

DROPS: Division and Replication of Data in Cloud for Optimal Performance And Security

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Abstract: As increased Database the Data security and storage of data is very big issue in the database technology to overcome from this, the cloud computing comes in front. User shared the sensitive data over the cloud which gives rise to security issues in cloud computing. Therefore, high security area required protecting data in cloud. In this methodology, when data owner wants to send file on cloud server, it gets splitted into small chunks and for every upload of file a secret file key is also generated. This provides security at client level as well as in network level. Which is used to minimize the total data transfer cost. To achieve reliability, performance, balanced storage capacity and security, fragmentation plays a vital role. Fragmentation is a process which cuts every sensitive file into several fragments in such a way that it is impossible to achieve total file in one try, and for every registered user a secret key is generated so that we can secure our data. We use T-coloring concept for storing the fragments in nodes and for better reliability and performance, resources are replicated at the redundant locations and using redundant infrastructures. Number of data replication methods have been proposed to address an exponential increase in Internet data traffic and optimize energy and bandwidth in datacenter systems.

Keywords: Centrality, Cloud Security, Fragmentation, Replication, Performance.

I. INTRODUCTION

Cloud computing is characterized by on-demand, self-services, network accesses, resource pooling, elasticity, and measured services. The goal of cloud computing is to cut down the cost and allow users to take benefit from all the services provided by the cloud and helps them to focus on their core business. Cloud computing associates the computing and storage resources controlled by different operating systems to make available services such as large-scaled data storage and high performance computing to users. The aforementioned characteristics of cloud computing make it a striking candidate for businesses, organizations, and individual users for adoption. The benefits of low-cost, negligible management (from a user's perspective), and greater flexibility come with increased security concerns is one of the most crucial aspects among those prohibiting the wide-spread adoption of cloud computing. The data outsourced to a public cloud must be secured. Unauthorized data access by other users and processes must be prevented. Any weak entity can put the whole cloud at risk. In such a scenario, the security mechanism must substantially increase an attacker's effort to retrieve a reasonable amount of data even after a successful intrusion in the cloud. The division method is used to distribute the data which prevents the system from single point failure situation. This paper also discussed the previous existing systems. This system checks for authorized user, the user is authenticated only by entering a secret key and then user uploads the file. This file is divided

into smaller fragments and for each file a secret file key is generated, so dual security is provided.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

A body of literature has been conducted by several authors and a list of them is given below;

1. Energy-Efficient Data Replication in Cloud Computing Datacenters. Cloud computing is an emerging paradigm that provides computing resources as a service over a network. Communication resources often become a bottleneck in service provisioning for many cloud applications. Therefore, data replication, which brings data closer to data consumers, is seen as a promising solution. It allows minimizing network delays and bandwidth usage. In this paper we study data replication in cloud computing data centers. Unlike other approaches available in the literature, we consider both energy efficiency and bandwidth consumption of the system, in addition to the improved Quality of Service as a result of the reduced communication delays. The evaluation results obtained during extensive simulations help to unveil performance and energy efficiency tradeoffs and guide the design of future data replication solutions.

2. Data Security Issues in Cloud Computing. Cloud computing is an enticing technology which is a combination of many existing technologies such as parallel computing, grid computing, distributed computing and others. It offers services like data storage, computing power, shared resources

at low cost to its users over internet at anytime from anywhere. Costing model on cloud computing is based on pay as you go method; hence companies are saving millions by adopting this technology. As more and more individuals and companies are relying on cloud for their data, the question arises here is how secure cloud environment though cloud computing has many advantages, it also have some security problems.

3. On the Characterization of the Structural Robustness of Data center Networks. A Data Center Network (DCN) constitutes the communicational backbone of a data center, ascertaining the performance boundaries for cloud infrastructure. The DCN needs to be robust to failures and uncertainties to deliver the required Quality of Service (QoS) level and satisfy Service Level Agreement (SLA). In this paper, analyze robustness of the state-of-the-art DCNs. Our major contributions are: (a) we present multi-layered graph modeling of various DCNs; (b) we study the classical robustness metrics considering various failure scenarios to perform a comparative analysis; (c) The present the inadequacy of the classical network robustness metrics to appropriately evaluate the DCN robustness; and (d) The propose new procedures to quantify the DCN robustness. Currently, there is no detailed study available centering the DCN robustness. Therefore, we believe that this study will lay a firm foundation for the future DCN robustness research. Motivated by the question of access control in cloud storage, we consider the problem using Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE) in a setting where users' credentials may change and cipher may be stored by a third party.

4. Secure Overlay Cloud Storage with Access Control and Assured Deletion This paper describes outsource data backups off-site to third-party cloud storage services so as to reduce data management costs. However, we must provide security guarantees for the outsourced data, which is now maintained by third parties. We design and implement FADE, a secure overlay cloud storage system that achieves fine-grained, policy-based access control and file assured deletion. It associates outsourced files with file access policies, and assuredly deletes files to make them unrecoverable to anyone upon revocations of file access policies. To achieve such security goals, FADE is built upon a set of cryptographic key operations that are self-maintained by a quorum of key managers that are independent of third-party clouds. In particular, FADE acts as an overlay system that works seamlessly atop today's cloud storage services. We implement a proof-of-concept prototype of FADE atop Amazon S3, one of today's cloud storage services.

5. Security and Privacy Issues in Cloud Computing Environment Cloud computing is emerging as a powerful architecture to perform large-scale and complex computing. It extends the information technology (IT) capability by providing on-demand access to computer resources for dedicated use. The information security and privacy are the major concerns over the cloud from user perspective. This

paper surveys and evaluates the architecture, data security and privacy issues in cloud computing like data confidentiality, integrity, authentication, trust, service level agreements and regulatory issues. The objective of this paper is to review comprehensively the current challenges of data security and privacy being faced by cloud computing and critically analyze these issues.

6. Dike: Virtualization-aware Access Control for Multi-tenant File systems This paper describes in a virtualization environment that serves multiple customers (or tenants), storage consolidation at the file system level is desirable because it enables data sharing, administration efficiency, and performance optimization. The scalable deployment of file systems in such environments is challenging due to intermediate translation layers required for purposes of networked file access or identity management. Analyzes the security requirements in multitenant file systems then we introduce the Dike authorization architecture, which combines native access control with tenant namespace isolation that is backwards compatible to object-based file systems. We experimentally evaluate a prototype implementation that we developed, and show that our solution incurs limited added performance overhead.

7. Static and adaptive distributed data replication using genetic algorithms Fast dissemination and access of information in large distributed systems, such as the Internet, has become a norm of our daily life. However, undesired long delays experienced by end-users, especially during the peak hours, continue to be a common problem. Replicating some of the objects at multiple sites is one possible solution in decreasing network traffic. The decision of what to replicate where, requires solving a constraint optimization problem which is NP-complete in general. Such problems are known to stretch the capacity of a Genetic Algorithm (GA) to its limits. Nevertheless, we propose a GA to solve the problem when the read/write demands remain static and experimentally prove the superior solution quality obtained compared to an intuitive greedy method. Unfortunately, the static GA approach involves high running time and may not be useful when read/write demands continuously change, as is the case with breaking news. To tackle such case we propose a hybrid GA that takes as input the current replica distribution and computes a new one using knowledge about the network attributes and the changes occurred. Evaluate these algorithms with respect to the storage capacity constraint of each site as well as variations in the popularity of objects, and also examine the trade-off between running time and solution quality.

8. Addressing cloud computing security issues. The recent emergence of cloud computing has drastically altered everyone's perception of infrastructure architectures, software delivery and development models. Projecting as an evolutionary step, following the transition from mainframe computers to client/server deployment models, cloud computing encompasses elements from grid computing, utility computing and autonomic computing, into an

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innovative deployment architecture. From a security perspective, a number of uncharted risks and challenges have been introduced from this relocation to the clouds, deteriorating much of the effectiveness of traditional protection mechanisms. As a result the aim of this paper is twofold; firstly to evaluate cloud security by identifying unique security requirements and secondly to attempt to present a viable solution that eliminates these potential threats. This paper proposes introducing a Trusted Third Party, tasked with assuring specific security characteristics within a cloud environment.

9. Comparison and analysis of ten static heuristics-based Internet data replication techniques Compares and analyses 10 heuristics to solve the fine-grained data replication problem over the Internet. In fine-grained replication, frequently accessed data objects (as opposed to the entire website contents) are replicated onto a set of selected sites so as to minimize the average access time perceived by the end users. The paper presents a unified cost model that captures the minimization of the total object transfer cost in the system, which in turn leads to effective utilization of storage space, replica consistency, fault-tolerance, and load-balancing. The set of heuristics include six A-Star based algorithms, two bin packing algorithms, one greedy and one genetic algorithm. The heuristics are extensively simulated and compared using an experimental test-bed that closely mimics the Internet infrastructure and user access patterns. GTITM and Inlet topology generators are used to obtain 80 well-defined network topologies based on flat, link distance, power-law and hierarchical transit-stub models. The user access patterns are derived from real access logs collected at the websites of Soccer World Cup 1998 and NASA Kennedy Space Centre. The heuristics are evaluated by analyzing the communication cost incurred due to object transfers under the variance of server capacity, object size, read access, write access, number of objects and sites. The main benefit of this study is to facilitate readers with the choice of algorithms that guarantee fast or optimal or both types of solutions.

10. Enhanced dynamic credential generation scheme for protection of user identity in mobile-cloud computing. In this paper, to improve the resource limitation of mobile devices, mobile users may utilize cloud-computational and storage services. Although the utilization of the cloud services improves the processing and storage capacity of mobile devices, the migration of confidential information on untrusted cloud raises security and privacy issues. Considering the security of mobile-cloud-computing subscribers' information, a mechanism to authenticate legitimate mobile users in the cloud environment is sought. Usually, the mobile users are authenticated in the cloud environment through digital credential methods, such as password. Once the users' credential information theft occurs, the adversary can use the hacked information for impersonating the mobile user later on. The alarming situation is that the mobile user is unaware about adversary's malicious activities. In this paper, a light-weight security scheme is proposed for mobile user in cloud environment to protect the mobile user's identity with dynamic credentials. The

proposed scheme offloads the frequently occurring dynamic credential generation operations on a trusted entity to keep minimum processing burden on the mobile device. To enhance the security and reliability of the scheme, the credential information is updated frequently on the basis of mobile-cloud packets exchange.

III. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY AND DISCUSSION

When data owner wants to send file on cloud server, first the user should register, for each registered user a unique secret key is generated. If all credentials are valid then only the user can send file in cloud. After that file is splitted, Splitting is used to minimize the total data transfer cost. To achieve reliability, performance, balanced storage capacity and security, fragmentation plays a vital role. Fragmentation is a process which cuts every sensitive file into several fragments in such a way that it is impossible to achieve total file in one try. For every upload of file a unique secret file key is also generated, so that we can secure our data. The probabilities to find whole fragments are also very low. Thus, this system uses a fragmentation technique by using T-coloring method. Fragmentation is divided into horizontal, vertical and mixed fragmentation. Data replication methodology is very important in today's popular systems for problems such as data reliability, availability and response time. Data replication means keeping a number of replicas on the same server or on dissimilar servers. In replication data is copied and distributed from one database to another. So, it reduces the workload from the original server and the data on the server where it is copied are always active which is not present in mirroring technique. Replication decreases the chance of data loss, increases the performance, availability, reliability. [5]. The user can download the file by entering a secret file key, then all the splitted file get merged and can be downloaded

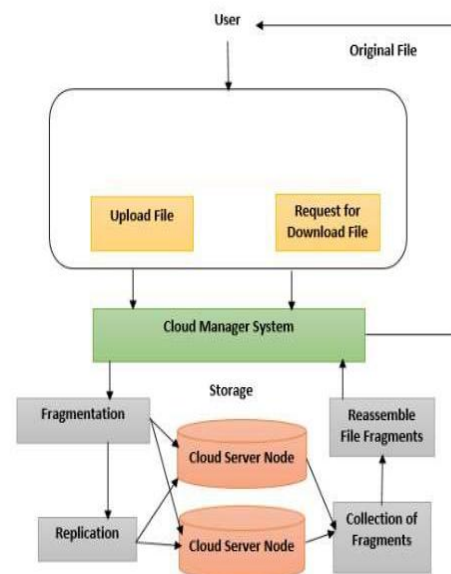


Fig.1. System Architecture.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP AND RESULTS

The communicational backbone of cloud computing is the Data Center Network (DCN) [3]. In this paper, we use three DCN architectures namely: (a) Three tier, (b) Fat tree, and (c) Dcell [2]. The Three tiers is the legacy DCN architecture. However, to meet the growing demands of the cloud computing, the Fat tree and Dcell architectures were proposed [3]. Therefore, we use the aforementioned three architectures to evaluate the performance of our scheme on legacy as well as state of the art architectures. The Fat tree and three tier architectures are switch-centric networks. The nodes are connected with the access layer switches. Multiple access layer switches are connected using aggregate layer switches. Core layer switches interconnect the aggregate layer switches. The Dcell is a server centric network architecture that uses servers in addition to switches to perform the communication process within the network [2]. A server in the Dcell architecture is connected to other servers and a switch. The lower level dcells recursively build the higher level dcells. The dcells at the same level are fully connected. For details about the aforesaid architectures and their performance analysis, the readers are encouraged to read [2] and [3].

A. Comparative techniques

We compared the results of the DROPS methodology with fine-grained replication strategies, namely: (a) DRPA-star, (b) WA-star, (c) $A\epsilon$ -star, (d) SA1, (e) SA2, (f) SA3, (g) Local Min-Min, (h) Global Min-Min, (i) Greedy algorithm, and (j) Genetic Replication Algorithm (GRA). The DRPA-star is a data replication algorithm based on the A-star best-first search algorithm. The DRPA-star starts from the null solution that is called a root node. The communication cost at each node n is computed as: $cost(n) = g(n) + h(n)$, where $g(n)$ is the path cost for reaching n and $h(n)$ is called the heuristic cost and is the estimate of cost from n to the goal node. The DRPA-star searches all of the solutions of allocating a fragment to a node. The solution that minimizes the cost within the constraints is explored while others are discarded. The selected solution is inserted into a list called the OPEN list. The list is ordered in the ascending order so that the solution with the minimum cost is expanded first. The heuristic used by the DRPA-star is given as $h(n) = \max(0, (mmk(n)g(n)))$, where $mmk(n)$ is the least cost replica allocation or the max-min RC. Readers are encouraged to see the details about DRPA-star. The WA-Star is a refinement of the DRPA-star that implements a weighted function to evaluate the cost. The function is given as: $f(n) = f(n) + h(n) + \epsilon(1 - (d(n) \sim D)h(n))$. The variable $d(n)$ represents the depth of the node n and D denotes the expected depth of the goal node. The $A\epsilon$ -star is also a variation of the DRPA-star that uses two lists, OPEN and FOCAL. The FOCAL list contains only those nodes from the OPEN list that have f greater than or equal to the lowest f by a factor of $1 + \epsilon$. The node expansion is performed from the FOCAL list instead of the OPEN list. Further details about WA-Star and $A\epsilon$ -star can be found. The SA1 (suboptimal assignments), SA2, and SA3 are DRPA-star based heuristics. In SA1, at level R or below, only the best successors of node n having the least expansion costs are selected.

The SA2 selects the best successor of node n only for the first time when it reaches the depth level R . All other successors are discarded. The SA3 works similar to the SA2, except that the nodes are removed from OPEN list except the one with the lowest cost. Readers are encouraged to read for further details about SA1, SA2, and SA3. The LMM can be considered as a special case of the binpacking algorithm. The LMM sorts the file fragments based on the RC of the fragments to be stored at a node. The LMM then assigns the fragments in the ascending order. In case of a tie, the file fragment with minimum size is selected for assignment (namely local Min-Min is derived from such a policy). The GMM selects the file fragment with global minimum of all the RC associated with a file fragment. In case of a tie, the file fragment is selected at random. The Greedy algorithm first iterates through all of the M cloud nodes to find the best node for allocating a file fragment. The node with the lowest replication cost is selected. The second node for the fragment is selected in the second iteration. However, in the second iteration that node is selected that produces the lowest RC in combination with node already selected. The process is repeated for all of the file fragments. Details of the greedy algorithm can be found. The GRA consists of chromosomes representing various schemes for storing file fragments over cloud nodes. Every chromosome consists of M genes, each representing a node. Every gene is an N bit string. If the k -th file fragment is to be assigned to S_i , then the k -th bit of i -th gene holds the value of one. Genetic algorithms perform the operations of selection, crossover, and mutation. The value for the crossover rate (μ_c) was selected as 0.9, while for the mutation rate (μ_m) the value was 0.01. The use of the values

B. Workload

The sizes of files were generated using a uniform distribution between 10Kb and 60 Kb. The primary nodes were randomly selected for replication algorithms. For the DROPS methodology, the S^i 's selected during the first cycle of the nodes selection by Algorithm 1 were considered as the primary nodes. The read/write (R/W) ratio for the simulation that used fixed value was selected to be 0.25 (The R/W ratio reflecting 25% reads and 75% writes within the cloud). The reason for choosing a high workload (lower percentage of reads and higher percentage of writes) was to evaluate the performance of the techniques under extreme cases. The simulations that studied the impact of change in the R/W ratio used various workloads in terms of R/W ratios. The R/W ratios selected were in the range of 0.10 to 0.90. These selected range covered the effect of high, medium, and low workloads with respect to the R/W ratio.

C. Results and Discussion

We compared the performance of the DROPS methodology with the algorithms discussed in Section 3.1. The behavior of the algorithms was studied by: (a) increasing the number of nodes in the system, (b) increasing the number of objects keeping number of nodes constant, (c) changing the nodes storage capacity, and (d) varying the read/write ratio.

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Theaforesaid parameters are significant as they affect theproblem size and the performance of algorithms.

1. Impact of increase in number of cloud nodes

We studied the performance of the placement techniques and the DROPS methodology by increasing thenumber of nodes. The performance was studied forthe three discussed cloud architectures. The numbersof nodes selected for the simulations were 100, 500,1,024, 2,400, and 30,000. The number of nodes inthe Dcell architecture increases exponentially [3]. ForDcell architecture, with two nodes in the Dcell0,the architecture consists of 2,400 nodes. However,increasing a single node in the Dcell0, the total nodesincreases to 30, 000 [3]. The number of file fragments

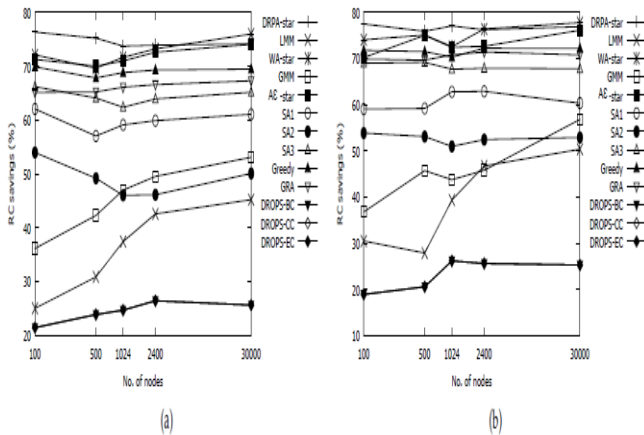


Fig.1. (a) RC versus number of notes (Three tier) (b) RC versus number of nodes (Fat tier)

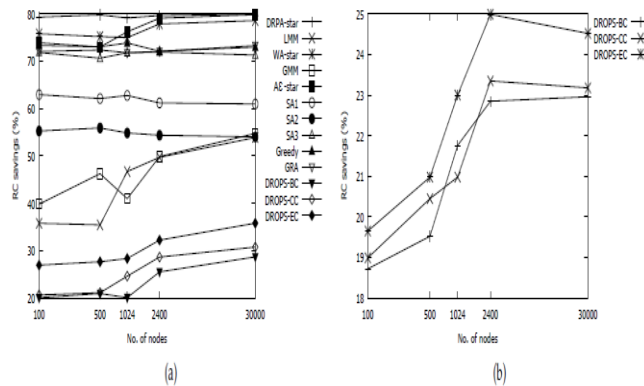


Fig.2. (a) RC versus number of nodes (Dcell) (b) RC versus number of nodes for DROPS variations with maximum available capacity constraint (Three tier)

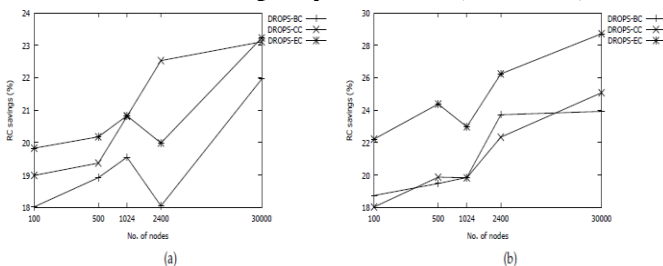


Fig.3. RC versus number of nodes for DROPS variations with maximum available capacity constraints (a) Fattree (b) Dcell

Was set to 50. For the first experiment we used $C = 0.2$. Fig. 1 (a), Fig. 1 (b), and Fig. 2 (a) show the results for the three tier, Fat tree, and Dcell architectures, respectively. The reduction in network transfer time for a file is termed as RC. In the figures, the BC stands for the between's centrality, the CC stands for closeness centrality, and the EC stands for eccentricity centrality, the performance of the algorithms was better in the Dcell architecture as compared to three tier and fattree architectures. This is because the Dcell architecture exhibits better inter node connectivity and robustness [3]. The DRPA-star gave best solutions as compared to other techniques and registered consistent performance with the increase in the number of nodes. Similarly, WA-star, $A\epsilon$ -star, GRA, greedy, and SA3 showed almost consistent performance with various numbers of nodes. The performance of LMM and GMM gradually increased with the increase in number of nodes since the increase in the number of nodes increased the number of bins. The SA1 and SA2 also showed almost constant performance in all of the three architectures. However, it is important to note that SA2 ended up with a decrease in performance.

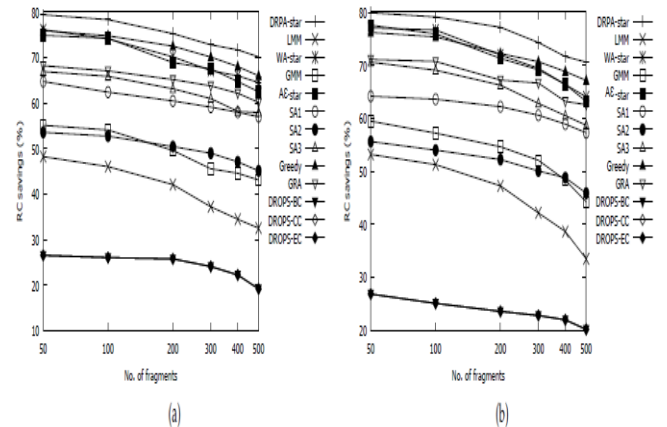


Fig.4. (a) RC versus number of file fragments (Three tier) (b) RC versus number of file fragments (Fat tier)

As compared to the initial performance. This may be due to the fact that SA2 only expands the node with minimum cost when it reaches at certain depth for the first time. Such a pruning for the first time might have purged nodes by providing better global access time. The DROPS methodology did not employ full scale replication. Every fragment is replicated only once in the system. The smaller number of replicas of any fragment and separation of nodes by T-coloring decreased the probability of finding that fragment by an attacker. Therefore, the increase in the security level of the data is accompanied by the drop in performance as compared to the comparative techniques discussed in this paper. It is important to note that the DROPS methodology was implemented using three centrality measures namely: (a) between's, (b) closeness, and (c) eccentricity. However, Fig. 1(a) and Fig. 1(b) show only a single plot. Due to the inherent structure of the three tiers and Fat tree architectures, all of the nodes in the network are at the same distance from each other or exist at the same level. Therefore, the centrality measure is the same for all of the nodes.

This results in the selection of same node for storing the file fragment. Consequently, the performance showed the same value and all three lines are on the same points. However, this is not the case for the Dcell architecture. In the Dcell architecture, nodes have different centrality measures resulting in the selection of different nodes. It is noteworthy to mention that in Fig.2(a), the eccentricity centrality performs better as compared to the closeness and between's centralities because the nodes with higher eccentricity are located closer to all other nodes within the network. To check the effect of closeness and between's centralities, we modified the heuristic presented in Algorithm 1. Instead of selecting the node with criteria of only maximum centrality, we selected the node with: (a) maximum centrality and (b) maximum available storage capacity. The results are presented in Fig. 2 (b), Fig. 3 (a), and Fig. 3 (b). It is evident that the eccentricity centrality resulted in the highest performance while the between's centrality showed the lowest performance. The reason for this is that nodes with higher eccentricity are closer to all other nodes in the network that results in lower RC value for accessing the fragments.

2. Impact of increase in number of file fragments

The increase in number of file fragments can strain the storage capacity of the cloud that, in turn may affect the selection of the nodes. To study the impact on performance due to increase in number of file fragments, we set the number of nodes to 30,000. The numbers of file fragments selected were 50, 100, 200, 300, 400, and 500. The workload was generated with $C=45\%$ to observe the effect of increase in number of file fragments with fairly reasonable amount of memory and to discern the performance of all the algorithms. The results are shown in Fig. 4 (a), Fig.4 (b), and Fig.5 (a) for the three tier, Fat tree, and Dcell architectures, respectively. It can be observed from the plots that the increase in the number of file fragments reduced the performance of the algorithms, in general. However, the greedy algorithm showed the most improved performance. The LMM showed the highest loss in performance that is little above 16%. The loss in performance can be attributed to the storage capacity constraints that prohibited the placements of some fragments at nodes with optimal retrieval time.

3. Impact of increase in storage capacity of nodes

A change in storage capacity of the nodes may affect the number of replicas on the node due to storage capacity constraints. Intuitively, a lower node storage capacity may result in the elimination of some optimal nodes to be selected for replication because of violation of storage capacity constraints. The elimination of some nodes may degrade the performance to some extent because a node giving lower access time might be pruned due to non-availability of enough storage space to store the file fragment. Higher node storage capacity allows full-scale replication of fragments, increasing the performance gain. However, node capacity above certain level will not change the performance significantly as replicating the already replicated fragments will not produce considerable performance increase. If the storage nodes have enough capacity to store the allocated file

fragments, then a further increase in the storage capacity of a node cannot cause the fragments to be stored again.

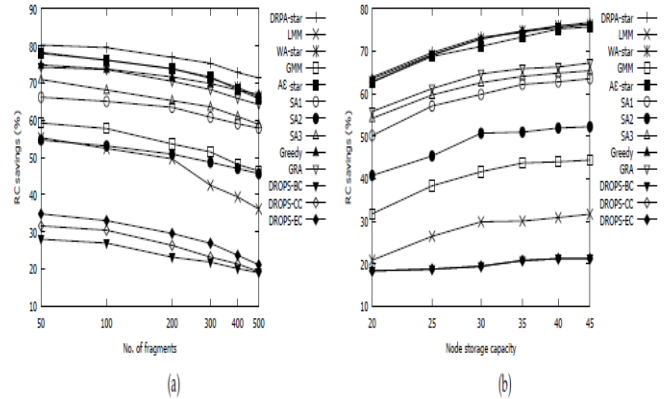


Fig.5. (a) RC versus number of file fragments (Dcell) (b) RC versus nodes storage capacity (Three tier)

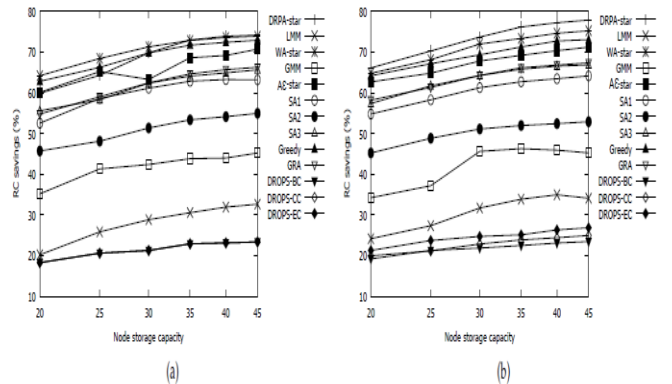


Fig.6. (a) RC versus nodes storage capacity (Fat tree) (b) RC versus nodes storage capacity (Dcell)

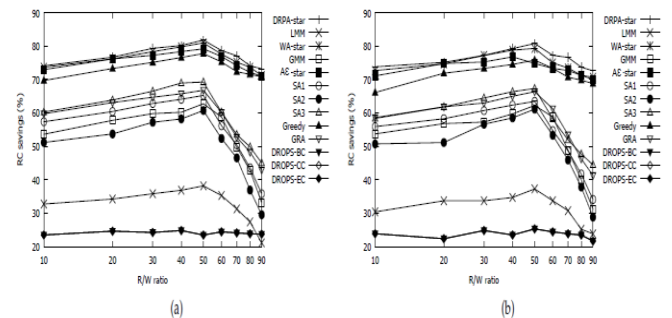


Fig.7. (a) RC versus R/W ratio (Three tree) (b) RC versus R/W ratio (Fat tree)

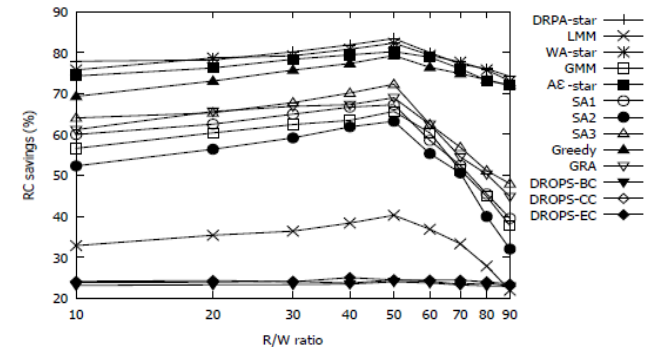


Fig.8. RC versus R/W ratio (Dcell)

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Moreover, the T-coloring allows only a single replica to be stored on any node. Therefore, after a certain point, the increase in storage capacity might not affect the performance. We increase the nodes storage capacity incrementally from 20% to 40%. The results are shown in Fig.5 (b), Fig. 6 (a), and Fig. 6(b). It is observable from the plots that initially, all of the algorithms showed significant increase in performance with an increase in the storage capacity. Afterwards, the marginal increase in the performance reduces with the increase in the storage capacity. The DRPA-star, greedy, WA-star, and A ϵ -star showed nearly similar performance and recorded higher performance. The DROPS methodology did not show any considerable change in results when compared to previously discussed experiments (change in number of nodes and files). This is because the DROPS methodology does not go for a full-scale replication of file fragments rather they are replicated only once and a single node only stores a single fragment. Single time replication does not require high storage capacity. Therefore, the change in nodes storage capacity did not affect the performance of DROPS to a notable extent.

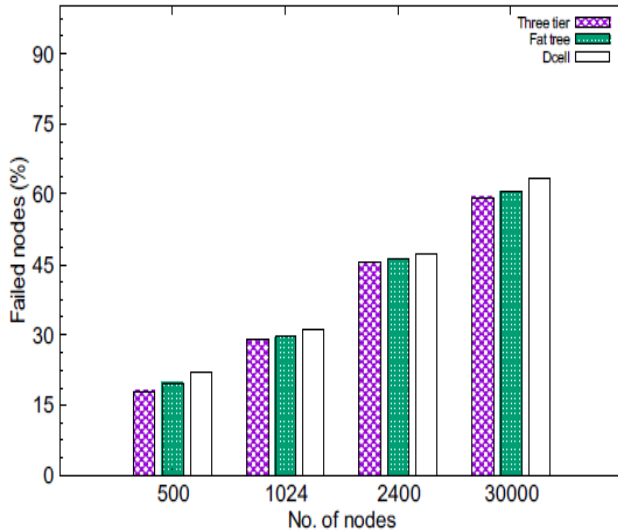


Fig.9. Fault tolerance level of DROPS

4. Impact of increase in the read/write ratio

The change in R/W ratio affects the performance of the discussed comparative techniques. An increase in the number of reads would lead to a need of more replicas of the fragments in the cloud. The increased number of replicas decreases the communication cost associated with the reading of fragments. However, the increased number of writes demands that the replicas be placed closer to the primary node. The presence of replicas closer to the primary node results in decreased RC associated with updating replicas. The higher write ratios may increase the traffic on the network for updating the replicas. Fig7(a), Fig7(b), and Fig. 8 show the performance of the comparative techniques and the DROPS methodology under varying R/W ratios. It is observed that all of the comparative techniques showed an increase in the RC savings up to the R/W ratio of 0.50. The decrease in the number of writes caused the reduction of cost associated with updating the replicas of the fragments.

However, all of the comparative techniques showed some sort of decrease in RC saving for R/W ratios above 0.50. This may be attributed to the fact that an increase in the number of reads caused more replicas of fragments resulting in increased cost of updating the replicas. Therefore, the increased cost of updating replicas underpins the advantage of decreased cost of reading with higher number of replicas at R/W ratio above 0.50. It is also important to mention that even at higher R/W ratio values the DRPA-star, WA-star, A ϵ -star, and Greedy algorithms almost maintained their initial RC saving values. The high performance of the aforesaid algorithms is due to the fact that these algorithms focus on the global RC value while replicating the fragments.

Therefore, the global perception of these algorithms resulted in high performance. Alternatively, LMM and GMM did not show substantial performance due to their local RC view while assigning a fragment to a node. The SA1, SA2, and SA3 suffered due to their restricted search tree that probably ignored some globally high performing nodes during expansion. The DROPS methodology maintained almost consistent performance as is observable from the plots. The reason for this is that the DROPS methodology replicates the fragments only once, so varying R/W ratios did not affect the results considerably. However, the slight changes in the RC value are observed. This might be due to the reason that different nodes generate high cost for R/W of fragments with different R/W ratio. As discussed earlier, the comparative techniques focus on the performance and try to reduce the RC as much as possible. The DROPS methodology, on the other hand, is proposed to collectively approach the security and performance. To increase the security level of the data, the DROPS methodology sacrifices the performance to certain extent. Therefore, we see a drop in the performance of the DROPS methodology as compared to discussed comparative techniques. However, the drop in performance is accompanied by much needed increase in security level.

Moreover, it is noteworthy that the difference in performance level of the DROPS methodology and the comparative techniques is least with the reduced storage capacity of the nodes (see Fig. 5 (b), Fig. 6 (a), and Fig. 6 (b)). The reduced storage capacity proscribes the comparative techniques to place as many replicas as required for the optimized performance. A further reduction in the storage capacity will tend to even lower the performance of the comparative techniques. Therefore, we conclude that the difference in performance level of the DROPS methodology and the comparative techniques is least when the comparative techniques reduce the extensiveness of replication for any reason. Due to the fact that the DROPS methodology reduces the number of replicas, we have also investigated the fault tolerance of the DROPS methodology. If two nodes storing the same file fragment fail, the result will be incomplete or faulty file. We randomly picked and failed the nodes to check that what percentage of failed nodes will result in loss of data or Selection of two nodes storing same file fragment. The numbers of nodes used in aforesaid experiment were 500, 1,024, 2,400, and 30,000. The number

of filefragments was set to 50. The results are shown in Fig.9. As can be seen in Fig. 9, the increase in number of nodes increases the fault tolerance level. The randomfailure has generated a reasonable percentage for asoundly decent number of nodes.

TABLE 1. Average RC (%) savings for increase in number of nodes

Architecture	DRPA	LMM	wa-star	GMM	Ae-star	SA1	SA2	SA3	Greedy	GRA	DROPS-BC	DROPS-CC	DROPS-EC
Three tier	74.70	36.23	72.55	45.62	71.82	59.86	49.09	64.38	69.1	66.1	24.41	24.41	24.41
Fat tree	76.76	38.95	75.22	45.77	73.33	60.89	52.67	68.33	71.64	70.54	23.28	23.28	23.28
Dcell	79.6	44.32	76.51	46.34	76.43	62.03	54.90	71.53	73.09	72.34	23.06	25.16	30.20

TABLE 2. Average RC (%) savings for increase in number of fragments

Architecture	DRPA	LMM	wa-star	GMM	Ae-star	SA1	SA2	SA3	Greedy	GRA	DROPS-BC	DROPS-CC	DROPS-EC
Three tier	74.63	40.08	69.69	48.67	68.82	60.29	49.65	62.18	71.25	64.44	23.93	23.93	23.93
Fat tree	75.45	44.33	70.90	52.66	70.58	61.12	51.09	64.64	71.73	66.90	23.42	23.42	23.42
Dcell	76.08	45.90	72.49	52.78	72.33	62.12	50.02	64.66	70.92	69.50	23.17	25.35	28.17

TABLE 3. Average RC (%) savings for increase in storage capacity

Architecture	DRPA	LMM	wa-star	GMM	Ae-star	SA1	SA2	SA3	Greedy	GRA	DROPS-BC	DROPS-CC	DROPS-EC
Three tier	72.37	28.26	71.99	40.63	71.19	59.29	48.67	61.83	72.09	63.54	19.89	19.89	19.89
Fat tree	69.19	28.34	70.73	41.99	66.20	60.28	51.29	61.83	69.33	62.16	21.60	21.60	21.60
Dcell	73.57	31.04	71.37	42.41	67.70	60.79	50.42	63.78	69.64	64.03	21.91	22.88	24.68

TABLE 4. Average RC (%) savings for increase in R/W ratio

Architecture	DRPA	LMM	wa-star	GMM	Ae-star	SA1	SA2	SA3	Greedy	GRA	DROPS-BC	DROPS-CC	DROPS-EC
Three tier	77.28	32.54	76.32	53.20	75.38	55.13	49.61	59.74	73.64	58.27	24.08	24.08	24.08
Fat tree	76.29	31.47	74.81	52.08	73.37	53.33	49.35	57.87	71.61	57.47	23.68	23.68	23.68
Dcell	78.72	33.66	78.03	55.82	76.47	57.44	52.28	61.94	74.54	60.16	23.32	23.79	24.23

We report the average RC (%) savings in Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, and Table 4. The averages are computed over all of the RC (%) savings within a certain class of experiments. Table 1 reveals the average results of all of the experiments conducted to observe the impact of increase in the number of nodes in the cloud for all of the three discussed cloud architectures. Table 2 depicts the average RC (%) savings for the increase in the number of fragments. Table 3 and Table 4 describe the average results for the increase the storage capacity and R/W ratio, respectively. It is evident from the average results that the Dcell architecture showed better results due to its higher connectivity ratio.

V. CONCLUSION

The user has to register in cloud, for each registered user, a unique secret key is generated. The user when wants to upload the file, it gets splitted into small chunks and for every upload of file a secret file key is also generated when user wants to download a file, they should enter a secret file key of their file, then splitted chunks get merged and can download the file.

This provides security at client level as well as in network level. The aforesaid future work will save the time and resources utilized in downloading, updating, and uploading the file again.

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