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From Sync & Share to Collaborative Platforms: the CERNBox case

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In this contribution, the evolution of CERNBox as a collaborative platform is presented.

Powered by EOS and ownCloud, CERNBox is now the reference storage solution for the CERN user community, with an ever-growing user base that is now beyond 12K users.

While offline sync is instrumental for such a widespread usage, online applications are becoming more and more important for the user community: to this end, the integration of Microsoft Office Online will be presented, which complements the existing offer for Physics analysis (SWAN).

Online applications on the other end open up a new dimension for a sync & share storage system. Collaborative authoring of documents is now becoming standard practice with public cloud services, and within CERNBox we are looking into several options: from collaborative editing of shared office documents with different solutions (Microsoft, OnlyOffice, Collabora) to integrating mark-down as well as LaTeX editors, to exploring the evolution of Jupyter Notebooks towards collaborative editing, where the latter leverages on the existing SWAN Physics analysis service.

The vision is thus to aim towards a 'web desktop', where the wider scientific community is enabled to process, share, and collaboratively author data from the web browser.

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