

# Mobile Cloud Computing Security Issues: Overview

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**Abstract**— This article is review of the Mobile Cloud Computing , determine the meaning of Cloud computing , describe the concept of Mobile Cloud Computing. This paper cover the basic model . Present a report on the approaches in mobile cloud computing that is based on the various applications in mobile cloud computing. There are many issues in Mobile Cloud Computing such as operational issues, End user level issues, Service and Application level issues, Management of data . The focus on the security and privacy issues that are Mobile network security, application level security, privacy, integrity, authentication and legal contents.

**Index Terms**— Cloud Computing, Mobile Cloud Computing, Mobile Cloud Security Issues.

## I. INTRODUCTION

### CLOUD COMPUTING

Within the last few years cloud computing is becoming the most popular among today's technology. Cloud is a cluster or group of computers it can be a personal computer or servers which are interconnected to each other within a network providing on demand services to the users. According to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), cloud computing is a on-demand service that provide online resources on the demand of users according to the requirements such as network, storage space ,applications and services[6]. Cloud provides various services such as consulting service, management services, financial services, data storage services. Basically users get reliable, scalable computing resources on demand. Computing service offered as a utility where you only pay per use like electricity, gas, water etc.

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### Deployment Models of Cloud Computing:-

**Public Cloud:-**A public Cloud provides the software and hardware services to general people for example Google Drive.

**Private Cloud:-** The cloud that is owned by a particular organization for security purpose. Some organizations set up their cloud within the organization.

**Hybrid Cloud:-** The combination of both public and private cloud is the 'hybrid cloud' [1] It provides the services private sector as well as publically.

**Community Cloud:-** The 'community cloud' is used for the particular community such as education community, medical etc.

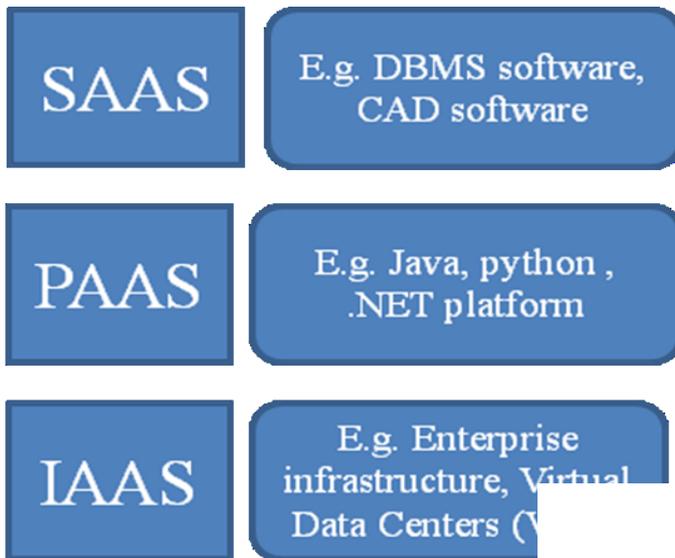
### Service based Cloud computing:-

Service Model of Cloud Computing described by The National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST).

**IaaS:-** Infrastructure as a Service. In this, the cloud provides the resources such as storage, networks and peripheral resources as a service over a network to its users.

**PaaS:-** Platform as a Service. Cloud provides the complete platform for development including hardware and software. It is normally used by programmers or developers.

**SaaS:-** Software as a service. The Cloud provides he applications to the users as a service. For example Google Docs provides Word processing software online to the users.



- b) Increase Battery life:-Heavy applications use large battery. It is the major drawback of mobile device. So user can save energy by the concept of computation offloading technique of Mobile cloud computing.
- c) Enhance Data storage capacity- Cloud server provides the memory to the mobile user because mobile devices have limited space for data storage.
- d) Improving reliability- Mobile cloud computing improve the reliability because Information placed on number of computers at cloud's environment that means data will not be lost.

Fig. 1 Service Model of Cloud

**MOBIE CLOUD COMPUTING:-**

The term Mobile Cloud Computing means to benefit the Mobility of Mobiles and the rich functional resources of the Cloud. In Mobile Cloud Computing, cloud's resources are provided to the mobile device to increase the overall efficiency and performance of phone. The main benefit of Mobile Cloud Computing is that the mobile device offloads its workload by storing large data on the Cloud. In the environment of Cloud Computing, smart phones can obtain the services over a network. In the Mobile Cloud Computing, the most intensive part of the application (heavy part of application or whole execution) can be shifted to the Cloud for execution. After the execution is complete, the results are sent back to the mobile device. In this way user can save the resources of mobile devices. This technique of distributing the load is known as Offloading. Mobile devices have limited capability so by using the cloud's resources user can enhance the computing power and Battery life of the mobile devices and thus making them efficient enough to cater the High End, heavy applications.



Figure 2. Basic Model of Mobile Cloud Computing

**ADVANTAGES OF MOBILE CLOUD COMPUTING**

- a) Enhanced Capabilities:- If the high computation tasks could be executed on a resource rich remote server the Mobile devices could run much heavier applications than their processing power, thus enhancing their capabilities.

**System Architecture of mobile cloud computing-**

Mobile Cloud Computing divided into four layers-access layer, management layer, virtual layer and physical layer[1].

**1. Access layer:** It is an interface between user and cloud end. This layer of architecture describe service interface to the client, service registration and service access.

**2. Management layer:** This layer is used to manage the services. The user management section describes the mobile account management, user environment configuration, and user interaction management and accounting system. Task management manage the task scheduling and task execution. Resource management includes balance the workload; test the errors, and recovery of information. Security management includes identity authentication, access that authentication, security audits and protection of data.

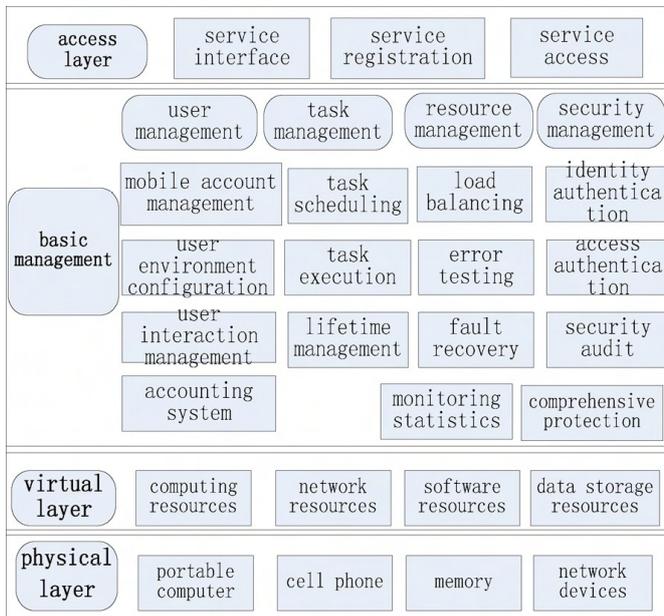


Figure3. System architecture of mobile cloud computing [1]

**3. Virtual layer:** Virtual layer includes various resources such as computing resources, network resources, software resources and data storage resources. This layer describes the virtual environment, virtual system and virtual platform that does not exist in reality.

**4. Physical layer:** This layer includes the peripherals devices like personal computers, mobile phones, network devices and memory. The handheld devices do not require large and strong computing power but only need for input and output sources.

**Applications of Mobile Cloud Computing:-**

The applications of Mobile Cloud Computing are very broad and are increasing every day. Any application running on recourse rich server and being used by a mobile device is an application of Mobile Cloud Computing. For eg. Gmail,

Google Drive provided by Google. Amazon’s new "cloud-accelerated" Web browser Silk. Silk is a "split browser whose software resides both on Kindle Fire and EC2. Some other applications classified according to their nature of use are described as follows:-

**Mobile Commerce:-** Online buying and selling any product is known as Mobile Commerce. In this using the mobile devices. During the transaction many problems occurs due to low capacity of mobile devices. To enhance the capacity use the cloud’s resources for commerce.

**Mobile -HealthCare:-** Mobile Cloud Computing is used in medical treatment applications. Cloud provides on demand services to the mobile users.

**Mobile -Banking:-** Transaction can be done even if user is busy in his routine work via SMS or the mobile Internet but can also use special programs, called mobile applications, downloaded to the mobile device. Security and privacy is necessary in both devices Mobile devices as well as sever side during the transaction.

**Mobile-Learning:-** Cloud based Mobile learning improve the limitation of traditional mobile learning by utilizing the powerful resources of cloud[10].

**Organization of Paper-**

The first section describe the introduction. Security of Mobile Cloud Computing is presented in section 2. In section 3 the review of related work is explained. Finally, the conclusion of the paper is in Section 4.

**Mobile Cloud Computing Security**

Security is a major issue in case of Mobile Cloud Computing. While considering Mobile Cloud Computing the security concerns related to Cloud Computing are in the picture as well as some issues relating to mobile are application security and the device security also jump in. The mobile device acts as node in the internet thus becomes very vulnerable to all kind of hackers and attackers. Some of the Security Issues regarding Mobile Cloud Computing are discussed as follows:-

**Network Security:-** In mobile devices large number of threats could come during the transaction in a network. Some applications to these devices can cause privacy issues for mobile users. The network security covers all security issues concerning the network which is used by the mobile, internet service providers etc. The networks could be Private and Public. In case of a private network the security measures could be reliable in an known organization but as a user switches the network to a public network the reliability is a big concern. For example while travelling the user uses the Wireless Internet provided in a Train. In such cases the

mobile device becomes vulnerable as the network being used could not be trusted.

**Application Level security:-** The applications installed in a mobile device could be a threat to the user's confidential data. The applications installed on the phone by the user from some un-trusted sources could lead in data leakage from the mobile phone. A strong trust mechanism should be devised to ensure the applications running on a phone with confidential information may not be a threat to the user. So the user should care about the application which he wants to install on device.

**Privacy:-** Protect the data from physical access of unauthorized party. Providing the private information to the authenticate user only. To protect the sensitive information encrypt the data using some good encrypting scheme thus if the phone is physically lost then also the data will be of no use of others.

**Cloud Security:-** The organization or individual store their data to the cloud's server. The security issues are :-

**Integrity:-** The user guarantee the integrity the information which is stored on the cloud. Every access they make must be authenticated and verified. Various methods are used for preserving the integrity of stored information.

**Authentication:-** To secure the data access suitable for mobile environments use the various approaches of authentication. Username and passwords given to the authenticate user so that the unknown person cannot access the data. There are three A's in Authentication management i.e. Authentication, Authorization and Auditing. Authentication means, to verify whether a user is actually a legitimate user or not. This is done by ensuring authentication policies such as username and passwords. The term authorization means that only an authorized user will be given access to a particular set of applications/data. Auditing is one of the main compliance requirement. With the help of Auditing if something goes wrong we can find out the exact cause of it, thus making the system more reliable.

**Digital rights management:-** The illegal distribution and piracy of digital contents such as video, image, audio, and e-book, programs becomes more and more popular. Some provisions are given to the legal users such as digital signature. Encryption and decryption is used to access the secure data.

#### **Related Work-**

Security of Mobile Cloud Computing has been discussed by many researchers.

Chun et al. [5], proposed a framework in which application is partitioned using a static analyzer, dynamic profiler & an optimization solver

Migration takes place at thread level. Phone always has to be kept synchronized; the details of synchronization have not been provided.

Chen et al. [12] depicts the security framework for location based grouped scheduling services using IMSI-based Join Secure (IJS) algorithm. In this work IJS used International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) as user identification integrated with encryption algorithm.

Itani et al. [13] proposed a framework based on the cloud to ensure the integrity of mobile device. This framework has divided into three domains: - 1. Mobile Client 2. Cloud Service provider 3. Trusted Third Party. Mobile Client send the request to server and the Cloud Service Provider provides the resources according to the requirements. This approach is helpful to save large amount of processing and energy. But the limitation is that there is lack of data security in public cloud.

Ren et al. [14] present an encryption based scheme having very less computational overhead for ensuring data security on distributed cloud.

Jia et al. [15] presents a framework used proxy re-encryption (PRE) and identification based encryption (IDE) for the security of data. In this approach, cryptography of data is done by user and this procedure increases the processing power and energy rate of mobile phone.

Wang and Wang [16] proposed a framework in which large number of live user in a cloud based on historical data saved in cloud. This procedure minimizes the communication and processing overhead in cloud. But cloaking used in mobile phone can lead to lack of privacy as well as increase the energy consumption.

Saman Zonous et al. [17] proposed a method that provides the security for mobile phone. In this method, Secloud is used in Cloud which ensures the security of Smartphone by security analysis of data in mobile phone.

Eric Y. Chen and Mistutaka Itoh [18] present a Virtual smartphone over IP system that helps to user to create virtual image of smartphone in mobile cloud. User can easily install the applications in cloud and run those applications remotely.

In this approach the complete application was offloaded from the android smart phones to the cloud. This architecture provides a viable solution to data leakage problem.

Lakshmi Subramanian [19] proposes an architecture for providing security services in the cloud for smartphones

within a corporate environment. This paper provides the Cloud based Security Functions such as Anti-virus, Secure Browsing, OS Integrity Checks, Remote Wiping and Versioning, Secure Storage, Policy Control .

Dijiang Huang [20] develop a pilot mobile cloud system implement the cloud trusted domain for data security. For the security and privacy develop a private application “Focus Drive” project which is conducted by Secure Networking and Computing research group.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The number of mobile users is increasing day by day, the usage scenarios are changing accordingly. A number of users are moving towards m-commerce applications and accessing critical information through their mobile phones. Thus making the mobile phones more lucrative subject for hackers and attackers. This makes it uttermost important to device good security mechanisms thus making Mobile Cloud Computing secure. The objective of Mobile Cloud Computing to provide the resources to the users and enhance the performance. In this paper, give an idea about the Mobile Cloud Computing and the various security issues of Mobile Cloud Computing. The various threats regarding mobile cloud computing have been discussed in this paper. The Threats could be categorized into two main categories i.e. Mobile side and Cloud side threats.

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