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VNC viewer

The VNC viewer is an addon to open a VNC session within the Gateway web desktop. The combination between VNC viewer and remote terminal addons enable the opening of any graphical application within the Gateway web desktop directly. The following wiki explain the different scenarios to open xclock graphical application.

Before to proceed, the administrator of Gateway must install the 2 addons, `vnc_viewer` and `remote_terminal`. Follow the [addon installation](#) page.

To let a user to open graphical applications, he must be allowed to use both VNC viewer and remote terminal addons. Follow the [users rights](#) page.

Open an existing VNC session

Use VNC viewer to open an existing VNC session. The VNC session can be started by an external tool or within the remote terminal, using `vnc_server` command line.

Open a graphical application in the remote terminal

Use remote terminal with bash script to open a bash session

Use the specific command **`hpcg_xrun.sh`** to start a graphical application within a VNC session

```
$ which hpcg_xrun.sh
~/hpcgateway/utilities/hpcg_xrun.sh

$ hpcg_xrun.sh -- xclock
A VNC session has been started on port 5900
You can check logs in
/home/hpcgadmin/.vnc/hpcg/rdsk.rnd01:0/hpcg_xrun.sh.log
Set the DISPLAY to :0 in a terminal to open windows in this VNC session
export DISPLAY=:0

$ export DISPLAY=:0
$ xeyes
```

You can see that once the VNC session is started, you can add other graphical tools (here `xeyes`) in the same VNC window if you export the `DISPLAY` environment variable as explained after the first launch.

Important: to close the VNC windows cleanly, it is important to close the graphical applications inside the VNC window, and not the VNC window itself.

Type `hpcg_xrun.sh -h` to get full information of the command options.

```
$ hpcg_xrun.sh -h
```

```
Usage: hpcg_xrun.sh [options] [vnc_options] -- command [command_options]
       hpcg_xrun.sh -list|-reconnect|-kill [session]
```

Description:

Start a VNC session with various options for windows management.
List, reconnect, kill VNC session(s) that are still running.
If command is defined, it is launched at the start in the VNC session.

Available options are:

-h|--help|-?
This help

-geometry WxH
Set screen 0's width and height
Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP_GEOMETRY environment variable if set
Default is 1024x768

-desktop [kde|twm|mwm|fvwm|xfwm|xfce|gnome|gnome-wm|none]
Set the the remote desktop to start with
Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP environment variable if set
Default is gnome-wm

-close_on [cmd|wmg|vnc]
Define when the VNC session is automatically closed and all processes are closed
cmd: clean all processes when one exit the initial command started
wmg: clean all processes when one exit the window manager
vnc: clean all processes when one close the vnc windows (only available if -xvfb)
Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP_CLOSE environment variable if set
If a command is specified, the default is cmd, otherwise the default is wmg

-forever
By default, the VNC session is automatically closed when the parent shell is closed
Use this option if you want to keep the VNC session, and reconnect it later
Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP_FOREVER environment variable if set
Default is false

-password passphrase
Use passphrase to connect to the VNC session
Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP_PASSWORD environment variable if set
If not specified, hpcg_xrun.sh generate a strong password and pass it to

the VNC client for the connection.

-noauth

Disable VNC authentication method (set to none). This is a security hole.

Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP_AUTH environment variable if set
Default is vnc. hpcg_xrun.sh generate a strong password and pass it to

the VNC client for the connection.

-xvnc

Use xvnc schema to start VNC session: Xvnc

Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP_SCHEMA environment variable if set

-xvfb

Use xvfb schema to start VNC session: Xvfb, X11vnc

Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP_SCHEMA environment variable if set

-bg

The VNC session is started in background

hpcg_xrun.sh exit as soon as the VNC session is started

Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP_MODE environment variable if set

Default is bg

-fg

The VNC session is started in foreground

hpcg_xrun.sh stay active while the VNC session is active

Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP_MODE environment variable if set

Default is bg

-newtab

Start the remote desktop in a new browser tab

Override HPCG_REMOTE_DESKTOP_NEWTAB environment variable if set

Default is false

-auto_minimize

Automatically minimize the remote terminal once the VNC session is started

Override HPCG_REMOTE_TERMINAL_AUTO_MINIMIZE environment variable if set

Default is false

-auto_close

Automatically close the remote terminal once the VNC session is started

Override HPCG_REMOTE_TERMINAL_AUTO_CLOSE environment variable if set

If this option is set, the VNC session is started in forever mode

Default is false

-list

List VNC sessions that are running

```
-reconnect [session]
    Reconnect to VNC session(s) that are running

-kill session [session]
    Kill VNC session(s)
```

If command is empty, the program looks for HPCG_REMOTE_COMMAND environment variable if set

Open a graphical application directly from the desktop

Use remote terminal with specific script to directly open a graphical application directly from the desktop.

Follow the steps:

- Open the admin dashboard addon
- Create a new script to call hpcg_xrun.sh command with the graphical application to open
- Add the tag "remote_terminal_33b27ccd" to the script
- Open the remote terminal and select the newly created script, that will start hpcg_xrun.sh

Once you have started the graphical application, you can create a link to the desktop (top right button of the remote terminal).

Then you can directly open the graphical application from the web desktop.

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