

VDFS-WSA Monthly Report: 2005 Quarter 3, Month 1 (July): Narrative

1. General and Project management

Ross Collins (RSC) joined the group on July 29 (formally, August 1), bring us up to full complement for the first time. We have short-listed applicants for the Database Curator (Archive Operator) post, and hope to make an appointment shortly .

UKIDSS SV1 data were released on July 20. NCH received encouraging comments about the user interface and release at the UKIDSS survey heads meeting in Durham.

The project plan has been revised to allow for the compressed time-scale between experience with real WVCAM data and the need to be ready for VISTA commissioning. Version 2 has been revised by concentrating on shaking down the ingest codes and moving some data delivery tools to V3, and will end at the end of this quarter. From Q4, effort will be split between V3 and V4. Version 3 contains some provision for refactoring V2 tools in the light of experience with science verification data but the main thrust will be on data access/delivery tools. This will run from October 2005 to March 2006 with about 2.0 FTE effort. In parallel, work on Version 4 will ramp up, including requirements capture, design, bench-marking OS/DBMS and hardware, to March 2006. From April 2006, all hands will work on implementation of V4. Design of the database schemas will be dependent on definition of the public VISTA surveys, which should be determined by then. The data access/delivery tools for V4 will be developed from those for the WSA and will be VO compatible. From January 2007, depending on availability of VISTA data, Version 5 will include shaking down databases, ingest and catalogue maintenance codes, and development of data access/delivery tools to add facilities specified in the URD 3.0 and to be fully grid aware. A draft VDUC paper setting this out will be circulated with this report.

2. Hardware

The data servers are currently working well. We have taken the first steps towards moving older equipment from C1 to reduce overall heat output and load on the AC system power loading, and have ordered the next image data server (Khufu, 8 TB). Simultaneous transfer of processed WFCAM and production of the library JPGE images is putting quite a load on Djoser and we are investigating sharing this with the second file server, Sneferu.

3. Software

Work has concentrated on code maintenance for the curation and release of the SV1 data. Development of the photometric recalibration task has continued.

4. Plans for (the rest of) Quarter 3

Our plan to finish off Version 2 is attached. We envisage some work planning for V4 tests and possible archiving of VST data.

PMW
2005 August 11