer other type of machines were used for automating the library functions. Now the computers have become capable of introducing in operations, processes, techniques and methods of library. Today we are living in the age of information. Information technology play very vital role in library science. For collection, Storage, organization, processing, analysis of information. Library filed facing many challenges in the profession due to applications of information technology. New concepts are being added to ease the practices in the libraries is also accepting many new technologies in the profession as they suit the present information handling and they satisfy needs of the knowledge society.

### What is Cloud Computing?

A definition for cloud computing can be given as an emerging computer paradigm where data and services reside in massively scalable data centers in the cloud and can be accessed from any connected devices over the internet. Cloud computing is a way of providing various services on virtual machines allocated on top of a large physical machine pool which resides in the cloud.

The basis of cloud computing is to create a set of virtual servers on the available vast resource pool

and give it to the clients. Any web enabled device can be used to access the resources through the virtual servers. Based on the computing needs of the client, the infrastructure allotted to the client can be scaled up or down. From a business point of view, cloud computing is a method to address the Scalability and availability concerns for large scale applications which involves lesser Overhead.

### Characteristics of Cloud computing:

#### 1. Self Healing:

Any application or any service running in a cloud computing environment has the property of self healing. In case of failure of the application, there is always a hot backup of the application ready to take over without disruption. There are multiple copies of the same application - each copy updating itself regularly so that at times of failure there is at least one copy of the application which can take over without even the slightest change in its running state.

#### 2. Multi-tenancy:

With cloud computing, any application supports multi-tenancy - that is multiple tenants at the same instant of time. The system allows several customers to share the infrastructure allotted to them without any of them being aware of the sharing. This is done by virtualizing the servers on the available machine pool and then allotting the servers to multiple users.

#### 3. Linearly Scalable:

Cloud computing services are linearly scalable. The system is able to break down the workloads into pieces and service it across the infrastructure. An exact idea of linear scalability can be obtained from the fact that if one server is able to process say 1000 transactions per second, then two servers can process 2000 transactions per second.

#### 4. Service-oriented:

Cloud computing systems are all service oriented - i.e. the systems are such that they are created out of other discrete services. Many such discrete services which are independent of each other are combined together to form this service. This allows re-use of the different services that are available and that are being created. Using the services that were just created, other such services can be created.

### 5. SLA Driven:

Usually businesses have agreements on the amount of services. Scalability and availability issues cause clients to break these agreements. But cloud computing services are SLA driven such that when the system experiences peaks of load, it will automatically adjust itself so as to comply with the service-level agreements.

### Types of Cloud computing:

#### 1. Software as a service (SaaS):

Software package such as CRM or CAD/CAM can be accessed under cloud computing scheme. Here a customer upon registration is allowed to use software accessible through net and use it for his or his business process. The related data and work may be stored on local machines or with the service providers. SaaS services may be available on rental basis or on per use basis.

#### 2. Platform as a Service (PaaS):

Cloud vendors are companies that offer cloud computing services and products. One of the services that they provide is called PaaS. Under this a computing platform such as operating system is provided to a customer or end user on a monthly rental basis. Some of the major cloud computing vendor is Amazon, Microsoft, and Google etc

#### 3. Use Cloud computing in library and information science:

Cloud computing offers many interesting possibilities for libraries that may help to reduce technology cost and increase capacity reliability, and performance for some type of automation activities. Cloud computing has made strong inroads into other commercial sectors and is now beginning to find more application in library science. The cloud computing pushes hardware to more abstract levels. Most of us are acquainted with fast computing power being delivered from systems that we can see and touch..

#### Advantages of Cloud computing in libraries:

1. Cost saving
2. Flexibility and innovation
3. User centric
4. Openness
5. Transparency
6. Interoperability
7. Representation
8. Availability anytime anywhere
9. Connect and Converse
10. Create and collaborate

#### Examples of Cloud libraries:

- OCLC
- Library of Congress ( LC)
- Exlibris
- Polaris

### Conclusion:

Cloud computing builds on decades of research in virtualization, distributed computing, utility computing, more recently networking, and web software services. It implies a service oriented architecture, reduced information technology overhead for end-user, great flexibility, reduced total cost of ownership, on demand services and many other things. In today's global competitive market, companies must innovate and get the most from its resources to succeed. Cloud computing infrastructures are next generation platforms that can provide tremendous value to companies of any size. They can help companies achieve more efficient use of their IT hardware and software investments and provide a means to accelerate the adoption of innovations. Cloud computing increases profitability by improving resource utilization. Costs are driven down by delivering appropriate resources only for the time those resources are needed. Cloud computing has enabled teams and organizations to streamline lengthy procurement processes.

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