Date: Tue, 19 Jul 2005 16:36:58 +0530 (IST)

From: Ajit Kembhavi

The Indian Virtual Observatory (India-VO)

The VO-I project formally ended on May 31, 2005, but I have submitted another project to the funding agency, and have been told that it is making its way through the system, and there is some hope that I will indeed be funded. I have been able to have some interim arrangements, so that the work continues. Persistent Systems have reaffirmed their support for the next three years, and their share of work is getting done too.

We are working hard to enable VOPlot to handle larger data sets than it can now, which is proving to be a non-trivial exercise. But there is progress.

I have also some projects lined up with the SDSS/VO team at JHU, which will involve the setting up of on-line morphological analysis of galaxies, and are also looking at ways of adapting our new (and still developing) data interface tool to SDSS.

We now have a mirror of SDSS-DR3 at IUCAA (http://sdssdr3.iucaa.ernet.in/dr3), and looking for ways to transfer the DR4 database.

Jayant Gupchup will be leaving the project on July 21, but will still be a part of the team in a broad sense, since he will be working with Alex Szalay (and also Randal Burns of the Computer Science department) at JHU. A new software engineer, Mohasin Sheikh, has provisionally joined the project, and could possibly continue for a longer term if all goes well.