

UCL/Mullard Space Science Laboratory

<http://www.mssl.ucl.ac.uk/>

Contact person : [J.L. Culhane](#)

MSSL is a leading Space Science research institute with skills in scientific data acquisition, processing and distribution along with a broad range of relevant software skills. MSSL has about 25 IT staff and extensive computing facilities, has an annual budget of more than £7M and a total staff of 160. UCL/MSSL has been a major partner in the UK Astrogrid program during the past seven years. Astrogrid activities at MSSL have included:

- Adaption of a range of scientific algorithms for use as Astrogrid Tools. Mainly IDL-based, these include specialized solar physics tools e.g. Movie Maker, image overlays, magnetic field extrapolation, helicity computation, coronal loop recognition, event time cross matching
- Development of: Astrogrid Data Set Access (DSA) to address relational databases; Astrogrid Registry system; Plastic-based tool for communication between desktop GUIs; Simple Time Access Protocol (STAP) for VO data access with special reference to the US VSO and CDAW systems

The computing staff is skilled in a broad range of software systems including ADA, C, C++, IDL, JAVA and Pearl together with a number of specialist systems for control and processing on-board spacecraft.

Key persons :

[J.L. Culhane](#) , FRS; Professor of Physics.

Expertise : Very experienced solar physics; applications of data bases.

Role in VAMDC project : Oversight of MSSL efforts in WP4, WP5, WP8 and contribution to data interfaces

[K. Benson](#) ; Senior Software Developer;

[P. Yuen](#) ; Senior Software Developer;

Software tasks:

WP4: contributions to data access, presentation of digital data and resources, augmentation of VO desktop, implementing registries.

WP5: maintenance and monitoring of core infrastructure, support to infrastructure users, QA of data and resources.

WP8: contribute to data mining services software.

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