

Preface

Cloud computing is a key technology that is being adopted progressively by companies and users across different application domains and industries. Yet, there are emerging issues such as security, privacy, and data protection. The first A4Cloud¹ summer school was one of the first in the area of accountability and security in the cloud. The main aim of the summer school was to establish a reference event for sharing with young researchers and practitioners research insights in the areas of accountability and security in the cloud. This first summer school was organized by the EU-funded A4Cloud project, in collaboration with the European projects CIRRUS², CocoCloud³, CUMULUS⁴, and SPECS⁵. The school was held in Malaga (Spain) during June 2–6, 2014 and hosted PhD students from Greece, UK, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, and Germany.

Thematic Areas

The program of the school was multidisciplinary including lectures on technical and socio-legal aspects of accountability and security in the cloud. The school program included the following thematic contributions:

- Accountability in the Cloud
- Security in the Cloud
- Privacy and Transparency in the Cloud
- Empirical Approaches for the Cloud
- Socio-Legal Aspects of the Cloud
- Cloud Standards
- Accountability Glossary of Terms and Definitions.

Besides these themes, participants were encouraged to contribute to the school program by presenting their works on related topics. This collection consists of papers related to the lectures presented during the school. These papers provide a reading list and reference capturing the state of the art on topics such as accountability, security, privacy, metrics, and standards in the cloud. Alongside the lecture papers, this

¹ Cloud Accountability Project (A4Cloud) – <http://www.a4cloud.eu/>

² Certification, Internationalisation and standardization in cloud Security (CIRRUS) – <http://www.cirrus-project.eu/>

³ Confidential and compliant clouds (CocoCloud) – <http://www.coco-cloud.eu/>

⁴ Certification infrastructure for Multi-Layer cloud Services (CUMULUS) – <http://www.cumulus-project.eu/>

⁵ Secure Provisioning of Cloud Services based on SLA Management (SPECS) – <http://specs-project.eu/>

collection also includes (three) selected and peer-reviewed papers (submitted to the school) that provide further examples of ongoing research work in the areas of accountability and security in the cloud.

Target Audience

This edited collection brings together the main school contributions covering the state of the art and research insights on accountability and security in the cloud. For this reason, the volume will be a reference for anyone interested in knowing about the topics of accountability and security in cloud computing. The contents of this edited collection could serve as a course book for graduate, postgraduate, and professional courses concerned with accountability and security in cloud computing, which is currently the focus in the curricula for new BSc, MSc, and PhD programs as well as extensive research and development as a consequence of the increasing importance of the topic.

Acknowledgments

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Massimo Felici
Carmen Fernández-Gago

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Felici, M.; Fernández-Gago, C. (Eds.)

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