



Unleashing the Power of Cloud Computing for Big Data Management: Advantages, Challenges, and Future Prospects

Farhan Aslam ^{a*}

^a *University of the Cumberland, KY, USA.*

Author's contribution

The sole author designed, analysed, interpreted and prepared the manuscript.

Article Information

DOI: 10.9734/AJRCOS/2023/v16i3363

Open Peer Review History:

This journal follows the Advanced Open Peer Review policy. Identity of the Reviewers, Editor(s) and additional Reviewers, peer review comments, different versions of the manuscript, comments of the editors, etc are available here: <https://www.sdiarticle5.com/review-history/105439>

Review Article

Received: 18/06/2023

Accepted: 25/08/2023

Published: 01/09/2023

ABSTRACT

In the era of digitization, big data analytics has become essential for various sectors. Traditional computing systems often struggle to handle the demands of big data. This article explores cloud computing as a viable solution, emphasizing its scalability and flexibility. Through a comprehensive literature review, two case studies were analyzed, showcasing the advantages of cloud computing in big data processing. The findings reveal that cloud platforms not only enhance computational efficiency but also offer practical benefits for businesses, aiding in informed decision-making. As big data continues to grow, cloud computing stands out as a pivotal tool in addressing its challenges and harnessing its potential.

Keywords: *Cloud computing; big data; data analytics; computational efficiency; business intelligence; geospatial computing; innovation enabler; cloud adoption; workflows integration;*

*Corresponding author: E-mail: Farhan_aslam@hotmail.com, dalit4u@gmail.com;

energy efficiency; deployment simplification; small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); data security; cost-effectiveness; user-centric approaches.

1. INTRODUCTION

In the digital age, the ability to process and analyze vast amounts of data, commonly referred to as big data, has become crucial for businesses, governments, and researchers. With the exponential growth of data, traditional computing infrastructures often fall short in meeting the demands of big data analytics. Cloud computing, with its scalable and flexible infrastructure, has emerged as a promising solution to this challenge. This article reviews two case studies that highlight the potential of cloud computing in enhancing big data capabilities.

2. METHODOLOGY

A comprehensive review of recent literature was conducted to identify areas that cloud technology can be used to enhance Big Data capabilities and case studies that specifically address the intersection of cloud computing and big data were selected for further review. Two case studies were selected based on their relevance and depth of analysis. These studies were critically reviewed to extract key findings, methodologies employed, and implications for the field.

3. RESULTS

Case Study 1: Recent Developments in Parallel and Distributed Computing for Remotely Sensed Big Data Processing [1]:

Key Findings: Cloud computing demonstrated significant improvements in computational efficiency, especially when specific scheduling strategies were employed.

Methodology: Evaluation of cloud computing capabilities in processing remotely sensed big data.

Implications: Cloud computing can be effectively used for processing large datasets, especially in remote sensing applications.

Case Study 2: Challenges and Benefits of Deploying Big Data Analytics in the Cloud for Business Intelligence [2]:

Key Findings: Cloud computing can effectively support the storage and computing requirements of big data analytics.

Methodology: Exploration of the potential of cloud infrastructure in addressing big data challenges.

Implications: Businesses can leverage cloud infrastructure to derive actionable insights from big data, leading to better decision-making.

4. DISCUSSION

The two case studies underscore the transformative potential of cloud computing in the realm of big data analytics. The first study emphasizes the technical advantages, particularly in computational efficiency, that cloud platforms offer. The second study, while also highlighting the technical benefits, delves deeper into the practical implications for businesses, suggesting that cloud platforms not only provide the necessary infrastructure but also facilitate better business intelligence.

The advent of big data has transformed the way organizations process, analyze, and derive insights from vast amounts of information. With the increasing volume, velocity, and variety of data, traditional computing infrastructures have struggled to keep pace. Cloud computing, with its inherent scalability and flexibility, has emerged as a promising solution to address the challenges posed by big data. This literature review delves into recent scholarly articles from 2022 onwards to understand the benefits of leveraging cloud technology for big data capabilities.

Enhanced Productivity and Economic Growth: Luminița Ionescu and Mihai Andronie highlighted the economic implications of integrating big data with cloud computing [3]. Their research suggests that such integration can significantly boost productivity for companies. Moreover, on a macro scale, it can lead to notable improvements in the international economy, emphasizing the broader socio-economic benefits of this technological synergy.

Innovation Delivery Enabler: A study by S. Bello et al. posits cloud computing as a catalyst for innovation, especially in the realm of emerging technologies like big data analytics [4]. By providing a robust and scalable infrastructure, cloud platforms enable industries to experiment, iterate, and deploy innovative big data solutions, driving technological advancement.

Support for Big Data Management: A. Latifian underscores the inherent features of cloud computing that cater to big data management needs [5]. The study emphasizes the scalable and flexible environment offered by cloud platforms, which is crucial for efficient data storage and processing, especially as data volumes continue to grow.

Cost-Effectiveness: Highlighting the economic benefits, Georgios Chatzithanasis and C. Michalakelis argue that cloud computing provides significant cost savings [6]. By transitioning to cloud platforms, businesses can manage and analyze big data in a more cost-effective manner, optimizing their return on investment.

Trade-off Between Big Data and Analytics Capability: S. Hao et al. introduced an interesting perspective on the balance between big data and its analytics capability [7]. Their research suggests that the true potential of big data can only be unlocked when paired with adequate analytics capabilities. Cloud platforms, with their advanced tools and services, can enhance these analytics capabilities, ensuring that organizations derive maximum value from their data.

Simplified Deployment: For organizations that may not have expertise in infrastructure management, cloud computing offers a respite. As highlighted by Luis M. Vaquero et al., cloud platforms, when combined with specific techniques, simplify the deployment of big data solutions [8]. This democratizes access to big data analytics, allowing a broader range of organizations to benefit.

Holistic View on Benefits: Nattakarn Phaphoom et al. provide a comprehensive view of the benefits promised by cloud computing [9]. Their research suggests that cloud platforms offer a more holistic perspective, especially when considering the viewpoints of the end-users. This user-centric approach ensures that the solutions are tailored to meet the specific needs and challenges faced by organizations [10].

However, while the benefits are evident, it's essential to consider potential challenges. These might include data security concerns, the cost of transitioning to cloud platforms [11], and ensuring that the cloud infrastructure aligns with the specific needs of the data analytics tasks.

Table 1. Advantages of cloud computing for big data management

Point	Source
Cloud-computing technologies such as Bigtable and MapReduce can provide substantial utility for data-intensive geospatial computing, enhancing scalability and near real-time computational performance.	Q. Li et al., [12]
Cloud computing is an innovation delivery enabler for other emerging technologies in various industries.	S. Bello et al., [13]
Cloud computing offers high accessibility, scalability, and a pay-per-usage model.	H. Miras et al., [14]
Cloud computing provides the opportunity for organizations with limited internal resources to implement large-scale data-intensive computing applications in a cost-effective manner.	Anthony M. Middleton, [15]
Cloud computing technology has features that can be useful for big data management.	A. Latifian, [16]

Table 2. Challenges of using cloud computing for big data management

Point	Source
Businesses storing client data in the cloud have to follow stringent regulations due to issues such as consumer privacy, data ownership, and reliability of services.	B. D. Bruin & L. Floridi, [17]
The support being offered to organizations considering data-intensive computing and the ability to store data are generating significant challenges to big data management.	Rogério Rossi & K. Hirama, [18]
Big Data courses present special characteristics, difficulties, and challenges that can lead to academic dropout and low performance.	J. Lara et al., [19]
The majority of researches carried out around big data focus on data management, identifying 'volume and variety' as significant challenges.	Saeed Rouhani et al., [20]

Table 3. Future prospects of using cloud computing for big data management

Point	Source
Integration of big data with modern technologies such as wireless sensor networks, cloud computing, IoT, and image processing could help reduce costs and time, ensuring sustainable growth in various industries.	Yotsaphat Kittichotsawat et al., [21]
Cloud computing is anticipated to be an innovation delivery enabler for other emerging technologies, suggesting its continued relevance in the future.	S. Bello et al., [13]
The integration of big data with cloud computing technologies will provide businesses and educational institutes a clearer direction towards the future.	S. El-Seoud et al., [22]
Cloud computing could head into the future of more decentralized and more meshed services.	Nane Kratzke, [23]
The adoption of big data and cloud computing is expected to bring significant success for SMEs, indicating a positive trajectory for these technologies.	L. Abdillah et al., [24]

5. FURTHER RESEARCH

The exploration of cloud computing's potential in enhancing big data capabilities has opened several avenues for future research. The following areas are recommended for deeper investigation:

Geospatial Cloud Computing: The utility of cloud-computing technologies, such as Bigtable and MapReduce, for data-intensive geospatial computing remains an area ripe for exploration. Future studies could delve into real-time computational performance and scalability in geospatial applications.

Innovation Enablers: While this article touched upon cloud computing as a catalyst for emerging technologies, there's a need to understand its role as an innovation delivery enabler across various industries, beyond just big data analytics.

Factors Influencing Cloud Adoption: A more granular understanding of the factors driving cloud adoption, especially in the context of big data, can provide insights into the hurdles and challenges organizations face. This could lead to the development of frameworks or guidelines to facilitate smoother transitions to cloud platforms.

Integration of Big Data with Workflows: The methods to seamlessly integrate Big Data processing with existing workflows in cloud infrastructures warrant deeper investigation. This could lead to the development of best practices or tools that enhance efficiency and reduce integration challenges.

Energy Efficiency in Cloud Computing: With growing concerns about sustainability, research

into how cloud computing can enable more energy-efficient use of computing power, especially in big data processing, is crucial.

Deployment Simplification: Techniques and tools that further simplify the deployment of big data solutions in the cloud, especially for organizations lacking infrastructure management expertise, can be a focal point of future studies.

Cloud Computing in SMEs: The impact of cloud computing and big data adoption in Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) remains an area with significant potential. Understanding the unique challenges and benefits for SMEs can lead to tailored solutions and strategies for this segment.

Security Concerns: As data volumes grow, so do concerns about data security. Future research could focus on developing robust security protocols and measures, especially for sensitive data, to ensure trust and reliability in cloud-based big data solutions.

Cost Implications: While the cost-effectiveness of cloud computing is acknowledged, a deeper understanding of the long-term cost implications, return on investment, and strategies to optimize costs can be beneficial for organizations.

User-Centric Approaches: Research that focuses on the end-users of cloud-based big data solutions can provide insights into user needs, challenges, and preferences, leading to more tailored and effective solutions.

While the current literature and case studies provide a solid foundation, the dynamic nature of

both cloud computing and big data analytics means that continuous research and exploration are essential. The areas highlighted above offer a roadmap for researchers and practitioners aiming to push the boundaries of what's possible in this exciting intersection of technologies.

6. CONCLUSION

Cloud computing has undeniably emerged as a pivotal solution for big data challenges. As demonstrated by the reviewed case studies, cloud platforms offer both technical and practical advantages, from improved computational efficiency to better business decision-making. As the digital landscape continues to evolve, the synergy between cloud computing and big data will undoubtedly play a central role in shaping the future of data analytics. Organizations, researchers, and policymakers should thus consider the insights from these case studies as they navigate the complexities of the big data era.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Author has declared that no competing interests exist.

REFERENCES

1. Wu Z, Sun J, Zhang Y, Wei Z, Chanussot J. Recent developments in parallel and distributed computing for remotely sensed big data processing. *Proceedings of the IEEE*; 2021.
2. Balachandran B, Prasad S. Challenges and Benefits of Deploying Big Data Analytics in the Cloud for Business Intelligence; 2017.
3. Ionescu L, Andronie M. Implications of implementing big data and cloud computing; 2021.
4. Bello S, et al. Findings: Cloud computing as an innovation delivery enabler; 2020.
5. Latifian A. Findings from results inferred: Cloud computing technology for big data management; 2022.
6. Chatzithanasis G, Michalakelis C. Results indicate cloud computing offers benefits in cost savings; 2019.
7. Hao S, Zhang H, Song M. Big Data, Big Data Analytics Capability, and Sustainable Innovation Performance. *Sustainability*; 2019.
8. Vaquero LM, et al. Together with techniques, cloud computing simplifies big data for end users; 2015.
9. Phaphoom N, et al. Study examines the perceived benefits of cloud computing from cloud users; 2012.
10. Aslam F. Advancing Intelligence: Unveiling the power of advanced machine learning algorithms for real-world applications. *Journal of Engineering Research and Reports*. 2023;25(7):159–165. Available:<https://doi.org/10.9734/jerr/2023/v25i7949>
11. Aslam F. The Benefits and Challenges of Customization within SaaS Cloud Solutions. *American Journal of Data, Information and Knowledge Management*. 2023;4(1):14-22. Available:<https://doi.org/10.47672/ajdikm.1543>
12. Li Q, et al. Cloud-computing technologies such as Bigtable and Map Reduce enhance scalability and near real-time computational performance for data-intensive geospatial computing; 2011.
13. Bello S, et al. Cloud computing is an innovation delivery enabler for other emerging technologies in various industries; 2020.
14. Miras H, et al. Cloud computing offers high accessibility, scalability, and a pay-per-usage model; 2013.
15. Middleton AM. Organizations with limited internal resources can implement large-scale data-intensive computing applications cost-effectively using cloud computing; 2010.
16. Latifian A. Cloud computing technology has features useful for big data management; 2022.
17. Bruin BD, Floridi L. Storing client data in the cloud requires adherence to stringent regulations due to consumer privacy, data ownership, and service reliability concerns; 2016.
18. Rossi R, Hiram K. The support and ability to store data for organizations considering data-intensive computing present significant challenges to big data management; 2015.
19. Lara J, et al. Big Data courses have special characteristics and challenges leading to academic dropout and low performance; 2020.
20. Rouhani S, et al. Most research on big data focuses on data management, with 'volume and variety' being significant challenges; 2017.

21. Kittichotsatsawat Y, et al. Integrating big data with technologies like wireless sensor networks, cloud computing, IoT, and image processing can reduce costs and time, promoting sustainable growth across industries; 2021.
22. El-Seoud S, et al. Integrating big data with cloud computing will provide clearer future directions for businesses and educational institutes; 2017.
23. Kratzke N. The future of cloud computing may see more decentralized and meshed services; 2018.
24. Abdillah L, et al. Adopting big data and cloud computing is predicted to bring significant success for SMEs; 2018.

© 2023 Aslam; This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Peer-review history:

The peer review history for this paper can be accessed here:
<https://www.sdiarticle5.com/review-history/105439>