Evolution of Cloud Computing – Revision Notes

☑ Evolution of Cloud Computing

Reasons for Cloud Computing Evolution

- Main Reason: Public clouds reduce IT costs significantly.
- · Provides illusion of infinite capacity, rapid scaling, and pay-as-you-go model.
- In contrast, private data centers require provisioning for peak load, causing low average utilization (5-20%).

Public Cloud – End User Benefits

- · High resource utilization
- · Scalability without hardware changes
- No hardware procurement, power, or IT maintenance needed
- High SLA availability (~99%), with compensation for failures
- · Ideal for prototyping and testing
- Standardization efforts: Cloud Interoperability Forum, Open Cloud Consortium
 - ightarrow e.g., Amazon EC2 and Eucalyptus share API

Private Cloud - Benefits

- Cheaper to use one 12-core, 12 GB RAM server than 12 separate 1-core servers.
- · Data confidentiality preserved
- Virtual machines (VMs):
 - o Cheaper and faster to provision than physical machines

Economics of PaaS vs laaS

- For unpredictable web traffic:
 - o laaS needs minimum servers always on (costly)
 - o PaaS incurs zero cost when idle, and scales automatically with demand

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- · No need for manual scaling or load balancing
- Provides Web-based IDE for app development/deployment
- Easier code migration from dev to production
- No need to purchase IDE licenses

SaaS (Software as a Service) – Benefits

- Users subscribe instead of buying software \rightarrow e.g., Google Docs instead of MS Word
- Enterprises use SaaS CRM apps instead of installing CRM tools and databases
- Reduces licensing and infrastructure costs

Purpose of Cloud Computing in Organizations

- Platform for multi-organization business processes
- Backup and archive data
- Run CRM/ERP/Supply chain apps
- Provide productivity tools
- Develop & test software
- Store large files (e.g., video, audio)
- Analyze customer/ops data
- Run e-business/e-government websites

Top Applications Driving Cloud Adoption

- Mail & Messaging
- Archiving
- Backup
- Storage
- Security
- Virtual Servers
- CRM
- · Cross-enterprise collaboration
- Hosted PBX
- Video Conferencing