

# Load Balancing in Cloud Computing based on Ant Colony Optimization and Crow Search Algorithm

Amar N. Alsheavi<sup>1</sup>, Xingfu Wang<sup>1</sup>, Wei Zhao<sup>2</sup>, Ammar Hawbani<sup>3</sup>, Naji Alhusaini<sup>4</sup>, Ibrahim Abdulrab Ahmed<sup>5</sup>, and A.S. Ismail<sup>6,7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Computer Science and Technology, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, Anhui 230027, China

<sup>2</sup> School of Computer Science and Technology, Anhui University of Technology, Anhui, China

<sup>3</sup> School of Computer Science, Shenyang Aerospace University, Shenyang 110136, China

<sup>4</sup> School of Computer and Information Engineering, Chuzhou University, Chuzhou, Anhui, 239000, China

<sup>5</sup> Computer Department, Applied College, Najran University, Najran 66462, Saudi Arabia

<sup>6</sup> College of Life Sciences and Oceanography, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen 518060, China

<sup>7</sup> Faculty of Science, Zagazig University, Zagazig 44519, Egypt

ammarnabil23050@gmail.com, wangxfu@ustc.edu.cn, zhaowei@ahut.edu.cn, anmande@ustc.edu.cn, najji@chzu.edu.cn, iaalqubati@nu.edu.sa, a.sami@zu.edu.eg

**Abstract**— With the rapid increase in cloud services and the increasing shift toward them, balancing the cloud load has become a critical research issue. The increasing demand from customers for technology services worldwide is largely due to its direct impact on performance quality. Therefore, to provide better service quality, it is essential to consider reducing response time and cost in load balancing. This paper addresses the load-balancing problem by optimizing response time and computing cost in cloud computing systems. Specifically, we first formulated the load balancing problem in cloud computing mathematically by designing an objective function that optimizes response time and cost, including constraints to ensure task assignment to a single virtual machine (VM) and resource limits are not exceeded. To solve this optimization problem, we proposed a hybrid algorithm, ACOCSA, that combines Ant Colony Optimization (ACO) and Crow Search Algorithm (CSA). We implemented the ACOCSA algorithm, evaluated the response time, cost, and load balancing metrics, and found that our algorithm performed better in terms of response time and computational cost, and showed good fairness among VMs.

**Keyword**— Load balance, Ant Colony Optimization (ACO), Crow Search Algorithm (CSA), Resource Management in the Cloud, Quality of Service (QoS), Cloud computing.



**Amar N. Alsheavi** received the B.S degree in Mathematics from Sana'a University, Yemen, in 2014. Currently, He is doing the Master at the School of Computer Science and Technology, University of Science and Technology of China (USTC). His current research interests include Authentication Protocols, Cryptography.



**Xingfu Wang** received a B.S. degree in electronic and information engineering from Beijing Normal University of China in 1988 and an M.S. degree in computer science from the University of Science and Technology of China in 1997. He is an associate professor in the School of Computer Science and Technology, University of Science and Technology of China. His current research interests include Information Security, Data Management, and WSNs.



**Wei Zhao** (S'12-M'16) received his Ph.D. degree in the Graduate School of Information Sciences, Tohoku University. He is currently an Associate Professor at the School of Computer Science and Technology, Anhui University of Technology. His research interests include deep reinforcement learning, edge computing, and resource allocation in wireless networks. He was the recipient of the IEEE WCSP- 2014 Best Paper Award, and IEEE GLOBECOM- 2014 Best Paper Award. He is a member of IEEE.



**Ammar Hawbani** Full Professor at the School of Computer Science in Shenyang Aerospace University; he earned his B.S. in Computer Software and Theory from the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC), Hefei, China, in 2009. He continued his academic journey by obtaining his M.S. in 2012 and his Ph.D. in 2016, all from USTC. Following his Ph.D. completion, he served as a Postdoctoral Researcher in the School of Computer Science and Technology at USTC from 2016 to 2019. Subsequently, he worked as an Associate Researcher in the School of Computer Science and Technology at the University of Science and Technology of China from 2019 to 2023. His research interests includes IoT, WSNs, WBANs, VANETs and SDN.



**Naji Alhusaini** received a Bachelor of Science degree in software engineering from Northeastern University (NEU), Shenyang, China, in 2011, and a Master's degree in Computer Software and Theory from Hefei University of Technology, Hefei, China, in 2015. He obtained his Ph.D. degree at the Department of Computer Science, University of Science and Technology of China (USTC), Hefei, ROC. Currently, he is an associate professor at the School of Computer and Information Engineering, at Chuzhou University. His research fields include data mining, computer vision, pattern discovery, deep learning, and cloud computing.



**Ibrahim Abdulrab Ahmed** received his MSc degree in computer science from the Department of Software Engineering, Faculty of Informatics and Management, Wroclaw University of Technology, Wroclaw, Poland, in 1990 and He received his PhD degree in artificial intelligence (artificial neural networks) from Wroclaw University of Technology, Wroclaw, Poland, in 1999. From 2000 till 2012 he was the dean of Computer Science and Engineering Faculty of Hodeidah University, Hodeidah, Yemen. In 2005 he got promoted to associate professor, and in 2011 he was promoted to a full professor at the Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering, Hodeidah University, Hodeidah, Yemen, he was the head of Department of Information Systems in Applied College at Najran University from 2013-2020. Currently he is a coordinator of information system program and a professor at Applied College, Najran, Kingdom Saudi Arabia.



**A. S. Ismail** received a B.S. degree in Mathematics and Computer Science from Zagazig University, Egypt, in 2011. He received a Master's degree in Computer Science from Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST), China, in 2018. He earned his Ph.D. degree from the School of Computer Science and Technology at the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC), China, in 2024. Currently, he is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Zagazig University, Egypt. His research interests include routing protocols in Underwater Wireless Sensor Networks (UWSNs) and Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs), localization algorithms, and security.