

Fine grained Access Control using Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE) Technique in Cloud Computing

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ABSTRACT

With the popularity of cloud computing, mobile devices can store/retrieve personal data from anywhere at any time. Consequently, the data security problem in mobile cloud becomes more and more severe and prevents further development of mobile cloud. It adopts CP-ABE, an access control technology used in normal cloud environment, but changes the structure of access control tree to make it suitable for mobile cloud environments. LDSS moves a large portion of the computational intensive access control tree transformation in CP-ABE from mobile devices to external proxy servers. Furthermore, to reduce the user revocation cost, it introduces attribute description fields to implement lazy-revocation, which is a thorny issue in program based CP-ABE systems. To guarantee confidentiality and proper access control of outsourced sensitive data, classical encryption techniques are used. However, such access control schemes are not feasible in cloud computing because of their lack of flexibility, scalability, and fine-grained access control. Instead, Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE) techniques are used in the cloud. This paper extensively surveys all ABE schemes and creates a comparison table for the key criteria for these schemes in cloud applications.

Keywords: Attribute-Based Encryption, Cloud Computing, Fine-Grained Access

I. INTRODUCTION

of users to store sensitive data on third party servers, either for cost saving or for simplicity of sharing. Cloud computing is now considered the fifth utility after gas, water, electricity, and telephony.

Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE) is newly invented public key cryptographic technique Cloud computing is becoming ubiquitous as it offers fast and efficient on-demand services for storage, network, hardware, and software through the internet. Cloud computing offers new facilities to enterprises, companies, and the general public, and provides lowcost computing infrastructure for IT-based solutions. Cloud computing is not new; organizations such as universities, research laboratories, and the military in developed countries have long used networks for communication, but the term cloud is more recent.

Cloud computing is being increasingly offered on the web as web technology has become faster and more complex. It is now used by a large number that works in a oneto-many fashion and is also called fuzzy encryption. Public key encryption methods store encrypted data on third party servers, while distributing decryption keys to authorized users. However, there are many drawbacks to this. First, it is difficult to efficiently manage the distribution of secret keys to authorized users. Second, there is a lack of flexibility and scalability. Third, data owners must be online whenever encrypting or re-encrypting data, or distributing the secret keys. ABE minimizes the above limitations by reducing the communication overhead of the internet and increasing scalability, flexibility, and fine-grained access control for large scale systems.

II. ALGORITHM

ABE

ABE is a public key cryptography technique that uses one-to-many encryption. ABE uses attributes as identities for both encryption and decryption of data. The cipher text and a user's secret key depend on attributes. If the attributes of a user key match those of the cipher text, then decryption is allowed. For example, assume that there are three attributes *fstd*, *fac*, *cs* and that the threshold value is 2, then the private key will need at least two descriptive attributes to decrypt data. To provide fine-grained access control, flexibility, and scalability in access control mechanisms in the cloud, ABE uses a set of four algorithms: setup, key generation, encryption, and decryption. Its limitations are as follows:

- (1) Lack of an express ability in the sense of a threshold value.
- (2) Different categories of users create a computational overhead.

Key Policy ABE (KP-ABE)

KP-ABE was proposed as a modified form of basic ABE. Initially security parameters are setup to encrypt the message *M* and descriptive attribute *S* using *PK* to produce Cipher Text (CT), as shown in Algorithm 1. In KP-ABE decryption, a key is embedded with an access structure and CT is annotated. The decryption of the cipher text is only possible if the attributes of the CT satisfy the access structure of the user's secret key. In KP-ABE, a policy is assigned to users when the authority to create key and attributes is assigned to the cipher text during its creation. KP-ABE reduces the computational overhead in a cloud server by enabling the data owner to express the access structure.

Algorithm 1

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Setup(security parameter) -> PK, MK
Encrypt(PK, M, S) -> CT
KeyGen(MK, A) -> D
Decrypt(CT, D, A) -> M if S ∈ A
                    ⊥ otherwise
A = access structure    D = secret key
S = descriptive attribute M = message

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KP-ABE has the following limitations:

- (1) A sender cannot decide who can decrypt the data.
- (2) It is not suitable in certain applications like sophisticated broadcast encryption.
- (3) It lacks flexibility and scalability.

Expressive Key Policy ABE (EKP-ABE)

EKP-ABE is an extension of KP-ABE in which non-monotonic access structures are used. A non-monotonic access structure contains negated attributes. It uses Monotonic Access structure and additional NOT gate. For example, CS AND Std NOT graduate means that a student of computer science but not graduate. EKP-ABE sets a more flexible access structure by adding a negative word in front of an attribute, meaning that a person who has such attributes cannot decrypt the data. The main limitation of EKP-ABE is that it requires many negative attributes that are not related to the encrypted data but may exist in the encrypted data (useless attributes). This may cause huge overheads.

Cipher text Policy ABE (CP-ABE)

CP-ABE is a reversed model of KP-ABE. It is another modified form of ABE. The CP-ABE access structure is linked with a cipher text while the decryption key is annotated with a set of descriptive attributes, as shown in Algorithm 3. Therefore, the roles of the decryption key and cipher text are switched with respect to key policy ABE. In this scheme, encryption specifies the monotonic access structure with a threshold value for relevant attributes.

Algorithm 2

Setup(security parameter) → PK, MK
Encrypt(PK, M , S) → CT
KeyGen(MK, \tilde{A}) → D
Decrypt(CT, D) → M if $S \in \tilde{A}$
 ⊥ otherwise
 \tilde{A} = non monotonic access structure
 D = secret key
 S = descriptive attribute M = message

Cipher text Policy Attribute-Set-Based Encryption (CP-ASBE)

CP-ASBE is an extended form of CP-ABE, which, unlike existing CP-ABE schemes that use a monolithic set of user attributes in a key, uses a structure based on a recursive set of user attributes. In CP-ABE, a decryption key supports only a logically organized single set of attributes and to satisfy cipher text, users can use combination of all the attributes from single set issued in their key.

Algorithm 3

Setup(security parameter) → PK, MK
Encrypt(PK, M , A) → CT
KeyGen(MK, S) → D
Decrypt(CT, D) → M if $S \in A$,
 ⊥ otherwise
 A = access structure D = secret key
 S = descriptive attribute M = message

III. CONCLUSION

ABE is a broadly utilized encryption system for get to control in distributed computing. The fundamental favorable position of ABE is that it gives clients access to more grounded encryption and permits key quality circulation. This paper has broke down a few distinctive ABE methods what's more, classes, and surveyed their usefulness and restrictions. We stretched out the overview to weighted property based encryption methods that perform better by offering fine-grained get to control. Based on its fine-grained get to control, adaptability, and versatility in distributed computing, we finish up that WABE executes and also or superior to the next plans.

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