

HU Box –cloud storage deployment and operation at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

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The HU Box (<https://box.hu-berlin.de>), based on the software Seafile (<http://www.seafile.com>), offers a data storage solution for university use cases at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (HU), operated by the Computer and Media Service (CMS).

The CMS at HU currently provides the HU-Cloud which incorporates the open source software OpenStack as an Infrastructure as Service (IaaS) environment and CEPH as a distributed object storage. The HU Box is the first service applying this infrastructure. Right now the HU Box / Seafile setup consists of a HA load balancer pair, two worker nodes and a background node for document preview and full text search. For database requirements the central database server

of the CMS is used. The Seafile nodes use CEPH backend storage directly through librados, independent from OpenStack. The Seafile service is scaled horizontally on demand. To achieve this, an Ansible deployment stack is applied and thus complies with the official Seafile cluster deployment recommendation to use one worker node as a golden image.

Shibboleth (single sign on) is used for authentication of HU accounts and HU externals who are members of the DFN-AAI and eduGAIN federation (in progress).

For further information see <https://hu.berlin/hu-box>

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