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aips++ progress report.

The aips++ project has started two months ago, and it might therefore be useful for the astronomical community at large to hear about progress made so far.

After a first week of orientation, in which the group that was gathering in Charlottesville was settling in and personalizing workstations, work was started on January 13. The nine user requirement documents that were received were reviewed, the group of 12 programmers was divided into five working parties and each extracted out of the requirement documents that which they believed relevant to their area of work. After some discussion, the groups started on the analysis of the requirements from an object oriented point of view. This analysis was done in Green Bank for the calibration/imaging area by a group of six aips++ team members and six invited experts. A similar effort was made in Charlottesville by the remainder of the aips++ team to cover the other areas: image manipulation/display, user interface, general libraries and system management.

The report from the Green Bank meeting was distributed and discussed. We received two critical comments. One of these (Bill Cotton's) was partially justified, and his comments will be taken into account in future work.

- The main results from the first two months have been:
1. a consolidation of the diverse user requirement documents into a single unified document (distributed for comments);
 2. object analysis for the calibration/imaging domain (reported and distributed for comments);
 3. a 15,000 line working prototype, covering the entire area from calibration through imaging to image manipulation and display in a shallow fashion (reported and to be distributed shortly for comments);
 4. two reports on system configuration, installation and management have been written and distributed for comments;
 5. a report on the choice of basic libraries is finished and will be distributed shortly;
 6. various other support systems (Interviews, CIC, PEX, Phigs) are being investigated and a choice will be announced in the near future.

We are currently reviewing our experiences and drafting a plan for the next three months. This plan will be discussed at the forthcoming aips++ steering committee meeting.

We were assisted in the above activities by two experts in Object Oriented programming, using C++, who acted as consultants. They were Dr. James Coggins of the University of Northern Carolina at Chappel Hill and Andrew Klein of Bell Labs.

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