ISSN: 1992-8645

www.jatit.org



# FOG COMPUTING AND SIMILAR DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING PARADIGMS: A REVIEW

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# ABSTRACT

Nowadays, Users are increasingly adopting Internet of Things-based gadgets, resulting in significant data creation. All IoT devices, whether they are appliances, sensors, actuators, or other gadgets, continuously generate data that is processed in the cloud. The ever-increasing volume of data can cause a variety of cloud-based bottlenecks, such as latency and bandwidth concerns. Cloud being a central computing unit suffer from bandwidth issues due an expanding number of IoT (Internet of Things) devices. Fog computing is a novel paradigm to address these challenges. It provides the storage, networking and computation facility near the data sources and helps in spanning the aperture between cloud and the end devices. This paper provides an overview of cloud computing and fog computing paradigms, some basic differences between them, technologies similar to them and a basic idea about different applications and tools used for fog assisted cloud architecture. In the end of this paper, by finding research gaps from the literature of Fog assisted cloud architecture, we will address some ongoing research issues and challenges in this field. **Keywords:** *Cloud Computing, Internet of Things, Edge computing, Fog Computing, Research Challenges* 

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Cloud Computing is the most widely used computing solution which has now replaced the computing paradigms such as cluster computing and grid computing. Nowadays, SMART is the commonly used prefix before any device we use from smart house, smart lights, smart meters, smart health monitoring devices to smart cars etc. Cloud Computing is a landmark development in technology that has made it possible to develop, deploy and execute various IoT solutions that can be used to shift the computing capabilities, controls, or store big amounts of data in a medium that has unlimited resources. This paradigm remains the leading solution to deploy applications that have high computational requirements and application mainly focused on the processing of huge volumes of data produced by the IoT devices such as meters, sensors, health monitoring devices, smartwatches, cameras, and smart vehicles. However, today due to the proliferation of IoT devices huge amounts of structured and unstructured data is being produced which cannot be harnessed by traditional databases [1] therefore, "Big Data Analytics" came into the picture. According to a Survey performed by "Transforma insights" number of Connected devices are increasing exponentially as shown in Figure 1.

This paradigm facilitates the storage and processing of this data but it fails to efficiently manage bandwidth issue and the requirements of those IoT applications which are either timesensitive or generating Big Data. This data generated has to be moved to the cloud for processing. The results are then communicated back to the respective devices. Given these facts, the need for an additional layer of computation was required. Therefore, different intermediate computation models were suggested by researcher from academia and industry. Some of these models are Mobile cloud computing, fog computing, edge computing, cloudlets and dew computing etc. Among all these computing models, fog computing is the most reliable and feasible solution. Fog Computing was introduced to do localized computing to decrease latency and bandwidth usage. Fog computing architecture is distributed in nature which doesn't only depend upon the central computing components but brings the computation, networking and storage capabilities near to the edge of the network. Specially, for applications which requires real time response, this paradigm has many advantages over cloud computing. We cannot deny the fact that cloud computing is the backbone of "fog assisted cloud architecture" because all the complex jobs are carried out at the cloud. Also, Fog layer may find

<u>30<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Vol.100. No 22</u> © 2022 Little Lion Scientific

# ISSN: 1992-8645



www.jatit.org

E-ISSN: 1817-3195

itself resource deprived for some applications. This layer doesn't have as much resources as the cloud has for storage and computation. Fog layer can only assist the cloud layer to process data for applications which are either time sensitive or situated at distant geographical locations where cloud data centers cannot be accessed. It is safer to state that instead of replacing cloud computing, fog computing complements or assists it.



Figure 1: Number Of Connected Devices In Billions

Cloud Computing facilitates the storage and processing of this data but it fails to efficiently manage bandwidth issues and the requirements of those IoT applications which are either timesensitive or generating Big Data. This data generated has to be moved to the cloud for processing. The results are then communicated back to the respective devices. Given these facts, the need for an additional layer of computation was required. Therefore, different intermediate computation models were suggested by researcher from academia and industry. Some of these models are Mobile cloud computing, fog computing, edge computing, cloudlets and dew computing etc. Among all these computing models. fog computing is the most reliable and feasible solution. Fog Computing was introduced to do localized computing to decrease latency and bandwidth usage. Fog computing architecture is distributed in nature which doesn't only depend upon the central computing components but brings the computation, networking and storage capabilities near to the edge of the network. Specially, for applications which requires real time response, this paradigm has many advantages over cloud computing. We cannot deny the fact that cloud computing is the backbone of "fog assisted cloud architecture" because all the complex jobs are carried out at the cloud. Also, Fog layer may find itself resource deprived for some applications. This layer doesn't have as much resources as the cloud has for storage and computation. Fog layer can only assist the cloud layer to process data for applications which are either time sensitive or situated at distant geographical locations where cloud data centers cannot be accessed. It is safer to state that instead of replacing cloud computing, fog computing complements or assists it.

Currently, the Fog computing model is in its infancy phase, so a lot more research is required to be done. Many research challenges are spawning due to omnipresent connectivity and diverse nature of organizations. Fog Computing model still has many queries to answer about resource management and service management in it. Research in the domain of fog assisted cloud architecture is carried out by deploying virtual and physical components as a research outcome. For Virtual components, proofof- concept is performed by using simulators like CloudSim iFogSim Toolkit, (Open-source simulation and modelling tools) etc. On the other hand, physical components are deployed and tested by using physical hardware like prototype models and testbeds [1].

This paper is arranged as follows: Section II provides the review of Cloud and Fog model definitions, characteristics and architecture. In Section III, we gave the overview of similar technologies and paradigms [2]. Section IV outlines the open issues and research gaps present in current literature. Finally, Section V concludes our survey and then references given in this paper are mentioned.

# 2 OVERVIEWS OF CLOUD AND FOG COMPUTING

This section gives an idea about Cloud and Fog Computing models

# A.Cloud Computing

Cloud is a glue that keeps technology, procedures, and personnel together while they create and innovate for delivering digital experiences to the clients. Cloud Computing is an advancement of information technology through which individuals, different small and large organizations can get ondemand IT resources for storage, application development, networking and computations. In cloud computing every user is not a custodian of the whole computing network, but draws service according to their demands just like electricity power grids. IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service), SaaS (Software as a Service), and PaaS (Platform as a Service) are the three core services offered by cloud computing (platform as a Service). Cloud

30<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Vol.100. No 22 © 2022 Little Lion Scientific

#### ISSN: 1992-8645

#### www.jatit.org



E-ISSN: 1817-3195

Generally used with IoT

computing was introduced around 2007 and since then it has changed the way the IT industry works. Through cloud computing, IT service girding model which was earlier product centric has now changed into a distributed and service centric model globally. Even those organizations who cannot afford money and operational expertise for computation and infrastructure for storage etc. are leveraging the Powerful services provisioned by cloud computing [3].

Leading ITC organizations, like Google, IBM, CISCO, Amazon, Novell, Sun, Dell, Oracle, HP and, Intel, have invested in cloud computing and provide individuals and business organizations different kinds of cloud computing services [4]. According to a survey conducted by Frost & Sullivan in 2019 it was stated that "92% US-based IT decision-makers said that the cloud is the most critical part of our digital transformation strategy." 93% agreed that their cloud strategy is "essential to remaining competitive in our industry." 85% cited "innovation" as a top corporate priority[1]. It's worthy to note that the IT industry is going through significant changes since last decade e.g., Increase in the number of IoT devices which are generating huge amounts of data continuously, have gave rise to the new term which is "Big Data ". Cloud computing has enhanced the working of different domains like Big Data Analytics, internet of things, Artificial intelligence etc. According to the statistics provided by CISCO By 2022, 50 percent of missioncritical applications will rely on public clouds [5]. There are three different types of clouds: Public Cloud, Private Cloud and Hybrid Cloud. In the public cloud the computing services are shared across organizations through the internet as medium. On the other hand, a private cloud is designated for a particular organization. Hybrid clouds have the best resources of both public and private clouds [6]. Cloud computing has been described in a variety of ways by various researchers. Some of the definitions given by researchers are mentioned in Table 1 below:

# a) **Definition of Cloud Computing:**

| Table 1: Definition of Cloud Comput | ing |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
|-------------------------------------|-----|

| Defined By | Characteristics  |  |  |  |
|------------|--|--|--|--|
| CISCO[5]   | <ul> <li>Convenient models to access<br/>infrastructure, platform, and<br/>software</li> </ul> |  |  |  |
|            | <ul> <li>pay-as-you-go basis</li> <li>secure and flexible</li> </ul>                           |  |  |  |

| IBM[7]       | <ul> <li>on-demand access, connected via<br/>the internet,</li> <li>offload some or most of the costs<br/>and efforts of purchasing,<br/>installing, configuring, and<br/>managing</li> <li>provides elasticity</li> <li>Improve agility and time-to-value</li> </ul> |
|--------------|---|
| Michele De   | On-demand self-service  |
| Donno et     | <ul> <li>Broad network access</li> </ul>  |
| al. [8]      | <ul> <li>Resource pooling</li> </ul>  |
|              | <ul> <li>Rapid elasticity</li> </ul>  |
|              | <ul> <li>Measured service</li> </ul>  |
| Mohamme      | <ul> <li>centralized high performance</li> </ul>  |
| d Al Yami et | computational platforms   |
| al. [9]      | <ul> <li>based on pay-as-you-go pricing</li> </ul>  |
|              | models  |
|              |   |
| Liang Yu et  | <ul> <li>high resource utilization,</li> </ul>  |
| ai. [10]     | <ul> <li>strong computing ability,</li> <li>bigb roliability.</li> </ul>  |
|              | <ul> <li>Ingriteliability,</li> <li>rapid elasticity</li> </ul>   |
| Proposed     | a virtualized pool of resources   |
| definition   | <ul> <li>a virtualized pool of resources</li> <li>on demand availability of</li> </ul>  |
| uennuon      | resources on navias you go basis  |
|              | <ul> <li>High reliability and elasticity</li> </ul>   |
|              | <ul> <li>No direct active management by</li> </ul>  |
|              | user  |
|              |   |

b) Architecture Cloud Computing: of Architecture of cloud computing is divided into two parts: front end and the back end [11]. Front end means what the end user can see and back end handles all the processing which takes place in the cloud. Many applications' specific architectures are present in the literature but basic or the conceptual architecture of Cloud computing comprises three layers: The End user layer, Middle layer and the Cloud layer. End user layer contains all the sensors, Smart devices and actuators etc. which constantly generates the data after sensing their surroundings. Middle Layer has all the networking devices which help in connecting end users to cloud. Finally, the cloud layer has virtual desktops, databases, Servers and different application software for processing the data. Figure 2 shows the high-level architecture of cloud computing paradigm. In the last decade, an increase in the number of IoT devices has demanded a Shift of computing from the conventionally used parallel, grid, and cloud computing to Fog assisted cloud computing [12]. Reasons for this paradigm shift are latency, bandwidth and security issues which started to arise due to huge amount of data generation by these IoT devices. Fog computing expands the

ISSN: 1992-8645

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cloud to the edge of the network for resolving all these issues.



Figure 2: Cloud Computing Architecture

# **B.** Fog Computing:

Fog computing is a distributed computing paradigm introduced by CISCO in 2012 to overcome the bottlenecks present in the cloud computing paradigm. Processing in Fog takes place closer to the network edge by seamless support of cloud computing. It harnesses computing provisions for IoT environments and real time applications. Transfer of data from all the connected devices to the cloud for processing results into two major challenges of storage and bandwidth requirements. Fog computing has come up as a solution for such problems.

Cloud or Fog alone cannot meet the computation requirements of today's world. Fog can only complement cloud for delivering better services. Cloud computing is the backbone of fog assisted cloud architecture. Many definitions of fog computing have been given by different researchers in different ways.

# a)Definition of Fog Computing:

•"It refers to a computing paradigm that uses interface kept close to the devices that acquire data. It introduces the facility of local processing leading to reduction in data size, lower latency, high throughput and thus power efficient systems" [13].

- "Fog computing is a network architecture that uses near-end user edge devices to accumulate a large amount of storage, communication, and computing resources that is used to carry out processing, control, configuration, measurement and management tasks" [14].
- "Fog Computing refers to a distributed computing paradigm that moves storage and computation usually near the end nodes of the network with the purpose of reducing the network overload and compute the gathered information as soon as possible. So that, the response time and the system performance improve" [15].

b) Architecture of Fog Computing: Architecture of fog computing model can vary from application to application. In our paper, we have given an overview of a three-layer traditional architecture of fog computing as shown in figure 3. Bottom layer of the framework is the end user layer which comprises different IoT devices, sensors, actuators, smart devices and smart phones etc. Middle tier of the framework is fog laver where multiple fog nodes are present. Devices like laptops, routers, gateways, Raspberry pi boards, base stations and proxy servers can act as the fog nodes. These fog nodes process the data near end user devices. In case a fog layer is resource deprived to process a particular request, then data is directly transferred to the cloud. Information sent to fog nodes may or may not be critical but a security mechanism needs to be implemented on the fog nodes [16]. There are several applications of fog computing (Especially real time applications) for example, Automated vehicles, augmented reality, fire detection or intrusion detection in smart homes, in smart healthcare, smart agriculture, smart parking systems or smart traffic light systems etc. Therefore, architecture of fog can vary from application to application.

There are some demerits of fog computing e.g., due to wireless connectivity, distributed network and battery-operated device's chance of failure are more in it. Also, Malicious software in fog node devices can go unnoticed by users. Therefore, a good security mechanism needs to be implemented on each fog nodes in order to prevent attacks.

ISSN: 1992-8645

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Cloud Fog Senices Fog Senices Fog Layer Private Server/ Cloud Private Server/ Cloud Private Server/ Cloud Districes Fog Computing Architecture

Figure 3: Architecture Of Fog Computing

Cloud computing will retain its job of doing complex computing tasks but when it comes to do small and time sensitive jobs, fog computing comes into the play. Fog cannot replace cloud but when its capabilities are integrated with cloud it can uplift computing services to a next level. There are different parameters to compare the working of cloud and fog [17],[18].

When the number of connecting devices increases, cloud alone cannot handle their requests efficiently. In such scenarios, cloud computing models will suffer from latency and bandwidth issues. However, Fog will come up with extra advantage of low latency and reduced bandwidth by processing these requests closer to the network edge.

# 3. OVERVIEW OF SIMILAR TECHNOLOGIES

Apart from cloud and fog computing there are many other similar technologies. Some of the computing paradigms which are overviewed in this paper are Edge Computing, Mobile Computing, Mobile Cloud Computing, Mobile ad hoc Cloud Computing, Mobile Edge Computing, Dew computing and Fog Dew Computing. Unlike cloud computing, IoT devices are not directly linked to the cloud for processing of data in the above-mentioned computing models. In these paradigms the end user devices are dependent on some intermediate devices, base stations or proxy servers for data computation [1].

# A. Edge Computing:

Edge computing is a new paradigm in which computing is done near the data source and edge devices takes part in the computation. In edge computing edge devices have the ability to distribute requests and to give response to users on the behalf of the cloud. This model has migrated the services of computing, storing, networking and resources to the edge of the network, so that it can fulfil the requirements real time businesses, security and privacy, data optimization of today's IT industry [19]. According to the reports by edge computing market size will increase from 2.98 billion in 2018 to 11.92 billion in 2026 as shown in the chart below.

# Edge Computing market Size Wordwide 2020-28



Edge Computing market Size Wordwide 2020-28

According to IBM "The global edge computing market is expected to reach USD 6.72 billion by 2022 at a compound annual growth rate of 35.4%". With numerous deployment models, edge computing is becoming more and more popular. The four types discussed below give one the operating area or domain based on the latency requirements. "Internet of things edge" process with minimum latency while "network edge" takes maximum time as shown in figure 4 below.

ISSN: 1992-8645

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Figure 4: Operation Domains Of Fog Computing

# **B.** Mobile Computing:

Since the 1990s, the fundamental concept of mobile computing has developed. Two-way radios have given way to this present communication technologies. Mobile computing enables users to send and receive data at a faster rate without any physical connections and links. Due to growing requirements of computation and storage mobile computing is no longer a viable solution to the compute and storage intensive applications. Portable computers, personal digital assistant (PDA), laptops, smart phones, wearables, mobile phones and tablet computers are used as the hardware for this distributed computing paradigm. Therefore, in comparison to cloud and fog, mobile computing is resource constraint. It is possible to build this paradigm without or with spotty internet connectivity. Devices are typically connected using Bluetooth, ZigBee, wi-fi, and cellular technologies. Mobility, location awareness and its distributed architecture are the main advantage of this paradigms but it doesn't support real time data analysis and virtualization etc. Along with performance there are security and privacy concerns also which can be resolved by implementing a security mechanism on the mobile devices itself.

A new paradigm called mobile cloud computing was introduced to address the drawbacks of mobile computing, shifting most of the computation to the cloud. Application area of mobile computing can be entertainment, education and Global Positioning System (GPS).

# C. Mobile Cloud Computing:

Mobile cloud computing is an integration of services offered by cloud and mobile environments. Number of mobile users is increasing at a fast pace due to its user-friendly interface. But mobiles are resource constrained devices which cannot perform computation and storage on its own. Therefore, the mobile cloud computing paradigm is introduced to meet the requirements of mobile users in which cloud services are availed by communication between cloud and mobile through the internet [20]. In mobile cloud computing, cloud-based applications installed in smartphones leverage the services of different clouds via wireless medium. Applications like Gmail, Dropbox etc. are examples of mobile cloud computing.

# D. Mobile Edge Computing:

Mobile edge computing is the outcome of a paradigm shift from mobile cloud computing. Services which were earlier provided by the cloud and now pushed to the network edges (e.g., servers, base stations or access points) so as to facilitate the real time and computation intensive applications on the mobiles [21]. In this paradigm edge nodes can not only communicate but can also help each other in computation. Task offloading at edge nodes can make this paradigm more efficient for time critical applications [22].

# E. Mobile ad hoc Cloud Computing:

The most decentralized type of network is an ad hoc mobile network, which is made up of nodes (Mobile devices) that use routing and transport protocols to create a transient, dynamic network which is always capable of removing and joining new nodes to it. Unlike cloud computing there is no centralized cloud. Ad hoc networks of mobile devices itself act as the compute and storage resource. This computing paradigm is different from the cloud computing and mobile computing models because it is resource deficient in comparison to these paradigms as it is using only mobile devices as hardware. Therefore, it cannot handle those applications which require a lot of computation and storage. Unlike fog computing there is no hard and fast requirement of internet connectivity. General applications leveraging this computing model can be group videos live streaming and Automated cars.

# F. Mist Computing:

Generally, mist can be understood as fog closer to the ground. Similarly, mist layer in the cloud fog continuum could be placed below fog layer and closed to the end users or sensor devices. All the data is pre-processed on this layer before passing it on the upper layers i.e., fog and cloud. Because processing units in this paradigm can also be other than mobile phones, mist computing can

#### ISSN: 1992-8645

<u>www.jatit.org</u>



E-ISSN: 1817-3195

be viewed as a superset of the mobile ad hoc cloud computing paradigm. The mist layer, which is the second layer in the computing model for IoT devices, is where data filtering, data aggregation, data mining, and other pre-processing tasks are carried out in accordance with predetermined rules to prevent bandwidth and time wastage by sending only useful data to the upper layers[3]. Applications that need high throughput and are sensitive to latency can use this computing. Smart transportation management and smart medical services can be the two possible mist computing application areas.

#### G. Cloud of Things:

Cloud of things is a concept quite similar to the mist computing model. In mist computing model network of different IoT devices were acting as a cloud to process data by message exchange etc., but there was no concept of resource pooling by the IoT devices. But Contrary to Mist Computing, Cloud of Things model make use of resources pooled by the IoT devices for carrying out processing.

In Cloud of thing model, cloud basically use the sensing ability of sensors as its service.

# H. Dew Computing:

According to **Zorislav sojat**[23] "Dew-Computing is responsible for the layer of devices which are below the Edge of Internet, and which are directly responsible for specific physical aspects of our environment." Dew computing enables ground level devices such as sensors, Mobile phones and laptops which are connected to the internet. Fog computing is for time sensitive applications but dew computing is good for day-to-day jobs. Unlike fog computing, it doesn't need cloud or other centralized systems [1].



Figure 5: Venn Diagram for Different Computing Paradigms

# I. Fog Dew Computing:

Fog-dew computing provides facilities without any internet connection i.e., in offline mode (exceptions are present). For instance, Waze is a navigation application that permits users to navigate in offline mode as well. A few days back, Google map has also incorporated this service in it. This service downloads a map information file of a particular area to the device of the user and permits him to navigate even without internet connection. However, this paradigm doesn't not purely support the offline mode. Once the device is connected to the internet it will sync itself with the internet

#### 4. COMPARISON BETWEEN DIFFERENT COMPUTING PARADIGMS:

Discussion in the last section has stated details about different computing paradigms related to their architecture, advantages, disadvantages and use cases. Each of them has advantages and disadvantages of their own, and different paradigms are appropriate for different use cases. As

demonstrated in the preceding sections of this work, there is no such globally accepted separation between fog computing and related computing paradigms across scholars and industry. Researcher and industries sometimes use names of these paradigms exchange ably. In this review article, we make an effort to state fundamental differences between fog computing and other similar related computing paradigms. Nevertheless, in the present IoT and connected smart device scenario, due to extensive integration with cloud and closeness to the end devices, fog computing is appropriate for a wide range of application. Although it might not be suitable for some of applications which have sparse network topology etc., but for all the data- driven applications which require low latency responses, this computing paradigm is best. In this review article, we make an effort to define the differences between fog computing and other similar computing paradigms. Fig shows overlapping between characteristics of different computing models through Venn diagram. Cloud computing is a superset which is assisted by fog computing mode to functionalities and overcome enhance its disadvantages. Table 2 provides a theoretical comparison of the fog and other similar computing paradigms. After studying all the tables and diagrams it is concluded that fog paradigm is most suitable paradigms to optimize the quality parameters of different applications. Therefore, will

# Journal of Theoretical and Applied Information Technology <u>30<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Vol.100. No 22</u> © 2022 Little Lion Scientific



ISSN: 1992-8645

www.jatit.org

primarily survey and analyze applications, research trends, and challenges in the literature on fog computing in the next sections of this paper.

|                              | Table 2: 7  | Theoretical Co   | omparison bo  | etween Simi   | lar Computii   | ng Models   |   |
|------------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|
|                              | CC  | FC   | EC  | МС  | MCC  | MACC  | Mist<br>Computing   |
| Application<br>Areas         | <ul> <li>Big Data<br/>Analytics,</li> <li>PaaS, IaaS,<br/>SaaS</li> <li>Developme<br/>nt and<br/>Testing</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Software<br/>Defined<br/>Network</li> <li>Smart cities,<br/>Smart Grids,<br/>Smart<br/>Transportati<br/>on etc.,</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Automated<br/>vehicles</li> <li>Content<br/>Delivery<br/>Networks</li> <li>Remote<br/>monitoring</li> <li>Caching</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Multimed</li> <li>ia</li> <li>Applicatio</li> <li>ns</li> <li>Gaming</li> <li>Navigatio</li> <li>n services</li> <li>(GPS)</li> <li>Mobile</li> <li>utility</li> <li>application</li> <li>s</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Interactive<br/>Experience</li> <li>Commerce</li> <li>Social<br/>media</li> </ul>                           | <ul> <li>Automated<br/>video<br/>surveillance<br/>system</li> <li>Video live<br/>streaming</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Secure<br/>and<br/>scalable<br/>architectur<br/>e for Smart<br/>health etc.,</li> <li>Parallel<br/>computatio<br/>n</li> </ul> |
| Application<br>Types         | High<br>computation,<br>storage   | delay<br>Sensitive and<br>high<br>computation  | Low latency<br>and<br>computation   | Mobile<br>processing,<br>distributed  | High<br>computation  | Ample<br>computation<br>but less delay  | Distributed computing   |
| Computing<br>Resources       | High  | Average  | Average   | low   | High   | Limited   | Limited   |
| Distance<br>from end<br>user | Far   | Relatively<br>Close  | Close   | Very Close  | Far  | Very Close  | Very Close  |
| Architectur<br>e             | Hierarchical<br>and<br>Centralized  | Distributed  | Distributed<br>and local  | Distributed<br>and local  | Centralized<br>for cloud and<br>distributed<br>for mobiles   | Distributed   | Distributed<br>and local  |
| No. of<br>Server<br>nodes    | Few   | More   | -   | -   | Few  | More  | More  |
| Service<br>Area              | Within the internet   | Within<br>Internet till<br>fog layer   | Local<br>network  | Local   | Within the internet  | Local   | Local   |
| Real Time<br>Support         | Comparativel<br>y less  | yes  | yes   | No  | No   | No  | No  |
| Advantages<br>Disadvantag    | <ul> <li>High<br/>Computatio<br/>n and<br/>storage<br/>capacity</li> <li>Scalable</li> <li>Delaved</li> </ul>       | <ul> <li>Low<br/>bandwidth,<br/>latency.</li> <li>Distributed<br/>processing</li> <li>Security and</li> </ul>                        | <ul> <li>Less<br/>transmissio<br/>n time, cost</li> <li>More<br/>secure</li> <li>Scalable</li> <li>More</li> </ul>                    | <ul> <li>Location<br/>flexibility</li> <li>Simple to<br/>convey</li> <li>Distribute<br/>d<br/>computing</li> <li>Battery</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Flexibility</li> <li>Multiple<br/>Platform<br/>support</li> <li>Cost<br/>Efficient</li> <li>Data</li> </ul> | Can<br>operate<br>autonomous<br>ly with no or<br>small<br>internet<br>access     No real              | <ul> <li>Helps in<br/>local<br/>decision<br/>making</li> <li>Scalable</li> <li>Cost<br/>effective</li> <li>Performs</li> </ul>          |
| e                            | responses<br>• Higher<br>bandwidth,<br>Power<br>Requiremen<br>ts<br>• No Offline<br>Support                         | privacy<br>issues<br>• No offline<br>support<br>• Relative to<br>cloud less<br>resources   | Infrastructu<br>re Cost<br>• Data loss  | issue<br>• Low<br>availability<br>• Small<br>Screen size<br>• Limited<br>bandwidth  | Security<br>• Performan<br>ce Issues   | time and<br>virtualizatio<br>n support  | light<br>weight<br>computatio<br>n only<br>• Security<br>and privacy<br>issues  |
| Virtualizatio<br>n Support   | present   | present  | Absent  | Absent  | Absent   | Absent  | Absent  |

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ISSN: 1992-8645

www.jatit.org



E-ISSN: 1817-3195

#### **Applications of Fog Computing:**

Many data-intensive sectors find fog computing to be an appealing solution due to its variety of attributes, including low latency, reduced bandwidth usage, security, increased efficiency and enhanced user experiences as listed in figure 6 below.



**Healthcare:** With the use of fog computing it becomes earsier for medical professional to access Electrical Medical Report(EMR). Additionally, fog computing enables eHealth to give speedy solutions for critical medical situations. There can be health tracker applications based on fog paradigm.

**Smart Homes:** There are different IoT devices which helps in home automation like voice assistance, smat lightnings, smart refrigrators, smart air conditioning etc., if these devices are getting their data processed on fog computing layer then definitely it will reduces the cost time and bandwidth usage.

Smart Industries: Automation of industries have lead to the usage of smart tools, robots, machines. Security and privacy issues, energy manaement, Fault tolrance and product deployment are some of the cocerns of smart industries which are taken care by fog computing in a very well manner. Big Data Analytics: Fog facilitates in replication and maintainance of the meta data

**Big Data Analytics:** Fog facilitates in replication and maintainance of the **meta data** for further integration with real-time information. Fog aids in the processing of high velocity and large volume data streams that require frequent responses. Also, Fog layer may be used for **data archival** of preprocessed data which further can be used for training purpose.

Augmented Reality : Fog computing is used to train the machine learning and imitation learning algorithm and collect environmental data that may be required by Augmented reality applications.

**Smart Vehicles:** With the introduction of next-generation self driving vehicles, need for understanding and reacting to these processing requirements has grown.

Fog computing enables these vehicles to use a common set of systems to provide a quick response and improved user experiene.



**Disaster Management**: Detecting an emergency incident; disseminating event-related information; contacting hospitals, ambulances, and concerned staff; and developing and carrying out an action plan

# Figure 6: Uses case of Fog Paradigm

# 5. TOOLS TO SIMULATE RESEARCH SOLUTIONS IN FOG ENVIRONMENT:

Simulation enables you to study 'what if' situations and Challenges without putting the system through testing. There are numerous simulators and emulators to Implement solutions to the problems present in fog cloud environment. These are based on various platforms and programming languages. But, none of them are particularly effective at dealing with diverse challenges. Different simulators are useful in different types of situations. Furthermore, all of the simulators described in the literature have not been updated, and some of them contain obsolete technologies. Simulators can be categorised based on software metrics (language, lines of code, mobility, scalability, energy and cost modelling, infrastructure entities, and so on) or implementation attributes (Core simulator, last update, simulator type etc.). Some of the simulators fundamental include CloudSim, iCanCloud, OMNET++, PiFogBed, and FogTorch, from which further simulators such as FogNetSim++, FogTorchPi, MobFogSim, FogWorkFlowSim, iFogSim, and others are derived

#### 6. MAJOR RESEARCH CHALLENGES OF FOG ASSISTED CLOUD COMPUTING PARADIGM

In this section, we have listed numerous research difficulties and future directions that are prevalent in the fog computing sector. The table below provides a summary of prevailing research challenge. The advancement of architectural designs, algorithms, or techniques might be considered a research part of the fog aided cloud

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#### ISSN: 1992-8645

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E-ISSN: 1817-3195

computing model. In this paper, we looked at the potential for algorithmic research. Using six more categories. including resource scheduling, resource allocation, application placement, load balancing, task offloading, and resource provisioning, we can further categories algorithms. To address these NP-hard issues, academic and industrial researchers employ a variety of heuristic and meta-heuristic optimization strategies, but there is always room for improvement. Details including research gaps about Some of the recent research studies are populated in the table below for a reference for the future researchers.

#### 7. TOOLS TO SIMULATE RESEARCH SOLUTIONS IN FOG ENVIRONMENT:

Simulation enables you to study 'what if' situations and Challenges without putting the system through testing. There are numerous simulators and emulators to Implement solutions to the problems present in fog cloud environment. These are based on various platforms and programming languages. But, none of them are particularly effective at dealing with diverse challenges. Different simulators are useful in different types of situations. Furthermore, all of the simulators described in the literature have not been updated, and some of them contain obsolete technologies. Simulators can be categorised based on software metrics (language, lines of code, mobility, scalability, energy and cost modelling, infrastructure entities, and so on) or implementation attributes (Core simulator, last update, simulator type etc.). Some of the

fundamental simulators include CloudSim, iCanCloud, OMNET++, PiFogBed, and FogTorch, which further simulators such from as FogNetSim++, FogTorchPi, MobFogSim, FogWorkFlowSim, iFogSim, and others are derived

# 8. MAJOR RESEARCH CHALLENGES OF FOG ASSISTED CLOUD COMPUTING PARADIGM

In this section, we have listed numerous research difficulties and future directions that are prevalent in the fog computing sector. The table below provides a summary of prevailing research challenge. The advancement of architectural designs, algorithms, or techniques might be considered a research part of the fog aided cloud computing model. In this paper, we looked at the potential for algorithmic research. Using six more categories, including resource scheduling, resource allocation, application placement, load balancing, task offloading, and resource provisioning, we can further categories algorithms. To address these NP-hard issues, academic and industrial researchers employ a variety of heuristic and meta-heuristic optimization strategies, but there is always room for improvement. Details including research gaps about Some of the recent research studies are populated in the table 3 below for a reference for the future researchers.

|           | Table 3 : Research Gaps in Current Literature of Fog Computing |   |  |   |   |  |  |
|-----------|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Sr.<br>No | Refer<br>ence  | Algorithm                               | QoS metrices   | Simulation  | Limitations   |  |  |
| 1         | [23]<br>2020   | schedule fit<br>algorithm               | Service response time,<br>service failure<br>probability                                   | CloudSim  | Concept of sub tasks are not considered   |  |  |
| 2         | [24]<br>2020   | (I-FASC),<br>(I-FA)                     | resource utilization,<br>processing time, load<br>balancing                                | Real implementation<br>(Using Alibaba Cloud<br>Server)  | Energy utilization and processing time are not considered.  |  |  |
| 3         | [25]<br>2021   | AHP, TOPSIS<br>algorithm                | MIPS, RAM & storage,<br>latency, bandwidth of<br>uplink and downlink,<br>reliability, cost | iFogSim,<br>Also evaluated in real<br>condition as well | Execution and response time can<br>be minimized further   |  |  |
| 4         | [26]<br>2021   | Static, Dynamic<br>Genetic<br>Algorithm | Reduction in Deadline<br>misses  | iFogSim   | Module mapping can be done by<br>considering resource utilization<br>metrics.   |  |  |
| 5         | [27]<br>2022   | Mob MBAR                                | Total Schedule time,<br>make-span, energy<br>consumption                                   | Implementation using<br>Real testbed                    | Only stationary IoT devices are<br>taken care in this study. As a<br>future work 'mobility'<br>characteristic can also be<br>considered |  |  |

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| ISSN: 1992-8645 |              |   | www  | E-ISSN: 1817-3195   |  |
|-----------------|--------------|---|--|---|--|
| 6               | [28]<br>2020 | NA  | Resource utilization,<br>Cost                          | C programming language.                                       | mean response time increased just marginally   |
| 7               | [29]<br>2019 | Individual<br>Component<br>Algorithm                                  | Latency reduction                                      | iFogSim   | More communication constraints<br>and computing layers can be<br>considered.   |
| 8               | [30]<br>2020 | CAG task<br>scheduling<br>algorithm                                   | Cost, network<br>congestion and delay                  | iFogSim   | Bag of task workload model is<br>assumed in this study. As a future<br>work dependent tasks can be<br>there in workload.   |
| 9               | [31]<br>2021 | CASSIA-INT<br>Algorithm and<br>CASSIA-RR<br>Algorithm                 | Make-span of schedule                                  | Java programming,   | CASSIA-RR gives approximate<br>results and not the exact one.<br>More number of resources can be<br>required because different<br>services are using fog layers to get<br>processed. |
| 10              | [32]<br>2019 | Linguistic and<br>Fuzzy logic<br>method                               | Processing time and<br>energy usage                    | MATLAB is used for<br>performing Numerical<br>simulation      | As a future work distributed<br>scheduling of services can be<br>achieved  |
| 11              | [33]2<br>021 | AEOSSA<br>algorithm based<br>on Salp Swarm<br>Optimization            | Make span duration and throughput                      | MATLAB R2018b.  | multi-objective optimization<br>variant of AEOSSA can be<br>developed in which monetary<br>costs and energy parameters can<br>also be assumed.                                       |
| 12              | [34]<br>2020 | Real time<br>randomized<br>algorithm using<br>power of two<br>choices | Computation cost,<br>deadline violation cost           | MATLAB  | Concept of dependencies between<br>task is not assumed. Also, energy<br>usage and other costs like<br>communication cost can be<br>considered as a future research<br>work.          |
| 13              | [35]<br>2021 | PMTSF   | Power consumption and total delay                      | Problem is<br>implemented in java<br>programming<br>language. | More performance parameters can be taken in account.   |
| 14              | [36]<br>2020 | EoMS<br>algorithm   | Energy consumption<br>and makespan                     | Fog-WorkflowSim   | User preferences can also be<br>incorporated while reducing<br>energy, cost and makespan   |
| 15              | [37]<br>2020 | Task<br>Scheduling<br>Algorithm                                       | Makespan, resource utilization                         | Java programming<br>Language                                  | More QoS parameters can be<br>taken care while designing<br>algorithm  |
| 16              | [38]<br>2021 | МНМРА   | Flow time, carbon<br>emission rate, Power,<br>makespan | iFogSim   | As a future research work Marine<br>predator Algorithm for other<br>challenges like DNA assembly<br>problem can be used.   |

On the basis of literature following are some of the major research issues in fog computing:

- **Caching**: Caching is the technique of keeping frequently used data in the proximity of the processor. Similarly, in case of fog assisted cloud computing to avoid the condition of backhaul congestion, intelligent caching techniques are required.
- *Fault tolerance*: Architecture of fog nodes is distributed in nature and it uses wireless connections. So, chances of node failure are more [39].
- *Security and privacy:* Security and privacy is a major concern for this architecture.

Data passes through a large number of hops while transferred from the IoT layer to the cloud which can be risky for the sensitive information. On the other hand, fog layer has multiple participant nodes which need a good authentication system [40].

• **Data management:** Data is generated from different kinds of devices and sensors and this data can be structured, unstructured or semi structured. So, it needs efficient algorithms and protocols to handle this data. Also, Segregation of data on the basis of allocation to fog or cloud nodes for processing is also an area of research.

ISSN: 1992-8645

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is critical to identify the criteria that influence efficacy of offloading. In fog computing, real-time data analysis is crucial for application offloading [44][45]. Therefore, dynamic Task offloading algorithms can help better in determining the frequency and efficiency of Application offloading.

# 9. CONCLUSION:

Cloud computing and other similar computing paradigms have accelerated the pace of advancement in digital transformations. Different sectors including industries, smart cities, healthcare, education, manufacturing, and government are leveraging from this technology. Researchers have proposed various computing paradigms. Two most prominent computing paradigms that are Cloud and Fog computing are overviewed in this paper. However, a brief discussion about edge computing, dew computing, Mobile cloud computing and Mobile edge computing has also been given. From the perspective of different use cases, fog assisted cloud computing provides a richer platform and feasible computing solution. Edge computing differs from fog computing due to the location of nodes placement in the network. Research in the domain of Fog assisted cloud computing is still immature. Therefore, lots of research under this domain is required. Different issues and challenges which still persist in Fog assisted cloud computing are mentioned in this research paper. We believe that this paper will help in understanding the concept of computing

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- Placement of application: Application placement algorithms, which assign microservices to fog nodes, are core aspects in fog computing as they affect the overall efficiency of the system in terms of energy consumption, communication costs, load management, and other variables [41]. Availability of resources, Interdependencies between different application modules, Response time for latency sensitive applications, Single or multiple task placements etc., are the main areas of concern while placing an application on fog node.
- **Resource management**: Resource allocation, sharing and scheduling in fog nodes is also an area which always have a scope of improvement. There are different kinds of resources which includes Communication, Computation and storage resources [42]. Various academics have suggested algorithms to manage resources in fog while taking into account various quality of service characteristics. However, very few studies have taken into account all of the variables at the same time.
- **Device** Authentication: A number of devices requests to connect to the cloud or fog nodes. In order to prevent security threats, devices need to be authenticated.
- *Heterogeneity:* The heterogeneity issue arises due to the IoT layer in fog computing model consisting of multiple end devices such as a smart tv, smartphone, surveillance cameras, different kinds of sensor node, smart objects like automated vehicles, and smart home gadgets. Also, each fog layer is made up of routers, switches, gateways, and other devices with varying computing and communication capabilities. As a result, heterogeneity becomes a significant design consideration in fog computing architecture [43].
- *Task offloading:* For balancing the load among different fog nodes efficient task offloading algorithms can be a future research area. While offloading any task, it

E-ISSN: 1817-3195





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