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Storage Finder

<https://vu.nl/en/research/storagefinder>

During Research it is often difficult to keep track of data especially if it is growing exponentially as for instance in life sciences. The Storage Finder gives an indication when planning which solutions exist and may be useful.

Please note that the finder is only a tool and not an oracle. Feel free to contact the Research Data Management Support Desk via rdm@vu.nl or IT for Research via itvo.it@vu.nl if you have any questions or requests.

SciStor

The storage service SciStor (Storage for Scientists) is intended for storing large amounts of research data. SciStor can be used from any VU workstation and, via utilities, also from home or on the road. The access rights set in consultation determine which person can access which data. If desired, an automatic backup can be made of the data. SciStor is offered at an attractive rate and is an excellent alternative to USB drives or other consumer storage systems.

SciStor is a file server, specially aimed at storing large amounts of research data. The system ensures that the data is stored redundantly, protected against corruption. SciStor is located within the network on the VU campus and is therefore close to equipment, workstation and compute clusters on which the data is processed.

How does it work?

Storage space on SciStor is provided on a reservation basis. This means that the amount of space requested is guaranteed to be available. If desired, the reservation can be adjusted up or down very quickly, subject to a few exceptions. The owner of the SciStor share receives monthly usage reports. The report provides insight into how much space is used and how much space is still available.

Backups

SciStor shares can be backed up. The 'snapshot' technique is used for backups. This makes it possible, among other things, that users of the SciStor share who use a Windows system can retrieve data from the backup themselves. The backup is also copied to a backup system. This system is in a different location; If something drastic happens at one of the locations, the data is still available at the other location. During the interview, the functioning of backups and their possibilities will be discussed in more detail.

Delivery

After submitting the application, IT for Research will contact you to schedule an interview. In this conversation we will talk about the name of the SciStor share, whether backup is desired, who should have access, etc. It is good to think about these aspects in advance. Most SciStor configurations can be delivered within one to two days. More complex configurations may take a little longer. The minimum purchase is 100 GB, for a minimum of three months. The capacity can be increased or decreased in units of 100 GB.