

# Security Issues and Risks for Banking Services under Cloud Computing



Surendra Yadav, Ashik Hussain, Neha V Sharma

**Abstract:** In present day time, immense beginnings identified with jumpers working field use the advantages of cloud computing for reducing their operational expense and overseeing data. Notwithstanding, Cloud computing offers different advantages to associations, yet it is an online network system thusly financial organizations like banks consider that this plan relates to the few risk factors. Among different viewpoints data security, protection, legitimate, compliance and regulatory risks are key limitations. Moreover, fast presentation of high expert's aggressors into this field has scaled up such issue's everyday into an extreme issue. This paper shows the thought of cloud computing and its offered models. Besides, this paper traces the related risk elements of cloud computing, extraordinarily under financial sectors to help credulous researchers.

**Keywords:** — Banking, Cloud Computing, Privacy, Security Framework and Matrix

## I. INTRODUCTION

With innovative headway over past few years any range the idea of cloud computing accomplishing a rising distinction. Regularly distributed computing is a contemporary type of appropriated figuring over a web, encourage the electronic gadgets users to store and access their insights over web as an option of private PC's hard drive.

The supports offices of this plan involve different individual and business administrations, for example, E-mail, stockpiling and access the information from worldwide servers like Netflix that use distributed computing schemes for executing its services.

With the various cost cutting advantages like falling the need of PC framework, growing working effectiveness and a demonstration of on time benefits distributed computing is become as a most famous alternative in late time period for end-users as well as an organization [1].

Figure 1 portrays the idea of distributed computing.



Fig. 1 Cloud Computing

As demonstrating in above figure that to utilize an amenity of cloud computing the users have no need to gain expertise knowledge, can exploits clouds infrastructure as an Internet amenity with tall scalability and power computing. Additionally, the financial organization likes banking sector straightforwardly can satisfied the need of their customers with managing of information.

However, cloud computing scheme offer various aid to number of organization and individuals in diverse way but on the other hand huge research community of investigators specify that espousal of this scheme under financial sector alike banks associates many qualms. Some of prominent concerns are safety and integrity of statistics, privacy, authorization and an issue relative to quality of services [2-4]. Further section of this paper highlights the features, benefits, associated issues, delivery and deployment models of cloud computing along with the discussion on an applicability of its in-banking sector.

## II. CLOUD COMPUTING: AN OVERVIEW

In current time span cloud computing covers innumerable arenas and day by day became as an imperative emerging utensil for lives of every organization and individuals. Primarily this concept was intended in the academic area but due to its features and benefits it has transposed into huge sectors, exclusively in profitable side.

With the going time span the working organizations espousing pioneering apps of cloud computing for offering better services to their clients [5]. To aid organizations and individuals this scheme involves five vital features with different delivery and deployment models, discussed in further sections.

### A. Key attributes of Cloud Computing

Among of several the key features of cloud computing is depicted in following figure.

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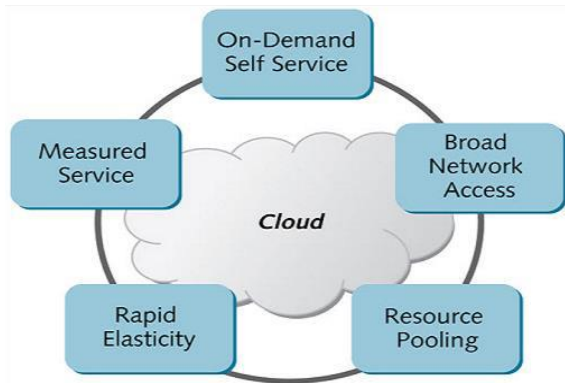


Fig. 2 Cloud Computing Key Characteristics

- **On-demand self-service**, self-service for resources provision and release based on on-demand such as time of server and storage at network. As cloud computing is a form of distributed system thus it offers abilities of powerful computing, larger data storage space that a client can dynamically exploits on their need without a collaboration of human being [6].
- **Broad Network access**, client can exploit broad network over standard mechanisms (at mobile and laptop etc.).
- With multi-tenant model virtual **resources pools** dynamically among several consumers.
- **Rapid elasticity** permitting the user to establishment and issue resources with the desires.
- **Measured services** permitting robotically regulate and augment source usages via metering fitness at an equal to notion (e.g., spaces, dispensation, bandwidth, and live accounts of clients).

### B. Deployment Models of Cloud Computing

On the base of services there are three models [7-9]

- Software as a Service (SaaS),
- Platform as a Service (PaaS),
- Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS).

With the service of **SaaS** the client can exploit various applications that are active at infrastructure of cloud provider. Such application can access via a number of devices and client has no need to regulate and manage the set-up of cloud, merchant advertently takings accountability.

SaaS structures a comprehensive application offered as a facility on request. Specimens of SaaS comprises: Salesforce.com, Google Apps.

With the services of **PaaS**, client can arrange a computing platform onto cloud infrastructure through the tools offered by service provider.

It delivers a set-up with a high level of amalgamation in command to design and assess cloud applications.

**IaaS** provision denotes distribution the hardware properties for implementing the amenities via virtualization expertise. Key objective of this service is to make easy availability of resources and storage.

On the base of deployment cloud can Exhibited into Four Types [10-12].

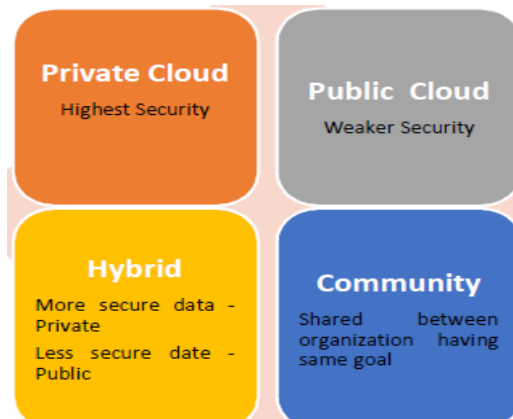


Fig. 3 Cloud Deployment Model [10]

As like name the **private cloud** infrastructure is managed by a sole organization for expand the utilization of handy resources. With the sole handling option this scheme is more secure in comparison of other deployed models of cloud. Under the financial sector like banking field private cloud is appeared as a hot favorite. As it denies the outer accessibility therefore with this computing system the organization can ensure their client for no loss of their statistics with attaining of higher flexibility, speedy process, and better experience.

**Public cloud** model offered the open accessibility of services via internet. As anyone can utilize the cloud infrastructure without any trouble therefore this model is not secure for organization that relate to a financial operation.

**Hybrid cloud** is a combination of above two model, a sole version of cloud that incorporate private and public cloud model into one scheme. This cloud offers a choice to user to select which data will be available publicly and which remains as private. Such functionality depends on the client required features and the cost.

**Community cloud** is a shared cloud infrastructure among of organizations that have a connections and common interests, use identical information to work on. The infrastructure and services of this model may be managed by group of organization or by a service provider unit.

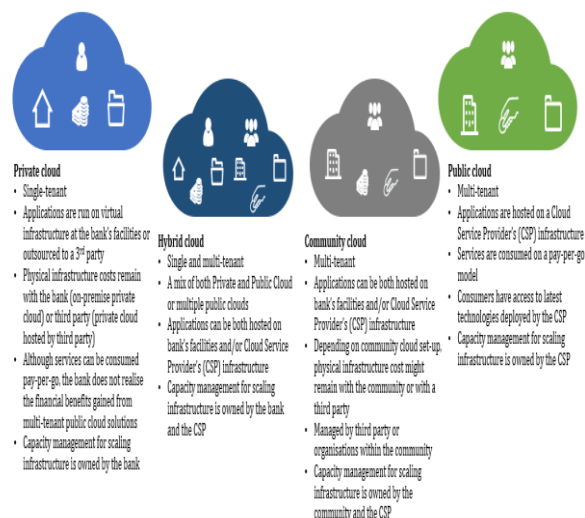


Fig. 4 Models of cloud computing [13]

C. Challenges to Cloud Computing

Under cloud computing security of data and privacy are the two most concerns. Although this scheme is safer and manageable in comparison of local system but scheme struggle to regulate it characteristics in modification case of management. Such issues enhance fears about data safety, reliability, and the planning of organization. From viewpoint of public cloud issues are around regulation, location, liability and recoverability in an area of cloud. These are few roughly reasons that have braked down the acceptance and arrangement of cloud computing and rather led most organizations to build their 'mini private' clouds infrastructure. Eminent Gartner's seven safety questions which cloud customers should advert [14].

**Privileged Accessibility of Statistics:** As data reside in cloud at unknown location, some outsourced amenities may damage that through bypassing the controls of cloud provider organization.

**Regulatory compliance:** Clienteles are self-responsible for the safekeeping of their information.

**Acknowledgement of Data storing Place:** In the scenario of cloud the client does not have the knowledge about the place where data is deposited that is risky for client.

**Separation of Statistics:** Naturally, cloud offer an environment for sharing data where huge files transferee together that may produce risk. Answer required to, Is encryption process are accessible at wholly stages, and were these schemes intended and tested by practiced professionals?

**Retrieval of Information:** It is important to recuperate statistics when problem arises and generates failure. so the key query arises here is that can cloud provider reinstate information totally or not? This question can cause an impasse in security.

**Analytical support:** services of cloud schemes are particularly hard to examine, because logging and facts for manifold clienteles may be co-located and may also be feast across an ever-changing set of hosts and data centers.

**Continuing feasibility of Data:** Preferably, cloud computing benefactor will not ever go broke or get attained by a larger company. But consumers must sure that their information will persist long-lasting.

III. CLOUD COMPUTING UNDER BANKING SECTOR

In recent time frame with the utility of cloud computing banks upgrade their scalability, elasticity with growing IT efficiency. Moreover, models of cloud computing support banking sector in many conducts. Under the banking sector cloud computing offer numerous amenities like Business Process-as-a-Service(BPaaS) for aiding to manage process that are not directly related to a core business such as work related to billing, scheming or humanoid resource management and payroll. Software-as-a-Service(SaaS) for services of e-mails, accounting, customer relationship management (CRM). Platform-as-a-Service(PaaS) offer platform service for an execution of an applications and interfaces. Additionally, it aids to shrink IT costs reducing the

need of hardware and software cost and hosting atmosphere. Infrastructure-as-a-Service(IaaS) allows its user to access outsourced services, physical or virtual machines, with huge storage capacity to put and implement own software. However handler can't be able to manage the infrastructure of cloud but get full access right of machine control over operating systems, data storage and other resources [15]. The few core paybacks of the cloud computing for banking sector are

- **Declining Cost:** With the aids of cloud computing the banks can cut their operative and managing cost such as no need to buy costly hardware, software and spend money on their operating manpower for maintenance and repairing [16]. Additionally, time to time the banks can bring up-to-date IT infrastructure for fulfilling the need of clients.
- **Extended scalability with Suppleness:** with the services of cloud computing banks expand responding effort in the field and can offer better services for satisfying the needs of clients. Additionally, with alteration in needs the banks can scale employed techniques.
- **Upsurge Competence:** As cloud computing offer cost cutting and integrating facility of naïve scheme with exists working environment the banks can compete in markets with the easy and speedy adoption of innovative applications.
- **Speedy Respond Timeframe:** Cloud services significantly expand computing power of banks without any delay in adoption of hardware and/or software resources. Furthermore, banks can offer services without put a consideration on any technological advancement as services can be access with internet browsers from anyplace at all time.
- **Fabricate Stronger Relationships with Clients:** By exploiting the customized power of big data and computing banks may offer healthier insight into customers with making capability of good decisions.

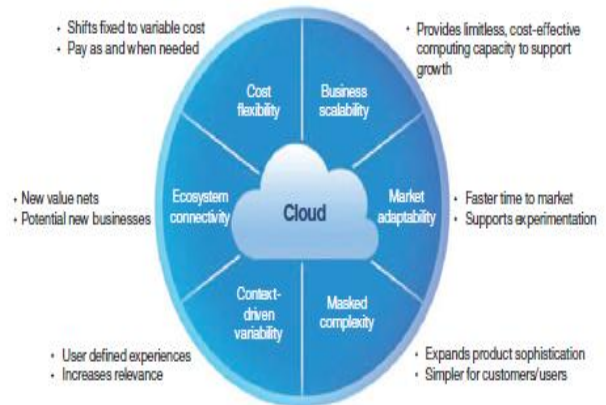


Fig 5 Banking in Cloud [16]

Although with the compressing facility of hardware, software applications, platforms and set-up segments cloud computing offer various aids to banks but with associated key issues like sustainability, technical standards deficiency, security and reliability of statics the banks has slowed down to espouse and this scheme. In specific form under the current stage, there are some firm tribunals to banks to espouse the technology cloud computing. The key encounters of adoption of cloud computing under banking sector:

# Security Issues and Risks for Banking Services under Cloud Computing

- **Security and compliance:** In the banking system data and its security is very important factors. Banks expansions vision highly affected with the forfeit case of data. hence, security of statistics is one of most aspect from cloud computing under the baking sectors [17-19]. With the going time span daily naïve issues comes in front to manage the security of data in an environment of cloud computing. Furthermore, day by day rapid increasing amount of transitional data enhance the issues of managing capacity and high need of information safety in an environment where workload is migrated to a shared architecture. At same period stressed mark for cloud computing to remove the tension of clients about the physical location of data. To expand trust of banks on cloud computing it is essential that provider tided data security barrier as soon as possible.
- **Reliability:** Cloud computing ensure that data will be available on demand without any restriction over the location boundaries of clients, happening of natural disaster and/or other, unpredictable event. Banks prerequisite to have severe SLAs, comprehensive assurances and preparations if the service provider flops into meet service levels.
- **Cloud Supervision:** As under banking huge amount of client data is placed at regular basis and managed centrally therefore comprehensive protocols of supervision are necessary for safekeeping of information and offer qualitative services to clients. With cloud computing banks have to require to design an efficient management platform.
- **Interoperability:** it is required that banks ensures that data and exploited application will be available even the provider has changed. They must look to implement a solitary interface and supervision layer that can work transversely over dissimilar platforms.
- **Regulation:** with the alteration of country regions the cloud governing rules of cloud varies. The laws of different countries restrains data in terms of its storage location, size and from it has taken.

## IV. IMPLEMENTING SECURE AND COMPLIANT FEEDBACK

The core of the left changing cloud protection and enforcement is the clear incorporation of IaC input and advice into the CI / CD tools. For example, developers should be able to decide if the IaC design they are using poses security or enforcement risks before any infrastructure is built. They will need to provide feedback on how to handle these threats, since developers are not usually experts in security. Ideally, this advice should be forthwith provided to the developer through the tools they want to use.

## V. MANAGING BANKING CLOUD

It also offers an opportunity to integrate security into the technology lifecycle earlier and to the surface of the attack before provision of infrastructure. It is important to recognize the top risks associated with infrastructure as code (IaC) in order to implement the right security checks.

### 1. Compliance violation

Many cloud-leveraging companies are required to follow a range of regulatory requirements, such as HIPAA, GDPR, PCI, and SOC2. If IaC does not implement policy guardrails based on those criteria, breaches in enforcement can result. For example, SOC2 allows an IAM password policy to be in place; thus, a protocol guardrail should be introduced to ensure this is enforced in IaC (example below).

```
resource "aws_iam_account_password_policy" "strict" {
  minimum_password_length      = 8
  require_lowercase_characters = true
  require_numbers              = true
  require_uppercase_characters = true
  require_symbols              = true
  allow_users_to_change_password = true
}
```

Some specifications often allow IaC models to be tested during the Continuous Integration (CI) and Continuous Deployment (CD) processes, so the implementation is hindered by policy violations.

### 1. Data Exposure

Data storage network management is a key factor in maintaining data protection in the data. For example, data bases or cloud storage services — such as Amazon S3 and Amazon Elastic File System — that are generated without encryption enabling the pose risks (illustrated in the code below). While encryption is only one aspect of data security, there are several other misconfigurations in the cloud that can create data exposures. Automating the provisioning and management of the storage infrastructure via code (IaC) will worsen these problems.

### 3. Hardcoded Secrets

Hardcoded passwords or credentials are a common misuse involving the storage of plain text credentials, such as SSH keys or account passwords, inside source code (sample code snippet below). This risk may allow for unauthorized escalation of privileges and lateral movements during a breach. Hardcoded secrets in runtime environments are very hard to track and contextualize. Unfortunately, the provision and management of infrastructure by code makes hardcoding secrets easier inside it.

### 4. Disabled Audit logs

As well as identifying the root cause of accidents, audit reports play a crucial role in determining the security risks of confidential or classified information. AWS CloudTrail and Amazon CloudWatch are well-known examples of the audit monitoring services. This functionality should be allowed when provision is made of cloud infrastructure. When automating the provisioning of facilities by code, this configuration is easily skipped, as shown by the code below. Enable audit logs to improve the security monitoring process and help identify threats.

### 5. Untrusted Image Sources

IaC models are used to construct environments where code is deployed and run from external sources. These models, however, can unintentionally refer to images from untrusted sources on OS or containers. This can introduce security risks like backdoors, man-in-the-middle attacks, ransomware, and miners of crypto.

```
# vulnerable elasticsearch dockerfile
FROM untrusted/container/registry/elasticsearch:1.4.4

LABEL maintainer="phantom <hackme@accurics.com>"

RUN set -ex \
  && service Elasticsearch start
```

## VI. RELATED EFFORTS

Over past decades a huge community of related investigators has put their numerous efforts to explain the notion of cloud computing and its rewards/restraints under the environment of banking sector [20-24]. The investigators have denoted various remarkable concern about the cloud computing, its benefits and associated challenges. They have shown that with the adoption of cloud computing scheme the organizations can successfully expand their workability and scope with cost cutting factor. The investigation better explains various factors related to cloud computing under banking environment and the fears of banking system and slow adoption of this scheme into such sector.

In [25-30], authors have demonstrated the design and implementation details of different application in cloud computing that can be used in financial sector to expand working area with high framework of data authentication, resource accessibility and mobility. Furthermore, they have illustrated the different mechanism of data encryption that can be exploited to enhance the safety of data even multi cloud-based service is utilize by the service provider. Such illustrations aid to related naïve investigators to better understand the area of cloud computing and its associated issues under the working environment of real world.

In [31-35], authors denoted several detailed investigations over the associated issues of cloud computing specially under banking sector. The group of this research denoted that cloud computing aid banking sector in diverse ways and banks expand their client's satisfactions with adopting a cost cutting environment. Additionally, the group of authors has offered some of the naïve method for expanding the concern of cloud computing under the environment of banking sector. They have demonstrated that offered method significantly improve the issues of existing scheme and with them financial organization can offer better services to client with gaining a profit and trouble-free environment. Although they have illustrated the various benefits of cloud computing and their offered schemes but also denotes that adoption of such scheme associate several of issue that yet to remain for better solution.

## VII. CONCLUSION & FORTHCOMING ADVANCEMENT

This paper presents an investigation over cloud computing at its advantages, key related issues, and its selection in banking area. Although distributed computing is not a guileless region to examine in late time span as close going to every single individual utilize its advantages in day by day way of life. Distributed computing accomplished enormous development in financial institutions over recent many years and constantly its clients has builds step by step. Such development of this strategy will need to grow number of its shippers and the necessities to defeat its related issues in equal manner. With the conversation over distributed computing this paper features the issues of distributed computing that are key reason for moderate reception of this technique under financial institutions. With reception of hybrid framework of cloud computing the offerings of financial institution may extend in the coming time. Day by day related community of investigators offer a credulous technique to improve the QoS of cloud computing under banking domain. Immense sign of examiners is on the selection of hybrid cloud model, a model that guide banks to serve better services over cloud with maintaining the security and privacy worry of information. As measurements under a bank framework is one of

the most significant variables, subsequently banks consistently need to actualize their cloud to have equivalent and appropriate security framework. With the technological advancement banks offers mobile banking facility in ongoing time. They use different strategy for distributed computing for growing such administrations in better manners. Albeit mobile banking is one of the prominent services among the banking customers yet with the extensions of threats and hacking mechanisms gigantic customers comprise a wavering to embrace the hesitation of such plan. The headway in such territory expressively extend the QoS of banking framework.

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