Remote access to the observatory

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In this article we explain how to access our observatory remotely using the Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP).

Linux:

For Linux users we recommend **Remmina**, which to our knowledge is available in the repositories of all major distributions. Nevertheless, the following configuration is in principle transferable to any other RDP client.



After **Remmina** has been started, the first thing to do is to create a new profile by clicking on the button in the upper left corner (see image above). The fields Name, Group, Server, Username and Password must be set (see image below). Name is the name of the profile, which can be chosen freely. Group must be set to *WORKGROUP*. Server is the IP of the Observatory Management System (OMS). The Username for daily use is *BP34_User*. Password is self-explanatory. Server and Password will be provided on request.

	Remote	e Desktop Preference (on a12)	8		
Profile Name	Observatory Po	tsdam				
Group	P WORKGROUP					
Protocol	🔶 RDP - Remote	🔶 RDP - Remote Desktop Protocol				
Pre Command	command %h %	command %h %u %t %U %p %g –option				
Post Command	/path/to/comm	/path/to/command-opt1 arg %h %u %t-opt2 %U %p %g				
Server User name User password Domain	XXXXXX BP34_1	OC.XOOC.XOOC		•		
Resolution	Use	Use client resolution Getterm 640x480				
Color depth	GFX AV	/C444 (32 bpp)				
Share folder (None)						
Disable automat	ic reconnection					
Cancel	Save as Default	Save	Connect	Save and Connect		

If access is not via the local IP address space, an SSH tunnel must be established. To do this, you should select the SSH Tunnel tab in the profile configuration-window (see image below). After that you have to select Custom, set the server name to one of the computers of the Astro Cluster, e.g. *prakt.astro.physk.uni-potsdam.de* and use a valid user name like *castor*. If authentication is not done by public key cryptography, the Password must be set as well.

	Remote	Desktop Preference	(on a12)	8		
Profile						
Name	Observatory Pol	sdam				
Group	WORKGROUP	WORKGROUP				
Protocol	rotocol 🚸 RDP - Remote Desktop Protocol					
Pre Command %h %u %t %U %p %g-option						
Post Command	d /path/to/command-opt1 arg %h %u %t-opt2 %U %p %g					
Basic Advanced	SSH Tunnel					
Enable SSH tunnel Tunnel via loopback address Same server at port 22						
Custom a12.astro.physik.uni-potsdam.de						
Character set						
SSH Authentication						
User name	castor					
SSH Agent (automatic)	tic)					
Password						
Public key (automat	tic)					
Identity file	(None)					
Cancel	Save as Default	Save	Connect	Save and Connect		

After saving the configuration, the connection can be established at any time by double-clicking on the corresponding entry.



Windows:

For Windows, **Remote Desktop Connection** from Microsoft can be used. After **Remote Desktop Connection** has been started, a new profile should be created. To do this, first click on "Show options".

Nemote Desktop Connection —				\times	
N	Remote Desktop Connection				
Computer:	Example: computer.fabrikam.com	n ~]		
User name:	None specified				
The computer name field is blank. Enter a full remote computer name.					
Show O	ptions	Connect	He	lp	

Afterwards the IP or the URL of the Observatory Management System (OMS) can be entered under Computer. Furthermore the User name must be set, which is composed of the computer name and the account name as follows:

DESKTOP-6QQIP9S\BP34_User

The name of the computer and account is DESKTOP-6QQIP9S and BP34_User, respectively.

The IP and password will be provided upon request.

If the credentials are to be saved, the option Allow me to save credentials must be activated.

Nemote Desktop Connection			<u></u>		×
A	Remote Desk Connectio	top n			
General	Display Local Resources settings Enter the name of the rer Computer: User name: DESKTO You will be asked for creating Allow me to save creating	Experience note computer P-6QQIP9S\B dentials when y Jentials	Advanced P34_Admin you connect	· · ·]
Connec	ction settings Save the current connector. Save Save	tion settings to Save As	an RDP file	or open a	a

The connection can be established by clicking on Connect. You will then be asked for the credentials. If entered correctly, the connection will be established.

Unfortunately **Remote Desktop Connection** does not support tunneling into the university network via SSH or any other free software. From outside the university network a connection has to be established, e.g., via a SSH tunnel. For this purpose a SSH client like **PuTTY** is recommended. We will not go into further details on how to configure this, since detailed instructions are already available on the Internet (see e.g. www.saotn.org).

