

VDFS-WSA Monthly Report: 2005 Quarter 1, Month 1 (January): Narrative

1. General and Project management

Nick Cross (NJC) joined the team in January. Our other new recruit, Iain MacCallum, asked for his start date to be delayed for family reasons: he is now scheduled to start on March 15. Preoccupations this month have included implementation of data access policies and ingestion of WFCAM commissioning data received from CASU.

2. Hardware

The upgraded load server Ahmose has now been configured and is stable. The additional air conditioning in C1 (the server room) is now working and the load on the other units should be sufficiently reduced that they don't fail in warm, humid weather. Another node of the pixel data server (Sneferu, 4.8 TB of RAID5) has been specified and ordered.

3. Software

Ingestion of the WFCAM commissioning data threw up a number of problems with the file format, conformance with the ICDs and FITS standards, etc. We are working with CASU on fixing this and also refactoring the ingest CU tasks to make them more robust against (er) unusually annotated data. We have begun looking at deployment of AstroGrid community and registry services for implementation of UKIDSS and WFCAM data access policies.

4. Plans for February

We will press on with ingestion of WFCAM commissioning data with the aim of having something in time for the VDUC meeting on Feb 21. We will make the case for staffing to operate the archive at the WFA grant review on the 23rd. Work on the User Interface and on planning for V4 will continue.

PMW
2005 Feb 2