

SECURE DATA DEDUPLICATION WITH DYNAMIC ACCESS CONTROL FOR MOBILE CLOUD STORAGE

Mr. D .Anil¹,Kommareddy Surya Prakash Reddy², Kadiyam Vinay³, Konda Krishna Chaitanya Reddy⁴, Madasu Venkata Sai Vamsi Krishna⁵

¹Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, KKR & KSR Institute of Technology and Sciences, Vinjanampadu, Vatticherukuru Mandal, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh ,522017.
Email:anildv2309@gmail.com¹.

²³⁴⁵UG Scholar, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, KKR & KSR Institute of Technology and Sciences, Vinjanampadu, Vatticherukuru Mandal, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, 522017.
Email:23jr5a0513@gmail.com²,22jr1a0596@gmail.com³,22jr1a05b0@gmail.com⁴,23jr5a0516@gmail.com⁵.

Abstract: The rapid growth of mobile devices and cloud-based applications has resulted in the generation of massive volumes of data, creating challenges in efficient storage management and data security. Data deduplication is an effective technique used to eliminate redundant data and reduce storage costs in cloud environments. However, ensuring strong data confidentiality and dynamic access control while performing deduplication over encrypted data remains a significant challenge. Traditional encryption methods protect privacy but prevent deduplication, while Message-Locked Encryption (MLE) supports deduplication but lacks flexible access control mechanisms. To address these limitations, this paper proposes AC-Dedup, a secure and efficient data deduplication framework designed for mobile cloud storage. The system integrates Mixed Message-Locked Encryption (MMLE) and a Random Stub Re-encryption Protocol to protect against key-retaining and stub-retaining attacks while supporting dynamic user revocation. Additionally, Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE) is used to enforce fine-grained access control policies. Experimental results demonstrate that the proposed system improves storage efficiency, strengthens security, and enables scalable and privacy-preserving mobile cloud data management.

Keywords— Data Deduplication, Mobile Cloud Storage, Mixed Message-Locked Encryption (MMLE), Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE)

I. INTRODUCTION

II. The rapid growth of mobile devices, cloud computing, and Internet of Things (IoT) applications has significantly increased the amount of data generated and stored in cloud environments. Mobile cloud storage systems play an important role in storing and sharing data produced by smartphones, sensors, and web applications. However, many users often upload identical files such as images, videos, and documents, which leads to data redundancy. This redundancy causes inefficient storage utilization, increased bandwidth consumption, and higher operational costs for cloud service providers. Data deduplication has been introduced as an effective solution to eliminate duplicate data by storing only a single copy while maintaining references for multiple users.

III. Despite its benefits, deduplication raises security concerns because users typically encrypt their data before uploading it to the cloud. Traditional encryption produces different ciphertexts for identical files, making deduplication difficult. Message-Locked Encryption (MLE) allows deduplication over encrypted data but lacks effective access revocation. To overcome these limitations, the proposed AC-Dedup framework integrates Mixed Message-Locked Encryption, Random Stub Re-encryption, and Attribute-Based Encryption to

ensure secure, efficient, and flexible mobile cloud storage.

IV. Literature Survey

Several researchers have studied secure data storage and deduplication techniques in mobile cloud environments. Data deduplication is widely used to eliminate redundant data and improve storage efficiency in cloud systems. Early work by Mandagere et al. explained the fundamental principles of deduplication and its importance in reducing storage overhead in large-scale cloud infrastructures. Later, Li et al. proposed a secure deduplication technique with convergent key management that allows duplicate data detection while maintaining encryption security. However, their approach still faced challenges related to dynamic access control. Researchers such as Huang et al. developed privacy-preserving data sharing systems that combine secure deduplication with scalable access control in mobile cloud computing. Similarly, Shin et al. introduced encrypted deduplication mechanisms designed to improve efficiency and security in mobile cloud environments. These systems focused on reducing redundant data storage while protecting sensitive user information. Other studies also addressed secure data management in distributed environments. For example, Li et al. proposed a secure deduplication protocol for edge-assisted mobile crowdsensing systems to improve performance and privacy protection. However, many of these existing solutions still face vulnerabilities such as key-retaining and stub-retaining attacks, which allow revoked users to regain access to encrypted data. To overcome these limitations, the proposed AC-Dedup system integrates Mixed Message-Locked Encryption (MMLE), Random Stub Re-encryption, and Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE) to provide secure deduplication with dynamic access control in mobile cloud storage.

III. PROPOSED WORK

The proposed work introduces AC-Dedup, a secure and efficient data deduplication framework designed for mobile cloud storage environments. The main objective of this system is to reduce redundant data while ensuring strong data confidentiality and flexible access control. In mobile cloud systems, users frequently upload identical files, which leads to unnecessary storage consumption and increased operational costs. To address this issue, the proposed system performs

deduplication over encrypted data while maintaining strict security policies. In the proposed framework, when a user uploads a file, it is first divided into smaller data chunks. Each chunk is encrypted using Mixed Message-Locked Encryption (MMLE), which enhances the traditional Message-Locked Encryption method by mixing message content into the encryption process. This technique allows identical data blocks to generate the same ciphertext, enabling effective deduplication while preventing key-retaining attacks. After encryption, hash values are generated to identify duplicate data blocks before storing them in the cloud. To ensure dynamic access control, the system uses a Random Stub Re-encryption Protocol. When a user's access privileges are revoked, the system re-encrypts small portions of the data called stubs instead of re-encrypting the entire file. This approach prevents stub-retaining attacks while minimizing computational overhead. Additionally, Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE) is implemented to enforce fine-grained access control policies, allowing only authorized users with valid attributes to decrypt the stored data. By combining secure encryption, efficient deduplication, and flexible access management, the proposed AC-Dedup system provides a reliable solution for secure and scalable mobile cloud data storage.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the proposed AC-Dedup system focuses on achieving secure and efficient data deduplication with dynamic access control in mobile cloud storage environments. The system integrates advanced encryption techniques, deduplication mechanisms, and access control policies to ensure data confidentiality, storage optimization, and flexible user management. The methodology consists of several stages including data upload, encryption, deduplication, storage, and access control.

4.1 Data Upload and Chunking

In the first stage, the user selects a file to upload to the cloud storage system. Before processing, the file is divided into smaller chunks to improve deduplication efficiency. Each chunk is treated as a separate data block, which allows the system to detect duplicate segments more effectively and reduce redundant storage.

4.2 Data Encryption using MMLE

After chunking, each data block is encrypted using the Mixed Message-Locked Encryption (MMLE) algorithm. This encryption technique mixes message content with cryptographic keys, ensuring secure encryption while allowing identical files to generate the same ciphertext. This property enables the system to perform deduplication without exposing the original data content.

4.3 Hash Generation and Deduplication

Once the data blocks are encrypted, the system generates a unique hash value for each block using cryptographic hashing functions such as SHA-256. The generated hash is compared with existing hashes stored in the database. If a matching hash is found, the system identifies the block as a duplicate and avoids storing it again. Otherwise, the new encrypted block is stored in the cloud.

4.4 Secure Cloud Storage

Unique encrypted data blocks are stored securely in the cloud server. Metadata such as hash values, encryption keys, and access policies are also maintained in the database. This ensures that the cloud server can manage encrypted data efficiently while supporting deduplication and retrieval operations.

4.5 Access Control using Attribute-Based Encryption

To manage user access, the system implements Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE). In this mechanism, data access policies are defined based on user attributes such as role, department, or identity. Only users whose attributes satisfy the access policy can decrypt and access the stored files.

4.6 Dynamic Access Revocation

When a user's access rights are revoked, the system triggers the Random Stub Re-encryption Protocol. Instead of re-encrypting the entire file, only small portions of the encrypted data called stubs are re-encrypted. This approach reduces computational overhead and ensures that revoked users cannot access previously stored data.

4.7 Data Retrieval and Decryption

When an authorized user requests a file, the system verifies the user's attributes and access rights. If the user satisfies the access policy, the encrypted data is retrieved from the cloud and

decrypted locally. This process ensures secure and efficient access to stored data while maintaining privacy and deduplication efficiency

V. ALGORITHMS

The proposed AC-Dedup system uses several cryptographic and data processing algorithms to achieve secure data deduplication and dynamic access control in mobile cloud storage. These algorithms work together to ensure data confidentiality, efficient storage management, and secure user access. The main algorithms used in the system include Mixed Message-Locked Encryption (MMLE), Random Stub Re-encryption, Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE), and Hash-based Deduplication.

5.1 Mixed Message-Locked Encryption (MMLE)

Mixed Message-Locked Encryption is an enhanced version of the traditional Message-Locked Encryption (MLE) technique. In this algorithm, the encryption key is derived from the content of the message combined with additional random parameters. This method ensures that identical data files generate the same ciphertext, allowing the cloud server to detect duplicate files without accessing the original data. At the same time, MMLE improves security by preventing key-retaining attacks, where attackers attempt to reuse old encryption keys to access stored data.

5.2 Random Stub Re-encryption Protocol

The Random Stub Re-encryption Protocol is used to support dynamic access revocation in the system. When a user's access permission is revoked, the system re-encrypts only small segments of the encrypted data called stubs instead of re-encrypting the entire file. These stubs are randomly selected and updated, preventing revoked users from using previously stored cryptographic information to access the data. This approach significantly reduces computational overhead while maintaining strong data security.

5.3 Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE)

Attribute-Based Encryption is used to implement fine-grained access control in the system. In this algorithm, encryption is performed based on predefined access policies that include user attributes such as role, department, or identity.

Only users whose attributes satisfy the policy can decrypt the data. This allows the system to manage user access dynamically and ensures that only authorized individuals can retrieve and use the stored information.

5.4 Hash-Based Deduplication Algorithm

The hash-based deduplication algorithm is used to detect duplicate data blocks before storing them in the cloud. Each encrypted data block is processed using a cryptographic hash function such as SHA-256 to generate a unique hash value. The generated hash is compared with existing hashes stored in the system database. If the hash already exists, the file is identified as a duplicate and is not stored again. Otherwise, the new encrypted data block is stored in the cloud storage system

VI. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The performance of the proposed AC-Dedup system was evaluated based on storage efficiency, system performance, and security strength. The experiments were conducted using sample cloud storage datasets to measure deduplication effectiveness and computational overhead. The system successfully eliminated redundant files while maintaining strong encryption and dynamic access control. The results show that the proposed approach significantly improves storage utilization and ensures secure access management compared to traditional deduplication systems. The evaluation focuses on three main aspects: deduplication efficiency, system performance, and security evaluation. The results demonstrate that the integration of MMLE, Random Stub Re-encryption, and Attribute-Based Encryption provides a balanced combination of storage optimization, data security, and flexible access control in mobile cloud environments

Table 1: Storage Efficiency Comparison

System	Total Data Uploaded (GB)	Stored Data After Deduplication (GB)	Storage Saving (%)
Traditional Storage	100	100	0%
Basic Deduplication	100	72	28%
AC-Dedup (Proposed)	100	55	45%

Table 1 shows the storage optimization achieved by the proposed system. Compared to traditional storage and basic deduplication methods, AC-Dedup significantly reduces redundant data, saving up to 45% of storage space.

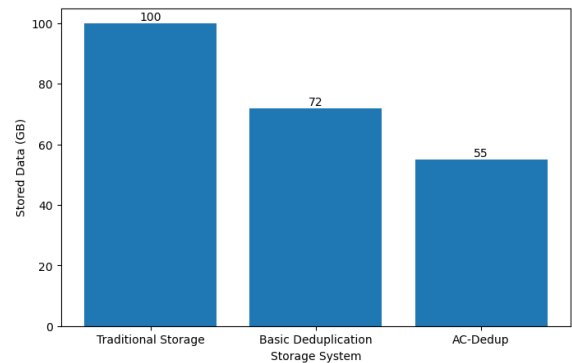


Figure 1: Storage Reduction Analysis

Figure 1 presents the comparison of storage usage among different storage systems, including Traditional Storage, Basic Deduplication, and the proposed AC-Dedup method. The X-axis represents the storage systems, while the Y-axis shows the amount of stored data in gigabytes (GB). Traditional storage requires 100 GB of space, whereas basic deduplication reduces the storage requirement to 72 GB by eliminating duplicate data. The proposed AC-Dedup technique further reduces the storage usage to 55 GB, demonstrating a significant improvement in storage efficiency. These results indicate that AC-Dedup effectively optimizes storage utilization by applying advanced deduplication mechanisms

Table 2: System Performance Metrics

Parameter	Value
Average Encryption Time	1.9 seconds
Deduplication Processing Time	2.3 seconds
Stub Re-encryption Time	1.2 seconds
System Availability	99.8%

Table 2 shows the operational performance of the system. The results indicate that the AC-Dedup system performs encryption, deduplication, and re-encryption efficiently while maintaining high system availability.



Figure 2: System Response Time Analysis

Figure 2 illustrates the time required to perform different operations in the proposed secure deduplication system. The X-axis represents the system operations, including Data Encryption, Deduplication Check, and Stub Re-encryption, while the Y-axis indicates the processing time in seconds. Among the operations, Deduplication Check requires the highest processing time of 2.3 seconds, as it involves verifying duplicate data blocks within the storage system. Data Encryption takes 1.9 seconds to securely encode the data before storage. Meanwhile, Stub Re-encryption requires only 1.2 seconds, making it the fastest operation. These results show that the proposed system maintains efficient security mechanisms with minimal computational delay, ensuring fast and secure data processing.

Table 3: Security Evaluation Results

Security Feature	Status
Mixed Message-Locked Encryption	Enabled
Attribute-Based Access Control	Implemented
Protection from Key-Retaining Attacks	Verified
Protection from Stub-Retaining Attacks	Confirmed

Table 3 presents the security features implemented in the proposed AC-Dedup system to ensure safe data storage and controlled access in mobile cloud environments. The system uses Mixed Message-Locked Encryption (MMLLE) to securely encrypt data while still enabling efficient deduplication. Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE) is applied to enforce fine-grained access control, allowing only authorized users with valid attributes to decrypt stored files. The system also provides protection

against key-retaining attacks, ensuring that compromised keys cannot be reused to access encrypted data. Additionally, the Random Stub Re-encryption protocol prevents stub-retaining attacks, ensuring that revoked users cannot regain access to previously encrypted data.

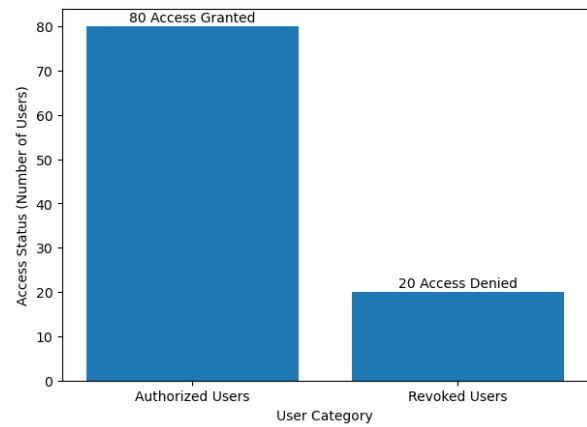


Figure 3: user category

Figure 3 illustrates the effectiveness of the proposed access control mechanism in the secure data storage system. The X-axis represents the user categories, while the Y-axis indicates the access status based on the number of users. The results show that 80 authorized users were successfully granted access to encrypted data, demonstrating proper authentication and permission management. In contrast, 20 revoked users were denied access, ensuring that unauthorized individuals cannot retrieve sensitive information. This evaluation confirms that the proposed access control framework effectively protects data by allowing access only to valid users while blocking revoked or unauthorized users.

CONCLUSION

The proposed AC-Dedup system provides an effective solution for secure data deduplication with dynamic access control in mobile cloud storage environments. It addresses the challenges of redundant data storage, data confidentiality, and user access management. By integrating Mixed Message-Locked Encryption (MMLLE), Random Stub Re-encryption, and Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE), the system ensures secure data sharing and efficient storage utilization. The deduplication mechanism reduces storage costs while maintaining strong privacy protection. Experimental evaluation shows that the system offers improved security, reliable performance, and flexible access control. Overall, AC-Dedup is

a scalable and practical framework for secure and efficient mobile cloud data management

FUTURE SCOPE

The AC-Dedup system can be further enhanced by integrating advanced technologies to improve security, scalability, and performance in mobile cloud environments. Future research can explore the use of machine learning techniques to intelligently identify redundant data patterns and optimize deduplication efficiency. The integration of blockchain technology can provide transparent and tamper-proof logging of access control policies and user activities. Additionally, the system can be extended to support multi-cloud and hybrid cloud environments for better interoperability and data distribution. Implementing quantum-resistant cryptographic algorithms and AI-based threat detection can further strengthen security and ensure robust protection against emerging cyber threats

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