

Research Infrastructures for astrophysics research: the EXTraS experience with the EGI FedCloud

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Modern soft X-ray observatories can yield unique insights into time domain astrophysics, and a huge amount of information is stored - and largely unexploited - in data archives. Like a treasure-hunt, the EXTraS project (Exploring the X-ray Transient and variable Sky, <http://www.extras-fp7.eu>) is harvesting the hitherto unexplored temporal domain information buried in the serendipitous data collected by the European Photon Imaging Camera (EPIC) instrument onboard the ESA XMM-Newton, in 13 years of observations. Part of this analysis is performed through a dedicated science gateway based on EGI Fedcloud. The final results will become the reference for time domain astrophysics in the soft X-ray band, until a future, dedicated mission is deployed.

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