

CASA Users Committee (CUC) Report

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NOTE: This is not an official announcement of CUC.
Some are biased toward my personal thought.

Introduction

- CUC is established in 2014
- CUS is requested to comment on
 - capabilities, usability, reliability, and performance
 - priorities of these areas
 - CASA project follow-up to their previous report
- CUS submits a written report to the CASA manager after the f2f meeting once per year
 - Report and response from CASA manager are posted publicly on the CASA website


Introduction

- CUC members
 - R. Akeson (NA) → Y. J. Kuan (NA/TW)*
 - J. Carpenter (NA) → X. Fernandez (NA)
 - T. Cavalie (EU, chair 2015) → rotating off
 - R. Friesen (NA)
 - L. Guzman (CL) → vacant
 - T. Hirota (EA) → rotating off
 - D. Jacobs (NA, chair 2016)
 - A. Karim (EU, chair 2017)
 - K. Sakamoto (EA) → rotating off
 - D. Wilner (NA, chair 2014)

*ASIAA CASA Development Center (ACDC) since 2016

Follow-up of 2015 recommendation

- Good
 - Documentation initiative
 - Newsletter
 - Imaging pipeline
 - Crash reporter
 - CARTA
- Medium
 - Surveys
- Not yet
 - Jira tickets
 - Time estimator
 - User liaison



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CASA
Common Astronomy Software Applications

NAOJ

Credit: Pablo Carrillo

Letter from the Lead

Jeff Kern



Let me begin by welcoming our colleagues at the newly formed Academia Sinica Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics (ASIAA) Common Astronomy Software Applications (CASA) Development Center (see article in this CASA News by Chin-Fei Lee). We welcome them to the collaboration and look forward to working with them in the coming years.

The Very Large Array (VLA) and Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) pipelines continue to mature and grow in capability. The ALMA interferometric imaging pipeline has been reworked in support of ALMA Cycle 4, and is expected to be used in producing images for many ALMA Cycle 4 projects. The VLA Sky Survey (VLASS) is gathering momentum as the targeted start during the next B-configuration is just under one year in the future. Development toward the calibration and imaging pipelines for VLASS is underway.

The CASA team has been continuing to address reliability, robustness, and usability issues. A major rework of the CASA documentation is underway, and is planned to be released with the CASA-5.0 release in March 2017.

The NRAO Users Committee recommended that the visibility of the CASA News be improved by distributing this issue to all NRAO eNews subscribers. If you wish to unsubscribe from CASA News, please visit the [CASA News Information Page \(https://listmgr.nrao.edu/mailman/listinfo/casa-news\)](https://listmgr.nrao.edu/mailman/listinfo/casa-news) and fill out the unsubscribe section at the bottom of the page.

<https://casa.nrao.edu/news.shtml>

F2F meeting 2016

- September 26-27 2016 at Socorro
- Discussion items
 - CASA Status
 - ALMA Development Program
 - Robustness/Crash Reporter
 - Topological Data Analysis --- new imaging mode
 - AWS*/XSEDE** --- CASA on cloud computing
 - CASA Documentation and Communication
 - Pipeline Update/ALMA Review output
 - CASA Survey
 - Parallelization and HPC
 - CASA Environment (VLA, ALMA, etc)
 - Imaging Algorithm Status

*Amazon Web Service

**Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery; NSF Funded consortium of Supercomputing facilities

CUC Report 2016

- Recommendations (see CUC website for full report)
 - User outreach; newsletter, promotion, community liaison
 - Documentation; plone docs html-tree documentation
 - Reliability; clash reporter, survey of OS, correcting log
 - User servicing; detailed information on tickets
 - Computing; parallelization, cloud computing
 - CARTA (plotting tool); documentation, advertisement
 - Calibration pipeline; reducing human efforts
 - Imaging pipeline; documentation, imaging heuristics
 - Imaging development; documentation, new modes
 - ACDC/new committee; collaboration/communication

User survey

- Long-term monitoring of user needs/satisfaction
 - Announced in website, newsletters, conferences, UM, WS, etc.
- Draft survey
 1. Data source?
 2. OS?
 3. CASA version?
 4. Regional interest?
 5. Development priorities? (Reliability/robustness, Performances/speed, New/improved features, documentation)
 6. Functionarity enhancement? (Image plane analysis, Visibility analysis, Calibration pipeline, Imaging pipeline, Visualization, Calibration, Flagging, Imaging, Single dish)
 7. Satisfaction with the CASA Helpdesk?

Summary

- Please visit CUC website
 - <https://safe.nrao.edu/wiki/bin/view/Software/CASA/CASAUsersCommittee>
 - <https://astro.uni-bonn.de/~karim/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Main.CASA>
by A. Karim in University of Bonn
- Please read CASA Newsletter
 - <https://casa.nrao.edu/news.shtml>
- Please send your feedback to Helpdesk (ticket) and user survey
- Next members from EA?