**INTRODUCTION**

Cloud computing provides seemingly unlimited “virtualized” resources to users as services across the whole Internet, while hiding platform and implementation details. Today’s cloud service providers offer both highly available storage and massively parallel computing resources at relatively low costs. As cloud computing becomes prevalent, an increasing amount of data is being stored in the cloud and shared by users with specified privileges, which define the access rights of the stored data. One critical challenge of cloud storage services is the management of the ever-increasing volume of data. To make data management scalable in cloud computing, deduplication has been a well-known technique and has attracted more and more attention recently. Data deduplication is a specialized data compression technique for eliminating duplicate copies of repeating data in storage. The technique is used to improve storage utilization and can also be applied to network data transfers to reduce the number of bytes that must be sent. Instead of keeping multiple data copies with the same content, deduplication eliminates redundant data by keeping only one physical copy and referring other redundant data to that copy. Deduplication can take place at either the file level or the block level. For file level deduplication, it eliminates duplicate copies of the same file. Deduplication can also take place at the block level, which eliminates duplicate blocks of data that occur in non-identical files. Although data deduplication brings a lot of benefits, security and privacy concerns arise as users’ sensitive data are susceptible to both insider and outsider attacks. Traditional encryption, while providing data confidentiality, is incompatible with data deduplication. Specifically, traditional encryption requires different users to encrypt their data with their own keys.