

Your Special Task

A realistic scenario in the near future

After you received your master's degree at the FRA-UAS, you did not need a long time to find an interesting job. In one of the first team meetings, your colleagues talk about a free software solution, which may be useful for the company. Because you attended a cloud computing course during your master studies at the FRA-UAS, your team leader expects you to be perfectly suited to analyze the software and present the results of your investigation to the team.

In real life,...

such things happen quite often. One week is a typical amount of time to do such an investigation in parallel to your daily tasks. In this course you have several weeks! The software you shall investigate is:

AppScale

Please focus your investigation on these topics:

- Functionality (*what can you do with this software?*)
- Requirements (*what do you need to deploy this software?*)
- Is it simple or difficult to deploy? (*explain your experience.*)
- Maintainability (*which components/services does the software contain? How do they interact/communicate? Find out their port numbers. Can you test their functionality with appropriate tools like `netstat`, `lsof`, `nmap`, `telnet` or `nc`?*)
- User friendliness (*explain the user and administrator perspective both!*)
- Name some alternatives to this software, which provide the same functionality.

Please create a presentation (max. 15 minutes each) with maximum 8 slides and additionally a live demonstration (!!!)

Some hints

- Free software projects often have a github repository with lots of helpful information inside the github wiki.
- You can deploy the software on your laptop or inside virtual machines (e.g. VirtualBox) or inside a public cloud infrastructure service like EC2.
- In case you have problems to deploy and use the software, ask the developers via their mailing lists and try to get some help at a knowledge market like `stackoverflow.com` or a distribution specific page like `forums.debian.net`.