DEVELOPING A CONFERENCE APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES WITH THE HELP OF CLOUD TECHNOLOGY

Ikwuegbu Chigozie Charles Scientific supervisor – Ass. Prof. Maryna Yevdokymenko. Kharkiv National University of Radio Electronics Infocommunication engineering Department, Nauki Ave., Kharkiv Tel. (093) 190-53-79, e-mail: chigozieikwuegbu@yahoo.com;

The goal of the paper is to analyze the concept of cloud and how to benefit from this technology in an academic environment. In order to develop an e-learning platform academic purposes, new methodologies should be considered for the research. An academic cloud framework is proposed in order to provide a new era in e-learning. This framework addresses the services and deployment of cloud in a new dimension and each layer specifies the benefits and significance and essential components needed to construct an academic cloud.

The cloud is an Information Technology (IT) practice of using a network of remote servers hosted on the Internet to store, manage and process data rather than a local server or personal computer. Nowadays there are many users, companies, business which use different cloud platforms for achievement of their goals. The most used cloud platform is Software as a Service (SaaS) [1].

For development and implementation of SaaS platform, a web application is needed to be developed because hosting a web application is a business that provides the technologies and services needed for the web application to be viewed on the Internet. Web applications are hosted on special computers called serves and when we input the domain into our browsers, we are connected to the server. The following are a few things to consider when building a web application and hosting it [2].

- 1. Designing a Software System describes vendor neutral best practices for hosting web applications in the cloud. The main idea of this step is to choose types of hosting environments of cloud: private, public or hybrid.
- 2. System Architecture describes the components required by the application to be hosted. These elements support the different types of cloud systems and they include:
 - Load Balancing. This allows to spread load across multiple resources such as computers processors and storage or network link.
 - Firewalls with Security Groups. This brings about security, providing a host-level firewall both on the web servers and the application servers.
 - Content Delivery Network. These are geographically distributed systems of servers deployed to minimize the response time for serving resources to geographically distributed users ensuring that content is highly available with minimum latency.

- Managed Databases. These are a structured set of data. Typically, there are kept storage devices connected to computers and/ or networks.
- DNS Services: Domain Name System server resolves the text URL for a particular web resource to the TCP/IP address of the system or service which can deliver the resource to the client.
- DDoS Protection. This is a means to safeguard infrastructure against multiple compromised systems which is the most common network and transport layer distributed denial of service attack.

3. Hosting a web application. When considering hosting a web application, one needs to consider a number of things which range from cost, scalability. Many web applications contain some form of persistence, usually in the form of a relational or NoSql database. Selecting a solution that offers both is essential.

4. To effectively develop a software, it is required to gather the requirements of the application from the user. The user does this by using mind mapping applications to put down all the specifications of the software to be developed. This includes number of users able to access the application, level of security, authentication, colors present in the application [3].

Conclusion

So, cloud computing is becoming a regular concept nowadays. Many companies accelerate their pace of development in the cloud computer systems and improving their services to meet a wide range of users. Deploying web applications such as lecture schedule, conferences, and lecture material would be beneficial for students such that they would be able to access what they need easily. It would give them the opportunity to do more learning outside the classroom.

List of references

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