

Computing Server Policy

The Hertie Institute IT Core Facility provides for the employees virtualized computing servers which can be used to process bigger data sets independent from local desktop PCs. This document describes the types of virtual machines, in the following called VM, that can be provided and the standards which must be fulfilled to guarantee the prevention of data loss.

1. Who can use it?

The VMs we provide are intended for people using software which is able to make use of multiple CPU cores or want to run multiple instances of the same software on different slices of their data sets to gain a speedup in processing their data. Another use case probably is processing huge data sets which might take days or weeks on a machine independent of the office desktop PC.

2. Type of machines

- a. Virtualized Windows with Matlab preinstalled
- b. Virtualized Linux (Debian, Ubuntu or others) with Matlab preinstalled
- c. Virtualized Neurodebian
- d. Custom VMs for special use cases

3. Provided Hardware

- a. 1 – 20 CPU Cores
- b. 1 – 128 GB RAM
- c. Up to 2 TB data drive

4. Computing VM storage concept

The virtual machine has two hard drives. The OS drive and the data drive. The OS drive is created during setup of the VM from a template and is rather small ~200 GB. The data drive of the VM is sized to your requirements when the virtual machine is initialized the first time. The data drive will not be backed up daily unlike the OS drive of the VM.

5. Data policy

The data that will be processed has to be copied to the data drive while scripts and output folders for your processing must reside on the OS drive. To prevent any loss of raw data you are not allowed to upload the data you want to process without having a backup copy of them. In case you are not having a proper backup of your raw data we will take no responsibility in case of data loss.

6. Access to VMs

The VM can be accessed through Remote Desktop Connection (Windows VM) or with XServer-tools like MobaXterm (Linux VM).

HHH IT Core Facility

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