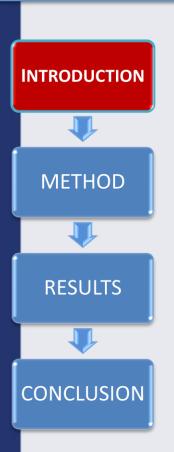# The Cloud Computing Preferences of University Students

Dr. Huseyin Bicen - hbicen@neu.edu.tr

Assist. Prof. Dr. Fezile Ozdamli - fozdamli@neu.edu.tr
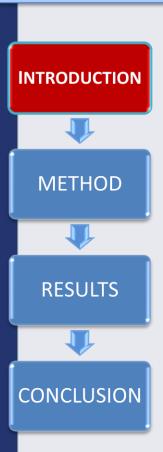
INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- Cloud computing is a new emerging computing paradigm that delivers computing services.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- Cloud system users are able to access documents, photos or other data and use applications through their terminal devices such as PDAs, smartphones, tablets, PCs etc.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- According to Cruz (2011), cloud computing provides an innovative alternative to traditional education, that creates individual learning environments and interactive learning for learners.

- Also, it allows learners to collaborate with their peers, regardless of geographical location.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

Main characteristics of a cloud computing services as follows:

- Independence from any device and platforms,
- It should be used without internet connection,
- Limitless number of users and authority,
- The possibility to synchronize with local data (Bal, 2010).

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- There are many types of cloud system in the literature. When we searched we found a lot of cloud system. Some of them free some of them commercial. The most popular cloud systems in the literature are Dropbox, Evernote, Google Drive, SkyDrive.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- The most popular cloud systems in the literature are;

- Dropbox

- Evernote

- Google Drive

- SkyDrive.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

Dropbox application is available for Windows desktop, Mac and all mobile platforms. Users need only a single account and achieve account from all devices.

If user back up a file on a pc, it will automatically sync in Dropbox account when connect to internet. It accounts for mobile and desktop are free with up to 18 GB of free space.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- SkyDrive is Micorsoft's homebrewed cloud service which is not limited to Windows users. Users should create account and access from any device.

- It provides 7GB free spaces. But users can add up to 100GB by paying a price. Files and photos store in system are protected.

- INTRODUCTION
- METHOD
- RESULTS
- CONCLUSION

Evernote system is available for Windows Desktop, Mac and all mobile platforms. It has a lot of features.

- It has some tools such as Skitch, Voice2Note, CallNote, MindJet and EyeFi. It provides 5GB free spaces to users. Also Users can share Evernote notes on Facebook or Twitter.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- The research was conducted within the frame of general survey model.

- This study was applied to selected sample of 113 fourth class undergraduate students at the end of 2nd term of 2011-2012 academic years in department of Computer Education and Instructional Technology (CEIT) at Near East University.

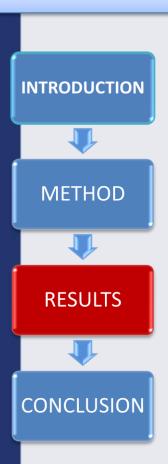INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- This research was carried out with 97 students because of the reason that 16 students do not use cloud computing services.

- As total, 68% of the students were male and 32% were female in the research.

- The average age of the students participated in the study was determined as 21.

- In this research, authors developed a data collection form to determine preferences of students towards cloud computing services.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- The results and the comments obtained through the aims of the research have been explained.

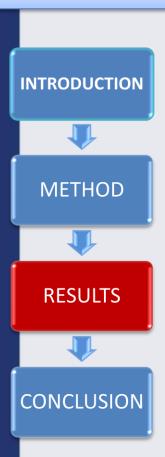|	**F**	**%**
Used	97	85.4
Not Used	16	14.6
Total	113	100.0

- As shown in the table above 85.4% of the students used cloud computing applications and 14.6% never used. According to the findings large majority of students took place in the research were familiar with cloud computing applications.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

Cloud computing services	TOTAL	
	F	**%**
Dropbox	58	22.2
Open Drive	47	18.0
Evernote	44	16.9
iCloud	38	14.6
Google drive	34	13.0
Sky drive	25	9.6
Cloudon	12	4.6
Diigo	1	0.4
Zotero	1	0.4

- Most of the students use the Dropbox, Open Drive and Evernote which is a cloud computing services. The only %0.4 use of them Diigo and Zotero.
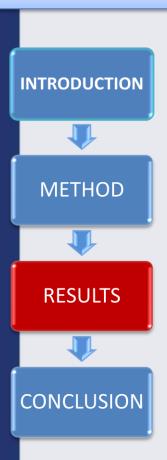
INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

The most preferred usage habits	TOTAL	
	F	**%**
Docs	66	26.1
Images	62	24.5
Presentation	55	21.7
Video	32	12.6
Audio	21	8.3
Sticky Notes	12	4.7
Bookmarks	5	2.0

- As it can be seen from Table, docs (F=66, 26.1%), images (F=62, 24.5%), presentation (F=55, 21.7%), video (F=32, 12.6%), audio (F=21, 8.3%), sticky notes (F=12, 4.7%) and bookmarks (f=5, 2.0%) are the most commonly shared items on Cloud computing services. Therefore, Table suggests that students use Cloud computing services for store the documents and images.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

Devices which Cloud computing services is used	TOTAL	
	F	%
Smartphone	72	51.8
Tablet	35	25.2
Laptop	22	15.8
PC	10	7.2

- 51.8% of students use the cloud computing services on their smart phone, 25.2% on their Tablet, 15.8% on their Laptop and 7.2% on their PC.

- When the results were examined, it was observed that majority of the participants use the Cloud computing services via their smart phones. And only %7.2 of them using Personal Computers for using Cloud Computing services.
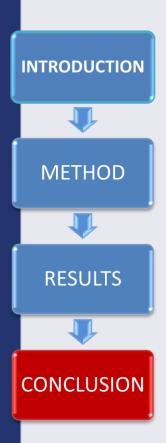
INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

	N	**Percent**
Want	102	90.2
Don't Want	11	9.8
Total	113	100.0

- As shown in the table above, 90.2% of the students want to use cloud computing services for educational purposes.

INTRODUCTION

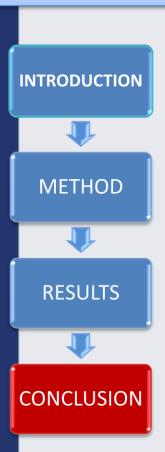**METHOD**

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- With the rapid development and technology, the communication tools and methods are also changing. Considering the fact that mobile internet technology is being used very effectively, it could be said that Smart Phones and Tablet PCs have an important place.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- The users are getting chance to reach more substantial content with the developing communication applications each passing day.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- For example, through various applications, photos, videos or audios recorded with mobile equipments could be shared with people from all over the world immediately.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

The results of this study is proving that cloud computing services are being used very effectively with mobile equipments by most of the students. The students were using these services mostly with smartphones, tabletpcs and laptops.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

Beside of this result, it was found that students are mainly using documents, images, presentation, video and audio amongst other cloud computing tools.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

- The most used four cloud computing services according to the results are; Dropbox, Open Drive, Evernote and iCloud.

- Students' use of Cloud Computing Services is spreading day by day and students are thinking that those services should be used for educational purposes.

- Thus, experimental studies are suggested to be done beside of in-service trainings in order to persuade teachers to use cloud computing services for educational purposes.

Thanks for Your Attention!

Dr. Huseyin Bicen - hbicen@neu.edu.tr

Assist. Prof. Dr. Fezile Ozdamli - fozdamli@neu.edu.tr