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Summary
This document presents work package progress by CASU during January 2005.
For further details of group activities over the past month and quarter see
http://www.ast.cam.ac.uk/vdfs/diary.html
For the minutes of all group meetings see
http://www.ast.cam.ac.uk/vdfs/docs/minutes

- Marco Riello joined the group on January 4th and has been working on database structures and more recently on the WFCAM FITS header problems and testing the transfer of raw WFCAM data to the ESO archive.
- We received the software (binary form) for this from ESO at the start of the year. This runs automatically as a background daemon. With respect to the real raw WFCAM archive, this will have several ESO HIERARCHICAL keywords added before transfer (and the files renamed temporarily to **.fits** since their archive can't ingest **.fit** files - sic!)
- The remaining FDR documents including the ETC and working software example were delivered in time for FDR. Around 100 RIXs were received, replied to and documented within 3 days, thanks to sterling efforts from the whole team, including management. These were also delivered to ESO in time for the FDR.
- The FDR was held at ESO HQ, Garching on 31st January. Attendees for VDFS were MJI, PSB, WJS, JMS, JPE (chair), Steven Beard, Martin Folger, and Alistair McPherson. JRL and STH "attended" via videocon. Much lively debate was had and most remaining outstanding issues were clarified. Some technical modifications to design and documents will still be needed but there were no showstoppers and the general view was that the VDFS FDR submissions were well received and of the appropriate standard.
- All of the WFCAM commissioning data was reconstituted in MEF format without too much regard to header probity, and various tests are being conducted on the commissioning data. The on-sky data has been used, in particular, to characterize the astrometry, photometry and QC measures for WFCAM. A report describing these results and much more is available on the diary and documentation web pages: http://www.ast.cam.ac.uk/vdfs/docs/reports/commissioning/index.html
- The rest of the data plus the on-sky measures are being used to characterize the dark and reset anomaly stability and properties, the flatfield stability, the gain and detector noise, fringing level, image persistence, cross-talk non-linearity and so on. A report on these aspects is being prepared and will be available shortly.
- We have had good further interaction with Simon Dye during a one-day visit to Cambridge to discuss progress with the commissioning data and by including him on a regular basis in the JAC telecons. These continue to be very productive. As a result of these JRL and STH have provisionally arranged to go out for phase-II of WFCAM commissioning in early and late March respectively.
- DWE has written a report on Phase-II of the PSF fitting software. This improves on an earlier version of the code and incorporates refinements to the astrometry as well as the photometry: see http://www.ast.cam.ac.uk/vdfs/docs/reports/psf2/. The plan is to test this on Phase-II commissioning data.