Development of a Novel Privacy Preserving Mechanism to Support Public Auditing on Shared Data in Cloud Environment

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ABSTRACT:
With cloud data services, it is commonplace for data to be not only stored in the cloud, but also shared across multiple users. Unfortunately, the integrity of cloud data is subject to skepticism due to the existence of hardware/software failures and human errors. Several mechanisms have been designed to allow both data owners and public verifiers to efficiently audit cloud data integrity without retrieving the entire data from the cloud server. However, public auditing on the integrity of shared data with these existing mechanisms will inevitably reveal confidential information—identity privacy—to public verifiers. In this research paper, we propose a novel privacy-preserving mechanism that supports public auditing on shared data stored in the cloud. In particular, we exploit ring signatures to compute verification metadata needed to audit the correctness of shared data. With our mechanism, the identity of the signer on each block in shared data is kept private from public verifiers, who are able to efficiently verify shared data integrity without retrieving the entire file. In addition, our mechanism is able to perform multiple auditing tasks simultaneously instead of verifying them one by one. Our experimental results demonstrate the effectiveness and efficiency of our mechanism when auditing shared data integrity.

KEYWORDS: Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS); Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS); and Software-as-a-Service (SaaS); attribute-Based Encryption (ABE); Third Party Auditor (TPA); National Institute of Standards and Terminology (NIST)

INTRODUCTION
Cloud computing is the use of computing resources (hardware and software) that are delivered as a service over a network (typically the Internet). The name comes from the common use of a cloud-shaped symbol as an abstraction for the complex infrastructure it contains in system diagrams. Cloud computing entrusts remote services with a user’s data, software and computation. Cloud computing consists of hardware and software resources made available on the Internet as managed third-party services. These services typically provide access to advanced software applications and high-end networks of server computers.

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The goal of cloud computing is to apply traditional supercomputing, or high-performance computing power, normally used by military and research facilities, to perform tens of trillions of computations per second, in consumer-oriented applications such as financial portfolios, to deliver personalized information, to provide data storage or to power large, immersive computer games.[1]

The cloud computing uses networks of large groups of servers typically running low-cost consumer PC technology with specialized connections to spread data-processing chores across them. This shared IT infrastructure contains large pools of systems that are linked together. Often, virtualization techniques are used to maximize the power of cloud computing.

Characteristics and Services Models:

The salient characteristics of cloud computing based on the definitions provided by the National Institute of Standards and Terminology (NIST) are outlined below:

- **On-demand self-service**: A consumer can unilaterally provision computing capabilities, such as server time and network storage, as needed automatically without requiring human interaction with each service’s provider.

- **Broad network access**: Capabilities are available over the network and accessed through standard mechanisms that promote use by heterogeneous thin or thick client platforms (e.g., mobile phones, laptops, and PDAs).

- **Resource pooling**: The provider’s computing resources are pooled to serve multiple consumers using a multi-tenant model, with different physical and virtual resources dynamically assigned and reassigned according to consumer demand. There is a sense of location-independence in that the customer generally has no control or knowledge over the exact location of the provided resources but may be able to specify location at a higher level of abstraction (e.g., country, state, or data center). Examples of resources include storage, processing, memory, network bandwidth, and virtual machines.

- **Rapid elasticity**: Capabilities can be rapidly and elastically provisioned, in some cases automatically, to quickly scale out and rapidly released to quickly scale in. To the consumer, the capabilities available for provisioning often appear to be unlimited and can be purchased in any quantity at any time.

- **Measured service**: Cloud systems automatically control and optimize resource use by leveraging a metering capability at some level of abstraction appropriate to the type of service (e.g., storage, processing, bandwidth, and active user accounts). Resource usage can be managed, controlled, and reported providing transparency for both the provider and consumer of the utilized service.[2]

Figure 1: Structure of cloud computing

Figure 2: Characteristics of cloud computing Services Models:

Cloud Computing comprises three different service models, namely Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS), Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS), and Software-as-a-Service (SaaS). The three service models or layer are completed by an end user layer that encapsulates the end user perspective on cloud services. The model is shown in figure below. If a cloud user accesses a service on the application layer, these tasks are normally taken care of by the cloud service provider.[3]
Benefits of cloud computing:

1. **Achieve economies of scale** – increase volume output or productivity with fewer people. Your cost per unit, project or product plummets.

2. **Reduce spending on technology infrastructure**. Maintain easy access to your information with minimal upfront spending. Pay as you go (weekly, quarterly or yearly), based on demand.

3. **Globalize your workforce on the cheap**. People worldwide can access the cloud, provided they have an Internet connection.

4. **Streamline processes**. Get more work done in less time with less people.

5. **Reduce capital costs**. There’s no need to spend big money on hardware, software or licensing fees.

6. **Improve accessibility**. You have access anytime, anywhere, making your life so much easier!

7. **Monitor projects more effectively**. Stay within budget and ahead of completion cycle times.

8. **Less personnel training is needed**. It takes fewer people to do more work on a cloud, with a minimal learning curve on hardware and software issues.

9. **Minimize licensing new software**. Stretch and grow without the need to buy expensive software licenses or programs.

10. **Improve flexibility**. You can change direction without serious “people” or “financial” issues at stake.[4]

Advantages:

1. **Price**: Pay for only the resources used.

2. **Security**: Cloud instances are isolated in the network from other instances for improved security.

3. **Performance**: Instances can be added instantly for improved performance. Clients have access to the total resources of the Cloud’s core hardware.

4. **Scalability**: Auto-deploy cloud instances when needed.

5. **Uptime**: Uses multiple servers for maximum redundancies. In case of server failure, instances can be automatically created on another server.

6. **Control**: Able to login from any location. Server snapshot and a software library lets you deploy custom instances.

7. **Traffic**: Deals with spike in traffic with quick deployment of additional instances to handle the load.[5]

LITERATURE SURVEY

With cloud data services, it is commonplace for data to be not only stored in the cloud, but also shared across multiple users. Unfortunately, the integrity of cloud data is subject to skepticism due to the existence of hardware/software failures and human errors. Several mechanisms have been designed to allow both data owners and public verifiers to efficiently audit cloud data integrity without retrieving the entire data from the cloud server. However, public auditing on the integrity of shared data with these existing mechanisms will inevitably reveal confidential information—identity privacy-to public verifiers.[6] In this paper, we propose a novel privacy-preserving mechanism that supports public auditing on shared data stored in the cloud. In particular, we exploit ring signatures to compute verification metadata needed to audit the correctness of shared data. With our mechanism, the identity of the signer on each block in shared data is kept private from public verifiers, who are able to efficiently verify shared data integrity without retrieving the entire file.[7]
addition, our mechanism is able to perform multiple auditing tasks simultaneously instead of verifying them one by one. Our experimental results demonstrate the effectiveness and efficiency of our mechanism when auditing shared data integrity.[8]

In this talk, I will first discuss a number of pressing security challenges in Cloud Computing, including data service outsourcing security and secure computation outsourcing. Then, I will focus on data storage security in Cloud Computing. As one of the primitive services, cloud storage allows data owners to outsource their data to cloud for its appealing benefits. However, the fact that owners no longer have physical possession of the outsourced data raises big security concerns on the storage correctness.[9] Hence, enabling secure storage auditing in the cloud environment with new approaches becomes imperative and challenging. In this talk, I will present our recent research efforts towards storage outsourcing security in cloud computing and describe both our technical approaches and security & performance evaluations.[10]

Cloud computing is the long dreamed vision of computing as a utility, where users can remotely store their data into the cloud so as to enjoy the on-demand high quality applications and services from a shared pool of configurable computing resources. By data outsourcing, users can be relieved from the burden of local data storage and maintenance. However, the fact that users no longer have physical possession of the possibly large size of outsourced data makes the data integrity protection in Cloud Computing a very challenging and potentially formidable task, especially for users with constrained computing resources and capabilities. Thus, enabling public audit ability for cloud data storage security is of critical importance so that users can resort to an external audit party to check the integrity of outsourced data when needed.[11] To securely introduce an effective third party auditor (TPA), the following two fundamental requirements have to be met: 1) TPA should be able to efficiently audit the cloud data storage without demanding the local copy of data, and introduce no additional on-line burden to the cloud user; 2) The third party auditing process should bring in no new vulnerabilities towards user data privacy.[12] In this paper, we utilize and uniquely combine the public key based homomorphic authenticator with random masking to achieve the privacy-preserving public cloud data auditing system, which meets all above requirements. To support efficient handling of multiple auditing tasks, we further explore the technique of bilinear aggregate signature to extend our main result into a multi-user setting, where TPA can perform multiple auditing tasks simultaneously. Extensive security and performance analysis shows the proposed schemes are provably secure and highly efficient.

The emergence of cloud computing brings users abundant opportunities to utilize the power of cloud to perform computation on data contributed by multiple users. These cloud data should be encrypted under multiple keys due to privacy concerns. However, existing secure computation techniques are either limited to single key or still far from practical. In this paper, we design two efficient schemes for secure outsourced computation over cloud data encrypted under multiple keys. Our schemes employ two non-colluding cloud servers to jointly compute polynomial functions over multiple users' encrypted cloud data without learning the inputs, intermediate or final results, and require only minimal interactions between the two cloud servers but not the users. We demonstrate our schemes' efficiency experimentally via applications in machine learning. Our schemes are also applicable to privacy-preserving data aggregation such as in smart metering.[13]

Cloud computing is an emerging computing paradigm in which resources of the computing infrastructure are provided as services over the Internet. As promising as it is, this paradigm also brings forth many new challenges for data security and access control when users outsource sensitive data for sharing on cloud servers, which are not within the same trusted domain as data owners. To keep sensitive user data confidential against
untrusted servers, existing solutions usually apply cryptographic methods by disclosing data decryption keys only to authorized users. However, in doing so, these solutions inevitably introduce a heavy computation overhead on the data owner for key distribution and data management when fine-grained data access control is desired, and thus do not scale well. The problem of simultaneously achieving fine-grainedness, scalability, and data confidentiality of access control actually still remains unresolved.[14] This research paper addresses this challenging open issue by, on one hand, defining and enforcing access policies based on data attributes, and, on the other hand, allowing the data owner to delegate most of the computation tasks involved in fine-grained data access control to untrusted cloud servers without disclosing the underlying data contents. We achieve this goal by exploiting and uniquely combining techniques of attribute-based encryption (ABE), proxy re-encryption, and lazy re-encryption. Our proposed scheme also has salient properties of user access privilege confidentiality and user secret key accountability. Extensive analysis shows that our proposed scheme is highly efficient and provably secure under existing security models.[15]

SYSTEM STUDY
FEASIBILITY STUDY
The feasibility of the project is analyzed in this phase and business proposal is put forth with a very general plan for the project and some cost estimates. During system analysis the feasibility study of the proposed system is to be carried out. This is to ensure that the proposed system is not a burden to the company. For feasibility analysis, some understanding of the major requirements for the system is essential.

Three key considerations involved in the feasibility analysis are

- ECONOMICAL FEASIBILITY
- TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY
- SOCIAL FEASIBILITY

ECONOMICAL FEASIBILITY
This study is carried out to check the economic impact that the system will have on the organization. The amount of fund that the company can pour into the research and development of the system is limited. The expenditures must be justified. Thus the developed system as well within the budget and this was achieved because most of the technologies used are freely available. Only the customized products had to be purchased.

TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY
This study is carried out to check the technical feasibility, that is, the technical requirements of the system. Any system developed must not have a high demand on the available technical resources. This will lead to high demands on the available technical resources. This will lead to high demands being placed on the client. The developed system must have a modest requirement, as only minimal or null changes are required for implementing this system.

SOCIAL FEASIBILITY
The aspect of study is to check the level of acceptance of the system by the user. This includes the process of training the user to use the system efficiently. The user must not feel threatened by the system, instead must accept it as a necessity. The level of acceptance by the users solely depends on the methods that are employed to educate the user about the system and to make him familiar with it. His level of confidence must be raised so that he is also able to make some constructive criticism, which is welcomed, as he is the final user of the system.

SYSTEM DESIGN
SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE:

DATA FLOW DIAGRAM:
1. The DFD is also called as bubble chart. It is a simple graphical formalism that can be used to represent a system in terms of input data to the system, various processing carried out on this data, and the output data is generated by this system.
2. The data flow diagram (DFD) is one of the most important modeling tools. It is used to
model the system components. These components are the system process, the data used by the process, an external entity that interacts with the system and the information flows in the system.

3. DFD shows how the information moves through the system and how it is modified by a series of transformations. It is a graphical technique that depicts information flow and the transformations that are applied as data moves from input to output.

4. DFD is also known as bubble chart. A DFD may be used to represent a system at any level of abstraction. DFD may be partitioned into levels that represent increasing information flow and functional detail.

The Unified Modeling Language is a standard modeling language for specifying, visualization, constructing and documenting the artifacts of software systems, as well as for business modeling and other non-software systems. The UML is a very important part of developing object-oriented software and the software development process. The UML uses mostly graphical notations to express the design of software projects.

**GOALS:**

The primary goals in the design of the UML are as follows:

1. Provide users a ready-to-use, expressive visual modeling language so that they can develop and exchange meaningful models.
2. Provide extendibility and specialization mechanisms to extend the core concepts.
3. Be independent of particular programming languages and development process.
4. Provide a formal basis for understanding the modeling language.
5. Encourage the growth of OO tools market.
6. Support higher level development concepts such as collaborations, frameworks, patterns and components.

**USE CASE DIAGRAM:**

A use case diagram in the Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a type of behavioral diagram defined by and created from a Use-case analysis. Its purpose is to present a graphical overview of the functionality provided by a system in terms of actors, their goals (represented as use cases), and any dependencies between those use cases. The main purpose of a use case diagram is to show what system functions are performed for which actor. Roles of the actors in the system can be depicted.
In software engineering, a class diagram in the Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a type of static structure diagram that describes the structure of a system by showing the system's classes, their attributes, operations (or methods), and the relationships among the classes. It explains which class contains information.

**Figure 7: Class Diagram**

**SEQUENCE DIAGRAM:**

A sequence diagram in Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a kind of interaction diagram that shows how processes operate with one another and in what order. It is a construct of a Message Sequence Chart. Sequence diagrams are sometimes called event diagrams, event scenarios, and timing diagrams.

**Figure 8: Sequence Diagram**

**ACTIVITY DIAGRAM:**

Activity diagrams are graphical representations of workflows of stepwise activities and actions with support for choice, iteration and concurrency. In the Unified Modeling Language, activity diagrams can be used to describe the business and operational step-by-step workflows of components in a system. An activity diagram shows the overall flow of control.

**Figure 9: ActivityDiagram**

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SYSTEM ANALYSIS

EXISTING SYSTEM:

- Many mechanisms have been proposed to allow not only a data owner itself but also a public verifier to efficiently perform integrity checking without downloading the entire data from the cloud, which is referred to as public auditing. In these mechanisms, data is divided into many small blocks, where each block is independently signed by the owner; and a random combination of all the blocks instead of the whole data is retrieved during integrity checking. A public verifier could be a data user (e.g., researcher) who would like to utilize the owner’s data via the cloud or a third-party auditor (TPA) who can provide expert integrity checking services.

- Moving a step forward, Wang et al. designed an advanced auditing mechanism so that during public auditing on cloud data, the content of private data belonging to a personal user is not disclosed to any public verifiers. Unfortunately, current public auditing solutions mentioned above only focus on personal data in the cloud. We believe that sharing data among multiple users is perhaps one of the most engaging features that motivates cloud storage. Therefore, it is also necessary to ensure the integrity of shared data in the cloud is correct.

- Existing public auditing mechanisms can actually be extended to verify shared data integrity. However, a new significant privacy issue introduced in the case of shared data with the use of existing mechanisms is the leakage of identity privacy to public verifiers.

DISADVANTAGES OF EXISTING SYSTEM:

1. Failing to preserve identity privacy on shared data during public auditing will reveal significant confidential information to public verifiers.

2. Protect these confidential information is essential and critical to preserve identity privacy from public verifiers during public auditing.

PROPOSED SYSTEM:

- In this paper, to solve the above privacy issue on shared data, we propose Oruta, a novel privacy-preserving public auditing mechanism.

- More specifically, we utilize ring signatures to construct homomorphic authenticators in Oruta, so that a public verifier is able to verify the integrity of shared data without retrieving the entire data while the identity of the signer on each block in shared data is kept private from the public verifier.

- In addition, we further extend our mechanism to support batch auditing, which can perform multiple auditing tasks simultaneously and improve the efficiency of verification for multiple auditing tasks.

- Meanwhile, Oruta is compatible with random masking, which has been utilized in WWRL and can preserve data privacy from public verifiers. Moreover, we also leverage index hash tables from a previous public auditing solution to support dynamic data. A high-level comparison among Oruta and existing mechanisms is presented.

ADVANTAGES OF PROPOSED SYSTEM:

A public verifier is able to correctly verify shared data integrity.

1. A public verifier cannot distinguish the identity of the signer on each block in shared data during the process of auditing.

2. The ring signatures generated for not only able to preserve identity privacy but also able to support blockless verifiability.

SYSTEM TESTING

The purpose of testing is to discover errors. Testing is the process of trying to discover every conceivable fault or weakness in a work product. It provides a way to check the functionality of
components, sub assemblies, assemblies and/or a finished product. It is the process of exercising software with the intent of ensuring that the software system meets its requirements and user expectations and does not fail in an unacceptable manner. There are various types of test. Each test type addresses a specific testing requirement.

**TYPES OF TESTS**

**Unit testing**

Unit testing involves the design of test cases that validate that the internal program logic is functioning properly, and that program inputs produce valid outputs. All decision branches and internal code flow should be validated. It is the testing of individual software units of the application. It is done after the completion of an individual unit before integration. This is a structural testing, that relies on knowledge of its construction and is invasive. Unit tests perform basic tests at component level and test a specific business process, application, and/or system configuration. Unit tests ensure that each unique path of a business process performs accurately to the documented specifications and contains clearly defined inputs and expected results.

**Integration testing**

Integration tests are designed to test integrated software components to determine if they actually run as one program. Testing is event driven and is more concerned with the basic outcome of screens or fields. Integration tests demonstrate that although the components were individually satisfaction, as shown by successfully unit testing, the combination of components is correct and consistent. Integration testing is specifically aimed at exposing the problems that arise from the combination of components.

**Functional test**

Functional tests provide systematic demonstrations that functions tested are available as specified by the business and technical requirements, system documentation, and user manuals.

Functional testing is centered on the following items:

- **Valid Input**: identified classes of valid input must be accepted.
- **Invalid Input**: identified classes of invalid input must be rejected.
- **Functions**: identified functions must be exercised.
- **Output**: identified classes of application outputs must be exercised.
- **Systems/Procedures**: interfacing systems or procedures must be invoked.

Organization and preparation of functional tests is focused on requirements, key functions, or special test cases. In addition, systematic coverage pertaining to identify Business process flows; data fields, predefined processes, and successive processes must be considered for testing. Before functional testing is complete, additional tests are identified and the effective value of current tests is determined.

**System Test**

System testing ensures that the entire integrated software system meets requirements. It tests a configuration to ensure known and predictable results. An example of system testing is the configuration oriented system integration test. System testing is based on process descriptions and flows, emphasizing pre-driven process links and integration points.

**White Box Testing**

White Box Testing is a testing in which the software tester has knowledge of the inner workings, structure and language of the software, or at least its purpose. It is purpose. It is used to test areas that cannot be reached from a black box level.

**Black Box Testing**

Black Box Testing is testing the software without any knowledge of the inner workings, structure or language of the module being tested. Black box tests, as most other kinds of tests, must be written from a definitive source document, such as specification or requirements document, such as specification or requirements document. It is a testing in which the software under test is treated, as a black box, you cannot “see” into it. The test provides inputs and
responds to outputs without considering how the software works.

Unit Testing:
Unit testing is usually conducted as part of a combined code and unit test phase of the software lifecycle, although it is not uncommon for coding and unit testing to be conducted as two distinct phases.

Test strategy and approach
Field testing will be performed manually and functional tests will be written in detail.

Test objectives
All field entries must work properly.
- Pages must be activated from the identified link.
- The entry screen, messages and responses must not be delayed.

Features to be tested
- Verify that the entries are of the correct format
- No duplicate entries should be allowed
- All links should take the user to the correct page.

Integration Testing
Software integration testing is the incremental integration testing of two or more integrated software components on a single platform to produce failures caused by interface defects.

The task of the integration test is to check that components or software applications, e.g. components in a software system or – one step up – software applications at the company level – interact without error.

Test Results: All the test cases mentioned above passed successfully. No defects encountered.

Acceptance Testing
User Acceptance Testing is a critical phase of any project and requires significant participation by the end user. It also ensures that the system meets the functional requirements.

Test Results: All the test cases mentioned above passed successfully. No defects encountered.

IMPLEMENTATION

MODULES:
- Cloud server
- Group of users
- Public verifier
- Auditing Module

MODULES DESCRIPTION:

Cloud server
✓ In the first module, we design our system with Cloud Server, where the data is stored globally. Our mechanism, Oruta, should be designed to achieve following properties:
  ✓ (1) Public Auditing: A public verifier is able to publicly verify the integrity of shared data without retrieving the entire data from the cloud.
  ✓ (2) Correctness: A public verifier is able to correctly verify shared data integrity.
  ✓ (3) Unforgeability: Only a user in the group can generate valid verification metadata (i.e., signatures) on shared data.
  ✓ (4) Identity Privacy: A public verifier cannot distinguish the identity of the signer on each block in shared data during the process of auditing.

Group of users
✓ There are two types of users in a group: the original user and a number of group users. The original user initially creates shared data in the cloud, and shares it with group users. Both the original user and group users are members of the group. Every member of the group is allowed to access and modify shared data. Shared data and its verification metadata (i.e., signatures) are both stored in the cloud server. A public verifier, such as a third party auditor providing expert data auditing services or a data user outside the group intending to utilize shared data, is able to publicly verify the integrity of shared data stored in the cloud server.
Owner Registration: In this module an owner has to upload its files in a cloud server, he/she should register first. Then only he/she can be able to do it. For that he needs to fill the details in the registration form. These details are maintained in a database.

Owner Login: In this module, owners have to login, they should login by giving their email id and password.

User Registration: In this module if a user wants to access the data which is stored in a cloud, he/she should register their details first. These details are maintained in a database.

User Login: If the user is an authorized user, he/she can download the file by using file id which has been stored by data owner when it was uploading.

Public verifier

When a public verifier wishes to check the integrity of shared data, it first sends an auditing challenge to the cloud server. After receiving the auditing challenge, the Cloud server responds to the public verifier with an auditing proof of the possession of shared data.

Then, this public verifier checks the correctness of the entire data by verifying the correctness of the auditing proof. Essentially, the process of public auditing is a challenge and- response protocol between a public verifier and the cloud server.

Auditing Module

In this module, if a third party auditor TPA (maintainer of clouds) should register first. This system allows only cloud service providers. After third party auditor gets logged in, He/ She can see how many data owners have uploaded their files into the cloud. Here we are providing TPA for maintaining clouds.

We only consider how to audit the integrity of shared data in the cloud with static groups. It means the group is pre-defined before shared data is created in the cloud and the membership of users in the group is not changed during data sharing.

The original user is responsible for deciding who is able to share her data before outsourcing data to the cloud. Another interesting problem is how to audit the integrity of shared data in the cloud with dynamic groups — a new user can be added into the group and an existing group member can be revoked during data sharing — while still preserving identity privacy.

RESULTS & CONCLUSION

In this research paper, we propose Oruta, a privacy-preserving public auditing mechanism for shared data in the cloud. We utilize ring signatures to construct homomorphic authenticators, so that a public verifier is able to audit shared data integrity without retrieving the entire data, yet it cannot distinguish who is the signer on each block. To improve the efficiency of verifying multiple auditing tasks, we further extend our mechanism to support batch auditing. There are two interesting problems we will continue to study for our future work. One of them is traceability, which means the ability for the group manager (i.e., the original user) to reveal the identity of the signer based on verification metadata in some special situations. Since Oruta is based on ring signatures, where the identity of the signer is unconditionally protected [21], the current design of ours does not support traceability.

To the best of our knowledge, designing an efficient public auditing mechanism with the capabilities of preserving identity privacy and supporting traceability is still open. Another problem for our future work is how to prove data freshness (prove the cloud possesses the latest version of shared data) while still preserving identity privacy.

REFERENCES


