

Cloudsourcing!

Considerations for libraries considering the cloud.

You know how web 2.0 was really just giving a name to a big chunk of stuff in order to sell people tickets to as conference Tom O'Reilly was doing? This is not that different. When I asked folks for suggestions about what to talk about to a person the techies said "ugh it's nothing new" and the happy end users said "oh this or that app is great"

"Most types of technology services that deliver hosted services over the internet." Can be open (have and API and/or open code) or closed. UWs WILLOW system



"Just marketing speak for remote storage" You know the phone system? Before we accessed the cloud via computers, we were using the phone company's software to make phone calls. Voicemail? Storage. The whole thing is really buzzwordy and I think it's a way to make computing not seem like computing so that people will pay for it differently.

I'll tell you a few things that I think will be helpful to libraries, about the cloud.

Why the Cloud?


- apps divisible from infrastructure
- "utility" nature of accessing computing power
- "software as a service" for renting instead of owning software

For businesses, the cloud is about not having your own server racks. I was discussing this talk with someone and all the "cloud" stuff he knew about was ultimately about storing things. Your email, your documents, your pictures. But really the cloud doesn't have to be about storage. I used to explain email to novice users by saying "It's sort of like a mailbox but you access it with robot arms..." and that is a similar thing. You have computers, they do things, they are not in your building. Outsources computing, generally. Usual suspects include WORLDCAT, Wordpress, Google docs, any hosted email service.

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You can use Zamzar to store and manage your converted files, but you have to be a registered user - [You can signup here](#)

Filename	Date	From	To	Size	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/> file_name.jpg	08-12-2007	www	jpg	124 KB	Rename Share Delete
<input type="checkbox"/> file.doc	11-07-2007	doc	doc	0.1 MB	Rename Share Delete
<input type="checkbox"/> image.gif	08-12-2007	gif	gif	102 KB	Rename Share Delete
<input type="checkbox"/> file.pdf	10-09-2007	doc	pdf	3 KB	Rename Share Delete

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- ✓ Get up to 100 GB of online file storage
- ✓ Your files get converted before free users

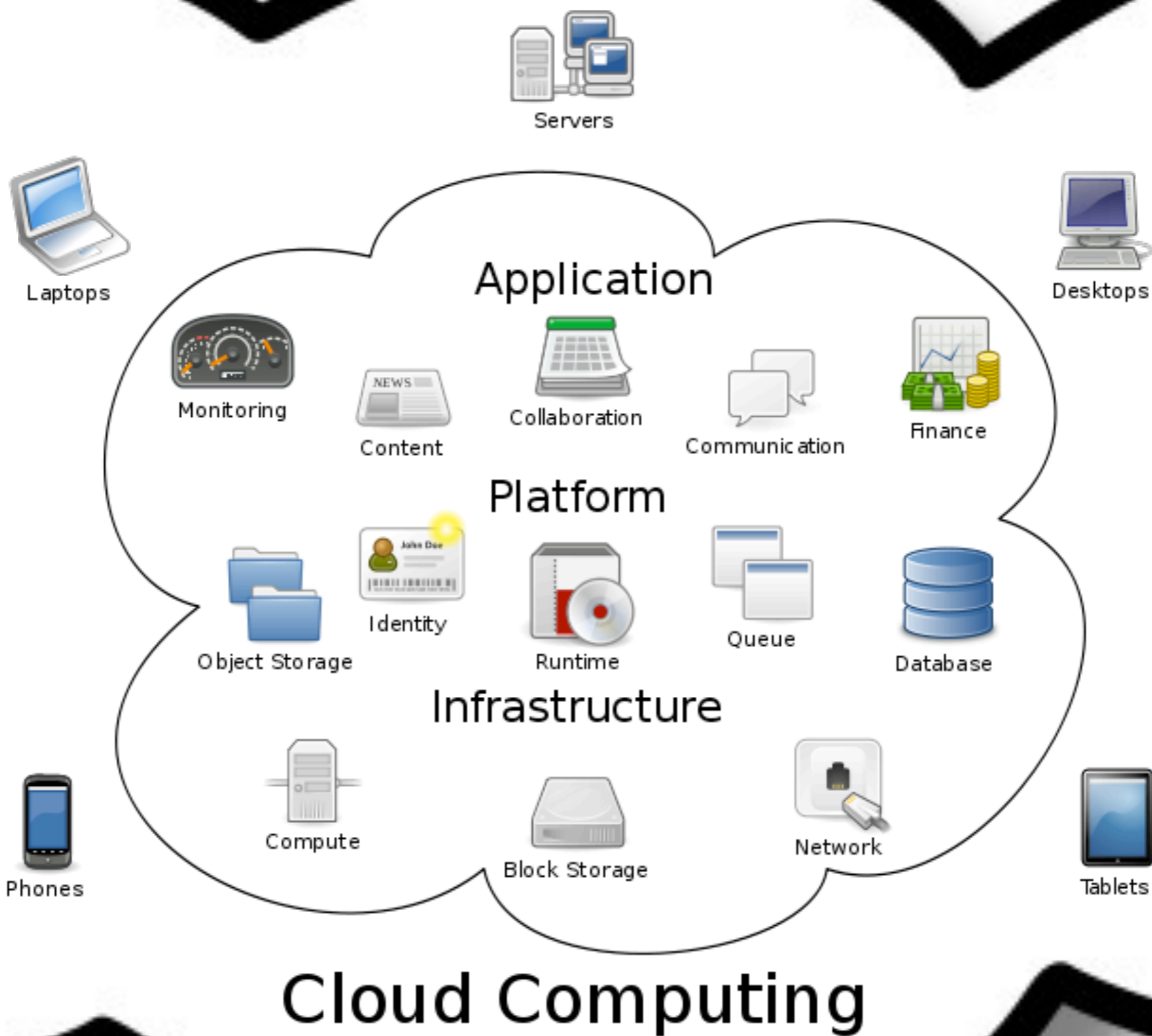
[Click here to signup](#)

So an example that is not the usual suspects is zamzar. It's a "we'll convert any file to any other file" website. When you upload a photo or a document it's sending to to a computer SOMEWHERE that computer is doing some work to it and then sending it back to you. No storage, a little computing, free because it has ads and they want to upsell you to some other stuff they do. It's fine.

Review

- SaaS/PaaS/IaaS
- Infrastructure (Amazon's A3)
- Platform (facebook developer, open ID)
- Services (Mint, MyFitnessPal)
- Apps (google docs)

Software, Infrastructure, Platform. The different categories are good if they help you understand this concept but I am here to tell you that they don't actually matter. Here is what you need to know. "You don't have a power generator in your house. Electricity gets to it, & you don't care how. Cloud is the same, but for compute."



Cloud Computing

This picture is better than some....

In the library world

- WorldCat, Koha Enterprise
- WordPress, Typepad, Blogger
- Dropbox, Megaupload RIP, iCloud
- RSSCal, Feed2js,
- Goodreads, Library Thing, ABE Books



Thriving In Tough Times

A virtual library to support Kansans as they weather the economic downturn -- online tools help with finding a job, refinancing a home mortgage, acquiring health insurance and "thriving in tough times."

[Home](#)[Employment & Training](#)[Families](#)[Finances](#)[Health](#)[Housing](#)[Local Assistance](#)

Employment & Training



Information provided by Kansas librarians...

The links below connect you to agencies, organizations and others who can help you with finding employment, career planning, applying for unemployment benefits, disability and veterans' assistance, training and GED information, and other related resources.

Jobs and Job Service Agencies
[State of Kansas Jobs](#)

Search and apply for civil service jobs within Kansas

[KANSASWORKS](#)

Find and post jobs in Kansas or if you are interested in Summer Youth Program employment opportunities.

Information on workforce services and employment training for Kansans in partnership with KANSASWORKS:

START YOUR JOB SEARCH WITH JOB & CAREER ACCELERATOR!

Job & Career
Accelerator



SITE NAVIGATION

- [o Employment & Training](#)
- [o Families](#)
- [o Finances](#)
- [o Health](#)
- [o Housing](#)
- [o Local Assistance](#)



“The days of each library operating its own local servers have largely passed. This approach rarely represents the best use of library space and personnel.”

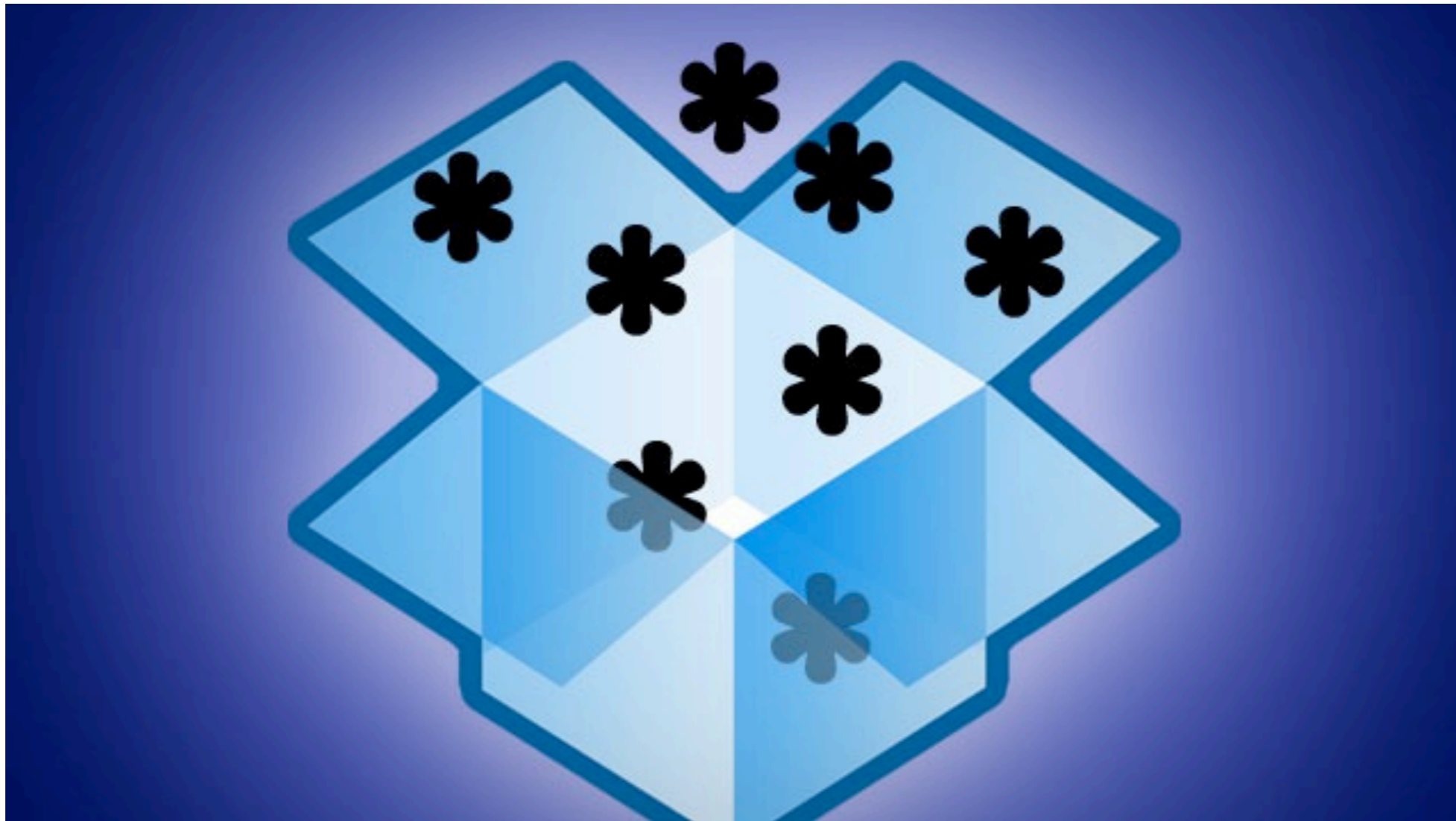
Marshall Breeding

I took this from Elyssa Kroski's "cloud computing and libraries" talk that she hosted, appropriately enough, on slideshare.

Concerns

- HIPAA
- FERPA
- Privacy
- USA PATRIOT Act
- Data ownership?

"it insinuates soft fluffiness, a size and grandeur, and a fuzzy meaninglessness. So if you fail to deal with the underlying hard facts and cases, who can blame you? It's a cloud. Soft, huggable cloud, I do love you and your rounded edges."



June 2011 code change made dropbox accounts not require password for four hours "less than 1% of users were affected" Would this be acceptable to your users?



Don't get stuck! "For a short time after the closure of the site, users could access material via Google's [web cache](#) and [The Internet Archive](#). However, one day after the indictment Google and Archive.org voluntarily removed the site mirrors to avoid the responsibility of hosting a website taken down for [copyright infringement](#)."

examples

- LAPL uses gmail for domains
- Orgs using Dropbox for sharing documents
- DC Public using Amazon for hosting
- Vancouver Public - Bibliocommons/
LibGuides

Bibliocommons: Downs

- No control of timelines
- Lack of customization
- Loss of unique cataloguing
- Perceived lack of complexity
- Communication problems aggravated
- Hard costs
- Privacy



Vancouver Public Library

Questions to Ask

- Does it cost money? Am I the product?
- Do I pay for usage or access?
- What security is there?
- What laws govern the data?

Download Your Information

Get a copy of what you've shared on Facebook.

Easily download and browse through a personal archive of your Facebook photos, posts and messages. [Learn more about downloading a copy of your information.](#)

[Start My Archive](#)

What's in your archive?

- Photos or videos you've shared on Facebook
- Your Wall posts, messages and chat conversations
- Your friends' names and some of their email addresses

(Note: We'll only include email addresses for friends who've allowed this in their account settings.)

What's not in your archive?

- Your friends' photos and status updates
- Other people's personal info
- Comments you've made on other people's posts

You can also download an [expanded archive](#) to see more about your account history. [Learn what's included.](#)

Caution: Protect your archive

Your Facebook archive includes sensitive info like your private Wall posts, photos and profile information. Please keep this in mind before storing or sending your archive.



No-brainers

- making backups - in and out
- email hosting
- calendaring/notifications
- redundancy and LOCKSS
- amplifying your message

digitally divided

- Using applications without a computer
- Remembering a password & URL gets you your files
- More widely used applications
- Easier to share for tech support & help

Best Practices

- Redundant backups
- If you can put data in, make sure you can get it out
- Be very very wary of "free" anything
- Have a Plan B, always.



jessamyn west @jessamyn

3h

Taking to librarians about "the cloud" on Fri If you had one non-wiseass thing to pass on to librarians about the cloud, what would it be?

[Details](#)



Andrew Sempere

@tezcatlipoca



Follow



[@jessamyn](#) libraries will probably save us when the cloud crashes.



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5:38 PM - 7 Jun 12 via YoruFukurou · [Embed this Tweet](#)

A thick black outline of a cloud-like shape with a drop shadow, centered on a white background. The shape is irregular with several rounded protrusions and indentations. Inside the shape, the word "thanks!" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

thanks!