# An Approach Towards Development of a New Cloudlet Allocation Policy with Dynamic Time Quantum<sup>1</sup>

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Abstract—Cloud computing is one of the most emerging technologies which has created a revolution in the High performance Computing (HPC) domain. The term Quality of Service (QoS) plays a vital role in the formation of more flexible integration of various technologies. The Waiting Time (WT), Turnaround Time (TAT), Context Switching (CS) and Makespan (MS) are the primary parameter that has great impact on the scheduling of cloudlets. The Proposed algorithm has improved the resource utilization system of the existing Round Robin Algorithm (RRA) and Improved Round Robin Cloudlet Scheduling Algorithm (IRRCSA) by introducing the concept of dynamically calculated Time Quantum (TQ) for each virtual machine (VM) according to the allocated cloudlets. This new approach in cloudlet scheduling drastically reduced average WT, average TAT and Number of CS of the VMs, which further enhanced the capability of cloud service providers (CSPs) to provide better QoS.

Keywords: cloud computing, QoS, cloudlet, cloudlet scheduling, OTQ, RET

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Cloud computing, being one of the most emerging distributed technologies, needs constant progress in its architectural or computational infrastructure to revolutionize the idea more flexibly. The rapid growth of the technology depends totally on the continuous improvements in terms of cost efficiency and QoS. The high level of abstraction in cloud computing has given cloud users (CUs) the flexibility and the modularity to the extent of efficient on demand service. The virtualization of resources and wide availability of services has made cloud computing popular and unique, thus dragging the attention of the researchers to enhance its ability in various ways. Thus, major attention of the improvement lies in the domain of cloudlet scheduling which can bring drastic changes in terms of flexibility and cost efficiency. Cloudlet scheduling and resource allocation are the primary concerns to extend the capability of the cloud computing. Thus the Proposed algorithm is based on the optimal cloudlet scheduling policy integrating the IRRCSA [14] model. The common data sets emphasize the rate of improvement more efficiently.

### 1.1. Our Contribution

Several researches are in the process for shaping cloud computing in more efficient and advanced form. While several researchers are working on the security and integrity issues, many are focusing on the infrastructural improvement and Service Level Agreement (SLA) [1]. The Proposed scheduling algorithm focuses on the enhancement in QoS [2], improving the total system throughput by decreasing the average WT, average TAT and number of CS remarkably, by calculating and assigning a specific time quantum termed as Optimal Time Quantum (OTQ) [3] for the deployed VMs. As cloud computing focuses on arranging resources and processing the cloudlets more quickly based on demand, it is necessary to improve cloudlet-scheduling policies with more flexibility towards dynamicity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The article is published in the original.

### 1.2. Organization

The rest of the paper is organized as follows—Section 2 describes the different relevant works done on this area and the motivation behind this research. Section 3 concentrates on the main part of the research that depicts evaluation of Proposed algorithm with formulations, algorithm and flowchart. Experimental results are tabulated in the Section 4. Comparison and Analysis section is depicted in Section 5, which comprises of two sub sections — Tabular analysis and Graphical analysis. Future research directions and conclusion are discussed in Section 6 and 7 respectively.

### 2. RELATED WORK

Several researchers are working in the cloud computing [4, 31] domain all over the world for making any possible improvement in system functionality and efficiency of VMs running in the hosts of cloud data centers. The developed cloudlet scheduling algorithms [5, 21] are simulated in frameworks like renowned CloudSim 3.0.3. GridSim Toolkit [6] has the capability to give users provision of modeling and simulating differently configured Grid resources [7] and networks in order to examine newly developed algorithms and working techniques with having full control of the simulated environment. But it lacks support for cloud computing [8] based infrastructure and application requirements and does not provide real-time tradeoffs among CUs and CSPs. Some known grid simulators are GridSim, GangSim [9] and SimGrid [10].

#### 2.1. CloudSim Framework

CloudSim is an open source framework that offers simulation environment for resource management and application scheduling cloudlets [11, 12]. CloudSim 3.0.3 is developed on the famous CloudSim [13] framework. It comprises classes for simulating cloud infrastructure that describes cloud elements like data centers, VMs [32], processing units, applications and various provisioning and scheduling management policies. CloudSim 3.0.3 is widely used for testing new cloudlet scheduling algorithms.

CloudSim modules that are used in the research are listed below [14].

- (1) VM Scheduler it is an abstract class that any host component implements to schedule VMs to Processing Elements (PE) according to the stated policies (space shared, time shared) [15, 16].
- (2) Cloudlet Scheduler it is an abstract class that schedules suitable cloudlet from the local queue (LO) of the VM obeying certain stated scheduling policies for execution of the cloudlets.
- (3) VM Allocation Policy it is an abstract class that comprises the policies required for allocation of VMs to suitable hosts in datacenters.
- (4) Datacenter Broker or DCB it is a class having encapsulated broker properties, capable of taking care of user requirements and handling services between service providers and users. For efficient cloudlet execution new improved cloudlet scheduling and allocation algorithms are implemented in DCB method [22].

#### 2.2. Scheduling Algorithms

**RRA** – in this algorithm [18, 19] first there is a fixed amount of time taken named as the time quantum (TQ). Each cloudlet in the LQ of the VMs gets executed for one TQ. After execution that cloudlet is preempted and sent back to the tail of the LQ. At this moment, the next cloudlet in the LQ is given the chance for execution for one TQ, which after execution is sent back to the tail of the LQ of the VM as done in the case of previous cloudlet. This process goes on until all the cloudlets in the LQ have finished executing for their respective expected execution time [20] (ET). Let's assume there are three cloudlets  $C_0$ ,  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$  in the LQ with ETs as 25, 10, 12 respectively. Then according to the RRA the Gantt chart is given below.



The main drawback of this algorithm is high average WT, average TAT and number of CS. Suppose the remaining execution time of a cloudlet is 1 s. Even if the remaining execution time of that cloudlet is 1 s, it has to wait for an entire round in which all other cloudlets will execute for 1 TQ each, after which that cloudlet will be permitted to execute for its remaining 1 s.

**IRRCSA** – this algorithm [14] has a fixed TQ and the cloudlets get a chance to get executed for one TQ every time. After execution of any cloudlet for one TQ the Remaining Execution Time (RET) of that cloudlet is calculated and checked whether it is less than or equal to TQ or not. If condition is true then that cloudlet immediately gets chance of execution for another TQ, else it is sent back to the tail of the LQ. This process continues until all the cloudlets in the LQ have completed their execution. The Gantt chart according to the above-assumed cloudlets is depicted below.

$C_0$	$C_1$	$C_1$	$C_2$	$C_0$	$C_2$	$C_2$	$C_0$	$C_0$	$C_0$	
0	5	10	15	20	25	30	32	37	42	47

The main drawback of this algorithm is its fixed TQ. A fixed TQ leads to a very high number of CS and accordingly increases the average WT and average TAT. The TQ of a VM should depend on the ETs of all the cloudlets allocated to it. Every VM will be assigned with different cloudlets. Therefore the TQ should not be fixed for all the VMs, but should be dynamic depending on the cloudlets allocated to the respective VMs.

#### 2.3. Research Motivation

In the Proposed work the drawbacks of the existing scheduling algorithms that are discussed in Section 2.2 have been improved in terms of average WT, average TAT and number of CS.

It has been observed that -

Number of 
$$CS \propto (TQ)^{-1}$$
. (1)

Average Response Time (ART) 
$$\infty$$
 TQ. (2)

According to equation (1) the number of CS increases if TQ gets decreased whereas according to equation (2) increase in TQ results in increase in Average Response Time (ART) for cloudlets thus tending the time slicing approach towards First Come First Serve (FCFS) scheduling policy.

So, obtaining a specific TQ that is assigned dynamically to a particular VM and where that obtained TQ results in having the minimum difference between itself and the largest cloudlet ET among all the cloudlets in the LQ of that VM, is recognized as the optimized solution for reducing the number of CS as well as the ART.

The proposed algorithm that makes an approach towards acquiring and assignation of such a TQ termed as OTQ that fulfills the aforementioned requirement, along with all the related concepts are discussed in detail in Section 3.

### 3. PROPOSED WORK

The proposed work is an additional improvement strategy over the existing IRRCSA [14] using optimal time quantum (OTQ). The use of OTQ in cloudlet scheduling policy has brought a great improvement in terms of increasing the QoS of CSP [28, 29]. The QoS of CSP [30] encompasses various issues like – WT, TAT, [23, 24] CS, MS etc. This work highlights the improvement of WT, TAT and CS, which play as key factor for improving system performance. The lesser the WT, TAT and CS are acquired, the greater the efficiency is achieved. The proposed model is depicted in Fig. 1.

Herein, ET is another factor that leaves important impact on the WT, TAT and CS. ET can be calculated as

$$ET_i = MI_i/MIPS_n, (3)$$

where,  $ET_i$  and  $MI_i$  are the ET and Million Instruction of the *i*th cloudlet respectively. MIPS<sub>n</sub> are the million instructions per second of the *n*th VM where the *i*th cloudlet is allocated.

In the proposed algorithm, the cloudlets in the LQs of each VM gets executed for a specific time span termed as OTQ that is dynamically calculated and assigned for each VM. In a particular VM, after every execution of cloudlets till one OTQ, the total ET of the cloudlets gets decreased by the OTQ assigned to that VM and thus according to equation (4) it produces the RET for those cloudlets.

$$RET_i = ET_i - OTQ_n. (4)$$

Here RET<sub>i</sub> is the RET of the *i*th cloudlet which was currently executed and OTQ<sub>n</sub> is OTQ calculated and assigned for the *n*th VM where the *i*th cloudlet is getting executed. The *i*th cloudlet is allowed to continue its execution for another OTQ if the calculated RET<sub>i</sub> is less than or equal to the OTQ<sub>n</sub>, else it is sent back to the tail of the LQ of the VM and the next cloudlet in the LQ i.e., (i + 1)th cloudlet gets the chance for

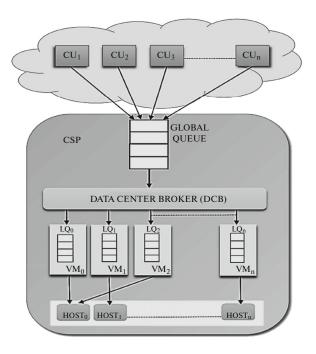


Fig. 1. Proposed model.

execution for one OTQ and after its execution again it's RET i.e.,  $RET_{i+1}$  is calculated according to equation (4), and compared with  $OTQ_n$  to determine its chances for continuation of execution. This process continues until the LQ of the VM gets emptied.

In the Proposed approach, the dynamic acquiring of OTQ is based specifically on the ETs of cloudlets residing on the LQ of each VM. To calculate the OTQ for a particular VM, the Average Execution Time (AET) is deduced from equation (5) according to the ETs of cloudlets residing in the LQ of that VM.

$$AET = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{K} ET \text{ of Cloudlet}}{K}.$$
 (5)

Here *K* is the total number of cloudlet residing in LQ of the VM and *i* is referred to each of that *K* number of cloudlets residing in the LQ of that VM.

By equation (6) a Median value (M') of the AET and highest ET among the *K* number of cloudlets of the VM is calculated. The ceiling value of M' is considered as the OTQ as depicted in equation (7).

$$M' = \frac{\text{(AET + Highest ET in the LQ of the VM)}}{2},$$

$$OTQ = [M'].$$
(6)

Let us assume, a particular VM, having three cloudlets (Cl<sub>1</sub>, Cl<sub>2</sub>, and Cl<sub>3</sub>) in the LQ with ETs as 30, 50 and 33 respectively. Then according to equation (5)

$$AET = \frac{(30 + 50 + 33)}{3} = 37.67.$$

Here Cl<sub>2</sub> as the highest ET in LQ, the Median value (M') is obtained by equation (6) as,

$$M' = \frac{37.67 + 50}{2} = 43.83.$$

Therefore according to equation (7),

$$OTQ = 44.$$

After calculating the required OTQ for a particular VM each cloudlet in that VM is allowed to get executed for one OTQ. After execution of a cloudlet for one OTQ the RET for that cloudlet is calculated according to equation (4) and it is checked whether that,

$$RET \leq OTQ$$
.

**Table 1.** CloudSim compared to Grid simulators [17]

Grid simulators	CloudSim
1. Supports simulations of distributed application on	1. A framework for generic simulation of distributed
Grid platforms.	cloud applications involving cloud computing.
2. Cannot differentiate or isolate clearly the	2. Capable of isolating differences between IaaS, SaaS
multi-layer service abstractions of cloud computing.	and PaaS service abstractions.
3. No support for Virtualization enabled resource model-	3. Supports virtualized infrastructure and
ing and environment for application.	modeling of datacenter type environments.

If the condition is true then that cloudlet gets higher priority to be allowed to get executed immediately for another OTQ. In the proposed approach, average WT, average TAT and number of CS has decreased drastically which is a clear indication of increased system throughput and improved QoS.

### 3.1. Proposed Algorithm

```
Step 1: START
Step 2: VMs are created and stored in vm_list
Step 3: A batch of cloudlets are stored in the cloudlet list
Step 4: All the cloudlets are assigned to the VM in FCFS manner
Step 5: for n=1 to N
                                                    // N is the total number of VMs present in vm list
         Step 5.1: for i = 1 to K{
                                                      // where K=Number of cloudlets allocated in n<sup>th</sup> VM
                            ET_i = MI_i / MIPS_n // ET_i = ET of i^{th} cloudlet and MI_i = MI of i^{th} cloudlet
}
         Step 5.2: Set ET_{max} = 0
for i = 1 to K
                            If (ET_{max} \le ET_i)
ET_{max} = ET_i/where ET_{max} is the maximum ET among the cloudlets allocated in n<sup>th</sup> VM
}
         Step 5.3: Set AET = 0, Sum_{ET} = 0
        for i=1 to K{
                            Sum_{ET} = Sum_{ET} + ET_i
AET = Sum_{ET} / K
         Step 5.4: Set OTQ_n = [(ET_{max} + AET)/2] // where OTQ_n = OTQ calculated for n^{th} VM
Step 6: for n=1 to N{
While (LQ_n != null)
                                             // where LQ<sub>n</sub> is LQ of n^{th} VM
                        for i = 1 to K{
                                 ith cloudlet gets executed for one OTQ<sub>n</sub>
                                 RET_i = ET_i - OTQ_n
                                If (RET_i \le OTQ_n)
                                        ith cloudlet is allowed to execute for another OTQ<sub>n</sub>
                                Else {
                                       i<sup>th</sup> cloudlet context switch and i+1<sup>th</sup> cloudlet gets chance for execution
}
 }
Step 7: END
```

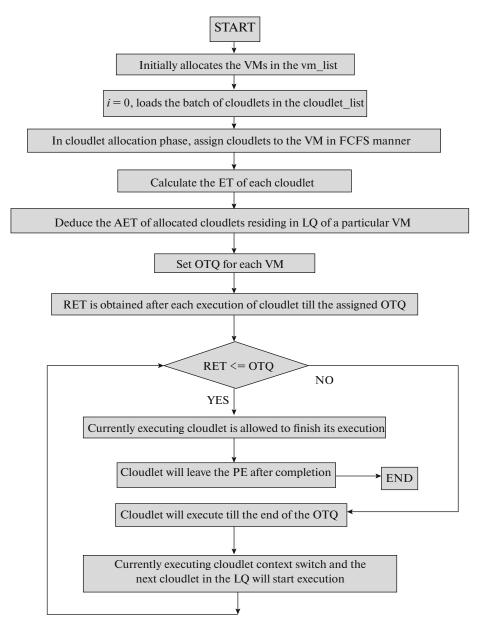


Fig. 2. Flowchart of the proposed work.

### 3.2. Flowchart

Flowchart of the proposed algorithm is depicted in Fig. 2.

Table 2. A comparative study of existing scheduling policies with the proposed work

	RRA	IRRCSA	PROPOSED
Nature of	Dynamic	Dynamic	Dynamic
Allocation			
Nature of TQ	Static	Static	Dynamic
Advantages	Simpler to implement	Lower WT, TAT and	Lower WT, TAT and number of
		number of CS than RRA, thus	CS than RRA and IRRCSA, thus
		Improved RRA	achieved better performance than
			RRA and IRRCSA
Disadvantages	Low static TQ	Low static TQ	Dynamic TQ makes implementa-
	increases number of CS	increases number of CS	tion complex

**Table 3.** Properties of Cloudlets

Cld_id	MI
0	9000
1	16000
2	11000
3	6000
4	15000
5	8000
6	12000
7	17 000
8	10000
9	7000

Table 4. Properties of VMs

VM_id	MIPS
0	300
1	600
2	400
3	500

Table 5. Allotted cloudlets to VM0, VM1, VM2, VM3 with their expected execution time (ET)

VM <sub>0</sub>				VM <sub>1</sub>			VM <sub>2</sub>		VM <sub>3</sub>			
Cld_id	MI	ET	Cld_id	MI	ET	Cld_id	MI	ET	Cld_id	MI	ET	
0	9000	30	1	16000	27	2	11000	28	3	6000	12	
4	15000	50	5	8000	13	6	12000	30	7	17000	34	
8	10000	33	9	7000	12							

**Table 6.** Waiting time, turnaround time and number of context switching in VM<sub>0</sub>, VM<sub>1</sub>, VM<sub>2</sub> and VM<sub>3</sub>

$VM_0$			VM <sub>1</sub>			VM <sub>2</sub>			VM <sub>3</sub>		
Cld_id	WT	TAT	Cld_id	WT	TAT	Cld_id	WT	TAT	Cld_id	WT	TAT
0	0	30	1	0	27	2	0	28	3	0	12
4	30	80	5	27	40	6	28	58	7	12	46
8	80	113	9	40	52						
Average WT	,	36.66	Average WT		22.33	Average WT	•	14	Average WT	•	6
Average TAT	<u>'</u>	80	Average TAT	,	39.66	Average TAT	,	43	Average TAT	,	29
Number of C	C <b>S</b>	2	Number of C	<b>S</b>	2	Number of C	S	1	Number of C	S	1

# 3.3. Comparison of Existing Scheduling Algorithms with Proposed Work

In Tables 1, 2, given below, the proposed work is compared with the existing cloudlet-scheduling algorithm that is mentioned in Section 2.2.

### 4. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

This section considered ten cloudlets and four VMs for example. Table 3 represents cloudlet properties, which comprise the cloudlet ids (Cld\_id), and their respective MIs. Table 4 shows the properties of VMs comprising the VM ids and their respective MIPS. In Table 5, cloudlets allocated to each VM (0, 1, 2, 3) are shown respectively. In VM $_0$  according to the allocated cloudlets and equation (7) we have obtained the OTQ to be 44. In VM $_1$  according to the allocated cloudlets and equation (7) we have obtained the OTQ to be 22. In VM $_2$  according to the allocated cloudlets and equation (7) we have obtained the OTQ to be 30. In VM $_3$  according to the allocated cloudlets and equation (7) we have obtained the OTQ to be 29. Table 6 depicts the WT, TAT and Number of CS obtained in VM $_0$ , VM $_1$ , VM $_2$  and VM $_3$ .

### 5. COMPARISON AND ANALYSIS

In this section the results of RRA, IRRCSA and the Proposed algorithms will be compared with each other and analyzed in three sub Sections -5.1. Tabular analysis, 5.2. Graphical analysis, 5.3. Comparison of proposed work with SRDQ.

In Section 5.1, Tables 7–9 depicts comparison of the average WT, average TAT and number of CS for all the four VMs – VM<sub>0</sub>, VM<sub>1</sub>, VM<sub>2</sub>, and VM<sub>3</sub> in case of RRA, IRRCSA and proposed algorithm. Table 10 shows a summary of the improvements achieved in the Proposed algorithm in comparison to RRA and IRRCSA. In Section 5.2, Figs. 3–5 depicts the comparison of WT, TAT and number of CS in all the four VMs in case of RRA, IRRCSA and proposed algorithm. In Section 5.3.2, Fig. 6 depicts the comparison of proposed algorithm and SRDQ with respect to average WT, average TAT and number of CS. Figure 7 shows the rate of improvements obtained from the proposed algorithm on comparison to SRDQ.

# 5.1. Tabular Analysis

**Table 7.** WT for RRA, IRRCSA and proposed in VM<sub>0</sub>, VM<sub>1</sub>, VM<sub>2</sub>, VM<sub>3</sub>

		VM <sub>0</sub>		Avg. WT		VM <sub>1</sub>		Avg. WT	VM <sub>2</sub>		Avg. WT	VM <sub>3</sub>		Avg. WT
Cld_id	0	4	8		1	5	9		2	6		3	7	
RRA	50	63	65	59.33	25	25	28	26	25	28	26.5	10	12	11
IRRCSA	40	63	55	52.67	25	15	23	21	20	28	24	5	12	8.5
PROPOSED	0	30	80	36.66	0	27	40	22.33	0	28	14	0	12	6

Table 8. TAT for RRA, IRRCSA and proposed in VM<sub>0</sub>, VM<sub>1</sub>, VM<sub>2</sub>, VM<sub>3</sub>

	-					0		1. 2.	9					
		VM <sub>0</sub>		Avg. TAT		VM <sub>1</sub>		Avg. TAT	VI	M <sub>2</sub>	Avg. TAT	V	M <sub>3</sub>	Avg. TAT
Cld_id	0	4	8		1	5	9		2	6		3	7	
RRA	80	113	98	97	52	38	40	43.33	53	58	55.50	22	46	34
IRRCSA	70	113	93	92	52	28	35	38.33	48	58	53	17	46	31.50
<b>PROPOSED</b>	30	80	113	74.33	27	40	52	39.66	28	58	43	12	46	29

Table 9. Number of CS in RRA, IRRCSA and proposed in VM<sub>0</sub>, VM<sub>1</sub>, VM<sub>2</sub>, VM<sub>3</sub>

Algorithm	VM <sub>0</sub>	VM <sub>1</sub>	VM <sub>2</sub>	VM <sub>3</sub>
RRA	20	9	11	5
IRRCSA	17	6	9	3
PROPOSED	2	2	1	1

**Table 10.** Summary table for rate of improvement (%)

Performance Metric	VM_id	Rate of improvement (%) (in comparison to RRA)	Rate of improvement (%) (in comparison to IRRCSA)
WT	0	38.21%	28.11%
TAT	0	23.37%	19.20%
CS	0	90%	88.23%
WT	1	14.11%	-5.95%
TAT	1	8.46%	-3.35%
CS	1	77.77%	6.67%
WT	2	47.16%	41.66%
TAT	2	22.52%	18.86%
CS	2	90.90%	88.88%
WT	3	45%	29.41%
TAT	3	4.70%	7.93%
CS	3	80%	66.67%

# 5.2. Graphical Analysis

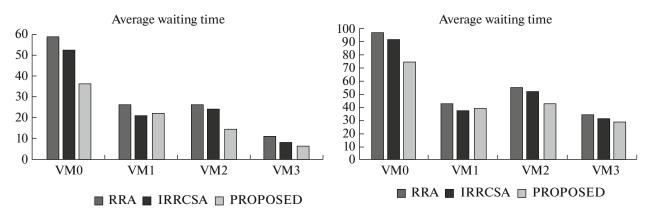


Fig. 3. Average WT for RRA, IRRCSA and proposed in VM0, VM1, VM2 and VM3.

Fig. 4. Average TAT for RRA, IRRCSA and proposed in  $VM_0$ ,  $VM_1$ ,  $VM_2$  and  $VM_3$ .

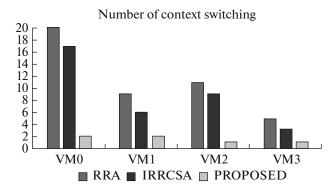


Fig. 5. Number of CS for RRA, IRRCSA and proposed in VM<sub>0</sub>, VM<sub>1</sub>, VM<sub>2</sub> and VM<sub>3</sub>.

# 5.3. Comparison of Proposed Algorithm with SRDQ

The proposed algorithm and SRDQ are compared on the basis of average waiting time, average turnaround time and number of context switching required for the execution of all the cloudlets. Table 11 depicts the dataset considered for comparison. In Section 5.3.1, Table 12 depicts the performance analysis of the proposed algorithm and SRDQ with respect to average WT, average TAT and number of CS.

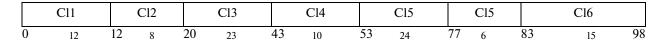
Table 11. Dataset

Cld_id	Burst time/Expected execution time (ET)
C1	12
C2	8
C3	23
C4	10
C5	30
C6	15
Total ET	98

According to the proposed algorithm and equation (5) of it, for the cloudlets 1-6-average execution time (AET) = 16.33.

According to equation (6) and (7), for cloudlets 1-6 - OTQ = 24.

According to the proposed algorithm, the Gantt chart obtained is as follows —

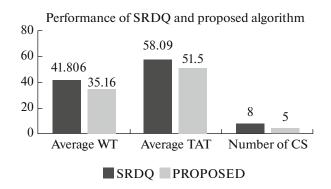


5.3.1. Tabular Performance Analysis of Proposed Algorithm and SRDQ

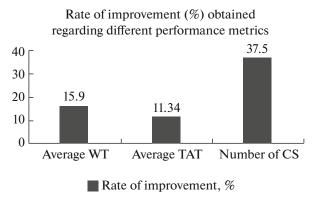
**Table 12.** Performance analysis of the proposed algorithm and SRDQ with respect to average WT, average TAT and number of CS

Algorithm	Average waiting time (WT)	Average turnaround time (TAT)	Number of context switching (CS)
SRDQ	41.806	58.09	8
PROPOSED	35.16	51.50	5
Percentage of Improvement (%)	15.90%	11.34%	37.50%

## 5.3.2. Graphical Analysis of Proposed Algorithm and SRDQ



**Fig. 6.** Performance of SRDQ and proposed algorithm with respect to average WT, average TAT and number of CS.



**Fig. 7.** Rate of improvement (%) obtained by proposed algorithm with respect to SRDQ.

### 6. FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

Cloudlet scheduling being one of the most important portions of cloud computing [25–27] needs constant improvement for better accuracy and greater system throughput. The advancement in existing algorithmic approach may give cloud computing another level of extension. The parameters affecting the QoS, like Response Time, Make Span, Energy consumptions should be major areas to focus on.

## 7. CONCLUSION

The proposed algorithm, which clearly highlights the improvements over the existing IRRCSA and RRA scheduling policy has been thoroughly explained. The proposed algorithm being able to decrease the total number of CS, average WT and average TAT indicates the improvement in total system throughput. However we will extend this work to strengthen its capability of handling dynamic situation, scalability, fault tolerance and integrate it towards acquiring more efficiency and accuracy.

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