

Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

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Stefan Machmeier

born in Heidelberg

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Honeypot Implementation

in a

Cloud Environment

This Master thesis has been carried out by Stefan Machmeier

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Herrn Prof. Dr. Vincent Heuveline

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Contents

Acronyms	III
List of Figures	IV
List of Tables	V
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Problem description	1
1.2 Justification, motivation and benefits	1
1.3 Research questions	1
1.4 Limitations	1
2 Background	2
2.1 Virtualization	2
2.1.1 Docker	2
2.2 Cloud Computing	2
2.2.1 History	3
2.2.2 Definition of Cloud Computing	3
2.2.3 Service models	4
2.2.4 Deployment models	5
2.2.5 Cloud Security	5
2.2.6 HeiCloud	5
2.3 Honeypots	6
2.3.1 Definition of a Honeypot	6
2.3.2 Honeynets	6
2.3.3 Legal Issues	6
2.4 Intrusion Detection System	6
3 Previous Work	7
3.1 The Bait'n'Switch Honeypot	7
3.2 Intrusion Trap System	7
3.3 Honeycomb	7
3.4 Honeypots in a cloud environment	7
4 Practical Work	8
4.1 Attack vectors	8
4.1.1 Primer	8

4.2	Proposed Honeyd	8
4.2.1	Cowire	8
4.2.2	Dionaea	8
4.2.3	Honeyd	8
4.3	Concept	8
4.3.1	HoneyTrap	8
4.4	Implementation	8
5	Experimental Work	9
5.1	SNORT	9
6	Evaluation	10
6.1	T-Pot	10
6.2	Analyzation	10
7	Conclusion	11
7.1	Future work	11
	Bibliography	I

Acronyms

DaaS Data-as-a-Service

HaaS Hardware-as-a-Service

HTTP Hypertext Transfer Protocol

IaaS Infrastructure-as-a-Service

NIST National Institute of Standards and Technology

PaaS Platform-as-a-Service

SaaS Software-as-a-Service

List of Figures

2.1	Cloud functionalities (derived from [WvLY ⁺ 10])	4
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List of Tables

2.1	Examples for cloud service models	5
2.2	Examples for cloud deployment models	6

1 Introduction

1.1 Problem description

1.2 Justification, motivation and benefits

1.3 Research questions

1.4 Limitations

2 Background

This chapter concludes the fundamental knowledge that is needed to comprehend the upcoming practical work. Firstly, an introduction to cloud computing will be held. Next, a thorough understanding of honeypots is given. Lastly, we introduce some concepts of intrusion detection systems.

2.1 Virtualization

2.1.1 Docker

2.2 Cloud Computing

Nowadays it is one of the well-known keywords and has been used by vary large companies such as Google, or Amazon, however, the term “cloud computing” dates back to the late 1996, when a small group of technology executives of Compaq Computer framed new business ideas around the Internet.[Reg20] Starting from 2007 cloud computing evolved into a serious competitor and outnumbered the keywords “virtualization”, and “grid computing” reported by Google trends [WvLY⁺10]. Shortly, various cloud provider become publicly available, each with their own strengths and weaknesses. For example IBM’s Cloud¹, Amazon Web Services², and Google Cloud³. Why are clouds so attractive in practice?

- It offers major advantages in terms of cost and reliability. When demand is needed, consumers do not have to invest in hardware when launching new services. Pay-as-you-go allows flexibility.
- Consumer can easily scale with demand. When more computational resources are required due to more requests, scaling up instances in conjunction with a suited price model are straightforward.
- Geographically distributed capabilities supply the need for world-wide scattered services.

In this section, we want to give basic understandings of cloud computing. First, we exhibit the history and draw some motivation. Following, we look at some the definitions, and point out characteristics. Lastly, we give an short introduction to HeiCloud, a cloud service that is offered by Heidelberg University.

¹<https://www.ibm.com/cloud>

²<https://aws.amazon.com/>

³<https://cloud.google.com/>

2.2.1 History

maybe
leave out?

2.2.2 Definition of Cloud Computing

Considering the definition of Brian Hayes, cloud computing is “a shift in the geography of computation” [Hay08]. Thus, computational workload is moved away from local instances towards services and datacenters that provide the need of users [AFG⁺10].

Considering the definition of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), cloud computing “is a model for enabling ubiquitous, 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” [MG11]. NIST not only reflects the geographical shift of resources such as datacenters, but also mentions on-demand usage that contributes to a flexible resource management. Moreover, NIST composes the term in five essential characteristics, three service models (see subsection 2.2.3), and four deployment models (see subsection 2.2.4) [MG11]:

On-demand-self-service refers to the unilaterally provision computing capabilities. Consumers can acquire server time and network storage on demand without a human interaction.

Broad network access characterizes the access of capabilities of the network through standard protocols such as Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP). Heterogeneous thin and thick client platforms should be supported.

Resource pooling allows the provider’s computing resources to be pooled across several consumers. A multi-tenant model with different physical and virtual resources are assigned on demand. Other aspects such as location are independent and cannot be controlled on a low-level by consumers. Moreover, high-level access to specify continent, state, or datacenter can be available.

Rapid elasticity offers consumers to extend and release capabilities easily. Further automatization to quickly increase resources when demand skyrockets significantly can be supported regardless limit and quantity at any time.

Measured service handles resources in an automated and optimized manner. It uses additional metering capabilities to trace storage, processing, bandwidth, and active user accounts. This helps to monitor, and control resource usage. Thus, contributing to transparency between provider and consumer.

2.2.3 Service models

Service models are categorized by NIST into three basic models based on usage and abstraction level. Figure 2.1 shows the connection between each model whereas cloud resource are defined in subsection 2.2.4. Due to vast range of functionalities, Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) builds the foundation of service models. Each model on top represents a user-friendly abstraction with derated capabilities. Figure 2.2.3 shows examples of such service models.

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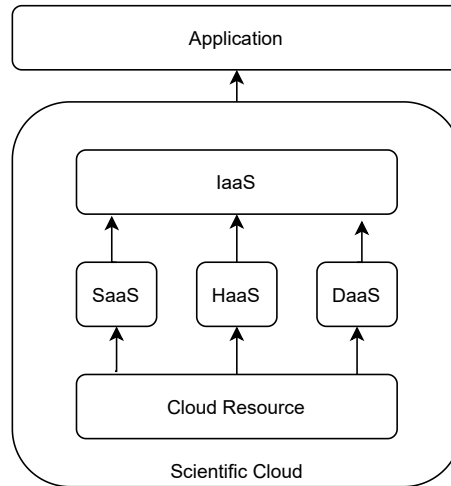


Figure 2.1: Cloud functionalities (derived from [WvLY⁺10])

Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) is a high-level abstraction to consumers. Controlling the underlying infrastructure is not supported. Often provider uses a multi-tenancy system architecture to organize each consumer’s application in a separate environment. It helps to employ scaling with respect to speed, security availability, disaster recovery, and maintenance. Main objective of SaaS is to host consumer’s software or application that can be accessed over the Internet using either a thin or rich client.[DWC10] “Limited user-specific application configuration settings” can be made [MG11].

Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) pivots on the full “Software Lifecycle” of an application whereas SaaS distincts on hosting complete applications. PaaS offers ongoing development and includes programming environment, tools, configuration management, and other services. In addition, the underlying infrastructure is not managed by the consumer.

Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) offers a low-level abstraction to consumers with the ability to run arbitrary software regardless of operating system or application. In contrast to SaaS, IT infrastructures capabilities (such as storage, networks) can be used. It strongly depends on virtualization due to integration, or decomposition

of physical resources.

Data-as-a-Service (DaaS) serves as a virtualized data storage service on demand. Motivations behind such services could be upfront costs of on-premise enterprise database systems.[DWC10] Mostly they require “dedicated server, software license, post-delivery services, and in-house IT maintenance” [DWC10]. Whereas DaaS costs solely what consumer’s need. When dealing with a tremendous amount data, file systems and RDBMS often lack in performance. DaaS outruns such weak links by employing a table-style abstraction that can be scaled.

Hardware-as-a-Service (HaaS) offers IT hardware, or datacenters to buy as a pay-as-you-go subscription service. The term dates back to 2006 during a time when hardware virtualization became more powerful. It is flexible, scalable and manageable. [WvLY⁺10]

Table 2.1: Examples for cloud service models

Service models	Provider name
SaaS	Google Mail, Google Docs, Microsoft Drive
PaaS	Google App Engine, Windows Azure, AWS Elastic Beanstalk
IaaS	HeiCloud, Amazon EC2,
DaaS	Adobe Buzzword, ElasticDrive, Google Big Table, Amazon S3, Apache HBase
HaaS	Amazon EC2, Nimbus, Enomalism, Eucalyptus

2.2.4 Deployment models

Private Cloud

Community Cloud

Public Cloud

Hybrid Cloud

Examples for such deployment models are:

2.2.5 Cloud Security

[NCM12]

2.2.6 HeiCloud

IaaS

Get information
or paper
about that

Table 2.2: Examples for cloud deployment models

	Name
Private Cloud	
Community Cloud	
Public Cloud	
Hybrid Cloud	

2.3 Honeypots

The first public honeypot [Spi03]

Add some
history of
honeypots

2.3.1 Definition of a Honeypot

On the Internet there are a dozen of definitions for honeypots. Thus, to cope with all the subtle differences, we want to take a closer look at some of the definitions and narrow down our own one.

Spitzner defines honeypots as a “security resource whose value lies in being probed, attacked, or compromised.”[Spi03]

High-interaction honeypots

Low-interaction honeypots

Pure honeypots

2.3.2 Honeynets

[Spi03]

2.3.3 Legal Issues

[Spi03]

2.4 Intrusion Detection System

3 Previous Work

3.1 The Bait'n'Switch Honeypot

[PD05]

3.2 Intrusion Trap System

[PD05]

3.3 Honeycomb

[PD05]

3.4 Honeypots in a cloud environment

[KPM⁺21]

4 Practical Work

4.1 Attack vectors

4.1.1 Primer

4.2 Proposed Honeypots

4.2.1 Cowire

4.2.2 Dionaea

4.2.3 Honeyd

4.3 Concept

4.3.1 HoneyTrap

4.4 Implementation

5 Experimental Work

Connect results of Honeypots with NIDS/IDS to update rules.

5.1 SNORT

6 Evaluation

6.1 T-Pot

6.2 Analyzation

7 Conclusion

7.1 Future work

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