

## Report on Japanese Virtual Observatory Project (May – July, 2005)

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Masatoshi Ohishi

### 1. Personnel

There is no change in core member of the project, but two people have been collaborating with the JVO – Prof. Ken'ichi Miura of the National Institute of Informatics (NII) as a guest professor, and Prof. Koichi Nakajima of the Hitotsubashi university. Prof. Miura is a leader of the National Research Grid Initiative (NAREGI) and therefore an expertise in the Grid technology. Prof. Nakajima has stayed at the CDS for about one year, and has deep understandings on the astronomical catalogues.

### 2. Best Paper Award by the Data Base Society of Japan (DBSJ)

On June 15<sup>th</sup> a core member of the JVO project, Dr. Masahiro TANAKA, received an award from the Data Base Society of Japan. He presented a paper on the construction of the JVO prototype, and the paper was selected as one of the three best papers out of about 100 submitted to the DBSJ in 2004. This means that the development of the Virtual Observatories has been highly recognized in the Data Base community since VOs are representative applications of the data base technologies.

### 3. Funding Proposal

The National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ) has submitted to the Japanese government proposals in the middle of June to fund for several key projects of the NAOJ. These proposals include, e.g., ALMA-J. JVO has been selected as a key project in NAOJ, and the funding proposal to construct operational system of the JVO has been submitted to the Japanese government. Because the competition rate is quite high, it is difficult to predict anything on the proposal. The result will be announced around the end of this calendar year.

### 4. Upgrade of the JVO system

We have started to design to upgrade the JVO prototype as a preparatory step toward the operational system. The main item of the upgrade is to develop a workflow managing mechanism to enable astronomers to perform astronomical researched by means of the VO tools.

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