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AIPS++ User Specifications Memo 101

**The AIPS++ User Specifications Memo Series**

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## **1 Purpose of this Memo Series**

AIPS++ is a software system that will be developed and implemented by a consortium consisting of the NRAO and a number of other observatories and universities in the United States and around the world. It will be implemented in C++ using techniques of object-oriented programming. This memo series is intended to provide a means for orderly, referenceable documentation of concepts about what AIPS++ should be from the point of view of the user.

G. Croes has asked me to form a small group to organize the writing of user specifications for AIPS++. Out of the E-mail discussions, and based upon obvious ideas from AIPS and other systems, we will invite contributions to this memo series. However, anyone is invited to contribute. The elements of this memo series will be mostly individual contributions, but documents that synthesize specifications, for AIPS++ in general or particular instrument/applications, will also be included.

## **2 Implementation of AIPS++**

The initial synthesis of concepts defining AIPS++ will be carried out under the direction of the AIPS++ project manager, G. Croes, by a group of astronomers and programmers gathered at the NRAO in Charlottesville, VA, USA, in the first half of 1992. It is hoped that this memo series will, before and during that period, grow into an extensive set of useful astronomical, user, etc specifications. During the design and subsequent implementation phase, programmers associated with the AIPS++ development groups will evolve selected specifications into consistent C++/OOP code for AIPS++. This will begin during the design phase, then continue at multiple sites around the world doing code development coordinated, maintained, and

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<sup>1</sup>The National Radio Astronomy Observatory is operated by Associated Universities, Inc. under a cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation

re-distributed by the group in Charlottesville.

### **3 Other Documentation**

There may be other memo series that will deal specifically with AIPS++ components as they are implemented, and as they require documentation as completed “tasks”. Eventually programmer manuals, user guides, etc will provide summary documentation, but memo series are an excellent way to maintain, and make widely available, a written record of an evolving system.

### **4 Submission and Distribution of This Memo Series**

The AIPS++ User Specification Memo series will be maintained and distributed with a serial numbering system by Meri Stanley at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, P.O. Box O, Socorro, NM 87801-0379, USA. Submissions to the series should be sent to Robert M. Hjellming at the same address. Because time is critical in late 1991 and early 1992, documents may be submitted in  $\text{\TeX}$  or  $\text{\LaTeX}$  form, in a single ASCII text file sent to rhjellmi@nrao.edu via E-mail; please do not use any macros except those defined in a single  $\text{\TeX}$  or  $\text{\LaTeX}$  input file. Submissions with figures should be sent by mail. Anyone may get on the memo distribution list by: writing to the above; sending an E-mail message to mstanley@nrao.edu or rhjellmi@nrao.edu; or calling 505-835-7310.