

Using Open Standards for Interoperability

Issues, Solutions, and Challenges facing Cloud Computing

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Outline

- Obstacles to cloud adoption
- Standards Landscape for the Cloud
- Cloud Federations
- Focus on the Contrail system



Obstacles to Cloud Adoption: Trust and Dependability

- Need to increase confidence in clouds
 - Provide guarantees to customers
 - Quality of Service – QoS
 - Quality of Protection – QoP
- How to achieve this?
 - Service Level Agreements – SLA
 - Security enforcement – QoP
 - Performance guarantees
 - Monitoring
 - Auditing



Obstacles to Cloud Adoption: Interoperability and Portability

- Customers want to mitigate the risks and have higher flexibility based on business requirements
 - Applications should work the same way regardless of the Cloud platform
 - Applications should work identically in terms of functionalities
 - Data formats
- Problem more accentuated when moving from IaaS to PaaS



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Avoid vendor lock-in!



Interoperability & Portability

The case of IaaS

- One application and multiple providers

But

- Cloud applications made of virtual machines
- Different providers
 - different VM models
 - different image formats
 - different contextualization means
- Multi VM applications
 - different networking models
- Cloud storage
 - different cloud storage models
- Application migration or restart after checkpoint/snapshot
 - difficult to redeploy on a different provider



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What about

- Performance
- QoS, ...
- Placement
 - (anti-)affinity
 - localization
- Auditing
- Security
- ?



Lack of Trust & Interoperability

- Blocks elasticity and pay-as-you-go concepts
- May keep major players such as governments, healthcare and banking away from the Cloud

Interoperability needed for small players to enter the market

- Adaptation to different Cloud models is affordable for large companies



Standards Landscape for the Cloud

OVF (Open Virtualization Format) from DMTF: distributed applications packaging

CIMI (Cloud Infrastructure Management Interface) from DMTF: virtual infrastructure management

CDMI (Cloud Data Management Interface) from SNIA: interoperability of Cloud storage

OCCI (Open Cloud Computing Interface) from OGF: protocol and API for IaaS management tasks

WS-Agreement from OGF: Service Level Agreement negotiation and enforcement

UR (Usage Record) from OGF: resource usage

SAML (Security Assertion Markup Language) from OASIS: authentication and user attributes

...



Cloud Federations

Why Cloud Federations?

- Cloud brokering
- Cloud bursting
- Cloud aggregation
- Improve dependability: critical services on different providers
- Integrate domain-specific Cloud providers
- Select best offers to reduce costs
- Improve resource exploitation
- Combine resources from different cloud providers

Interoperability and Portability ease emergence of Cloud Federations



Federations Improve Cloud Accessibility

- Federation layer can select a provider from
 - Application description
 - ie. disk image type
 - Deployment constraints (SLAs)
- Protocol adaptation between user and provider
- Conversions between providers



Focus on Contrail Project

Objectives

- Manage cloud federations
 - IaaS and PaaS
- Service Level Agreements
- Main components
 - federation portal
 - SLA management: negotiation, enforcement at federation and provider levels
 - VEP, Virtual Execution Platform: application lifecycle on a Cloud provider.
 - deployment, elasticity, snapshots, ...
 - under SLA constraints: placement, QoP
 - ConPaaS, PaaS framework: bag-of-tasks, map-reduce, ...
 - VIN: application network
 - GAFS: storage on the Cloud
 - monitoring



Contrail Federation Overall Architecture

Application



VEP

A

A

A



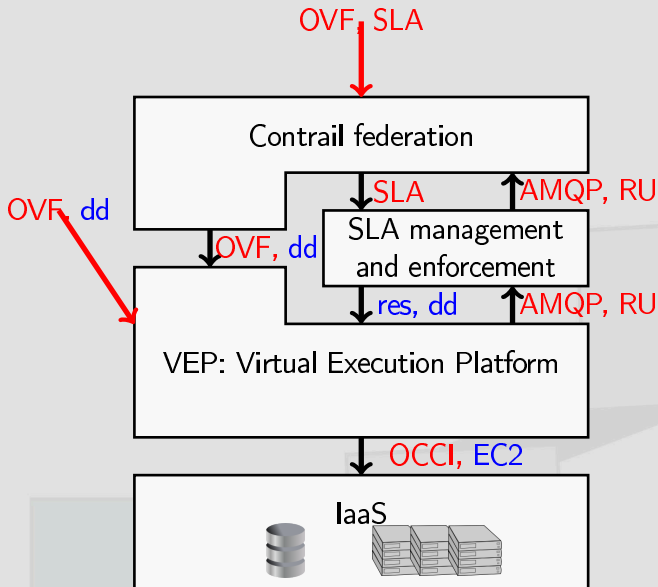
Standards in Contrail

Contrail exploits open standards and open protocols

- **OVF** for distributed application description
- **CDMI** for storage (partial support)
- **OCCI** for IaaS providers
 - libcloud, δ -Cloud?
- SLA management compatible with **WS-Agreement**
- VEP based on **CIMI** API
- User attribute management based on **SAML**
- Identity management: OAuth and Shibboleth
- **AMQP** for monitoring



Contrail Stack: Documents



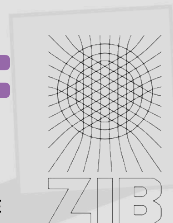
Conclusion

- Trust, interoperability and portability are important for Cloud adoption
- Contrail exploits standards when possible
- Standards improve interoperability
 - but standards do not always guarantee portability!
 - OCCI
 - WS-Agreement





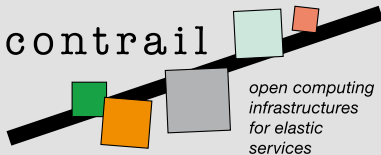
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Contrail is coordinated by Christine Morin, INRIA, France



contrail



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