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## Next-generation calibration: John Q. Astronomer's perspective

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The reduction, calibration and imaging of data from the SKA and its pathfinders will necessarily be automated on dedicated high-performance computing facilities instead of manual operations performed on the desktop PC of the lucky astronomer, as has been the story so far.

This is already partially realised by the LOFAR project which offers observers and analysts access to a dedicated data processing cluster.

Until this paradigm shift is complete however, mildly adventurous radio astronomers may immediately reap the benefits of powerful next-generation algorithm and software developments, the installation, use and scripted operation of which are easier than ever.

I will present here something of an 'uninvited review', detailing my experiences in expanding my radio astronomy software toolkit beyond the stalwart AIPS package.

This expansion is driven by necessity as well as curiosity, and I will frame this talk in the context of my efforts to deal with EVLA observations of a particularly troublesome target field.

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