Academic cloud computing interoperability use cases

CloudWatch Concertation Meeting

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Fraunhofer SCAI

cloud4health project

- One of the 14 BMWi funded Trusted Cloud projects
- Cloud Services for Big Data Analysis in Medicine

- 5 partners including
  - 1 SME
    - Textmining, Coordination
  - 1 University
    - Data Provider, Clinical Bus Architecture
  - 1 Clinic
    - Data Provider, Clinical Bus Architecture, Transfer Database, Test of the Trusted Cloud
  - 1 Research Institute
    - Cloud-Expert, Text- und Data-Mining
  - 1 Service Provider
    - Data Protection, Legal Compliance

Trusted Cloud

Gefördert durch:
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averbis

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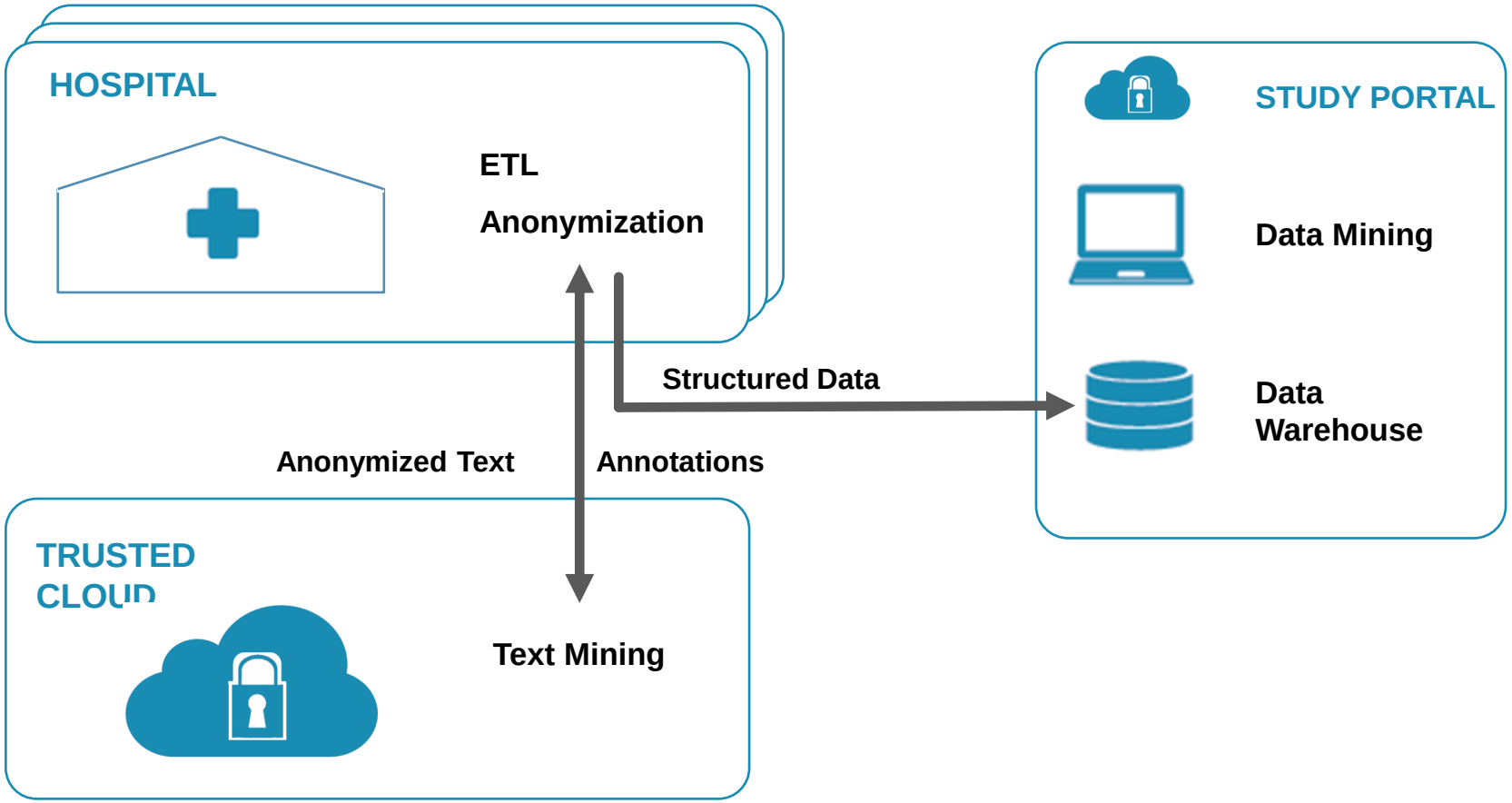
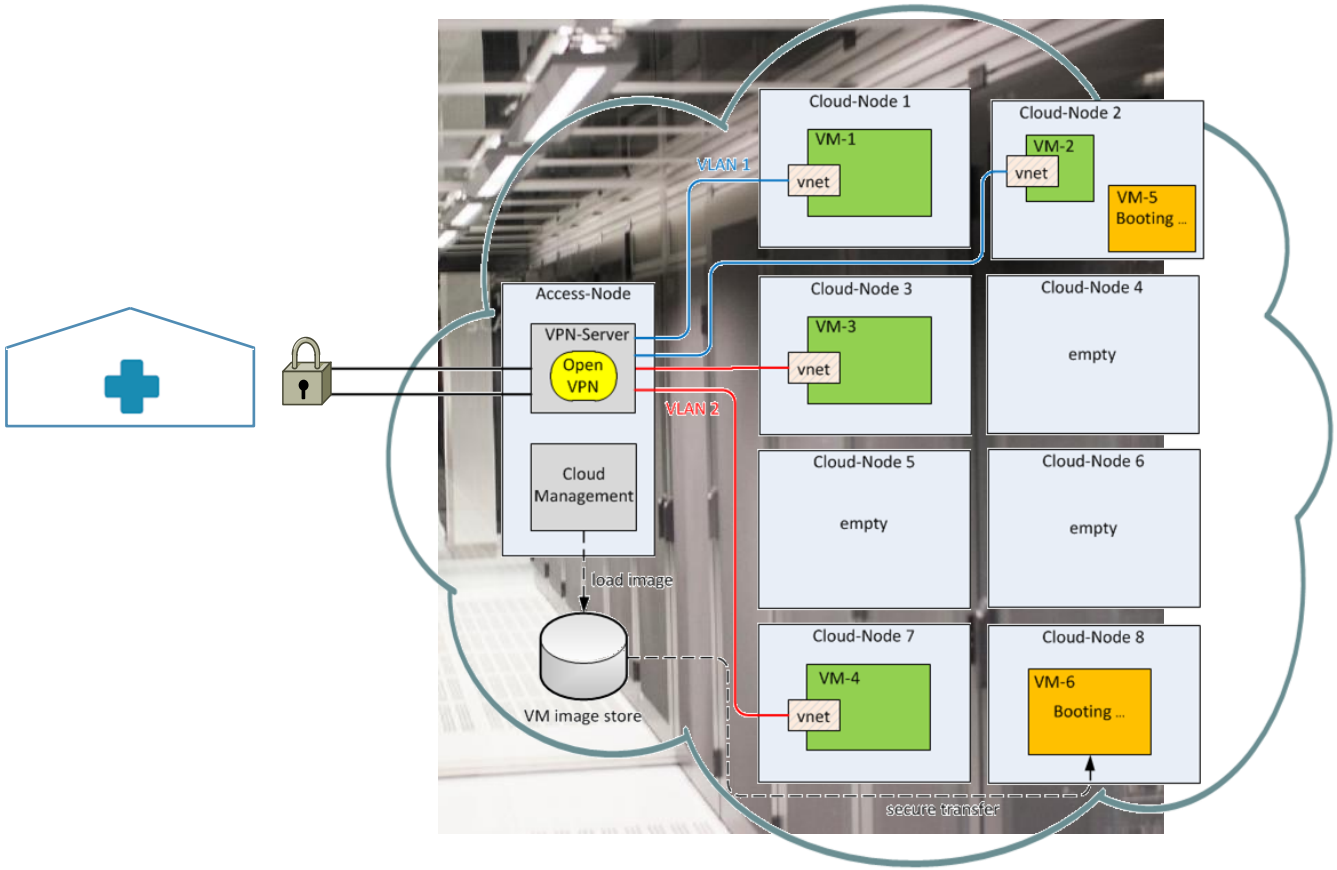
cloud4health objectives

- Determine the requirements of a trusted Cloud
  - Middleware and management layer
  - Security and data protection
  - IInterface for the researchers in clinics
- Implement a dynamically scalable framework for text mining
  - Capacity and performance determined by the individual studies
    - Number of instances and degree of parallelism
- Automated configuration and startup triggered by researcher in clinic
  - Mapping of study properties to infrastructure
- Dynamic encryption of data before sending to the Cloud, decryption in memory prior to processing
- No persistent copies of the data in the Cloud
  - Patient data kept in memory only
- Structured results in a standardised format for further analysis
  - ODM - Operational Data Model
    - Data model for archiving and exchanging Data and Metadata in the area of clinical research

cloud4health building blocks



Cloud architecture



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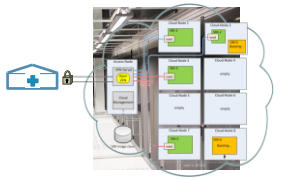
cloud4health interoperability requirements – trusted Cloud

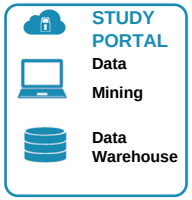


- Dynamic set-up of Cloud infrastructure by clinics requires interoperable interfaces
- Same for study-dependant deployment of text mining services by the clinics
- Same for shutting down the entire infrastructure and secure deletion of all VMs
- Trusted Cloud computing requires more than a technical implementation
  - Well defined and agreed upon processes to assure data protection and legal compliance are equally important
- Current cloud4health prototype based on manually achieved agreements on processes as part of the Cloud service
  - Providing a blueprint for minimum requirements
- Manual agreements should be replaced by electronic Service Level Agreements between Cloud provider and clinics
  - Defining QoS, data protection and processes
- Entire cloud4health middleware deployable inside the clinics as private Cloud solution

cloud4health interoperability requirements – data protection

- Data access in clinics most often based on userid/password credentials today
  - Same authentication mechanisms used for Cloud and service management
  - Need for more secure, standardised authentication and authorisation, e.g. X.509 certificates
- Secure tunnel between clinic and Cloud
- Standardised processes for data encryption/decryption on the fly
  - E.g. based on a hybrid approach with shared keys and asymmetric keys
- Trade-off between key validity period and security
- Trustworthy and secure key management in the Cloud

Study Portal



- After text mining data is further processed in the hospitals with respect to the study goals
- Service point for multiple customers, operating a private Cloud for storing results of studies and executing further analysis
- Providing access to data resulting from previous text mining and analysis in the hospitals based on demand of customers
- Data is encrypted for each customer using X.509 PKI infrastructure
- Access through secure authentication and authorisation

Service Level Agreements – data protection and data placement

- Cloud customers need the possibility to define the protection of their data in Clouds as part of their dynamic electronic Service Level Agreements
- The OPTIMIS SLA enabled the customer to specify the level of protection
  - Geographical location of data storage and data processing
    - Restricting location e.g. to data centres in countries in the European Data Protection Area
    - Specifying encryption of data and the strength of the encryption
- Specifying procedures to be followed when the Cloud infrastructure is no longer needed (but before the end of the contract)
  - How to return the data
  - How to erase the stored data after returning
- SLAs requests defining data protection can be used to preselect Cloud providers
  - E.g. Service Manifest as developed in OPTIMIS

Service Level Agreements – certification

- SLAs should include relevant certifications of a data centre, e.g.
  - Conformance to ISO defined processes, e.g.
    - ISO 27001
  - Eco-efficiency certificates, e.g.
    - EnergyStar Rating
    - ISO14000
- Certification information needs
  - to be electronically accessible,
  - to have a limited lifetime based on the certification frequency
  - and should be signed by a trusted party
- SLAs requests including certification requirements can be used to preselect Cloud providers
  - E.g. eco-efficiency in the OPTIMIS Service Manifest

More requirements addressed in OPTIMIS SLAs

- Creation and negotiation of dynamic electronic SLAs must be based on standards to achieve interoperability and to empower the customer to understand and compare the offerings of different Cloud providers.
- Need for Standardized languages for expressing service description terms, service level objectives and KPIs to request and negotiate SLAs covering the same service levels from different providers prior to selecting a provider.
- Among other service terms not included in today's SLAs
  - the geographical location of a data centre, e.g. DPA, should be part of the SLA
  - also Standard Contractual Clauses, Binding Corporate Rules and IPR statement

As a consequence (but not realised in OPTIMIS)

- Need mechanisms allowing the customer to verify the geographical location of the resources provided at run-time
  - Electronic certification backed by a trusted party, similar to CAs for X.509 certificates
  - Heuristics for automated checks