An emerging technology today in computer science - cloud computing

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Abstract—

Cloud computing is the latest effort in delivering computing resources as a service. It represents a shift away from computing as a product that is purchased, to computing as a service that is delivered to consumers over the internet from large-scale data centres – or "clouds".Cloud Computing has been mentioned for just under two years in relation to services or infrastructural resources, which can be contracted over a network. Thus, the idea of renting instead of buying IT is nothing new. And so, Cloud computing has many antecedents and equally as many attempts to define it. The players in the large world of clouds are Software as Service providers, outsourcing and hosting providers, network and IT infrastructure providers and, above all, the companies whose names are closely linked with the Internet's Commercial boom. But, all these services in combination outline the complete package known as Cloud Computing – depending on the source with the appropriate focus. That which long ago established itself in the private environment of the Internet is now, noticeably, coming to the attention of businesses too. Not only developers and startups but also large companies with International activities recognize that there is more to Cloud Computing than Just marketing hype. Cloud Computing offers the opportunity to access IT resources and services with appreciable convenience and speed. Behind this primarily, is a solution that provides users with services that can be drawn upon on demand and invoiced as and when used. Suppliers of cloud services, IN turn, benefit as their IT resources are used more fully and eventually

ISSN: 2278 – 1323

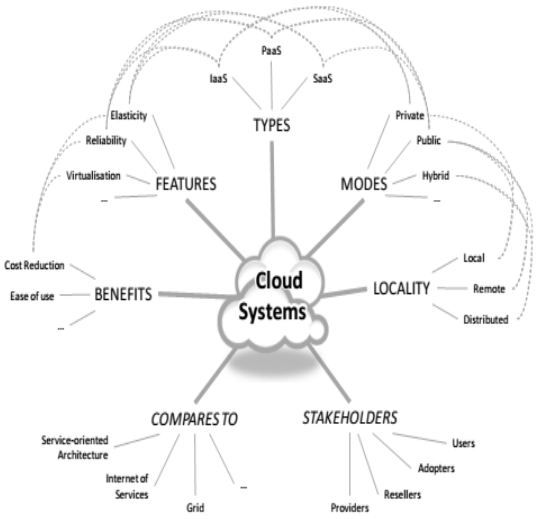
achieve additional economies of scale. Cloud Computing offers flexibility whilst simultaneously reducing costs – with the positive side effect of sustainability.

Index Terms--- **Cloud, Security, Encryption, Privacy, Resource, references And Infrastructure.**

I. INTRODUCTION

Supercomputers today are used mainly by the military, government intelligence agencies, universities and research labs, and large companies to tackle enormously complex calculations for such tasks as Simulating nuclear explosions, predicting climate change, designing airplanes, and analyzing which proteins in the body are likely to bind with potential new drugs. Cloud computing aims to apply that kind of power measured in the tens of trillions of computations per second—to .problems like analyzing risk in financial portfolios, delivering personalized medical information, even powering immersive computer games, in a way that users can tap through the Web. It does that by networking large groups of servers that often use low-cost consumer PC technology, with specialized connections to spread data-processing chores across them. By contrast, the newest and most powerful desktop PCs process only about 3 billion computations a second. Let's say you're an executive at a large corporation. Your particular responsibilities include making sure that all of your employees have the right hardware and software they need to do their jobs. Buying computers for everyone isn't enough -you also have to purchase software or software licenses to give employees the tools they require. Whenever you have a new hire, you have to buy more software or make sure your current software license allows another user. It's so stressful that you find it difficult to go to sleep on your huge pile of money every night. Installing a suite of software for each computer, you'd only have to load one application. That application would allow workers to log into a Web-based service which hosts all the programs the user would need for his or her job. Remote machines owned by another company would run everything from e-mail to word processing to complex data analysis programs. It's called cloud computing, and it could change the entire computer industry.

ISSN: 2278 – 1323



In a cloud computing system, there's a significant workload shift. Local computers no longer have to do all the heavy lifting when it comes to running applications. The network of computers that make up the cloud handles them instead. Hardware and software demands on the user's side decrease. The only thing the user's computer needs to be able to run is the cloud computing systems interface software, which can be as simple as a Web browser, and the cloud's network takes care of the rest. Instead of running an e-mail program on your computer, you log in to a Web e-mail account remotely. The software and storage for your account doesn't exist on your computer --it's on the service's computer cloud. According to NIST, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Cloud Computing is: ―Cloud computing is a model for enabling convenient, on-demand network access to a shared pool of configurable computing resources (e.g., networks, servers, storage, applications, and services) that can be rapidly provisioned and released with minimal management effort or service provider interaction.‖

II. DEPLOYMENT MODELS

There are different models that you can subscribe to depending on your needs. As a home user or small business owner, you will most likely use public cloud services.

A. Private Cloud

Private cloud is cloud infrastructure operated solely for a single organization, whether managed internally or by a third-party and hosted internally or externally. Undertaking a private cloud project requires a significant level and degree of engagement to virtualize the business environment, and requires the organization to reevaluate decisions about existing resources. When done right, it can improve business, but every step in the project raises security issues that must be addressed to prevent serious vulnerabilities.

B. Public Cloud

A cloud is called a 'Public cloud' when the services are rendered over a network that is open for public use. Technically there may be little or no difference between public and private cloud architecture, however, security consideration may be substantially different for services (applications, storage, and other resources) that are made available by a service provider for a public audience and when communication is effected over a non-

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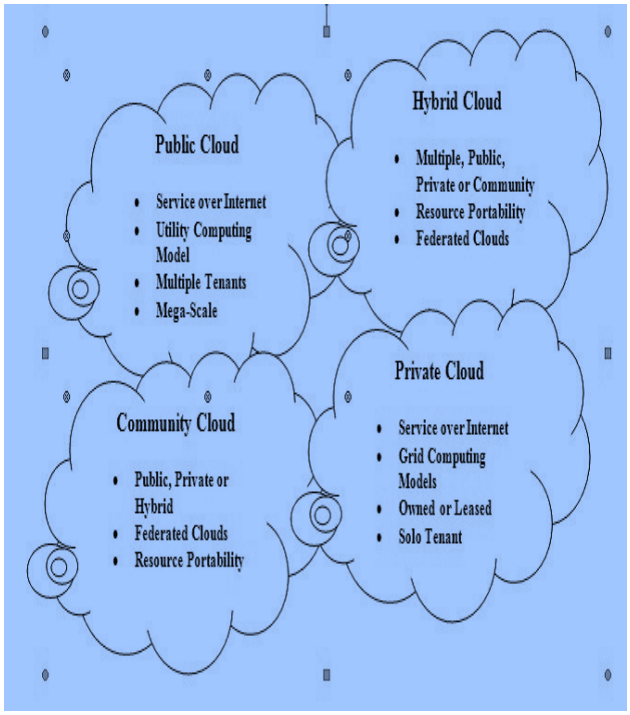
trusted network. Generally, public cloud service providers like Amazon AWS, Microsoft and Google own and operate the infrastructure and offer access only via Internet.

C. Hybrid Cloud

Hybrid cloud is a composition of two or more clouds (private, community or public) that remain unique entities but are bound together, offering the benefits of multiple deployment models. Such composition expands deployment options for cloud services, allowing IT organizations to use public cloud computing resources to meet temporary needs. This capability enables hybrid clouds to employ cloud bursting for scaling across clouds.

Typically cloud systems are restricted to the local infrastructure, i.e. providers of public clouds offer their own infrastructure to customers. Though the provider could actually resell the infrastructure of another provider, clouds do not aggregate infrastructures to build up larger, cross-boundary structures. In particular smaller SMEs could profit from community clouds to which different entities contribute with their respective (smaller) infrastructure. Fig. 2 Types of Cloud



III. CLOUD PROVIDER

Each provider serves a specific function, giving users more or less control over their cloud depending on the type. When you choose a provider, compare your needs to the cloud services available. Your cloud needs will vary depending on how you intend to use the space and resources associated with the cloud. If it will be for personal home use, you will need a different cloud type and provider than if you will be using the cloud for business. Keep in mind that your cloud provider will be pay-as-you-go, meaning that if your technological needs change at any point you can purchase more storage space (or less for that matter) from your cloud provider. There are three types of cloud providers that you can subscribe to:

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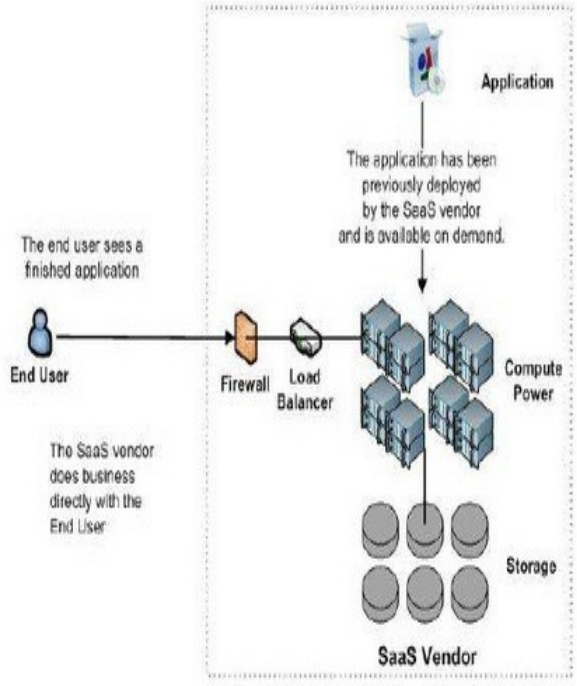
Software as a Service (SaaS), Platform as a Service (PaaS), and Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS). These three types differ in the amount of control that you have over your information, and conversely, how much you can expect your provider to do for you. Briefly, here is what you can expect from each type.

A. Software as a Service

A SaaS provider gives subscribers access to both resources and applications. SaaS makes it unnecessary for you to have a physical copy of software to install on your devices. SaaS also makes it easier to have the same software on all of your devices at once by accessing it on the cloud. In a SaaS agreement, you have the least control over the cloud.



In the business model using software as a service (SaaS), users are provided access to application software and databases. Cloud providers manage the infrastructure and platforms that run the applications. SaaS is sometimes referred to as "on-demand software" and is usually priced on a pay-per-use basis. SaaS providers generally price applications using a subscription fee. In the SaaS model, cloud providers install and operate application software in the cloud and cloud users access the software from cloud clients. Cloud users do not manage the cloud infrastructure and platform where the application runs. This eliminates the need to install and run the application on the cloud user's own computers, which simplifies maintenance and support. Cloud applications are different from other applications in their scalability, which can be achieved by cloning tasks onto multiple virtual machines at run-time to meet changing work demand. Load balancers distribute the work over the set of virtual machines. This process is transparent to the cloud user, who sees only a single access point. To accommodate a large number of cloud users, cloud applications can be multitenant, that is, any machine serves more than one cloud user organization. It is common to refer to special types of cloud based application software with a similar naming convention: desktop as a service, business process as a service, test environment as a service,

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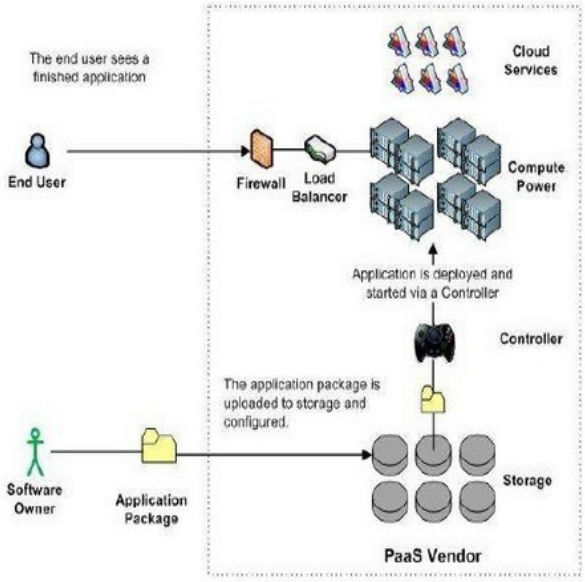
communication as a service. The pricing model for SaaS applications is typically a monthly or yearly flat fee per user, so price is scalable and adjustable if users are added or removed at any point. Proponents claim SaaS allows a business the potential to reduce IT operational costs by outsourcing hardware and software maintenance and support to the cloud provider. This enables the business to reallocate IT operations costs away from hardware/software spending and personnel expenses, towards meeting other goals. In addition, with applications hosted centrally, updates can be released without the need for users to install new software. One drawback of SaaS is that the users' data are stored on the cloud provider's server. As a result, there could be unauthorized access to the data.

B. Platform as a Service

It is a category of cloud computing services that provides a computing platform and a solution stack as a service. Along with software as a service (SaaS) and infrastructure as a service (IaaS), it is a service model of cloud computing. In this model, the consumer creates the software using tools and/or libraries from the provider. The consumer also controls software deployment and configuration settings. The provider provides the networks, servers, storage, and other services. PaaS offerings facilitate the deployment of applications without the cost and complexity of buying and managing the underlying hardware and software and provisioning hosting capabilities. There are various types of PaaS vendors; however, all offer application hosting and a deployment environment, along with various integrated services. Services offer varying levels of scalability and maintenance.



C. Infrastructure as a Service

In the most basic cloud-service model, providers of IaaS offer computers, physical or (more often) virtual machines - and other resources. (A hypervisor, such as Xen or KVM, runs the virtual machines as guests. Pools of hypervisors within the cloud operational support-system can support large numbers of virtual machines and the ability to scale services up and

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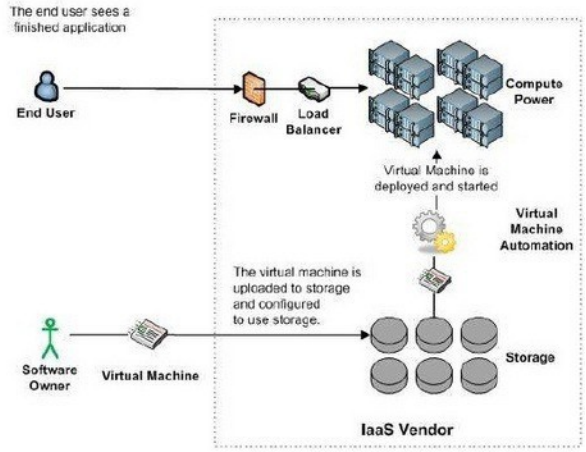
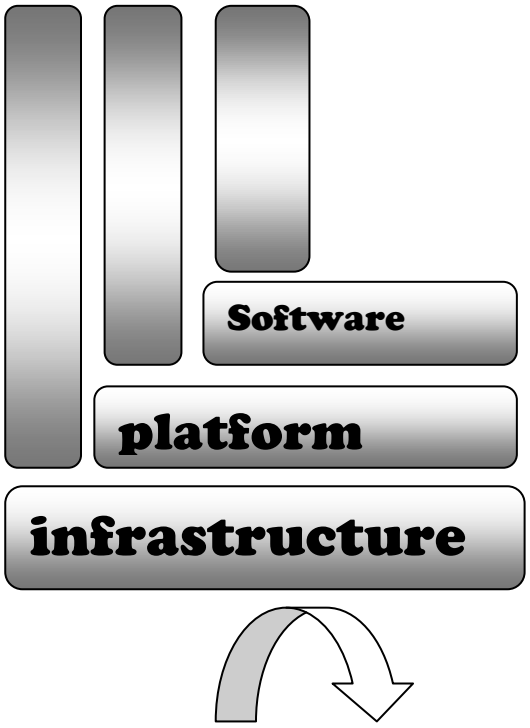
down according to customers' varying requirements.



IaaS clouds often offer additional resources such as a virtual-machine image library, raw (block) and file-based storage, firewalls, load balancers, IP addresses, virtual local area networks (VLANs), and software bundles. IaaS-cloud providers supply these resources on-demand from their large pools installed in data centers. For wide-area connectivity, customers can use either the Internet or carrier clouds (dedicated virtual private networks). Cloud communications and cloud telephony, rather than replacing local computing infrastructure, replace local telecommunications infrastructure with Voice over IP and other off-site Internet services.



Services provided by client

The main technological challenges that can be identified and that are commonly associated with cloud systems are

A. Virtualization

It is an essential technological characteristic of clouds which hides the technological complexity from the user and enables enhanced flexibility (through aggregation, routing and translation). More concretely, virtualization supports the following features.

❖ **Ease of use:** through hiding the complexity of the infrastructure (including management, configuration etc.) virtualization can make it easier for the user to develop new applications, as well as

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❖ **Infrastructure independency:** in principle, virtualization allows for higher interoperability by making the code platform independent.

❖ **Flexibility and Adaptability:** by exposing a virtual execution environment, the underlying infrastructure can change more flexible according to different conditions and requirements (assigning more resources, etc.).

❖ **Location independence:** services can be accessed independent of the physical location of the user and the resource.

B. Multi-tenancy

It is a highly essential issue in cloud systems, where the location of code and / or data is principally unknown and the same resource may be assigned to multiple users (potentially at the same time). This affects infrastructure resources as well as data / applications / services that are hosted on shared resources but need to be made available in multiple isolated instances. Classically, all information is maintained in separate databases or tables, yet in more complicated cases information may be concurrently altered, even though maintained for isolated tenants. Multi tenancy implies a lot of potential issues, ranging from data protection to legislator issue.

C. Security, Privacy and Compliance

It is obviously essential in all systems dealing with potentially sensitive data and code.

D. Data Management

It is an essential aspect in particular for storage clouds, where data is flexibly distributed across multiple resources. Implicitly, data consistency needs to be maintained over a wide distribution of replicated data sources. At the same time, the system always needs to be aware of the data location (when replicating across data centers) taking latencies and particularly workload into consideration. As size of data may change at any time, data management addresses both horizontal and vertical aspects of scalability. Another crucial aspect of data management is the provided consistency guarantees.

E. APIs and / or Programming Enhancements

They are essential to exploit the cloud features: common programming models require that the developer takes care of the

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scalability and autonomic capabilities him- / herself, whilst a cloud environment provides the features in a fashion that allows the user to leave such management to the system.

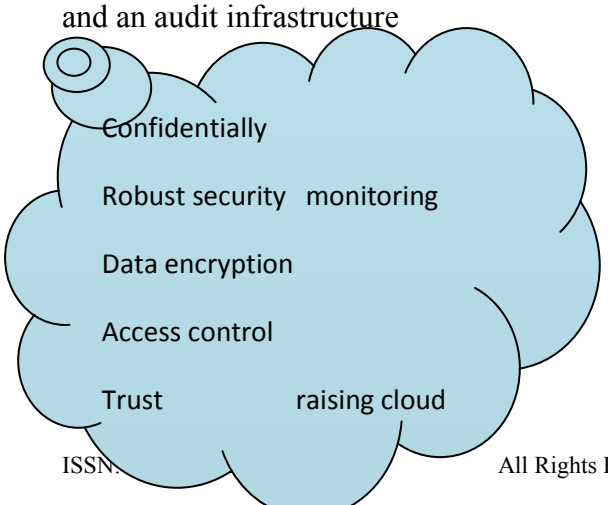
F. Metering

It of any kind of resource and service consumption is essential in order to offer elastic pricing, charging and billing. It is therefore a pre-condition for the elasticity of clouds.

V. SECURITY REQUIREMENTS OF CLOUD COMPUTING

A. Robust security

Meeting the first requirement providing robust security means moving beyond a traditional perimeter-based approach to a layered model that ensures the proper isolation of data, even in a shared, multitenant cloud. This includes content protection at different layers in the cloud infrastructure, such as at the storage, hypervisor, virtual machine and database layers. It also requires mechanisms to provide confidentiality and access control. These may include encryption, obfuscation and key management, as well as isolation and containment, robust log management and an audit infrastructure



B. Trust and assurance

To meet the second requirement providing trust or assurance the company needs to have confidence in the integrity of the complete cloud environment. This includes the physical data centers, hardware, software, people and processes employed by the provider. The service provider needs to establish an evidence-based trust architecture and control of the cloud environment, through adequate monitoring and reporting capabilities to ensure the customer of transparency around security vulnerabilities and events. This should include audit trails that help the customer meet internal and external demands for provable security, as well as automated notification and alerts that support the customer's existing problem or incident management protocols so it can manage its total security profile..

Fig. 8 Cloud Security

Robust security

Trust and assurance

Monitoring and governance

Raising Cloud Confidence

Access control

Data Encryption

Confidentiality

Isolation

VI. CONCLUSION

Much more than the technology that supports it, Cloud Computing is the last

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plateau of evolution of the IT industrialization process. Looking back at the recent years of the IT industry, it was predictable that something like Cloud Computing would come to revolutionize the IT industry. It seems that for a while, the ―tacky‖ people took over the IT business, always eager to try new technologies, often with little value for the business they were trying to support. Now business is back to claim added value from the IT departments, and Cloud Computing may very well be the answer.

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ISSN: 2278 – 1323

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ISSN: 2278 – 1323