

Case Study – 7

(30 points)

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Submission: Save this Word document with your answers as a PDF file and upload the PDF file to Canvas.

(10 pts) For the Book Exchange Project, compare the pros and cons of building a desktop app vs web app

Web App Pros:

- Easily scalable
- Runs on multiple hardware environments
- Less dependent on computing power resources
- Developed on internet-based framework

Web App Cons:

- Web apps are usually purchased or rented products, requiring vendor fees
- Requires multiple layers of software to communicate
- Complex security issues over the internet

Desktop App Pros:

- Simple, low-cost solutions for IT software
- Powerful, flexible, and user-friendly
- Integration for tutorials and data exchange with programs
- Allows more access to data and more powerful management tools

Desktop App Cons:

- Technical support required in some way
- Downloads required can be large
- Software may be more dependent on computing power resources

(10 pts) If we chose to build a web app for the Book Exchange, analyze the cost vs. benefits (tangible and intangible) of an on-site web server vs. a cloud-based web server such as Amazon

On-site Web Server

Tangible Costs:

- Hardware cost
- Human resource cost to set up hardware
- Maintenance costs to keep server running
- Potential server upgrades or downtime maintenance

Intangible Costs:

- Employees will know the in's and out's of the server
- Potentially bad servers will relate to brand damage

Benefits:

- Ownership of company servers
- Direct maintenance if there are server issues
- Easy contact with employees that maintain servers
- Size, quality dependent on nothing but company

Cloud-based Web Server

Tangible Costs:

- Server rental fees
- Technical support from server hosts
- Fees for upgrades or maintenance

Intangible Costs:

- Employees may feel rejected for not hosting their own server
- Communication issues with outside company
- If hosts are having issues, the company will have issues

Benefits:

- Company does not have to worry about server hosting
- Data storage will be accessible everywhere
- Company assets can be moved online for everyone

(10 pts) For the Book Exchange Project, build a growth estimating spreadsheet similar to that in Fig 7.8

- Since this is a new system, there will be no “current level”
- Define at least 5 potential performance factors
- Then estimate 1 year, 2 year & 5 year estimates for those factors

	FUTURE Growth		
	1 Year	2 Years	5 Years
Daily Users	1,000	2,500	4,000
Weekly Registrations	10	50	20
Weekly Donations	25	100	250
Daily Forum Posts	35	75	150
Library Size	1,500	5,000	25,000