

2.3m Automation - Redesign a control system without changing any (bespoke) hardware

Wednesday, 19 October 2022 11:20 (20 minutes)

The ANU 2.3m telescope was originally built in the early 80's. Usage has evolved from observers on-site pushing buttons to remote operation with GUI interfaces for plant and instrument control, and now fully autonomous operation. The hardware of the telescope and instrument control systems has remained largely unchanged but software control systems have changed substantially. This is a brief overview of the automated observing control system, which pulls various bespoke components into a consolidated distributed control system. The primary objective of the project is to extend the working life of a useful, but aging facility, by 10 years.

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Session Classification: IC-CoP

Track Classification: IC-Cop (Controls)