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Data Analysis as a service for MIRAS beamline users on ALBA synchrotron

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The classic workflow of a experiment in a synchrotron facility starts with the users coming physically to the facility with their samples, they analyze those samples with the beamline equipment and finally they get back to their institution with a huge amount of data in a portable hard disk.

The data reduction and analysis is done majorly on the scientific institution of the user. As data reduction and analysis often requires specialized software and a huge amount of computing resources the classical approach leaves no chance to small scientific organisms that cannot afford either the licenses or the computing resources.

Lately some synchrotron facilities are starting to offer data analysis as a service in order to extend the services offered to the visitor users, minimizing the needed data transfer, extending the analysis periods and reinforcing their source scientific organisms capacities.

ALBA synchrotron offers Data Analysis as a service (DaaS) to the users of MIRAS beamline. We are going to explain how ALBA is using Citrix Virtual Desktop Windows based Infrastructure in order to provide that DaaS.

Furthermore, we will include also some insights about other related technologies we used in similar projects such as Linux Virtual Desktops Infrastructure and Virtual GPUs.

Desired length

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Primary authors: Mr PUSO, Sergi (ALBA synchrotron); SALABERT, Jordi (ALBA Synchrotron)

Co-authors: Mr PIJUAN, Joan (ALBA synchrotron); Mr VICENTE, Sergio (ALBA synchrotron); Mr PEREZ, Toni (ALBA synchrotron); Ms ROSAS, Gemma (ALBA synchrotron)

Presenter: SALABERT, Jordi (ALBA Synchrotron)

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