A detailed analysis of distributed load balancing algorithm

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Abstract — Cloud computing provides information technology resources and services on demand using the internet. It different types of services like IAAS (infrastructure as a service), PAAS (platform as a service) and SAAS(software as a service). Scenario of cloud computing refers to the two entities mainly cloud service provider and cloud service user. Cloud service provider provides the cloud resources and services to the cloud service user. Cloud service provider must have to use its resources efficiently to gain profit, but challenging task for them is maximum optimization of cloud resources. There are many other issues in cloud computing environment but central is an efficient load balancing scheme. Some effective distributed solution is required for assignment of jobs to a specific server. This paper describes some possible distributed solution for load balancing like Honeybee foraging, active clustering, biased random sampling, compare and balance and dynamic compare and balance.

Index Terms— Cloud computing, load balancing, distributed solution,green computing, server optimization, VM migration,SOA

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1.INTRODUCTION

Cloud computing is type of computing which is based on sharing of multiple computing resources instead of local server or personal server to handle application[1].

There are several issues in cloud computing like security, privacy, compliance, sustainability and load balancing. All of them load balancing is primary and biggest issue[1]. Distribute of load over shared pool of resources over internet is a biggest question. Suppose two or three servers are used to complete a work and one another mechanism is needed to determine which server should be used to assign a work, to determine which server is busy and which server is loaded. Some systems have to deal with the situation where servers are distributed over different geographical area [2].

This paper defines different feasible approaches for load balancing in different cloud systems. First algorithm defines strategy that is inspired by nature to efficiently balance the load over distributed servers. Second algorithm takes random samples of system domain and engineered them in such a manner that all nodes can be self-organized. Third approach makes cluster of node with same type of behavior and balances load within them. Forth algorithm compares the load of current host with others and balances the load according to the current

load of system. Last approach calculates load of host dynamically and performs load balancing according to it.

2. CLOUD COMPUTING

Cloud computing was mainly developed to enable computation within geographically distributed and different type of resources. There is not any specific definition of cloud but it can be defined as a collection of distributed computers which are able to provide on demand computational resources and services with the help of internet[1]. As described earlier it provides services like IAAS, PAAS and SAAS to the geographically widespread customers. Well known example is Amazon Elastic Compute cloud which provides virtual computing environment, different configuration of CPU, processor and memory[3].

3. CLOUD LOAD BALANCING METHODS

In this section different schemes for cloud load balancing are defined and explained in terms of theirs behavior.

3.1 HONEYBEE FORAGING

A self-organizing and behavior based algorithm was used for the load balancing at application

layer[5].Algorithm was inspired by Honey bees and theirs strategy to find food. Two entities are defined here one is forager and other is scout. A forager bee looks for the appropriate source of food, when they found specific food source they returned to the hive and performs "waggle dance" [5]. The appropriate source is selected according to the quantity, quality and distance of source. This all parameters are noticed by the forager bees and they show it to scout bees via waggle dance. Then scout bees follow the forager to harvest it.

This approach is used as resource searching algorithm for different computing applications. There are different virtual servers and virtual servers processes different requests from the users [4]. Each server acts as a forager or scout and after successfully fulfilling the request server places the advert on advert board. Initially, each server chooses virtual server randomly to serve a request, after completion of request load of current virtual server is calculated and compared with overall virtual servers load. If load of that virtual server is low than incoming requests will be assign to that virtual server. If load of that server is high than scout reads the advert board and will follow listed virtual server from advert board. A load of virtual servers are calculated according to the CPU utilization [5]. Figure shows how server allocation is performed by foraging.
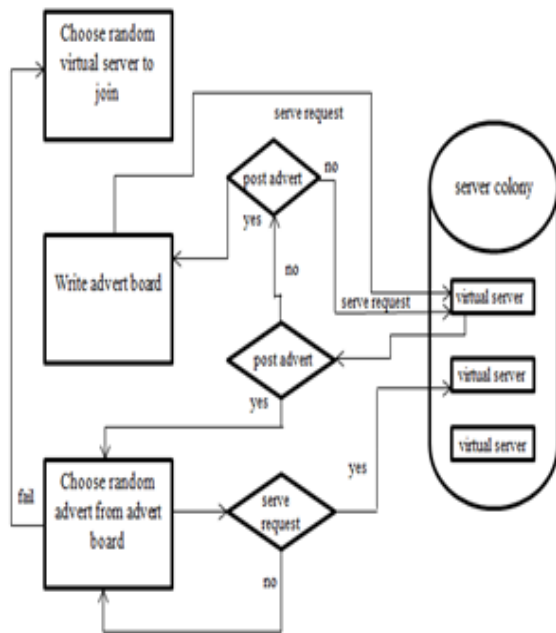

Figure1.Server allocation in Honeybee foraging [5]

3.2 RANDOM BIASED SAMPLING

In this approach load of server is described according to its connectivity. Assigned links are defines capacity of server. Full working of this approach is found in [6].

This approach do not uses static network to monitor nodes and their available resources. Instead of that dynamic network approach is created which provides virtual machines load distribution status, resource update strategy.

Now, to define dynamic network mechanism node's in-degree (total edges pointing towards node= N) defines free resources of that node. When a node receives request for new task, it removes one incoming edge and decreases own in-degree. Deletion of one in-degree indicates that total available resources are reduced to N-1 [6]. The deletion and addition process of edges is defined by random sampling. Steady state defines that rate of job arrival is equal to the rate of job finishing so dynamic network mechanism is created that connects all the nodes.

The random sampling defines the deletion and addition of edges. Random sampling describes that all nodes in the network are randomly picked up. Sampling of initiator node is fixed, and after each step it moves to neighbor node. So by deletion and addition of edges in-degree of node remains proportional to the free resources of node [6].

3.3 ACTIVE CLUSTERING

Similar nodes or services are grouped together to maintain load balancing for cloud systems[8]. This algorithm is considered as self-aggregation algorithm which rewires network. This algorithm can be used where nodes have knowledge of similar types of nodes and they are able to act behalf of it.

Each nodes are iteratively executed by Active clustering as follows [8]:
1. Any one node becomes "initiator" node at random time.
2. Initiator node selects "matchmaker" node.

3. The matchmaker node selects the similar node to the initiator node and creates link between them.

4. The matchmaker deletes node link between itself and selected neighbor.

This approach was studied in detail in [7] which shows formation on steady network from complex network.

3.4 COMPARE AND BALANCE

Simple algorithm compare and balance was introduced in [9],which compares the load of current host and maintain equilibrium state by comparing current host load to others.

Current host is randomly selected at given time period. Using parameters like no. of virtual machine running, CPU usage and storage usage load of current host is determined. Then current host randomly selects other hosts from network and compare theirs load with own load.

If current host load is more than load of selected node than current host transfers its extra load to the selected node. All the nodes in the system perform the same operation in the network.

3.5 DYNAMIC COMPARE AND BALANCE

This algorithm (DCABA) was introduced in [10], it takes two threshold values. Current host load (H_load) defines which step will be executed next. Current host load is calculated as below:

- H_load = x (CPU usage) + y(RAM usage) + z(BW usage)

Where x, y and z € [0, 1] and they are weight coefficients.

Here used threshold values are calculated as below:

- Host_limit: it defines maximum capacity of host at which load host can perform with maximum efficiency.

- H_UTD (Upper threshold value of host): Host_limit*β, where β is weight coefficient which is selected by vendor.

- H_LTD (Lower threshold value of host): Host_limit*α, where α is weight coefficient which is selected by vendor.

Algorithms divides server optimization problem into two sections. First section distribute overload of current host using load balancing algorithm and second section reduces number of active host in network to support green computing concept[10].

Part 1: Suppose there is a situation when load of host is more than upper threshold value which is predefined by the vendor, so host is considered as overloaded. So load balancing algorithm is applied to reduce extra load and to transfer extra load to another host. Here it is performed by Adaptive compare and balance algorithm technique. It finds another host which can handle extra load without being overloaded.
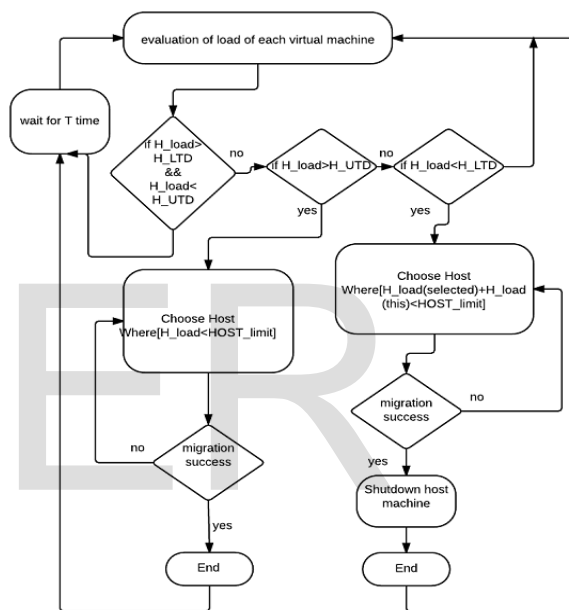

Figure2.DCABA for server optimization [10]

Part 2: Suppose there is a situation where load of host is less than lower threshold value of host which is predefined by vendor, so to transfer extra load to the other host server- consolidation algorithm is used. This is achieved by migration of virtual machines. It finds another host which can handle extra load without being overloaded.

4. RESULT ANALYSIS & COMPARISON

Experiment conducted in [4],[11],[12] shows that honeybee foraging performs well in situation where diversity in network increase. Active clustering, Random biased sampling and compare and balance all performs well with low network diversity and high resources, but their performance decreases when network diversity increases.

Scenarios	Honeybee foraging	Active cluster	Random biased sampling	Compare & balance	Dynamic compare & balance
Increased Diversity Performance	increases	decreases	Decreases	decreases	increases
Throughput (high resources)	increases	increases	increases	decreases	increases
Low diversity Performance	very good	good	good	average	very good
Throughput (System resources increases)	same	increases	increases	down	increases
Green computing Support	no	no	no	no	yes
Maximum optimization of server	moderate	moderate	poor	good	very good

Table1.Comparison of algorithms

Honeybee foraging provides same throughput even if system size increases. All other algorithms do quite well than honeybee foraging in situation where network resources and size increase. Other approach also provides high utilization of resources than honeybee foraging.

Dynamic compare and balance technique provides maximum utilization of resources among all other approaches. DCABA works in a two phases which deals with server optimization and green computing concept. DCABA shutdowns the unnecessary server and saves energy also. All other approaches do not deal with green computing like DCABA.

5. CONCLUSION

Experiment shows that active clustering, random biased sampling and compare and balance performs well in condition with low network diversity and high resources but when network diversity increases just two algorithm from five performs well. Honeybee foraging and DCABA shows good result with high network diversity. DCABA also deals with maximum utilization of server, server consolidation and supports green computing. Honeybee foraging does not supports green computing concept. But in real time environment scenario is depends on other parameters which are not considered in experiment. Performance of DCABA depends on selection of threshold values, server refreshment time and migration techniques used.

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