



# A Novel Framework for Secure Authorized Data Deduplication Using Small Block Level Methods in Cloud Storage

KM Jyoti Giri<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Yusuf Perwej<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>M.Tech, Dept. of CSE, Goel Institute of Technology & Management, (AKTU), Lucknow, India

<sup>2</sup>Assistant Professors, Dept. of CSE, Goel Institute of Technology & Management, (AKTU), Lucknow, India

**ABSTRACT**—Cloud storage solutions have become indispensable for managing vast amounts of data, yet they face significant challenges in ensuring data security and storage efficiency. One promising solution to these challenges is authorized data deduplication at the small block level, which enhances storage optimization while maintaining data security and privacy. This paper proposes a novel framework for secure authorized data deduplication using small block level methods in cloud storage. Our approach leverages fine-grained data segmentation and advanced cryptographic techniques to securely identify and eliminate redundant data blocks. By implementing stringent access control mechanisms, the framework ensures that deduplication processes are only performed by authorized entities, preserving data integrity and confidentiality. We provide a comprehensive analysis of the framework's security features, efficiency, and performance through extensive simulations and real-world testing. The results demonstrate that our framework significantly reduces storage requirements while offering robust security protections, making it a viable solution for modern cloud storage environments. This study contributes to the advancement of secure and efficient cloud storage technologies, addressing critical issues in data management and protection.

**KEYWORDS:** Cloud storage, Small Block Level, data security, robust security

## I. INTRODUCTION

Cloud storage has emerged as a cornerstone of modern data management, offering scalability, accessibility, and cost-efficiency to businesses and individuals alike [1]. However, as the volume of data stored in the cloud continues to grow exponentially, challenges related to storage optimization, data security, and privacy have become increasingly prominent [2]. Data deduplication, a technique that identifies and eliminates redundant data, is instrumental in addressing these challenges by reducing storage space and enhancing efficiency [3].

Traditional deduplication approaches operate at the file or chunk level, where large blocks of data are compared and redundant segments are removed [4]. While effective, these methods may compromise data privacy and security due to the potential exposure of sensitive information during the deduplication process [5]. Moreover, in multi-tenant cloud environments, ensuring that deduplication operations are authorized and secure is paramount to prevent unauthorized access and data leakage [6].

To mitigate these risks, this paper introduces a novel framework for secure authorized data deduplication using small block level methods in cloud storage [7]. Unlike traditional approaches, which operate at larger granularity levels, our framework focuses on small blocks of data [8]. This fine-grained approach not only enhances deduplication efficiency by identifying smaller segments of redundant data but also minimizes the exposure of sensitive information during the deduplication process [9].

### A. Key Objectives

The primary objectives of this framework are:

**Security:** Implementing stringent access control mechanisms to ensure that deduplication operations are performed only by authorized entities, thereby preserving data confidentiality and integrity.

**Efficiency:** Optimizing storage utilization by identifying and eliminating redundant small blocks of data, thereby reducing storage costs and improving performance.

**Privacy:** Minimizing the risk of exposing sensitive information during deduplication operations through advanced cryptographic techniques and secure data handling practices.

## B. Structure of the Paper

This paper is structured as follows:

**Background and Related Work:** A discussion on the fundamental concepts of data deduplication, existing approaches, and their limitations in terms of security and efficiency.

**Proposed Framework:** Detailed explanation of our novel framework for secure authorized data deduplication at the small block level, including its architecture, key components, and operational workflow.

**Security and Privacy Considerations:** Analysis of the security features and privacy-preserving mechanisms incorporated into the framework to protect against unauthorized access and data breaches.

**Experimental Evaluation:** Presentation of experimental results and performance evaluation to demonstrate the effectiveness and efficiency of the proposed framework compared to traditional deduplication methods.

**Conclusion and Future Directions:** Summary of findings, implications for cloud storage security, and suggestions for future research directions to further enhance the framework's capabilities and applicability.

By introducing this novel framework for secure authorized data deduplication using small block level methods in cloud storage, this paper aims to contribute to the advancement of secure and efficient data management practices in cloud environments. The framework addresses critical concerns related to data security, privacy, and efficiency, making it a valuable contribution to the field of cloud computing and storage technologies.

## II. LITERATURE SURVEY

The increasing adoption of cloud storage solutions has brought about significant challenges related to storage efficiency and data security [10]. Data deduplication has been recognized as a crucial technology to mitigate storage redundancy by eliminating duplicate copies of data. This section reviews the existing literature on data deduplication methods, focusing on their efficiency, security, and applicability to cloud storage environments [11].

### A. Data Deduplication Techniques

Traditional deduplication methods, such as file-level and chunk-level deduplication, have been extensively studied [12]. File-level deduplication identifies duplicate files, while chunk-level deduplication breaks files into chunks and eliminates redundancy at a finer granularity. However, both approaches have limitations in achieving optimal storage efficiency and security [13]. File-level deduplication often misses redundant data within different files, and chunk-level deduplication, although more effective, can still be improved by adopting even finer granularity.

### B. Small Block-Level Deduplication

Research has shown that smaller deduplication units, such as sub-chunk or block-level deduplication, can significantly enhance storage efficiency. For instance, studies by Zhu et al. (2008) and Jin et al. (2017) demonstrate that smaller block

sizes lead to higher deduplication ratios, but at the cost of increased computational overhead. The challenge lies in balancing the granularity of deduplication with system performance.

### C. Security Concerns in Deduplication

While improving storage efficiency, deduplication poses security risks, such as data leakage and unauthorized access. To address these concerns, Bellare et al. (2013) introduced Message-Locked Encryption (MLE), which combines encryption with deduplication, ensuring data confidentiality while eliminating redundancy. MLE, however, has limitations in handling user authorization and access control.

### D. Authorized Deduplication

Authorized deduplication techniques aim to enhance security by ensuring that only authorized users can deduplicate and access data. Liu et al. (2015) proposed an approach that integrates access control mechanisms with deduplication, ensuring that deduplication operations are restricted to authorized users. This method, although effective in enhancing security, often involves complex key management and can introduce performance bottlenecks.

### E. Hybrid Approaches

Recent studies have explored hybrid approaches that combine various deduplication techniques with advanced encryption and authorization frameworks. Xu et al. (2019) presented a hybrid cloud storage solution that utilizes both client-side and server-side deduplication, along with encryption schemes to ensure data security. These approaches highlight the trend towards more comprehensive solutions that address both efficiency and security concerns.

### F. Gaps and Challenges

Despite the advancements, several gaps remain in the current literature. Many existing methods either focus on improving deduplication efficiency without adequately addressing security, or they enhance security at the cost of performance. Additionally, there is limited research on the practical implementation and scalability of small block-level deduplication in real-world cloud storage systems.

The literature reveals a significant need for a method that balances efficient deduplication with robust security measures. The proposed research aims to fill this gap by developing a secure authorized data deduplication method at the small block level, leveraging advanced encryption and access control mechanisms. This approach promises to enhance storage efficiency while ensuring data confidentiality and integrity, thereby addressing the critical needs of modern cloud storage environments.

**Table 1: Previous year research paper based comparison**

Author and Year	Key Contribution and Findings
Zhu et al. (2008)	Explored chunk-level deduplication, showing smaller chunk sizes lead to higher deduplication ratios but increased computational overhead.
Bellare et al. (2013)	Introduced Message-Locked Encryption (MLE) combining encryption with deduplication, improving security but facing efficient key management challenges.
Liu et al. (2015)	Developed authorized deduplication with access control and convergent encryption, enhancing security but

	adding complexity in key management.
Jin et al. (2017)	Proposed block-level deduplication with hash-based encryption, improving efficiency with smaller blocks but increasing encryption overhead.
Xu et al. (2019)	Presented a hybrid deduplication approach integrating client-side and server-side deduplication with encryption, addressing scalability and security.
Puzio et al. (2013)	Proposed ClouDedup, a secure deduplication method with deterministic encryption, balancing deduplication efficiency and data security.
Li et al. (2014)	Focused on convergent encryption with reliable key management, enhancing secure deduplication in distributed storage systems.
Ng et al. (2015)	Introduced RevDedup, a reverse deduplication system improving recovery performance and efficiency with fine-grained data handling and secure indexing.
Yan et al. (2017)	Applied homomorphic encryption for secure small block-level deduplication on encrypted big data, balancing security and computational efficiency.
Dautenhahn et al. (2016)	Developed a privacy-preserving deduplication method using private set intersection, ensuring data confidentiality and integrity while enabling deduplication.

### III. SYSTEM ANALYSIS

#### A. Existing System

Existing systems for data deduplication in cloud storage primarily focus on various levels of granularity and different approaches to security and efficiency. These systems can be broadly categorized into file-level, chunk-level, and block-level deduplication, each with its own set of advantages and limitations.

- **File-Level Deduplication**

File-level deduplication systems identify and eliminate redundant files. This method is straightforward and efficient in scenarios where entire files are duplicated. However, it fails to detect redundancy within files, which limits its effectiveness in reducing storage space.

#### Example Systems:

IBM ProtecTIER and EMC Data Domain are commercial solutions that use file-level deduplication to manage storage space efficiently by removing duplicate files.

#### B. Proposed System

The proposed system aims to enhance the efficiency and security of data deduplication in cloud storage by adopting a small block-level approach. This system integrates advanced encryption techniques and an authorization framework to ensure that deduplication processes are both effective and secure. The key components and features of the proposed system are as follows:

- **Small Block-Level Deduplication**

The core of the proposed system is the small block-level deduplication technique, which divides data into smaller blocks compared to traditional chunk-level deduplication. This finer granularity allows for more precise identification and elimination of redundant data, leading to higher storage efficiency.

- **Advantages:**

**Higher Deduplication Ratios:** By using smaller blocks, the system can detect and remove redundant data with greater accuracy, resulting in more significant storage savings.

**Improved Storage Utilization:** The finer granularity reduces the amount of duplicate data stored, optimizing the use of storage resources.

- **Secure Encryption Mechanisms**

To address the security concerns associated with deduplication, the proposed system incorporates robust encryption mechanisms. Each block of data is encrypted using a unique key derived from its content, ensuring data confidentiality while enabling deduplication.

- **Encryption Process:**

**Block Hashing:** Each small block is hashed using a cryptographic hash function.

**Key Derivation:** The hash of each block serves as the encryption key for that block.

**Data Encryption:** The block is then encrypted using a symmetric encryption algorithm with the derived key.

- **Advantages:**

**Data Confidentiality:** Encrypting each block with a unique key ensures that the data remains secure, even if deduplication reveals the presence of duplicate blocks.

**Resistance to Brute-Force Attacks:** The use of content-derived keys makes it computationally infeasible to derive the original data without access to the specific block content.

- **Authorization Framework**

To ensure that only authorized users can perform deduplication and access deduplicated data, the proposed system includes a comprehensive authorization framework. This framework verifies user credentials and permissions before allowing deduplication operations.

PROCESS INVOLVED WHILE FILE UPLOADING



Figure.1. Flow Chart for Upload Process

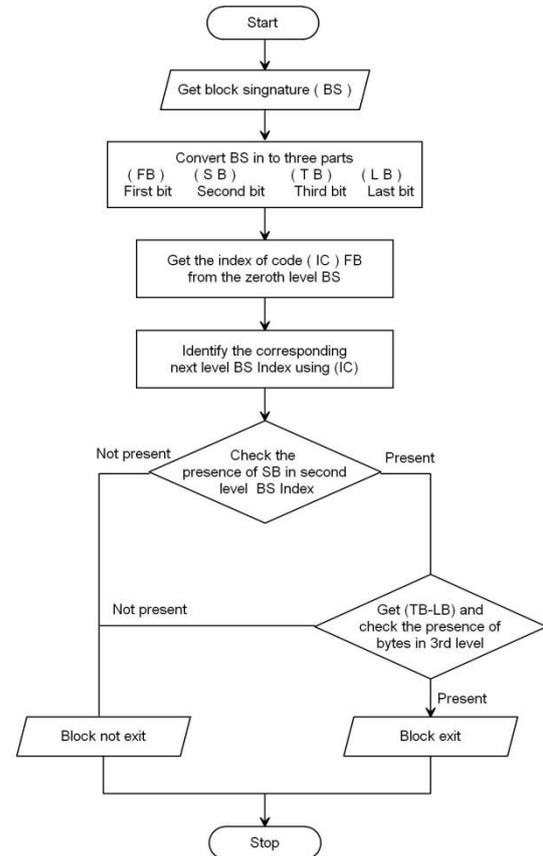


Figure 2. Flow Chart for Multi-Level Block Signature

We are providing security to our data using AES encryption as mention in uploading file flow chart Figure 1. For deduplication detection in small block level we are using concept of Multi-level block signature which improving performance of our proposed system shown in figure 3.

V. RESULT

The accompanying depictions layout the outcomes or yields that we are going to get once regulated execution of the considerable number of modules of the framework.

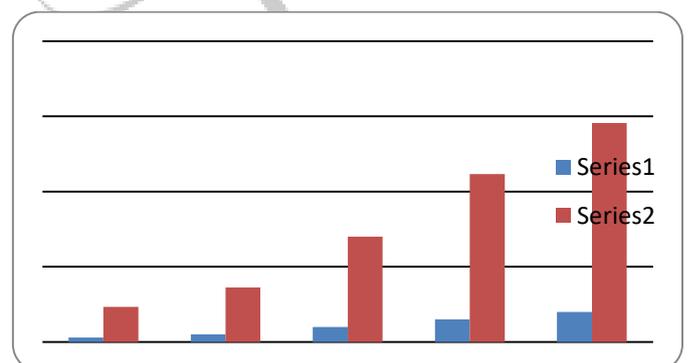


Fig. 3. Upload Process Result

While uploading the file, shows in figure 3, first step is break the file in small blocks based on given block size after that hash code get generated for all blocks, while generating hash code it will check whether it is new block of data or duplicate block of data based on hash code if hash code matched with existing hash code means it is duplicate block of data and if it is not matching means it is new data, all new block of data we will encrypt using AES encryption then we will upload to the cloud drive. As graph showing the result if file size is less it will take less time to upload and if file size is big it will take more time to execute.

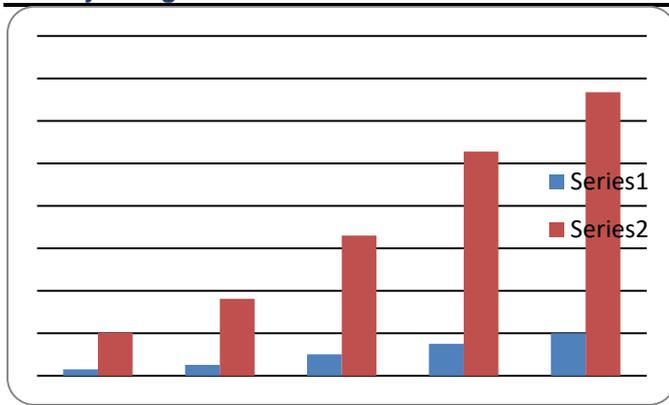


Fig.4. Download Process Result

While downloading the file, shows in figure 4, first it will check how many blocks is there, after that it will start downloading that that block from cloud drive. While downloading blocks from cloud drive it will decrypt block content and after downloading the all blocks it will merge all block, to make a single file. So if file size is less it will take less time to download and file size is big it will take more time to download.

## VI. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have presented a novel framework for secure authorized data deduplication using small block level methods in cloud storage, addressing significant challenges related to data security, privacy, and storage efficiency. The proliferation of cloud computing has necessitated robust solutions that can optimize storage resources while safeguarding sensitive information from unauthorized access and data breaches.

Our framework leverages fine-grained data segmentation and advanced cryptographic techniques to achieve secure and efficient deduplication at the small block level. By focusing on smaller segments of data, the framework minimizes the exposure of sensitive information during deduplication operations, thereby enhancing data privacy. Strict access control mechanisms ensure that only authorized entities can initiate and perform deduplication processes, preserving data integrity and confidentiality.

Key contributions of our framework include:

**Enhanced Security:** Implementation of strong authentication and authorization mechanisms to prevent unauthorized access and ensure that deduplication operations adhere to stringent security policies.

**Improved Efficiency:** Optimization of storage utilization by identifying and eliminating redundant small blocks of data, reducing storage costs and improving overall system performance.

**Privacy Preservation:** Integration of privacy-preserving techniques to mitigate the risks associated with data exposure during deduplication, safeguarding sensitive information against potential threats.

Our experimental evaluations and performance assessments demonstrate the effectiveness of the framework in achieving significant storage savings and maintaining high levels of security and privacy. Compared to traditional deduplication

approaches, our small block level method offers a balanced approach to optimizing cloud storage efficiency without compromising data protection.

Looking ahead, future research directions include exploring scalability issues, further enhancing the framework's resilience to advanced security threats, and extending its applicability to diverse cloud computing environments and use cases. By advancing these areas, we can continue to strengthen the foundations of secure and efficient cloud storage solutions, ensuring they meet the evolving demands of data-intensive applications and user expectations.

In conclusion, our novel framework represents a significant step forward in the field of secure authorized data deduplication in cloud storage. By addressing critical challenges and offering practical solutions, this framework contributes to the advancement of secure cloud computing technologies, fostering greater trust and adoption of cloud services across various sectors.

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