

Guest Editorial

Special Issue on Cloud Computing for IoT

IN RECENT years, there has been a growing interest in the ability of embedded devices, sensors, and actuators to communicate, and create a ubiquitous cyber-physical world. The growth of the notion of the Internet of Things (IoT) and the rapid development of technologies such as short range mobile communication and improved energy-efficiency is expected to create a pervasive connection of “things.” This will inevitably result in the generation of enormous amount of data, which have to be stored, processed, and accessed. Cloud computing has long been recognized as a paradigm for big data storage and analytics. The combination of cloud computing and IoT can enable ubiquitous sensing services and powerful processing of sensing data streams beyond the capability of individual things, thus stimulating innovations in both fields. For example, cloud platforms allow the sensing data to be stored and used intelligently for smart monitoring and actuation with the smart devices. Novel data fusion algorithms, machine learning methods, and artificial intelligence techniques can be implemented and run centralized or distributed on the cloud to achieve automated decision making. These will boost the development of new applications, such as smart cities, grids, and transportation systems. New challenges, however, arise when IoT meets cloud—there is an urgent need for novel network architectures that seamlessly integrate them, and protocols that facilitate big data streaming from IoT to the cloud. QoS and QoE, as well as data security, privacy, and reliability, are critical concerns during the integration.

This special section solicits high-quality original research papers which focuses on the integration of cloud computing and IoT. We received a total of 16 submissions, and after two rounds of rigorous review, four papers were accepted.

The first paper, “Cloud-Assisted Data Fusion and Sensor Selection for Internet of Things” by Bijarbooneh *et al.*, presents a cloud-based solution that takes into account the link quality and spatiotemporal correlation of data to minimize energy consumption by selecting sensors for sampling and relaying data. It proposes a multiphase adaptive sensing algorithm with belief propagation protocol, which can provide high data quality and reduce energy consumption by turning on only a small number of nodes in the network. It also uses belief propagation to perform inference and reconstruct the missing sensing data.

The second paper, “Twenty Security Considerations for Cloud-Supported Internet of Things” by Singh *et al.*, focuses

on security considerations for IoT from the perspectives of cloud tenants, end-users, and cloud providers, in the context of wide-scale IoT proliferation, working across the range of IoT technologies. It analyzes the current state of IoT-cloud offerings to make explicit the security considerations that require further work.

The third paper, “Scalable Cloud–Sensor Architecture for the Internet of Things” by Xu and Helal, argues that the massive scale of sensors and devices that will be deployed in smart cities of the future will be mind boggling. Without an ecosystem and a scalable architecture in place, it will be extremely difficult to manage or program such an expanding and massive IoT. This paper then introduces the cloud-edge-beneath architecture and present its salient scalability features. It also presents a validation study based on an event-driven programming model.

The last paper, “Optimizing Cloud-Based Video Crowdsensing” by Hong *et al.*, studies the optimal transcoding problem on wearable and mobile cameras. It proposes an algorithm to optimally select the coding parameters to fit more videos at higher quality on wearable and mobile cameras. It then empirically investigates the throughput of different file transfer protocols from wearable and mobile devices to cloud servers. A real-time algorithm is used to select the best protocol under diverse network conditions, so as to leverage the intermittent WiFi access. It finally looks into the performance of cloud databases for sensor-annotated videos, and implements a practical algorithm to search videos overlapping with a target geographical region.

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Dr. Lin has served on the Editorial Board of *Computer Networks*, the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON VEHICULAR TECHNOLOGY, and *LCNS Transaction on Petri Nets and Other Models of Concurrency*. He is an Editor of the *Journal of Parallel and Distributed Computing*, an Area Editor of the *Journal of Computer Science and Technology*, and is serving on the Editorial Board of *Frontiers of Computer Science* in China. He was a Guest Editor of the “Special Issue on Wireless Network Security” of Wiley’s *Journal of Wireless Communications and Mobile Computing* in 2005. He is on the Steering Committee for the International Petri Net Community, an ACM Council Member, and the Duty Director of the Internet Technical Committee and Network and Data Communication Technical Committee in China Computer Federation.

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