

# A Strategy of Methodology for Multi-Cloud Storage security in Cloud Computing

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**ABSTRACT:** As new storage model, cloud storage has gain attentions from in cooperation the academics and industrial communities. Nevertheless along with variant advantages, it also carries new challenges in maintaining data integrity and highly available reliable data storage facility. In addition, provided that better privacy as well as make sure data availability, can be accomplish by dividing the user's data block into data pieces and distributing them among the available Service Providers in such a way that no less than a threshold number of Service Providers can take part in effective retrieval of the whole data block. In this paper, we propose a secured cost-effective multi-cloud storage (SCMCS) model in cloud computing which holds an economical distribution of data among the available Service Providers in the market, to provide customers with data availability as well as secure storage.

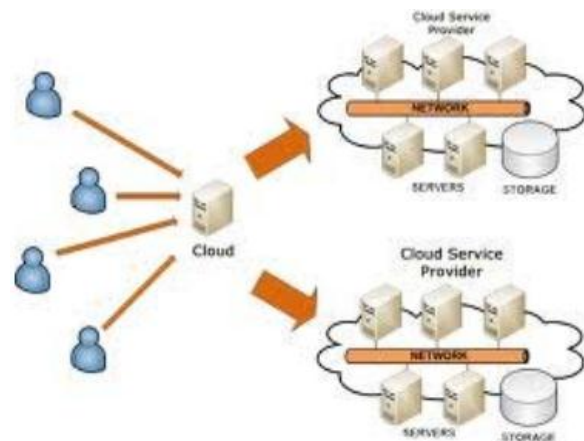
**KEYWORDS-**Cloud computing, security, storage, cost-effective, cloud service provider, customer.

## I. INTRODUCTION

One of the outstanding offerings provided in cloud computing is the cloud data storage, wherein subscribers do now not need to store their data on their very own servers, in which as a substitute their data could be stored at the cloud service company's servers. In cloud computing, subscribers need to pay the service vendors for this storage service. This service does no longer handiest presents flexibility and scalability for the data storage, it additionally offer clients with the gain of paying only for the quantity of data they want to shop for a selected period of time, without any uncertainties for efficient storage mechanisms and maintainability troubles with huge quantities of data storage. In addition to these benefits, clients can easily get access to their data from any geographical region where the

Cloud Service Provider's network or Internet may be accessed. Data storage additionally redefines the security troubles centered on client's outsourced data (data that isn't always stored/retrieved from the clients very own servers). Since cloud service providers (SP) are separate marketplace entities, data integrity and privateness are the maximum crucial problems that need to be addressed in cloud computing.

Fig1: distribution of data over several SP's. In addition, providing better privateness in addition to make sure information availability, can be executed via dividing the facts among several SP's to be had in the market, based on his available finances. Also we offer a choice for the consumer, to which SP's he ought to selected to access data, with admire to data access great of service offered via the SP's on the area of data retrieval.



In this survey we additionally offer the consumer with better guarantee of availability of data, by using maintaining redundancy in records distribution. In this situation, if a service issuer undergoes service outage or is going bankrupt, the user nonetheless can get access to his data by means of retrieving it from other service vendors. From the commercial



enterprise factor of view, due to the data that cloud data storage is a subscription provider, the higher the data redundancy, the better could be the cost to be paid by means of the user. Thus, we provide an optimization scheme to address the tradeoff between the price that a cloud computing user is inclined to pay to achieve a particular stage of security for his data. In different words, we offer a scheme to maximize the security for a given finance for the cloud data.

## II. RELATED WORKS

Before considering the cloud computing technology. It is important to understand the risks involved. We should carry out the risk assessment process before any control is handed over to a service provider.

**A. Data storage and security:** Many cloud service providers provide storage as a service. They take the data from the user and store it on the large data centers, hence providing a user means of storage. Although these service providers say that data stored in a cloud is safe but there have been some cases where data is been modified or lost due to security holes. Various cloud providers adopt various technologies to resolve the problem of cloud data storage. The virtualized nature of cloud makes the traditional mechanism unstable for handling the security risks so these service providers use different encryption techniques to overcome these problems.

**B. Application level security:** Application level security refers to the usage of software and hardware resources to provide the security to application such as attackers are not make any changes in the application format. Now a days attacker launched them as a trusted user and system consider them as trusted user and allow full access to attacking party. The reason behind this is using outdated network policies. With the technological advancement these security policies become obsolete as there have been instances when system security have been breached, but with the recent technology advancements it is quite possible to imitate a trusted user. The threat to application level security

include sql injection attack, dos attack, captcha breaking, xss attack.

**C. Data intrusion:** Another security risk that occurs in cloud computing environment, such as the google doc cloud service is a hacked password or data intrusion. If someone gain access to google doc password then they will be able to gain all account instance and resources. The stolen password allow the hacker to modify, erase the full data and even disable the services.

**D. Single to multi cloud:** The use of cloud computing have increase in many organization. The cloud computing provide a many benefit in terms of cost and availability. The pay per use model know as cloud computing. One of the prominent service offer by cloud computing is cloud data storage, in which subscriber don't want to store their data on their own server, instead of that their data stored in cloud service provider. This service don't provide only flexibility and scalability for data storage but it also provide the customer with the benefit of only for the amount of data they need to store for the particular period of time. In addition to these benefits customer can access their data from anywhere as long as they are connected to internet. Since the cloud service provider is the different market entities, data integrity and privacy are the most common issues that need to be address in cloud computing. Even though the cloud service provider have standard regulation and power infrastructure to ensure the customer data privacy and provide a better availability. The political influence might become an issue with the availability of the service.

## III. APPROACH

We consider the storage services for cloud data storage between two entities, cloud users (U) and cloud service providers (SP). The cloud storage service is generally priced on two factors, how much data is to be stored on the cloud servers and for how long the data is to be stored. In our model, we assume that all the data is to be stored for same period of time. We consider p number of cloud service providers (SP), each available cloud service provider

is associated with a QoS factor, along with its cost of providing storage service per unit of stored data (C). Every SP has a different level of quality of service (QoS) offered as well as a different cost associated with it. Hence, the cloud user can store his data on more than one SPs according to the required level of security and their affordable budgets.

**Threat Model:** Customers' stored data at cloud service providers is vulnerable to various threats. In our work, we consider two types of threat models. First is the single point of failure [7], which will affect the data availability that could occur if a server at the cloud service provider failed or crashed, which makes it harder for the customer to retrieve his stored data from the server.

Availability of data is also an important issue which could be affected, if the cloud service provider (SP) runs out of business. Such worries are no more hypothetical issues; therefore, a cloud service customer can not entirely rely upon a solo cloud service provider to ensure the storage of his vital data.

To illustrate this threat we use an example in Fig. 1. Let us assume that three customers (C1, C2 and C3) stored their data on three different service providers (CSP1, CSP2 and CSP3) respectively. Each customer can retrieve his own data from the cloud service provider who it has a contract with.

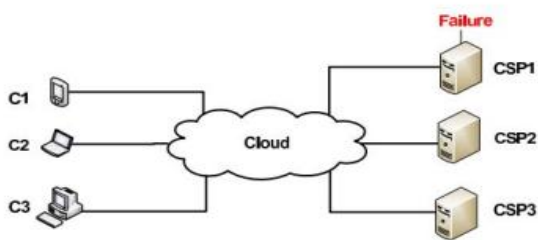


Fig2. CSP failure

If a failure occurs at CSP1, due to internal problems with the server or some issues with the cloud service provider, all C1's data which was stored on CSP1's servers will be lost and cannot be retrieved. One solution for this threat is that, the user will seek to

store his data at multiple service providers to ensure better availability of his data. Our second threat discussed in this paper is the colluding service providers [8], in which the cloud service providers might collude together to reconstruct and access the user stored data.

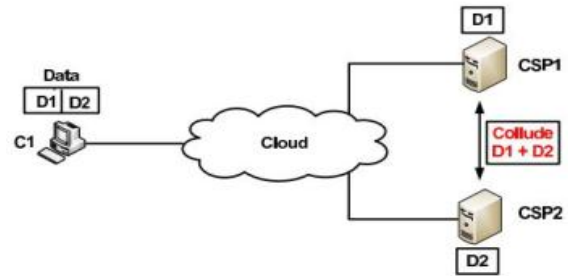


Fig.2 Colluding Service provider

We illustrate the colluding service providers' threat in Fig. 2. (SCMCS) seeks a distribution of customer's data pieces among the available SPs in such a way that, at least q number of SPs must take part in data retrieval, while minimizing the total cost of storing the data on SPs as well as maximizing the quality of service provided by the SPs.

In this work we observed that, from a customer's point of view, relying upon a solo SP for his outsourced data is not very promising. In addition, providing better privacy as well as ensuring data availability, can be achieved by dividing the user's data block into data pieces and distributing them among the available SPs in such a way that no less than a threshold number of SPs can take part in successful retrieval of the whole data block. We proposed an economical distribution of data among the available Service Provider to provide customers

with data availability as well as secure storage. In our model, the customer divides his data among several SPs, based on his available budget. Also we provide a decision for the customer, to which SPs he must choose to access data, with respect to data access quality of service offered by the SPs at the location of data retrieval. This not only rules out the possibility of a SP misusing the customers' data, breaching the

privacy of data, but can easily ensure the data availability with a better quality of service.

This approach will provide the cloud computing users a decision model, that provides a better security by distributing the data over multiple cloud service providers in such a way that, none of the SP can successfully retrieve meaningful information from the data pieces allocated at their servers. Also, in addition, we provide the user with better assurance of availability of data, by maintaining redundancy in data distribution. In this case, if a service provider suffers service outage or goes bankrupt, the user still can access his data by retrieving it from other service providers.

In this section we describe the setup for the linear programming assignment problem (LP-Assignment) that describes our proposed model. Each cloud customer is provided with  $p$  cloud service providers, where each of them offers a QoS level for storage services and required a cost  $C$  be paid by the customer per storage unit of data.

One of the objectives is to minimize the cost of storage of the data pieces over  $p$  service providers. If  $d_i$  is the number of data pieces stored on  $i$ th provider which has a per unit cost of storing the data as  $c_i$ . The total cost the customer has to pay is given below:

$$C = \sum_{i=1}^a d_i c_i \quad \dots \dots \dots (1.1)$$

In our model, we consider  $y_{i,j}$  as a binary variable, which is set to 1 if the  $j$ th data piece on  $i$ th service provider becomes a candidate in the current data retrieval. Since the Quality of Service factor depends on the physical location of information retrieval, the Quality of Service achieved in retrieving the data can be computed as given in following equation (1.2).

$$Q_{net} = \sum_i^a \sum_j^{d_i} y_{i,j} * Q_i \quad \dots \dots \dots (1.2)$$

Therefore, the total cost of storing the distributed customer data on a number of service providers must be minimized, and the Quality of Service achieved at the time of retrieval must be maximized. The objective is:

$$\text{Minimize } [C] \text{ and Maximize } [Q_{net}] \quad \dots \dots \dots (1.3)$$

$$\text{Maximize } [Q_{net} - C] \quad \dots \dots \dots (1.4)$$

**Constraints:** Since  $d_i$  is the data pieces allocated to stored at  $i$ th Service provider, this implies:

$$\sum_{j=1}^a d_i = N \quad \dots \dots \dots (1.5)$$

Referring to the  $(k, N)$  threshold and the  $(b, a)$  threshold discussed before, the minimum number of pieces that must be chosen for data retrieval is  $k$ , for which at least  $b$  service providers are required. Thus, we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^a y_{i,j} \geq b \quad \dots \dots \dots (1.6)$$

and

$$\sum_{j=1}^a \sum_{i=1}^{d_j} y_{i,j} \geq k \quad \dots \dots \dots (1.7)$$

where,  $N \geq k$  and  $a \geq b$ . Now, to make sure that a single Service Provider can not retrieve any meaningful information, the number of data pieces allotted to each Service Provider must be less than  $k$

$$0 < d_i < k \quad \dots \dots \dots (1.8)$$

**Solution:** Since we have multiple optimization objectives as well as a set of variables  $d_i$  with non-definitive bounds, it seems to be very complex Linear programming problem. The model can be simplified with the help of lemma 1.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we proposed a secured cost-effective multicloud storage (SCMCS) in cloud computing, which seeks to provide each customer with a better cloud data storage decision, taking into consideration the user budget as well as providing him with the best quality of service (Security and availability of data) offered by available cloud service providers.

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