Progress report for AIPS++

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Design Analysis

Several weeks ago, a new push on the design effort was started using the Rumbaugh et al. methodology. This is an attempt to do a complete design analysis from the user specifications. The design is at a high level of abstraction; the product comprises three pictorial representations with accompanying text. We have adopted a software tool (Object Maker) to allow us to express the design in a consistent manner. The design effort has concentrated in the following areas:

- Overall system architecture. This deals mainly with the supervision and execution of tasks in a distributed network. It also includes a high level definition of the access methods needed to support a general user interface.
- o Telescope model. This is the environment for defining the methods needed for instrumental calibration. The design is sufficiently general at present to cover both interferometers and single dishes.
- o Imaging Model. This includes the methods for forming images. At present the methods are defined for the imaging of interferometry data, including isoplanaticity and mosaicking, using the common deconvolution methods. The system is sufficiently abstract and general that single dish imaging is also served.
- o Data system.

For each area we have, or soon will have, design documents checked in to the AIPS++ system. In addition, work is in progress on the definition of the graphics subsystem.

Project Book

We have begun the process to incorporate the software design documents into the project book. A preliminary (but substantial) data dictionary has been included.

Libraries

We have decided to include Interviews, Rogue Wave, and TI COOL as standard libraries in the AIPS++ distribution.

We have also spent some time looking further into the use of Khoros for the user interface development.

System Organization

We now have a working AIPS++ system organization and code distribution system. This supports local code check-in and check-out with the master copies being in NRAO (CV). All modifications to the AIPS++ system are propagated daily to the other supported consortium sites. At the present time, 5 sites have an installation of the AIPS++ system: ATNF, BIMA (Illinois), NRAL, NRAO (SOC), and a test installation in NRAO (CV). These are updated daily from the central repository in CV. Delays in implementation at other sites are mainly due to the Internet connection, upon which the system depends.

In order to produce documents from code submitted to the system, we have adopted a preliminary document extractor.

Personnel Items

Sanjay Bhatnagar (TIFR, India) and Mark Stupar (BIMA, USA) have left NRAO (CV) to return to their home institutions. We thank them for their contributions so far, and look forward to their continued involvement in AIPS++ from home.

Allen Farris (STScI, USA) is working in NRAO (CV) for the month of June. He is

working with Dave Shone on the data system definition.

Walter Jaffe (Leiden, Netherlands) will be working in NRAO (CV) for 2 months starting mid June. He will probably concentrate on the user interface and single dish problems.

Russell Redman (HIA, Canada) will be working in NRAO (GB) for 2 months starting at the end of June. He will work with Bob Payne to refine the design for single dish applications.

Tony Willis (DRAO, Canada) will be working in NRAO (SOC) for 3 months starting in September. He will concentrate on user specifications and documentation.

Ger van Diepen (NFRA, Netherlands) will be working in NRAO (CV) for a year starting in September. He will concentrate on the data system.