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STUDY NOTES

CLOUD COMPUTING

Unit V — Modern Cloud Environment & Emerging Technologies

Topics Covered (09 Hours)

Future Trends in Cloud Systems Architecture
Mobile Cloud Computing (MCC) & Autonomic Cloud
Multimedia Cloud Infrastructures (IPTV & Streaming)
Distributed Cloud Computing vs. Edge Computing
Container Ecosystem: Docker Engines & Orchestration
Kubernetes Architecture (Control Planes & Nodes)
Kubernetes Pod Management & Dynamic Scaling
Green Cloud & Sustainability: Carbon Tracking
Energy-Efficient Data Center Design (PUE Optimization)
Eco-Friendly Cooling & Sustainable Cloud Architectures

*Compiled in a simple, easy-to-understand, book style format
for students of Computer Science and Engineering*

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5.1 Modern Cloud Architectures & Mobile Clouds

As cloud computing matures, it is moving beyond centralized data centers. Modern cloud systems must handle mobile environments, streaming media, and autonomic resource distribution.

Emerging Cloud Frameworks

- **Mobile Cloud Computing (MCC):** Integrates cloud computing into mobile devices, shifting data processing and storage away from resource-constrained smartphones onto powerful cloud servers. This improves mobile battery life and storage capacity.
- **Comet Cloud:** An autonomic, self-managing cloud computing engine. It supports dynamic cloud bursting, where local computing resources automatically request additional public cloud capacity (bursting) when local workloads spike, ensuring seamless application availability.
- **Multimedia Cloud:** Optimized for high-bandwidth, real-time media streaming (like IPTV, video-conferencing, and cloud gaming). It utilizes localized edge caching and dynamic transcoding to match video quality to active network speeds.
- **Energy-Aware Cloud Computing:** Systems that dynamically schedule workloads across physical servers based on power consumption, putting idle nodes into deep-sleep modes to reduce electricity waste.

Distributed Cloud vs. Edge Computing

Traditional cloud computing is highly centralized. However, latency-sensitive applications (such as autonomous driving, real-time industrial robotics, and smart grids) cannot afford the round-trip delay to distant cloud centers. Edge Computing solves this by processing data at the edges of the network, close to the data source (sensor, user device).

Distributed Cloud is a public cloud service model where the provider manages the cloud infrastructure distributed across different physical locations (on-premises, edge, and other data centers), while maintaining central management from a single control plane.

5.2 Container Ecosystem: Docker & Kubernetes

Modern software deployment relies heavily on microservices packaged in containers and managed by orchestration platforms.

Containers and Docker

A container wraps software code and all its dependencies (libraries, configs) into a single package, ensuring it runs reliably on any machine. Docker is the industry-standard containerization platform. Docker engines build container images using declarative files (Dockerfiles), allowing developers to ship applications with absolute consistency.

Kubernetes & Pod Management

When deploying hundreds of containers across multiple servers, manual management is impossible. Kubernetes (K8s) is an open-source container orchestration engine designed to automate deployment, scaling, and management of containerized applications.

Kubernetes Core Architecture

Control Plane (Master Node): Manages the cluster state, scheduling container workloads, and API requests.

Worker Nodes: The physical or virtual servers that actually run the container applications.

Pod: The basic, smallest deployable unit in Kubernetes. A Pod wraps one or more containers (sharing the same storage and network IP) and runs them on a worker node.

Pod Management and Scaling

Kubernetes manages pods dynamically. The Horizontal Pod Autoscaler (HPA) monitors CPU or memory utilization. If utilization crosses a set threshold, Kubernetes automatically spawns duplicate pods across the cluster nodes. If nodes run out of space, the cluster autoscaler requests new virtual machines from the cloud provider, scaling the physical infrastructure dynamically. If a node fails, Kubernetes immediately schedules the lost pods onto healthy nodes, guaranteeing high availability.

5.3 Green Cloud & Sustainability

Cloud data centers consume massive amounts of electricity globally. To minimize the environmental impact, cloud providers are designing sustainable architectures.

Sustainable Cloud Architectures

Green cloud computing focuses on optimizing algorithms and hardware to reduce the carbon footprint of IT services. Key strategies include:

- **Energy-Efficient Data Center Design:** Optimizing Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE, the ratio of total facility energy to IT equipment energy). Enterprise data centers optimize PUE by using advanced cooling systems (like liquid immersion cooling or hot/cold aisle containment structures) to isolate hot exhaust air from cold air feeds.
- **Renewable Energy Integration:** Data centers are located in areas with abundant solar, wind, or geothermal power, aiming for 100% renewable energy operations.
- **Carbon Footprint Tracking:** Cloud providers offer customers dashboards showing the direct carbon emissions generated by their running instances (e.g., AWS Customer Carbon Footprint Tool), encouraging developers to optimize resource usage.

Unit Summary

This unit explored emerging trends, containerization, and green cloud architectures.

- Future cloud trends include Mobile Cloud (MCC), Comet Cloud (bursts), and IPTV multimedia clouds.
- Edge computing processes data near the source, while Distributed Cloud maintains central control.
- Docker packages applications in lightweight containers, sharing the host OS kernel.
- Kubernetes orchestrates container clusters using Control Planes, Worker Nodes, and Pods.
- Kubernetes Pod management scales and self-heals application containers dynamically.
- Green Cloud focuses on energy-efficient data center cooling, low PUE scores, and carbon tracking.

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