

A detailed microscopic image of neural circuits, showing a dense network of white, branching structures against a dark blue background. The structures resemble a complex web of interconnected neurons and their processes.

## Background information

The Max Planck Florida Institute, located in Jupiter, Florida, is the first Institute the German-based Max Planck Society has established in the United States. The institute focuses on brain function and neural circuits, using advanced techniques to simulate microscopic molecular processes. In 2013, a research study led by Dr. Ryohei Yasuda, MPFI's Scientific Director, discovered a signaling protein involved in the neuronal dysfunction seen in Alzheimer's Disease. The researchers in MPFI are divided into nine groups, each assigned a topic in neural circuits.

## Challenges

The data that the institute generates is very sensitive due to the nature of the research. Therefore, MPFI needed a provider which could give them the traditional cloud services like file sync across devices, along with an option to store the data locally. The second challenge in front of them was the ability to share large files with external collaborators. The need for an enterprise-level, on-premises file sharing solution led them to Tonido FileCloud.

## The Solution

The enterprise version of FileCloud had the controls that provided the security the institute needed. It was an on premise solution, and the sensitive data could be stored in house. FileCloud provides flexibility in user/group permissions, thus providing high access control to the administrators. With FileCloud, MPFI could also share large files with external researchers. Moreover, FileCloud provides access to all files through the web browser.

Another important feature is the admin functionality. The admin can monitor the use of the cloud services remotely and see who is performing what action. This is important to handle all the confidential data. The admin can also revoke access of users and issue a remote wipe of mobile devices.

## Key Advantages

- + **On Premise solution** - Keep sensitive and confidential data in-house
- + **Data backup** ensuring protection of confidential data
- + **Secure Access** for employees within the network and external researchers
- + **Admin access** to all activities of users
- + **Remote wipe** of mobile devices and revoke access to users
- + **Version control** so that all documents and stored data is accurate and current, but old versions can also be accessed
- + **A cost effective solution** to all the needs of MPFI



*FileCloud meets our primary objective of having an enterprise-level private cloud, which is secure, flexible and scalable with our growing environment, all while being relatively inexpensive*

Oleg Zhovnir,  
web developer at MPFI