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A Hybrid Approach for Load Balancing in Cloud Environment

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Abstract: Cloud computing is highly designed setup provides platform as a service, infrastructure as a service and software as a service. It helps clients to use required services & pay according to the usage of service. The principle aspect of cloud computing is virtualization that deals with the construction and management of virtual machines efficiently. Cloud computing environment provides multiple resources and services for sharing with their clients. Data storage on cloud computing is increasing day by day which causes scarcity of resources on cloud data centers. Also some data centers are overloaded & some are under loaded. Therefore load balancing on cloud data centers is required. With load balancing concept some tasks of overloaded servers are transferred to under loaded servers. Generally load balancing algorithms work dynamically. There are multiple dynamic load balancing algorithms exists for balancing the work load on cloud data centers. In this paper Hybrid approach for load balancing in cloud environment.

Keywords: Cloud Computing, Load Balancer, Round Robin, Throttle Method

I. INTRODUCTION

Cloud computing provides flexible way to retain data and files which involves virtualization, distributed computing, and web services. The main aim of cloud servers is to share vast amount of resources with their clients with low cost. The clients can use the cloud resources by registering with specific server & send requests for the resources. The server after authentication provides desired services to the requesting clients.

The cloud computing now a day is facing a real time challenge of load balancing [1]. The main reason for this challenge is the increase in the users demand for cloud services. So it is practically impossible to maintain the one or more free service to fulfill the demand. Providing each server with one demand to fulfill will result into traffic on the server and ultimately the crash of the system. It is used by Cloud service provider (CSP) in its own cloud computing platform to provide a high efficient solution for the user. Also, a inter CSP load balancing mechanism is needed to construct a low cost and infinite resource pool for the consumer [2].

A general model of Cloud Computing is shown in figure 1 below.

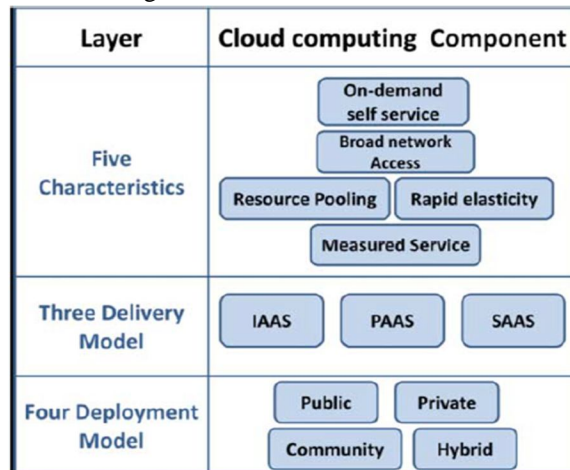


Figure 1: Model of Cloud Computing

Load balancing is helped to distribute the dynamic workload across multiple nodes to ensure that no single node is overloaded. It helps in proper utilization of resources. It also improves the performance of the system. Many existing algorithms provide load

balancing and better resource utilization [3]. Load balancing is the process of finding overloaded nodes and then transferring the extra load to other nodes. In this paper Hybrid approach for load balancing in cloud environment.

II. LOAD BALANCING IN CLOUD COMPUTING

Load balancing is used to distributing a larger processing load to smaller processing nodes for enhancing the overall performance of system. In cloud computing environment load balancing is required distribute the dynamic local is a techniques that helped networks and resources by providing a Maximum throughput with minimum response time. Load balancing is dividing the traffic between all servers, so data can be sent and received without any delay with load balancing Load balancing required to improve the performance of the system by minimize the overall completion time and avoid the situation where some resources are heavily loaded or others remains under loaded in the system [4].

The goals of load balancing are:

- Improve the performance
- Maintain system stability
- Build fault tolerance system
- Accommodate future modification.
- Energy is saved in case of low load
- Maximize throughput of the system
- Minimize communication overhead
- Resources are easily available on demand
- Resources are efficiently utilized under condition of high/low load
- Minimize overall completion time (makes pan)

Figure 2 below shows load balancing in cloud environment.

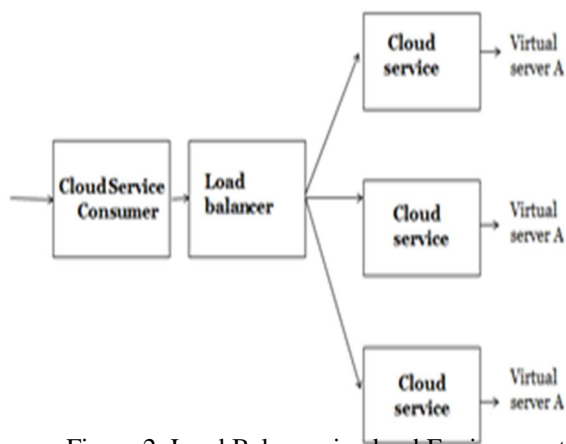


Figure 2: Load Balancer in cloud Environment

III. EXISTING LOAD BALANCING ALGORITHMS

To design an effective load balancing policy and to determine how to increase the cloud resource usage are the two main goals of a cloud service provider. The VM scheduling algorithms for load balancing helps in allotment of VMs efficiently on need. Basically, a VM load balancing algorithm decides which VM is to allocate when request is made by cloud consumer. Numerous VM load balancing algorithms that have been proposed are discussed here [6][10]:

A. Round Robin Load Balancing Algorithm

It is a very simple load balancing algorithm that places the newly coming request on the available virtual machines in a circular manner. The major advantage of this algorithm is its simplicity and easy implementation. The main drawbacks are that it requires the prior knowledge of user tasks and system resources & it do not make use of current state of the system

B. ESCE load Balancing Algorithm

ESCE stands for Equally Spread Current Execution. It is also called Active VM Load Balancing algorithm. This algorithm is based on spread spectrum technique. As the name indicates, it equally distributes the workload on each VM in data center. A job queue keeps all the cloudlet requests that need the VM for their execution. ESCE VM Load Balancer (VMLB) also maintains a list of virtual machines. The VM Load Balancer continuously checks the job queue and VM list. If a VM is found free, then cloudlet request will be allotted over that VM. At the same time, VMLB inspect the overloaded VMs. If any virtual machine is found overloaded, then VMLB move some load to an idle or an under loaded virtual machine, so as to reduce some load of overloaded VM. The main drawback is high computational overhead.

C. Throttled Load Balancing Algorithm

It is a dynamic approach. In this, user submits its request to the Data Center Controller (DCC). Data Center Controller asks the VM Load Balancer to determine the appropriate virtual machine that can handle that much workload easily. Throttled VM Load Balancer keeps a virtual machine list and their status (available/busy). If a suitable VM is found on memory space, cores or availability basis, then throttled VM Load Balancer accept the cloudlet request and allot the cloudlet request over that virtual machine. Otherwise, clients have to wait in the waiting queue until a suitable VM becomes available. Among all, it is best approach for load balancing, since it maintains the present state of all VMs in data center. But the major drawback is that it works properly only if all VMs in a data center have same hardware configuration.

IV. PROPOSED WORK

The goal of the proposed work is to design an efficient scheduling algorithm that uniformly distribute workload among the available virtual machines in a data center and at the same time, decrease the overall response time and data center processing time. The proposed approach is a combination of Throttled (TVLB) and ESCE algorithm. TVLB algorithm makes use of states of VMs. A virtual machine state may be either AVAILABLE or BUSY. AVAILABLE state indicates that the virtual machine is idle/free and ready for cloudlet allotment, where BUSY state indicates that the current virtual machine is busy in execution of previous cloudlets and is not available to handle any new cloudlet request. This current load state of a VM helps in taking decision whether to allocate cloudlets to virtual machines or not.

Active VM Load Balancing algorithms continuously monitor the job queue for new cloudlets and allot them to the bunch of idle/free VMs. It also maintains the list of cloudlets allocated to each virtual machine. This allocated cloudlet list helps in determining whether a VM is overloaded or under loaded at particular moment of time. On the basis of this information, VM load Balancer moves some load from overloaded VMs to the VM having minimum number of cloudlets, so as to maintain a high degree of balance among virtual machines. These features combined together, make the proposed scheduling algorithm more efficient & effective and help in fair distribution of the load

Figure 3 below shows the proposed load balancing algorithm.

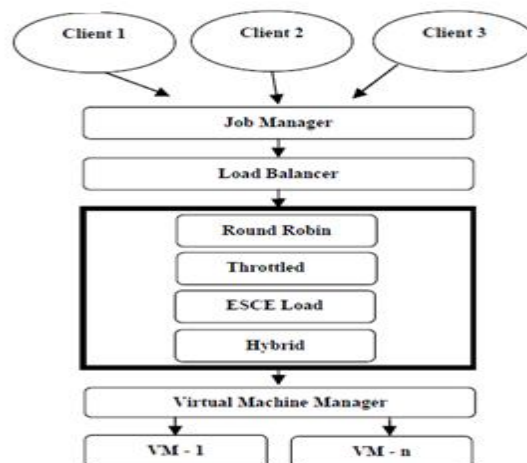


Figure 3: load balancing Algorithms

V. IMPLEMENTATION & RESULTS

Implementation is the stage of the project when the theoretical design is turned out into a working system. Thus it can be considered to be the most critical stage in achieving a successful new system and in giving the user, confidence that the new system will work and be effective. The implementation stage involves careful planning, investigation of the existing system and its constraints on implementation, designing of methods to achieve changeover and evaluation of changeover methods.

Figure 4 shows the main menu of our implementation.

```

Output - Load_Balance (run)
run:
Select Your choice
For Allocation PRESS : 1
For Deallocation PRESS : 2
For Load Balance PRESS : 3
For Exit PRESS : 4
Enter Your Choice:
  
```

Figure 4: Main menu of implementation

When user select option 1 i.e., allocation of resources then it ask for client id and numbers of CPUs required as shown in figure 5.

```

Output - Load_Balance (run)
Enter Your Choice:
1
Enter the client id (1-100) :
1
For small VM 2 cpu Enter : 1
For medium VM 4 cpu Enter : 2
For large VM 8 cpu Enter : 3
For Xlarge VM 16 cpu Enter : 4
For XXLarge VM 24 cpu Enter : 5
Enter the type of VM Required :
  
```

Figure 5: Allocation of resources for client id 1

Figure 6 shows the effect after allocation of resources

```

Output - Load_Balance (run)
Enter the type of VM Required :
4
scheduler is working with cpu req = 16 for the client id 1
New utilization of server with ID 101 is 50.0
Server id 101 is allocated to client id 1

***** Now remaining CPU of server 101 is 16 utilization = 50.0*****

Server Status
ServerId    RemainingCap  Utilization
101         16           50.0
102         32           0.0

Want to continue y/n
  
```

Figure 6: Effect after resource allocation

When we done with allocation then press n. Main menu options will display again on the screen as shown in figure 7

```

Output - Load_Balance (run) ❏
>> Want to continue y/n
>> n
>> Select Your choice
❏ For Allocation PRESS : 1
🔊 For Deallocation PRESS : 2
🔊 For Load Balance PRESS : 3
🔊 For Exit PRESS : 4
Enter Your Choice:
2|
    
```

Figure 7: Selecting de allocation choice

In main menu options now select the option 2 for deallocation of resources. It will ask for client id and numbers of CPUs to be deallocated. If client id is not correct or numbers CPUs to be deallocated are more than the allocation then appropriate error message is displayed. If everything is OK then deallocation is performed. The remaining capacity and utilization value are updated for the server on which deallocation are performed as shown in figure 8.

```

Output - Load_Balance (run) ❏
>> From which client you want to deallocate
>> 2
❏ No. of CPU You want to deallocate :
>> 4
🔊 Deallocation of 4 no of cpu is performed from clien id 2

Server on which deallocation is performed is 101
Remaining capacity of cpu is 16
Now the server utilization is 50.0
    
```

Figure 8: Effect of deallocation

Now press the option 3 for performing the load balance as shown in figure 9 below.

```

Output - Load_Balance (run) ❏
>> Select Your choice
>> For Allocation PRESS : 1
>> For Deallocation PRESS : 2
❏ For Load Balance PRESS : 3
🔊 For Exit PRESS : 4
Enter Your Choice:
3|
    
```

Figure 9: Selecting the option 3 for load balancing

Figure 10 below shows the effect of load balancing.

```

Output - Load_Balance (run) ❏
>> server id 103 is under utilize with utilization value of 25.0
>> Server id 101 is the nearest server for moving of resource
❏ Resource of server id 103 is moving to server id 101
🔊 Resource of server id 103 is tranferred to server id 101

Server Status

ServerID      Utilization
101           75.0
102           75.0
103           0.0
    
```

Figure 10: Effect of load balance



In this work, we propose the hybrid approach of three load balancing algorithms to overcome the drawback of existing methods. We first assign the load on the server using round robin fashion then we use throttle concept to find the suitable machine for current tasks and finally we use equally spread technique to equally distribute the load on various virtual machines to balance the load [11][12].

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