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Prototyping automation and dynamic observing with the AuScope array

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The continuous observing mode envisioned for the new array of VGOS stations would benefit greatly from a high level of automation, from scheduling through to analysis. The centrally-operated AuScope VLBI array of three 12m antennas in Australia is serving as a testbed for these automation techniques. Here we describe the challenges we are addressing, how we are using simulations to undertand where the most benificial improvements can be obtained (in dynamic scheduling for example) and present the progress we have already made.

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