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云计算中的弹性算法: 概要和展望

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Elastic Algorithm in Cloud Computing: Overview and Prospect

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摘要 近年来,云计算已经成为一种支持按需(on-demand)提供计算资源的低成本传输模式.在云平台上,弹性的资源使用是一种基于"现用现付"(pay-as-you-go)的商业模式,通过"按需"的原则来提供弹性的资源.介绍一种新的弹性算法(elastic algorithm, EA),即算法本身就是通过"现用现付"的方式组织起来.在传统算法中,计算是一个确定过程,只会产生一种完整的结果或者没有结果.与之对比,弹性算法会随着资源的消耗而生成一组近似结果.具体来说,随着消耗的资源越来越多,弹性算法能够保证产生更好质量的结果.在这个意义上,算法产生结果质量的好坏依赖于资源消耗的多少,因此是具有弹性的.最后,正式定义弹性算法的必要性质,并对弹性算法未来的研究方向进行展望,提出一系列的研究挑战.

关键词: 云计算 现用现付 弹性算法

Abstract: In recent years, cloud computing has emerged as a cost-effective way to deliver on-demand and metered computing resources. In a cloud, elasticity of resource usage is typically realized through the "on-demand" provision principle supported by the "pay-as-you-go" business model. However, little has been investigated into elasticity of algorithm for cloud computing. This paper introduces a novel elastic algorithm (EA) in which the computation itself is organized in a "pay-as-you-go" fashion. In contrast to conventional algorithms, where computation is a deterministic process that only produces an "all-or-nothing" result, an EA generates a set of approximate results corresponding to its resource consumption. As more resources are consumed, better results can be derived. In this sense, quality of the algorithm is elastic to its resource consumption. The desirable properties for EA are formalized, and ambitious agenda for future research is provided in this area and propose several challenges.

Keywords: cloud computing, pay-as-you-go, elastic algorithm (EA)

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