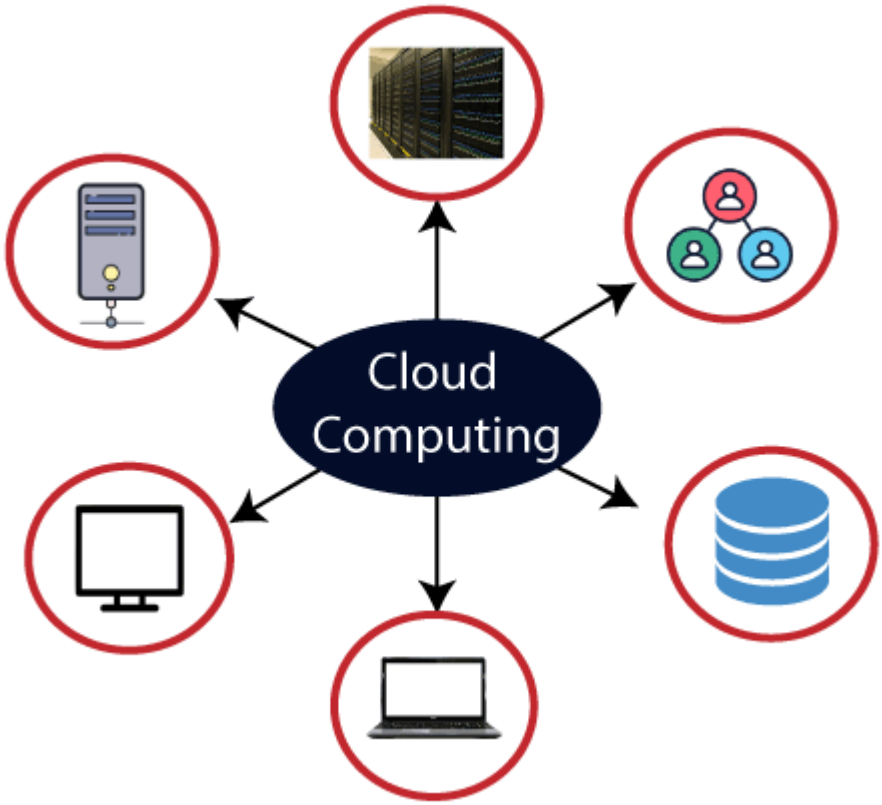
Difference between Cloud Computing and Grid Computing

Cloud Computing

Cloud computing uses a **client-server** architecture to deliver computing resources such as servers, storage, databases, and software over the cloud (Internet) with pay-as-you-go pricing.

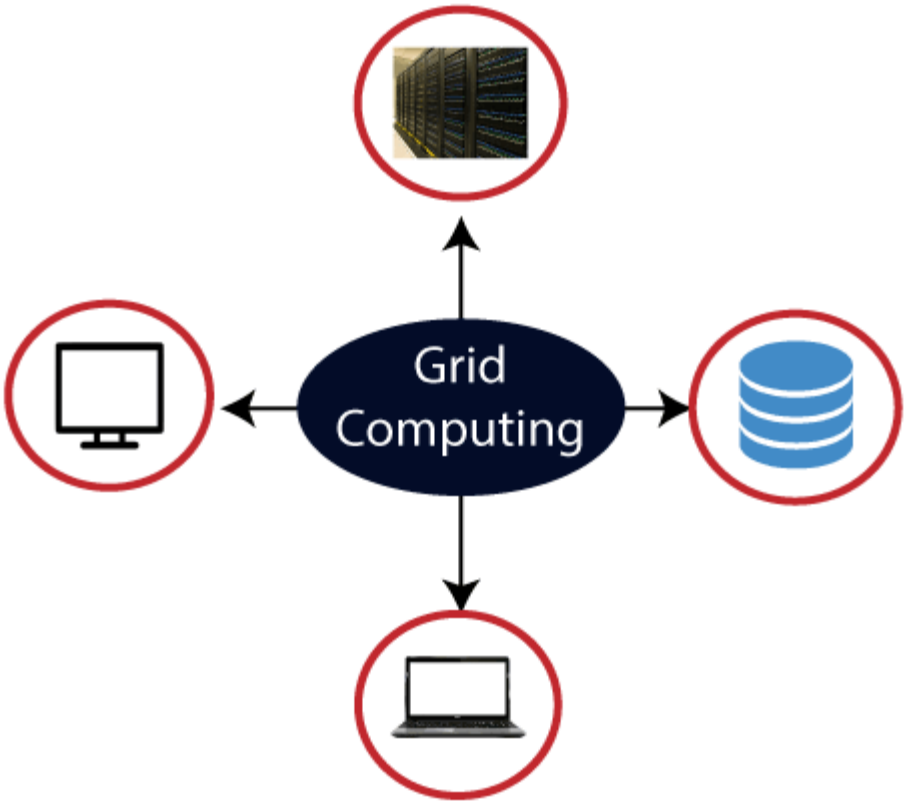
Cloud computing becomes a very popular option for organizations by providing various advantages, including cost-saving, increased productivity, efficiency, performance, data back-ups, disaster recovery, and security.



Grid Computing

Grid computing is also called as "**distributed computing**." It links multiple computing resources (PC's, workstations, servers, and storage elements) together and provides a mechanism to access them.

The main advantages of grid computing are that it increases user productivity by providing transparent access to resources, and work can be completed more quickly.



Difference between cloud computing and grid computing.

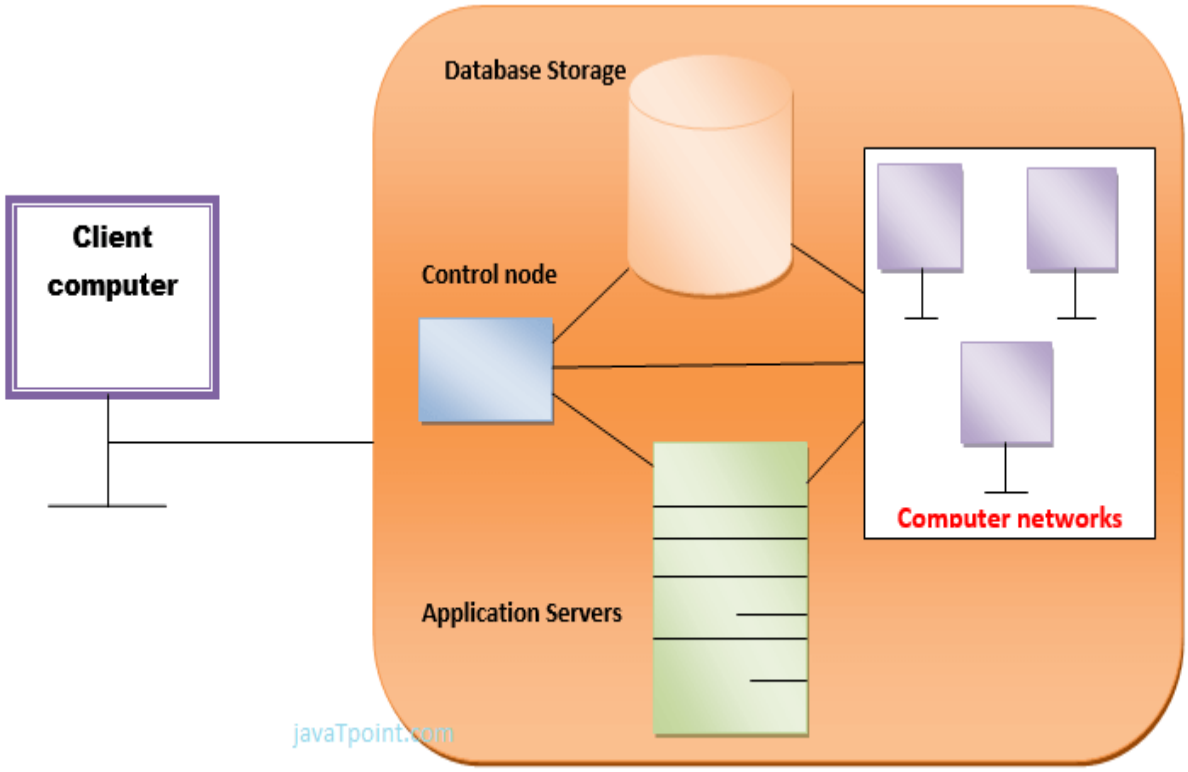
Cloud Computing	Grid Computing
Cloud Computing follows client-server computing architecture.	Grid computing follows a distributed computing architecture.
Scalability is high.	Scalability is normal.
Cloud Computing is more flexible than grid computing.	Grid Computing is less flexible than cloud computing.
Cloud operates as a centralized management system.	Grid operates as a decentralized management system.
In cloud computing, cloud servers are owned by infrastructure providers.	In Grid computing, grids are owned and managed by the organization.
Cloud computing uses services like Iaas, PaaS, and SaaS.	Grid computing uses systems like distributed computing, distributed information, and distributed pervasive.
Cloud Computing is Service-oriented.	Grid Computing is Application-oriented.

It is accessible through standard web protocols.	It is accessible through grid middleware.

How does cloud computing work?

Assume that you are an executive at a very big corporation. Your particular responsibilities include to make sure that all of your employees have the right hardware and software they need to do their jobs. To buy computers for everyone is not enough. You also have to purchase software as well as software licenses and then provide this software to your employees as they require. Whenever you hire a new employee, you need to buy more software or make sure your current software license allows another user. It is so stressful that you have to spend lots of money.

But, there may be an alternative for executives like you. So, instead of installing a suite of software for each computer, you just need to load one application. That application will allow the employees to log-in into a Web-based service which hosts all the programs for the user that is required for his/her job. Remote servers owned by another company and that will run everything from e-mail to word processing to complex data analysis programs. It is called cloud computing, and it could change the entire computer industry.

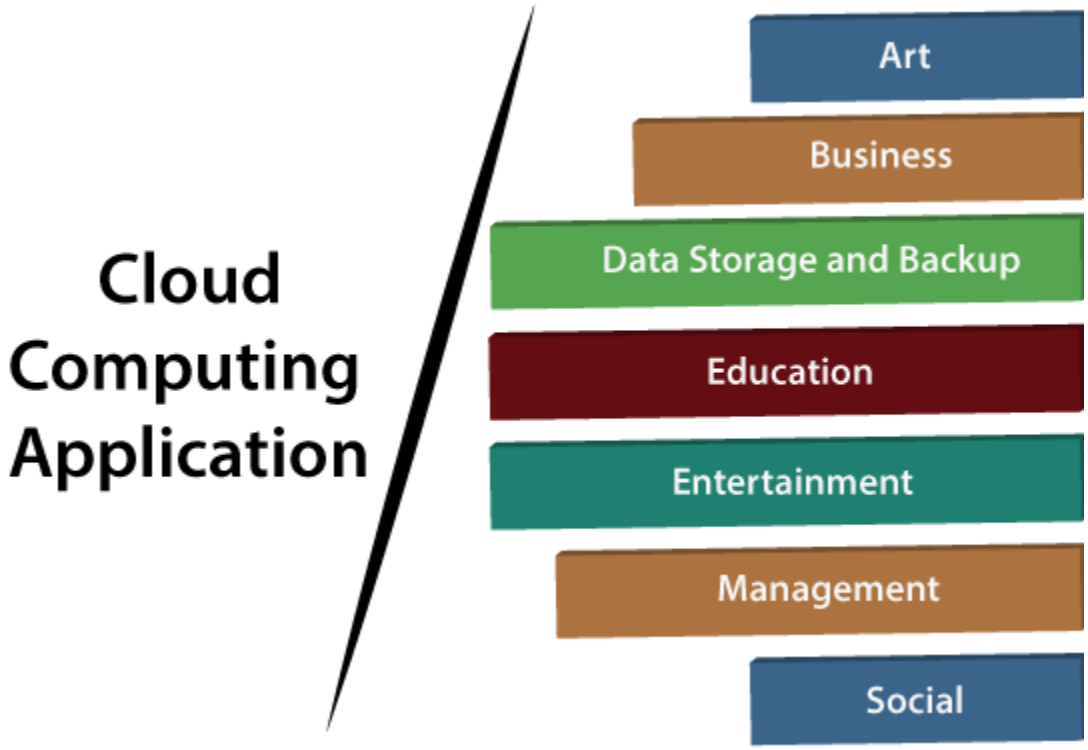


In a cloud computing system, there is a significant workload shift. Local computers have no longer to do all the heavy lifting when it comes to run applications. But cloud computing can handle that much heavy load easily and automatically. Hardware and software demand on the user's side decrease. The only thing the user's computer requires to be able to run is the cloud computing interface software of the system, which can be as simple as a Web browser and the cloud's network takes care of the rest.

Cloud Computing Applications

Cloud service providers provide various applications in the field of art, business, data storage and backup services, education, entertainment, management, social networking, etc.

The most widely used cloud computing applications are given below -



1. Art Applications

Cloud computing offers various art applications for quickly and easily design **attractive cards, booklets,** and **images**. Some most commonly used cloud art applications are given below:

i Moo

Moo is one of the best cloud art applications. It is used for designing and printing business cards, postcards, and mini cards.

ii. Vistaprint

Vistaprint allows us to easily design various printed marketing products such as business cards, Postcards, Booklets, and wedding invitations cards.

iii. Adobe Creative Cloud

Adobe creative cloud is made for designers, artists, filmmakers, and other creative professionals. It is a suite of apps which includes PhotoShop image editing programming, Illustrator, InDesign, TypeKit, Dreamweaver, XD, and Audition.

2. Business Applications

Business applications are based on cloud service providers. Today, every organization requires the cloud business application to grow their business. It also ensures that business applications are 24*7 available to users.

There are the following business applications of cloud computing -

i. MailChimp

MailChimp is an **email publishing platform** which provides various options to **design, send,** and **save** templates for emails.

iii. Salesforce

Salesforce platform provides tools for sales, service, marketing, e-commerce, and more. It also provides a cloud development platform.

iv. Chatter

Chatter helps us to **share important information** about the organization in real time.

v. Bitrix24

Bitrix24 is a **collaboration** platform which provides communication, management, and social collaboration tools.

vi. Paypal

Paypal offers the simplest and easiest **online payment** mode using a secure internet account. Paypal accepts the payment through debit cards, credit cards, and also from Paypal account holders.

vii. Slack

Slack stands for **Searchable Log of all Conversation and Knowledge**. It provides a **user-friendly** interface that helps us to create public and private channels for communication.

viii. Quickbooks

Quickbooks works on the terminology "**Run Enterprise anytime, anywhere, on any device**." It provides online accounting solutions for the business. It allows more than 20 users to work simultaneously on the same system.

3. Data Storage and Backup Applications

Cloud computing allows us to store information (data, files, images, audios, and videos) on the cloud and access this information using an internet connection. As the cloud provider is responsible for providing security, so they offer various backup recovery application for retrieving the lost data.

A list of data storage and backup applications in the cloud are given below -

i. Box.com

Box provides an online environment for **secure content management, workflow,** and **collaboration**. It allows us to store different files such as Excel, Word, PDF, and images on the cloud. The main advantage of using box is that it provides drag & drop service for files and easily integrates with Office 365, G Suite, Salesforce, and more than 1400 tools.

ii. Mozy

Mozy provides powerful **online backup solutions** for our personal and business data. It schedules automatically back up for each day at a specific time.

iii. Joukuu

Joukuu provides the simplest way to **share** and **track cloud-based backup files**. Many users use joukuu to search files, folders, and collaborate on documents.

iv. Google G Suite

Google G Suite is one of the best **cloud storage** and **backup** application. It includes Google Calendar, Docs, Forms, Google+, Hangouts, as well as cloud storage and tools for managing cloud apps. The most popular app in the Google G Suite is Gmail. Gmail offers free email services to users.

4. Education Applications

Cloud computing in the education sector becomes very popular. It offers various **online distance learning platforms** and **student information portals** to the students. The advantage of using cloud in the field of education is that it offers strong virtual classroom environments, Ease of accessibility, secure data storage, scalability, greater reach for the students, and minimal hardware requirements for the applications.

There are the following education applications offered by the cloud -

i. Google Apps for Education

Google Apps for Education is the most widely used platform for free web-based email, calendar, documents, and collaborative study.

ii. Chromebooks for Education

Chromebook for Education is one of the most important Google's projects. It is designed for the purpose that it enhances education innovation.

iii. Tablets with Google Play for Education

It allows educators to quickly implement the latest technology solutions into the classroom and make it available to their students.

iv. AWS in Education

AWS cloud provides an education-friendly environment to universities, community colleges, and schools.

5. Entertainment Applications

Entertainment industries use a **multi-cloud strategy** to interact with the target audience. Cloud computing offers various entertainment applications such as online games and video conferencing.

i. Online games

Today, cloud gaming becomes one of the most important entertainment media. It offers various online games that run remotely from the cloud. The best cloud gaming services are Shaow, GeForce Now, Vortex, Project xCloud, and PlayStation Now.

ii. Video Conferencing Apps

Video conferencing apps provides a simple and instant connected experience. It allows us to communicate with our business partners, friends, and relatives using a cloud-based video conferencing. The benefits of using video conferencing are that it reduces cost, increases efficiency, and removes interoperability.

6. Management Applications

Cloud computing offers various cloud management tools which help admins to manage all types of cloud activities, such as resource deployment, data integration, and disaster recovery. These management tools also provide administrative control over the platforms, applications, and infrastructure.

Some important management applications are -

i. Toggl

Toggl helps users to track allocated time period for a particular project.

ii. Evernote

Evernote allows you to sync and save your recorded notes, typed notes, and other notes in one convenient place. It is available for both free as well as a paid version.

It uses platforms like Windows, macOS, Android, iOS, Browser, and Unix.

iii. Outright

Outright is used by management users for the purpose of accounts. It helps to track income, expenses, profits, and losses in real-time environment.

iv. GoToMeeting

GoToMeeting provides **Video Conferencing** and **online meeting apps**, which allows you to start a meeting with your business partners from anytime, anywhere using mobile phones or tablets. Using GoToMeeting app, you can perform the tasks related to the management such as join meetings in seconds, view presentations on the shared screen, get alerts for upcoming meetings, etc.

7. Social Applications

Social cloud applications allow a large number of users to connect with each other using social networking applications such as **Facebook, Twitter, Linkedln,** etc.

There are the following cloud based social applications -

i. Facebook

Facebook is a **social networking website** which allows active users to share files, photos, videos, status, more to their friends, relatives, and business partners using the cloud storage system. On Facebook, we will always get notifications when our friends like and comment on the posts.

ii. Twitter

Twitter is a **social networking** site. It is a **microblogging** system. It allows users to follow high profile celebrities, friends, relatives, and receive news. It sends and receives short posts called tweets.

iii. Yammer

Yammer is the **best team collaboration** tool that allows a team of employees to chat, share images, documents, and videos.

iv. LinkedIn

LinkedIn is a **social network** for students, freshers, and professionals.

What are the Security Risks of Cloud Computing?

Cloud computing provides various advantages, such as improved collaboration, excellent accessibility, Mobility, Storage capacity, etc. But there are also security risks in cloud computing.

Some most common Security Risks of Cloud Computing are given below-

1) Data Loss

Data loss is the most common cloud security risks of cloud computing. It is also known as data leakage. Data loss is the process in which data is being deleted, corrupted, and unreadable by a user, software, or application. In a cloud computing environment, data loss occurs when our sensitive data is somebody else's hands, one or more data elements cannot be utilized by the data owner, hard disk is not working properly, and software is not updated.

2) Hacked Interfaces and Insecure APIs

As we all know, cloud computing is completely depending on Internet, so it is compulsory to protect interfaces and APIs that are used by external users. APIs are the easiest way to communicate with most of the cloud services. In cloud computing, few services are available in the public domain. These services can be accessed by third parties, so there may be a chance that these services easily harmed and hacked by hackers.

3) Data Breach

Data Breach is the process in which the confidential data is viewed, accessed, or stolen by the third party without any authorization, so organization's data is hacked by the hackers.

4) Vendor lock-in

Vendor lock-in is the of the biggest security risks in cloud computing. Organizations may face problems when transferring their services from one vendor to another. As different vendors provide different platforms, that can cause difficulty moving one cloud to another.

5) Increased complexity strains IT staff

Migrating, integrating, and operating the cloud services is complex for the IT staff. IT staff must require the extra capability and skills to manage, integrate, and maintain the data to the cloud.

6) Spectre & Meltdown

Spectre & Meltdown allows programs to view and steal data which is currently processed on computer. It can run on personal computers, mobile devices, and in the cloud. It can store the password, your personal information such as images, emails, and business documents in the memory of other running programs.

7) Denial of Service (DoS) attacks

Denial of service (DoS) attacks occur when the system receives too much traffic to buffer the server. Mostly, DoS attackers target web servers of large organizations such as banking sectors, media companies, and government organizations. To recover the lost data, DoS attackers charge a great deal of time and money to handle the data.

8) Account hijacking

Account hijacking is a serious security risk in cloud computing. It is the process in which individual user's or organization's cloud account (bank account, e-mail account, and social media account) is stolen by hackers. The hackers use the stolen account to perform unauthorized activities.