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

1. General and Project management

As part of investigating scaling data storage for V4, we've begun discussions with colleagues in the EPCC regarding possible use of the SAN and outlined a project testing and benchmarking remote access to databases on the SAN.

NCH gave an update on the WSA to the UKIRT Board at its meeting on May 26.

We have received (at least) 49 applications for the software developer post and plan shortlisting early next week. As before, we suggest that an "external" member of the VDMT share in the shortlisting and we can discuss this at the VDMT. The Database Curator (Archive Operator) post is currently being advertised.

2. Hardware

The data servers are working well.

3. Software

Work has continued (!) ironing out the data ingestion issues in collaboration with CASU and CU 1-4 have been run successfully on the first 10 nights of pipeline-processed data after a few more fixes. We are currently investigating a problem (memory leakage?) thrown up by handling larger volumes of data than used for testing. Documentation on the (UKIDSS testers) User Interface http://surveys.roe.ac.uk/wsa/pre/index.html has been further developed, including a Cookbook (Introductory SQL Tutorial, similar to that written for the SSA but with particular emphasis on cross-catalogue querying). The photometric re-calibration procedure (CU 8) has been designed and the catalogue joining tool (CU16) re-factored.

4. Plans for June

We will release the Phase I commissioning data (which we had hoped to do last month), continue development of catalogue maintenance and data delivery tools and continue the recruitment processes for the vacant developer and the archive operator.

PMW
2005 June 2