

VDFS-WSA Monthly Report: 2005 Quarter 1, Month 2 (February): Narrative

1. General and Project management

On the 23rd, we presented our bid for funding of the Science Archives operation, the first component of the WFAU Rolling Grant bid. The Panel queried estimates of staff effort and equipment maintenance costs but appeared to be satisfied by our explanations. We hosted the VDUC meeting on the 21st, reported progress and suggested a data release plan. The VDUC were keen to get access to WFCAM data as soon as possible and it was agreed that (1) Commissioning Phase I data would be in the Archive by the end of March and, (2) significant amounts of data (i.e. including the Science Verification data) would be available by the end of May.

2. Hardware

The second node of the pixel data server (Sneferu) has been installed, bringing the available pixel data storage to about 8 TB of RAID, which should be adequate for this year's WFCAM data. Funding for further disk space was sought in the RG bid.

3. Software

Work has continued ironing out the commissioning data ingestion issues in collaboration with CASU, and in user access and authentication in collaboration with AstroGrid staff. Good progress has been made with tools for photometric re-calibration (CU 8) and work has resumed on the list-driven photometry tool (CU9).

4. Plans for March

We will press on with ingestion of WFCAM commissioning data from CASU with the aim, agreed with the VDUC, of having Phase I commissioning data in the archive by the end of the month. We will continue development of catalogue maintenance and data delivery tools. Planning for V4 will continue, depending on the time-scale of the proposed review.

PMW
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