User-based CPU Verification Scheme for Public Cloud Computing

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Motivation

CPU Verification in the cloud system is difficult, but necessary for the users.

- A malicious cloud allocates overfull VMs to a PM, as to save the operation costs of additional VMs.
- Errors in the VM migration code or algorithm, and the heterogeneity of hardware also result in the fluctuation of the CPUs.

Monitoring Architecture

Assign a predefined task for the cloud, and check the difference between the theoretical



Monitoring Architecture



The predefined task for cloud execution:

 Guarantee the execution of certain CPU instructions. For example, if the task is to calculate x=x+1 for 1000 times, the cloud can calculate x=x+1000 for one time instead, as to save calculation time.

The predefined task for cloud execution:

• Use a time-lock puzzle to guarantee execution.

Theorem 1 (Time-Lock Puzzle Theorem): Assume a large number b is relatively prime to a large composite number n, without factoring n; the quickest method to solve $b^{2^M} \mod n$ (M is an arbitrary natural number) is to loop $b=b^2 \mod n$ for M times (returns b as the outcome).

Theoretical task execution time:

 Stop everything and decide that the cheating detection is *not* rational, since the users buy the cloud for temporal computation, rather than doing cheating detection.

Theoretical task execution time:

- If our cheating detection program takes 40% CPU when running alone, and currently 80% CPU of the VM is taken off, then how much CPU would the detection program take ?
- Depends on the OS schedule. But in most OSs, it would take 40%/(40%+80%) = 1/3 CPU.



Cheating determination:

• The difference between the theoretical execution time and the actual execution time is larger than a certain threshold.

Small execution task vs. Large execution task

- The resources for cheating detection are limited.
- A smaller task means less precision in one round of cheating detection, but more rounds.
- A larger task means higher precision in one round of cheating detection, but fewer rounds.



Small execution task vs. Large execution task



Small execution task vs. Large execution task

- Theoretical model shows that a smaller task and more detection rounds are better.
- However, the task cannot be infinitely small, since the interferences are no longer negligible.

Evaluation

System setup

- Based on Oracle VM VirtualBox, version 4.1.22.
- The virtualization technology is essentially the same as what it is in the cloud system.

Evaluation

Memory-intensive test

• Our detection method requires very small

Memory	t_t	μ of t_a	σ of t_a
512MB	60	62.4	8.27
640MB	60	60.5	1.29
2GB	60	60.2	1.20



Q & A