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Intelligent Monitor System For the Australia Telescope

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Intelligent Monitor System for the Australia Telescope

Project:

Develop a system to:

- monitor the operational health of the telescope array;
- alert the operator if data quality is compromised;
- alert the operator if hardware safety compromised;
- assist the engineers in diagnosing and repairing problems.

P.03

Grounds for "Demonstration status"

- Challenging problem. The Australia Telescope is a complex system, at a remote location, and manned by a small staff.
- Problem of potential interest to industry.
- Project draws on expertise from DIT and DMS, as well as ATNF.

Background:

The telescope array: - 6 antennas.

In each antenna:

- 30 sub-systems

(eg, antenna drives; cryogenics; low noise amplifiers)

- 400 monitor points sampled every 30 seconds.
- >> when is a monitor point in error?
- >> does it affect data quality?
- >> is it correlated with other monitor points?
- >> what action should be taken when in error?

The plan:

- 1. Develop some tools.
- a. Graphic software to bring out the system architecture: mimic diagrams and block diagrams integrated to the monitor database.
- b. Graphic software to display the astronomical data and determine the data quality.
- c. Software to integrate monitor and data quality data in the same display.
- d. Software to allow remote access to the monitor and astronomical data. (In order that remote experts may assist on-line, real-time).

- 2. Apply intelligence to the monitor database.
- a. Diagnostic software software to detect correlations in the errors coincidences in time (single events)
 coincidence in location (several monitor points in
 the same sub-system).
- b. Expert system assistance in the diagnostic area.
- c. Process control approach to the setting of the error windows using the time records.

Resources.

- i. Hardware: A quality display device. workstation class
- ii. Software: One person/year. additional software support from local staff (M.Kesteven, D.McConnell, R.Wark)
- iii. Hardware expertise: local input from R.Gough, P.Hall.
- iv. Expert System consultants (DIT).
- Process Control consultants (DMS).