UCL Department of Computer Science
CS M038/GZ06: Mobile and Cloud Computing
2010–2011, Term 2
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One-pager: Horatio (Smaldone et al., 2009)   **Due: Start of lecture, 18th March 2011**

Instructions: **in your own words,** *answer the following question as* **succinctly** *as possible (in 200–500 words, but shorter answers within this range are encouraged). Quoting figures or text from the assigned reading or from any other source is specifically prohibited.*

In Table 1, the authors compare several alternative architectures for portable computing. One architecture unmentioned by the authors is that of *cloud-based applications,* such as Google Docs, in which an application is written in JavaScript, made available by a web server, and runs within the web browser's execution environment (in a JavaScript interpreter) on a client PC (either a laptop or desktop). Such cloud-based applications offer long-term storage of the user's documents within the cloud, but store the working copy on the client while the user is using the application.

Which column within Table 1 do cloud-based applications match, and why? Or if they match no column, what column entries correctly describe cloud-based applications' characteristics? In your answer, focus on a text editor like Google Docs.

Finally, consider all the applications given as examples in Section 2.2.1. Does the cloud-based application model work well for all these applications? Why or why not?