

Virtual Desktop Infrastructure

University of Geneva provide virtual machines with GPU for image analyses or other application needing GPU.

These virtual machines are not intended to replace the use of the HPC clusters. The use is limited in duration.

These machines are not persistent. Make sure to save all you data to a network location when you are not using the VM anymore. All data saved on the VM are **deleted** after you log off or if you reboot it.

If you are disconnect from the VM, the VM will be kept for a certain amount of time (check the VM specifications). After this delay the VM will be deleted and it is impossible to retrieve any data.

Software preferences are saved across sessions. ( **Fix Me!** only Windows ?)

Costs

At this time the virtual machines are free of charge. This might change in the future.

Access the VM

The service is currently in beta test.

You can request an access by sending an email to hpc@unige.ch

This is the procedure to access the VM :

1. [Plone - Install VMware horizon client](#)
2. Ask for an account at hpc@unige.ch
3. Connect to the allocated pool using horizon view



The VM are ephemeral. It means that as soon you **disconnect** from the VMware horizon client, the VM is trashed.



If you **reboot** the VDI, it is thrashed as well!



The Linux VM are accessible through ssh for everyone who has an ISIS account at Unige. It's your duty to restrict the access to your user only.

Available VM profiles

Windows-GPU-1 Profile

Windows 10 Virtual machine :

- 8 Cores @2.30GHz
- 64 Go Ram
- 4 Go GPU ram on shared Nvidia P40 Grapic card
- 250 Go of scratch space on SSD (deleted after logoff)
- 10 Gbps access to UNIGE Nas (NASAC)
- Virtual machines are reseted every night at 4:00 am
- [Installed softwares in images](#)

LINUX-GPU-1 Profile

Ubuntu 18.04 Virtual machine:

-  **Fix Me!** CPU
-  **Fix Me!** RAM
-  **Fix Me!** 4 Go GPU RAM on shared Nvidia P40 Grapic card
- 250 Go of scratch space on SSD (deleted after logoff)
- 10 Gbps access to UNIGE Nas (NASAC)
- This is a special VM made as **test** with a very long session duration.
- The members of the AD group `gl_vdi_gpu-linux-1` have sudo rights.
- [Installed softwares in images](#)

References:

<https://hpc-community.unige.ch/t/new-service-on-demand-virtual-server-with-gpu/841>

From:

<https://doc.ererech.unige.ch/> - **eResearch Doc**

Permanent link:

<https://doc.ererech.unige.ch/vdi/start?rev=1606481932>

Last update: **2025/06/11 12:27**

