Cloud Computing and Information Policy Issues

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Based on

Cloud Computing and Information Policy: Computing in a Policy Cloud?

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Reliability

- Consequences of failure?
- Who bears the risks?
- Liability for losses?
- Corruption of data?
- Accuracy of results?
- Trust?

Telecommunications Policy

- Challenges assumptions of current policy:
  - Ships more than data – ships instructions
  - Cloud modifies data
  - Not traditional recipient
- What is a cloud provider legally
- No framework for compensation for losses
- Net Neutrality

Security, Privacy, Anonymity

- Need for protection, particularly sensitive information
  - Personal information
  - Corporate information
  - Research information
- Numerous examples of failure of electronic environment to protect information

Security, Privacy, Anonymity

- Quality vs. Monitoring
- Third party monitoring
  - Data mining
  - Government monitoring
- Cross-national issues
- Anonymity not enough

Security, Privacy, Anonymity

- Microsoft executive: “you may win a Nobel Prize by analyzing data assembled by someone else”

Access and Usage

- Intellectual Property
- Licenses
- Cross-national issues
- Export and data sharing prohibitions
- Monitoring for criminal activities
- Public access computers

Amazon EC2 Agreements

- Amazon: has 14 billion units of data and handles 30,000 requests to its database per second
- Agreement totally about protecting Amazon – mentions few issues specific to cloud computing

Amazon EC2 Agreements

- “you acknowledge that you bear sole responsibility for adequate security, protection and backup of Your Content.”

Pre-electronic Policy

- Many policy problems rooted in pre-electronic mentality for policy
- Laws do not keep pace with technology
- Market may favor a few monopolies of clouds

Research Questions

- Expectations of users
- Factors in usage decisions
- User awareness
- Provider awareness
- Policy needs