POD-Detection & POD-Diagnosis



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Detecting and diagnosing errors during Cloud operations based on process knowledge:

Detecting and diagnosing errors during Cloud operations

- · Runtime detection of deviations from log behavior & expected resource states
- Optimized diagnosis procedure to identify root causes
- All with high accuracy, even when noise from interfering operations is present

POD-Detection

Problem

When treating a system under observation as a black box, how can we non-invasively:

- detect deviation from normal log behaviour?
- detect abnormal resource state changes?

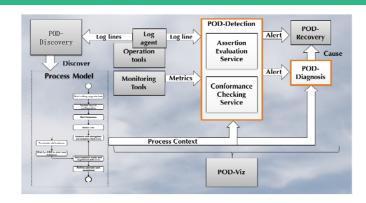
Solution

- · Conformance checking of log lines
 - Based on discovered process model and mapping of log events to process activities
- · Assertion checking of resource states, using process context
 - Check if expected state matches actual
 - Relies on open APIs, like AWS
- Anomaly detected → trigger diagnosis

Assert after: new machine configured & running correctly

Next Steps & Impact

- · Larger-scale evaluations
- Use it for security policy checking and intrusion detection
- · POD-Detection:
 - Assertion part released as OSS
 - Next: automatic derivation of assertions
- POD-Diagnosis:
 - optimization to be parallelized
- Research publications:
 - DSN 2014 & MW4NextGen 2013
 - DSN 2015 paper in review



POD-Diagnosis

Problem

- · Distinguish errors from operation effects
 - Sporadic operations often create "signals" similar to errors and faults
- · How to diagnose root causes?

Solution

- · Use process context to:
 - Distinguish legitimate ops from errors
 - Narrow down possible causes
 - Update probabilities of possible causes
- · Perform diagnostic tests to drill down
 - Optimized selection of test sequence, based on likelihood, impact and time
 - Partly relies on open APIs
- Data models:

- Fault tree: causes and diagnostic tests
- Bayesian network: probabilities and their updates, basis for optimization algorithm
- Error diagnosed → trigger recovery

