Cloud middleware

Part 1: What a cloud middleware is good for?

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Part 1: content

1. What is large scale computing?
2. What is virtualization?
3. What is cloud computing?
1. What is large scale computing?

We intend the processing of large amount of information in a controlled manner to produce knowledge.
Let’s start with few examples . . .
Large Hadron Collider (LHC) @ CERN

Purpose
Demonstrate theories of high-energy physics (Higgs boson).

What it is
The world’s largest particle collider

What it does
Allows collision of proton beams at 14 TeV

Volume of data produces
On average 600 million proton collisions/s.
Data flow: 700MB/s (post-filter), 20TB/day, 25PB/year

Figure: CMS detector © CERN
Genomics

Purpose
Study of the genomes of organisms.

What it is
DNA Sequencer

What it does
Determines the order of the four bases composing pieces of the sample.

Volume of data produces
60Gbp/day (high frequency)
Data flow: 50GB/Week
Trends in data grow: BigData

Figure: source: http://www.datasciencecentral.com
Data Volume

- **Facebook** has **2.5PB** of user data + **15 TB/day** (40 billion photos).
- **Google** processes **20PB** a day
- **eBay** has **65PB** of user data + **50TB/day**
- **Human Brain project**: simulate electrical signal propagation through the neurons.
  - Scale up number of neuron to **86 billions**.
  - Model data coarse grained up to **27PB**.
  - Model fine grained: up to **0.5EB**.
Data Velocity

- **Twitter**
  http://www.statisticbrain.com/twitter-statistics/
  - 500M tweets per day.
  - 9’100 tweets per second.

- **YouTube statistics.**
  http://www.youtube.com/t/press_statistics/
  - 100 hours of video uploaded to YouTube every minute
  - 6 billion hours of videos watched every month.
Data Variety

- Large variety of data representation formats due to new emerging data sources
- Pure text, photo, audio, video, web, GPS data, sensor data, relational data bases, documents, SMS, pdf, flash, etc etc etc.
What infrastructure are available?
Supercomputing Centers

Figure: (Swiss National Supercomputing Center. http://cscs.ch)

- Monte Rosa: 402 TFlops system with 47872 compute cores and 46TB memory available.
- Tuned for High Performance Computing (HPC)
- Tightly coupled (either MPP or large SMP)
Supercomputing Centers

- **Large-scale problems?**
  - scale up hardware
  - Provide bleeding-edge solutions (top performances)
  - Very expensive investments (normally at 3year cycle)
- **Trend**: centralization of computing resources in large data centers
- **Important Issues:**
  - Redundancy, Efficiency, Utilization, Management
Large Scale Computing on Supercomputing Centers

- The size of your solution depends on the size of the single system you can use
- Applications and data need to be adapted to the system (OS, compilers, programming environment, tools)
- Very specialized system (portability is not taken into account)
- Simple primitives for communication and synchronization (MPI, OpenMP)
Grid

- Resources owned by independent institutions, federated together forming a Europe-wide distributed facility
- Tuned for High Throughput Computing (HTC)
- Middleware is required to aggregate geographically distributed resources
- Present a uniform data-processing infrastructure
- Nominally among the largest computing system available (e.g. WLCG is about 300k cores)
Grid

- **Large-scale problems**: aggregate resources geographically distributed
- **Trend**: de-centralization of computing resources, centralization of management and coordination
- **Important Issues**:
  - Need **agreed standards** to guarantee uniform access to resources
  - Grid **middleware** are not trivial (Authorization and Authentication, resource description and access, . . .)
  - Resource **allocation and accounting** that span across institutions and user communities
Large scale computing on Grid

- **Fault-tolerance**: very large variety of possible failures that needs to be addressed
- **Shared** resources
- Users and Application developers need an understanding of how the underlying infrastructure works
- Applications and data need to be adapted to the system (OS, compilers, programming environment, tools)
- In this case is even worst because one has to consider an heterogeneous system
Cloud

- Commercial provider
- Utility Computing
- Virtualization and pay as you go as core concepts
Cloud

- **Large-scale problems?**
  - Veeeery large data centers
  - keeping infinite resource availability perception

- **Trend:**
  - User is provided with full control of his/her environment
  - No restriction on when, how, and how much (provided one can pay)

- **Important Issues:**
  - Virtualization as a mechanism to compartmentalize applications
  - Virtualise computing (e.g. EC2) and storage (e.g. S3)
  - Provide integration tools (APIs, Platform services)
  - Give me your credit card. . .
Large Scale Computing on Cloud

- The **size** of your solution depends on the size of your bank credit
  - Provided one could negotiate with cloud provider, it is possible to **scale up** indefinitely
    - The **business model** behind commercial clouds makes them very flexible
    - dynamically scaling (**elasticity**)
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Large Scale Computing on Cloud

- Virtualization allows to customize the host environment to fit application and data
- Portability is granted by VM portability
- Users and Application developers do not need an understanding of how the underlying infrastructure works
- Performance penalty is, most of the time, outweighed by higher flexibility and manageability
2. What is virtualization?

“A virtual machine is taken to be an efficient, isolated duplicate of a real machine.”

Virtualization characteristics

**Fidelity**  
Software on the VM exhibits “essentially identical” effects to its execution on hardware.

**Efficiency**  
“A statistically dominant subset of the virtual process instructions are executed directly by the real processor, with no software intervention.”

**Resource control**  
The VM control software manages hardware allocation, “it is not possible for a program running in the VM to access any resource not explicitly assigned to it.”
Why virtualization?

Execution environments with resource limits and/or resource guarantees.
- Provide secure, isolated sandboxes for running untrusted applications.

Make systems independent of the hardware.
- Run legacy applications.
- Provide binary compatibility.

Co-locate and consolidate independent workloads.
- Run multiple operating systems.

Treat application suites as appliances by "packaging" and running each in a virtual machine.
Why virtualization in IaaS clouds

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Pros of using Virtualization

Server **Consolidation**

Testing and development

Dynamic **Load Balancing**

Disaster **Recovery**

Reduction in **cost** of infrastructure
Cons of using Virtualization

Magnified physical failures

Degraded performance

Complex root cause analysis

New management tools
Classical virtualization, I

(Popek and Goldberg’s model of a “third-generation” machine.)

The processor has two modes of operation: **supervisor mode** and **user mode**. Only a **subset** of all machine instructions is available in user mode.

Memory addressing is:
- *relative* to a relocation register
- *limited* by a bounds register
An instruction is **privileged** iff it can only be executed in supervisor mode.

An instruction is **control sensitive** iff it attempts to alter the configuration of machine resources (e.g., change the memory bounds register).

An instruction is **behavior sensitive** iff its effect depends on the configuration of resources (e.g., the memory bounds or relocation register).
Classical virtualization, III

An instruction is **trapping** if its execution causes a jump to supervisor code at a fixed location.

*Theorem (Popek + Goldberg): If all sensitive instructions are trapping, then a machine can be virtualized.*

Basic idea: execute all instructions in user mode; the sensitive ones will trap and special supervisor code (the VMM or *control program*) can emulate the requested behavior.

*Note: Popek and Goldberg’s Theorem is a *sufficient* condition, but not a *necessary* one.*
Solution: Hardware-assisted virtualization

About 2005, Intel and AMD introduced extensions to the x86 instruction set to enable classical virtualization.

The CPU has an additional protection bit, selecting **host** or **guest** mode.

Code in *host supervisor* mode can set which instructions in *guest supervisor* mode should trap and on which occasion.

The virtualized OS runs in *guest supervisor* mode, and will not notice any difference with a non-virtualized CPU.
Paravirtualization relies on a modified guest OS: forward hardware access to host OS.

Notable examples in Linux are **Xen** and **User-Mode Linux**.

(Diagram stolen from Smith and Uhlig’s presentation
http://www.hotchips.org/archives/hc17/1_Sun/HC17.T1P2.pdf)
KVM: HW-assisted virtualization in Linux

Linux kernel infrastructure to leverage Intel or AMD virtualization extensions to run virtual machines.

Included into mainstream Linux kernel since version 2.6.20.

What do you need to run Virtual Machines?

1. Hypervisor
2. Image file
3. Network configuration
4. Virtual Block Device
What do you need to run Virtual Machines?

1. Hypervisor
   - KVM, VirtualBox, Xen, HyperV, VMware, ...
   - A program that allows multiple operating systems to share a single hardware host.

2. Image file
3. Network configuration
4. Virtual Block Device
What do you need to run Virtual Machines?

1. Hypervisor
2. **Image file**
   - An image file stores the *contents* of the virtual machine’s **hard disk drive** (base OS).
3. Network configuration
4. Virtual Block Device
What do you need to run Virtual Machines?

1. Hypervisor
2. Image file
3. Network configuration
   - Allows to connect virtual machines to the external network.
4. Virtual Block Device
What do you need to run Virtual Machines?

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4. Virtual Block Device
   - A remote storage device accessed using, for example, (iSCSI) protocol.
   - From within the VM, the remote storage device will be seen as a regular block device (can create filesystem and mount it).
3. What is cloud computing? (Wikipedia)

It is a paradigm shift whereby details are abstracted from the users who no longer need knowledge of, expertise in, or control over the technology infrastructure "in the cloud" that supports them. \(^1\)

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\(^1\)Wikipedia
Cloud computing is a model for enabling convenient, on-demand network access to a shared pool of configurable computing resources (e.g., networks, servers, storage, applications, and services) that can be rapidly provisioned and released with minimal management effort or service provider interaction.  

Fundamental components for a data processing infrastructure

Computing: the Virtual Appliances where application will run

Image Repository: Where Virtual Appliances will be stored

Storage: object storage used for persistent data (e.g. computation results)

Identity management: authentication system to access Virtual Appliances and deployed services
Fundamental components for a data processing infrastructure

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Prototype of a cloud: the OpenStack example
Prototype of a cloud: the OpenStack example

Computing provisioning: provision and manage large networks of virtual machines
Storage blocks: create redundant, scalable object storage
Image repository: discovery, registration, and delivery services for virtual disk images
Identity management: authentication system across the cloud operating system
Prototype of a cloud: the Amazon example

Your Application

Amazon RDS
Amazon Elastic MapReduce JobFlows
Auto-Scaling
Elastic LB
Cloud Watch
Amazon EC2 Instances (On-Demand, Reserved, Spot)
EBS Volumes
Snapshots
Amazon S3 Objects and Buckets
Amazon Cloud Front
Amazon Global Physical Infrastructure
(Geographical Regions, Availability Zones, Edge Locations)

Payment: Amazon FPS/DevPay
Amazon SimpleDB Domains
Amazon SNS Topics
Amazon SQS Queues
Amazon Virtual Private Cloud
Prototype of a cloud: the Amazon example

Computing provisioning: Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2)
Storage blocks: Elastic Block Storage (EBS) and Simple Storage Service (S3)
Image repository: Amazon Machine Image (AMI) are stored on S3 buckets
Identity management: Identity and Access Management (IAM)
Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)

Provisions and manages the physical processing, storage, networking and the hosting environment and cloud infrastructure.

- Fully outsourced service so businesses do not have to purchase servers, software or equipment.

Infrastructure providers can dynamically allocate resources for service providers.

Users have to create/install, manage and monitors services for IT infrastructure operations.

Examples: Amazon’s EC2, RightScale, OpenStack, OpenNebula.
**Platform as a Service (PaaS)**

Provisions and manages cloud infrastructure and middleware; provides development, deployment and administration tools.

Infrastructure providers can transparently alter the platforms for their customers’ unique needs.

Users have to develop, test, deploy and manage applications hosted in a cloud environment.

*Example:* Google App Engine, SalesForce.
Classification of cloud provisioning

Pre-IaaS

START

Post-IaaS

20% time savings

START

What if we could get here?

80% time savings

START
Software as a Service (SaaS)

Defined as service-on-demand, where a provider will license software tailored.

Installs, manages, maintains and supports the software application on a cloud infrastructure.

Infrastructure providers can allow customers’ to run applications off their infrastructure, but transparent to the end user.

Users interact with application/service for process operations.

Example: Gmail, Facebook, Flickr, ...
Types of Cloud infrastructure

Public Cloud
Private Clouds
Hybrid Cloud
Types of Cloud infrastructure

Public Cloud

- The cloud infrastructure is made available to the general public or a large industry group and is owned by an organization selling cloud services.
- Only operational expenses
- No control on cloud stack, dependency on external partner

Private Clouds

Hybrid Cloud
Types of Cloud infrastructure

Public Cloud

Private Clouds

- The cloud infrastructure is operated solely for an organization. It may be managed by the organization or a third party and may exist on premise or off premise.

- Owner organization provides cloud services to his own customers

- Full control on cloud stack, accounting, allocation

Hybrid Cloud
Types of Cloud infrastructure

Public Cloud
Private Clouds

Hybrid Cloud

- The cloud infrastructure is a composition of two or more clouds (private and public) that remain unique entities but are bound together by standardized or proprietary technology that enables data and application portability (e.g., cloud bursting for load balancing between clouds).

- Constraints on own cloud stack: needs to interoperate with public cloud