

# A Secure, Scalable, Flexible and Fine-Grained Access Control Using Attribute-Set-Based Encryption (ABE) in Cloud Computing

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## **Abstract:**

*Cloud computing is a radically new computing paradigm, which enables flexible, on-demand, and low-cost usage of computing resources, but the data is deployed to some cloud servers, and various privacy concerns emerge from it. Various layouts based on the attribute-based encryption have been proposed to secure the cloud storage. However, most work targets on the data contents privacy and the access control, while less attention is paid to the privilege control and the identity privacy. In this paper, a semi-anonymous privilege control scheme AnonyControl to address not only the data privacy, but also the user identity privacy in current access control schemes. AnonyControl decentralizes the central authority to limit the identity origin and thus achieves semi anonymity. Besides, it also generalizes the file access control to the privilege control, which privileges of all operations on the cloud data can be managed in a compact structured manner. Subsequently, we present the AnonyControl-F, which fully prevents the identity leakage and achieve the full anonymity. Our security presentation shows that both AnonyControl and AnonyControl-F are secure under the Diffie Hellman assumption, and our performance estimation exhibits the feasibility of our schemes.*

**Keywords:** Cloud Computing, Access Control, Privilege Control, Anonycontrol, Semi Anonymity, Fully Anonymity.

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

Cloud computing is a complete computing technique, by which computing resources are provided dynamically via Internet and the data storage is outsourced to someone or some party in a „cloud“. It greatly attracts attention and interest from both academia and industry due to the profit-making, but it also has at least three challenges that must be handled before coming to our reality to the best of our knowledge. First of all, data confidentiality should be guaranteed. The data seclusion is not only about the data contents. Since the most attractive part of the cloud computing is the outsourcing of computation, it is far beyond enough to just oversee an access control. More likely, users want to control the right of data manipulation over other users or cloud servers. [1] [2] This is because when sensitive information or computation is outsourced to the cloud servers or user, which is out of users“ control in most cases, privacy risks would raise constantly because the servers might illegally inspect users“ data and access sensitive

## 2. RELATED WORK

This section contains the comparative study and overall analysis of the existing systems. Literature Survey of these systems is as follows:

### A. Literature Survey

[1] Vipul et al. published —Attribute-Based Encryption for Fine-Grained Access Control of Encrypted Data.¶ which states that as more sensitive data is shared and stored by third-party sites on the Internet, there will be a need to encrypt data stored at these sites. One drawback of encrypting data is that it can be selectively shared only at a coarse-grained level (i.e., giving another party your private key). A new cryptosystem is developed for fine-grained sharing of encrypted data that we call Key-Policy Attribute-Based Encryption (KP-ABE). In the cryptosystem, ciphertexts are labeled with sets of attributes and private keys are associated with access structures that control which ciphertexts a user is able to decrypt. It demonstrates the applicability of the construction to sharing of audit-log information and broadcast encryption. The construction supports delegation of private keys which subsumes Hierarchical Identity-Based Encryption (HIBE).

[2] Rakesh et al. published —Attribute-Sets: A Practically Motivated Enhancement to Attribute-Based Encryption.¶ elaborates that in distributed systems users need to share sensitive objects with others base on the recipients ability to satisfy a policy. Attribute- Based Encryption (ABE) is a new paradigm where such policies are specified and

cryptographically enforced in the encryption algorithm itself. Ciphertext-Policy ABE (CP- ABE) is a form of ABE where policies are associated with encrypted data and attributes are associated with keys. In this work focus is on improving the flexibility of representing user attributes with keys. Specifically, it proposes the Ciphertext Policy Attribute Set Based Encryption (CP-ASBE) - a new form of CP-ABE - which, unlike existing CP- ABE schemes that represent user attributes as a monolithic set in keys, organizes user attributes into a recursive set based structure and allows users to impose dynamic constraints on how those attributes may be combined to satisfy a policy. It shows that the proposed scheme is more versatile and supports many practical scenarios more naturally and efficiently. It provides a prototype implementation of the scheme and evaluates its performance overhead.

[3] Pankaj et al. published —Cloud Computing Security Issues in Infrastructure as a Service.¶ explains that cloud computing promises to cut operational and capital costs and the more important thing is it lets IT departments focus on strategic projects instead of keeping datacenters running. It is much more than simple internet. It is a construct that allows user to access applications that actually reside at location other than users own computer or other Internet-connected devices. There are numerous benefits of this construct. For instance other company hosts user application. This implies that they handle cost of servers, they manage software updates and depending on the contract user pays less i.e. for the service only. Confidentiality, Integrity,

Availability, Authenticity, and Privacy are essential concerns for both Cloud providers and consumers as well. Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) serves as the foundation layer for the other delivery models, and a lack of security in this layer will certainly affect the other delivery models, i.e., PaaS, and SaaS that are built upon IaaS layer. It presents an elaborated study of IaaS components security and determines vulnerabilities and countermeasures. Service Level Agreement should be considered very much importance.

[4]John et al. published —Ciphertext-Policy Attribute-Based Encryption (CP-ABE).<sup>1</sup> explains that in several distributed systems a user should only be able to access data if a user possesses a certain set of credentials or attributes. Currently, the only method for enforcing such policies is to employ a trusted server to store the data and mediate access control. However, if any server storing the data is compromised, then the confidentiality of the data will be compromised. In this paper we present a system for realizing complex access control on encrypted data that we call Ciphertext-Policy Attribute-Based Encryption. By using this technique encrypted data can be kept confidential even if the storage server is untrusted; moreover, the methods are secure against collusion attacks. Previous Attribute-Based Encryption systems used attributes to describe the encrypted data and built policies into users keys; while in this system attributes are used to describe the users credentials, and a party encrypting data determines a policy for who can decrypt. Thus, these methods are conceptually closer to traditional access control methods such as Role-Based

Access Control (RBAC). In addition, it provides an implementation of system and gives performance measurements.

[5]Suhair et al. Published —Designing a Secure Cloud-Based EHR System using Ciphertext-Policy Attribute-Based

Encryption. —which shows that as more and more healthcare organizations adopt electronic health records (EHRs), the case for cloud data storage becomes compelling for deploying EHR systems; not only is it inexpensive but it also provides the flexible, wide-area mobile access increasingly needed in the modern world. However, before cloud-based EHR systems can become a reality, issues of data security, patient privacy, and overall performance must be addressed. As standard encryption (including symmetric key and public-key) techniques for EHR encryption/decryption caused increased access control and performance overhead, the scheme proposes the use of Ciphertext-Policy Attribute-Based Encryption (CP-ABE) to encrypt EHRs based on healthcare providers' attributes or credentials; to decrypt EHRs, they must possess the set of attributes needed for proper access. It motivates and presents the design and usage of a cloud-based EHR system based on CP-ABE, along with preliminary experiments and analysis to investigate the flexibility and scalability of the proposed approach.

[6]Ayad et al. published —Enabling Data Dynamic and Indirect Mutual Trust for Cloud Computing Storage System.<sup>1</sup> which proposes a cloud-based storage scheme that allows the data owner to benefit from the facilities offered by the CSP and enables indirect mutual trust between

them. The proposed scheme has four important features: (i) it allows the owner to outsource sensitive data to a CSP, and perform full block-level dynamic operations on the outsourced data, i.e., block modification, insertion, deletion and

and the CSP, and (iv) it allows the owner to grant or revoke access to the outsourced data. The security issues of the proposed scheme are discussed. Besides, it justifies its performance through theoretical analysis and experimental evaluation of storage, communication, and computation overheads.

[7] Chandana et al. published —GASBE: A Graded Attribute-Based Solution for Access Control in Cloud Computing. which states that cloud computing is an emerging computing paradigm in which resources of the computing infrastructure are provided as services over the Internet. As promising as it is, this paradigm also brings forth many new challenges for data security and access control when users outsource sensitive data for sharing on cloud servers, which are not within the same trusted domain as data owners. To keep sensitive user data confidential against un-trusted servers, existing solutions usually apply cryptographic methods by disclosing data decryption keys only to authorized users. However, in doing so, these solutions inevitably introduce a heavy computation overhead on the data owner for key distribution and data management when fine-grained data access control is desired, and thus do not scale well. The problem of simultaneously achieving fine-graininess, scalability, and data confidentiality of access control still remains unresolved. It addresses this challenging open issue by defining and

append, (ii) it ensures that authorized users (i.e., those who have the right to access the owners file) receive the latest version of the outsourced data, (iii) it enables indirect mutual trust between the owner

enforcing access policies based on data attributes on one hand and allowing the data owner to delegate most of the computation tasks involved in fine-grained data access control to untrusted cloud servers without disclosing the underlying data contents, on the other hand. It achieves this goal by exploiting and uniquely combining techniques of attribute-based encryption (ABE), proxy re-encryption, and lazy re-encryption.

[8] Guojun et al. published —Hierarchical attribute-based encryption and scalable user revocation for sharing data in cloud servers. which explains that with rapid development of cloud computing, more and more enterprises will outsource their sensitive data for sharing in a cloud. To keep the shared data confidential against untrusted cloud service providers (CSPs), a natural way is to store only the encrypted data in a cloud. The key problems of this approach include establishing access control for the encrypted data and revoking the access rights from users when they are no longer authorized to access the encrypted data. It aims to solve both problems. First, it proposes a hierarchical attribute-based encryption scheme (HABE) by combining a hierarchical identity-based encryption (HIBE) system and a ciphertext-policy attribute-based encryption (CP-ABE) system, so as to provide not only fine-grained access control, but also full delegation and high performance. Then, it proposes a scalable revocation scheme by

applying proxy re-encryption (PRE) and lazy re-encryption (LRE) to the HIBE scheme, so as to efficiently revoke access rights from users.

- [9] Qin et al. published —Hierarchical Attribute-Based Encryption for Fine-Grained Access Control in Cloud Storage

Services. which states that cloud computing, as an emerging computing paradigm, enables users to remotely store their data into a cloud so as to enjoy scalable services on-demand. Especially for small and medium-sized enterprises with limited budgets, they can achieve cost savings and productivity enhancements by using cloud-based services to manage projects, to make collaborations, and the like. However, allowing cloud service providers (CSPs), which are not in the same trusted domains as enterprise users, to take care of confidential data, may raise potential security and privacy issues. To keep the sensitive user data confidential against untrusted CSPs, a natural way is to apply cryptographic approaches, by disclosing decryption keys only to authorized users. However, when enterprise users outsource confidential data for sharing on cloud servers, the adopted encryption system should not only support fine-grained access control, but also provide high performance, full delegation, and scalability, so as to best serve the needs of accessing data anytime and anywhere, delegating within enterprises, and achieving a dynamic set of users. In this it propose a scheme to help enterprises to efficiently share confidential data on cloud servers. The goal is achieved by first combining the hierarchical identity-based encryption (HIBE) system and the ciphertext-policy attribute-based

encryption (CP-ABE) system, and then making a performance-expressivity tradeoff, finally applying proxy re-encryption and lazy re-encryption to our scheme.

- [10] Patrick et al. published —Methods and Limitations of Security Policy Reconciliation. which explains that a security policy is a means by which participant session requirements are specified. However, existing frameworks provide limited facilities for the automated reconciliation of participant policies. It considers the limits and methods of reconciliation in a general-purpose policy model. It identifies an algorithm for efficient two-policy reconciliation, and show that, in the worst-case, reconciliation of three or more policies is intractable. Further, it suggests efficient heuristics for the detection and resolution of intractable reconciliation. Based upon the policy model, it describes the design and implementation of the Ismene policy language. The expressiveness of Ismene, and indirectly of the model, is demonstrated through the representation and exposition of policies supported by existing policy languages. It concludes with brief notes on the integration and enforcement of Ismene policy within the Antigone.



**B. Summary of Literature Review**

Table I Summary of Literature Review

Sr. No.	Parameters vs. ABE techniques	Author	Year	Fine-Grained Access Control	Efficiency
1	KP-ABE (Key Policy Attribute based encryption)	V. Goyal, O. Pandey, A. Sahai, and B. Waters	2006	Low	Average
2	EKP-ABE (Expressive Key Policy Attribute Based Encryption)	S. Yu, C. Wang, K. Ren, and W. Lou	2010	Better than that of KP-ABE	High
3	CP-ABE (Ciphertext Policy Attribute Based Encryption)	J. Bethencourt, A. Sahai, and B. Waters	2007	Average Realization of complex Access	Average Not efficient for modern structures of the system.
4	CP-ASBE (Ciphertext Policy Attribute Set Based Encryption)	R. Bobba, H. Khurana, and M. Prabhakaran	2009	Better Access Control than that of CP-ABE	Better than CP-ABE as there is Less collusion attacks
5	HIBE (Hierarchical Identity Based Encryption)	A. Sahai and B. Waters	2005	Lower than CP-ASBE	Better, Lower as ABE schemes
6	HASBE (Hierarchical Attribute Set Based Encryption)	Zhiguo Wan, Jun'e Liu, and Robert H. Deng	2012	Better Access control	Most efficient and flexible

information, or other users might be able to infer careful information from the outsourced computation. Therefore, not only the access but also the operation should be managed. Secondly, personal information (defined by each user's attributes set) is at risk because user's identity is authenticated based on his information for the purpose of access control (or privilege control in this paper). As everyone is becoming more concerned about their identity privacy these days, the identity privacy also has to be protected before the cloud enters our life. Preferably, any authority or server alone should not know any

client's personal data. Last but not least, the cloud computing system should be resilient in the case of security breach in which half part of the system is compromised by attackers. [1]

**3. PROPOSED SYSTEM**

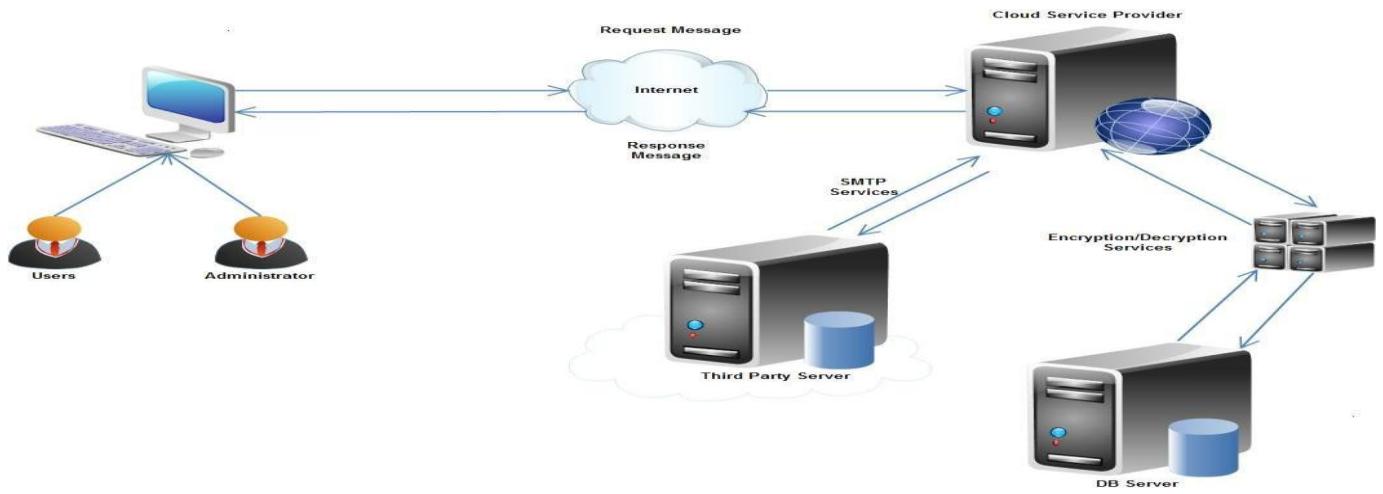
**A. System Architecture**

Systems architecture is the conceptual model that defines the structure, behavior, and more views of a system. An architecture description is a formal description and representation of a system, organized in a way that supports reasoning about the structures of the system. The proposed system architecture is as shown in figure 1.

**B. Attribute Based Encryption**

The cloud computing system consists of five types of parties: a cloud service provider, data owners, data consumers, a number of domain authorities, and a trusted authority. The cloud service provider manages a cloud and provides data storage service. Data owners encrypt their data files and store them in the cloud for sharing with data consumers. To access the shared data files, data consumers download encrypted data files of their interest from the cloud and then decrypt them. Each data owner/consumer is administrated by a domain authority. A domain authority is managed by its parent domain authority or the trusted authority. The HASBE scheme extends the ASBE scheme to handle the hierarchical structure of system as shown in figure-1[11].

Fig. 1 System Architecture



### C. Proposed System Architecture Description

The HASBE scheme is for realizing scalable, flexible and fine-grained access control in cloud computing. The HASBE scheme seamlessly incorporates a hierarchical structure of system users by applying a delegation algorithm to ASBE. HASBE not only supports compound attributes due to flexible attribute set combinations, but also achieves efficient user revocation because of multiple value assignments of attributes. Thus it formally proves that the security of HASBE based on the security of CP-ABE. Finally, in the implementation of the proposed scheme, and conductance of comprehensive performance analysis and evaluation, this shows its efficiency and advantages over existing schemes. In the proposed system instead of showing complete data from cloud only those data is fetched which is essential for that user. The whole data is not fetched so it takes less time for fetching data and hence the system response time is very less due to which system performance increases. The encryption is performed before storing data so even if data get hack by hacker data cannot be easily understand by hacker. The hierarchical structure is used, so even if lower authority is absent for particular days at that time higher authority handle all work of lower authority so work of company will not be stopped.

### D. Project Scope

1. This system is designed to provide security to data stored on cloud and improve performance of system by showing only the required details requested by an employee.
2. Security is provided by generating a secret key from the various attributes stated in the form which is filled by the employee at the time of registration.

3. This system is designed to provide flexibility of the data where in case of transfer of employee, his data could be transferred to respective location with ease.

4. It also provides scalability in case when an employee is absent his work could be handled by the senior employee securely

### E. Methodology

1. Registration and login by user:

In this user fill his/her own complete data. Request is sent to the CEO for confirmation. CEO confirms his/her request and assigns attribute and time period for that user. Once Account get confirm password and key is sent to that user by email so he/she can access his/her account.

2. Approve User and Assign attributes:

Out of the selected attributes according the roles defined in hierarchy of the system the attribute visibility access is decided. Each attribute is encrypted.

3. Key Generation and Verification

Key is generated based on the attributes filled by the user in registration form. In attribute key verification, when a key is used for login ,it is first checked with the key stored in the database. If a match is found then user is allowed for further process else the user is rejected for further process.

4. Encryption and decryption of data

User fills his/her data during registration. Once it is click on submit button data is send to encryption algorithm that are RSA and AES. After performing encryption data is stored in encrypted format in database.



#### 5. Access Right:

The user can view the selected attributes of the same level as well as other levels according to the access authority using attribute key.

#### 6. Fine Grained Access

In our propose system instead of showing complete data, the fetching of necessary data is allowed. Due to this system provides a quick response time.

#### 7. Request for extra attribute:

The user can access attributes of same level as inter level counterparts. He can request for extra attributes in case of emergency as well as ease of work.

#### 8. Flexibility

In this module suppose when user transfer from one location to another location at that time new location does not having rights to access data of that user .In this situation request to view attributes of required user and grant for accessing data of that user by admin is necessary. When user's data is accessible from new location then it cannot access from old location.

#### 9. Scalability:

Since performing hierarchical structure so even if lower authority is absent for particular days at that time higher authority handles all work of lower authority so work of company will not be stopped.

#### 10. Efficient User Revocation:

It can be done by two steps request to the admin and response to the user from admin within expiration time.

#### 11. Privacy:

Default it is public but a user can set intra-level privacy by restricting access to attributes.

### 4.PROPOSED ALGORITHM

#### A. Key Generation Algorithm

i)Set of Attribute List= {li1, li2, li3....}

ii)Set of Employee E= {e1, e2, e3....}

a) List = List of Attribute assign to the user(E).—get list of attribute each user having

b) Foreach ( string Attribute in List )  
...retrieve one by one attribute from list

{

Foreach (char ch in Attribute )

...get one by one character

from attribute {

AK =AK + ch ;...get ASCII value of that character and make summation

Set of attribute key AK= {ak1, ak2, ak3....} ;

}

}

c)In the Value we get ASCII value of that character.

d)ASCII values save into database

e)Above approach generates attribute key secrete key using this secret key which has minimum length key

f)The RSA algorithm generates minimum lengths key

g)To process key an attributes with RSA it takes minimum time

#### B. Algorithmic flow with mathematically equations

The model consists of a root master(admin RM) that corresponds to the domain masters (DMs) in which the top-level DMs

i) **CreateDM**(params,MK<sub>i</sub>,PK<sub>i+1</sub>) →(MK<sub>i+1</sub>) : To generate the master key for DM<sub>i+1</sub>

first picks a random element  $mk_{i+1} \in Z_q$ , and then computes

$$SK_{i+1} = SK_i + mk_i P_{i+1}$$

where

$$P_{i+1} = H_1(PK_{i+1}) \in G_1, \text{ and } Q_{i+1} = mk_{i+1} P_0 \in G_1,$$

finally sets

$$MK_{i+1} = (mk_{i+1}, SK_{i+1}, Q\text{-tuple}_{i+1})$$

where

$$Q\text{-tuple}_{i+1} = (Q\text{-tuple}_i, Q_{i+1})$$

and chosen by the RM and shared in a domain. Here, we assume that  $SK_0$  is an identity element of  $G_1$ , and  $Q\text{-tuple}_0 = (Q_0)$ .

**ii) CreateUser(params,  $MK_i, PK_u, PK_a$ )**  $\rightarrow$  ( $SK_{i,u}, K_{i,u,a}$ ): To generate a secret key for user  $U$  with  $PK_u$  on attribute  $a$  with  $PK_a$ ,  $DM_i$  first checks whether  $U$  is eligible for  $a$ , and  $a$  is administered by itself. If so, it first sets

$$mk_u = H_A(PK_u) \in Z_q, SK_{i,u} = mk_i mk_u P_0 \in G_1,$$

and

$$K_{i,u,a} = SK_i + mk_i mk_u P_a \in G_1,$$

Where

$$P_a = H_1(PK_a) \in G_1,$$

and then gives  $Q\text{-tuple}_i$ . Otherwise, it outputs  $\text{NULL}$ .

### iii) Encryption

Encryption is done using AES algorithm for search attribute and RSA algorithm is used to encrypt the user data on cloud

### iv) Decryption

Decryption is done using AES decryption algorithm for accessing users personal

credentials whereas RSA is used for accessing user data on cloud.

## VI. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

Thus, the system efficiently provides a fine-grained access control with flexibility and scalability with a hierarchical structure in the HASBE system. The system will be providing security to the users from outsiders or intruders by implementing session hijacking and session fixation security in our system with SQL injection attack prevention. The core is for sure, a cloud-base thus giving users a choice of multi-user access including security from intruder attacks. Hence it benefits the users with attack handling and many advantages over the existing systems.

- We provide a secure and practical mechanism design which fulfills input/output privacy and efficiency.
- We can extend our result to any organization for secure outsourcing in cloud

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### Author's profile



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