

AstroGrid Progress Report to IVOA TM16 (2005-07-19/20)

Our open use system continues to grow - mostly by bug fixes and documentation, but also with some improved functionality. The portal is at <http://www.astrogrid.org/release> . Explanatory pages are at <http://wiki.astrogrid.org/bin/view/Astrogrid/ReleaseV1Pages> . To date we have 116 registered users (including team members). Please do register and give it a go.

We have been involved in two important workshops recently. The first was the “Virtual Observatory Standards and Systems for Data Centres and Large Projects” workshop held at ESO in Garching from June 27 to July 1. The workshop agenda, contributions, and software are available on <http://www.euro-vo.org/workshop2005>. The second was a UK based AstroGrid workshop exploring first use of AstroGrid. This was a little different from the Euro-VO workshop, as it was aimed at end-users attempting to do science with the system rather than data centres. People stayed in the same workgroups for several days and tried to complete projects. The workshop web page is at <http://wiki.astrogrid.org/bin/view/Astrogrid/AgWorkshopJul05>.

The feedback was very useful (<http://wiki.astrogrid.org/bin/view/Astrogrid/AgJul05PostMeet>) and the participants are still adding notes several days after the workshop ! In the Astrogrid users workshop, participants actually wrote complex new workflows, and even installed new applications as resources in the Registry using CEA, so that these could also be used in workflows. It looks likely that some of these will end up producing publishable results.

PPARC have indicated that they will expect some kind of bid for post-AstroGrid support during next calendar year.

Finally, the first AstroGrid installation outside the UK is imminent. We are in conversation with RVO colleagues, who will install several components of the infrastructure, writing RVO specialised components on top of this.

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