COSC2196 Assessment 2

IT Technologies

Clouds, Services and Servers

What Does it Do? (600 Words)

Clouds, Services and servers are a group of technologies and concepts that combined allow for the storage of information and the execution of applications without requiring the use of local resources beyond the bare minimum to access The Cloud. Combined with the ubiquity and reliability of the internet, hardware, software, applications and networking which used to be localised within an organisation with the costs entirely borne by that organisation have been externalised and provided on a pay per use basis. The Cloud is the server/data room of the world, the Internet is the network of the world and Software as a Service (SaaS) are the applications which used to be developed inhouse and are now able to be purchased based on licenses or data or transaction costs.

By leveraging the scale of the entire planet to provide The Cloud, costs for an individual organisation are dramatically reduced while reliability and redundancy are dramatically improved.

While presently there are multiple cloud based providers there is already a trend to open sourcing the provision of cloud technologies with Docker and Kubernetes used to create containers which will allow the portability of data, applications and services from one cloud provider to another. Once the basis of containers and The Cloud have been resolved to an open source industry standard specification then the value for the Cloud providers will be in how their AI can efficiently allocate these resources and how the Ai can build new applications from combinations of containers which provide the “lego” like building blocks.

State of the art

What can be done now

Likely soon

Tech needed to make it possible

What is the Likely Impact (300 words)

The impact of the containerisation of applications, hardware and services cannot be understated, the majority of people employed in a business are taking the output of another business’s application (Accounts, reports, sales) and entering it into their own applications, to be processed and then the output provided to another business to be used as an input.

Initially the simple business processes such as accounting will be moved into the cloud, then the communications between businesses applications will be automated, then the applications themselves will be integrated using AI to link company X’s Accounts Recievable with Company Y’s Accounts Payable. Then the Ai will link company G’s sales forecasts with company X’s production system. In the end there can be only one!

Basically if your job involves taking someone else’s data and re-entering it and then producing a report for someone else without adding any insight into the result then The Cloud (combined with AI) will replace your job and make you redundant.

The effect of this revolution in The Cloud will be felt in human employment by everyone, everywhere on the planet. No industry will not be reduced in the number of employees required, the amount that those employee’s labour is worth and the only people who will prosper in this environment will be people who can create value which cannot be identified by an AI. Artists and inventors are likely to be the only people who will produce an output valued by people with the ability to reward their enterprise

Potential impact

Likely to change

People most affected and how

Create replace or redundant current jobs and tech

How will this affect you? (300 words)

In the present the ability to leverage the cloud provides a cheap and effectively unlimited means of storing information for what could be longer than the lifespan of the human race. (Automation and AI). I use the cloud in my day to day business to provide redundant storage for information such as photos, invoices and files. My family and friends also use The Cloud for similar purposes. Future impacts while adverse to employment may also allow people more free time to explore their artistic desires.

Daily life

Different for you

Family and friends

Biblio

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