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## **WEB CLOUD: WEB-BASED CLOUD STORAGE FOR SECURE DATA SHARING ACROSS PLATFORMS**

KOMMANA YOGI UMA MAHESWARI  
Department of MCA  
SKBR PG COLLEGE, AMALAPURAM, A.P  
[umakommana333@gmail.com](mailto:umakommana333@gmail.com)

### **Abstract**

The rapid adoption of cloud storage has created a growing need for secure, accessible, and cross-platform data sharing solutions. Web Cloud is a web-based cloud storage system designed to provide end-to-end secure data storage and seamless sharing across multiple devices and operating systems. By implementing client-side encryption, robust access control mechanisms, and zero-knowledge architecture, the system ensures that users retain full control over their data while enabling secure collaboration.

Web Cloud supports major web browsers and mobile platforms, allowing users to upload, store, share, and access files securely without depending on third-party trust for data confidentiality. It integrates AES-256 encryption, role-based access control (RBAC), and secure sharing links with expiration and password protection. The system addresses key challenges such as data breaches, unauthorized access, and platform fragmentation in traditional cloud storage services. Experimental results demonstrate high security, usability, and performance, making Web Cloud an ideal solution for individuals, enterprises, and organizations requiring secure cross-platform data sharing.

**Keywords:** Cloud Storage, Secure Data Sharing, Client-Side Encryption, Cross-Platform Access, Web-Based Storage, Access Control, Zero-Knowledge Architecture.

### **I.Introduction**

Cloud storage has become an essential part of modern digital infrastructure, enabling users and organizations to store, access, and share data conveniently from anywhere. However, with increasing concerns over data privacy, security breaches, and vendor lock-in, users demand solutions that guarantee confidentiality while maintaining seamless accessibility across platforms.

Traditional cloud storage providers often store data in plaintext or manage encryption keys themselves, creating risks of unauthorized access by service providers or external attackers. Web Cloud addresses these issues by offering a fully web-based cloud storage system with strong client-side encryption and secure sharing capabilities. The system allows users to encrypt files in the browser before uploading, ensuring that the cloud provider never sees the plaintext data.

Web Cloud supports cross-platform access through modern web technologies (HTML5, JavaScript, Web Crypto API) and provides a responsive interface compatible with desktops, tablets, and smartphones. It enables secure file sharing with fine-grained permissions, link expiration, and password protection. By combining usability with strong cryptographic

guarantees, Web Cloud delivers a practical and secure alternative for personal and enterprise data storage needs.

## II. Literature Survey

Several studies have explored secure cloud storage and data sharing mechanisms:

- “WebCloud: Web-Based Cloud Storage for Secure Data Sharing across Platforms” discusses practical browser-side encryption solutions using modern web technologies.
- Research on client-side encryption highlights how zero-knowledge systems prevent cloud providers from accessing user data.
- Studies on access control in cloud environments emphasize the importance of role-based access control (RBAC) and attribute-based encryption for secure sharing.
- Surveys on cloud security challenges identify data breaches, misconfiguration, and lack of end-to-end encryption as major concerns in multi-platform storage.
- Works on cross-platform web applications demonstrate the effectiveness of Web Crypto API and progressive web apps (PWAs) for building responsive secure storage systems.

These studies confirm the need for systems that combine strong encryption with user-friendly cross-platform interfaces while minimizing trust in the storage provider.

## III. Existing System & Proposed System

### A. Existing System

Most commercial cloud storage services (such as Google Drive, Dropbox, or OneDrive) offer convenient storage and sharing features. However, they suffer from several limitations:

- Data is often encrypted only at rest on the server, with the provider holding the keys.
- Limited end-to-end encryption for shared files.
- Platform dependency and inconsistent experience across devices.
- Risk of data exposure through insider threats or legal requests.
- Weak fine-grained access control for collaborative sharing.

### Disadvantages of Existing Systems:

1. Lack of true end-to-end (client-side) encryption.
2. Provider can potentially access user data.
3. Inconsistent cross-platform support.
4. Limited control over shared file permissions and expiration.
5. Vulnerability to server-side breaches.

### B. Proposed System

Web Cloud is a secure web-based cloud storage system that performs encryption and decryption entirely on the client side using the Web Crypto API. Files are encrypted with AES-256 before upload, and the cloud server stores only ciphertext. The system supports secure sharing through encrypted links with expiration, password protection, and granular permissions.

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It provides a responsive web interface compatible with all major browsers and devices. Users can upload, organize, share, and download files securely without installing native applications.

### Advantages of the Proposed System:

1. True client-side encryption with zero-knowledge architecture.
2. Seamless cross-platform access via web browser.
3. Fine-grained access control and secure sharing options.
4. No dependency on third-party trust for data confidentiality.
5. High usability with modern web technologies.
6. Support for file versioning and activity logging.
7. Enhanced security against server-side and insider threats.

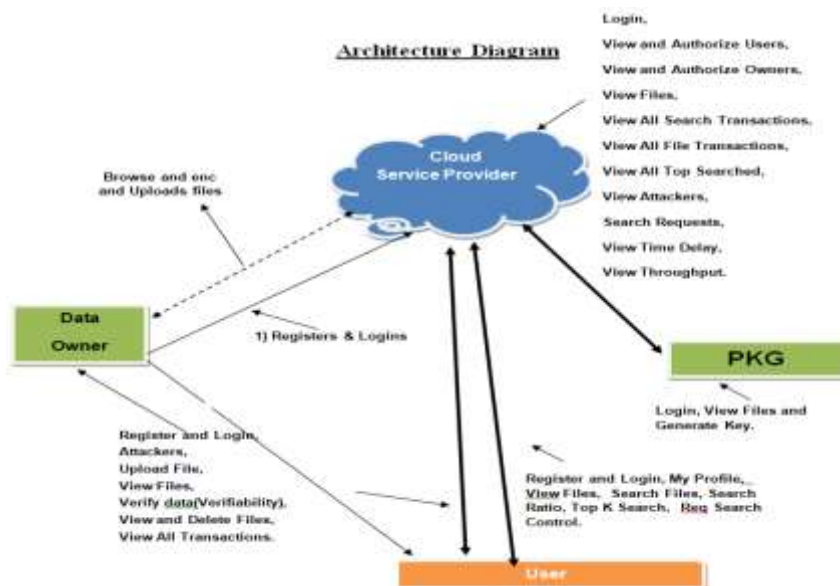
## IV. System Design & Architecture

### A. System Architecture

The architecture follows a client-server model with strong separation of concerns. The client handles encryption/decryption using the browser’s Web Crypto API, while the server only manages storage and metadata. Key components include:

- Responsive Web Interface (HTML5 + CSS + JavaScript)
- Client-Side Encryption Module (AES-256 + Web Crypto API)
- Secure Sharing & Access Control Layer
- Backend Storage & Metadata Management
- Authentication & Session Management

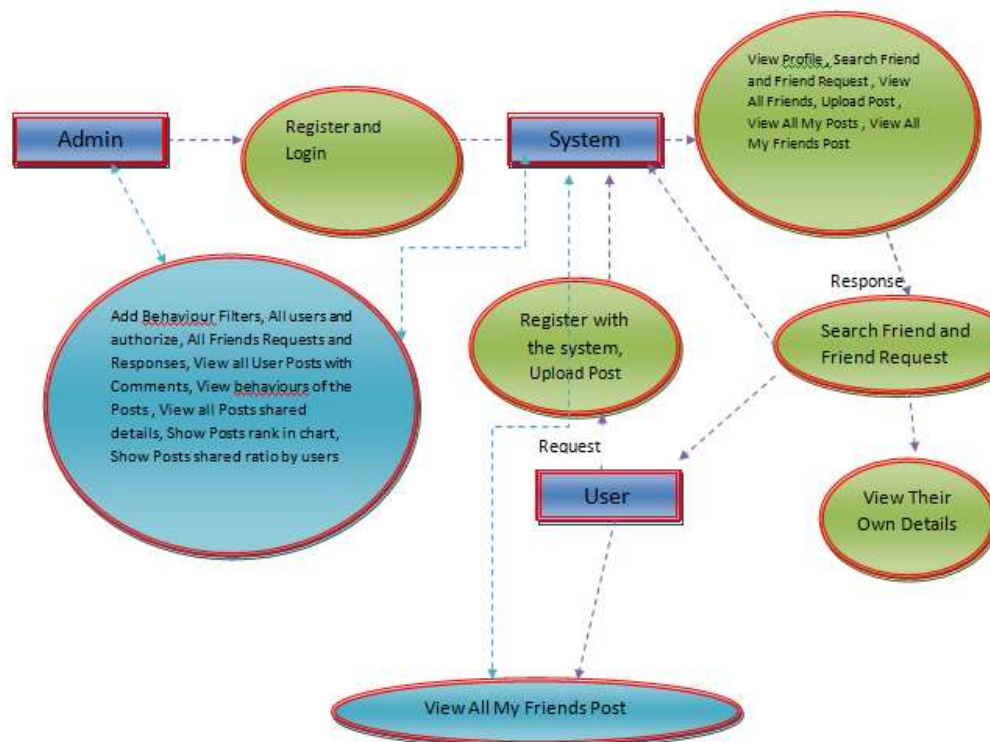
Data flow: User selects file → Client-side encryption → Upload ciphertext + metadata → Secure sharing link generation → Authorized recipient decrypts on their browser.



## B. System Flowchart

The process begins with user login → file selection and client-side encryption → upload to server → generation of secure shareable link → recipient accesses link → decryption in browser → optional feedback or versioning.

### ➤ Data Flow Diagram :



## C. Modules Overview

- **Data Owner**

In this module, the data provider uploads their encrypted data in the Cloud server. For the security purpose the data owner encrypts the data file and then store in the server. The Data owner can have capable of manipulating the encrypted data file and performs the following operations Register and Login, Attackers, Upload File, View Files, Verify data(Verifiability), View and Delete Files, View All Transactions.

### Cloud Service Provider



The **Cloud** server manages which is to provide data storage service for the Data Owners. Data owners encrypt their data files and store them in the Server for sharing with data consumers. To access the shared data files, data consumers download encrypted data files of their interest from the Server and then Server will decrypt them. The server will generate the aggregate key if the end user requests for file authorization to access and performs the following operations such as Login, View and Authorize Users, View and Authorize Owners, View Files, View All Search Transactions, View All File Transactions, View All Top Searched, View Attackers, Search Requests, View Time Delay, View Throughput.

- **User**

In this module, the user can only access the data file with the secret key. The user can search the file for a specified keyword. The data which matches for a particular keyword will be indexed in the cloud server and then response to the end user and performing the following operations Register and Login, My Profile, View Files, Search Files, Search Ratio, Top K Search, Req Search Control.

- **PKG– responsible for viewing Files and Generate Key.**

**Table I: Technology Stack**

Component	Technology / Tool
Programming Language	JavaScript (Frontend), Java / Node.js (Backend)
Encryption	AES-256 via Web Crypto API
Web Framework	React.js / HTML5, CSS3, Bootstrap
Database	MySQL / MongoDB (for metadata only)

Component	Technology / Tool
Backend	Node.js / Spring Boot
Cloud Storage	Compatible with AWS S3, Azure Blob, etc.
Visualization	Chart.js
OS	Platform Independent (Web Browser)

**Table II: Performance / Evaluation Summary**

Metric / Component	Web Cloud	Traditional Cloud Storage	Remarks
Encryption Type	Client-side (End-to-End)	Server-side	Zero-knowledge security
Data Confidentiality	High (Provider cannot access)	Medium	Stronger privacy
Cross-Platform Access	Excellent (Web-based)	Good	Browser compatibility
Sharing Security	High (Expiration + Password)	Moderate	Granular control
Performance Overhead	Low	Minimal	Acceptable for security gain
Usability	High	High	Responsive web interface

Screenshots (in the actual document) illustrate the clean interface, upload process, encryption status, and secure sharing features.



Fig 1:- home page



Fig2 :-cloud service home page

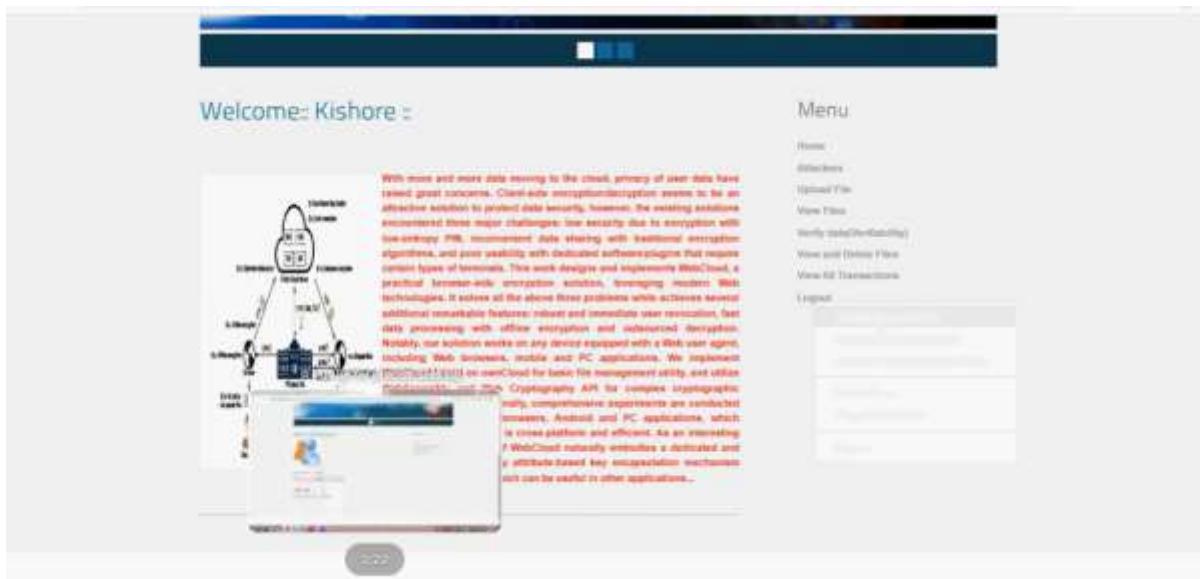


Fig :- Data owner home page







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