

# Designing a Trust Management System for Fog Computing: Combining Soft and Hard Trust Criteria

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**Abstract:** In this research, we investigate how to include a Trust Management System (TMS) into fog computing—a decentralized computing architecture that expands cloud computing's capabilities to the edge of a network. We conduct an inquiry into the application and evaluation of a new multi-criteria trust mechanism designed specifically for fog computing settings. This approach, which combines "soft trust" with "hard trust," is essential to assessing and controlling the dependability and credibility of entities in the fog computing environment. We discover that the implementation of trust models in this setting improves the reliability and usefulness of Electroencephalography (EEG) applications in various domains, including neurology and clinical medicine. Additionally, these models aid in the creation of implementations that are safe, intuitive, and compliant with ethical standards.

**Keywords:** Cloud Computing, Cloud, Data Center, Fog Computing, Trust, EEG, MCDM

## 1. Introduction

"Soft trust" and "hard trust" are two distinct methods or degrees of evaluating and managing the trust connections between entities in the fog computing environment.



**Fig. 1.** Trust and Security Framework in Fog Computing.

### 1.1 Hard Trust:

Hard trust, often referred to as quantitative trust, entails giving trust relationships a numerical or quantitative value based on particular measurements, criteria, or observations. These measurements may take into account past behavior, security settings, dependability, and other factors. The trust values are frequently expressed as numerical scores, which can be used to decision-making, task prioritization, or resource access.

Hard trust in fog computing refers to the formalization of a system where trust levels are determined by algorithms, data

analysis, and predetermined criteria[23]. This strategy is more methodical and enables precise decision-making based on measurements that can be measured.

### 1.2 Soft Trust:

The assessment of trust relationships using subjective or qualitative criteria is the topic of soft trust, sometimes referred to as qualitative trust. Soft trust is based on ideas like reputation, context, recommendations, and personal judgments rather than awarding numerical rankings. The nature of interactions[33], relationships, and the degree of familiarity between entities are all taken into account by this method, which may make it difficult to quantify some of these characteristics.

In fog computing, determining whether an entity can be trusted may involve weighing context, considering suggestions from reliable peers, and relying on personal experiences and insights. This method, which takes into account the "feel" of trust rather than depending exclusively on quantifiable facts, is more intuitive and human-centered.

Hard and soft trust each have their benefits and drawbacks. For applications requiring consistent and unbiased decision-making, hard trust offers a more methodical and quantitative technique of evaluating trust. On the other hand, soft trust can be more flexible to complicated and changing circumstances since it captures the subjective nuances of trust relationships.

In reality, both strategies may be used, with

hard trust mechanisms serving as a base for impartial trust evaluation and soft trust mechanisms allowing for the inclusion of contextual knowledge and human judgment in the trust management process[26]. The precise requirements

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and characteristics of the fog computing environment and its applications determine whether to use hard or soft trust.

## 2. Related Work

This analysis highlights the varied focus of different research efforts, underscoring the need for a multi-faceted approach to address the diverse challenges in fog computing. The proposed trust model stands out for its comprehensive coverage of key enhancement parameters.

- Some studies, such as those by Deng et al. [26], Gieng et al. [30], and Srkar et al. [32], focus significantly on QoS and latency, aiming to enhance performance and reduce delays.
- Security is addressed in fewer studies, with Ha et al. [27] and Pahal et al. [31] specifically concentrating on security measures.

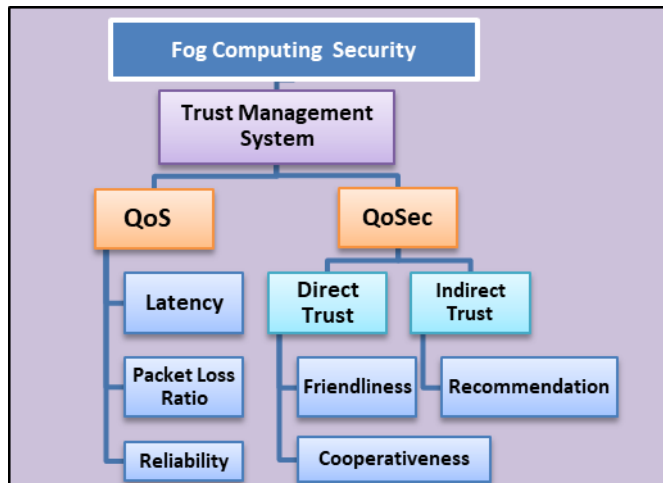
- Availability and scalability are critical for some studies, such as Lie et al. [37] and Weng et al. [39], highlighting the need for accessible and adaptable fog computing systems.
- The proposed trust model in the last row of the table addresses a wide range of parameters, including QoS, latency, security, availability, scalability, and total blocking time. This comprehensive approach indicates a robust framework designed to enhance multiple aspects of fog computing environments simultaneously.

Researches	Work Accomplished Parameters								Architecture Enhancement Parameters		
	QoS	Latency	Security	Availability	Scalability	Secure service (SSLA)	Energy	Resource Management	Total Blocking Time	Migration Cost	Execution Cost
By Deng et al. [26]	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
By Ha et al. [27]	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
By Gieng et al. [30]	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
By Pahal et al. [31]	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
By Srkar et al. [32]	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
By Gupta et al. [34]	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
By Lie et al. [37]	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Bhaardwaj et al. [38]	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
By Weng et al. [39]	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Valati et al. [41]	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
By Azmi et al. [42]	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Markakis et al. [43]	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
By Chen and Xeu [44]	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
Ne et al. [45]	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Propose Trust Model	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓

**Table 1.** Parameter comparison of different Researches [26]

### 3.Implementation Parameters

In fog computing, a Trust Management System (TMS) is a mechanism that evaluates and controls the dependability and trustworthiness of entities in the environment. These entities may include users, devices, applications, and services. To maintain the security, privacy, and proper operation of the system, trust management is essential since fog computing uses decentralized and dispersed computing resources



**Fig 2** Trust Management System Evaluation Parameters

The operation of a trust management system in the context of fog computing is as follows:

**Trust Establishment:** Establishing the initial trust level of entities joining the fog computing environment is the responsibility of the TMS. This could entail checking the devices' validity, validating their security settings, and evaluating their previous behavior.

**Trust Metrics:** Trust measures are frequently used to measure trust. These indicators might take into account things like prior behavior, reputation, security posture, and policy compliance. For each entity, the TMS calculates trust scores by gathering and analyzing data.

**Trust Updating:** Trust is dynamic; it changes over time in response to how different entities behave and interact with one another. Based on in-the-moment observations and input from other entities, the TMS continuously updates trust scores.

**Trust Aggregation:** In fog computing, several entities communicate with one another. The TMS compiles trust data from many sources to create a comprehensive picture of an entity's trustworthiness. This can entail integrating first-hand observations, peer feedback, and historical data.

**Trust-based Decision Making:** Applications and services for fog computing can use trust scores to make better informed decisions. A device with a high trust score, for instance, might have its data processing activities

prioritized, whereas a device with a low trust score would have its operations limited.

**Dynamic Trust Management:** Fog environments are dynamic, as devices often join and leave the network. By continuously evaluating and modifying trust levels as the environment changes, the TMS adjusts to these changes.

**Risk Assessment:** TMS can aid in risk assessment by taking into account the legitimacy of entities before granting access to vital resources or exchanging sensitive information with them. It lessens the risk of security lapses or data leakage.

**Anomaly Detection:** The detection of anomalies or departures from expected behavior can be aided by trustmanagement systems. A security breach may be indicated by abrupt changes in behavior or activity, and the TMS can prompt the proper responses.

**Feedback Mechanism:** Entities can report their interactions and experiences with other entities using a feedback system that is frequently included in TMS. This criticism aids in the evaluation of trust.

**Collaborative Trust:** TMS promotes inter-entity cooperation. Both direct encounters and referrals from reliable peers can have an impact on trust levels.

Fog computing requires careful design, reliable algorithms, and integration with other security methods in order to implement a Trust Management System. To ensure that trust scores accurately represent information and enable secure and productive interactions, it's critical to strike a balance between security and usability. within the fog computing environment.

### 4. Proposed Work

The research suggests a brand-new multi-criteria trust mechanism for fog computing environments that can help nodes in the network regulate the security settings needed to build confidence.

By dynamically combining trust information from the nodes and the suggestions from nearby nodes to compute the final trust value, the event-based and distributed trust management system can evaluate a fog node's level of trust by taking into account the QoS (Quality of Services), Quality of security (QoSec), and social trust indicators. This trust can then be transferred to the cloud so that other nodes can request it in real-time.

### QoS (Quality of Services) Result:

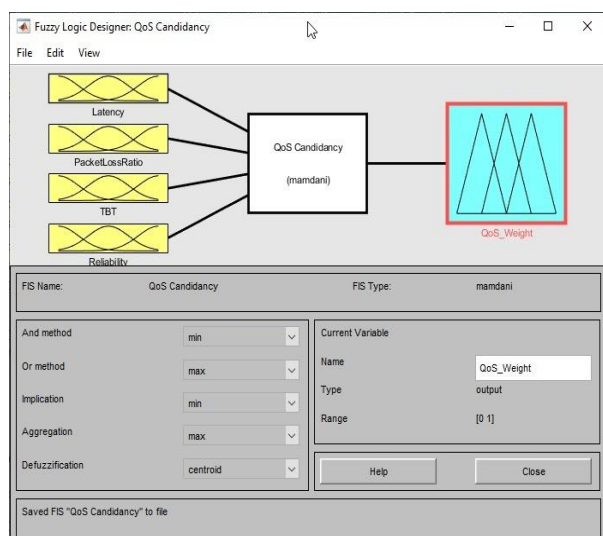


Fig. 3: Quality of Service Candidancy

Additionally, a dynamic weight assignment technique will be used in conjunction with a multi-criteria decision-making system to update the offloaded state continually.

These entities may include users, devices, applications, and services. To maintain the security, privacy, and proper operation of the system, trust management is essential since fog computing.

### QoSec (Quality of Security) Candidancy:

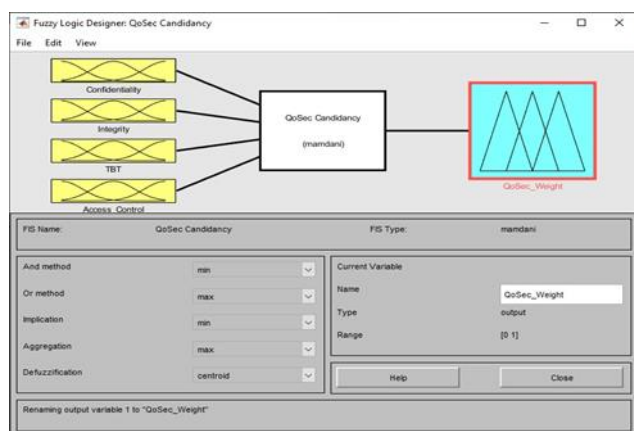


Fig. 4: Quality of Security Candidancy

## 5. Application of Proposed Trust Model

Electroencephalography, or EEG for short, is a medical test that tracks and records electrical activity in the brain. In order to recognize and capture the electrical signals generated by the brain's neurons, electrodes are applied to the scalp. The EEG machine[58] that these electrodes are commonly attached to amplifies and displays the electrical activity of the brain as a series of waveforms on a computer screen or piece of paper.

In the fields of clinical medicine and neuroscience, EEG is a useful tool. It is frequently employed for a number of things:

**Diagnosing Epilepsy:** The neurological condition known as epilepsy, which is marked by recurring seizures, is frequently diagnosed and monitored using EEG. Epilepsy can be detected by certain patterns of aberrant electrical activity in the brain.

**Assessing Brain Function:** In a variety of neurological problems, including head injuries, brain tumors, and degenerative diseases like Alzheimer's disease, EEG can be used to evaluate brain function. The nature and location of these diseases can be determined by changes in brain activity patterns.

**Sleep Studies:** EEG is a crucial part of polysomnography, a test that tracks and examines sleep patterns. It aids in the diagnosis of sleep disorders include REM sleep behavior disorder, sleep apnea, and narcolepsy.

**Research:** EEG is frequently used in neuroscience research to examine how the brain functions when performing various cognitive activities, experiencing emotions, and perceiving

the world around us. It aids in the better understanding of brain disorders and function by researchers.

**Biofeedback and Neurofeedback:** EEG can be utilized for biofeedback and neurofeedback training in therapeutic situations. Patients with disorders like anxiety, ADHD, and chronic pain can learn to manage certain components of their brain activity to reduce the symptoms they experience

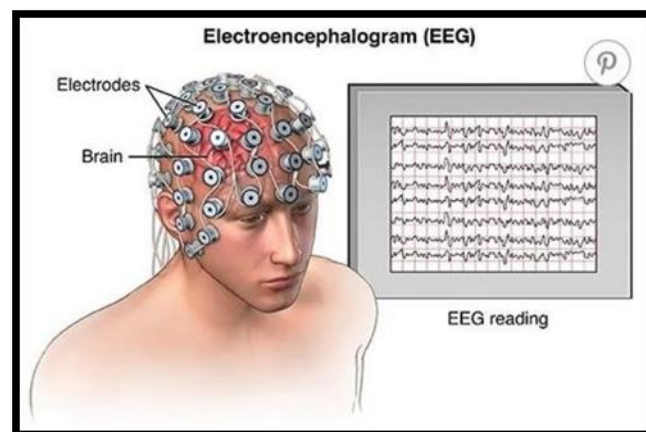
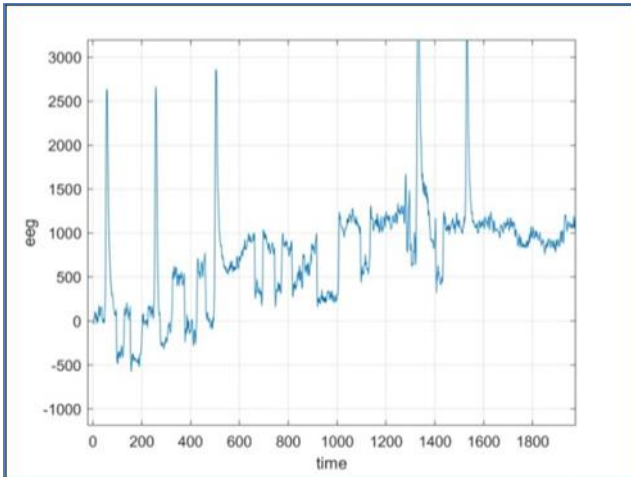


Fig 6 : EEG data scanning Process [13]

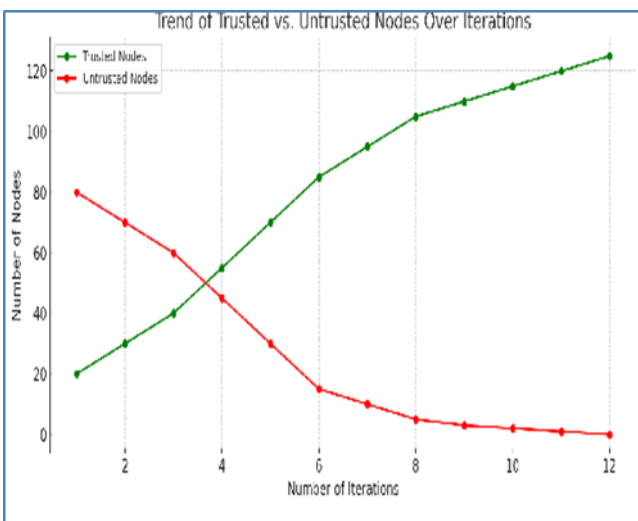
**Monitoring Brain Function During Surgery:** In some circumstances, real-time EEG monitoring of the patient's brain activity is done during brain surgery. This aids doctors in avoiding injuring crucial brain regions.



**Fig 6 EEG Result**

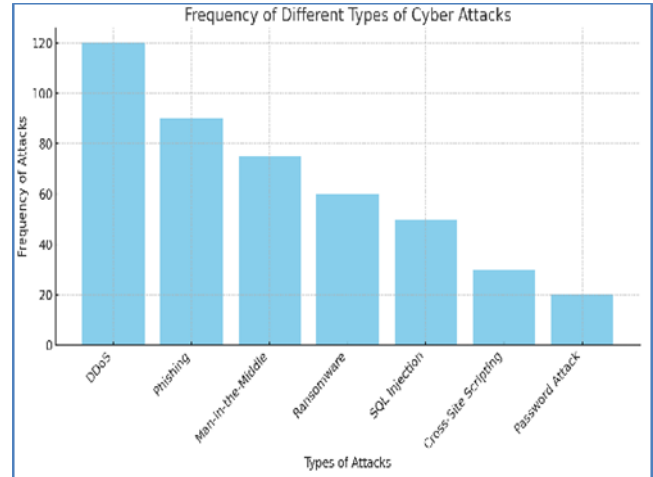
The many types of brainwaves shown in EEG recordings, such as delta, theta, alpha, beta, and gamma waves, which are all connected to distinct mental states and cognitive activities, are frequently visible. EEG is a useful tool for both clinical diagnosis and scientific study pertaining to the brain and nervous system because it is a non-invasive and generally safe process

## 6. Result



**Fig. 7 Trusted Node Detection**

This chart illustrates the trend of trusted versus untrusted nodes over 12 iterations. As the number of iterations increases, the number of trusted nodes (green line) rises steadily, indicating improved trust management. Simultaneously, the number of untrusted nodes (red line) decreases, showing a reduction in entities deemed unreliable. This trend demonstrates the effectiveness of the trust management system in promoting reliability and security within the network over time



**Fig 8 Trust management System for different Attacks**

The bar chart shows the frequency of different types of cyber attacks. DDoS attacks are the most frequent, followed by phishing and man-in-the-middle attacks. Other attacks such as ransomware, SQL injection, cross-site scripting, and password attacks occur less frequently. This visual representation highlights the common threats that require robust security measures in network system

## CONCLUSION

In order to improve the reliability and trustworthiness of entities within the fog computing environment, we have presented a thorough analysis of the integration of a Trust Management System (TMS) inside the domain of fog computing in this research. Through the application of an innovative multi-criteria trust mechanism that integrates "hard trust" and "soft trust," we have illustrated the efficacy of this methodology in assessing and managing the dependability and credibility of entities operating in the fog computing context.

The importance of trust models in the context of fog computing is highlighted by our research, particularly with regard to how they affect the applications of electroencephalography (EEG) in a variety of disciplines, including clinical medicine and neuroscience. Fog computing's incorporation of trust management systems not only advances the creation of safe and user-friendly implementations but also ensures ethical and dependable use of EEG data

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#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

The publication of this study report does not present any conflict of interest, according to the authors. There were no personal or financial ties that would have affected how the results were presented or interpreted. The research was carried out impartially and independently. Furthermore, there are no financial or commercial interests that could be thought to have an impact on the paper's content or the results of the research.

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