

A MULTILEVEL PRINCIPAL COMPONENT ANALYSIS BASED QOS AWARE SERVICE DISCOVERY AND RANKING FRAMEWORK IN MULTI-CLOUD ENVIRONMENT

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ABSTRACT

With the rapid increase in the utilization of the cloud services, various cloud service providers are keeping their efforts in the design and development of the Quality of Service (QoS) aware composite services that satisfy the user preferences. QoS aware cloud service discovery and selection is considered as an NP-hard problem due to the existence of similar cloud services in different cloud environments. Existing cloud service selection mechanisms adopt the procedure of calculating the weighted summation of the QoS attributes to select cloud services. But due to the lack of correlation between the QoS preferences of the cloud service, these approaches may produce inaccurate results. In this paper, a multilevel principal component analysis (PCA) based service selection mechanism is proposed to discover and rank the services based on the user preferences in a multi-cloud environment. Modified PCA based service agent is deployed to select the services on analyzing the QoS correlations of each service. Finally, the experimental results show that our proposed mechanism outperforms the existing service selection techniques in terms of computation time and reduction of discovery overhead.

Keywords: *Cloud Computing, Service Ranking, Principal component analysis, cloud service selection, Quality of service*

1. INTRODUCTION

Cloud Computing plays a vital role in current generation computing scenario due to its proliferation of services that are made available for the users of both commercial and domestic segments. In general, different cloud service providers are offering similar cloud services to users with the variation in Quality of Service (QoS) parameters. In this context selection of appropriate cloud services based on the user requirement in multi-cloud environment is considered to be NP-Hard problem.

The significant growth in the usage of the IaaS enhances proliferation of the cloud services that improve the economic feasibility in the deployment of the cloud services depending on the request of the client. Service provider selection and service discovery play a vital role in real-time business activity based on the service request from the client. Optimal service

selection from the vast range of similar services offered by different cloud service providers is considered as a major challenge in the context of cloud service composition. Atomic services obtained from various services providers are integrated to develop novel applications based on the client request.

The rapid growth in the number of similar cloud services over the internet made cloud service selection a complex problem in the context of service composition. Selection of cloud service on considering its QoS parameters based on the analysis of the functional and non-functional of the client request become a research focus in the field of cloud service composition[12]. Many researchers have proposed different frameworks and solutions based on multi-criteria decision-making models (MCDM) approaches. This article proposes an enhanced multilevel mathematical model to evaluate the QoS parameters of various similar atomic services and

rank the available services based on their matching level towards the service request. Optimal service selection and reducing the discovery overhead, computation time with a significant reduction in the total number of the candidate services are considered as the main objective of this work.

Recent research studies [1-3] indicate that most of the service selection strategies are developed based on the weighted summation, that aggregate various aspect of the QoS parameters of cloud service to identify the best service as per the user preference [6]. Studies in [8-10] specifically address the service composition models in which they demonstrated the quality of service aggregate models to evaluate QoS of each candidate service to form an optimized composite service. It is observed that there is no significant reduction in the number of candidate services and computation time in the context of evaluating the QoS parameters and selecting the best service. To reduce the discovery overhead and a number of candidate services initially QoS values of cloud services are clustered using Principal component analysis (PCA). To the best of our knowledge, none of the work has been carried out based on our proposed work in developing a multilevel model for cloud service selection using modified PCA.

In this work, the term frequency and inverse document frequency (TF-IDF) algorithm are utilized to filter the atomic services obtained from the multi-cloud environment based on the service request and further to evaluate the similarity ratio of the cloud services cosine similarity is performed. The main purpose of the usage of PCA is to identify the correlation among the QoS attributes that not only causes high computational complexity but also leads to computational error. Therefore there is a need for a novel framework that reduces the computational complexity and correlations among the QoS attributes. This work utilizes a modified PCA to analyze the QoS attributes and further rank the selected cloud services based on user preference. The main contributions of this work include the significant reduction in the rate of service discovery overhead and computation time, as the number of the candidate services are reduced this approach ensures the optimality in the selection of the best service based on the service request [13-15].

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 provides a glimpse of the related work

in the context of service discovery and selection approaches in a multi-cloud environment. Section 3 details the proposed framework and implementation sequence of the mathematical model. Section 4 illustrates the results and discussions of the proposed mechanism. Finally, Section 5 concludes the work with further directions.

2. RELATED WORK

As the inappropriate cloud service selection may affect the QoS parameters of the composed cloud service, service discovery and selection is considered to be a vital aspect in the context of service composition from many years [16-19]. Several research studies have adopted different strategies in solving the problem of service composition by selecting appropriate services based on user QoS preferences.

In [4] Tasaka et al. proposed a model that make use of the principal component analysis that analyzes the quality of service parameters in terms of a multimedia transmission network. In their studies and experiments, the method is proven to be effective but such method until now has not been used for cloud service selection. Further, in [8] the author proposed an effective and efficient QoS-aware cloud service selection approach for service composition. In this work, the researcher has adopted the cloud model to extract reliable services on calculating the uncertainty value of the pruning redundant cloud services.

In Zeng et al. [7] author has implemented the service selection strategy based on the QoS ratings availed from the cloud service requestors without considering the context. Skoutas et al. in [6] the QoS requirements are clustered and detailed into multiple classes based on their QoS parameters like price, reliability, accessibility and computation time. Arasi et al. in [5] have developed a discriminant analysis model based on the success rate of the services.

Lin et al. [11] in his work made an attempt to enhance the trustworthiness in the service composition model on considering the previous QoS records of the cloud services instead of using the QoS values proposed by the cloud service provider. In specific, this approach is based on the QoS weighted summation.

Most of the research studies [14,16,19] addressed the problem of cloud service selection in a single cloud environment whereas in the real-time

scenario it is observed that different cloud service providers like Google, IBM blue Mix, Amazon etc. are offering similar cloud services with variation in the QoS parameters like cost, response time and availability this context motivated the researchers towards cloud service composition in multicloud environment. The advances in service computing enable the orchestration of cloud services from various

cloud service providers in which the discovery of the appropriate cloud services in different clouds based on user QoS requirements plays a key role. This context motivated the author to propose a hybrid PCA based framework for appropriate service selection. The main objective is to develop a model that discover the best cloud service from available set of similar service based on user QoS constraints.

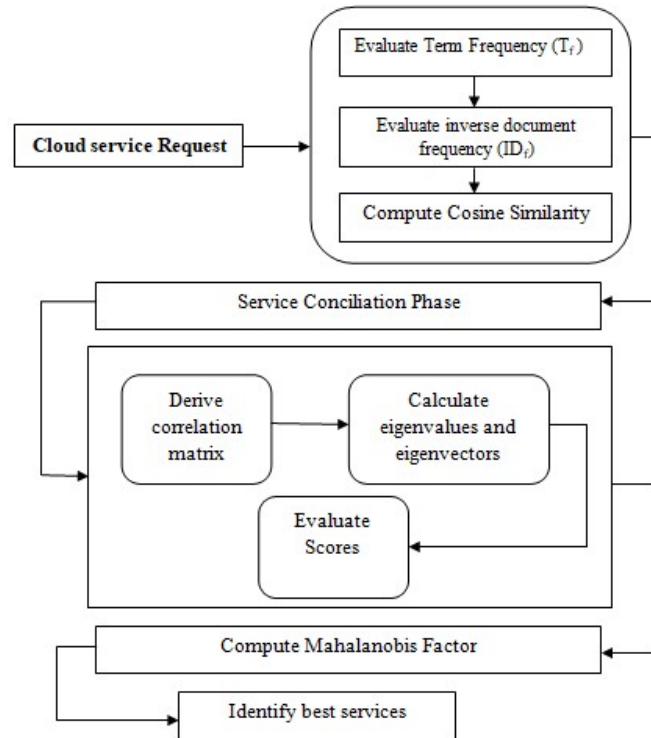


Figure 1: Proposed ML-PCA-SC Framework

3. ML-PCA BASED SERVICE SELECTION MECHANISM

A Multilevel principal component analysis based QoS evaluating framework is developed to analyze the properties of similar cloud services in multi-cloud domain environments. The key phases of the framework include evaluating the term frequency (T_f) and inverse document frequency (ID_f) of the request generated by the service requestor and compute the cosine similarity of the same. Further, in the next level, a PCA based QoS selection and the ranking mechanism is employed to rank the services based on their QoS relevance. The framework of the proposed system is shown in Figure 1.

3.1 Service Discovery In A Multi-Cloud Environment

The multi-cloud environment enables the user to select desired services from diverse clouds. To discover similar cloud services based on the service request, the evaluation of the $T_f * ID_f$ is performed along with cosine similarity to calculate the similarity score of the services and generate the filtered service set on applying the thresholds related to the service

request. The steps involved in the service discovery phase are detailed below:

Step 1: Evaluate Term Frequency (T_f)

Each service term in the multi-cloud environment is assigned with a weight based on its frequency of the occurrence in the service request generated by the service requester. As a result of evaluating the term frequency, the frequency measure will enlist the services based on the service request but, due to the constraint of variation in the size of web service description language (WSDL) the concept of normalization is employed to normalize the size of the service description.

Step 2: Evaluate Inverse Document Frequency (ID_f)

In the context of identifying similar services to the service request, Step 1 is implemented only based on matching the service terms involved in the service request. But in the real-time consequences, few service terms seem to be trivial while matching service request. To overcome such cases there is a need weighing the service terms up and down to retrieve the relevant services from a multi-cloud environment using Equation 1.

$$ID_f^{c_i s_i}(\text{Service term}_i) = 1 + \log_e \left(\frac{\text{Total number of service terms in cloud services}}{\text{number of service terms matched with request}} \right) \quad (1)$$

Aggregate and compute ID_f for every service term in the request from various services collected from a multi-cloud environment using Equation 2 is applied for every cloud service for instance, $c_0 s_1, c_0 s_2, \dots, c_0 s_n$ to $c_n s_n$.
 $\text{Service term}_1 = ID_f^{c_1 s_1}(\text{Service term}_1) + \dots$

$$\begin{aligned} &+ ID_f^{c_1 s_2}(\text{Service term}_1) + \dots \\ &+ ID_f^{c_n s_n}(\text{Service term}_1) \\ \text{Service term}_2 &= ID_f^{c_1 s_1}(\text{Service term}_2) + \\ &ID_f^{c_1 s_2}(\text{Service term}_2) + \dots + \\ &ID_f^{c_n s_n}(\text{Service term}_2) \\ &\vdots \\ \text{Service term}_n &= ID_f^{c_1 s_1}(\text{Service term}_n) + \\ &ID_f^{c_1 s_2}(\text{Service term}_n) + \dots + ID_f^{c_n s_n}(\text{Service term}_n) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Further, Compute $T_f * ID_f$ to evaluate optimal weighting factor for various service term frequency with the inverse service term frequency included in every cloud.

Step 3: Compute Cosine Similarity:

Initially, as the vector quantity is originated from each service, the group of similar services obtained from multiple clouds is considered to be vector space and to quantify the similarity rate

among any two services Equation 3 and 4 can be applied.

Cosine Similarity ($c_0 s_1, c_1 s_2$) =

$$\text{Dot Product} \left(\frac{(c_0 s_1, c_1 s_2)}{||c_0 s_d|| * ||c_1 s_d||} \right) \quad (3)$$

Where, $c_0 s_1$ and $c_1 s_2$ are the similar cloud services obtained from Clouds c_0 and c_1 respectively and $c_0 s_d$ and $c_1 s_d$ are the service descriptions of the services obtained from c_0 and c_1 .

Evaluation of similarity scores between the services is computed using Equation 4.

$$\text{Dot Product}(c_0 s_1, c_1 s_2) = c_0 s_1[0] * c_1 s_2[0] + c_0 s_1[1] * c_1 s_2[1] + \dots + c_0 s_1[n] * c_1 s_2[n] \quad (4)$$

3.2 Service Conciliation Phase

The main objective of this phase is to identify the candidate cloud service providers (CS_p) depending on the service request generated by the cloud service requestor (CS_R) that generates an input for PCA based QoS analysis model. In this context initially, we need to evaluate QoS dimensions for the service enabled by CS_p. It is to be identified whether the cloud service enabled by CS_p includes all the QoS parameters enabled by CS_R. Equation 5 evaluates the QoS dimensions between the CS_p and CS_R.

$$D_m(CS_p, CS_R) = \frac{| \{y | y \in CS_p \cap y \in CS_R\} |}{| \{y | y \in CS_R\} |} \quad (5)$$

Quantification of the QoS parameters in the context of uniform distribution is necessary to perform numerical conciliation [20]. The obtained QoS parameters are analyzed and classified into positive criteria if there is an increase in the attribute value with the consequent increase in the objective function and negative criteria. Equations 6 and 7 enable to evaluate the positive and negative QoS Parameters respectively.

$$N_{mn}^+ = \frac{Q_{m,n} - Q_n^{\min}}{Q_n^{\max} - Q_n^{\min}} \quad \text{if } Q_n^{\max} - Q_n^{\min} \neq 0$$

$$1 \quad \text{if } Q_n^{\max} - Q_n^{\min} = 0$$

To evaluate positive QoS parameters (6)

$$N_{mn}^- = \frac{Q_n^{min} - Q_{m,n}}{Q_n^{max} - Q_n^{min}} \quad \text{if } Q_n^{max} - Q_n^{min} \neq 0$$

$$1 \quad \text{if } Q_n^{max} - Q_n^{min} = 0$$

To evaluate negative QoS parameters (7)

Where $N_{m,n}^+$ and $N_{m,n}^-$ is computes the positive and negative criteria based normalized values for the n^{th} parameter of the m^{th} service.

As N_{mn}^+ is considered as the maximum value of the n^{th} column within the QoS matrix if $Q_n^{max} = \max(Q_{mn})$ and N_{mn}^- is considered as the minimum value of the n^{th} column within the QoS matrix if $Q_n^{min} = \min(Q_{mn})$. The normalized QoS parameters will be quantified between $[0, 1]$ interval.

Further a parameterized classification function is used to compute the classification score of every service in every class that evaluates the service conciliation to which class it belongs to. Equation 8 implements the parameterized classification function on each service to evaluate its classification factor.

$$C_n S_i = z_i + Wt_{i1} * x_1 + Wt_{i2} * x_2 + \dots + Wt_{in} * x_n \quad (9)$$

Where $C_n S_i$ cloud service 'n' that belongs to i^{th} class in which the subscript 'i' notates the respective class to which the service belongs to, z_i is considered to be the constant of the i^{th} class, Wt_{ij} is the parametrized weighting metric to compute the classification score.

3.3 Modified Principal Component Analysis

In the context of evaluating the QoS properties of the cloud services, the similar services obtained from various CS_p have variations in their QoS criteria. Because of this reason, the most common service quality indicators usually considered by the researchers include the rate of input/output consistency (I/O), Processing Performance, Disk Performance, Memory Performance, Number of the virtual cores and cost of the service. This paper also considers the above-

mentioned parameters for the purpose of experimental analysis.

The mathematical definition of the PCA specifies that it implements the Orthogonal linear transformation in which the obtained data is transformed into a novel coordinate system in which the data with the highest variance is projected to be in the first coordinate Y_1 (first principal component) further the second, third till n^{th} component are represented as $Y_2, Y_3 \dots Y_n$. There are two main steps employed in the modified PCA as follows.

Step 1: Derive the Correlation Matrix (CR_m)

The normalized and classified QoS parameters from Equation 9 are considered to compute the correlation matrix CR_m . The correlation matrix is computed as follows:

$$CR_m = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & \dots & r_{1n} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & \dots & r_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ r_{n1} & r_{n2} & \dots & r_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

Where $r_{m,n}, m, n = 1, 2, 3 \dots n$ is considered to be the correlation coefficient in between the original QoS variable Q_m and Q_n . As the CR_m is the symmetric matrix i.e., $r_{m,n} \equiv r_{n,m}$ only lower triangular or upper triangular elements are computed as shown in Equation 11.

$$r_{m,n} = \frac{\sum_{l=1}^i (Q_{l,m} - Q_m)(Q_{l,n} - Q_n)}{\sqrt{\sum_{l=1}^i (Q_{l,m} - Q_m)^2 \cdot \sum_{l=1}^i (Q_{l,n} - Q_n)^2}} \quad (11)$$

Step 2: Calculate eigenvalues and eigenvectors

In the context of calculating the eigenvalues and eigenvectors initially, we need to solve the parameterized equation $|\lambda I - CR_m| = 0$ and sort the eigenvalues in descending order. Further, compute the eigenvector εv for $\lambda_i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p$ as well as normalize it using Equation 12.

$$\|\varepsilon v\| = 1 \text{ or } \sum_{n=1}^p \varepsilon v_n^2 = 1 \quad (12)$$

Here εv_n is the n^{th} component of εv .

Step 3: Evaluate Scores

Here we employ the process of Mahalanobis distance to evaluate the scores of the individual candidate services and identify the best service from the selected class of services. Equation 13 is utilized to evaluate the score of the services the service with the best score is ranked on the top and selected as the best service.

$$B_m(x, y) = \sqrt{(x - m)^T C R_m^{-1} (x - m)} \quad (13)$$

Here x is the vector quantity related to the service data, $C R_m^{-1}$ is the inverse of the correlation coefficient matrix and m is the mean of the normalized data. Based on the above steps our ML-PCA could be explained by the following algorithm in the form of a pseudocode.

Algorithm ML-PCA

Input: Cloud services data with QoS Parameters

Output: Optimized service selection

1. N'_Q = normalization (Q);
2. $C R_m$ = Correlation matrix (N'_Q);
3. (eigenvector, eigenvalues) = Solve($|\lambda I - C R_m| = 0$)
4. $\text{Inv} C R_m = \text{inv}(C R_m)$
5. $M' = \text{mean}(N'_Q)$
6. Scores = zeros(length($C R_m$), 1)
7. for $i = 1:\text{length}(C R_m)$
8. score = sqrt($(N'_Q(i, : M')) * \text{Inv} C R_m * (N'_Q(i, : M'))'$)
9. Scores(i) = score
10. end for

4. Results and Discussions

This section presents a detailed discussion on the validation of the effectiveness and feasibility of the proposed approach. In this context, experiments are conducted on ML-PCA based QoS preference aware framework to evaluate the service properties of different similar services offered by different clouds and rank the appropriate services based on the client request [22]. All experiments were performed using HP Pavilion laptop with i5-6200U at 2.40 GHz processing capacity along with 12 GB of RAM in MATLAB. In our proposed work Cloudharmony[21] is used as a benchmark service provider where we are able to collect the real-world data related to the cloud services enabled by different service providers. The initial data consists of similar cloud services obtained from the dataset related to the client request based on the term frequency, inverse document frequency and cosine similarity from different cloud service providers as shown in Table 1. To evaluate the process of service discovery and Conciliation, the QoS data is to be normalized and classified based on the client request. The normalized QoS parameters of the selected class of cloud services shown in Table 2. Compute Correlation matrix using Equation 10 and 11 to evaluate the correlation consistency between the QoS preferences of different cloud services. The resultant matrix is shown in Table 3. In the correlation matrix, it is observed that QoS Parameters considered for evaluation are highly correlated with each other. Further, compute eigenvalues and eigenvectors for the derived coefficient matrix to evaluate the ranking of the service using Equation 12. In the next step calculate mean and the inverse correlation matrix to apply Equation 13 to compute the score of the QoS Parameters.

Table 1 Initial Data of similar cloud services with a variation of the QoS Parameters

Service Provider	Cloud Service	I/O operational consistency	Processing performance	Memory Performance	Disk Performance	No. of Virtual Cores	Price
C ₀	C ₀ S ₁	39.66	71.11	135.88	99.15	8	32
	C ₀ S ₂	43.02	17.34	51.71	141.23	2	8
	C ₀ S ₃	36.15	37.05	132.87	102.74	4	16

C₁	C ₁ S ₁	57.11	15.33	55.68	111.18	8	32
	C ₁ S ₂	70.29	7.21	54.28	125.48	4	16
C₂	C ₂ S ₁	78.72	28.4	27.33	70.91	8	72
	C ₂ S ₂	67.87	8.83	52.27	83.72	2	16
	C ₂ S ₃	67.97	16.07	61.81	78.49	4	36
C₃	C ₃ S ₁	35.35	52.82	83.92	55.07	8	90
	C ₃ S ₂	23.43	16.41	80.67	40.23	2	12
	C ₃ S ₃	29.07	32.4	90.83	42.47	4	45
C₄	C ₄ S ₁	53.28	48.23	131.79	67.22	8	56
	C ₄ S ₂	92.89	25.86	129.03	110.33	4	28
C₅	C ₅ S ₁	64.64	75.89	100.14	174.12	8	34.65
	C ₅ S ₂	89.31	23.43	89.84	174.5	2	10.13
	C ₅ S ₃	59.63	42.05	97.16	174.49	4	20.86
C₆	C ₆ S ₁	77.46	51.7	125.59	73.44	8	56
	C ₆ S ₂	114.44	13.89	131.89	97.38	2	14
	C ₆ S ₃	119.63	23.66	144.86	100.55	4	28

Table 2. Normalized QoS Parameters of the requested set of cloud services

Cloud Service	I/O operational consistency	Processing performance	Memory Performance	Disk Performance	No. of Virtual Cores	Price
C₀S₁	0.29354	1.00000	1.00000	0.58337	1.00000	0.70732
C₀S₃	0.35431	0.15853	0.22460	1.00000	0.00000	1.00000
C₁S₁	0.23006	0.46698	0.97227	0.61891	0.33333	0.90244
C₂S₁	0.60915	0.12707	0.26117	0.70248	1.00000	0.70732
C₂S₃	0.84753	1.00000	0.24827	0.84406	0.33333	0.90244
C₃S₁	1.00000	0.33161	0.00000	0.30376	1.00000	0.21951
C₃S₃	0.80376	0.02535	0.22976	0.43059	0.00000	0.90244
C₄S₂	0.80557	0.13865	0.31764	0.37881	0.33333	0.65854
C₅S₂	0.21559	0.71377	0.52133	0.14693	1.00000	0.00000
C₆S₁	0.00000	0.14397	0.49139	0.00000	0.00000	0.95122

Table 3. Correlation between the QoS Parameters

	I/O operational consistency	Processing performance	Memory Performance	Disk Performance	No. of Virtual Cores	Price
I/O operational consistency	1.000000	-0.453455	-0.680393	0.226124	0.120780	-0.143606
Processing performance	-0.453455	1.000000	0.716609	-0.183436	0.620844	-0.469021
Memory Performance	-0.680393	0.716609	1.000000	-0.041940	0.121348	0.138395
Disk Performance	0.226124	-0.183436	-0.041940	1.000000	-0.122418	0.487595
No. of Virtual Cores	0.120780	0.620844	0.121348	-0.122418	1.000000	-0.754121
Price	-0.143606	-0.469021	0.138395	0.487595	-0.754121	1.000000

Table 4 Inverse Correlation matrix

	I/O operational consistency	Processing performance	Memory Performance	Disk Performance	No. of Virtual Cores	Price
I/O operational consistency	2.34091	0.83190	1.04050	-0.54672	-0.81662	0.23310
Processing performance	0.83190	8.08457	-5.69429	-1.17558	-1.38301	4.22961
Memory Performance	1.04050	-5.69429	6.47910	1.01562	-0.47145	-4.26874
Disk Performance	-0.54672	-1.17558	1.01562	2.04597	-0.95112	-2.48530
No. of Virtual Cores	-0.81662	-1.38301	-0.47145	-0.95112	3.98647	2.76935
Price	0.23310	4.22961	-4.26874	-2.48530	2.76935	6.90827

Apply Mahalanobis distance to evaluate the score and ranking of the cloud services. For this purpose initially we need to calculate the mean of the normalized QoS parameters and then the computation is processed using Equation 13 the score and the ranking of the services is shown in Table 5.

4.1 Effectiveness Verification

To verify the effectiveness and optimality of our proposed technique, the computational time and optimality achieved based on the problem size is analyzed and compared between SCB-QC (QoS Aware Service Selection Based on Clustering) and WSSM-Q (QoS Based-Web Services Selection Method). The existing approaches select the services using filtering and clustering

techniques based on the QoS Preferences to reduce the number of candidate services.

But it is practically illustrated that these techniques exhibit low performance in terms of computational time and optimality. Figure 2 depicts the optimality of our proposed technique as it outperforms the existing techniques and depicts the best result in the range of 95.5% optimality ratio in the range. Figure 3 exhibits that ML-PCA diminishes in a number of the candidate services when compared with the previously existing techniques.

Table 5. Ranking of the services

Sorted Services	Score	Rank
C ₂ S ₁	1.10791	1
C ₀ S ₃	1.0144	2
C ₀ S ₁	0.98913	3
C ₆ S ₁	0.86954	4
C ₅ S ₂	0.86624	5
C ₃ S ₁	0.77541	6
C ₁ S ₁	0.77004	7
C ₃ S ₃	0.75545	8
C ₄ S ₂	0.53545	9
C ₂ S ₃	0.50436	10

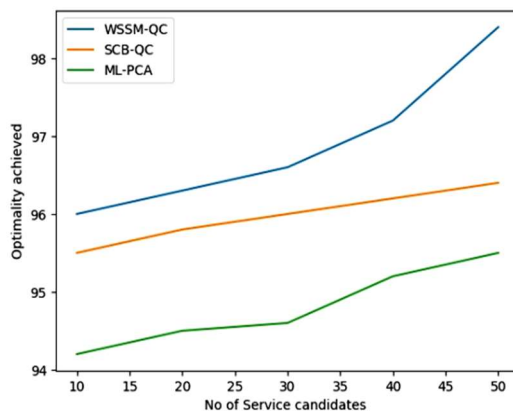


Figure 2: Rate of optimality based on the problem size

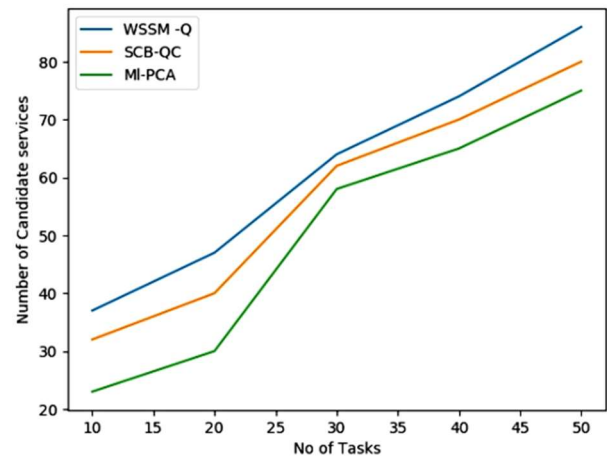


Figure 3: Service Discovery rate per number of tasks

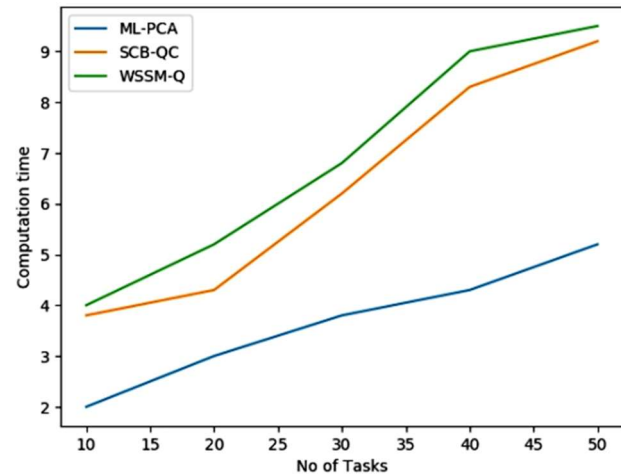


Figure 4. Rate of Computation Time for a number of tasks

In Figure 4, the proposed ML-PCA technique performs well in terms of the computation time in the context of variations in terms of the tasks from 10 to 50. The filtering strategy applied in the proposed mechanism to reduce the count of the candidate services plays a vital role in the reduction of the computation time.

5. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

This paper proposes a multilevel Principal component analysis based mathematical model to evaluate QoS attributes of different cloud services in a multicloud environment and rank the services based on user QoS preferences. Hybridization of principal component analysis to discover best cloud service enables the user with the ranked list of

cloud services based on their requirement and QoS preferences. The experimental results depict that the proposed mechanism is best in the context of the optimality ratio, computation time, minimizing the discovery overhead and reduction of the number of the candidate services when compared with existing mechanisms like WSSM-Q and SCB-QC. Further, this model could be enhanced in terms of optimization and evaluate the functionality of the model when deployed for service composition.

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