automatic scaling, as demand for or capacity requirements of the application change. The computing resources provided by the computing resource provider may be made available in discrete units, which may be referred to as instances. An instance may be run on directly on a physical server hardware platform, within a virtual machine or some combination of the two. Various types and configurations of instances may be made available, including different sizes of resources executing different operating systems (OS) and/or hypervisors and with various installed software applications, runtimes and the like.

SUMMARY

[0004a] According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a system for allocating computing resources in a provider network, the system comprising: one or more computing devices, the one or more computing devices comprising one or more resource slots, each resource slot configured to host a computing instance; at least one memory having stored therein computer instructions that, upon execution by one or more processors of the system, at least cause the system to: allocate a plurality of resource slots to a plurality of entities according to a first pricing policy; receive an indication that at least a portion of the resource slots associated with a first entity of the plurality of entities is associated with a second pricing policy and accessible to one or more users identified by the first entity, the second pricing policy being designated by the first entity; and allocate the indicated resource slots to the one or more users according to the second pricing policy.

[0004b] According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for allocating computing resources in a provider network, the method comprising: in a computing environment comprising a plurality of computing devices and where capacity of each computing device is logically segmented into one or more resource slots, associating a plurality of resource slots with a first user according to a first set of pricing policies; and allowing the user to identify one or more of the associated resource slots and identify other users allowed to access the one or more of the associated resource slots according to a second set of pricing policies, the second set of pricing policies being designated by the user.

[0004c] According to a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon computer-readable instructions, the computer-readable instructions comprising instructions that upon execution on one or more computing devices, to at least: in a computing environment comprising a plurality of computing devices and where capacity of each computing device is logically segmented into one or more resource slots, generate a user interface allowing a user to identify one or more resource slots associated with the user and identify other users allowed to access the one or more resource slots associated with the user according to a pricing policy, the pricing policy being designated by the user; and cause the computing environment to at least allow the other users to bid for the one or more resource slots associated with the user in accordance with the pricing policy.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0005] Throughout the drawings, reference numbers may be reused to indicate correspondence between referenced elements. The drawings are provided to illustrate example embodiments described herein and are not intended to limit the scope of the disclosure:

[0006] FIG. 1 is a diagram illustrating a mechanism for pooling instances in accordance with the present disclosure;

[0007] FIG. 2 is a diagram illustrating an example computing system that may be used in some embodiments;

[0008] FIG. 3 is a diagram illustrating an example computing system that may be used in some embodiments;

[0009] FIG. 4 is a diagram illustrating a system for pooling instances in accordance with the present disclosure;

[0010] FIG. 5 is a diagram illustrating a mechanism for pooling instances in accordance with the present disclosure;

[0011] FIG. 6 is a diagram illustrating a system for pooling instances in accordance with the present disclosure;

[0012] FIG. 7 is a diagram illustrating a system for pooling instances in accordance with the present disclosure;

[0013] FIG. 8 is a diagram illustrating a system for bursting capacity in accordance with the present disclosure;

[0014] FIG. 9 is a diagram illustrating a system for pooling instances in accordance with the present disclosure;

[0015] FIG. 10 is a diagram illustrating an example user interface in accordance with the present disclosure;