

## Comparison download tools

Approach iRODS data by a mounted WebDAV drive

## Current download methods



RDM portal project browser



WebDAV in browser



WebDAV in Cyberduck



Any other WebDAV app



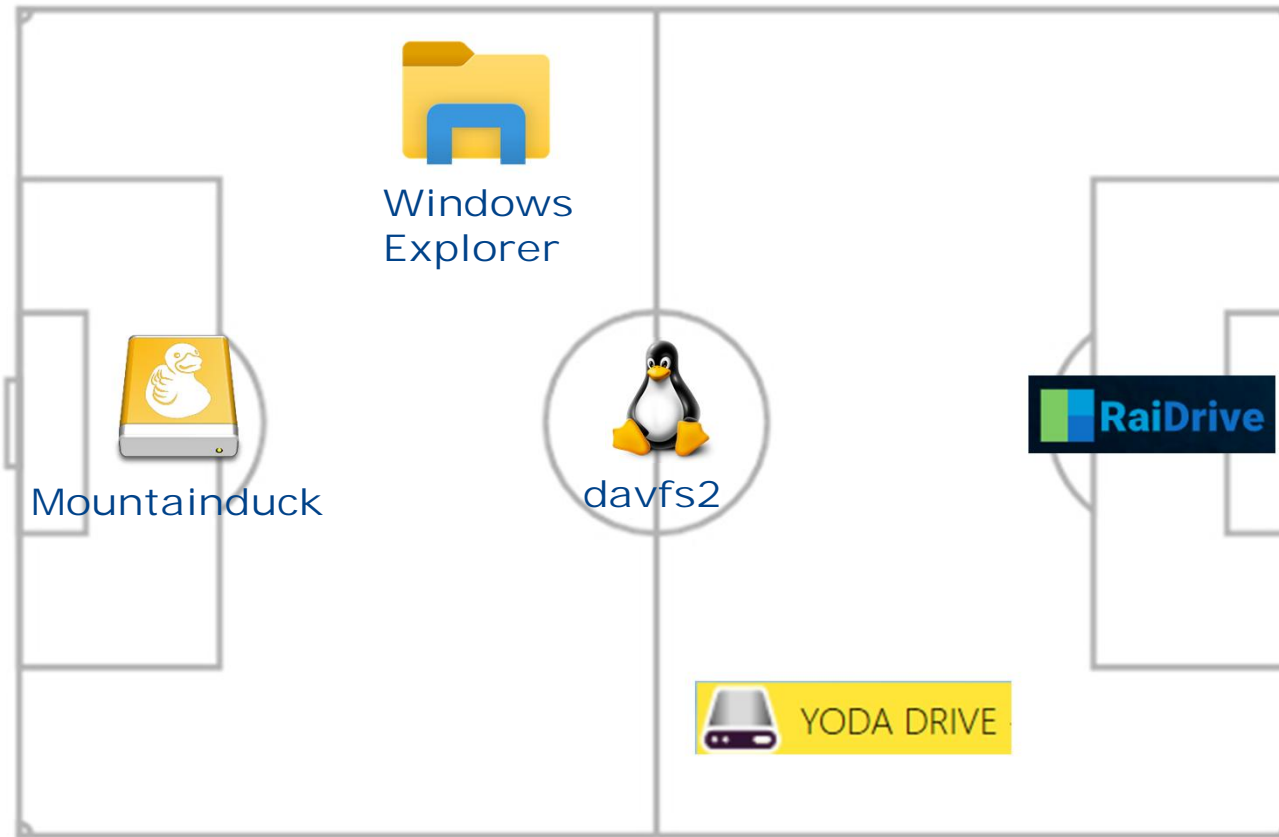
WebDAV is an extension on the HTTP protocol which allows file operations over the internet.

A WebDAV client is thereby connecting to a WebDAV server.

# Our approach

- Compare and test candidate WebDAV tools on:
  1. Supported operating systems
  2. Functionalities
  3. Performance
  4. User experience
  5. Pricing
  6. Security
- Choose DataHub recommended tool

# The players



# The results: Operating system

Supported platforms and OS

	Cyberduck (ref.)	Mountainduck	YodaDrive	RaiDrive	davfs2	Windows Explorer
Windows	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Mac	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
Linux	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗

# The results: Functionalities

All applications can:

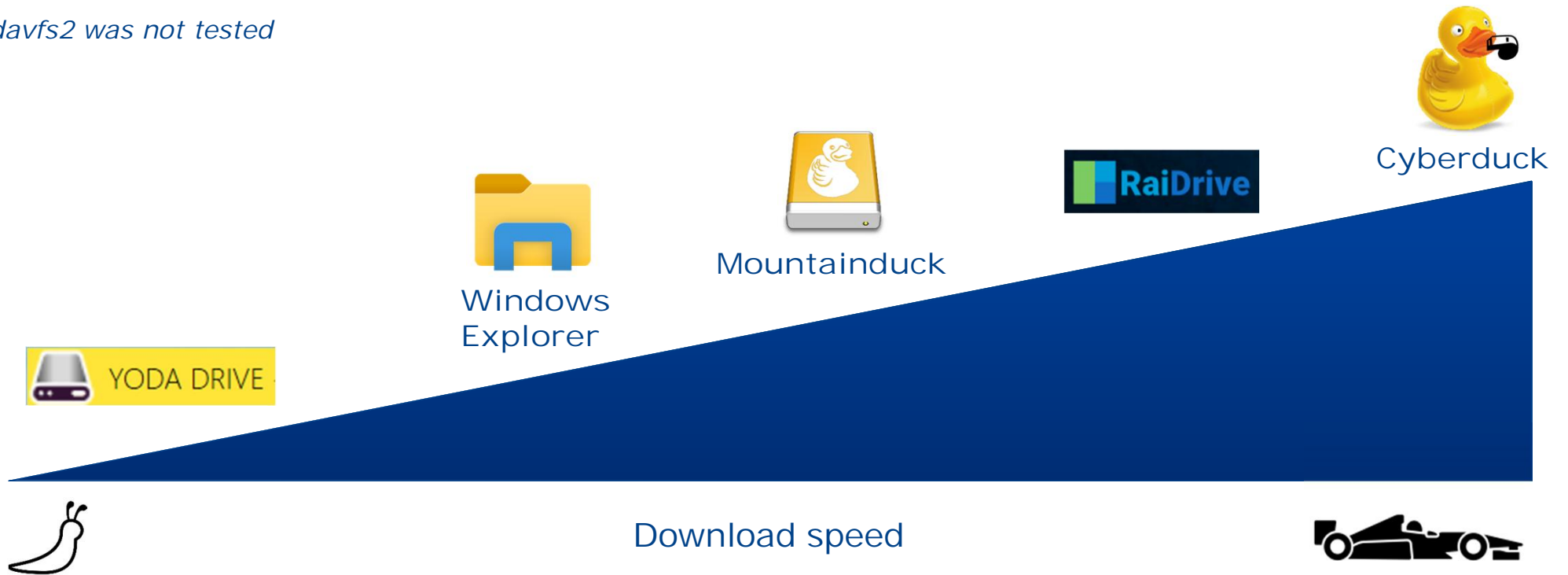
- Download single files
- Download recursively

We did not test download of very large files ( > 100 GiB).

Files larger than 4 GiB are not supported by Windows Explorer WebDAV.

# The results: Performance

Note: davfs2 was not tested



# The results: User experience

## Similarities

### All applications:

- have simple installers or are included in the operating system
- can save username & password
- or ask for username & password each time
- show the default HTTP 401 error code when 24h-password has expired
- can save multiple connection profiles
- can mount from a specific path

## Remarks

- RaiDrive can mount over an existing network drive. This is confusing.
- RaiDrive comes with advertisements.
- Win Explorer requires a change in the registry. This comes with a risk.
- Win Explorer causes a download error with files above 4 GiB.
- Win Explorer progress bar not reflecting actual speed.



# The results: Pricing

FREE

PAID



*with ads*



Cyberduck



davfs2



Windows Explorer



*without ads*

\$2 per month  
per seat



Mountainduck

\$20 per seat  
(bulk discount)

# The results: Security

Version: most applications have a recent version (< 6 months).  
YodaDrive is the oldest (13 months).

HTTPS: all applications use encrypted WebDAV traffic

Support: most applications have a clear support contact address.  
This is unknown for Windows Explorer.

## Remarks

- RaiDrive creates 3 inbound rules in the Windows Firewall. DataHub recommends to delete these rules after installation.
- RaiDrive contacts various Google and Amazon IP addresses for advertisements, usage statistics and product updates.

# Conclusion

For Windows users DataHub recommends

