# Introduction to Cloud Computing

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Fundamentals of Cloud Computing

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#### **Key Characteristics of Cloud Computing**

- On-Demand Self-Service: Users can provision resources and services as needed, without requiring human interaction with service providers.
- Broad Network Access: Services are accessible over the internet via standard protocols and devices.
- Resource Pooling: Computing resources are pooled together to serve multiple users, allowing for efficient utilization and scalability.
- Rapid Elasticity: Resources can be scaled up or down quickly to meet changing demands.
- Measured Service: Cloud service usage is measured, monitored, and billed based on actual consumption.

# **Cloud Deployment Models**



#### **Public Cloud**

- Services are provided over a public network and available to anyone who wants to use them.
- It is a cost-effective option for businesses and individuals looking for scalability and flexibility.
- Public cloud providers, such as AWS, Azure, and GCP, offer a wide range of services accessible to the general public.



#### **Private Cloud**

- Infrastructure is dedicated to a single organization and may be located on-premises or offpremises.
- Private cloud environments are designed to meet specific security, compliance, or performance requirements.
- They offer enhanced control, customization, and privacy but require significant upfront investment.



#### **Hybrid Cloud**

- Combines public and private cloud environments, allowing for flexibility and data sharing between the two.
- Organizations can leverage the benefits of both public and private clouds, ensuring optimal resource allocation.
- Hybrid cloud deployments enable workload portability and seamless integration between different environments.



#### **Community Cloud**

- Community cloud is a deployment model where infrastructure and services are shared among a specific community or group of organizations.
- It caters to the needs of a particular community, such as government agencies, educational institutions, or research organizations.
- Community cloud provides a costeffective solution while addressing specific requirements and compliance standards of the community.



### Service Models

#### Infrastructure as a Service (laaS)

laaS provides virtualized computing resources over the internet. Users have control over the operating systems, storage, and networking components.

They can provision and manage virtual machines (VMs), storage, and networks according to their requirements. Examples of IaaS providers include AWS EC2, Azure Virtual Machines, and Google Compute Engine.



### Service Models

#### Platform as a Service (PaaS)

PaaS offers a platform for developing, testing, and deploying applications.

Users can focus on application development without worrying about infrastructure management.

PaaS providers manage the underlying infrastructure, including servers, storage, and networking.

Developers can leverage pre-configured environments, development frameworks, and deployment tools.

Examples of PaaS providers include Heroku, Google App Engine, and AWS Elastic Beanstalk.



### Service Models

#### Software as a Service (SaaS)

SaaS delivers software applications over the internet on a subscription basis.

Users can access and use applications directly through a web browser or APIs.

The provider hosts and manages the underlying infrastructure, application, and data.

Users can typically customize certain aspects of the application to fit their needs.

Examples of SaaS include Salesforce, Microsoft Office 365, and Google Workspace.



## Benefits of Cloud

- **Cost Savings**: Pay for what you use, with no upfront infrastructure costs.
- Scalability: Easily scale resources up or down based on demand.
- Flexibility: Access resources and applications from anywhere with an internet connection.
- **Reliability**: Cloud providers typically offer high uptime and data redundancy.
- Collaboration: Enable seamless collaboration and data sharing among teams.



### Common Cloud Computing Use Cases

- Data Storage and Backup: Store and back up large amounts of data securely.
- **Software Development and Testing**: Rapidly create and deploy applications in a scalable environment.
- Web and Mobile Applications: Host web and mobile applications in the cloud for global accessibility.
- **Big Data Analytics**: Process and analyze vast amounts of data using cloud resources.
- **Disaster Recovery**: Maintain data backups and recovery plans in the cloud for business continuity.



# **Cloud Architecture**

- Cloud architecture refers to the design and structure of cloud computing environments, including the arrangement of components and the relationships between them.
- It involves various elements that work together to deliver cloud services and ensure reliability, scalability, and security.



#### **NIST Architecture of Cloud**



- **Cloud Consumer**: An individual or organization that engages in a business partnership with Cloud Providers and utilizes their services.
- **Cloud Provider**: A person, organization, or entity that is accountable for offering services to individuals or entities who are interested in them.
- **Cloud Auditor**: A party capable of conducting an impartial evaluation of cloud services, as well as assessing the performance, security, and operations of the cloud implementation.
- **Cloud Broker**: An entity responsible for managing the utilization, performance, and delivery of cloud services. Additionally, they act as mediators between Cloud Providers and Cloud Consumers, negotiating relationships between the two parties.
- Cloud Carrier: An intermediary that facilitates the connectivity and transportation of cloud services from Cloud Providers to Cloud Consumers.

### **Cloud Architecture Best Practices**

- Up-front Planning: Prioritize up-front planning to understand capacity needs and avoid unexpected production glitches. Continuously test performance during the architecture design phase.
- Security First: Implement robust security measures to protect against unauthorized access. Safeguard all layers of the cloud infrastructure through data encryption, patch management, and strict security policies. Consider adopting zero-trust security models for enhanced protection in hybrid and multi-cloud environments.
- Disaster Recovery Readiness: Automate recovery processes to minimize costly downtime and ensure swift recovery from service disruptions. Implement monitoring mechanisms to track capacity and utilize redundant networks for a highly available architecture.
- Maximize Performance: Optimize computing resources by continuously monitoring business demands and technological requirements. Efficiently manage and allocate resources to maintain optimal performance levels.
- Cost Optimization: Leverage automated processes, managed service providers, and utilization tracking to reduce unnecessary cloud computing expenses. Regularly review and optimize resource allocation to ensure cost-effectiveness.

## Conclusion

- Cloud computing enables the delivery of computing services over the internet, eliminating the need for local infrastructure.
- Key characteristics of cloud computing include on-demand self-service, broad network access, resource pooling, rapid elasticity, and measured service.
- Deployment models include public, private, and hybrid clouds, offering flexibility and data sharing options.
- Service models such as IaaS, PaaS, and SaaS provide virtualized computing resources, platform for application development, and software delivery respectively.
- Cloud computing offers benefits like cost savings, scalability, flexibility, reliability, and enhanced collaboration.
- Cloud computing presents a transformative approach to computing, offering costeffective solutions, scalability, and flexibility for organizations across various industries. By leveraging the benefits of cloud computing and aligning with the appropriate deployment and service models, organizations can drive innovation, improve efficiency, and adapt to evolving business needs.

### Remember

- Understand your specific needs and requirements when selecting a cloud deployment and service model.
- Prioritize security measures such as data encryption and access controls to protect against unauthorized access.
- Plan for disaster recovery and high availability to ensure business continuity.
- Continuously monitor and optimize resource utilization for optimal performance and cost savings.
- Regularly assess and adapt your cloud architecture to evolving business needs and emerging technologies.

