

VDFS-WSA Quarterly Report: 2007 Quarter 2.3 (March) : Narrative

1. General

The first instalment of UKIDSS DR2 (LAS, DXS, GCS, UDS) was released on March 1 (the UDS release was the same as DR1 as no new UDS observations were ingested meanwhile) and the second instalment (GPS) on April 12. Unlike the previous releases, DR2 contains one database, DR2plus, which contains all the data, including those from fields having incomplete wavelength coverage. For users wanting to query only those areas that have complete waveband coverage, DR2 contains views of the survey source tables that provide these subsets.

The next VDUC meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 11 at the ROE.

2. Hardware and Networking

A second load server has been purchased. This has a batch of SAS (serial-attached SCSI) disks which we expect to be faster and the new standard for the VISTA catalogue servers. The SCSI JBOD purchased for Ahmose (first catalogue server) will be attached to the new server. After a few teething troubles, the NAS is now fully in use for WFCAM 06B data and we expect this to form the new standard (pro-tem in a Moore's-law world) standard for VISTA pixel data. Progress has been made with the UKlight connection to CASU; there is now end-to-end connectivity and we hope data transfer will follow imminently.

3. Software

There has been continued refactoring of code in preparation for VISTA, such as making CU7 more robust and faster, making CU19 less disk-hungry and scalable for UKIDSS GPS and VISTA data volumes and making Java classes used in SQL queries less WSA-specific and configurable for VISTA. The pressures of processing the GPS data volumes are valuable for scaling to VISTA data volumes. Also, the long-postponed task (CU5) for handling H₂-K difference images was implemented in time for DR2 GPS. As always, blow-by-blow details are in the minutes circulated.

4. Tables

Progress and project status are summarized in the usual Quarterly Summary and EVA tables circulated with this report. Also attached is the plan for Quarter 2. As usual, there is some over-commit of effort because priorities change during the quarter.

PMW (2007 Apr 26)