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Operational VGOS Scheduling

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The VLBI Global Observing System (VGOS) has been designed to take advantage of advances in data bandwidths, allowing for smaller and faster antennas, wider bandwidths, and shorter observation durations. Here, schedules for a "realistic" VGOS network, frequency sequences, and expanded source lists are presented using a new source-based scheduling algorithm. VGOS aims for continuous observations which presents new operational challenges. As the source-based strategy is independent of the observing network, there are operational advantages which allows for more flexible scheduling of continuous VLBI observations. Using VieVs, Monte Carlo simulations of several schedules are presented and compared with previous VGOS studies.

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