A Fault Tolerant Elastic Resource Management Framework Towards High Availability of Cloud Services

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Abstract—Cloud computing has become inevitable for every digital service which has exponentially increased its usage. However, a tremendous surge in cloud resource demand stave off service availability resulting into outages, performance degradation, load imbalance, and excessive power-consumption. The existing approaches mainly attempt to address the problem by using multi-cloud and running multiple replicas of a virtual machine (VM) which accounts for high operational-cost. This paper proposes a Fault Tolerant Elastic Resource Management (FT-ERM) framework that addresses aforementioned problem from a different perspective by inducing high-availability in servers and VMs. Specifically, (1) an online failure predictor is developed to anticipate failure-prone VMs based on predicted resource contention; (2) the operational status of server is monitored with the help of power analyser, resource estimator and thermal analyser to identify any failure due to overloading and overheating of servers proactively; and (3) failure-prone VMs are assigned to proposed fault-tolerance unit composed of decision matrix and safe box to trigger VM migration and handle any outage beforehand while maintaining desired level of availability for cloud users. The proposed framework is evaluated and compared against state-of-the-arts by executing experiments using two real-world datasets. FT-ERM improved the availability of the services up to 34.47% and scales down VM-migration and power-consumption up to 88.6% and 62.4%, respectively over without FT-ERM approach.

Index Terms—cloud outage, cloud availability, MTBF, MTTR, failure prediction, fault tolerance.

I. INTRODUCTION

HIGHLY available Information Technology (IT) services and maximum computing benefits at minimum capital investment is the peak concern of every cloud user. However, the delivery of a higher level of availability remains one of the biggest challenges for the Cloud Service Providers (CSPs) because of tremendously growing demand and dependability of every organization on the cloud infrastructure [1], [2]. Though the CSP is obliged to Service Level Agreement (SLA) adherence by taking responsibility for their infrastructure and ensuring availability and safety at all ends [3], services and performance outage occurs, stemming from a surge in resource utilization [4], [5], [6], [7]. Fig. 1 reveals a recent survey of COVID-19 pandemic that witnessed several spectacular incidents of cloud outages which have dominated the titans in the area, including Zoom, Microsoft Azure, and Google Cloud Platform, Amazon Web Services, IBM Cloud etc. [8]. For instance, Microsoft Azure faced six hours and five hours outage on 3rd and 24th March, 2020, respectively because of a failure of cooling system and subsequent thermal spikes throughout the data center, hampered performance of network devices, rendered compute and storage instances inaccessible. These cloud outages could increase in frequency and severity and raises a critical challenge for CSP i.e., how to combat such outages and boost the reliance of users on cloud technology?

The aforesaid question grants a motivation for developing an elastic resource management approach to furnish High Availability (HA) and ensure reliability of cloud services. Since the availability of cloud services depends on the average availability of compute, storage, and network devices, it becomes an obligation to administer the failure governing features including mean time between failures (MTBF) and mean time to repair (MTTR) to reduce the rate of cloud outages. The average availability of a software or a hardware boosts with rising value of MTBF and falls down with increasing value of MTTR [9], [10]. Therefore, the key solution for improving the availability of cloud services is to maximize MTBF and minimize MTTR by proactive detection of failures, monitoring, analysing historical and current performance of physical machines, and concurrent handling of outages before occurrence. To accomplish the same, HA awareness feature must be embedded within the infrastructure including servers and VMs. The existing works have resolved the cloud outages by applying proactive as well as reactive approaches [11]. Proactive techniques of failure handling rely on the prior knowledge of the failure of applications and

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VMs [12]. The most common reasons for service outage are resource contention, over-utilization, hardware failures, inappropriate installation of softwares, or execution time exceeding the threshold value, physical machine running out of memory space, and so on [13], [14]. The reactive techniques include checkpointing, replication, VM migration, application resubmission etc. which are triggered at the occurrence of actual failure [15].

A. Our Contributions

This paper resolves cloud outage problem by proposing a novel Fault Tolerant Elastic Resource Management (FT-ERM) framework which embeds HA awareness in servers as well as VMs. The online monitoring features are ingrained within each server to estimate their operational status periodically based on power consumption, resource usage and thermal analysis. A dedicated High Availability Virtual Network (HAVN) is designed for each user to improve their experience of service availability. The framework employs a proposed online Multi-Input and Multi-Output Evolutionary Neural Network (MIMO-ENN) based predictor to analyse resource contention based failure of VMs proactively. The failure prone VMs are assigned to a Fault Tolerance Unit (FTU) for handling any outage in advance and maintaining the desired level of availability for the cloud users. The key contributions of the proposed framework include:

- A concept of High Availability Zone (HAZ) composed of a number of High Availability Virtual Networks (HAVNs), is introduced to monitor and improve the HA service experience for the cloud users.
- An online MIMO-ENN based Failure Prediction Unit is developed to forecast the multiple resource usage of a VM concurrently and estimate its failure status proactively.
- A Failure Tolerance Unit is employed to trigger the necessary failure elimination actions and decide the safer allocation for the predicted failure prone VMs.
- The performance evaluation of FT-ERM framework by using real benchmark datasets reveals that it outperforms the state-of-art approaches in terms of various performance metrics.

A bird eye view of the proposed framework is presented in Fig. 2, where cloud users request resources including compute, storage, and network from CSP. Both CSP and user are connected via Service Layer Agreement (SLA) which embodies HA as a major constraint. The cloud users avail services in the form of VM instances deployed on different physical machines. A HA zone comprised of several HA virtual networks \{HAVN_1, HAVN_2, ..., HAVN_M\}, is created to impose HA constraint on the underlined VMs owned by the users in a strict manner. HA Score is generated as a feedback to the CSP for further improvement of services. CSP intelligently manages the resources to consistently offer HA to the user and optimize the operational cost of the datacenter.

Organization: Section 2 entails a recent related work followed by a comprehensive description of the proposed framework in Section 3. Online failure prediction by developing MIMO-ENN predictor is given in Section 4. Section 5 presents failure tolerance. The performance evaluation is presented in Section 6. The conclusive remarks and future scope of the proposed work are discussed in Section 7.

2. Recent Related Work

Marahatta et al. [16] presented a prediction based energy-aware fault-tolerant scheduling scheme (PEFS) that applied deep neural network based failure predictor to distinguish the upcoming workload on VMs (i.e., arriving tasks) into failure prone and non-failure prone tasks. Accordingly, two exclusive task scheduling algorithms are proposed for resource allocation where three consecutive failure-prone tasks are replicated into three copies which are executed on different servers to resist the overlapping and redundant execution. Pinto et al. [17] have developed hadoop distributed computing clusters (HDCC) for fault prediction using support vector machine (SVM) which is trained with a non-anomalous dataset during different operation patterns like boot-up, shutdown, idle, task allocation, resource distribution etc. to detect and classify between normal and abnormal situation. multiple additive regression trees gradient boosting (MART-GB) algorithm based cloud disk error forecasting (CDEF) approach is proposed in [18]. It ranked all disks on the basis of degree of error-proneness to allow live migration of existing VMs and assignment of new VMs to healthy disks for improved service availability. An early fault detection approach based on the fuzzy logic algorithm and Gaussian process (FLGP) was proposed in [19] by analysing the characteristics of failures rigorously. This approach provided an enhanced performance in terms of accuracy of failure prediction and reaction rate which consequently enhanced the availability of the cloud environment. Adamu et al. [20] have presented linear regression (LR) Model and support vector machine (SVM) i.e., LR-SVM with a Linear Gaussian kernel for predicting hardware failures in a real-time cloud environment to improve system availability. Lin et al. [21] proposed a rank based node failure prediction technique (RFPT) by integrating LSTM model, Random Forest, and a ranking mechanism to embed intermediate results of the two models as feature inputs and ranks the nodes by their failure-proneness.

Sharma et al. [22] proposed a failure-aware energy-efficient VM consolidation (FAEE) approach which predicted VM
failure using an exponential smoothing based forecasting technique. Accordingly, two fault tolerance methods including VM migration and VM checkpointing are triggered to handle any failure and ensure service availability. This work concluded that a significant improvement in terms of energy efficiency and reliability is achieved by considering failure characteristics of physical resources. Wang et al. [23] developed a fault-tolerant elastic scheduling algorithm (FESTAL) to provide a fault tolerant VM scheduling accompanied by virtualization technology and an appropriate VM migration scheme with battery back-up features. Zhu et al. [24] have utilized battery back-up scheduling schemes for fault-tolerant execution of scientific workflows (FASTER) by incorporating task allocation and message transmission features that employed a backward shifting approach for use of physical resources. Sivagami et al. [25] have presented a dynamic fault tolerant VM migration (DFTM) algorithm for prior estimation of load on virtual links and distributing physical resources among VMs concisely. In case of VM failure, it selected supporting VM considering network topology, load distribution, and availability of physical resources. Zheng et al. [26] proposed a component ranking for building fault-tolerant cloud (FT-Cloud) applications that fused the system structure and application information to identify significant components application. Thereafter, an algorithm is proposed to automatically determine an optimal fault-tolerance strategy for significant cloud components.

Unlike existing works which have attempted to solve the challenge of VM failures by predicting single resource, the proposed approach estimates failure with enhanced proximity to the real environment by predicting multiple resources viz., CPU, memory, bandwidth concurrently. The previous works have used reactive or proactive VM migration to deal with resource contention disregarding service availability subject to SLA during predictive resource management. In contrast, the proposed FT-ERM provides a comprehensive fault tolerance solution by developing a decision matrix and determining the safe-box prior to migration of failure prone VMs so as to avoid further resource-contention and the need for VM migration frequently. Also, the prediction of VMs resource usage assists in alleviating server over-under-load, reducing resource and power wastage. Table I compares FT-ERM with the aforementioned state-of-the-art approaches with respect to various perspectives.

3. FT-ERM FRAMEWORK

The architecture of the proposed framework is illustrated in Fig. 3 which shows the entities involved along with the essential information flow among these entities. Consider a CSP owns datacenter where a cluster of $P$ physical machines or servers $\{S_1, S_2, \ldots, S_P\} \subseteq S$ hosts $Q$ VMs $V$ of $M$ users $\{U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_M\} \subseteq U$. The VM Hypervisor layer enables deployment of VMs $\{V_{11}, V_{21}, \ldots, V_{x1}\} \subseteq V$ on server $S_1$ by creating an isolation layer among them. Likewise, the VMs $\{V_{12}, V_{22}, \ldots, V_{x2}\} \subseteq V$ and $\{V_{1P}, V_{2P}, \ldots, V_{xP}\} \subseteq V$ are hosted on servers $S_2$ and $S_P$, respectively. Each VM is configured with distinct guest operating system (OS) with user specified capacity of resources for the application (APP) execution. Each server comprises of a pool of compute, storage, and network resources; thermal analyser ($\mathcal{T}_\mathcal{A}$), power consumption analyser ($\mathcal{P}_\mathcal{A}$), and resource estimator ($\mathcal{R}_\mathcal{E}$).

$\mathcal{T}_\mathcal{A}$ examines the electrical power consumption ($PW$) of the server. The consumption of power for $i^{th}$ server (i.e., $PW_i$) is computed by applying Eq. (1), where $PW_i^{max}$ and $PW_i^{idle}$ are maximum, minimum and idle state power consumption of $i^{th}$ server; $RU$ is CPU utilization of respective server. The total power consumption of entire datacenter ($PW_{dc}$) over time-interval is estimated using Eq. (2).

$$PW_i = [PW_i^{max} - PW_i^{min}] \times RU + PW_i^{idle}$$

$$PW_{dc} = \sum_{i=1}^{P} PW_i$$

$\mathcal{T}_\mathcal{A}$ periodically monitors the CPU temperature ($T$) and analyses overall operational or health status ($S_{j}^{status}$) of the respective physical machine (PM) as stated in Eq. (3). The term $T_j$ is current CPU temperature of $j^{th}$ PM and $T_{thr}$ is threshold value of server temperature, beyond which the server performance degrades.

$$S_{j}^{status} = \begin{cases} Safe(1), & I f(T_j < T_{thr}) \\ Unsafe(0), & otherwise \end{cases}$$

$T_j$ is estimated based on the power consumption using the relation stated in Eq. (4) [27], where $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are constants, $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} = 0.130$ and according to ASHRAE guidelines [28], a reference temperature for the inlet cold temperature is $T_{in} = 20^\circ C$.

$$T_i = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} [\frac{PW_i - PW_i^{idle}}{PW_i^{max} - PW_i^{idle}}] + T_{in}^{\text{thr}}$$

$\mathcal{R}_\mathcal{E}$ is employed to predict and analyse the failure status of a server because of deficient capacity of resources to fulfill the future resource requirement of VMs hosted on it. The detailed description of resource capacity utilization based failure prediction is provided in Section 4. The resource utilization of datacenter can be obtained using Eqs. (5) and (6), where $\gamma_i$ represents status of $i^{th}$ server, $Z$ is number of resources. Though in formulation, only CPU ($C$), bandwidth ($BW$), and memory ($M$) are considered, it is extendable to any number of resources.

$$RU_{dc} = \frac{\sum_{x=1}^{Z} RU_{x}^{R}}{|Z| \times \sum_{x=1}^{Z} \gamma_{i}}$$

$$RU_{x}^{R} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{P} \omega_{ji} \times u_{j}^{R}}{S_{i}^{R}}$$

The proposed framework involves HAVN, HA-Score, High Availability Zone (HAZ) which are defined as follows:

**Definition 1.** HAVN: A high availability virtual network defines a set of VMs $\{V_{11}, V_{21}, \ldots, V_{x1}\}$ having heterogeneous resource $\{C, M, BW\}$ capacities, deployed on different physical machines by the CSP, are assumed to be connected

\(^1\text{American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air conditioning Engineers}\)
in a virtual network and dedicated to \( k^{th} \) user \( U_k \) to provide HA service.

**Definition 2.** HA Score: A performance metric to quantitatively measure the quality and effective time of service availability for \( k^{th} \) HAVN dedicated to user \( U_k \). It can be computed by applying Eqs. (7) and (8) where \( A_g \) and \( A_o \) are guaranteed (according to SLA terms) and offered availability, respectively.

\[
H_A Score = \frac{A_g - A_o}{A_g} \times 100 \quad (7)
\]

\[
A_o = 1 - \frac{service\_downtime}{service\_uptime} \quad (8)
\]

**Definition 3.** HAZ: A High Availability Zone is defined as a collection of virtual machines confined to provide HA to the number of users \( \{U_1, U_2, ..., U_M\} \) in the form of their respective HAVNs \( \{HAVN_1, HAVN_2, ..., HAVN_M\} \).

Consider a HAZ comprising of HAVN1, HAVN2, ..., HAVNM dedicated to \( U_1, U_2, ..., U_M \), respectively, is designed, where a set of VMs \( \{V_{i1}, V_{i2}, ..., V_{iP}\} \) of user \( U_1 \) and \( \{V_{i1}, V_{i2}, ..., V_{iP}\} \) of user \( U_2 \) constitute HAVN1 and HAVN2, respectively and so on. The resource (CPU, memory, bandwidth) utilization of all the VMs belonging to each HAVN are periodically monitored and a probability of failure is estimated proactively. Accordingly, the respective set of VMs is categorized into two sets including Failure prone VMs and Normal VMs. The Normal VMs continue to operate at the same server until it is terminated by the user. On the contrary, assignment of failure prone VMs are decided by the FTU which executes actions such as VM replication, recovery and migration to prevent the respective failure beforehand [29].

The information of predicted resource usage, estimated CPU temperature and power consumption on each server, generated by RE, TA, and P.A., respectively, is passed to FTU, wherein PM status predictor estimates any server failure proactively. If PM status predictor analyses any fault due to hard disk (memory), networking device (network), and CPU (compute) failure or high temperature; the migration of all failure prone VMs is triggered from the respective PM to selected energy-efficient PMs by following the power-efficiency concept mentioned in [29]. The energy-efficient PM signifies servers that may accommodate migrating VM such that overall power consumption of the data center get reduce. Also, the VMs which are estimated to have a resource-contention failure, are added to queue of Failure-prone VMs which are passed to VM Replication manager to create replicas and assign them to available servers by applying the mechanism explained in Section 5. The essential constraints that must be satisfied before VM placement and migration are stated in Eq. (9), where \( R \) represents resources viz. CPU (C), memory (M) and bandwidth (BW) for assignment of VM (\( V_i \)) on server (\( S_k \)). The users \( \{U_1, U_2, ..., U_M\} \) evaluate the performance of their respective \( \{HAVN_1, HAVN_2, ..., HAVN_M\} \) by computing HA Score using Eqs. (7) and (8).

\[
\sum_{i=1}^{Q} V_{i1} \times \omega_{ik} \leq S_{ik}^R \quad \forall k \in \{1, 2, ..., P\} \quad (9)
\]

**4. VM Failure Prediction**

A Multi-Input and Multi-Output Evolutionary Neural Network (MIMO-ENN) is developed to analyse multiple resource (CPU, memory, bandwidth, etc) usage precisely and estimate resource capacity contention based failure respective to each
VM. MIMO-ENN is a feed-forward network composed of distinct neuron network associated to a specific resource. Therefore, MIMO-ENN is a Network of multiple Networks (NoNs), where the number of networks is equivalent to the number of resources. The input, hidden, and output layers comprise of a set of neuron nodes instead of nodes. This set contains a distinct node respective to each intended resource. The network weight connections between two following layers link \( i^{th} \) node of \( k^{th} \) set of nodes of one layer with the \( i^{th} \) node of \( k^{th} \) set of nodes of consecutive layer. During the learning process, all the networks are optimized concurrently with the help of an evolutionary optimization algorithm. The operational flow of MIMO-ENN based failure predictor including its three key operations: data preparation, learning, and output generation, is presented in Fig. 4. The data is prepared from the historical capacity usage information of multiple resources \( \{ R_1, R_2, ..., R_n \} \in \mathbb{R} \), gathered from the respective users’ VMs deployed on different servers. The data preparation comprises three consecutive operations viz., attribute selection, aggregation of resource usage values per unit time, and normalization of aggregated values in the range [0, 1] by using Min-Max scaling equation. The vector \( D_i^{R_i} \) is a set of normalized data values of a particular resource utilization such that \( \{ d_1^{R_i}, d_2^{R_i}, ..., d_l^{R_i} \} \in D_i^{R_i} \). Let the \( l+1^{th} \) utilization of a resource depends on the previous \( l \) utilization of the respective resource arranged in two dimensional input \((D_i^{R_i})_{input}\) and output \((D_i^{R_i})_{output}\) matrix as shown in Eq. (10), where \( R_i \) represents capacity utilization of \( i^{th} \) resource.

Fig. 3: FT-ERM Framework
MIMO-ENN is trained with an advanced version of differential evolutionary algorithm: Dual-adaptive Differential Evolution (DaDE) which comprises five key operations viz., initialization, evaluation, selection, crossover, and mutation. The consecutive steps of DaDE algorithm are as follows: (i) $N$ number of networks, maximum generations ($G_{max}$), mutation rate and crossover rate are initialized. (ii) All the networks are evaluated on training data using an error evaluation function (Eq. (11)). (iii) Mutation selection probability $m_{isp}$ is generated to choose one of the three optional mutation schemes to be applied on each network for generation of its mutant vector. (iv) Thereafter, heuristic crossover operation is applied for generation of new offspring. (v) Fitness of each offspring vector is evaluated using Eq. (11) and most optimal solution is selected to move into next generation. (vi) The control parameters viz., crossover and mutation rates are adaptively tuned during entire evolutionary optimization process. The dual adaptation is adopted during mutation and generation of control parameters as follows: Adaptive Mutation. Three mutation strategies namely, $ms_1$: DE/rand/1, $ms_2$: DE/current-to-best/1 and $ms_3$: DE/rand/1 are selected for TDE algorithm. Eqs. (12) and (13) state $ms_1$ and $ms_2$ which exploit the best individual for generation of mutant vectors, while $ms_3$ is stated in Eq. (14) that explores entire population.

$$mX_i^j = x_{best}^j + \mu_i \times (x_i^j - x_{r2}^j)$$  \hspace{1cm} (12)  
$$mX_i^j = x_i^j + \mu_i \times (x_{best}^j - x_i^j) + \mu_i \times (x_i^j - x_{r2}^j)$$  \hspace{1cm} (13)  
$$mX_i^j = x_i^j + \mu_i \times (x_i^j - x_{r2}^j)$$  \hspace{1cm} (14)

where $mX_i^j$ and $x_i^j$ depicts $i$th mutant and current vector solution of $j$th iteration, respectively. The term $x_{best}^j$ is the best solution found so far till $j$th generation and $r_1$, $r_2$ and $r_3$ are mutually distinct random numbers in the range $[1, N]$. The mutation scheme is decided using a random probability vector $ms_p$ in the range $[0, 1]$. Eq. (15) chooses mutation strategy, where $p^*$ depicts selected mutation scheme.

$$p^* = \begin{cases} 
ms_1, & \text{if} \{0 < ms_{p1} \leq p_1\} 
ms_2, & \text{if} \{p_1 < ms_{p2} \leq p_1 + p_2\} 
ms_3, & \text{otherwise}
\end{cases}$$  \hspace{1cm} (15)

where $p_1$, $p_2$ and $p_3$ are the probabilities for opting the $ms_1$, $ms_2$ and $ms_3$, respectively. In reported experiments, initially $p_1 = 0.33$, $p_2 = 0.34$ to allow uniform chance of selection. Thereafter, heuristic crossover is applied to mutant vector $mX_i^j$, and its current target vector $x_i^j$ for production of new offspring $CX_i^j$ i.e., $i$th solution of $j$th generation which can bring significant diversity in search space by adding promising genetic material more closer to parent with better fitness value. The fitness values of both parent chromosomes are compared to find the better one to produce a new offspring using Eq. (16), where $MX_{better}$ and $MX_i$ are parent having better fitness and other parent vector, respectively.

$$CX_i^j = n_i^j \ast (MX_{better} - MX_i) + MX_{better}$$  \hspace{1cm} (16)
Let $s_1$, $s_2$, and $s_3$ be the number of successful candidates reached into next generation for mutation strategies $ms_1$, $ms_2$, and $ms_3$, respectively. Similarly, $f_1$, $f_2$, and $f_3$ record the number of candidates failed to reach into next generation. The probabilities of successful offspring generated by $ms_1$, $ms_2$, and $ms_3$ mutation schemes are computed as $ms^*_1$, $ms^*_2$, and $ms^*_3$ shown in Eq. (17).

$$b = 2(s_2s_3 + s_1s_3 + s_2s_3) + f_1(s_2 + s_3)$$
$$+ f_2(s_1 + s_3) + f_3(s_1 + s_2)$$
$$ms^*_1 = \frac{s_1(s_2 + f_2 + s_3 + f_3)}{b}$$
$$ms^*_2 = \frac{s_2(s_1 + f_1 + s_3 + f_3)}{b}$$
$$ms^*_3 = 1 - (ms^*_1 + ms^*_2)$$  \hspace{1cm} (17)

Eq. (18) selects population for next generation using survival of fittest concept, where $W^j_{i+1}$ is chosen candidate for the next generation, $CX^j_i$ and $W^j_i$ are the offspring generated by crossover and the current solution, respectively. The aforementioned steps repeat until entire population converges or the near-optimal solution is achieved.

$$W^j_{i+1} = \begin{cases} \text{CX}_i & \text{fitness}(W^j_i) \leq \text{fitness}(V^j_i) \\ W^j_i & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \hspace{1cm} (18)$$

Algorithm 1 entails the operational summary of failure prediction where time-complexity can be computed as follows: The steps 1-24 execute to determine cloud outage because of server overloading or failure-prone VMs in real-time which repeat for $t$ time-intervals $\{t_1, t_2\}$ and generate complexity of $O(t)$. The steps 2-12 differentiate failure prone and non-failure prone VMs from $Q$ VMs that belong to $M$ HAVNs. These steps produce a time-complexity of $O(M \times O(Q))$, wherein step 4 calls MIMO-ENN predictor whose time complexity depends on the size of neural network $L = (l+1) \times h + h \times h \times \text{tot}_H \times h \times o$, where $\text{tot}_H$ is total number of hidden layers, number of iterations ($G$) consumed in training of MIMO-ENN, number of resources ($n$) and number of networks ($N$) which becomes $O(nGnLN)$. Further, the steps 13-23 estimate overloading of $P$ servers proactively by producing a complexity of $O(PQ)$. The overall time-complexity for outage prediction in entire cloud data centre is $O(tnGnLN + PQM)$. This algorithm runs in the background for prediction of cloud outage due to server and VM failures. During prediction, the training is a periodic task and can be executed in parallel on the servers equipped with enough resources, without hampering the performance of live job execution. While the prediction unit analyses and predicts future resource usage of VMs during each prediction interval. Concurrently, it has been trained and re-trained periodically between two consecutive prediction intervals with updated training data values of most recent resource usage which improves the learning and forecasting capabilities of the proposed MIMO-ENN.

5. Fault Tolerance

Let VMs $\{V^F_1, V^F_2, \ldots, V^F_Q\} \in V^F$ (where $Q^*$ is number of VMs) are failure prone having different capacity requirement of multiple resources beyond the currently available capacity of respective resources. Fig. 5 entails the Fault Tolerance Unit, where these VMs are arranged into $K$ clusters on the basis of their predicted resources usage by applying K-means clustering algorithm. Elbow method [30] is utilized to determine effective number of clusters i.e., value of $K$ and the VMs are partitioned into $K$ pre-defined distinct non-overlapping clusters or subgroups. K-means iterates to make inter-cluster of VMs of similar resource capacities, while keeping the clusters of VMs as different as possible. The VMs are organized into clusters by grouping the VMs according to the predicted usage capacity of resources in multi-dimension including CPU, RAM, Bandwidth The VM is assigned to a cluster such that the sum of the squared distance between their resource requirement and centroid of the cluster is minimum by applying Eq. (19):

$$G = \sum_{j=1}^{Q^*} \sum_{k=1}^{K} W_{ik} |V^F_i - \mu_k|^2 \hspace{1cm} (19)$$

where $W_{ik}$ defines mapping of $i^{th}$ VM ($V^F_i$) and $\mu_k$ is centroid of $k^{th}$ cluster. Likewise, the sets of VMs $\{V^F_1, V^F_2, \ldots, V^F_{Q^*}\} \in Cluster1$, $\{V^F_1, V^F_2, \ldots, V^F_{Q^*}\} \in Cluster2$, and $\{V^F_1, V^F_2, \ldots, V^F_{Q^*}\} \in ClusterK$.  

**Algorithm 1: Cloud Outage Prediction**

1. for each time-interval $\{t_1, t_2\}$ do
2.  for each HAVN $id$, $i \in [1, M]$ do
3.     for each $V_i \in HAVN_id$, $i \in [1, Q]$ do
4.       Predict multiple resource usage such as $V^F_i \leftarrow$ MIMO-ENN(), where $\{R_t, R_{t_2}, ..., R_n\} \in R$.
5.       Update list of predicted VMs $V^predicted \leftarrow V^F_i$.
6.       if $V^F_i > V^current(R)$ then
7.          $\text{FAI}_{failureprone} \leftarrow V^F_i$.
8.       else
9.          $\text{FAI}_{Normal} \leftarrow V^F_i$.
10.     end
11.   end
12. end
13. for each server $S_j$, $j \in [1, P]$ do
14.   for each VM $V_i$, currently allocated on $S_j$ do
15.     Aggregate predicted resource capacity of each resource of $V^F_i$. $\text{Tot}_{c}(R_i) \leftarrow V^F_i(R_i) + \text{Tot}_{c}(R_i)$.
16.     $\text{Tot}_{c}(R_j) \leftarrow V^F_i(R_j) + \text{Tot}_{c}(R_j)$.
17.     if $S_j > \text{Tot}_{c}(R_j) \cap S^T \leq \text{Thr}$ then
18.       Update $\text{FAI}_{failureprone}$ by removing VMs currently placed on $S_j$.
19.     else
20.       $S_j$ will be overloaded.
21.     end
22. end
23. end
24. end
A decision matrix revealing capacity requirement of $n$ resources $\{R_1, R_2, ..., R_n\}$ is computed for each VM of the respective cluster to determine the physical resource requirement of the replicas of failure prone VMs. The maximum value out of each resource capacity is selected to decide the effective capacity of $n$ resources in the Safe-Box ($S-Box$). The distinct safe boxes $\{S-Box 1, S-Box 2, ..., S-Box N\}$ are estimated pertaining to each cluster. Thereafter, the replicas of VMs are assigned to the selected energy-efficient servers according to the resource capacities reserved by the S-Boxes for the respective VMs of the clusters. For instance, Decision matrix 1 reveals the resource capacity requirement of $n$ resources for each VM in Cluster 1 as shown in Fig. 5. From Decision matrix 1, the capacity requirement of $R_1$ resource is $\{75, 57, ..., 72\}$ and it is assumed that 75 is the highest demand for the resource $R_1$. On the same lines, the set of values $\{62, 73, ..., 67\}$ and $\{53, 52, ..., 62\}$ show the capacity requirement of resources $R_2$ and $R_n$, respectively for failure prone VMs $\{V_{F1}^{E1}, V_{F1}^{E2}, ..., V_{F1}^{E1}\} \in Cluster 1$. S-Box 1 is composed of highest resource capacities associated to respective resource in Decision matrix 1. The failure prone VMs of Cluster 1 are safely allocated by mapping $c_1$ number of S-Boxes 1 to energy-efficient physical machines. Algorithm 2 describes summarised steps of failure tolerance. Its time-complexity depends on number of clusters ($K$), size of decision matrix (i.e., $n \times g$), number of failure prone VMs ($Q^*$) and number of servers ($P$). Hence, the time complexity is $O(KPQ^*n \times g)$.

**Algorithm 2: Failure Tolerance ()**

1. Arrange all the failure-prone VMs according to their predicted resource demand in a pool $V_{Failureprone}$; 
2. Apply K-Means Clustering algorithm to group the failure-prone VMs depending on their resource ($C$, $M$, $BW$) demand into clusters such that the clusters: $\{C_1, C_2, ..., C_K\} \leftarrow V_{Failureprone}$; 
3. for each $C_i : i \in [1, K]$ do 
   4. Prepare a decision matrix of for cluster $C_i$ size $n \times g$ which maps $g$ VMs to their $n$ predicted resources of VMs; 
   5. Determine the maximum capacity usage of each resource separately along each column within decision matrix; 
   6. Using the maximum capacity requirement of each resource, an imaginary Safe-Box is configured; 
4. end 
8. Allocate S-boxes on available servers which maximizes resource usage and minimize power consumption while satisfying the resource capacity constraint mentioned in Eq. (9); 
9. Deploy the replicas/active images of failure prone VMs as per the allocation of their respective S-boxes;
6. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND COMPARISON

A. Experimental Set-up

The simulation experiments are executed on a server machine assembled with two Intel® Xeon® Silver 4114 CPU with 40 core processor and 2.20 GHz clock speed. The computation machine is deployed with 64-bit Ubuntu 16.04 LTS, having main memory of 128 GB. The data center environment was set up with three different types of server and four types of VMs configuration shown in Tables II and III in Python. The resource features like power consumption \( (P_{\text{max}}, P_{\text{min}}) \), MIPS, RAM and storage are taken from real server IBM [31] and Dell [32] configuration where \( S_1 \) is 'ProLiantM110G5XEON3075', \( S_2 \) is 'IBMX3250Xeonx3480' and \( S_3 \) is 'IBM3550Xeonx5675'. The VMs configuration is inspired from the VM instances of Amazon website [33].

| Server | PE (v) | MIPS | RAM (GB) | Storage (GB) | \( PW_{\text{max}} \) | \( PW_{\text{min}} \) | \( PW_{\text{Wall}} \) |
|--------|-------|------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| \( S_1 \) | 2     | 2660 | 4        | 160          | 135             | 93.7           |
| \( S_2 \) | 4     | 3067 | 8        | 250          | 113             | 42.3           |
| \( S_3 \) | 12    | 3067 | 16       | 500          | 222             | 58.4           |

B. Datasets

The performance of proposed work is evaluated using two realworld benchmark workloads including Google Cluster Data (GCD) and Bitbrains (BB) dataset. GCD has resources CPU, memory, disk I/O request and usage information of 672,300 jobs executed on 12,500 servers for the period of 29 days [34]. The CPU and memory utilization percentage of VMs are obtained from the given CPU and memory usage percentage for each task in every five minutes over period of twenty-four hours. BB consists of performance metrics of fast computation machine is deployed with 64-bit Ubuntu 16.04 LTS, having main memory of 128 GB. The data center environment was set up with three different types of server and four types of VMs configuration shown in Tables II and III in Python. The resource features like power consumption \( (P_{\text{max}}, P_{\text{min}}) \), MIPS, RAM and storage are taken from real server IBM [31] and Dell [32] configuration where \( S_1 \) is 'ProLiantM110G5XEON3075', \( S_2 \) is 'IBMX3250Xeonx3480' and \( S_3 \) is 'IBM3550Xeonx5675'. The VMs configuration is inspired from the VM instances of Amazon website [33].

| VM type | PE | MIPS | RAM (GB) | Storage (GB) |
|---------|----|------|----------|--------------|
| \( v_{\text{small}} \) | 1 | 500 | 0.5 | 40 |
| \( v_{\text{medium}} \) | 2 | 1000 | 1 | 60 |
| \( v_{\text{large}} \) | 3 | 1500 | 2 | 80 |
| \( v_{\text{Xlarge}} \) | 4 | 2000 | 3 | 100 |

C. Simulation Configuration

The multiple resource utilization percentage of VMs is obtained from the CPU, network, and memory usage percentage for each job in every five minutes over a period of twenty-four hours. The experiments are executed with varying sizes of datacenter such as 200, 400, 600, 800, and 1000 VMs such that the ratio of VMs:servers is 2:1, where VMs can be allocated dynamically as per demand of users with an online prediction interval of five minutes. The number of users is not mentioned in the original dataset, therefore, we have created set of user equals to 60\% of the number of VMs, requested varying number and type of VMs over time. Each user can hold VMs in the range between 0 and 10 with a constraint that at any instance, the total number of VM requests must not exceed total number of available VMs at the datacenter. In the real-world cloud environment, the outages occur due to workload burst conditions, massive failure of servers, and peak of hours causing overloads and resource contention. Accordingly, we consider cloud outage for experiments by locating a sudden peak of aggregated load (or resource demand) of all VMs hosted on a server, which is more than the available resource capacity of the respective server, or a high CPU temperature, or a VM expecting higher resource demand in future. Such outages are predicted periodically, in an online service environment. Each experiment is executed for 80 time-intervals of five minutes each to analyse the performance of proposed work dynamically, though this period can be extended as per availability of records in the dataset. Following performance metrics are evaluated: (i) MTBF/average uptime, MTTR/average downtime, Availability, (ii) Accuracy of Predicted vs Actual Failures, (iii) CPU Temperature, Resource utilization and Power consumption, (iv) Number of overloads and VM migration.

D. Results

To evaluate metrics including availability, MTBF, and MTTR, the lifecycle of a hypothetical service is considered as illustrated in Fig. 6, where the variables \( DT, UT, \) and \( TT \) denote service downtime, uptime, and total time, respectively. A service can be either in downtime defined by variables \( DT_1, DT_2, \) and \( DT_3, \) or in uptime with variables \( UT_1, UT_2, \) and \( UT_3. \) The term \( n_f \) denotes number of failures of system (i.e., \( n_f \) in Fig. 6); the MTBF and MTTR can be computed by applying Eqs. (20) and (21), respectively. These equations state MTTF and MTTR as the averages of uptime and downtime, respectively. Accordingly, the average availability can be calculated using Eq. (22), where \( n_f \) is total number of failures, \( \sum_{i=1}^{M} UT_i \) and \( \sum_{i=1}^{M} DT_i \) represent total uptime and downtime, respectively experienced by \( M \) users over time-interval \( \{t_1, t_2\}. \)

![Fig. 6: MTBF and MTTR related to service uptime, outage and total time](image)

\[
\text{MTBF} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{M} UT_i}{n_f} \tag{20}
\]

\[
\text{MTTR} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{M} DT_i}{n_f} \tag{21}
\]

\[
A_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\text{MTBF}}{\text{MTBF} + \text{MTTR}} \tag{22}
\]
Table IV and Table V report the performance metrics: MTTR, MTBF, average availability (\(A_{ave}\)), accuracy of failure prediction (\(Acc^P\)), number of predicted failures (\(Fail^P\)), and number of live VM migration (\(Mig^#\)) achieved for GCD and BB workloads for varying size of datacenter (200 VMs to 1000 VMs) over period of 400 minutes. The prediction accuracy of multiple resources using MIMO-ENN predictor governs the performance of all other metrics. The average of failure prediction accuracy varies from 86% to 99.3% and 88% to 98% for GCD and BB workloads, respectively. The \(Fail^P\) and \(Mig^#\) vary directly but non-uniformly depending upon the size of datacenter and errors in failure prediction. The reason behind the obtained values is the periodic training and re-training of the proposed MIMO predictor using Dual adaptive Differential Evolution optimization algorithm which enables learning of most optimal neural weights by exploring and exploiting the population of networks resulting into high prediction accuracy for multiple resources. The accurate estimation of resource contention-based failures and thereby determining suitable safe-box leads to effective scaling of VMs to mitigate the impact of VM failures proactively. Furthermore, to be observed that the obtained values of both MTBF and MTTR depends on the number of failures (\(n_f\)) as depicted in Eqs. (20) and (21). The values of \(UT\) are obtained by computing product of number of successfully deployed VMs and time-interval over period \(\{t_1, t_2\}\). The MTTR value associated to a VM is 0.21 minutes which is utilized from [36], [37]. Accordingly, the values of MTTR are computed for different number of VM migrations which varies with the number of unpredicted failures. The resultant availability values are computed by applying Eq. (22) and utilizing MTBF and MTTR values recorded during respective time-interval \(\{t_1, t_2\}\). The availability for the two workloads is above 99% for all the scenarios and each time-interval.

Fig. 7 shows the average resource utilization, temperature and power consumption for different size of the datacenter for both workloads. The resource utilization varies from 59.3% to 64.5% and 61.2% to 63.7% for GCD and BB workloads, respectively. The average temperature varies from 22.5°C to 23.6°C and 24.5°C to 26.0°C for GCD and BB workloads, respectively. The achieved values of resource utilization and temperature are independent of size of data center and varies slightly according to the adopted strategy for resource distribution and VM allocation. The power consumption increases with increasing size of datacenter depending upon the number of active servers during a particular time-interval \(\{t_1, t_2\}\). The resultant performance values for both the workloads vary according the real-world VMs CPU and memory usage values percentage of both the traces. The power consumption scales up with size of the data center.

E. Comparison

1) Failure Prediction: Figs. 8 and 9 compare the failure prediction accuracy of proposed MIMO-ENN of FT-ERM with the three relative methods. On average, the prediction accuracy of proposed MIMO-ENN approach varies from 95% to 99.8%, while the average accuracy of PEFS [16], CDEF [18], and HDCC [17] ranges from 86% to 94%, 81% to 92%, and 76% to 84%, respectively. The normalized RMSE values of MIMO-ENN are compared to existing methods in Fig. 10 using multiple resource information of GCD and BB workloads. The value of normalised error decreases in the order: HDCC \(\leq\) CDEF \(\leq\) PEFS \(\leq\) FT-ERM. The prediction accuracy of FT-ERM is highest among comparative approaches because of multi-dimensional learning process by utilizing evolutionary optimization approach for optimization of MIMO-ENN, whereas existing works HDCC, CDEF, and PEFS have used SVM, MART-GB and Deep NN which operates through conventional optimization approach based on single solution applying gradient descent method.

2) Failure Tolerance: Fig. 11 compares the failure tolerance with respect to the average number of VM migrations which is least for FT-ERM, consecutively followed by FT-ERM without S-Box (i.e., with MIMO-ENN prediction) and without FT-ERM approaches. The achieved results depict that the number of VM migrations increases non-uniformly with the size of

| VM# | \(T_{(min)}\) | MTTR | MTBF | \(A_{ave}\) | Acc\(^P\) | \(Fail^P\) | \(Mig^#\) |
|-----|-------------|-------|------|------------|--------|---------|--------|
| 200  | 100         | 1.47  | 2751.14 | 99.94    | 95.5   | 75      | 7      |
|     | 200         | 1.68  | 2400.00 | 99.93    | 95.0   | 86      | 8      |
|     | 300         | 1.47  | 2751.14 | 99.94    | 95.5   | 72      | 7      |
|     | 400         | 1.26  | 2523.33 | 99.96    | 95.5   | 96      | 6      |
| 400  | 100         | 4.41  | 1804.76 | 99.76    | 94.8   | 119     | 21     |
|     | 200         | 3.87  | 2252.94 | 99.84    | 95.3   | 395     | 17     |
|     | 300         | 3.78  | 2122.22 | 99.83    | 95.5   | 262     | 18     |
|     | 400         | 3.15  | 2566.67 | 99.88    | 96.3   | 140     | 15     |
| 600  | 100         | 4.83  | 2508.70 | 99.81    | 96.1   | 583     | 23     |
|     | 200         | 3.99  | 3057.90 | 99.90    | 96.8   | 411     | 19     |
|     | 300         | 3.99  | 3057.90 | 99.90    | 96.8   | 444     | 19     |
|     | 400         | 5.88  | 2042.86 | 99.71    | 95.3   | 356     | 28     |
| 800  | 100         | 6.09  | 2658.62 | 99.25    | 96.38  | 733     | 29     |
|     | 200         | 4.41  | 7097.52 | 99.88    | 97.38  | 725     | 21     |
|     | 300         | 5.10  | 3100.00 | 99.83    | 96.88  | 698     | 25     |
|     | 400         | 5.05  | 1434.44 | 99.91    | 97.75  | 713     | 18     |
| 1000 | 100         | 6.93  | 1253.33 | 99.79    | 96.7   | 930     | 33     |
|     | 200         | 7.17  | 2602.70 | 99.70    | 96.3   | 607     | 37     |
|     | 300         | 7.14  | 2841.18 | 99.75    | 96.6   | 999     | 34     |
|     | 400         | 5.88  | 2371.43 | 99.83    | 97.2   | 972     | 28     |

\(\text{Av.}\) \(A_{ave}\): Availability average, \(\text{Acc}^P\): Failure prediction accuracy, \(\text{Fail}^P\): Number of predicted failures, \(\text{Mig}\): Number of VM migrations
the datacenter. The average number of VM migration using FT-ERM varies from 3% to 6% of the size of the datacenter. However, FT-ERM significantly reduces live VM migrations up to 72.6% and 88.6% over FT-ERM without S-Box and without FT-ERM, respectively for GCD workload; and up to 79.9% and 93.3% against FT-ERM without S-Box and without FT-ERM, respectively for BB workload.

3) Availability: The availability varies with the values of MTBF and MTTR, obtained during online processing over time-interval \( \{t_1, t_2\} \). The variations observed (during experimental simulation) in the values of MTBF and MTTR are shown in Figs. (12) and (13) for GCD and BB workload execution, respectively. It is to be noticed that MTTR decreases when MTBF increases, which specifies an inverse relation between them. The MTBF values decreases while the MTTR increases with growing size of the datacenter because of the slight decrement in the percentage of accuracy during prediction of failures (Table IV and Table V). The MTBF values decreases while the MTTR increases in the order: FT-ERM < FT-ERM without S-Box < FT-ERM without MIMO-ENN. Fig. 14 entails the availability for GCD (Fig. 14(a)) and BB (Fig. 14(b)) where FT-ERM outperforms FT-ERM without S-Box and without FT-ERM by 17.2% and 34.47%, respectively for GCD; and 11.4% and 32.99%, respectively for BB online workload distribution due to precise estimation and mitigation of VM failures and lesser number of live VM migrations in case of FT-ERM as compared with rest of the two approaches.

4) Load balancing metrics: Table VI and Table VII compare the power consumption (\( PW \)), resource utilization (\( RU \)), and temperature (\( T \)) of FT-ERM, FT-ERM without S-Box, and FT-ERM without MIMO-ENN frameworks for varying size
of datacenters for GCD and BB workloads, respectively. The average power consumption using FT-ERM shows reduction of 38.83% and 62.4% for GCD and BB workloads, respectively against without FT-ERM framework. The proposed FT-ERM framework improves the average resource utilization by 5.83% and 5.97% for GCD and BB workloads, respectively over without FT-ERM. However, FT-ERM consumes 9.9% and 6.1% more power than FT-ERM without S-Box for GCD and BB workloads, respectively. Also, it shows 0.42% and 0.09% lesser resource utilization over FT-ERM without S-Box for GCD and BB workloads, respectively. This is due to allocation of VMs according to the size of S-Boxes determined by their respective clusters to avoid the risk of resource failures. Moreover, FT-ERM maintains a balanced thermal condition in the datacenter by giving an average of 22.26°C which is lesser by 1°C and 2.66°C against FT-ERM without S-Box, and without FT-ERM, respectively for GCD workload. The temperature of datacenter is lower by 3.15°C and 3.69°C against FT-ERM without S-Box, and without FT-ERM frameworks, respectively for BB workload.

5) FT-ERM v/s FAEE for Grid5000 Failure traces: Table VIII compares the failure prediction accuracy, downtime and failure reduction percentage of the proposed FT-ERM framework and FAEE [22] using Grid 500 Failure traces [38]. These traces provide information about the failures and hardware configuration of approximately 1300 nodes. The MTBF and MTTR are calculated by using the failure start and stop time information given in the traces. FT-ERM outperforms FAEE which is based on Exponential Smoothening based prediction approach by improving failure prediction accuracy by approximately 32.4%; and by lowering the downtime and the failure reduction up to 41.3% and 50.8%, respectively.

![Fig. 12: MTTR and MTBF of GCD workload](image)

![Fig. 13: MTTR and MTBF of BB workload](image)

![Fig. 14: Average Availability](image)
7. Conclusions and Future Work

A novel FT-ERM framework is proposed which embeds HA in VMs as well as servers for predicting any failure proactively and triggering necessary failure tolerance actions. An online MIMO-ENN failure predictor is developed for the prediction of multiple resource usage of VMs and estimate their failure status in real-time. The framework employs a failure tolerance unit that decides safer allocation of failure prone VMs and migrates them to the selected server using clustering based S-Box mechanism. The performance evaluation shows that the proposed framework maximizes service availability and minimizes performance degradation due to overloads, cloud outages, SLA violations and excess power consumption. In the future, the proposed framework can be extended to achieve reactive fault tolerance by employing strategies such as N-Version Programming. Further, along with reliability, security can be included by considering trust among VMs before mapping to a selected server.

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