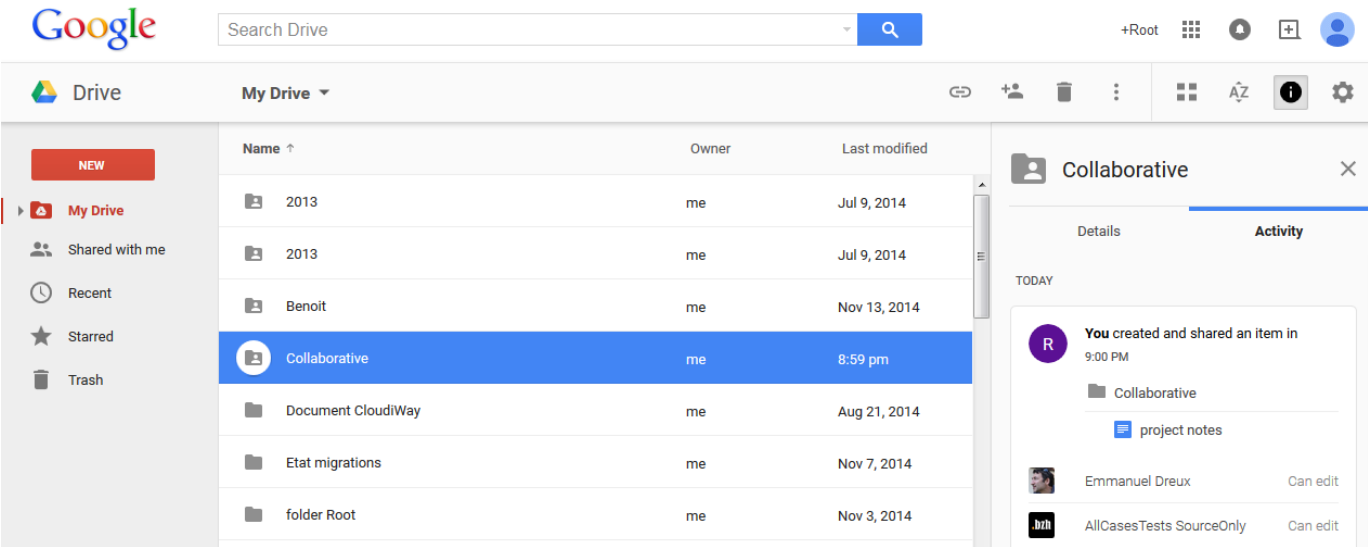


There are big differences of behavior between Google Drive and OneDrive. This article explains the main issue when migrating from Google Drive to One Drive and the solution Cloudiway offers to solve this issue.

Let's build an example and see how it gets migrated. We have 2 users, user root and user Emmanuel.

View of the Google Drive of User root:

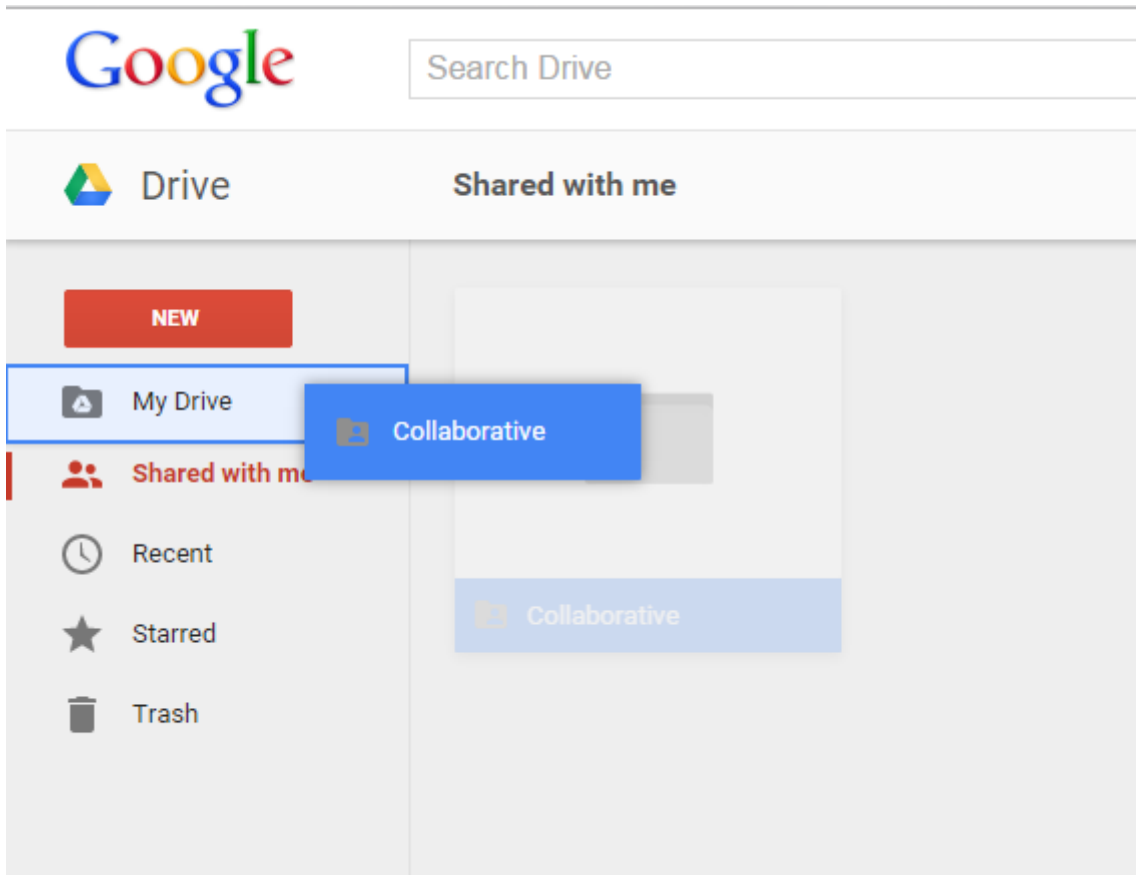
His Google Drive contains a folder named Collaborative shared with 2 colleagues (Emmanuel and AllCases)



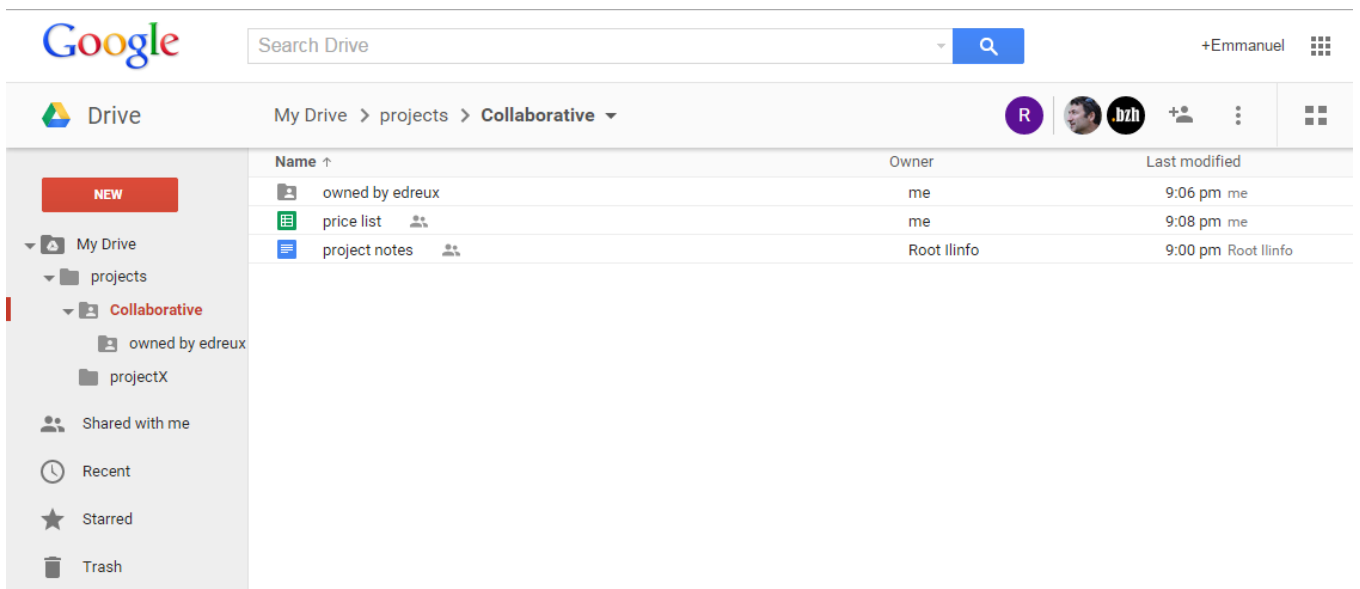
View of the Google Drive of user Emmanuel:

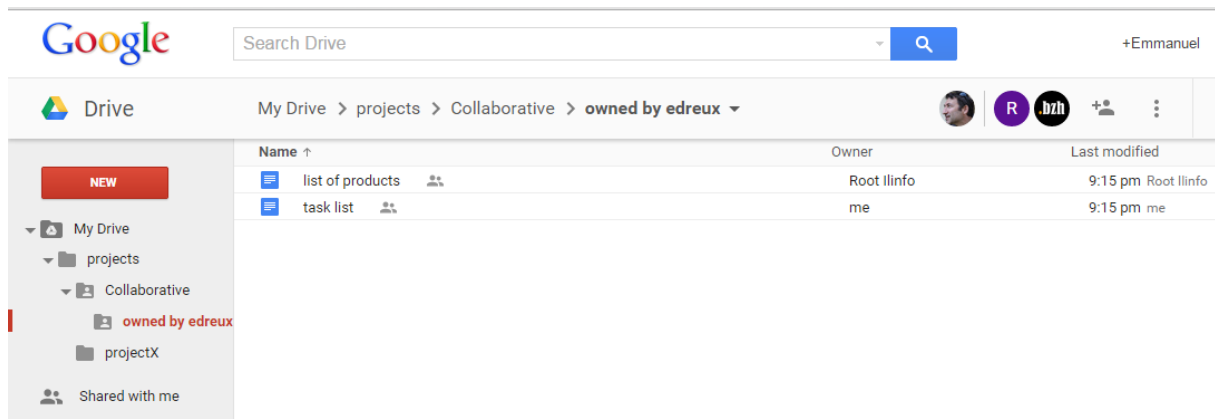
The collaborative folder appears in the SharedWithMe View of Emmanuel.

Emmanuel Drags and drop the folder in his Google drive



After working on it and reorganizing it, the Google drive of Emmanuel looks like this.





Explanation:

Emmanuel has a folder at the root named *projects*. It contains several subfolders corresponding to the different projects Emmanuel is working on.

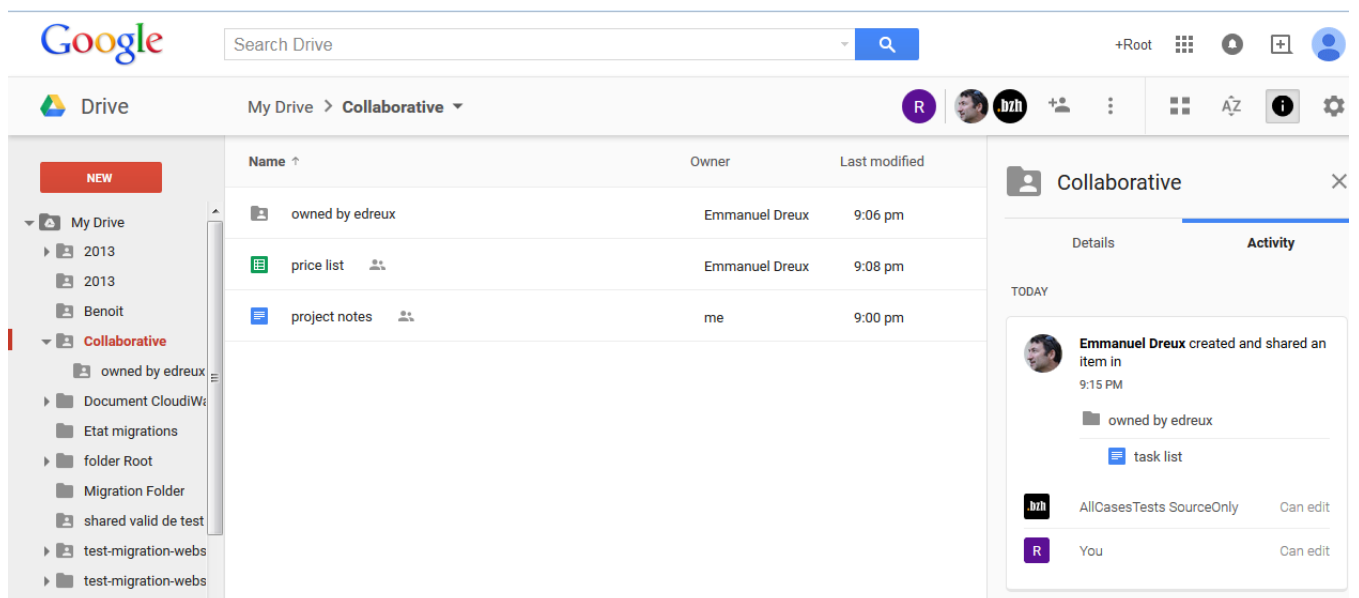
Collaborative (the shared folder owned by root) is moved to the projects folder.

Several people are now contributing to the collaborative folder.

It now contains 3 objects:

- A folder named "Owned by edreux" created by Emmanuel that contains docs created by Emmanuel and Root.
- A file created by Emmanuel (Price List)
- A file created by Root (project notes)

Here how this folder structure looks like in the Google Drive of Root.



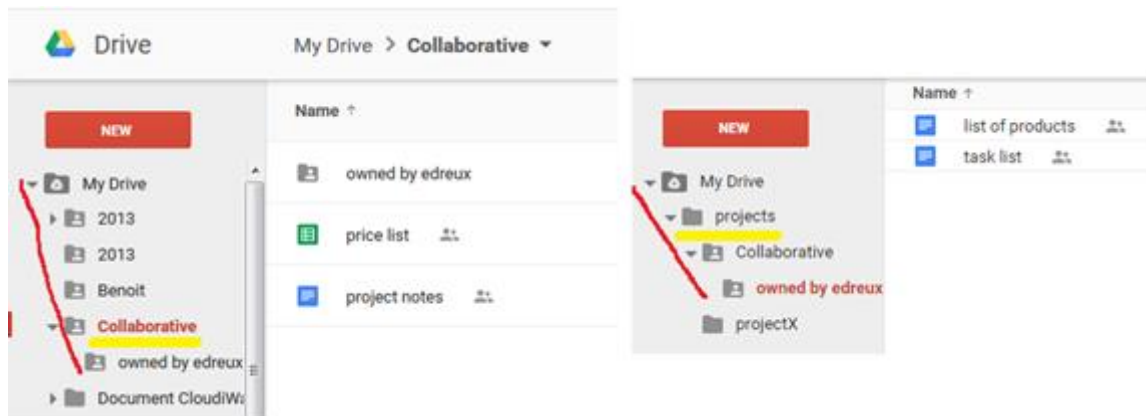
Let's migrate Root and Emmanuel's Google Drive.

OneDrive doesn't have the functionality to drag and drop folders from the Sharedwithme view to the personal OneDrive.

Consequence, after the migration, the drag & drop folders and documents are missing from the OneDrives of the users. There are still accessible to the users (because permissions are migrated) but they are visible only through the SharedWithMeView.

Now, the real and biggest issue.

Where do you migrate this folder structure since there is no equivalent of "links" from the SharedWithMeView in OneDrive?



Do you expect to migrate the entire folder structure in the OneDrive of Root (in the left)?

Or do you want to migrate it to the OneDrive of Emmanuel (in the right)?

If you say: "collaborative" belongs to root, it must be migrated to Root's OneDrive, then apply the same logic for the folder "Owned by edreux" and migrate "Owned by edreux" to the onedrive of Emmanuel.

You have now understood the issue: **Folder tree gets exploded**

After the migration, users see the files and folders they own in their personal onedrives. The other files are accessible through the sharedWithMeView.

Consequence: the collaborative folder is not migrated into a single location, it's exploded into several onedrives. After the migration, content of the collaborative file is partially accessible from the personal Onedrives of each file owners, and partially accessible through the SharedWithMeviews of each user.

Cloudiway Approach.

This example demonstrates that OneDrive is not the right place to migrate collaborative content.

For small companies (up to 500 users) that have standard usage of Google Drive, the standard migration to OneDrive might be sufficient and will not disturb or disorganize the company.

For larger companies, Clouidiway believes that the right place to migrate collaborative content is sharepoint Online in dedicated Site Collections and/or document libraries. Clouidiway migration tools is able to migrate to Sharepoint Online and to OneDrives.

Clouidiway has developed an auditing solution that detects Google Drive folders that are heavily Shared and that are de facto good candidates for being migrated to Sharepoint Online.

After the audit, all you have to do is to configure the platform to migrate the selected folders to sharepoint Online. You are free to migrate to the site collections of your choice and to the document libraries of your choice. Within document libraries, folder structures are entirely recreated.

With the above sample, the entire content of the collaborative folder would be migrated to Sharepoint online, for example in <https://mytenant.sharepoint.com/sites/Collaborative>

After the migration of all collaborative folders, the remaining folders and documents are migrated to the personal onedrives of each users.

The Clouidiway approach and solution is flexible enough to migrate your data in the location of your choices, while preserving permissions and without duplicating content.

After the migration, you have an infrastructure in place and a method and way of working adapted to the Office 365 environment.

Clouidiway is the first and only solution of the market that has sufficient background in Google Drive migrations, able to propose an adapted solution to your migration need.

We would like to finish this article by introducing an additional complexity.

Let's reuse the above sample and expose a couple of files through a Google Site.

Where would you want to migrate these documents:

- In the sharepoint site generated from the Google site?
- In the personal Onedrives?
- In dedicated collaborative sharepoint sites?

Everything is possible with the Clouidiway migration solution. This must however be carefully discussed and decided with Clouidiway during the definition of the migration path.