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Abstract:

Cloud computing is becoming the predominant mechanism to seamlessly deploy applications with special requirements such as massive storage sharing or load balancing, usually provided as services by cloud platforms. A developer can improve the application's delivery and productivity by following a multi tenancy approach, where variants of the same application can be quickly customized to the necessities of each tenant. However, managing the inherent variability existing in multi-tenant applications and, even more importantly, managing the evolution of a multi-tenant application with hundreds of tenants and thousands of different valid architectural configurations can become intractable if performed manually. In this paper we propose a product line architecture approach in which: (1) we use cardinality-based variability models to model each tenant as a clonable feature, (2) we automate the process of evolving the multi-tenant application architecture, and (3) we demonstrate that the implemented process is correct and efficient for a high number of tenants in a reasonable time. We use a running case study in the domain of medical software.

Published in: Enterprise Distributed Object Computing Conference (EDOC), 2016 IEEE 20th International

Date of Conference: 5-9 Sept. 2016

INSPEC Accession Number: 16342244

Date Added to IEEE Xplore: 29 September 2016

DOI: 10.1109/EDOC.2016.7579384

ISBN Information:

Publisher: IEEE

Electronic ISBN: 978-1-4673-9885-5

Print on Demand(PoD) ISBN: 978-1-4673-9886-2

Electronic ISSN: 2325-6362

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software product lines, cloud computing, software architecture

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product line architecture, medical software, multitenant application architecture, clonable feature, cardinality-based variability models, automatic evolution, architectural configurations, cloud computing

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