

School of Information Technology and Engineering (SITE)

B.Tech (Information Technology)

Course Project Report

AccountantPro:CA platform to manage transcripts and delegate employees to clients

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A Report on the Course Project
AccountantPro:CA platform to manage transcripts and delegate
employees to clients

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Project Title : AccountantPro:CA platform to manage transcripts and delegate employees to clients

1.1 Abstract and Background

Managing the finances of their customers and suppliers plays a significant role in the work of chartered accounting businesses. They typically have to do this in order to keep track of all of their customers' business and personal invoices and costs.conduct evaluations, carry out the necessary assurance and audit, and financial accounting and reporting, applied finance, managerial accounting, or taxation.

1.2 Problem Statement

Much of the work of an accountant revolves around financial management of clients and suppliers. This typically requires tracking all client's professional / personal invoices and expenses as needed. This allows you to perform valuations, perform required audits and audits, accounting and reporting of

Treasury, management accounting, and applicable treasury or taxation. The current problem with this scenario is that all invoices managed by these companies are generally physically managed or have an internal system to handle them. There is no such open source platform in the community at your disposal. Costs or costs that a company can build according to its own specific requirements. The goal of our team is to bring AccountantPro to such platforms.

1.3 Related Works

2.1 Literature Survey (Should be elaborately discussed with its citation)

1. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1319157818303999>

BDNA-A DNA inspired symmetric key cryptographic technique to secure cloud computing

Year - 2018

The paper proposes a new encryption technique for data on the cloud called BDNA. There are several algorithms for encryption of data and files on the cloud each with its advantages and disadvantages. In recent years the DNA encryption technique has become very popular as it provides a very high level of cloud storage security. But DNA Cryptography has many computational drawbacks, as high technology laboratories are required for the actual implementation of this technology. The automation of DNA processes cannot be done. For DNA synthesis, human reprocessing is required at every phase which has become a stumbling block in its extensive development.

The proposed algorithm of BDNA stands for Binary DNA cryptography and it is a pseudo DNA cryptography algorithm. Unlike DNA it does not require high computational resources but also stands out to be better than the other cryptography algorithms in many aspects.

The security framework on receiving the file encrypts it using the newly proposed symmetric key encryption technique (BDNA). The framework asks the data owner for the secret key for encrypting the data. Then the file is uploaded onto the cloud for storage. Further, the framework encrypted this secret key with the public key of all the authorized users provided by the data owners. The secret keys are encrypted using the public key of the authorized users. The key management takes place at the security framework module. Whenever a user needs to access the file, he/she enters the authentication credentials at the framework's interface. The security framework retrieves the corresponding file from the cloud and the user is then prompted to enter his private key using which the secret key is decrypted. Using this secret key, the file is encrypted by DNA decryption technique and is sent to the user.

The encryption module uses two values one the user's secret and another a random number, so on each iteration the value changes unpredictably. The proposed algorithm is secure against chosen plaintext attacks (CPA). A symmetric algorithm is said to be secure against CPA if, for all the probabilistic polynomial-time, the adversaries have

negligible chances of guessing the right plaintext.

Talking about performance, in comparison to AES, DES, BF and DNA cryptography algorithms, BDNA has the least ciphertext size, highest throughput and least encryption time in seconds.

2. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8794794>

Energy-Efficient Load Balancing Ant Based Routing Algorithm

Year - 2019

The paper proposes Energy-Efficient Load Balancing Ant-based Routing Algorithm (EBAR) for Wireless Sensor Networks. EBAR adopts a pseudo-random route discovery algorithm and an improved pheromone trail update scheme to balance the energy consumption of the sensor nodes. It uses an efficient heuristic update algorithm based on a greedy expected energy cost metric to optimize the route establishment. Finally, in order to reduce the energy consumption caused by the control overhead, EBAR utilizes an energy-based opportunistic broadcast scheme.

WSNs are desired in the paper as undirected weighted graphs. Initially a heuristic update procedure is launched to find the path increasing the expected energy cost greedily. At intervals a forward ant is launched from source to sink node. The ant generates the route by using a probabilistic state transition rule and once it reaches the sink node, it backtracks the route. In the ACO framework, heuristic values represent a priori information about the problem or run-time information provided by a source different from the ants. The heuristic information is usually defined as a function of the residual energy or the average energy of neighbor nodes in ant-based routing. Making routing decisions on these functions aims to increase the energy efficiency of the WSNs.

In comparison with other methods such as IACO, EEABR and Sensorant, EBar was found to have higher throughput, lower average energy consumption and lower packet overhead in the majority of cases for both static and dynamic networks. However, in very specific cases of dynamic network IACo did outperform in terms of throughput.

3. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/abstract/document/8852632>

Load Balancing and Server Consolidation in Cloud Computing Environments

Year - 2019

This paper surveys published load balancing algorithms that are achieved by server consolidation via a meta-analysis. Load balancing with server consolidation enriches the exploitation of resource utilization and can enhance Quality of Service (QoS) metrics, since data-centers and their applications are increasing exponentially. This meta-study reviews the literature on load balancing and server consolidation and presents a ready reference taxonomy on the most efficient algorithms that achieve load balancing and server consolidation.

The paper identifies the challenges of load balancing and server consolidation in cloud computing as VM migration, cloud node's geographical distribution, emergence of small data centers and energy consumption. It keeps the metrics for evaluation as response time, performance, makespan, throughput, resource utilization, migration

time, scalability, degree of imbalance, fault tolerance, energy consumption and carbon emission.

It compares the three major methods used for server consolidation or load balancing namely, the Exact method, the Heuristics Method and the Meta Heuristics Method over the performance metrics mentioned above and then compares their evolution over the years based on these metrics.

It also suggests some future research directions regarding how to estimate the accuracy of incoming workloads, adaptive server thresholds instead of keeping them fixed, security aware migration threats, some other nature-inspired techniques and dwindling resource utilization.

4. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8683979>

Osmotic Bio-Inspired Load Balancing Algorithm in Cloud Computing

Year - 2019

The goal of this study is to present a hybrid metaheuristics technique that incorporates osmotic behavior and bio-inspired load balancing algorithms. The osmotic behavior allows for the automatic deployment of virtual machines (VMs) across cloud infrastructures. The paper uses the advantages of these bio-inspired algorithms to build an osmotic hybrid artificial bee and ant colony (OH BAC) optimization load balancing method after the hybrid artificial bee colony and ant colony optimization established its efficiency in a dynamic setting in cloud computing.

It addresses the shortcomings of existing bio-inspired algorithms for load balancing amongst physical machines. When compared to existing methods, the simulation results show that OH BAC reduces energy usage, the number of VM migrations, and the number of shutdown hosts. Furthermore, it improves service quality (QoS), which is assessed by service level agreement violations (SLAV) and performance degradation due to migrations (PDMs).

OH_BAC inherits ACO's core behaviors of swiftly discovering solutions at diversity systems and ABC's behavior of waggle dancing to share information. Waggle dance is represented as a knowledge base in OH BAC. Instead of selecting PMs at random, OH BAC uses a knowledge base and the osmosis technique to filter them according to energy usage. The dynamic value of the threshold is taken into account by OH BAC depending on the status of the cloud system.

OH_BAC achieves better results than H_BAC and other algorithms. This is due to OH_BAC activates the most suitable osmotic host among all PMs in the system to decrease power consumption. OH_BAC gets more enhancement than H_BAC and ABC. This is due to ACO and ABC together in OH_BAC select the most suitable VM to migrate from the most suitable overloaded host. OH_BAC improves energy consumption, SLAV, number of VM migrations, and number of hosts' shutdowns with compared to other algorithms. However, it has more SLATAH with compared to other algorithm but it is not affected in the performance of the cloud system. OH_BAC achieves improvements by about 27% compared with H_BAC, 21% compared with ABC algorithm, and 18% compared with ACO algorithm. It is shown that OH_BAC also has a minimum value of processing time

5.<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8344738>

Comparative Study of Different Cryptographic Algorithms for Data Security in Cloud Computing
Year - 2017

This study compares various cryptographic encryption algorithms in terms of their various key features, and then evaluates their performance costs based on a set of key requirements. DES, 3DES, IDEA, CAST128, AES, Blowfish, RSA, ABE, and ECC are some of the algorithms used.

The paper provides a description of the most common types of cryptographic algorithms used in cloud storage cryptography. There are two major categories of cryptographic algorithms: Symmetric Key Algorithms and Asymmetric Key Algorithms. It then discusses the major types of Symmetric key algorithms and their workings in brief, namely, Data Encryption Standard (DES) algorithm, Triple Data Encryption Standard Algorithm, Carlisle Adam & Stafford Tavares [CAST-128] algorithm, International Encryption Algorithm, Advanced Encryption Standard Algorithm and Blowfish Encryption Algorithm. Then it discusses the major types of Asymmetric key algorithms and their workings in brief, namely, Rivest Shamir Adlemen [RSA] algorithm, Attribute Based Encryption algorithm, Elliptic Curve Cryptography algorithm and Homomorphic Encryption Algorithm.

It then compares all of the above mentioned algorithms based on their security levels and the attacks they are vulnerable to. Out of all these AEs, Blowfish and RSA algorithms are found to have the best security levels and are prone to least severe and types of attacks. The paper then compares the DES, 3DES, AES, Blowfish & RSA algorithms based on the evaluation metrics of Encryption Time, Decryption time, Avalanche Effect and Memory consumption

RSA is found to have the lowest encryption time and 3DES the highest. Initially AES was consuming more encryption time as compared to other encryption algorithms when size of input file was less but when we try to implement with large size input file, RSA proves to take highest encryption time & Blowfish takes least time for the same input. RSA proves to take the highest time for decryption, and blowfish takes least time for the same input. Further the implementation reveals that RSA consumes maximum amount of memory & Blowfish consumes least with respect to unit operation.

It was concluded that Blowfish is best in terms of memory requirement, whereas RSA has a large memory requirement, so blowfish can fit well in small applications specially in embedded applications & for devices with small memory. The avalanche effect of AES is high, so AES can be preferred for application where privacy and integrity of the message is of top priority.

6. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8815947>

Cryptographic Solutions for Cloud Storage: Challenges and Research Opportunities
Year - 2019

This paper provides a critique of the wide range of cryptographic schemes designed for securing sensitive data in the cloud computing environment, as well as outlining the research opportunities in the use of cryptographic techniques in cloud computing.

The paper first discusses the various approaches available to ensure the reliability of data stored on the cloud. The various techniques it discusses are Proofs of Storage, Proofs of Location and Redundancy Proofs of Storage.

Next it discusses the various techniques involved in secure data sharing. The ones the paper discusses are Fine GRained Access Control, Secure Data Sharing Delegation and Keyword Search.

It then goes on to discuss the models of all the above mentioned techniques in detail and explains their working. PoS system model, which consists of data owners, CSP, and an optional third party auditor (TPA). Data owners upload their data to the CSP via a secure data flow, and the data owner or the TPA can audit the integrity of the data. A PoL protocol is usually a challenge-response protocol that runs between a verifier (e.g., a data owner or a TPA) and a CSP that manages several cloud storage servers. It also compares the various techniques used in PoL and PoS against their AC2 scores. In a redundancy PoS system (see Fig. 4), a user (data owner) stores the data with a CSP that maintains several storage servers distributed at different locations. The CSP has to retain at least one copy of the user's data in each agreed geolocation. It then goes on to discuss the various data sharing techniques mentioned above. Most of these are based on ABE (Attribute based encryption) techniques.

7. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/abstract/document/8219724>

Auditing Big Data Storage in Cloud Computing Using Divide and Conquer Tables Year - 2017

This study provides an efficient RDC approach based on algebraic features of outsourced files that incur the least amount of compute and communication cost. This paper's main contribution is the introduction of a new data structure known as the Divide and Conquer Table (D&CT), which effectively accommodates dynamic data for files of normal size. Furthermore, because of this data structure, our technology can be used for large-scale data storage with low processing costs. The suggested technique and existing methods have considerable differences in terms of calculation and communication cost on the auditor and cloud, according to the one-way analysis of variance.

The paper presents an efficient way for remotely verifying the integrity of data in cloud storage using the outsourced files' algebraic signatures. On the client and cloud sides, our data auditing solution incurs the least computation and communication costs. It created D&CT as a new data structure to handle dynamic data operations like insert, add, delete, and edit with ease. D&CT enables our RDC scheme to work with a wide range of file sizes (normal and large-scale files) while requiring the least amount of processing on the client and cloud sides. It has created a scheme to demonstrate the security of our technology, justify its performance for typical and large-scale files, and compare it to current data auditing methods. We also use one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) to validate the comparison and show that there are substantial differences between the proposed method and the existing methods.

In comparison of evaluation metrics such as computation time and communication cost, with the methods developed by Wand and Yang, the scheme suggested by this paper either proves better than both or is at par with them in variou operations. The only place where Wangs scheme outperforms this is verification on Server side.

8. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12083-020-00959-6>

FAST: Fast Accessing Scheme for data Transmission in cloud computing
Year - 2020

To address the issues regarding data transmission on cloud, a novel access control mechanism is provided in this study. For rapid and efficient data access, the Cloud Service Provider (CSP) creates a temporary table depending on the data type and popularity value of the DO. By using the table, the cloud service provider can quickly find the data owner, reducing data access time significantly. The suggested scheme's experimental findings and theoretical analysis demonstrate its superiority to existing schemes.

In the proposed FAST, the CSP maintains a table based on the data type of the DO and the popularity value of the DO for fast and efficient data accessing.² The proposed scheme minimizes the searching time of PCKDO, data accessing time and CPU utilization. Moreover, the proposed ACM also reduces the system overhead.³ Theoretical analysis and experimental results of FAST have been presented for proving its efficiency.

The proposed system model of FAST is composed of three entities namely, the Cloud Service Provider, the Data owner and the User. In the proposed FAST, the CSP maintains a temporary CSP Table (CSP-TAB). In the CSP-TAB, there are six attributes: (i) Group Identity (ID) (GP_ID) (ii) Data Type (DT) (iii) Popularity Value (PV) (iv) Data Owner's ID (DO_ID) (v) DO's Time & Date (DO_T&D), and (vi) Group's Time & Date (GP_T&D). The GP ID keeps track of all of the groups' identities. The data types of the DOs are kept by DT. Each DO's popularity value is maintained by PV. The PV of a DO increases by one when it sends data to a user. The PV of any DO can be between 1 and 10 in FAST, i.e. the PV of any DO can be between 1 and 10. The CSP chooses the data type and threshold PV of the DO based on its convenience. There may be several DOs that share the same data. As a result, they are stored in the same DO ID. When the DO has shared the requested data, the DO T&D is updated with the appropriate date and time. The group formation details are stored in GP T&D. The CSP adds the DO to the table based on the data type whenever DO shares data on the cloud server. The CSP searches the DO from the CSP-TAB based on the user's requested data type and PV at the moment of data access. If the DO already exists in the table and the PV of the particular DO has not yet reached the threshold value, the CSP increases the PV of the DO by one. Otherwise, a new GP ID with the DO's details is created. The CSP then hands the PCKDO over to the user. As a result, the DO with the threshold PV of a specific data type is placed at the top of the DO ID, and the CSP does not need to search the entire database for the PCKDO. The user can send a request in less time to the DO in order to get the credentials by using the PCKDO. Thus, the CSP-TAB can help to reduce the searching time of a DO as well as the data access time.

The worst-case complexity of insertion algorithm, deletion algorithm and searching of key algorithms is O(PQ).

9. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8693725>

Energy Efficient Virtual Machine Placement with An Improved Ant Colony Optimization over Data Center Networks

Year - 2019

The paper suggests an energy-efficient virtual machine placement technique in this paper, with the goal of lowering communication costs and power consumption in traffic-aware data center networks. An enhanced ant colony optimization with adaptive parameter setting was presented to balance its fast convergence and robust search capabilities in order to address such an optimization challenge. Simulation findings showed that our method outperformed previous algorithms in terms of power usage and communication cost, as well as a significant reduction in run time under various traffic patterns and settings.

The VMP problem has been demonstrated to be an NP-hard problem, meaning that Finding a solution in polynomial time is difficult. As a result, obtaining answers necessitates the use of efficient and desired algorithms. An improved ant colony optimization with adaptive parameter setting, dubbed APACO, is suggested to improve the convergence rate and search capabilities of our energy efficient VMP scheme (E2VMP) with bi-objective function.

The ants make use of the heuristic information to select their path ahead which makes them the intelligent ant. This algorithm hence doesn't follow the greedy algorithm and hence is more energy efficient. Other ants follow what is called the phenomenal trail. A phenomenal diffusion model is applied to simulate a real ant colony. Considering the diffusion, we can improve the collaboration among ants and reduce the times of iteration. The Pareto approach is more often used to cope with multi-objective problems than the conventional weighted formula approach. The solution set is known as a non-dominated solution set.

The simulation results show that the power consumption and communication cost are increasing when the number of VMs is larger. In the same network topology, due to the increase of VMs, more PMs are in the active model, which will cost more energy. Also, when more VMs work, the resource requirements will increase, leading to a large communication cost. The ACO algorithm outperforms the FFD algorithm, because the ACO algorithm can search the solution space more efficiently and globally. Also the time decreases with the increase of bandwidth. It was also seen that the metaheuristic optimization algorithms (ACO and AP-ACO) spend a longer time than those of FFD algorithm and Random.

10. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0045790616300544>

Cloud security: Emerging threats and current solutions

Year - 2016

This article includes a comprehensive analysis of the primary threats preventing widespread adoption of cloud computing, as well as a straight-to-the-point overview of the current solutions offered by the leading suppliers. By offering a picture of the main research trends and most accredited methodologies, the study also presents the (near) future directions of cloud security research. The research is based on a best-of-breed mix of proprietary and open-source cloud solutions. The report can thus be used by IT employees to obtain a better understanding of the security issues associated with cloud computing and to rapidly balance the benefits and drawbacks of current state of

the art solutions.

The paper states the major security threats nowadays are Shared technological vulnerabilities, Data breaches, Account or service traffic hijacking, DoS (Denial of Service) attacks and Malicious insider attacks. It states that the aforementioned open issues can be caused by three main vectors of attack: Network, Hypervisor, and Computing Hardware. Three types of attackers map on these vectors: external users, internal users, and the cloud provider itself (embodied in a malicious employee). It then discusses the various techniques such as filtrations and other countermeasures such as IDPS, IDs, HIDS, NIDS and DIDS for as countermeasures to keep check on system availability. To prevent data confidentiality and integrity it then discusses the various protocols of SSL and TLS over which data should be communicated and other data encryption techniques to be used. It then talks about the various commercial solutions provided by CSPs like AWS, Azure, GCP etc to counter these attacks.

It then also discusses countermeasures against hardware based attacks such as device isolation, network isolation etc. and the commercial counterparts adopted by AWS, Azure, DO, GCP etc.

According to the analysis in the paper, Amazon AWS and VMWare vCloud both offer a range of products and mechanisms that are provided either directly by the CPs or through third-parties. It turns out that, although certain security solutions have attained a certain level of technical maturity, others are still in their infancy and are not suited for deployment in a production environment. There are numerous approaches for dealing with IS1 and IS2, however they all need to be improved. The most advanced countermeasures against network-based assaults are those at the network level. Instead, application-level techniques to handle IS3 and IS4 are still being refined, and many researchers are concentrating on them.

11. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8763773/authors#authors>

SSH Key Management Challenges and Requirements

Year - 2019

This paper highlights the development in SSH key management, the problems SSH is able to solve and It also discusses further solutions using SSH keys that can help us in solving more critical infrastructure problems related to internet applications.

Currently, the most popular use case of SSH keys is user authentication, by detecting existing keys by scanning the installed system, verifying their actual users, and ensuring proper termination and provisioning of user access through those keys.

Though for enterprise systems, using just SSH keys can become a risky approach as any vulnerability in any of the SSH keys and cause a breach in multiple systems that uses that particular SSH key, so an Identity and Access Management System is used for the provision of user access.

There is no automated system for deploying a host while it's installing to an SSH key management system. Many clients yet do not support OpenSSH Certificates and hence yet to be standardized. These are some of the issues which need to be solved with SSH Key management.

12. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/abstract/document/9213745>

Cloud Cryptography: User End Encryption**Year - 2020**

This paper discusses the vulnerability and integrity of user data present in the cloud. It explains solutions using user-end cryptography of data to protect users from breaches in the cloud data centers. Symmetric key cryptography is the algorithm proposed by the paper for implementation, as its the users who are present at both the ends of encryption and decryption and it also eliminates the need of key sharing for the users. The key is generated using the binary value of ciphertext obtained from the encryption phase. The decryption procedure involves extraction of ciphertext and then converting to ASCII code character, and then to a binary value.

The solution provided by the paper is limited to text-based content. For audio, video, and other types of content more advanced techniques of encryption is required which is not covered in the paper.

13. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8446915>

Virtual Machine Migration Algorithm for Cloud Data Center**Year - 2017**

This paper discusses migration techniques for applications to be migrated to virtual machines in the Cloud Data Centers. It proposes two kinds of migration models for this purpose. One is a dynamic double threshold decision model which uses allocated resources based on when the current host is active. The other model is the destination choice model which takes into consideration the availability of cloud data services and uses the energy efficiently by optimized usage of the cloud data services, by using the most relevant virtual machine.

Comparison of performance between these models and the usual migration algorithm shows that the one proposed by the paper greatly minimizes the energy consumption.

14. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7416240>

Multiagent-Based Resource Allocation for Energy Minimization in Cloud Computing Systems**Year - 2017**

This paper discusses the problem of allocating virtual machines to software applications in an efficient manner in order to reduce energy consumption. It introduces a Decentralized Multiagent that allocates virtual machines in a decentralized manner, unlike other standard methods which allocate in a centralized way without considering migration costs.

The proposed solution works by assisting the PM in handing virtual machines through a cooperative agent. These agents allocate the VMs by using an auction-based mechanism and also minimizes migration costs of Virtual machines using VM consolidation mechanisms.

Analysis showed that this system helps in efficient energy consumption more than other mechanisms.

15. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8386503>

Research and design of cryptography cloud framework

Year - 2018

This paper introduces a cryptography framework that can be used for cryptographic services in a cloud computing environment. The framework is built from two aspects, and those are the function of service and module flow which improves the flexibility of cryptography in a cloud environment. It is made out of a cluster of cloud cipher machines to make a centralized computing core. The platform used for managing the cryptographic mechanisms are made of VCM management scheduler, a cloud cipher machine monitor, network manager, and authentication module

Through the method proposed in the paper, a very high level of availability of the a cryptographic mechanism was achieved.

16. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8121690>

Improved Data Storage Confidentiality in Cloud Computing Using Identity-Based Cryptography

Year - 2017

This paper proposes a way to securely store data in cloud data centers based on Identity Based Cryptography. It also allows authenticated users to access their data securely. The architecture of the proposed system is composed of Cloud Storage Providers, Users, Private Key generators. The Private key generator generates all, the parameters needed for the key generation, and then using the unique ID of every user creates a unique private key for every user.

Any new user can obtain their key by sending their unique id to the system. Whenever a user stores data on the cloud, his unique private key is used to encrypt all his data before it is stored on the cloud, This ensures that even the cloud service provider is not capable of accessing its user's data.

If the user wants to share access details if a particular file, a public key for the file can be generated using the private key of the user, which then can be shared with any person who can access the file using the public key.

17. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9202055>

Research and Application of Data Privacy Protection Technology in Cloud Computing Environment Based on Attribute Encryption

Year - 2020

This paper proposes an encryption mechanism based on the weight of attributes and attributes authority to enhance the security systems of cloud data centers. It uses a proxy encryption algorithm to generate the key, which takes a few parameters as input. These parameters include the user's authority weight and other access details which determine the strength of the key generated by the algorithm. The algorithm also takes as input the master key and the property set RMA. DekProxyKeyGen algorithm is used to create symmetric key's proxy re-encryption keys which are used to re-encrypt any decrypted data.

This solution is applicable for systems that do not have complex policy requirements such as biometric systems.

18. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8007315>

Latent-Data Privacy-Preserving With Customized Data Utility for Social Network Data
Year - 2018

This paper discusses the privacy concerns of big data technologies specifically in a social network setup and proposes a data sanitization strategy that can be also used in a cloud computing environment in order to get the best benefits out of collected data while also preserving the privacy rights of users.

It suggests sanitizing data using either Attribute sanitization method or Link Sanitization Method. In Attribute sanitization, data is sanitized by either adding attributes, removing attributes, or replacing an attribute with another.

In the Link sanitization method, data is sanitized by either adding new links or removing existing links. Then the data is optimized for maximum latent data piracy.

19. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8006268>

Predicted Affinity Based Virtual Machine Placement in Cloud Computing Environments
Year - 2020

This paper discusses the relationship between any two virtual machines based on the requirements of resources given by ARIMA prediction. It also explains an affinity model which calculates the volatility of resource utilization after putting any two virtual machines on the same host. This model is called the Predicted Affinity-based Virtual Machine Placement Algorithm, which is used to place any virtual machines that have an affinity relationship on the same physical machine.

An experiment was also run to compare other VM placement algorithms with the one discussed in the paper which showed the latter one as the better performer, though for complex systems the prediction algorithm needs to be further developed.

20. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/6149560>

Cloud Computing Security: From Single to Multi-clouds
Year - 2012

This paper discusses the possible security threats in a multi-cloud environment and steps needed to be taken for protection against the same. The various risks involved in multi-cloud which are discussed are configuration errors, application hardening, data governance, data visibility, shared security model.

The paper suggests hash function as one of the solutions to data integrity. In cases of large amounts of data, a hash tree function can be used such as SIRUS and TDB. It also suggested Proof of Retrievability and Proof of Data Possession protocols to be implemented for ensuring that users can always retrieve their old data in case of a data

breach in the cloud data centers.

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2. Overview and Planning

2.1 Proposed System Overview

InvoicelInc is aimed to be an open source platform which chartered accountancy firms can leverage/build upon to meet their specific requirements. The platform provides an admin login where the admin has access to all the data and will be able to manage them. There are three kinds of login: Customer, CA employee of the firm and Supervisor CA. The customer can only view his/her bills and add his own bills. The employee CA can view and manage the bills of the customers under him. He can also create new expense IDs to categorize the bills into. The supervisor CA can assign customers to the employee CAs manage them and can also view all the bills of all customers. The supervisor also has the ability to add customer accounts. All the bills can be filtered on various criteria and can also be downloaded in various formats (CSV, PDF etc).

Our project will have three major components namely frontend, backend and cloud services used for various specific purposes.

Since we are using the python framework of Django, the frontend will be in the templating language called JINJA and the backend is built in Python using Django modules.

We are using Docker to dockerize our entire project so as to make the software runnable on any system without much configuration. Dockerizing the project will help during system migration or VM migration as the software can run on any VM without negligible initial setup just at the run of one command.

We are using the Google Cloud Platform for our cloud based service.

First of all we are using the Compute Engine - VM Instances to create a vm instance where we can run our dockerized project and serve it on the internet.

Next we are using the Instance Template feature in google cloud to save our main instance as template and generate multiple instances out of it. Once done we can form Instance Groups on google cloud and group all our VM instances into a single group which can then be used to do load balancing of the network traffic using the Network Services - Load Balancing service of GCP.

For storage purposes we are going to use Google Cloud SQL to store our database tables required by our backend.

Other than that we are using VM SSH Manager to manage the ssh keys that can have access to our server and IAM Admin and Roles service to manage who can have access to our google cloud console and their roles regarding what activities they can perform on the console.

2.2 Challenges

2.2.1 Maintaining privacy and security of the bills of the users uploading to the cloud database by the user was difficult.

2.2.2 Key management for the encryption mechanism of the files is a very complicated process.

2.2.3 End to end encryption consumes a lot of processing time and causes the system to slow down.

2.3 Assumptions

2.3.1 The admin is the top most authority in the system, and hence has all the access rights.

2.3.2 There is requirement of only three kinds of users in the system - customers, CA, and CA Supervisor

2.4 Hardware Requirements

A machine with at least 4 GB of RAM and 500 MB of free memory available for the application .Files and other data don't need additional storage because Google Cloud Sql is utilized for the same thing.

2.5 Software Requirements

Frontend - Ninja

Backend - Python and Django

Dockerizing - Docker

Storage - Google Cloud SQL

2.4 Architecture Specifications

The application uses Google Cloud Platform for all the cloud based services. Compute Engine - VM Instances are being used to create a vm

instance where we can run our dockerized project and serve it on the internet.

Each VM instance created have the following specifications:

Machine Type - e2-medium

Number of CPUs - 2v CPUs

RAM - 4GB CPU

Platform - Intel Skylake

Zone of VM Instance - asia-south1-c

Boot Image used on the instance - debian-10-ubuntu

Size of VM - 10GB

The entire storage of the application is implemented using Google Cloud SQL, which is connected to our backend made in Django which allows data flow between the end user and the database.

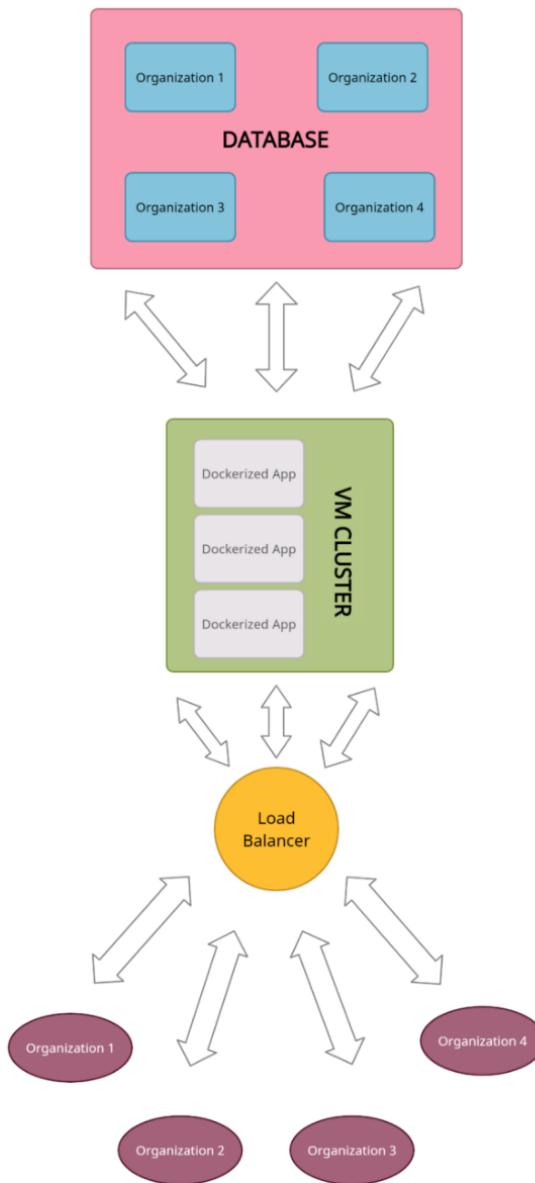
Instance Template feature in google cloud is used to save our main instance as template and generate multiple instances out of it. Once done we can form Instance Groups on google cloud and group all our VM instances into a single group which can then be used to do load balancing of the network traffic using the Network Services - Load Balancing service of GCP.

VM SSH Manager is used to manage the ssh keys that can have access to our server and IAM Admin and Roles service to manage who can have access to our google cloud console and their roles regarding what activities they can perform on the console.

The backend of our project uses the Classic MVC architecture wherein it is divided into three major sections of Models, Views and Controllers. The models hold all the database schemas and their constraints and relations. The views hold all the frontend pages which deal with the logic of how to render data since our project is a server side rendered project. And the controllers consists of functions dealing with all the logic comprising of how to handle data between the user interactions in frontend and the database.

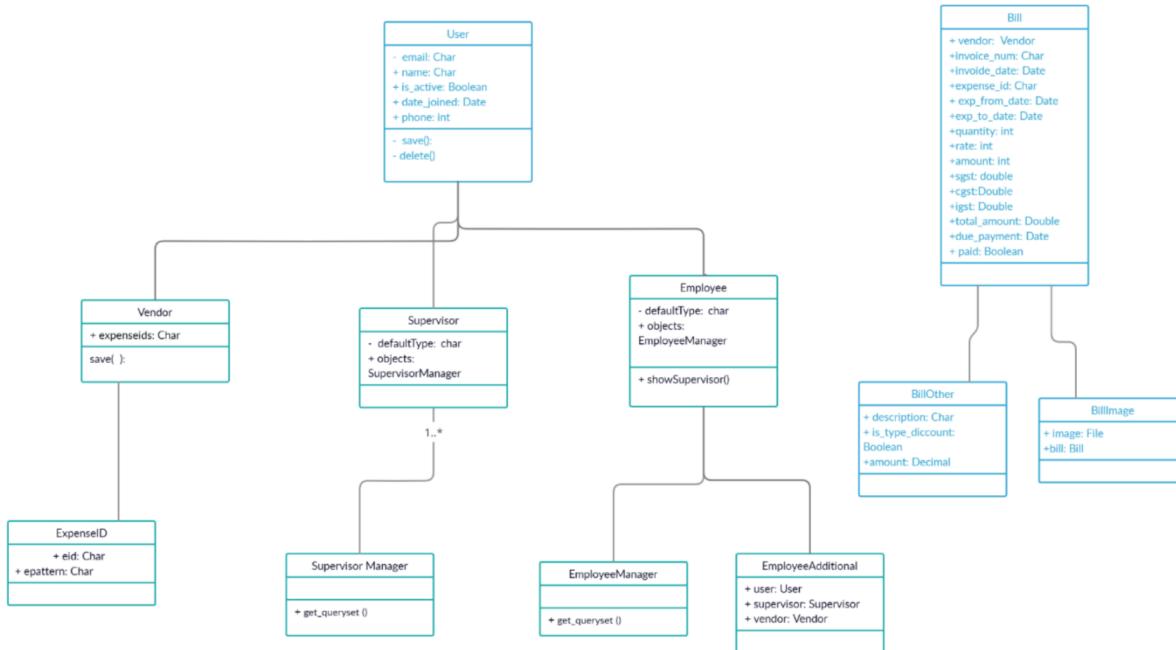
3. System Design

3.1 High-Level Design

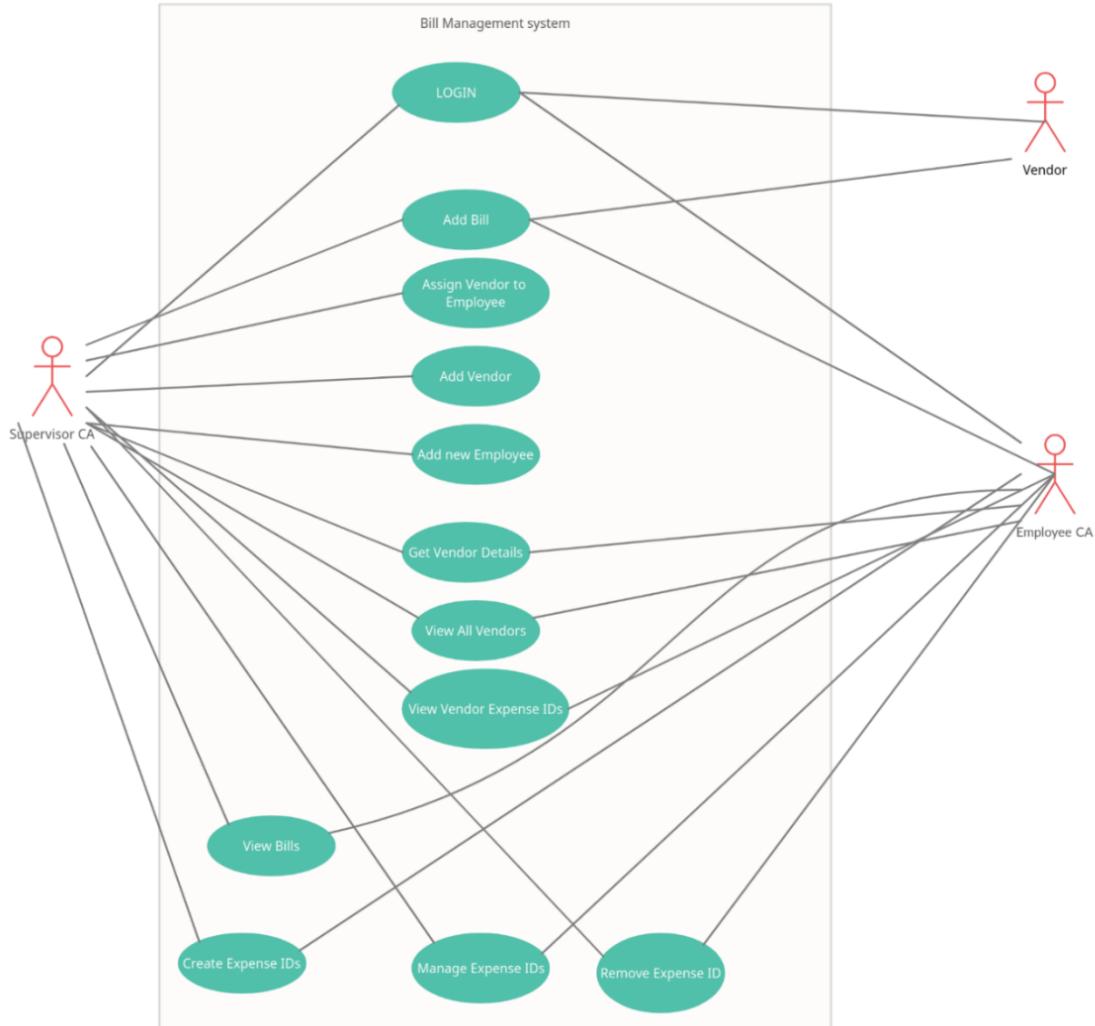


3.2.1 Low-Level Design

The low level design of our application can be well understood using the CLASS and USECASE UML diagrams shown below:

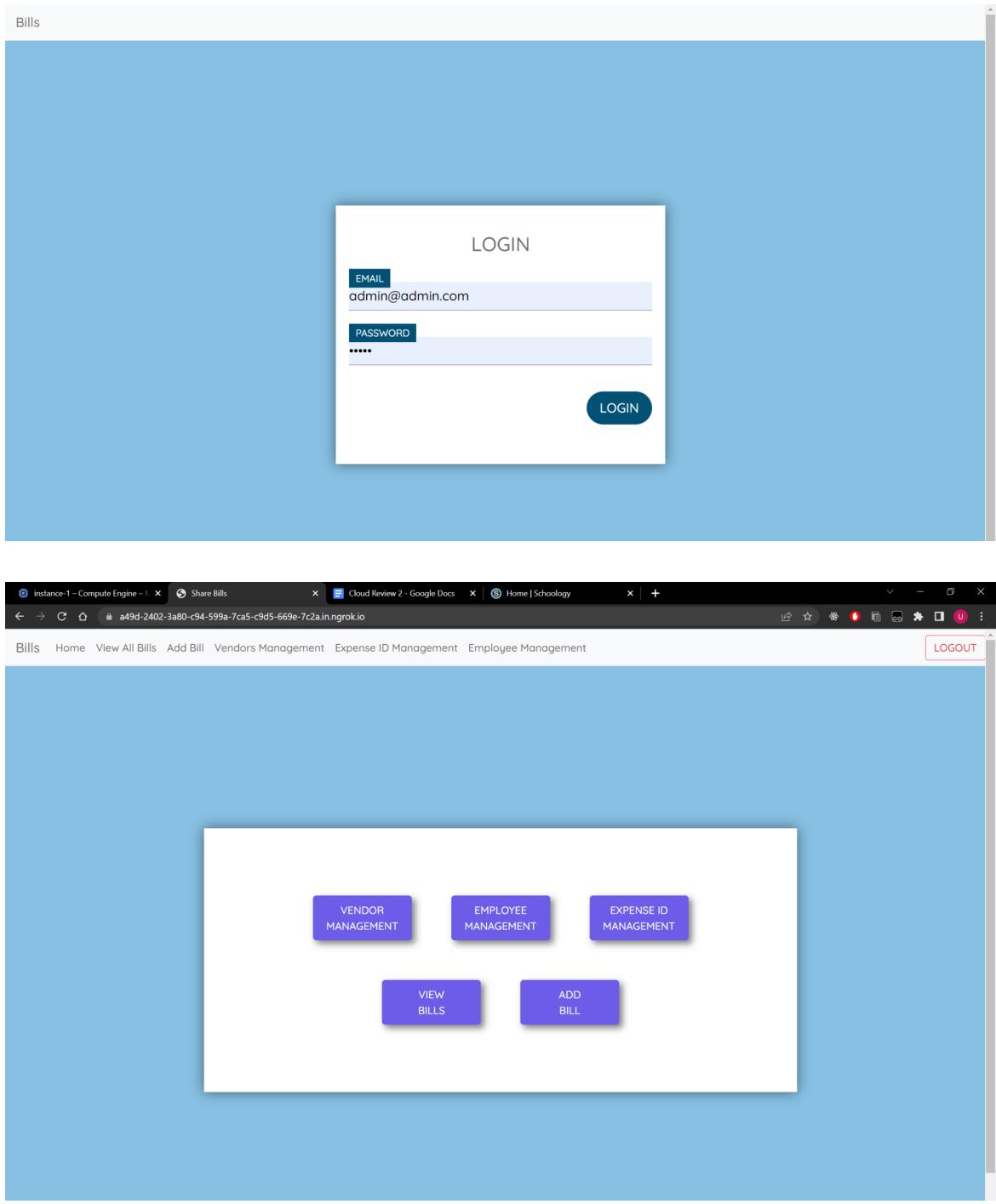


3.2.2 Use Case Diagram



4. System Implementation

Screenshots:



instance-1 - Compute Engine | Share Bills | Cloud Review 2 - Google Docs | Home | Schoology

Bills Home View All Bills Add Bill Vendors Management Expense ID Management Employee Management LOGOUT

ENTER INVOICE

VENDOR NAME
Apple

V INV NO

V INV DATE

EXPENSE ID
Select Expense ID

EX FROM DATE

EX TO DATE

QUANTITY

instance-1 - Compute Engine | Share Bills | Cloud Review 2 - Google Docs | Home | Schoology

Bills Home View All Bills Add Bill Vendors Management Employee Management LOGOUT

Bill Number: [] Vendor Name: [] Amount: []
Amount Total: [] Invoice Date: dd/mm/yyyy [] Expense From: dd/mm/yyyy [] Expense To: dd/mm/yyyy []
 Paid Unpaid

Bill No	Vendor	Exp Id	Quantity	Rate	Bill Amt	SGST	CGST	IGST	Bill Total	Invoice Date	Expense From	Expense To
123456789123456	Apple	None	20	200.00	4000.00	7.00	5.00	2.00	50000.00	2022-08-01	2022-08-15	2022-08-24

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs open. The active tab displays a 'VENDORS LIST' page. At the top right is a green 'ADD VENDOR' button. Below it is a 'FILTER BY NAME' input field. A table lists a single vendor entry:

Vendors List				
Apple	VIEW DETAILS	VIEW BILLS	ADD BILL	REMOVE VENDOR

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs open. The active tab displays an 'EXPENSE IDS' page. At the top right is a green '+ CREATE EXPENSE ID' button. Below it is a 'FILTER BY NAME' input field. A table lists a single expense ID entry:

EXPENSE IDs	
Phone - PH	REMOVE EXPENSE ID

The taskbar at the bottom of the screen includes icons for File Explorer, Mail, Microsoft Edge, and others, along with system status indicators like battery level, signal strength, and date/time.

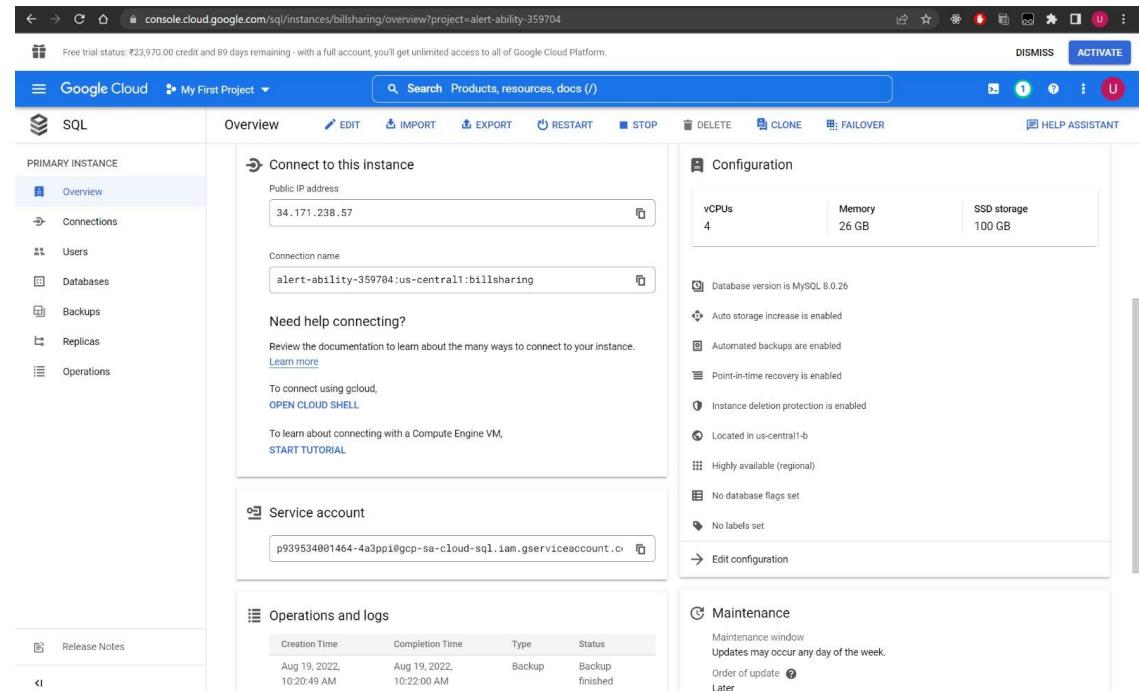
IAM Roles Manager Permission Management on GCP

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud IAM & Admin interface. The left sidebar navigation includes sections like IAM, Identity & Organization, Policy Troubleshooter, Policy Analyzer, Organization Policies, Service Accounts, Workload Identity Federation, Labels, Tags, Settings, Privacy & Security, Identity-Aware Proxy, Roles, Audit Logs, Asset Inventory, Manage Resources, and Release Notes. The main content area displays the 'Permissions for project "My First Project"' page. It lists three entries:

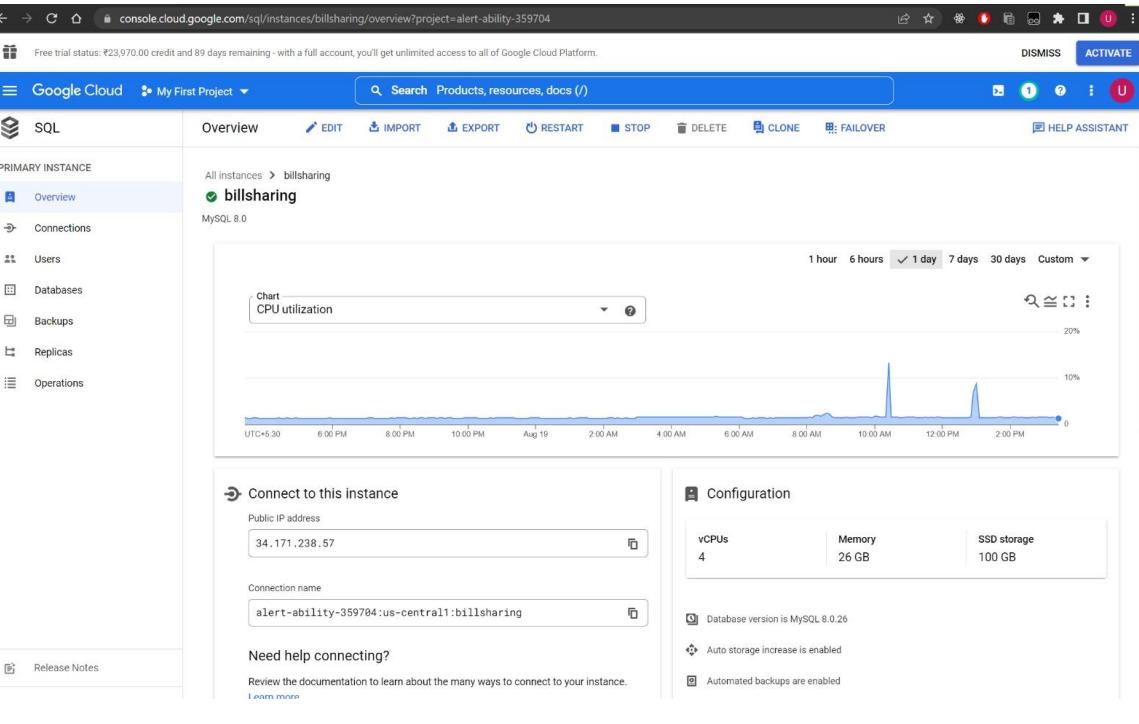
Type	Principal	Name	Role	Security insights	Inheritance
Compute Engine default service account	939534001464-compute@developer.gserviceaccount.com	Compute Engine default service account	Editor	View	Edit
Google APIs Service Agent	939534001464@cloudservices.gserviceaccount.com	Google APIs Service Agent	Editor	View	Edit
User	utkarshgoyal239@gmail.com	Utkarsh Goyal	Owner	View	Edit

On the right side, there is a sidebar titled 'Recommended for you' with links to various IAM-related topics such as IAM overview, Understanding roles, Manage access to projects, Understanding allow policies, Troubleshoot IAM permissions, Test role changes with Policy Simulator, and Overview of IAM conditions.

Mysql template created



The screenshot shows the Google Cloud SQL Overview page for a MySQL instance named 'billsharing'. The left sidebar includes options for Overview, Connections, Users, Databases, Backups, Replicas, and Operations. The main area displays the Public IP address (34.171.238.57), Connection name (alert-ability-359704:us-central1:billsharing), and a 'Need help connecting?' section with links to documentation and a Cloud Shell tutorial. It also shows the Service account (p939534001464-4a3ppi@gcp-sa-cloud-sql.iam.gserviceaccount.com) and the 'Operations and logs' section, which lists a single backup task completed at Aug 19, 2022, 10:20:49 AM.



The second screenshot shows the same Google Cloud SQL Overview page for the 'billsharing' instance. It includes a chart titled 'CPU utilization' showing spikes around 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM UTC+5:30. The main area also displays the Public IP address, Connection name, 'Need help connecting?' section, and the 'Configuration' section, which lists vCPUs (4), Memory (26 GB), and SSD storage (100 GB). The 'Configuration' section also notes that the database version is MySQL 8.0.26, auto storage increase is enabled, automated backups are enabled, point-in-time recovery is enabled, instance deletion protection is enabled, and the instance is located in us-central1-b, highly available (regional), with no database flags or labels set.

VM Instances created on GCP

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud Compute Engine interface for managing VM instances. On the left, a sidebar lists various Compute Engine services: Virtual machines (VM instances, Instance templates, Sole-tenant nodes, Machine images, TPUs, Committed use discounts, Migrate to Virtual Machine...), Storage (Disks, Snapshots, Images), Instance groups (Instance groups, Health checks), VM Manager (Marketplace, Release Notes). The main content area is titled "VM instances" and shows two entries:

Status	Name	Zone	Recommendations	In use by	Internal IP	Connect
Green	instance-1	asia-south1-c			10.160.0.2 (nic0)	SSH
Green	instance-group-1-22jh	us-central1-a		instant...	10.128.0.4 (nic0)	SSH

Below the table, there are "Related actions" cards:

- Explore Actifio GO: Back up your VMs and set up disaster recovery.
- View billing report: View and manage your Compute Engine billing.
- Monitor VMs: View outlier VMs across metrics like CPU and network.
- Explore VM logs: View, search, analyze, and download VM instance logs.
- Set up firewall rules: Control traffic to and from a VM instance.
- Patch management: Schedule patch updates and view patch compliance on VM instances.

A right-hand sidebar titled "Select an instance" has tabs for PERMISSIONS, LABELS, and MONITORING, with a message: "Please select at least one resource."

The screenshot shows the details for a specific VM instance named "instance-1". The left sidebar is identical to the previous screenshot. The main content area is titled "instance-1" and includes tabs for DETAILS, OBSERVABILITY, OS INFO, and Screenshot.

Logs
Cloud Logging
Serial port 1 (console)
▼ SHOW MORE

Basic information

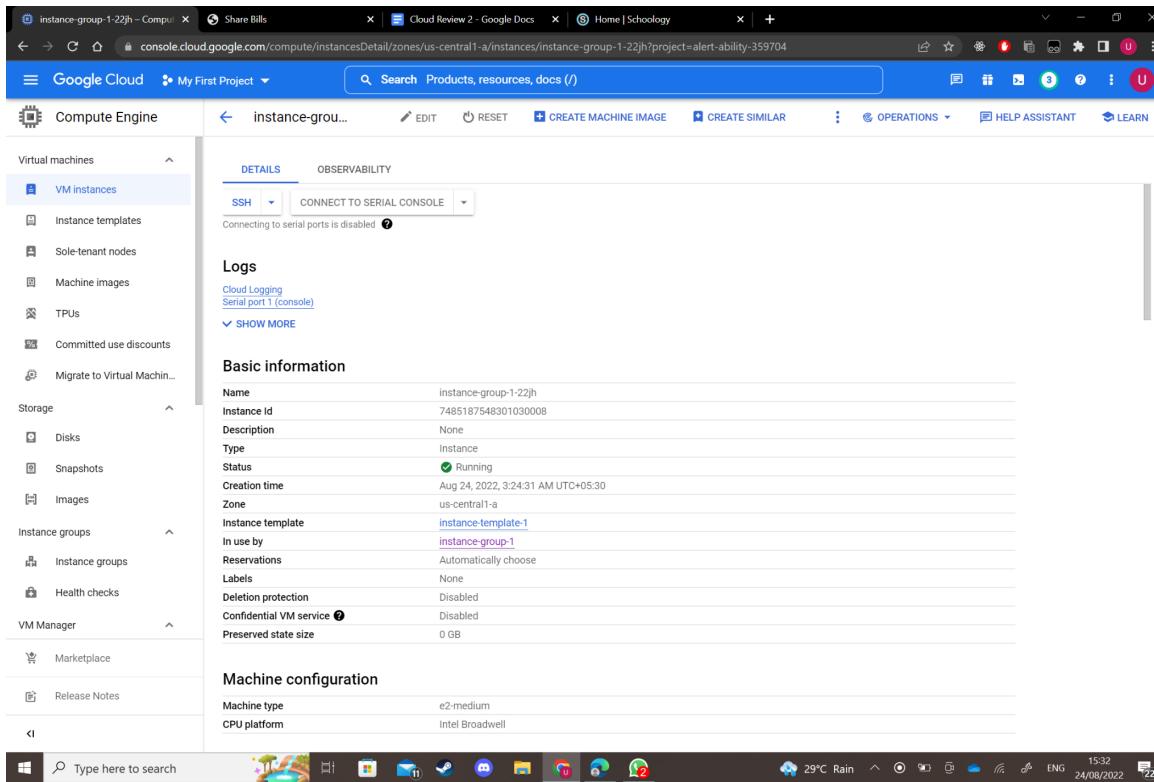
Name	instance-1
Instance Id	6973075963121301901
Description	None
Type	Instance
Status	Running
Creation time	Aug 24, 2022, 3:02:21 AM UTC+05:30
Zone	asia-south1-c
Instance template	None
In use by	None
Reservations	Automatically choose
Labels	None
Deletion protection	Disabled
Confidential VM service	Disabled
Preserved state size	0 GB

Machine configuration

Machine type	e2-medium
CPU platform	intel Broadwell
Architecture	x86/64
vCPUs to core ratio	—
Custom visible cores	—

At the bottom, there's a taskbar with a search bar, system icons, and a status bar showing "30°C Mostly cloudy", "ENG 24/08/2022", and battery level.

Instance Group Configuration



The screenshot shows the Google Cloud Compute Engine interface for managing instance groups. The left sidebar navigation includes:

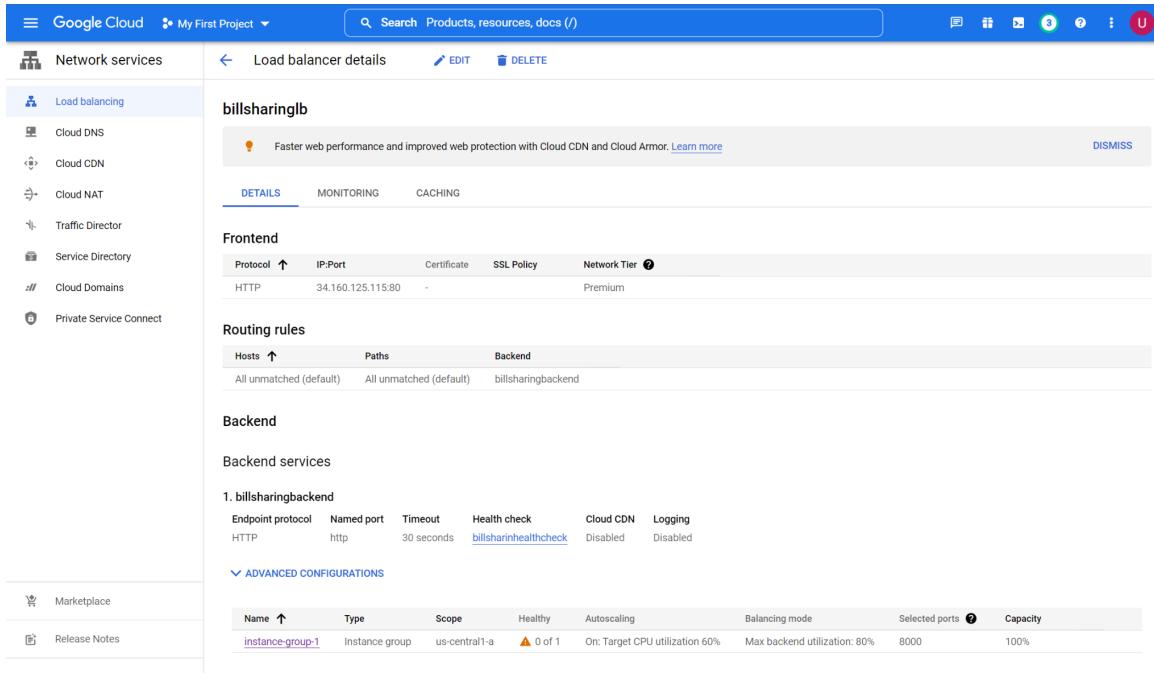
- Virtual machines
 - VM instances
 - Instance templates
 - Sole-tenant nodes
 - Machine images
 - TPUs
 - Committed use discounts
 - Migrate to Virtual Machine
- Storage
 - Disk
 - Snapshots
 - Images
- Instance groups
 - Instance groups
 - Health checks
- VM Manager
 - Marketplace
 - Release Notes

The main content area displays details for an instance group named "instance-group-1-22jh". Key information includes:

- Logs**: Cloud Logging, Serial port 1 (console), SHOW MORE
- Basic information**: Name: instance-group-1-22jh, Instance Id: 7485187548301030008, Description: None, Type: Instance, Status: Running, Creation time: Aug 24, 2022, 3:24:31 AM UTC+05:30, Zone: us-central1-a, Instance template: instance-template-1, In use by: instance-group-1, Reservations: Automatically choose, Labels: None, Deletion protection: Disabled, Confidential VM service: Disabled, Preserved state size: 0 GB.
- Machine configuration**: Machine type: e2-medium, CPU platform: Intel Broadwell.

The taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons and system status.

Load Balancer Configuration



The screenshot shows the Google Cloud Network services Load balancer configuration page. The left sidebar navigation includes:

- Network services
 - Load balancing
 - Cloud DNS
 - Cloud CDN
 - Cloud NAT
 - Traffic Director
 - Service Directory
 - Cloud Domains
 - Private Service Connect
 - Marketplace
 - Release Notes

The main content area displays details for a load balancer named "billsharinglb". Key sections include:

- Frontend**: Protocol: HTTP, IP:Port: 34.160.125.115:80, Certificate: -, SSL Policy: Premium.
- Routing rules**: Hosts: All unmatched (default), Paths: All unmatched (default), Backend: billsharingbackend.
- Backend**: Backend services
 - 1. billsharingbackend**: Endpoint protocol: HTTP, Named port: http, Timeout: 30 seconds, Health check: billsharinhealthcheck, Cloud CDN: Disabled, Logging: Disabled.
- ADVANCED CONFIGURATIONS**: A table showing configuration details for the instance group.

Name	Type	Scope	Healthy	Autoscaling	Balancing mode	Selected ports	Capacity
instance-group-1	Instance group	us-central1-a	0 of 1	On: Target CPU utilization 60%	Max backend utilization: 80%	8000	100%

5. Results and Discussion:

We were able to create an open source accountancy application to help charted accounts in managing the bills of their customers along with the security of google cloud and encryption algorithms, which prevent any possible tampering of the data uploaded to the cloud servers by any party. Moreover our application is deployed over several Virtual Machines, managed by a load balancer, which enables it to handle a high amount of traffic at any point of time.

6. Conclusions and Future Scope:

Our application is the only open source solution currently available to help chartered accountants manage bills in a secure way. In the future the scope of the application can also be extended to organizations of accountants who work in a distributed manner without the need of any super admins. Encryption of the images of the bills can also be implemented in the future using some image encryption algorithms like AES, DES etc. Further using some visualization techniques we can also help the customers understand their spending patterns and recommend ways in order to help them in tax savings.

**B.Tech (Information
Technology) SUMMER
SEMESTER TERM 5 - 2022
ITE 3007 : Cloud Computing and
Virtualization
19.08.2022**

Title: AccountantPro:CA platform to manage transcripts and delegate employees to clients

Team Name: Deadpool

Project Team: Deadpool

S.No	Register Number	Student Name	Signature	Guided By
1	19BIT0402	Utkarsh Goyal		Dr. Nadesh R.K
2	19BIT0354	Dipesh Balani		
3	19BIT0225	Aayu Ojha		

**Team Member(s) Contribution and Performance
Assessment**

Components	S t u d e n t 1	S t u d e n t 2	Student 3
Implementation & Results -(20)			
Contributed fair share to the team project -(05)			
Documentation without Plagiarism -			

(20)			
Q & A	- (05)		
Student Feedback <small>(Student Experience in this Course Project)</small>			Evaluator Comments
Name & Signature of the Evaluator (Dr.Nadesh R.K)			