



ECAP470: CLOUD COMPUTING

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Learning Outcomes



After this lecture, you will be able to,

- ✓ know about social networks and groupware
- ✓ learn about blogs and wikis

Collaborating via Social Networks and Groupware

- When it comes to collaborating with a group of people who may or may not share the same physical location, one naturally turns to the web.
- When all team members have access to the Internet, why not use the Internet to connect the members of the group—to enable communication, file sharing, and the like?

Collaborating via Social Networks and Groupware

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Collaborating via Social Networks and Groupware

Creating Groups on Social Networks

- You're probably already familiar with social networks such as Facebook and MySpace. The typical social network is a hosted site that aims to create a community of users, each of whom posts his or her own personal profile on the site.

Collaborating via Social Networks and Groupware

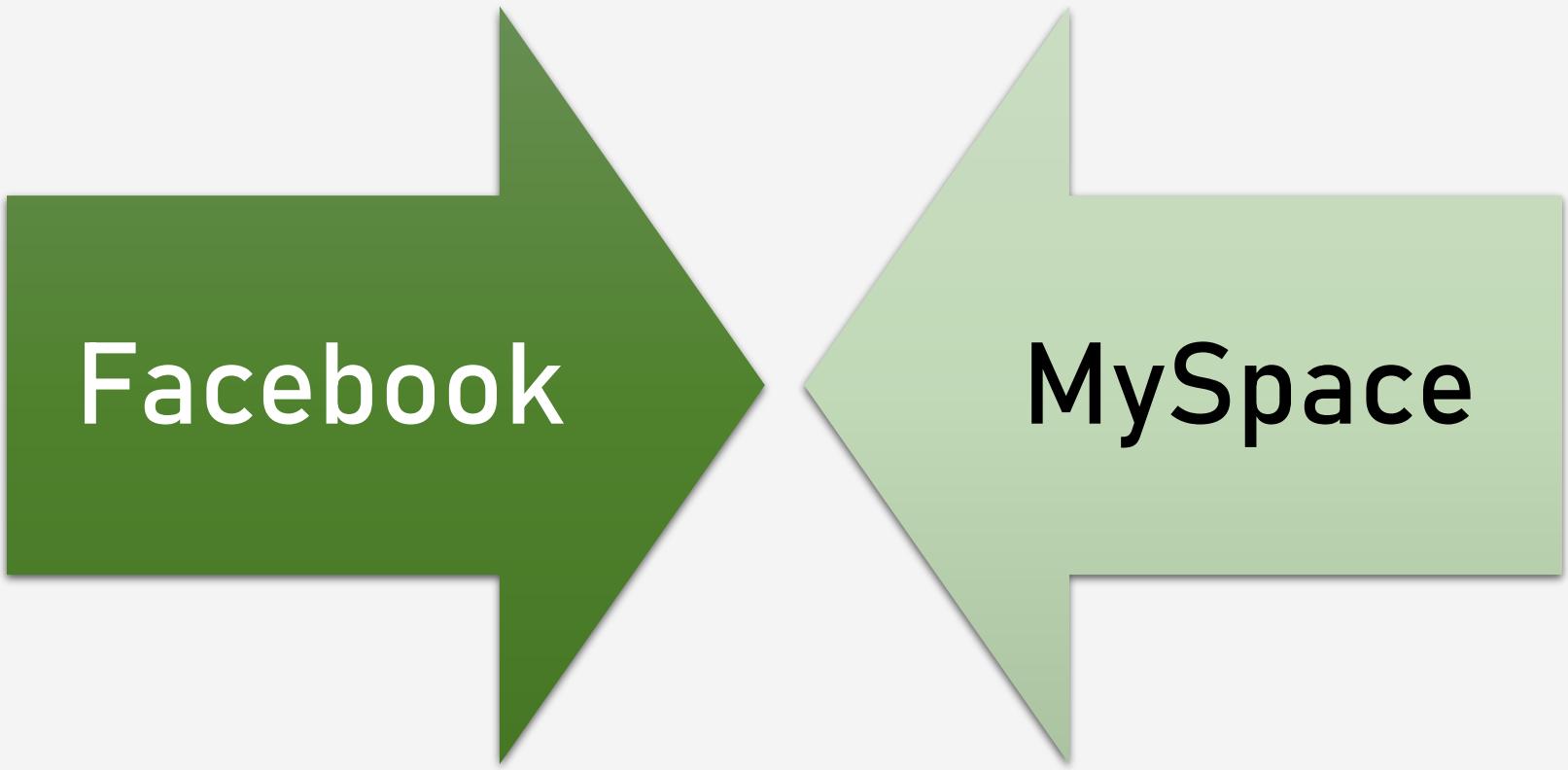
Given that social networks are personal in nature, what value do they hold for businesses, community groups, and families? Lots, if you use them properly.

- You see, most social networking sites let you **create your own topic-specific groups**.
- A **social network group** is like a virtual meeting or **community room**.

Collaborating via Social Networks and Groupware

- Social network groups are especially useful for community groups, far-flung friends, and families.
- However, there are situations where these social network groups are less useful for larger businesses.

Collaborating via Social Networks and Groupware



Facebook

MySpace

Collaborating via Social Networks and Groupware

Other Web Groups-

- Google Groups
- Yahoo! Groups

Evaluating Online Groupware

- For larger businesses, a social networking group probably won't suffice. What you need instead is a collection of web-based collaborative tools that help your team members not only communicate with each other but also manage their group projects.
- This type of solution is commonly known as groupware, and when it's based in the cloud it's called online groupware.

Evaluating Online Groupware

- In a nutshell, groupware is collaboration software for workgroups. Online groupware does away with the physical constraints of traditional groupware, letting members from throughout an organization, in any location, access group assets.

Evaluating Online Groupware

Online groupware typically includes some or all of the following tools:

- File and document uploading and sharing
- Web calendar
- Task/project manager
- Message boards
- Text-based chat rooms / instant messaging
- Wiki-like collaborative pages
- Blogs

Evaluating Online Groupware

Why use Online Groupware?

- AirSet
- ContactOffice
- Google Sites
- Huddle
- Nexo
- OpenTeams
- ProjectSpaces
- teamspace

Collaborating via Blogs and Wikis

- Group projects are all about collaboration and communication, so it pays to seek out every possible way to communicate with other group members.
- Blogs and wikis can both be housed in the cloud or on dedicated servers, depending on the service. But the point is that they're both web-based and they both facilitate group collaboration.

Evaluating Blogs for Collaboration

Blog-hosting Communities to create private group blogs.

- Blogger
- TypePad
- WordPress

Evaluating Wikis for Collaboration

- Wikipedia is, in essence, a giant online encyclopaedia—but with a twist. Wikipedia's content is created solely by the site's users, resulting in the world's largest online collaboration.
- Wikipedia articles are written, edited, and elaborated on by people of all types, from students, to subject-matter experts and professional researchers, to interested amateurs. It's a true group collaboration.

Evaluating Wikis for Collaboration

A group wiki **can be public** (open to all users), as Wikipedia is, **or private**—which is ideal for project groups, businesses, and other organizations. A private wiki invites all group members to create new pages on the wiki site or to edit any existing pages.

Evaluating Wikis for Collaboration

1. Pbwiki
2. Versionate
3. wikihost.org

That's all for now...