

Supplementary Material for Quantitative Modeling and Analytical Calculation of Elasticity in Cloud Computing

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1 RELATED RESEARCH

1.1 Modeling Cloud Platforms

A cloud platform essentially provides services to users, and is naturally modeled and treated as a queueing system. In [9], the authors investigated the problem of optimal multiserver configuration for profit maximization in a cloud computing environment by using an M/M/m queueing model. The study was further extended in [31]. In [10], the authors addressed the problem of optimal power allocation and load distribution for multiple heterogeneous multicore server processors across clouds and data centers, by modeling a multicore server processor as a queueing system with multiple servers. In [29], the authors focused on strategy configurations of multiple users to make cloud service reservation from a game theoretic perspective, and formulated the problem as a non-cooperative game among the multiple cloud users.

Another related analytical tool is the continuous-time Markov chain (CTMC) model, which has also been extensively used to study various properties of cloud computing systems. In [17], the authors quantified the power performance trade-offs by developing a scalable analytic model based on CTMC for joint analysis of performance and power consumption on a class of Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) clouds. In [25], the authors proposed an analytical performance model based on CTMC, which incorporates several important aspects of cloud centers to obtain not only detailed assessment of cloud center performance, but also clear insights into equilibrium arrangement and capacity planning that allow service delay, task rejection probability, and power consumption to be kept under control. In [33], the authors investigated the Markovian Arrival Processes (MAP) and the related MAP/MAP/1 queueing model to predict the performance of servers deployed in the cloud.

1.2 Assessing Elastic System Performance

Some efforts have been made for modeling the performance of clouds with elastic scaling strategies. In [21], the authors

presented generic cloud performance models for evaluating IaaS, PaaS, SaaS, and mashup or hybrid clouds. Some real-life benchmark experiments were conducted mainly on IaaS cloud platforms over scale-out and scale-up workloads (see Section 3.2 for definitions). Cloud benchmarking results were analyzed with the efficiency, elasticity, QoS, productivity, and scalability (see Section 5 for definitions of these notions) of cloud performance. It was found that to satisfy production services, the choice of scale-up or scale-out solutions should be made primarily by the workload patterns and resources utilization rates required. Scaling-out machine instances have much lower overhead than those experienced in scale-up experiments.

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