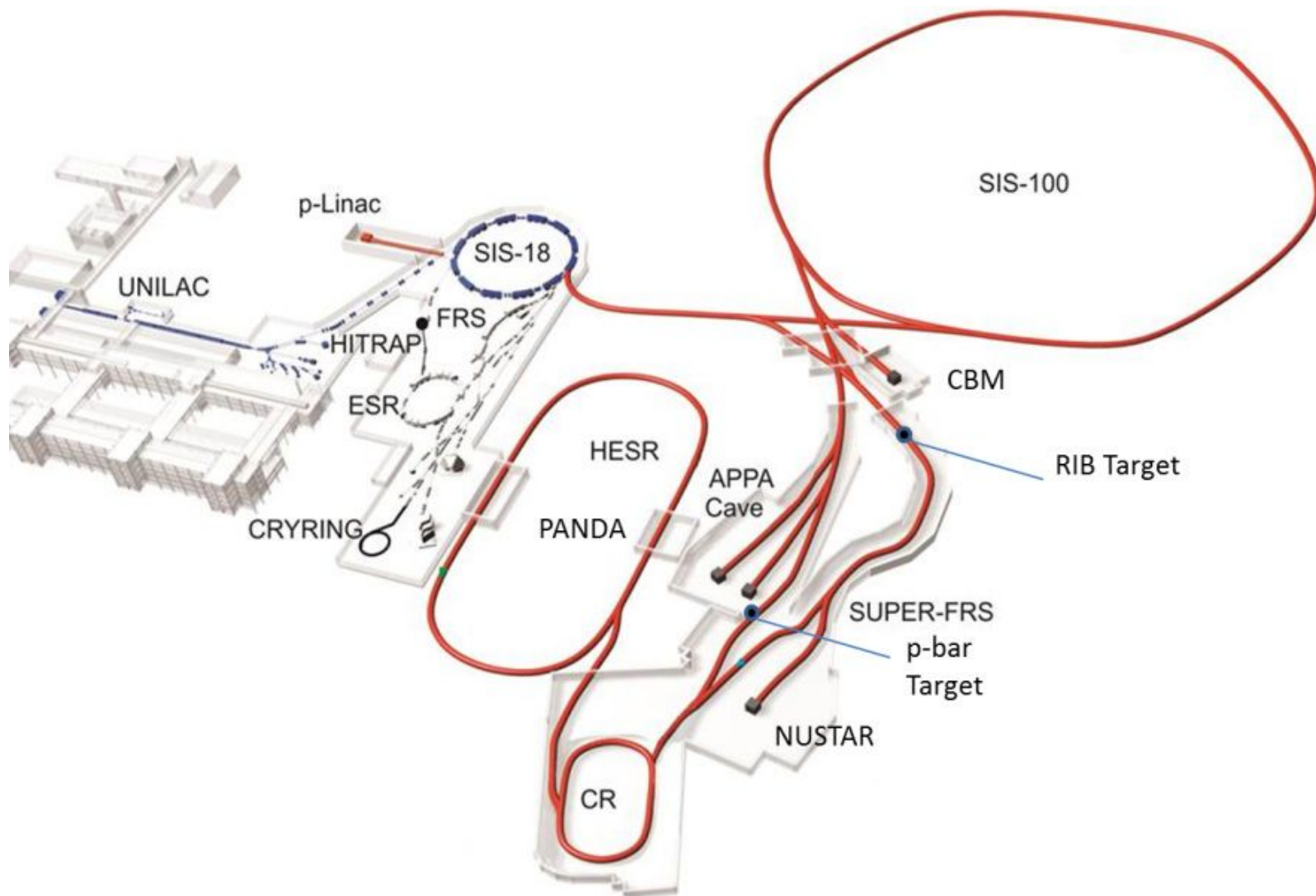


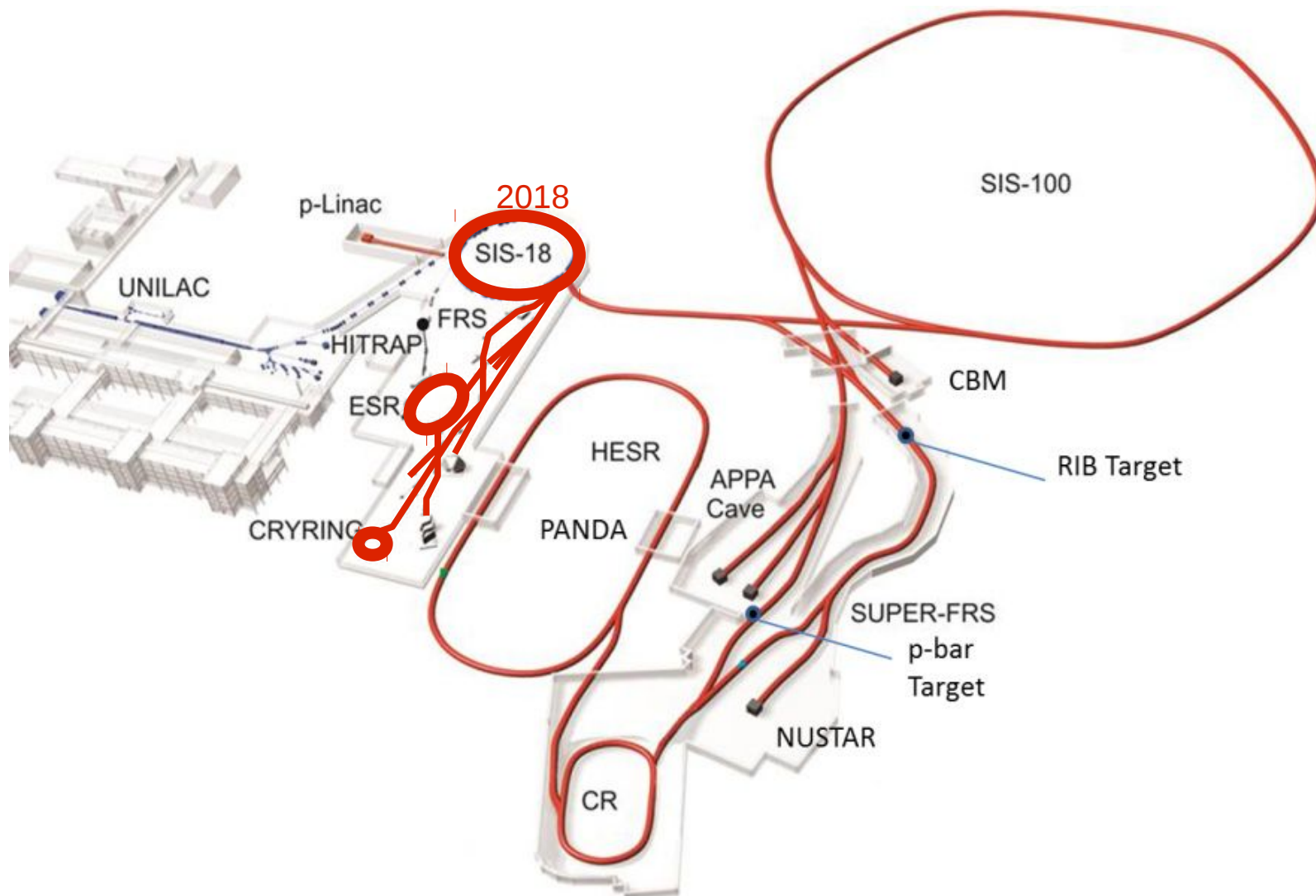
# FAIR Sequencer

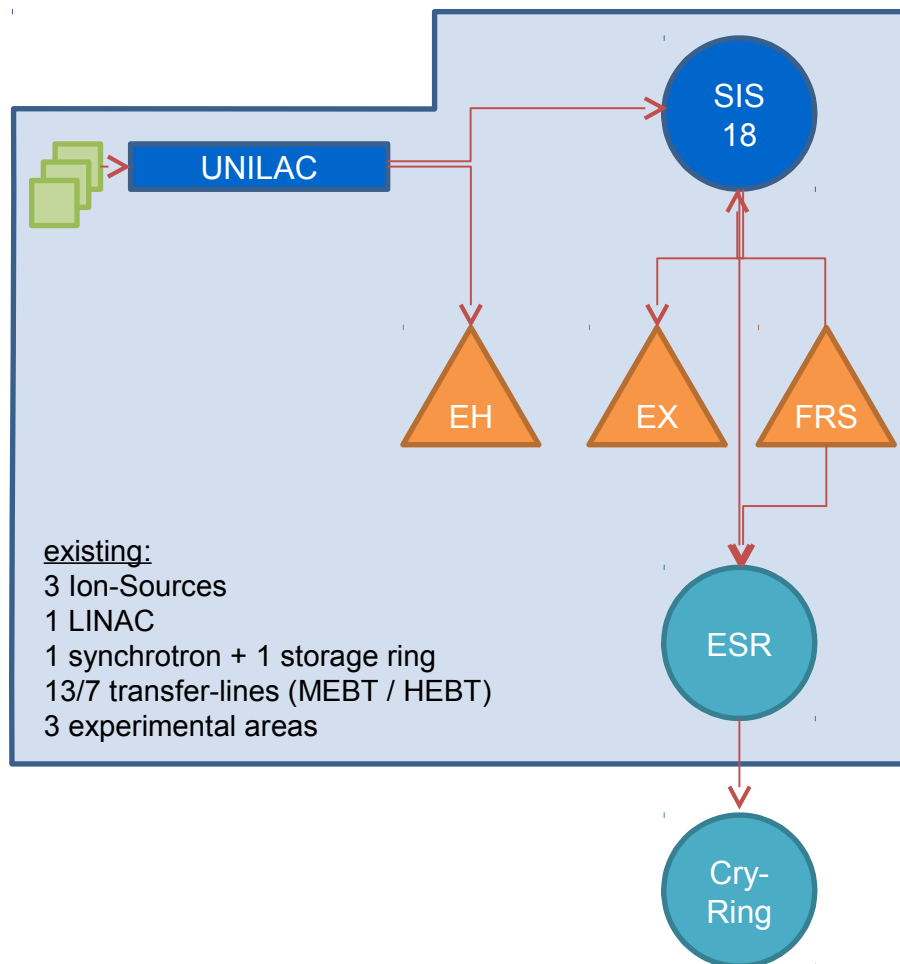
– computerized system validation –

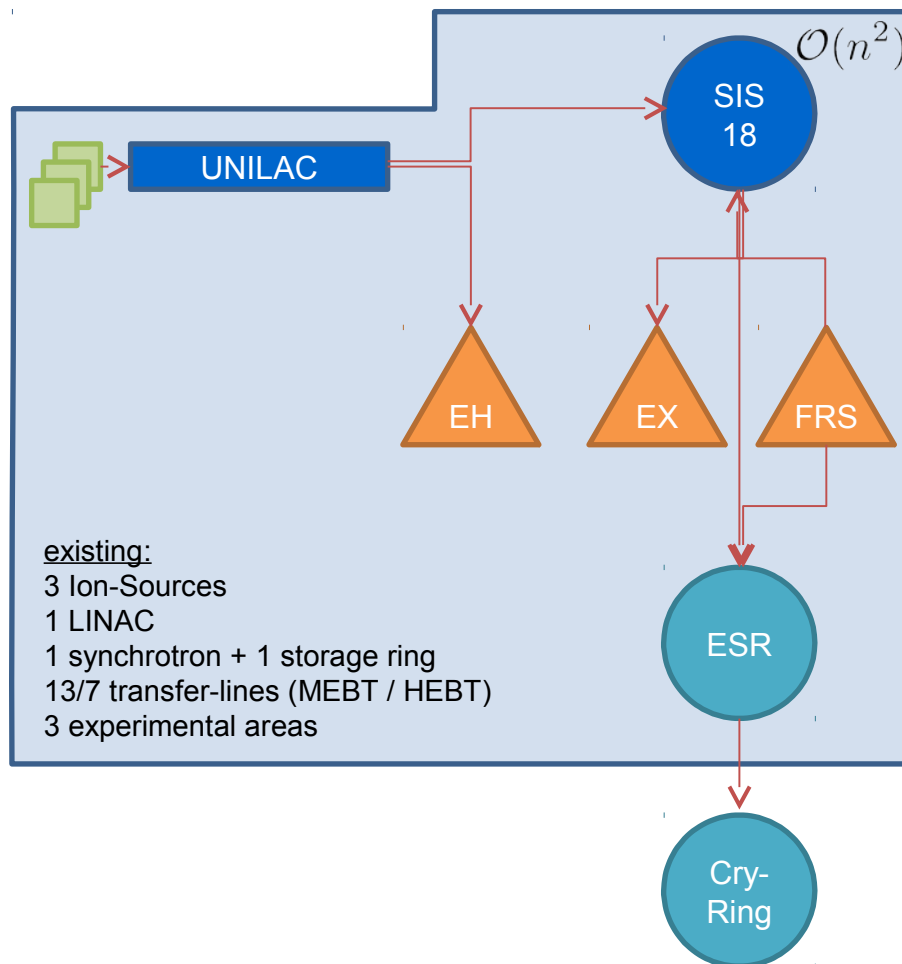
## Preliminary Concepts and first Prototype

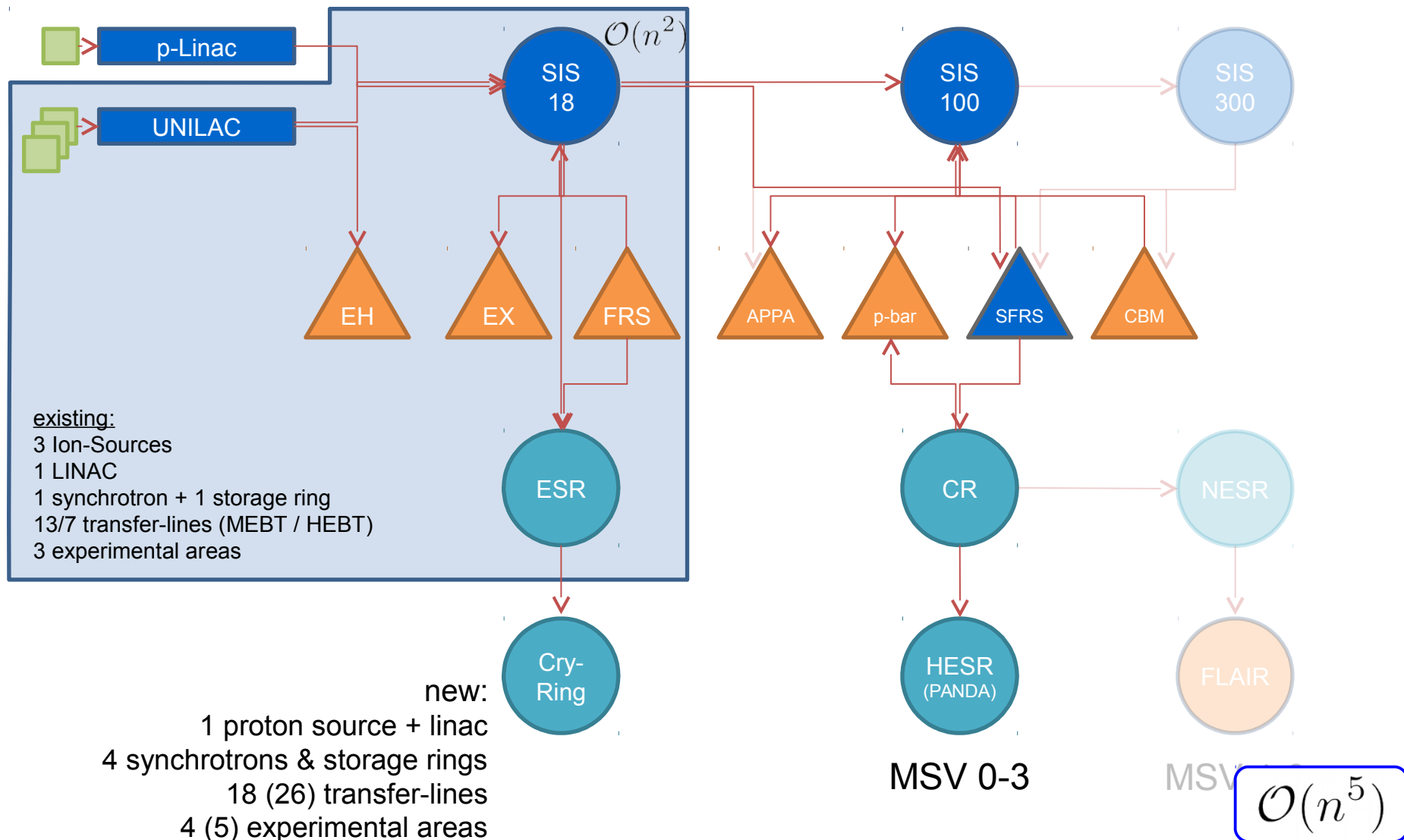
Ralph J. Steinhagen, R. Mueller

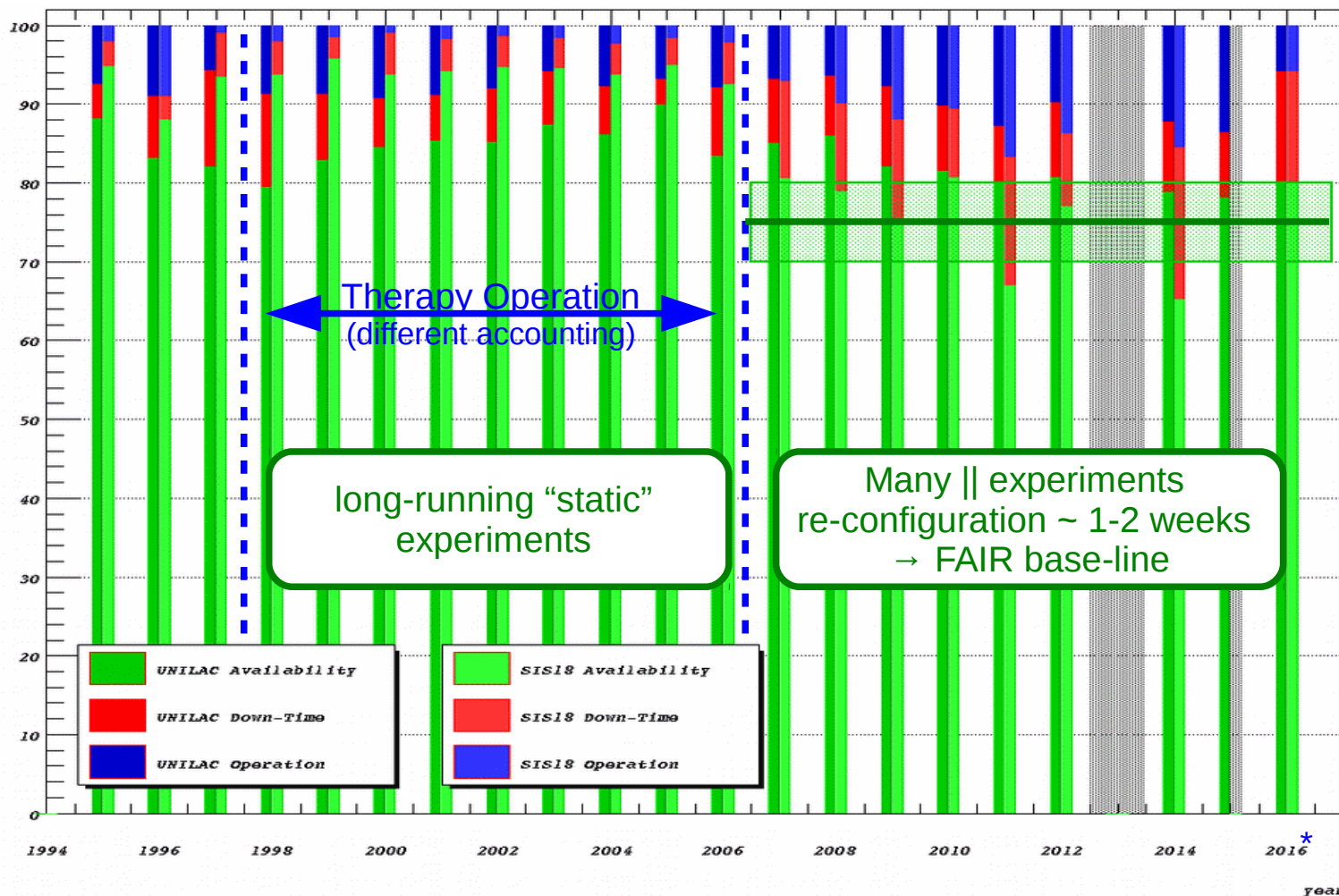












constant  
~ 75 ± 5 %

long-running “static”  
experiments

Many || experiments  
re-configuration ~ 1-2 weeks  
→ FAIR base-line

Based on: U. Scheeler, S. Reimann, P. Schütt et al., “Accelerator Operation Report”, GSI Annual Scientific Reports 1992 – 2015 + 2016 (D. Severin)  
[https://www.gsi.de/en/work/research/library\\_documentation/gsi\\_scientific\\_reports.htm](https://www.gsi.de/en/work/research/library_documentation/gsi_scientific_reports.htm)

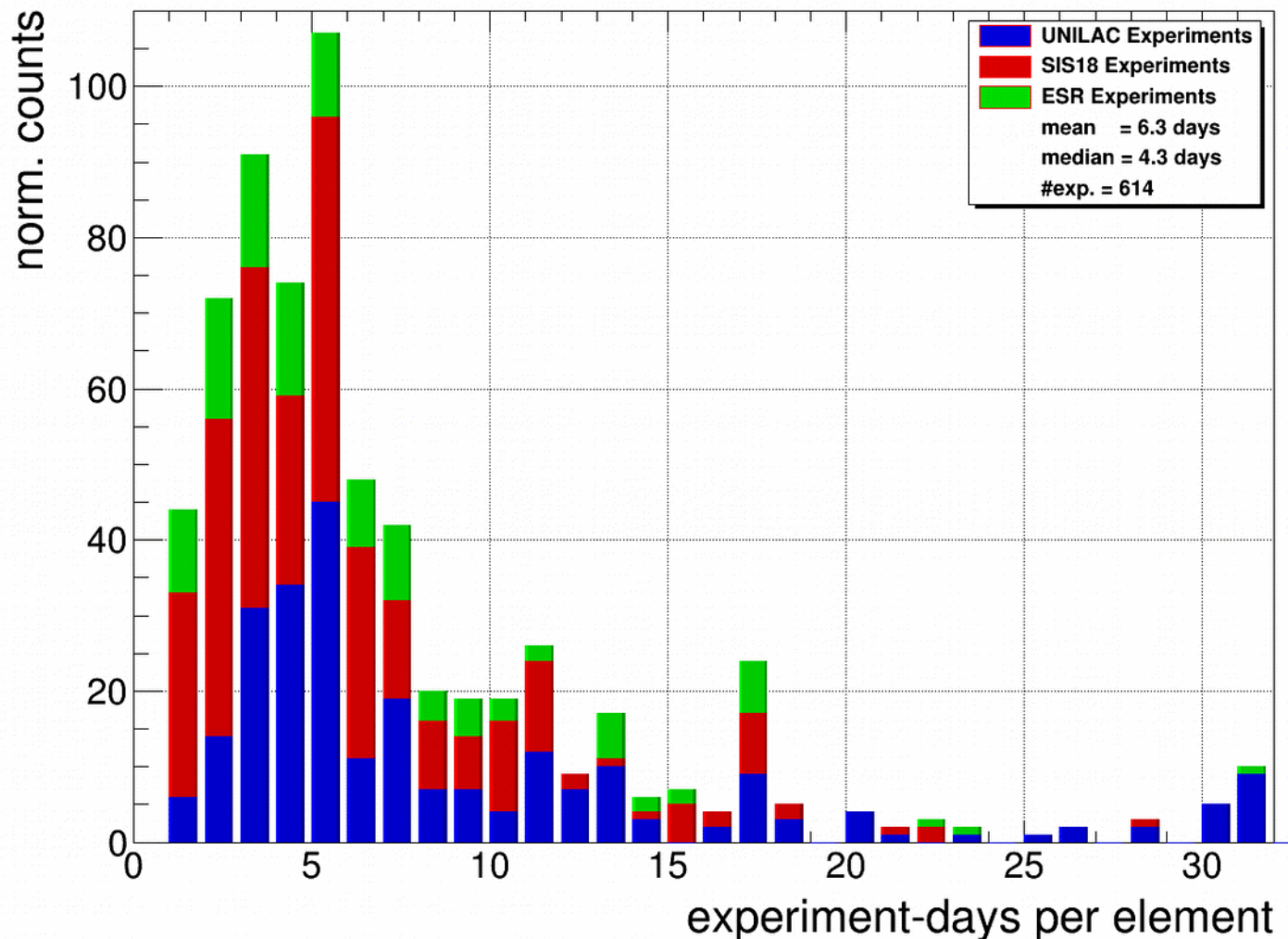
N.B. ion source exchanges are factored out from UNILAC & SIS18 data (~ constant overhead)

Availability: experiments + detector tests + machine development + beam to down-stream accelerators;

Down-time: unscheduled down-time + standby; Operation: accelerator setup + re-tuning

\* 2018 operation limitations:  
• only ½ UNILAC (w/o A3 & A4)  
• only 1 element in SIS18





\*see GSI annual reports  
2015/16 data courtesy D. Severin



- Much larger facility, cannot reliably extrapolate from present 'UNILAC→SIS18→ESR' operation to requirements for FAIR (9+ resp. 13 accelerators, higher/unsafe intensities, more users)

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  - avg. experiment run: ~~~1-2 weeks~~ → 5-6 days many new storage rings and transfer lines with high(er) complexity → machine setup time-scale
  - high-intensity operation requires more and better fine-tuning
    - dynamic vacuum, activation & machine protection (mainly septa, instrumentation, etc.)
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    - limited operator resources: 4-5 (beam operation) + 1-2 (infrastructure, cryo)
- need to be smart and develop an efficient commissioning procedure, training and tools to facilitate fast turn-around and maintain (or improve) present operational efficiency

## Proposal to follow a long-term strategy and 'lean principles':

- Continuous improvement

- Right processes to produce right results and for getting it right the first time
  - *commissioning procedures as evolving operation standard*
  - *system integration: definition of what, how and when (prioritisation) is needed*
- Prevention of inefficiencies, inconsistencies & waste by design
  - 'poka-yoke' or 'error proofing' principle – culture of stopping and fixing
    1. early, when and where they occur (at the source)
    2. with low-intensity beam rather than with high-intensity beam
    3. addressing first basic parameters before complex higher-order effects
  - Examples:
    - first fix injection, trajectory, orbit, Q/Q' before addressing space-charge or slow-extraction problems
    - important losses for low-intensity beam have larger impact for high-intensity beam (↔ activation)
      - pilot-beam concept: always verify machine safety with low-intensities before moving on to high-intensity beams

- Respect for people – “develop people, then build products”

- optimise operation ↔ *smart tools & procedures, e.g. beam-based feedbacks, sequencer, ...*
  - automate routine task so that operator talents are utilised and focused on more important tasks
- training, investment in and development of people – minimise overburden/strain of personnel
- FAIR is a large facility and needs wider support: communicate concepts and strategy to broader base → FC<sup>2</sup>WG

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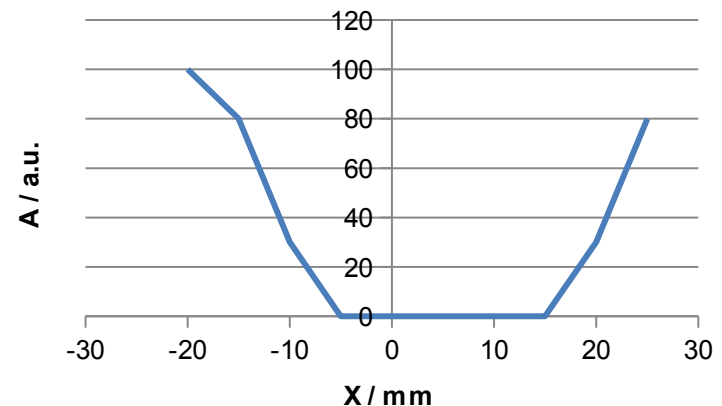
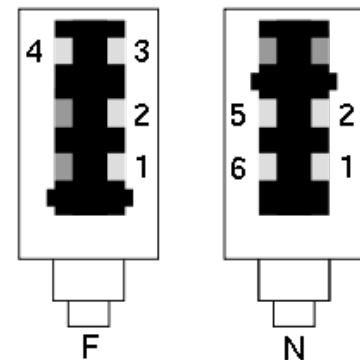
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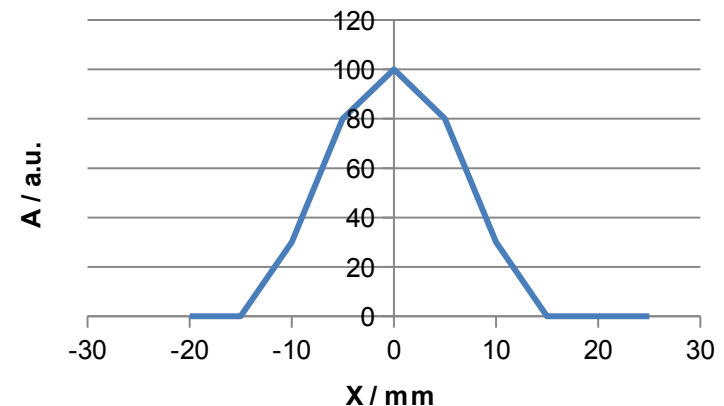
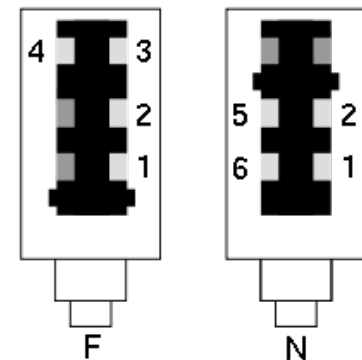
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    - Concept by Shigeo Shingo: 'Toyota Production System' (TPS, aka. 'lean' systems)
  - minimise common mistakes, procedural errors, etc. affecting machine performance and protection
- Real-World Examples:
  - Polarity protection of electrical plugs (e.g. phone, Ethernet cable)
    - SIS18 profile grid connectors
  - Procedures: e.g. ATM machine: need to retrieve card before money is released (↔ prevents missing card)



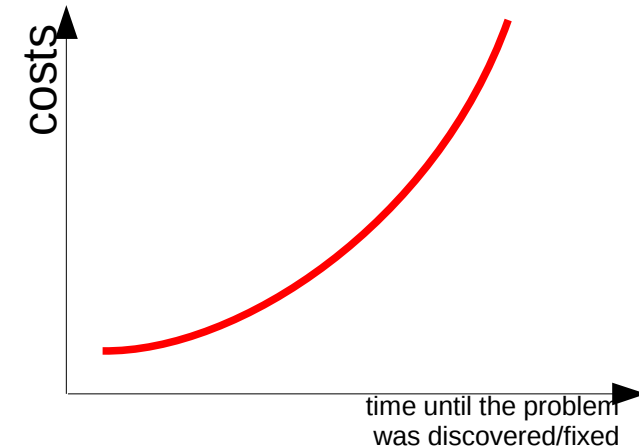


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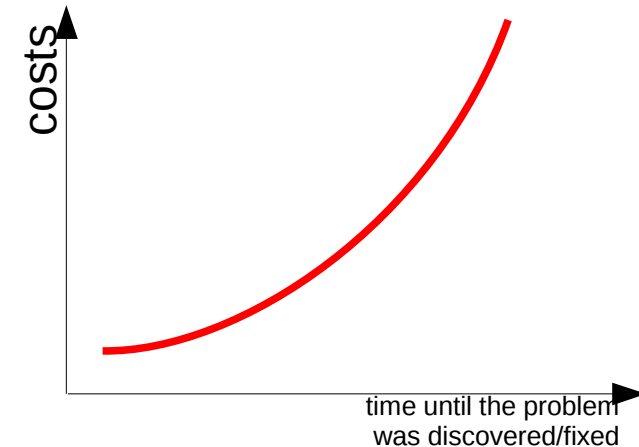
- Minimises procrastination of errors: “Safety starts with safe habits”!
  - big losses with big intensities → bad (activation)
  - large losses with small intensities → probably OK? ... No!
    - requires paradigm change!
  - Interdependence between beam parameter & systems



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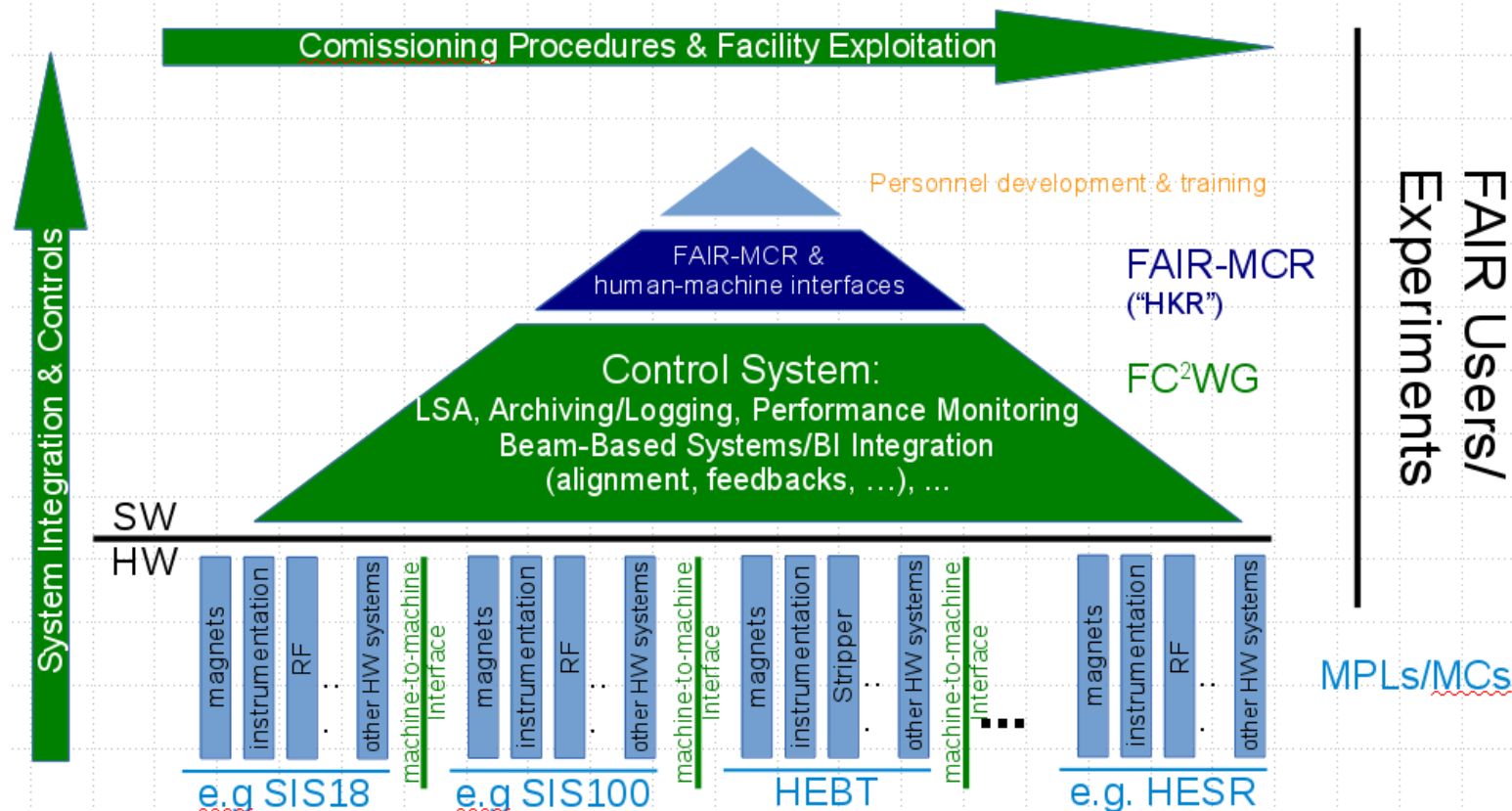
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- Early indication of developing/not-yet-critical faults:

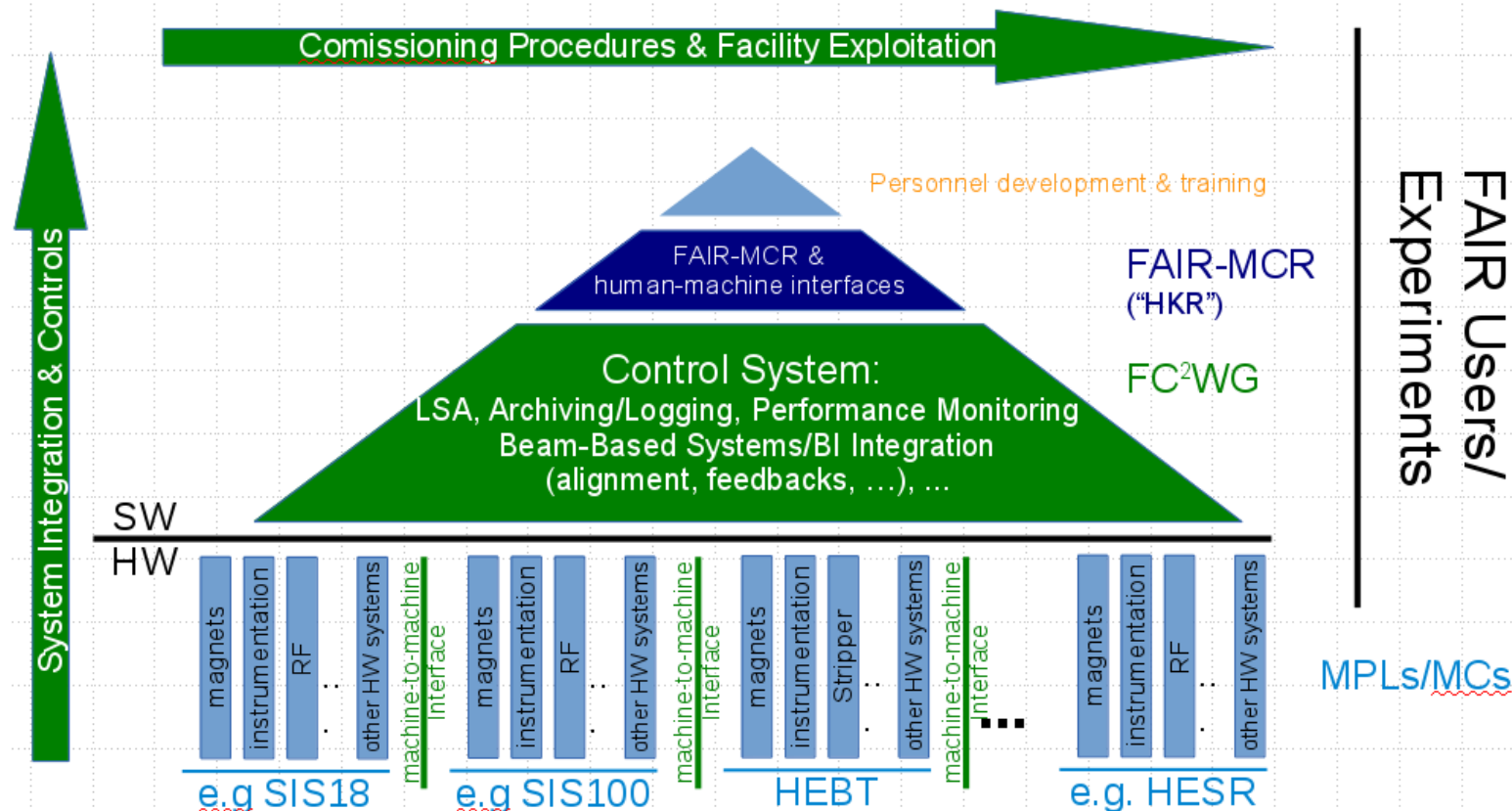
- Post-Mortem analysis ('as good as new' SIL assurance)
- Preventative maintenance → Sequencer
- fix “domino effect” problems at the source not its symptoms
  - e.g. fix problems with low-intensity beam rather than with high-intensity beam (avoids revalidation of loss patterns, MPS setup, ...)
  - e.g. fix basic accelerator parameters before moving on to higher-order effect (e.g. extraction/injection energy/trajectory → orbit → tune → chromaticity → optic → ... → driving term s

An accelerator is more than the sum of its parts:



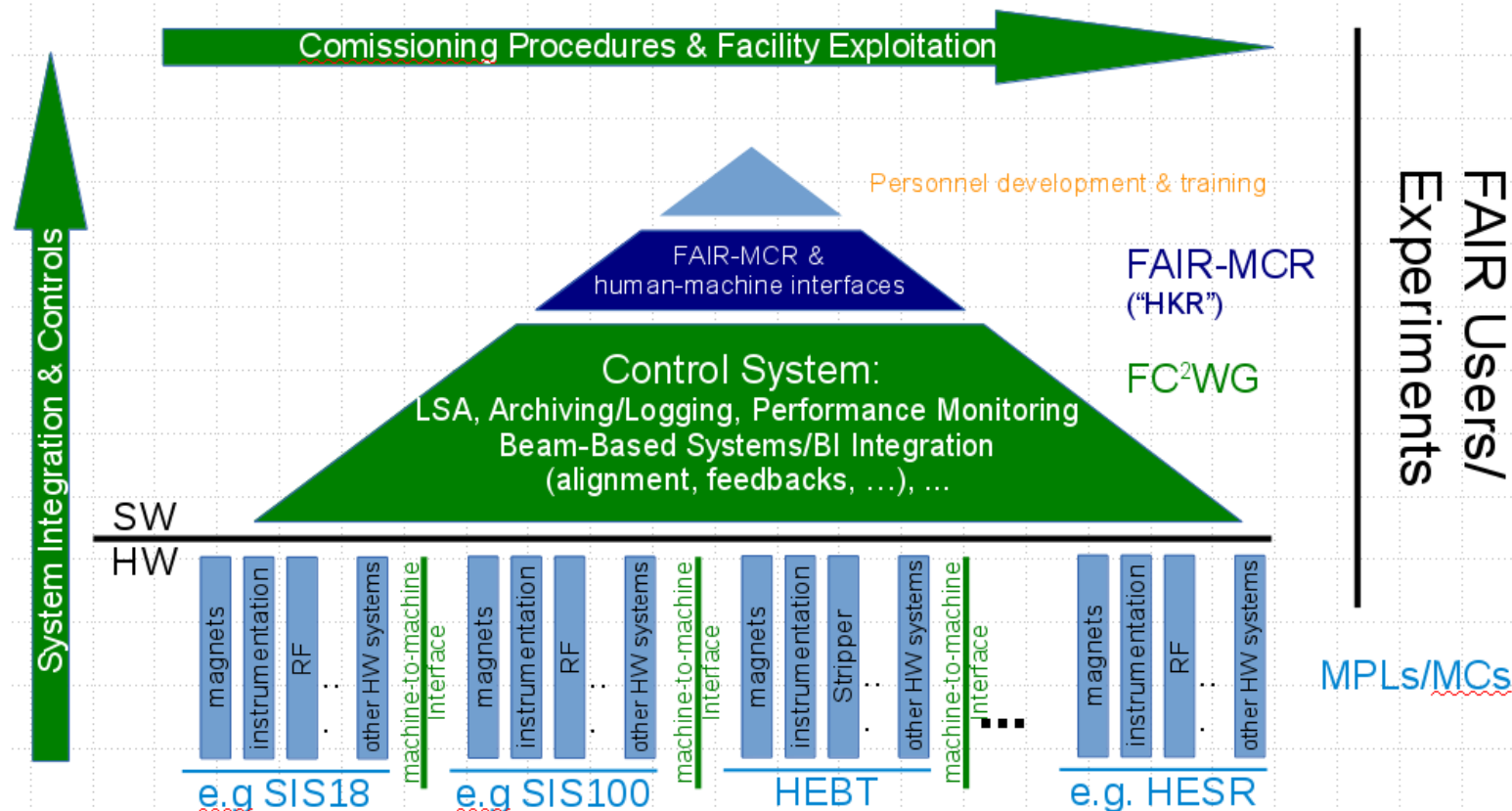
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  - platform to discuss, coordinate and work-out FAIR commissioning and operation
  - open to all who can participate and contribute to this subject!

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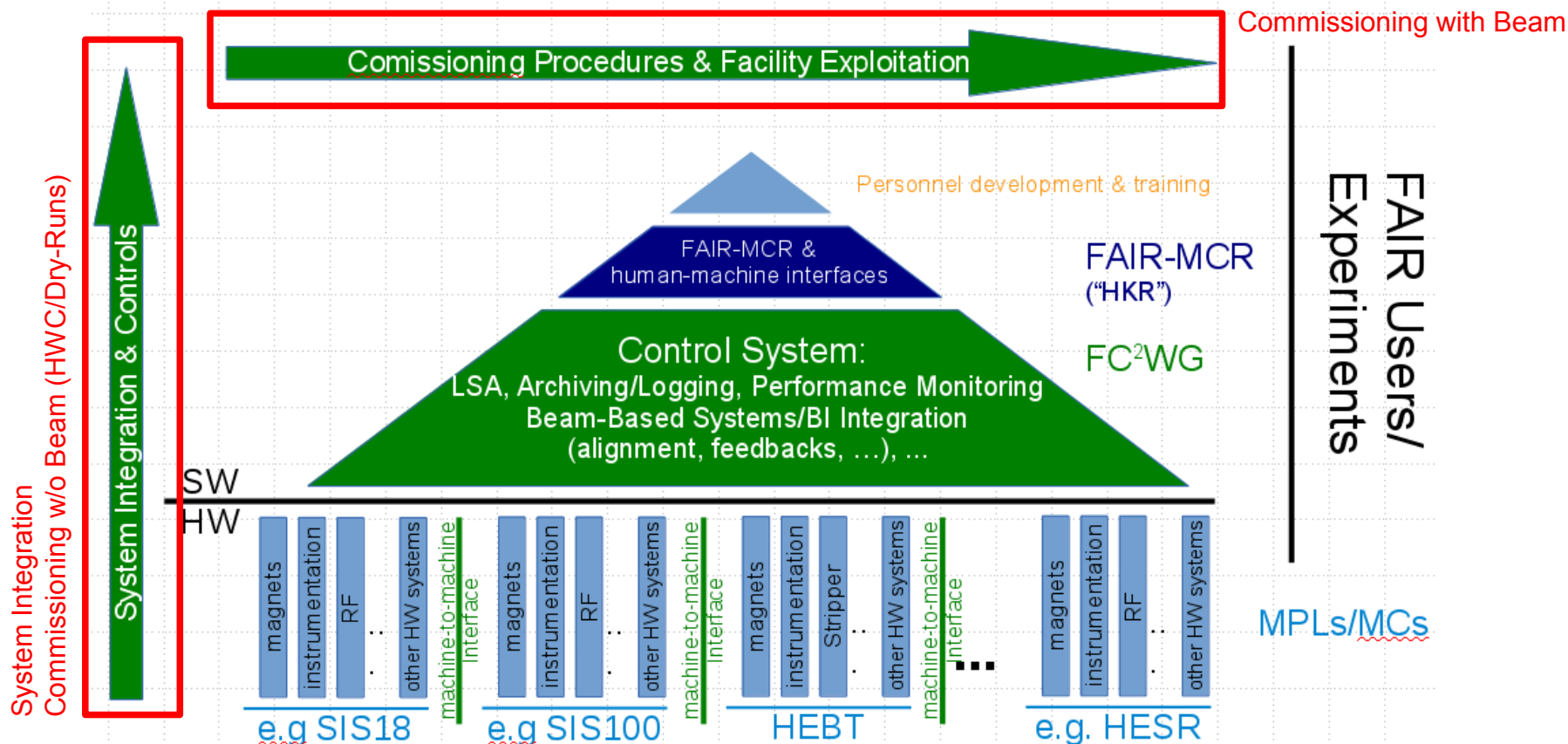
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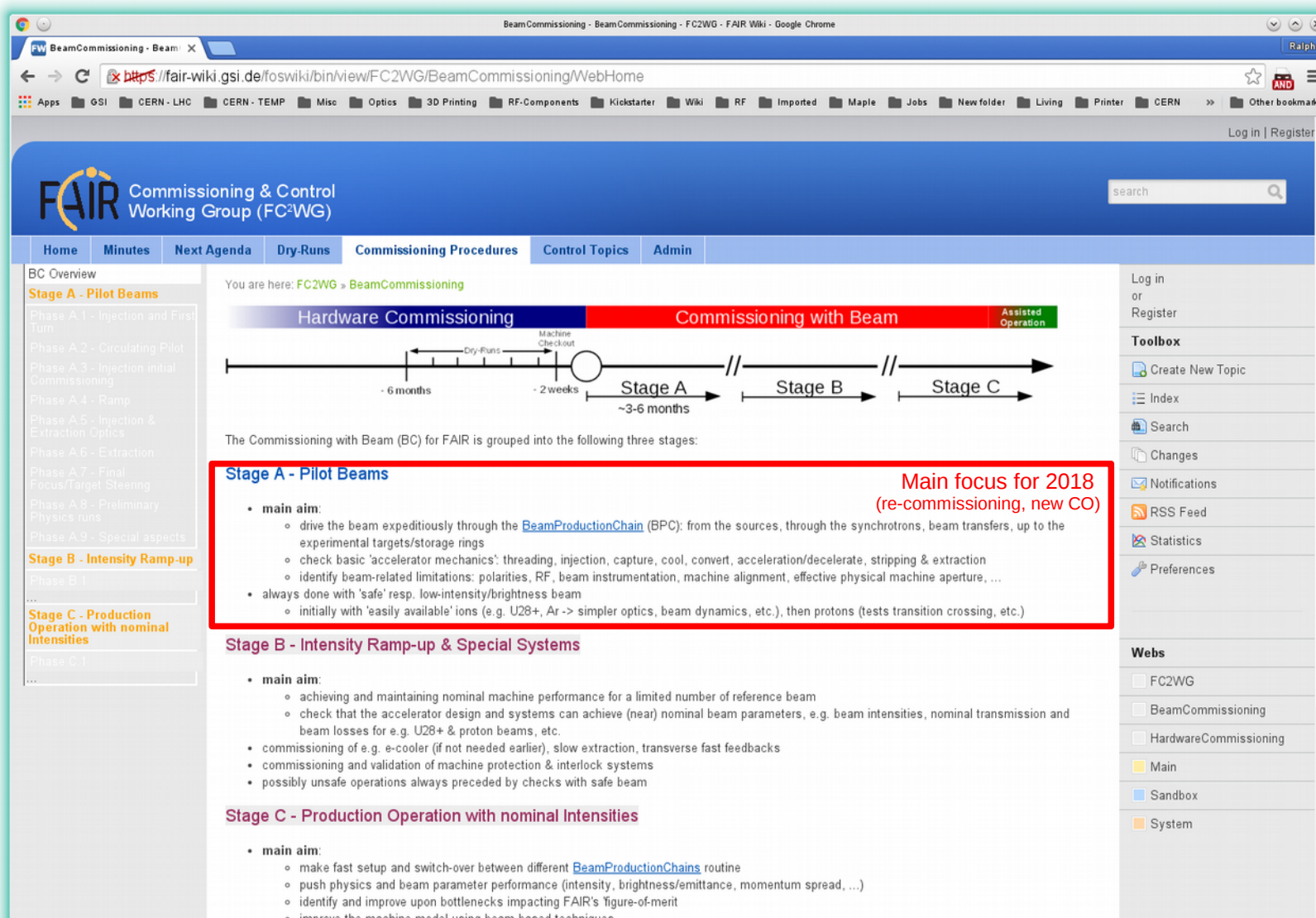
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The screenshot shows the FAIR Commissioning & Control Working Group (FC2WG) website. The main navigation bar includes links for Home, Minutes, Next Agenda, Dry-Runs, Commissioning Procedures, Control Topics, and Admin. The left sidebar lists various phases of the commissioning process, including Phase A (Injection and First Turn) and Phase B (Intensity Ramp-up). The main content area displays a timeline of the commissioning process, divided into Hardware Commissioning, Commissioning with Beam, and Assisted Operation. The Commissioning with Beam section is further divided into Stage A (Pilot Beams), Stage B (Intensity Ramp-up & Special Systems), and Stage C (Production Operation with nominal Intensities). The Stage A section is highlighted with a red border and contains the following information:

**Stage A - Pilot Beams**

**Main focus for 2018 (re-commissioning, new CO)**

- main aim:**
  - drive the beam expeditiously through the [BeamProductionChain](#) (BPC): from the sources, through the synchrotrons, beam transfers, up to the experimental targets/storage rings
  - check basic 'accelerator mechanics': threading, injection, capture, cool, convert, acceleration/decelerate, stripping & extraction
  - identify beam-related limitations: polarities, RF, beam instrumentation, machine alignment, effective physical machine aperture, ...
- always done with 'safe' resp. low-intensity/brightness beam**
  - initially with 'easily available' ions (e.g. U28+, Ar -> simpler optics, beam dynamics, etc.), then protons (tests transition crossing, etc.)

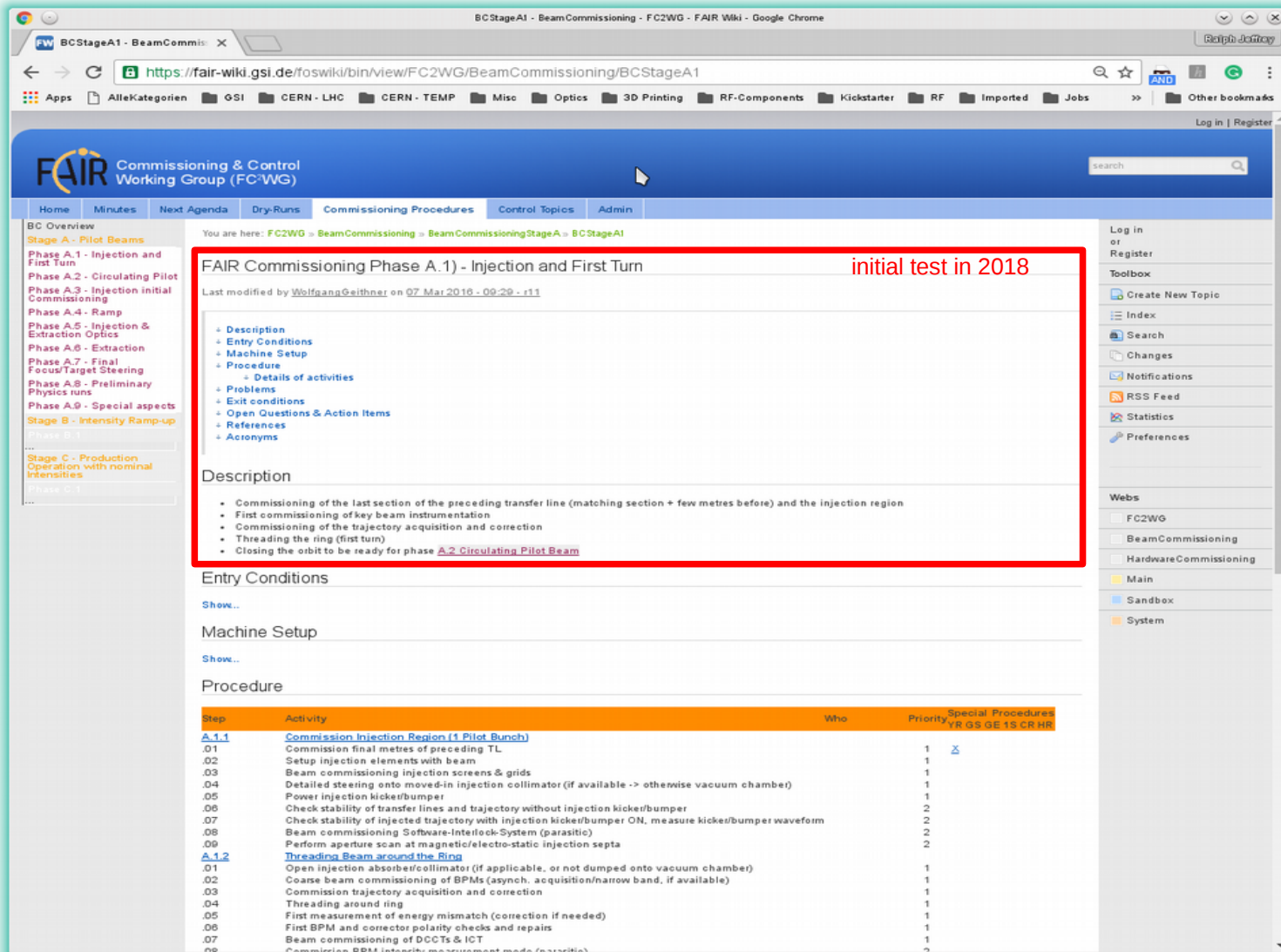
The Commissioning with Beam (BC) for FAIR is grouped into the following three stages:

**Stage B - Intensity Ramp-up & Special Systems**

- main aim:**
  - achieving and maintaining nominal machine performance for a limited number of reference beam
  - check that the accelerator design and systems can achieve (near) nominal beam parameters, e.g. beam intensities, nominal transmission and beam losses for e.g. U28+ & proton beams, etc.
- commissioning of e.g. e-cooler (if not needed earlier), slow extraction, transverse fast feedbacks
- commissioning and validation of machine protection & interlock systems
- possibly unsafe operations always preceded by checks with safe beam

**Stage C - Production Operation with nominal Intensities**

- main aim:**
  - make fast setup and switch-over between different [BeamProductionChains](#) routine
  - push physics and beam parameter performance (intensity, brightness/emittance, momentum spread, ...)
  - identify and improve upon bottlenecks impacting FAIR's figure-of-merit
  - improve the machine model using beam-based techniques



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the FAIR Wiki page for Beam Commissioning Phase A.1.1. The page is titled "FAIR Commissioning Phase A.1) - Injection and First Turn" and is marked as "initial test in 2018". The page content includes a table of contents with links to Description, Entry Conditions, Machine Setup, Procedure, Problems, Exit conditions, Open Questions & Action Items, References, and Acronyms. The main content area is divided into sections for Description, Entry Conditions, Machine Setup, and Procedure. The Procedure section contains a table with columns for Step, Activity, Who, Priority, and Special Procedures. The table lists various activities related to beam commissioning, including injection region setup, beam steering, and aperture scan.

**FAIR Commissioning Phase A.1) - Injection and First Turn** initial test in 2018

Last modified by [Wolfgang Geithner](#) on 07. Mar 2018 - 09:29 - r11

- + Description
- + Entry Conditions
- + Machine Setup
- + Procedure
  - + Details of activities
- + Problems
- + Exit conditions
- + Open Questions & Action Items
- + References
- + Acronyms

**Description**

- Commissioning of the last section of the preceding transfer line (matching section + few metres before) and the injection region
- First commissioning of key beam instrumentation
- Commissioning of the trajectory acquisition and correction
- Threading the ring (first turn)
- Closing the orbit to be ready for phase [A.2 Circulating Pilot Beam](#)

**Entry Conditions**

[Show...](#)

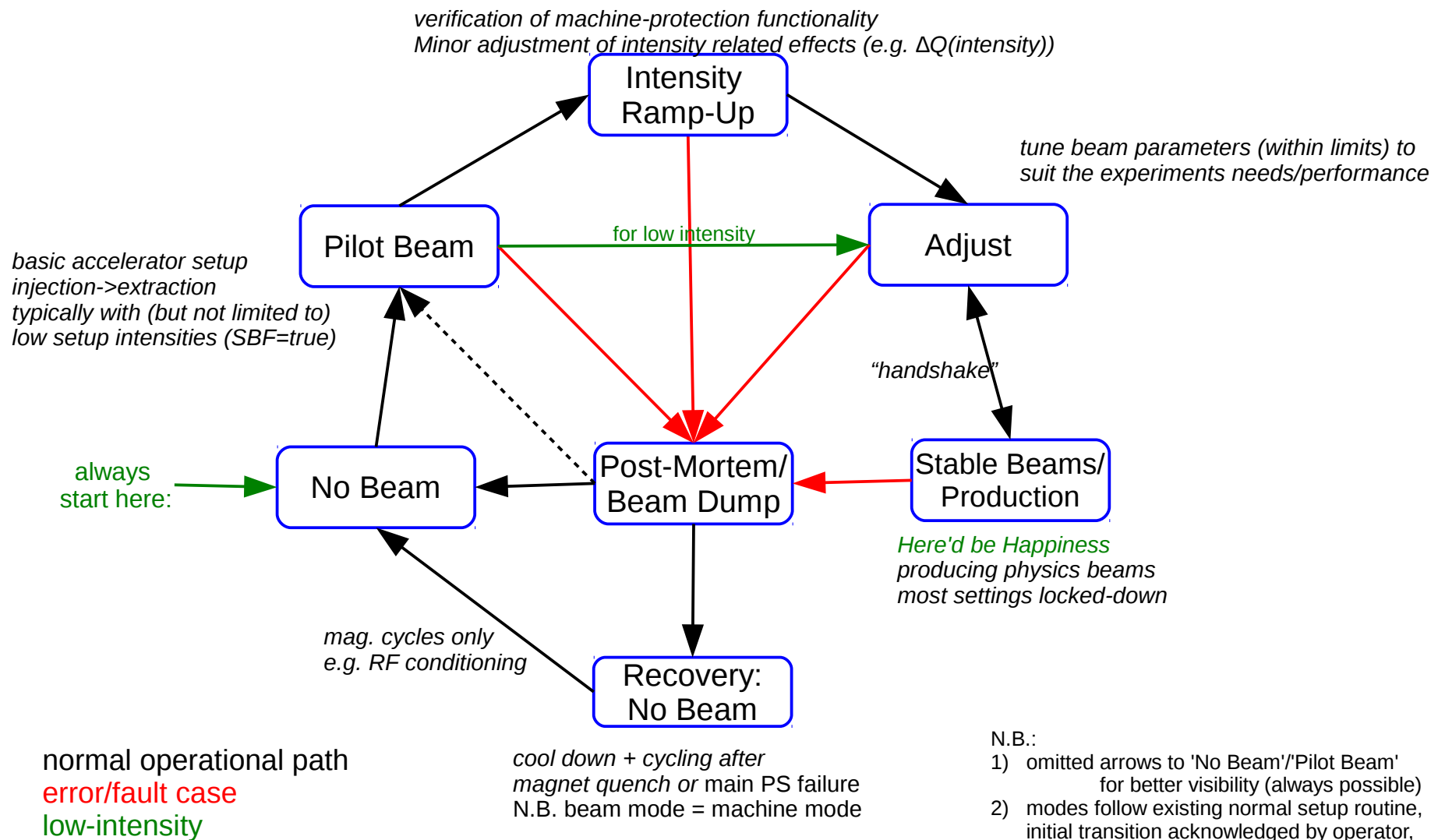
**Machine Setup**

[Show...](#)

**Procedure**

Step	Activity	Who	Priority	Special Procedures Y R GS GE 1S CR HR
<b>A.1.1</b>	<b>Commission Injection Region (1 Pilot Bunch)</b>			
.01	Commission final metres of preceding TL		1	⚡
.02	Setup injection elements with beam		1	
.03	Beam commissioning injection screens & grids		1	
.04	Detailed steering onto moved-in injection collimator (if available -> otherwise vacuum chamber)		1	
.05	Power injection kicker/bumper		1	
.06	Check stability of transfer lines and trajectory without injection kicker/bumper		2	
.07	Check stability of injected trajectory with injection kicker/bumper ON, measure kicker/bumper waveform		2	
.08	Beam commissioning Software-Interlock-System (parasitic)		2	
.09	Perform aperture scan at magnetic/electro-static injection septa		2	
<b>A.1.2</b>	<b>Threading Beam around the Ring</b>			
.01	Open injection absorber/collimator (if applicable, or not dumped onto vacuum chamber)		1	
.02	Coarse beam commissioning of BPMs (asynch. acquisition/narrow band, if available)		1	
.03	Commission trajectory acquisition and correction		1	
.04	Threading around ring		1	
.05	First measurement of energy mismatch (correction if needed)		1	
.06	First BPM and corrector polarity checks and repairs		1	
.07	Beam commissioning of DCCTs & ICT		1	
.08	Commission BPM intensity measurement mode (optional)		2	

N.B. 'mode' := intended/targeted state of operation



N.B.:

- 1) omitted arrows to 'No Beam'/'Pilot Beam' for better visibility (always possible)
- 2) modes follow existing normal setup routine, initial transition acknowledged by operator, subsequent driven automatically by sequencer

- **Management of Critical Settings** – lock-down of critical machine settings depending on OP/MP scenario
  - tolerance bands depending on '**Accelerator**' & '**Beam Modes**': e.g. 'Pilot': fully open → 'Intensity Ramp-up' (limited 'safe range'. e.g.  $\Delta Q < 0.01$ ) → 'Adjust' (more stringent limits, e.g. only exp. target parameter) → 'Stable Beams' (only agreed settings, e.g. "beam-on-target position on 100 um level")

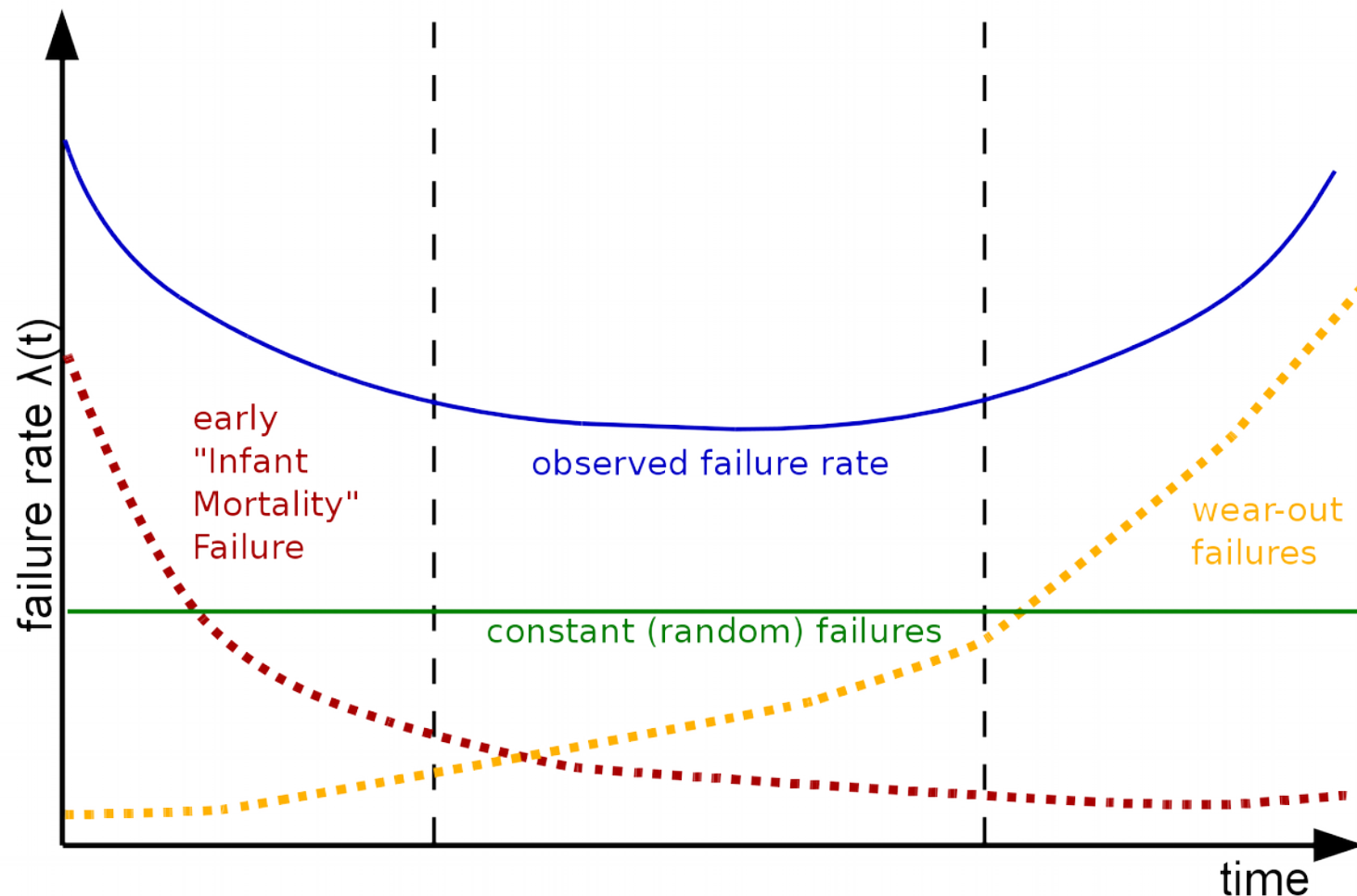
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- **Beam Presence Flag (BPF)** – indicates that cycle/settings have been validated with Pilot- or Physics-Beam in the recent past (< days, tbd.)
  - main usage: prevent high-intensity injections into an 'empty' machine with new untested magnetic settings or modified machine conditions
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  - Used to enforce interlocks with high-intensity (primary) beam ( $\leftrightarrow$  prevents the 'forgotten interlock syndrome')

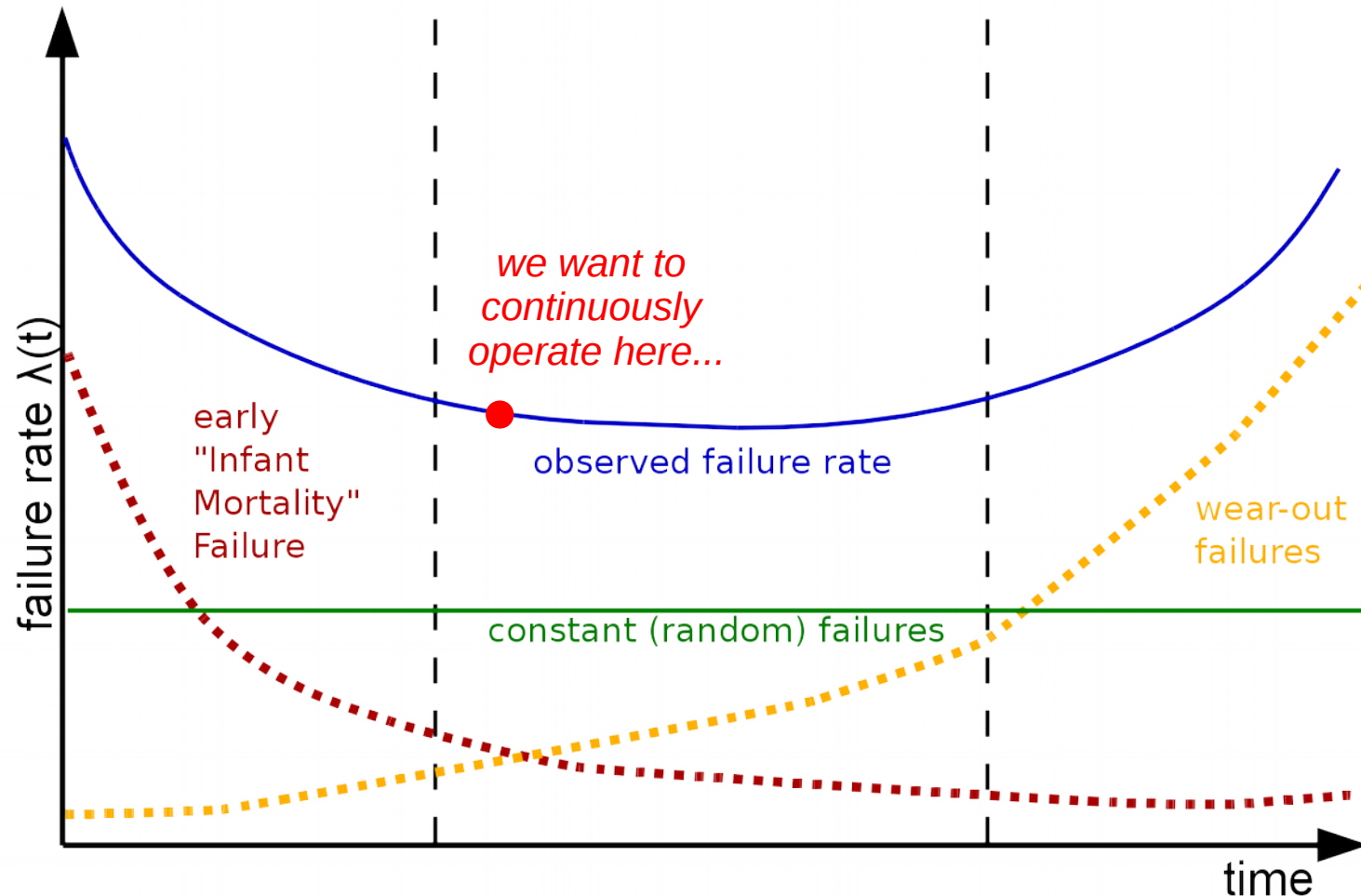
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- **Injection/Extraction Permit** – indicates if subsequent accelerator chain is ready (safe) to receive beam (→ fast beam aborts, discussed later)



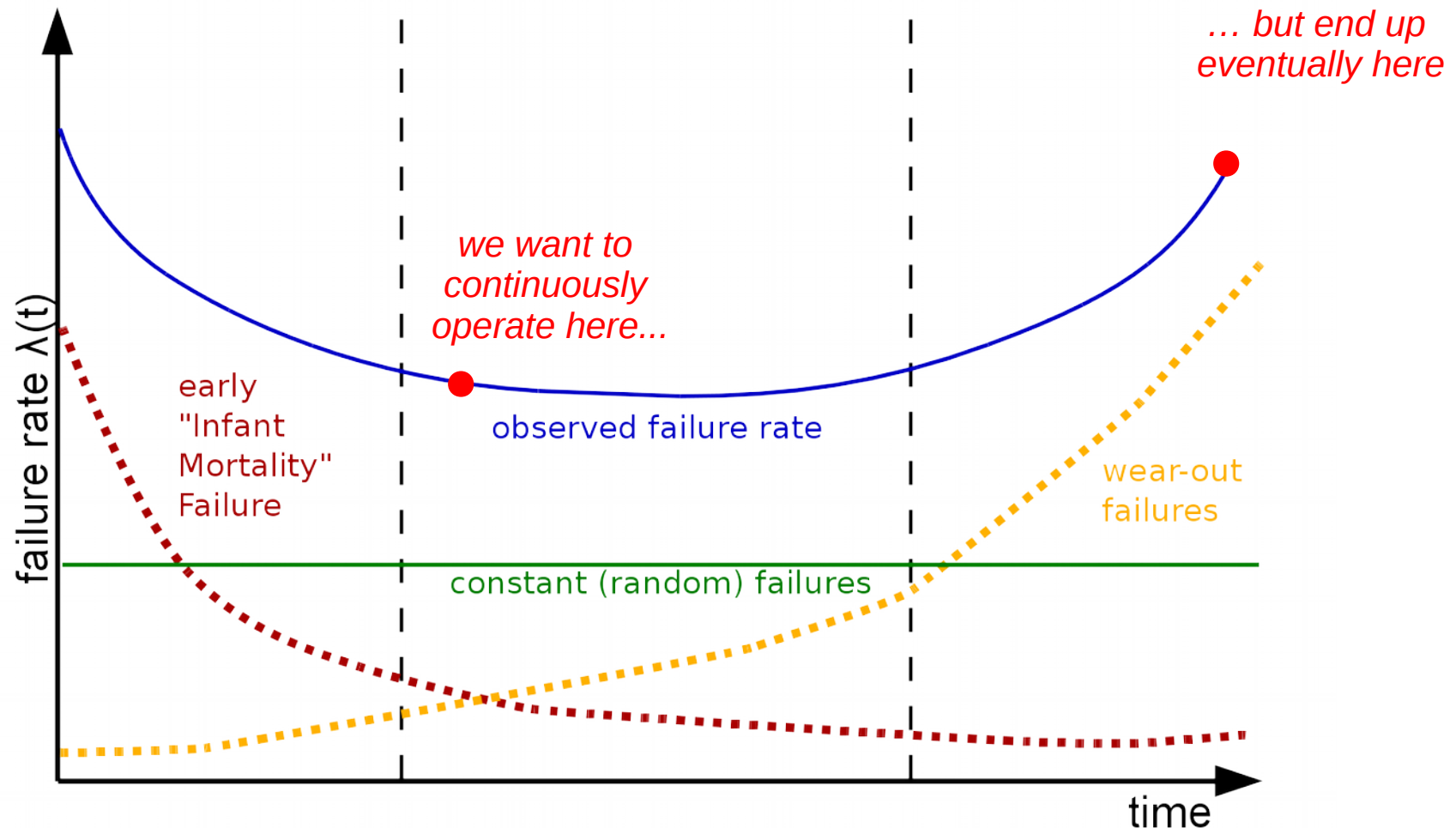
Problem definition: classical bath-tub curve – in an ideal/naïve world:



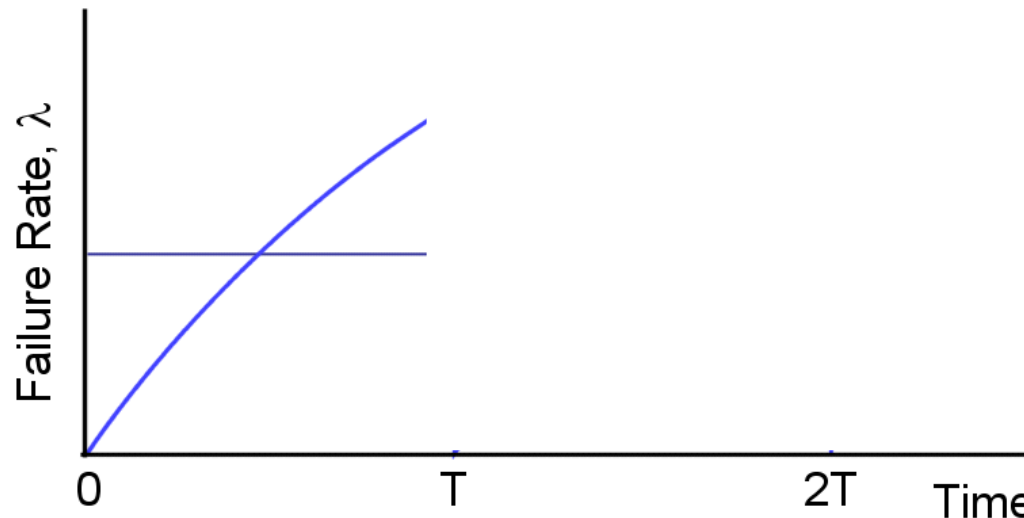
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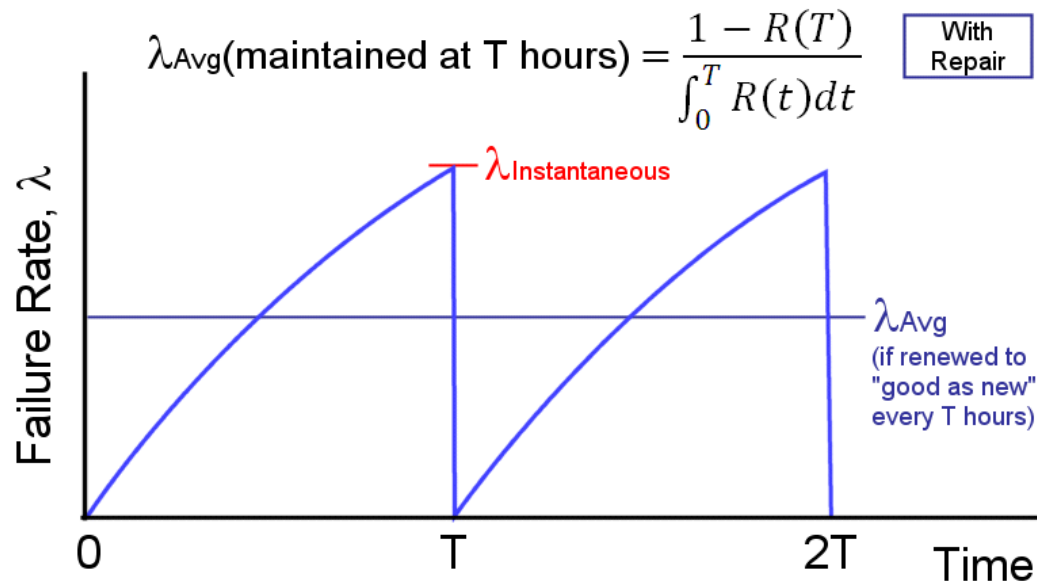
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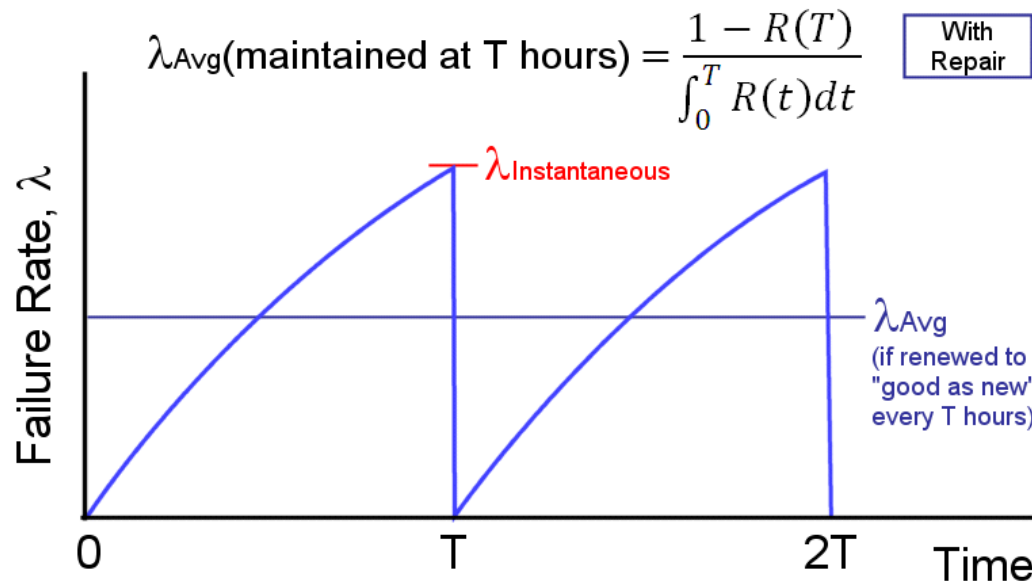
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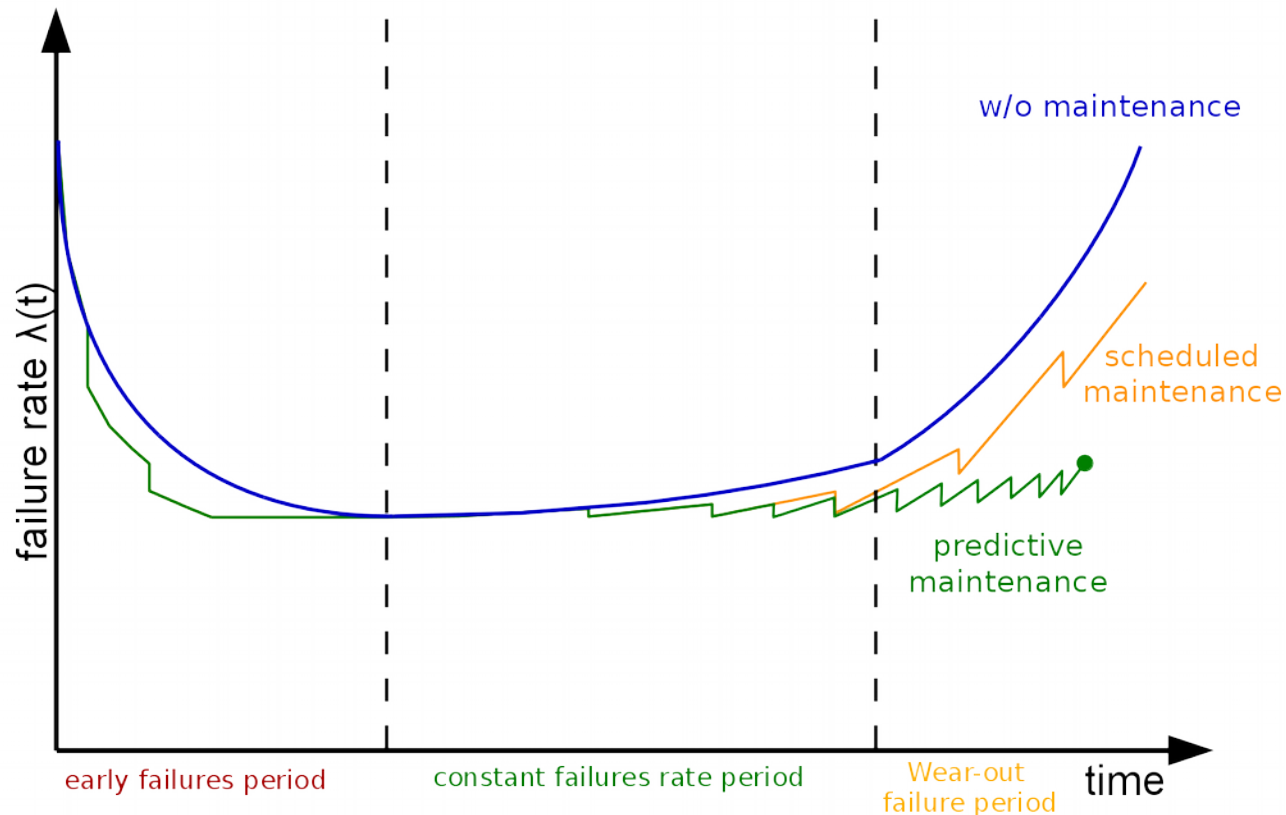
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  - 'as good as new' system validation
    - technical implementations at FAIR: Sequencer & Post-Mortem System

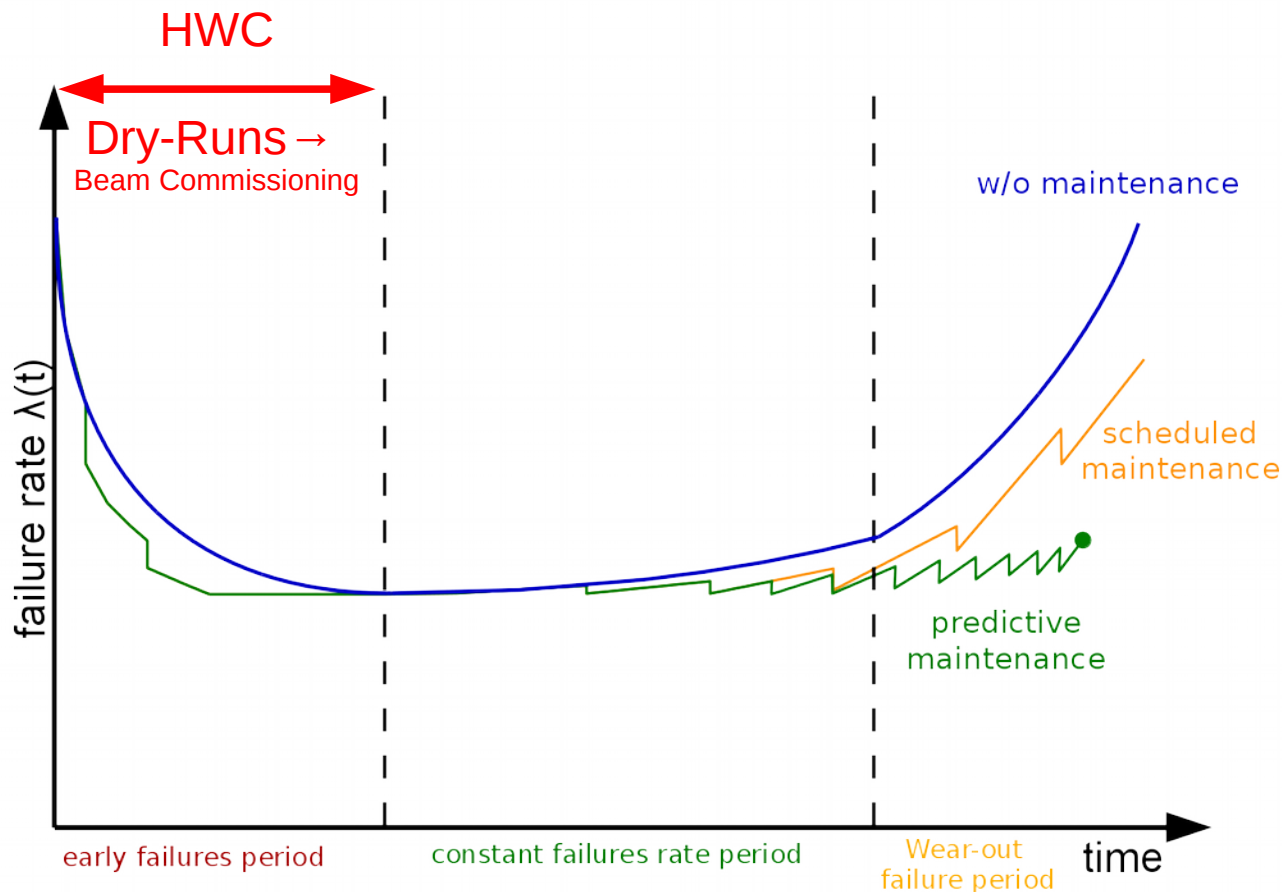


- Sequencer (OP triggered) and Post-Mortem (MP triggered) checks

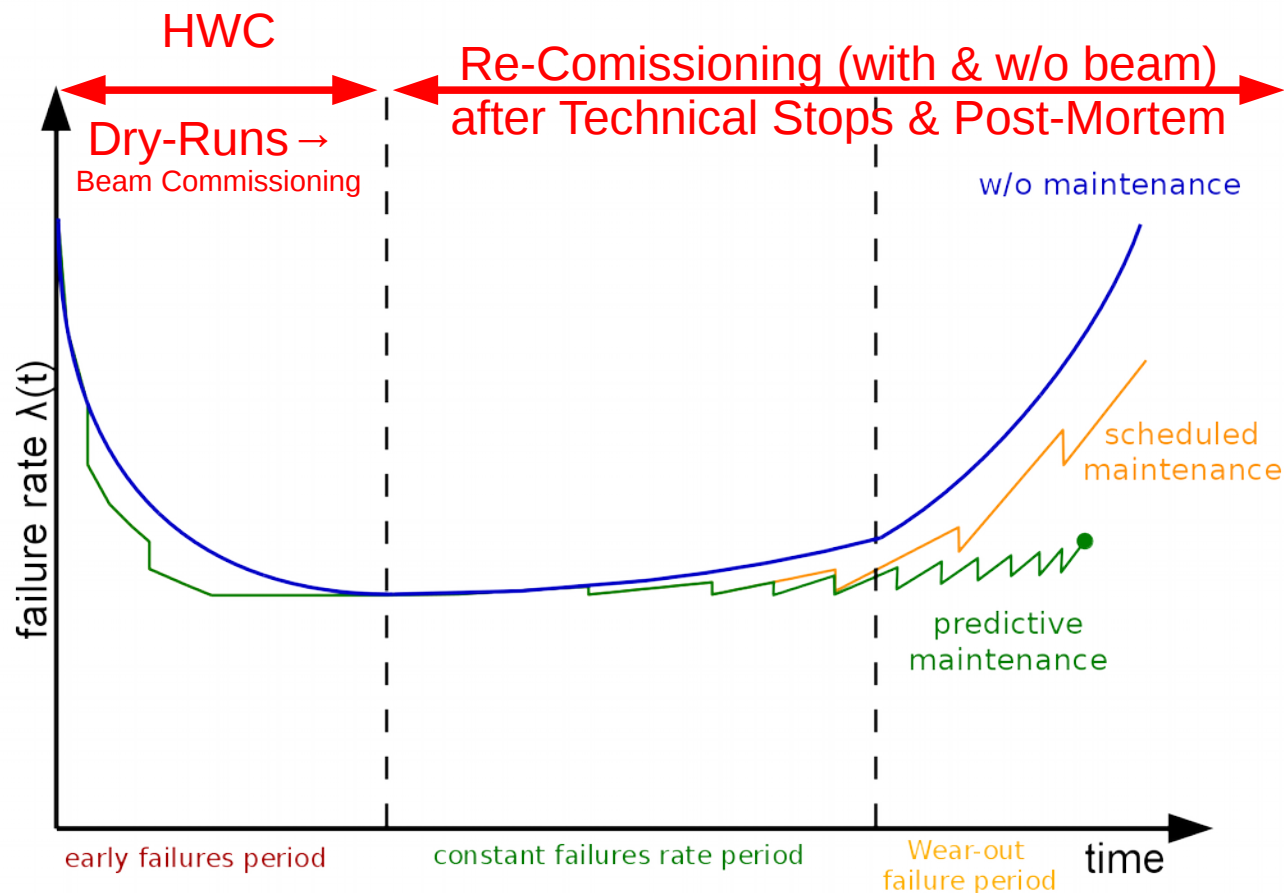




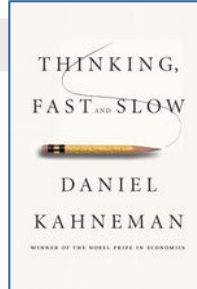
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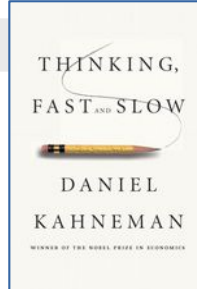
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- Kahneman studies<sup>1</sup> famously described the two different ways of our brain works and forms thoughts (N.B. → awarded the 2002 nobel prize):

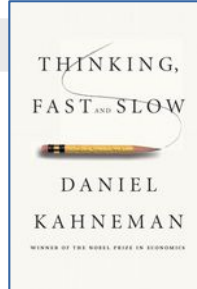


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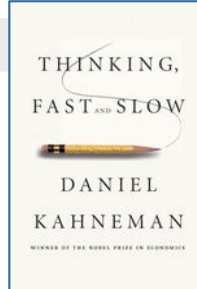
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- ... performing multiple complex, high-risk tasks is a actually very bad idea  
→ unnecessary strain on operators, machine experts and operational risk

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- Wikipedia: “... is the documented process of assuring that a computerized system does exactly what it is *designed to do in a consistent and reproducible manner. The validation process begins with the system proposal/requirements definition and continues until system retirement and retention of the e-records based on regulatory rules*”

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- Main aspects:
  - test automation → reproducibility, consistency, true parallelism and multi-tasking
  - identification & localisation of faults
  - follow-up/handling of tests that can last over several hours → days
  - Machine protection (post-mortem): online validation of safety integrity level
  - Machine availability tracking and optimisation:
    - Continuous improvement of sequencer/commissioning procedures as evolving standard:
      - False-positive test procedure → modify/fix test sequence
      - False-negative tests → add missing test procedure
    - Proper heuristics → identify and provide a quantitative basis for facility upgrade decisions

- 'Task' = device class specific atomic test, e.g.
  - connectivity test, power 'on', power 'off', ...
  - actual vs. reference comparison, ...

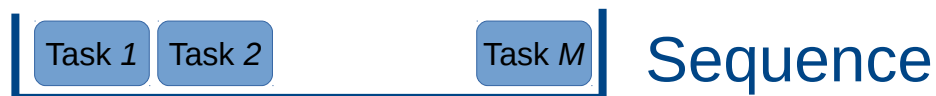
Task 1

Task 2

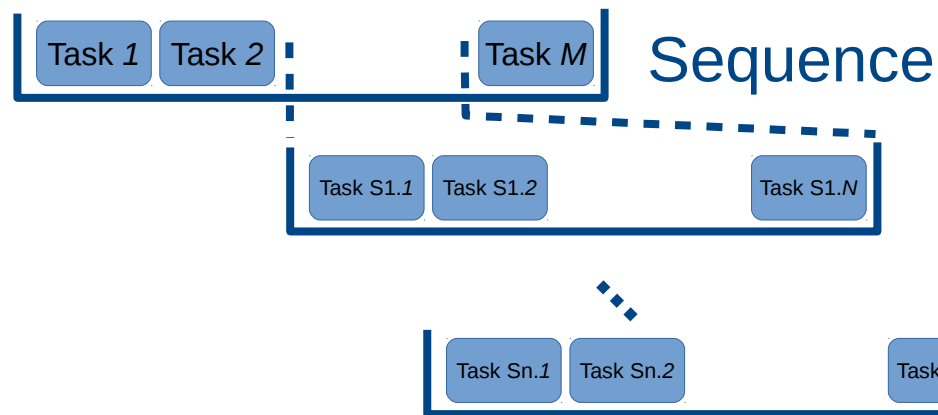
Task M

- 'Task' = device class specific atomic test, e.g.
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- 'Tasks' can be assembled to 'Sequences' ...

...which may also contain further sub-sequences:

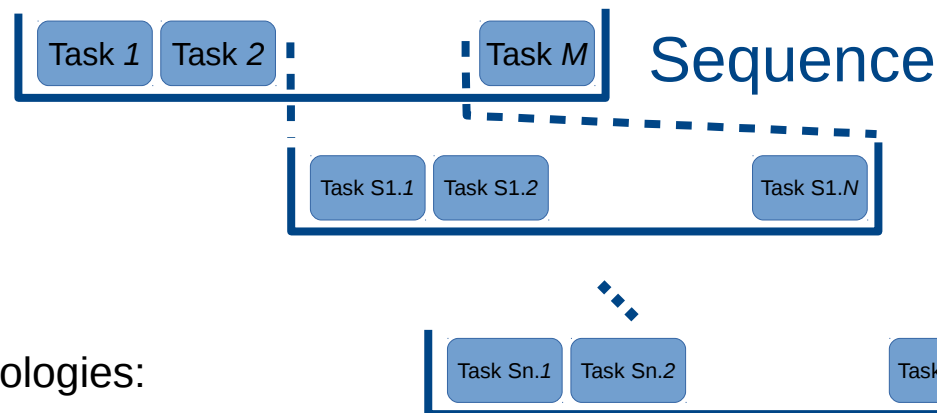


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...which may also contain further sub-sequences:



- CO backbone technologies:
  - FAIR Archiving Systems → Documentation
  - LSA-based Settings Management → Reference & Data Supply
  - System- and Site-wide Digitisation of Analog Signals → 'actual vs. reference' process monitoring

- What is provided by the sequencer frame-work:

```
abstract class GenericHwcSequence {  
    void exec() {  
        initialize(); // communication to Archiving System, LSA, etc.  
        specificPart();  
        bookKeeping();  
    }  
}
```

- Level 1 & 2 tests (provided by the CO/equip. Group/machine experts):

```
class HwcSequence extends GenericHwcSequence {  
    void initializeDeviceConnections();  
    void specificPart() {  
        super.specificPart();  
        connectivityTest = initializeDeviceConnections(deviceName);  
        if (connectivityTest.isHostReachable()) { // example: basic connectivity tests  
            connectivityTest.testNameserver();  
            connectivityTest.testCMW3get();  
            connectivityTest.testJAPCget();  
            connectivityTest.testCMW3Subscribe();  
            connectivityTest.testJAPCSubscribe();  
        } else {  
            // error reporting, etc.  
        }  
    }  
}
```

- what the user needs to implement

```
class HwcTest1 extends HwcSequence {  
    void specificPart() {  
        super.specificPart()  
        task1(); // user/device-specific atomic test operation 1  
        task2(); // user/device-specific atomic test operation 2  
        [...]  
    }  
  
    void task1() {  
        // test SAT-A sub-procedure x.1, see specification... item ...  
        // [...]  
    }  
  
    void task2() {  
        // test SAT-A sub-procedure x.2, see specification... item ...  
        // [...]  
    }  
}
```

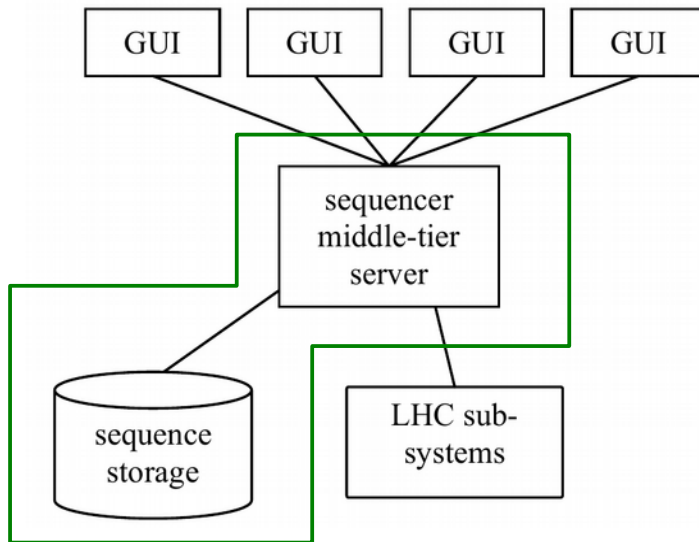


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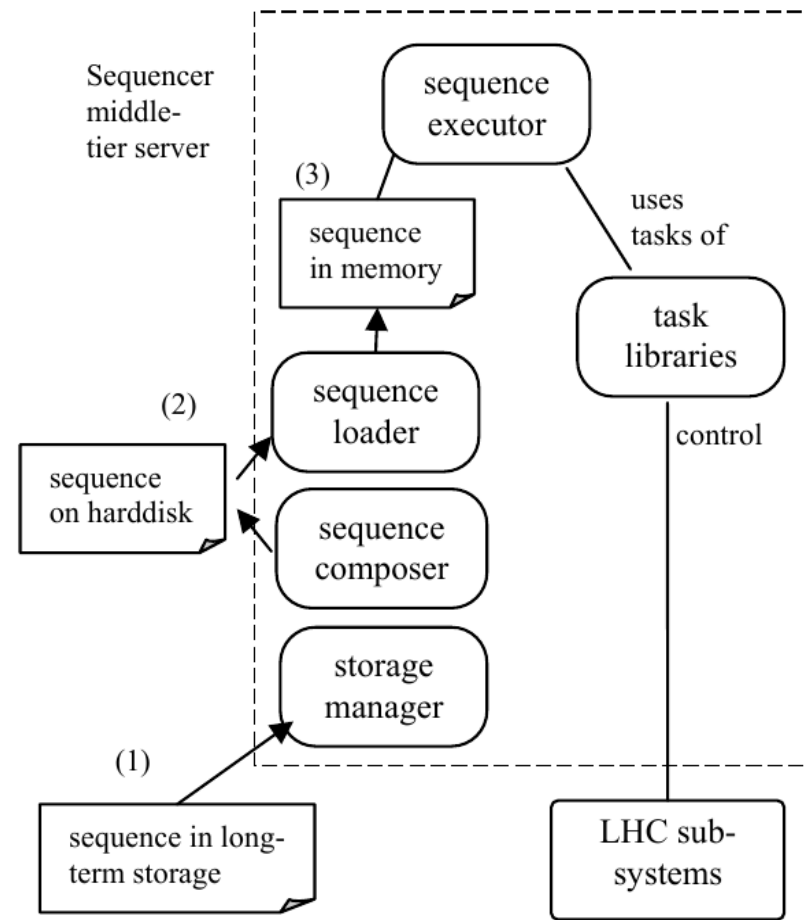
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        // [...]  
    }  
}
```

Some examples to get a flavour of the targeted code style and flavour:

<https://www-acc.gsi.de/svn/applications/app-codesnippets/>

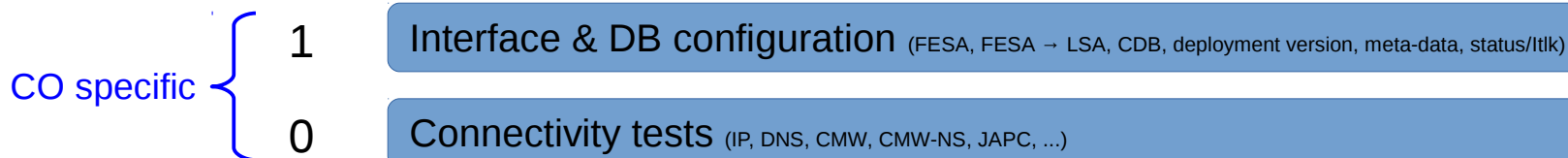


	HWC	BC & OP
Execution	Run, stop, break, skip	Run, stop, break, skip, jump
Error Handling	Fail and stop on error	Ignore, stop, run recovery sequence
State	int. variables	No variables
Control Statements	Loops, if/else, try/catch	
Typical parallelism	Sequences in	Tasks in
Typical mode	run-through automatically	"debug" and run-through



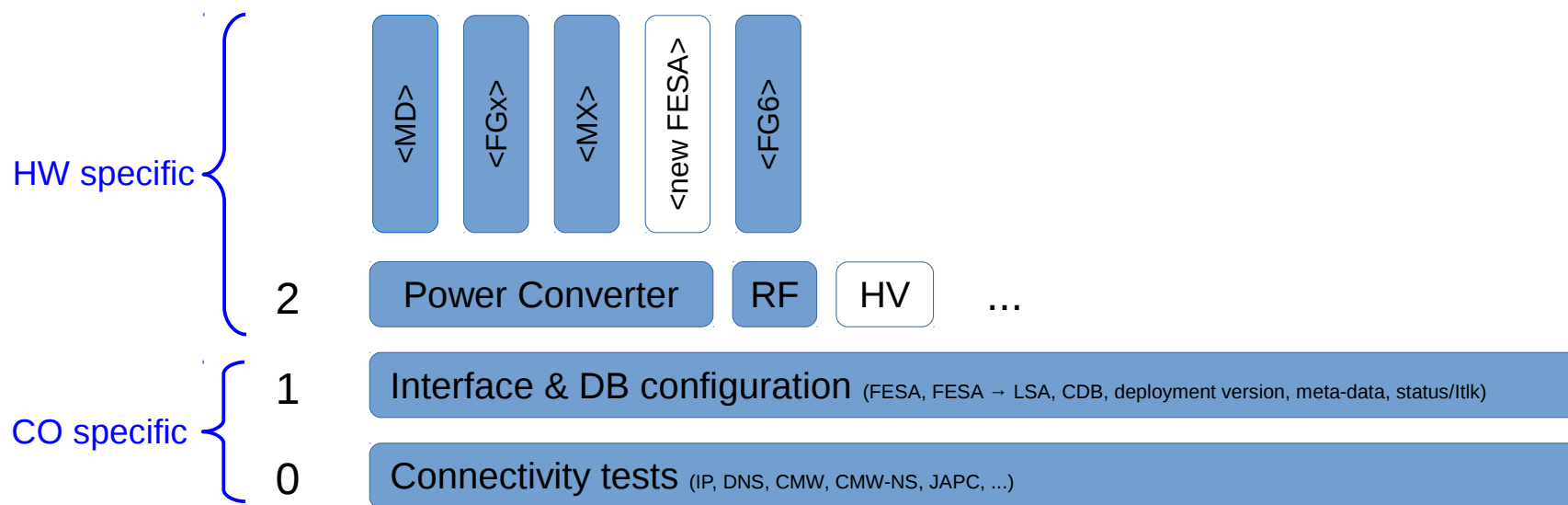
courtesy Vito Baggiolini

seq\_level

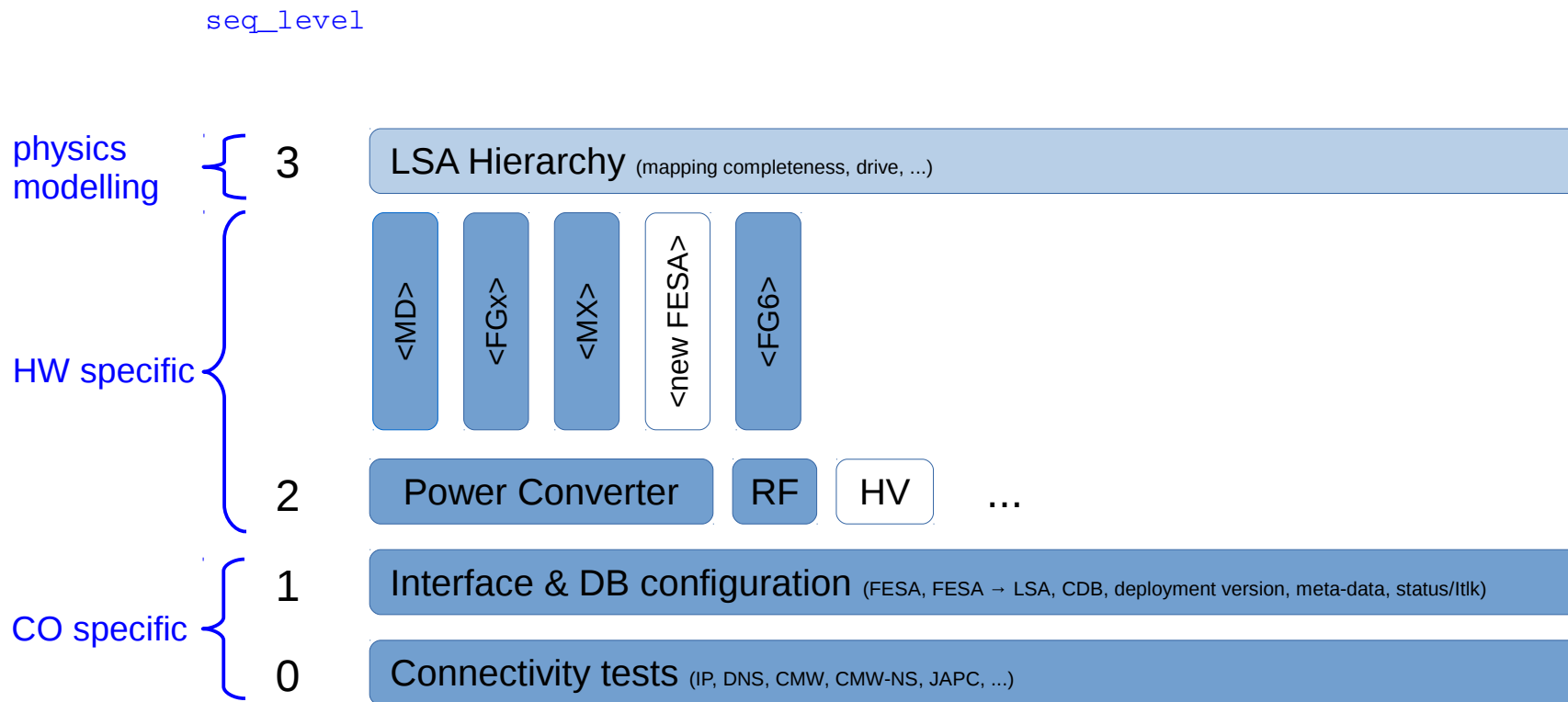


- Some logstash meta-data keys (see: <https://logstash.acc.gsi.de/>):
  - Existing tags: `program`: 'sequencer', `user_name`, `pid`, ...
  - `seq_device`: e.g. device name, LSA property name, global function
  - `seq_level`: <0 ... 4>, `seq_task`: <task/class name>, `seq_sequence`: <collection of tasks> (???)
  - `seq_testID`: unique identifier for given sequencer run (↔ multi-user, parallelism)
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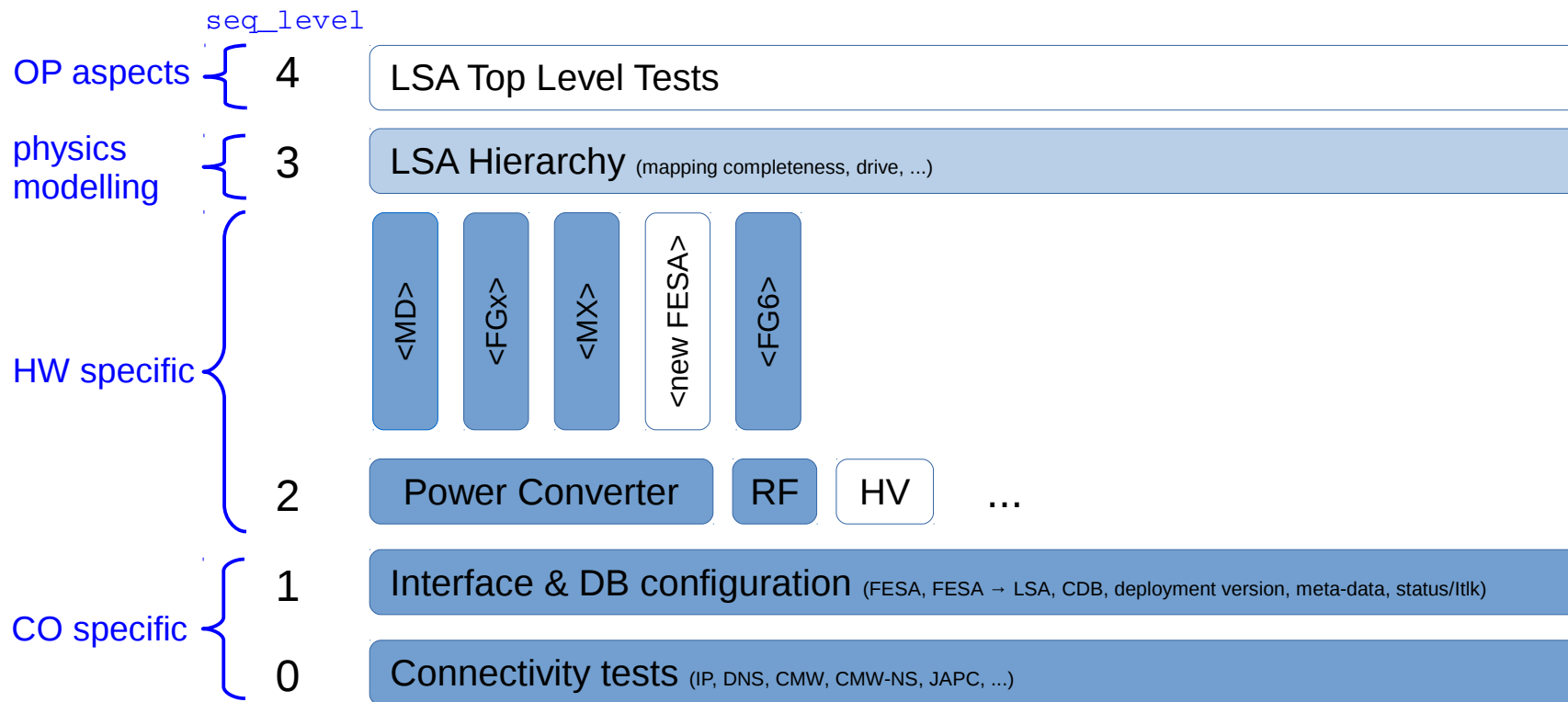
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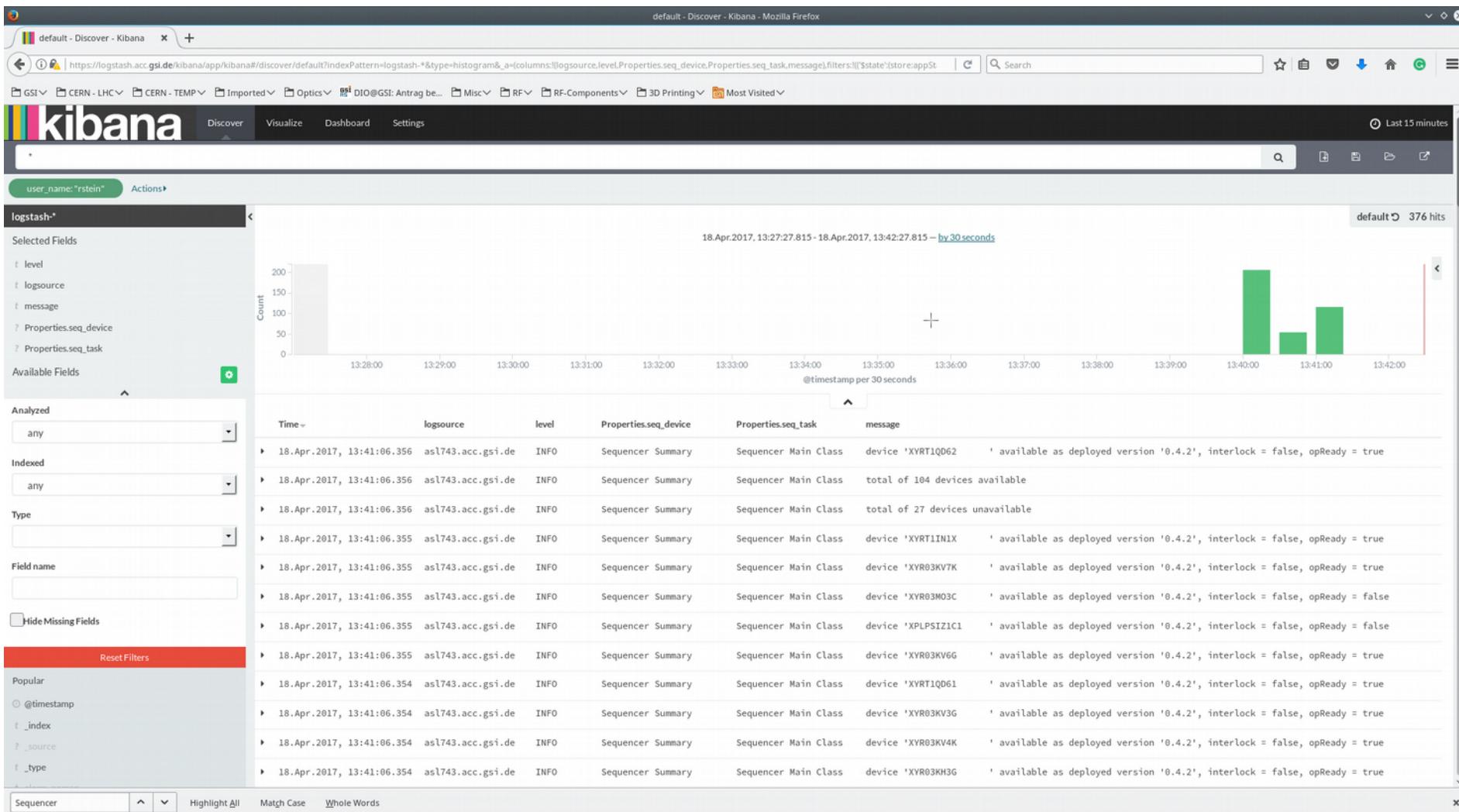
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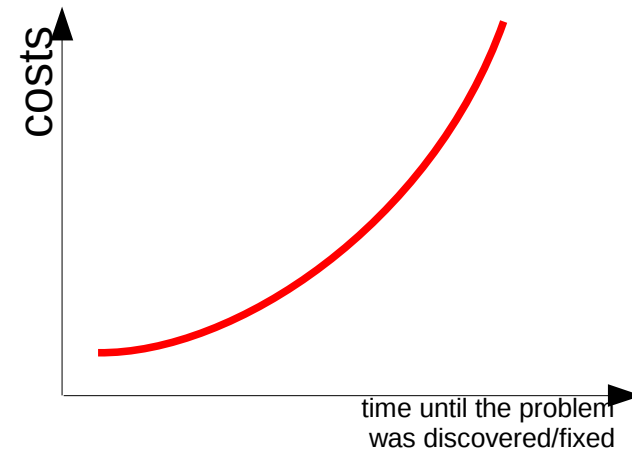
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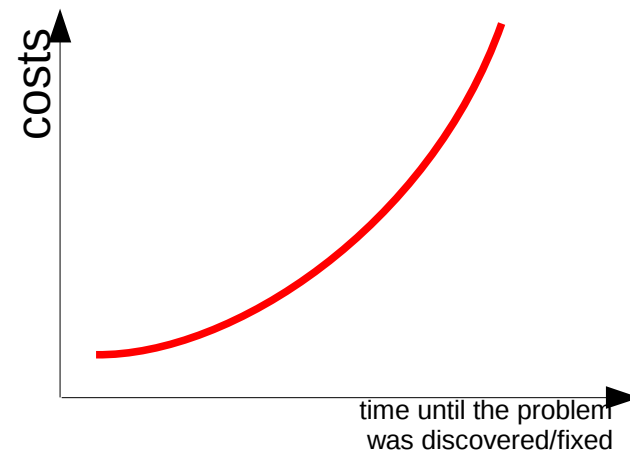


1. Test automation → reproducibility, consistency, true parallelism and multi-tasking
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The sequence(r) is only as good as the procedures it implements  
→ responsibility of every equipment group/owner and machine expert!

- Sequencer – range of functionality:
  - a) protocolling of executed tests → aim at 100% test coverage
  - b) (semi-)automated test sequences ('JUnit-style' HW Tests)
  - c) user-driven execution and configuration of test sequences (by non-Java equipment experts)
- next steps:
  - review/collect additional functional requirements
  - support test procedures together with equipment groups
    - main responsibility remains with equipment experts (EPC, CO, BI, ...)
    - priorities: 1. EPC, 2. HV (Septa & Kicker), 3. Ring-HF (rational: large quantity, (fairly) low complexity).
    - other equipment test-procedures (besides connectivity tests) require additional man-power (CO, vacuum, BI, ...).
  - support/drive Sequencer development
    - initial proof-of-concept for Dry-Run #1 covering:
      - 'a)' protocolling: initially file-/logstash-based → Archiving System
      - 'b)' using simple Java based sequences executed via Eclipse (Java-expert only)
    - extend to covering also 'c)' requirements by Q1-2017 (on a 'best effort' basis)
      - initial aim: simple non-configurable GUI that can execute pre-defined test-sequences by non-Java/Eclipse-affine equipment experts
  - Follow-up of system- and machine commissioning procedures (with & w/o beams)
    - prerequisite for any sustainable system integration and accelerator facility operation

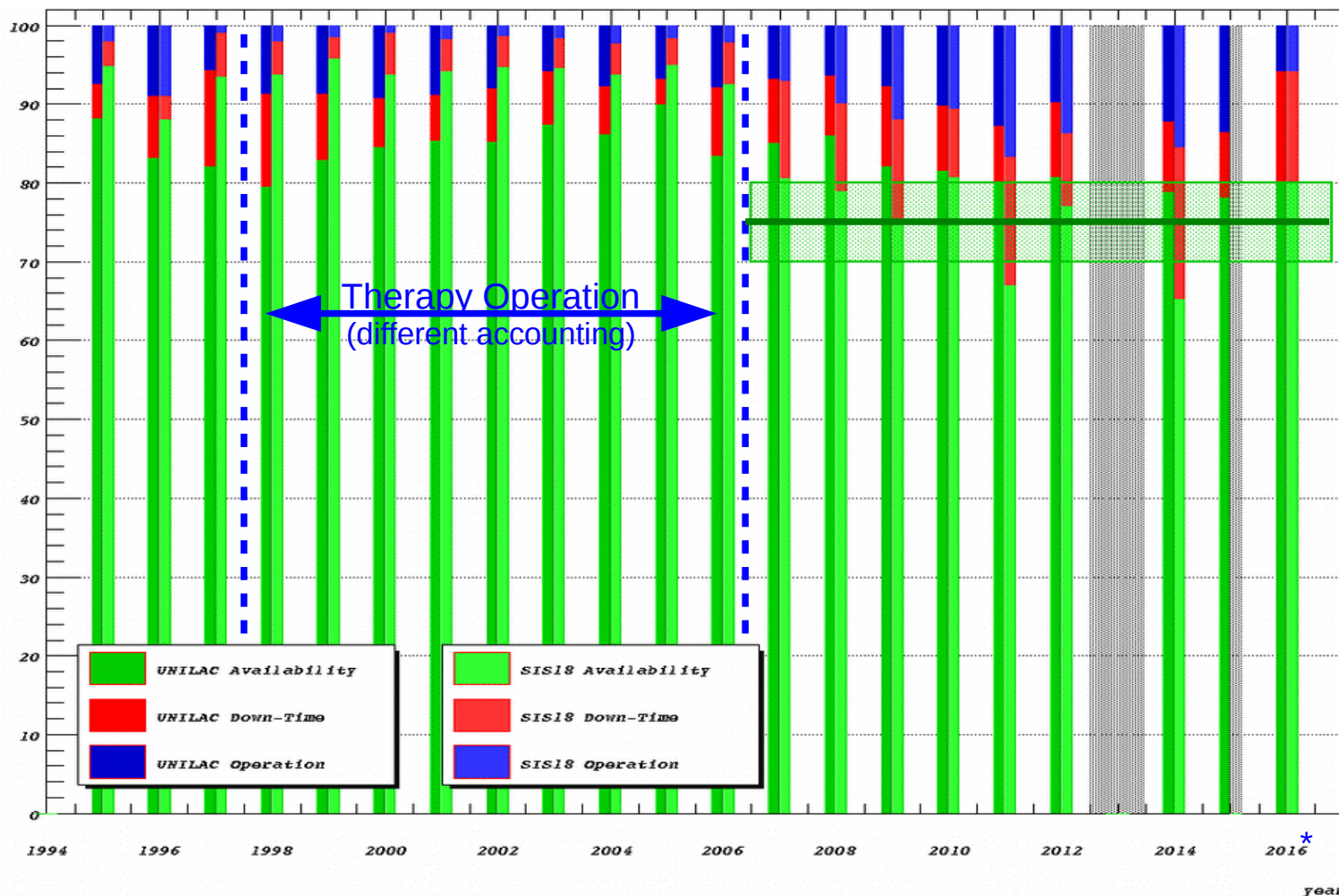
"Ask not what FAIR can do for you, ask which Commissioning Procedure you can help prepare for FAIR!"



Yes, we/you can!

- M.Lamont et al., "Functional specification 'LHC Sequencer ...'", LHC-CQ-ES-0001, EDMS #810407, 2006-12-21  
<https://edms.cern.ch/ui/file/810407/0.6/LHC-CQ-ES-0001-00-60.pdf>
- V. Baggiolini et al., "A Sequencer for the LHC ERA", CERN-ATS-2009-114, ICALEPS'2009, Kobe, Japan, 2009  
<http://cds.cern.ch/record/1215886/files/CERN-ATS-2009-114.pdf>
- R. Alemany-Fernandez et al., "The LHC Sequencer", ICALEPS'2011, Grenoble, France, 2011 <http://accelconf.web.cern.ch/AccelConf/icalepcs2011/papers/mopmn027.pdf>
- V. Baggiolini, R. Alemany-Fernandez et al., "LHC Sequencer", extended LTC Workshop, Chamonix, France, 2008  
[http://indico.cern.ch/event/28066/contributions/638169/attachments/.../LHC\\_Sequencer.pdf](http://indico.cern.ch/event/28066/contributions/638169/attachments/.../LHC_Sequencer.pdf)
- D. Anderson et al., "The AccTesting Framework: ... for Accelerator Commissioning and Systematic Testing", ICALEPCS2013, San Francisco, USA, 2013  
<http://accelconf.web.cern.ch/AccelConf/ICALEPCS2013/papers/thppc078.pdf>





constant  
~ 75 ± 5 %

Based on: U. Scheeler, S. Reimann, P. Schütt et al., "Accelerator Operation Report", GSI Annual Scientific Reports 1992 – 2015 + 2016 (D. Severin)  
[https://www.gsi.de/en/work/research/library\\_documentation/gsi\\_scientific\\_reports.htm](https://www.gsi.de/en/work/research/library_documentation/gsi_scientific_reports.htm)

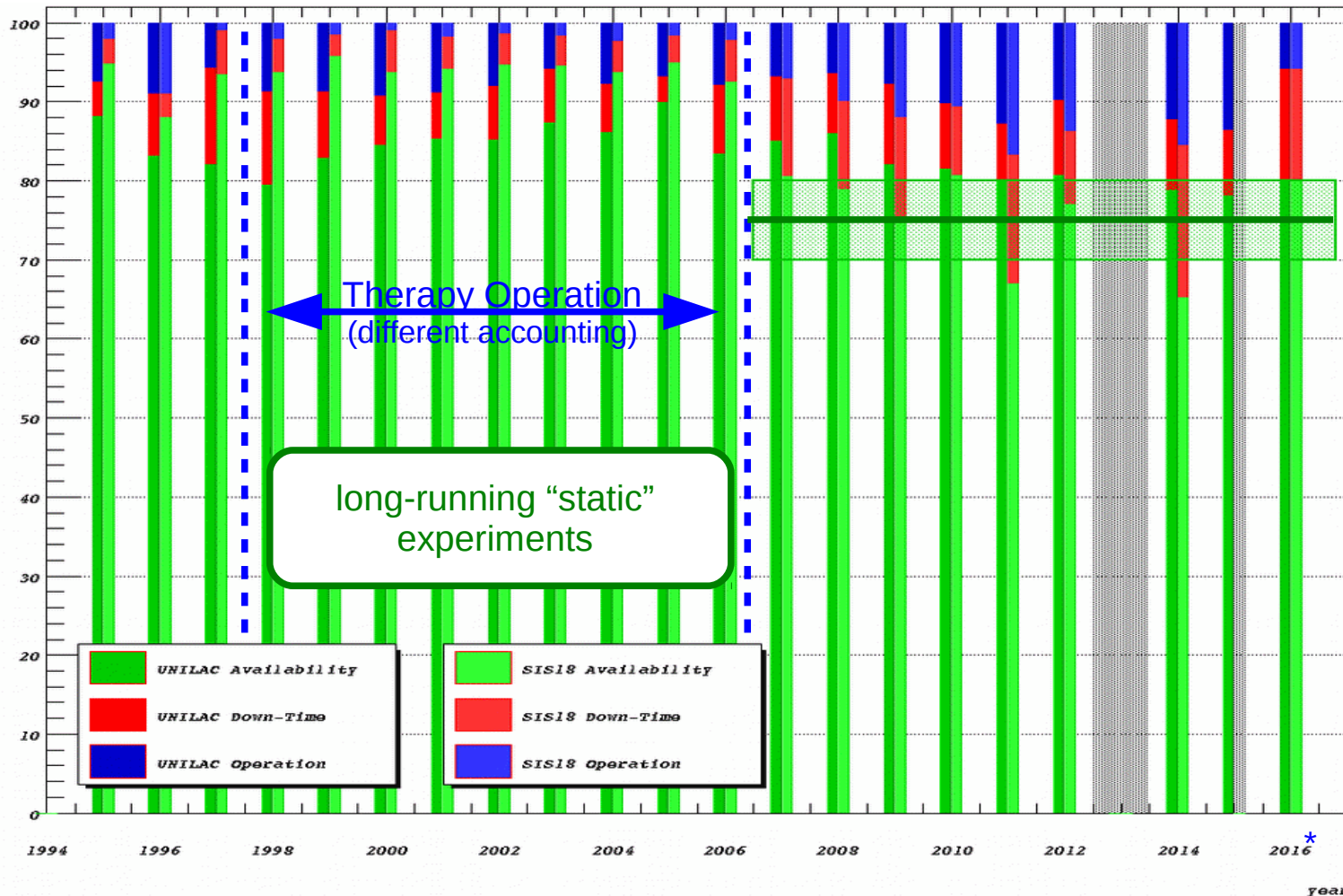
N.B. ion source exchanges are factored out from UNILAC & SIS18 data (~ constant overhead)

Availability: experiments + detector tests + machine development + beam to down-stream accelerators;

Down-time: unscheduled down-time + standby; Operation: accelerator setup + re-tuning

\* 2018 operation limitations:  
• only ½ UNILAC (w/o A3 & A4)  
• only 1 element in SIS18





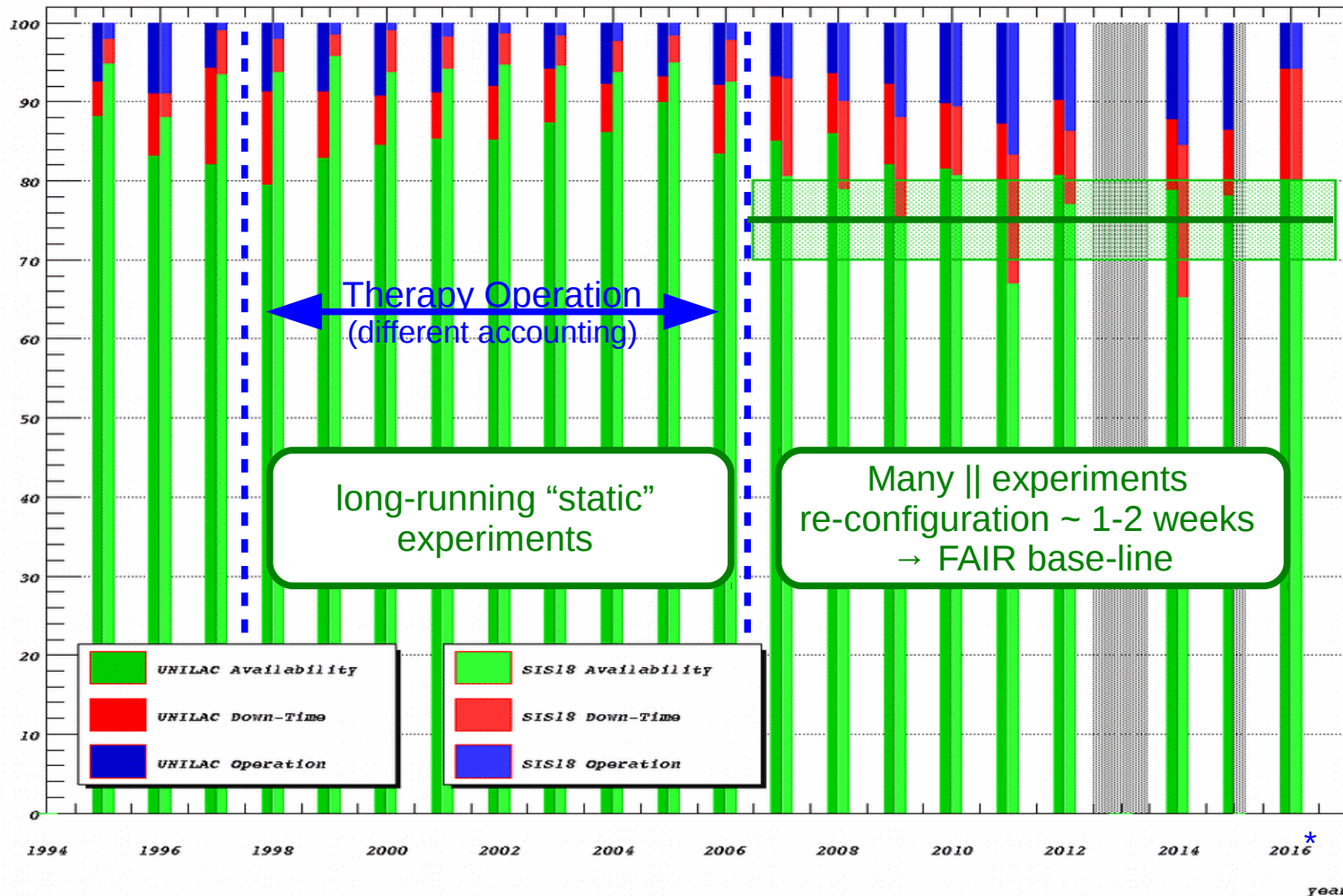
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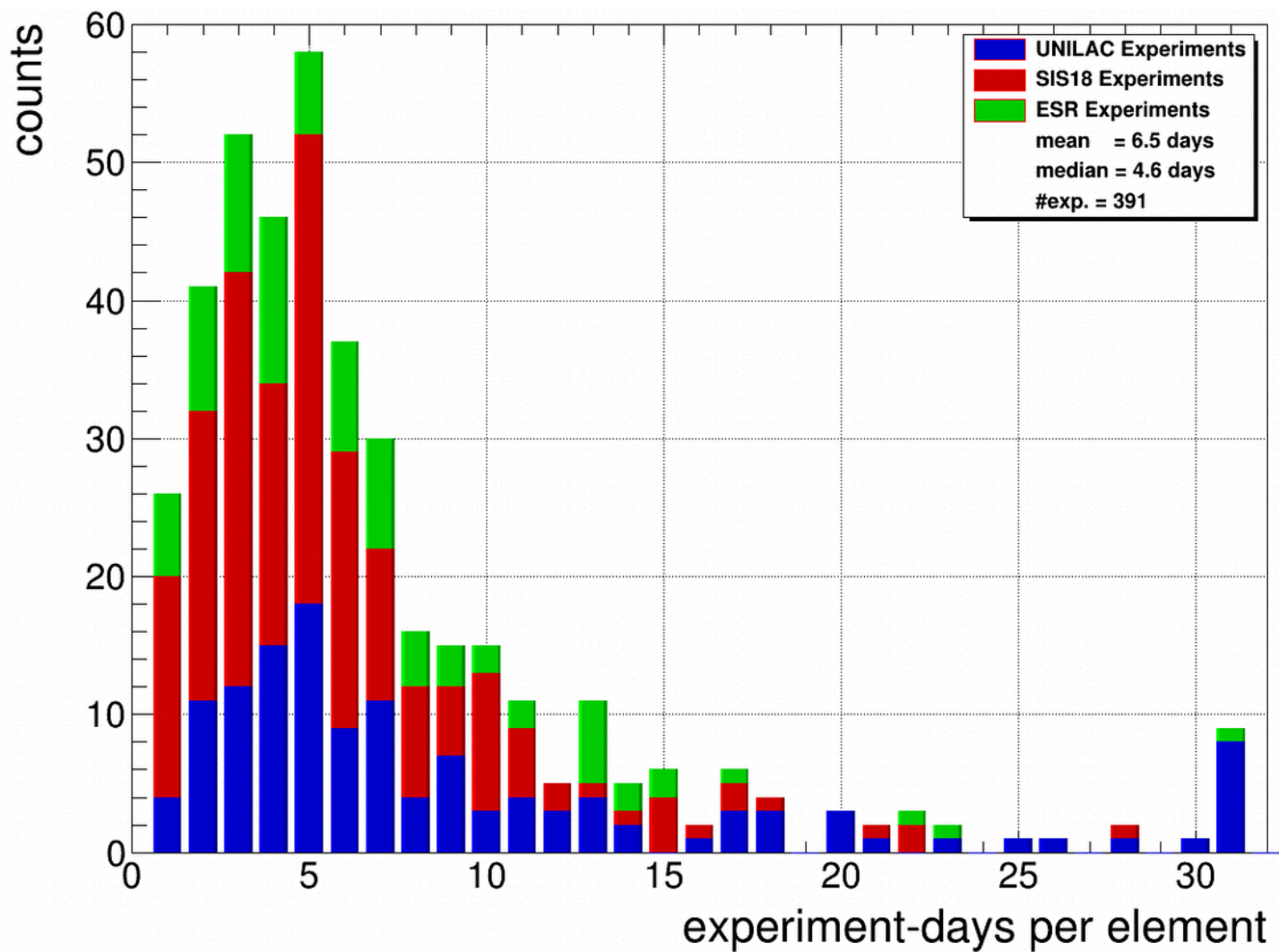
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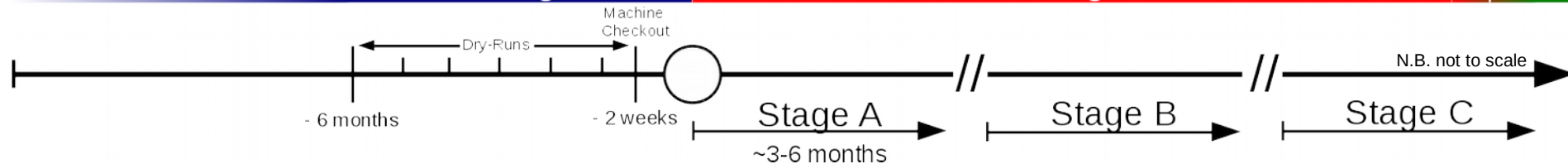
- HWC and BC sequencer are still different implementations? Specs?
- PNuts: still considered useful? Why not plain compiled java?
- Oracle database vs. svn. Pros/Cons?
- Sequence editing? How? Expert Level?
- Representation of sequences (high-level, low-level)? RMI usage?
- Result reporting: via DB? GUI interaction?
- Parallel execution of sequences (mutual blocking for same device, OK for different device). config of sequence/task by device?
- User level parameter & sequence modification (FAIR: e.g. user-level defined mini-ramp parameterisation, sequence(device name/group))
- Why sequence definition in oracle DB? SVN-stored sequences not sufficient?
- Who's editing the sequences routinely? Java-expertise needed as prerequisite?
- Commissioning reporting/error isolation functionality: How? How much? How much DB interaction? (see with Markus).

- Facility & Interface Analysis
  - Procedures: HWC, [HWC-'Machine Check Out'](#), [BeamCommissioning](#), [BC-Stage A \(pilot beams\)](#), BC-Stage B (intensity ramp-up), BC-Stage C (nominal/production operation) Beam parameters, FAIR performance model, optimisation, [Accelerator & Beam Modes](#)
- Beam Instrumentation & Diagnostics – System Integration
  - [Intensity \(DCCTs\) & beam loss \(BLMs\)](#) → [Beam Transmission Monitoring System \(BTM\)](#), [trajectory & orbit \(BPMS\)](#), Q/Q', optics (LOCO & phase-advance), longitudinal & transverse emittance (FCTs, WCM, screens, IPM, etc.),  $\Delta p/p$ , long. bunch shape (FCTs, Tomography), abort gap monitoring, ...
- Accelerator Hardware – System Integration
  - Power converter, magnets, magnet model, RF, injection/extraction kicker, tune kicker/AC-dipole, beam dump, collimation/absorbers, cryogenics, vacuum, radiation monitoring, k-modulation, [machine-experiment interfaces](#)
- Control System
  - [Archiving system](#), analog signal acquisition, test-beds, timing, [bunch-to-bucket transfer](#), cyber security, role-based-access, middleware, RT & Feedbacks, daemons
- Components
  - post-mortem, management of critical settings (safe-beam settings), machine protection, interlocks, beam quality checks, daemons, 'Page One', aperture model, ...
- Applications
  - Sequencer (semi-automated procedures), fixed-displays, ...
  - [Beam-Based Applications, Cycle-to-Cycle Feedbacks & GUIs](#) → [second talk](#)

## Hardware Commissioning

## Commissioning with Beam

## Assisted Operation



### • Split Beam Commissioning into three stages:

#### A) Pilot beams/"easily available" ions (e.g. U28+, Ar)

- basic checks: threading, injection, capture, cool, convert, acceleration/decelerate, stripping & extraction
- always done with 'safe' ie. low-intensity/brightness beam
  - Ions: simpler optics, beam dynamics → Protons: transition crossing

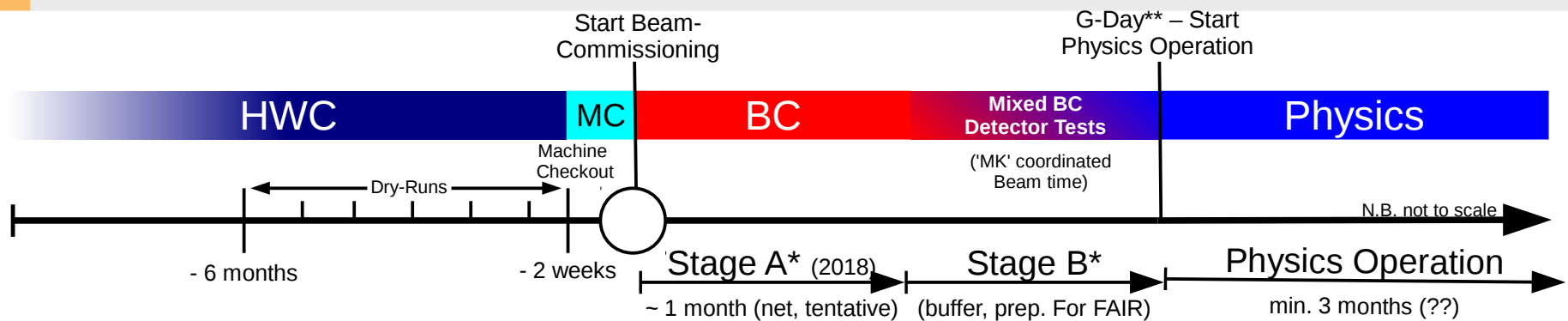
#### B) Intensity ramp-up & special systems

- achieving and maintaining of nominal transmission and beam losses
- commissioning of e.g. e-cooler, slow extraction, transverse fast feedbacks
- commissioning and validation of machine protection & interlock systems
- Possibly unsafe operations always preceded by checks with safe beam

#### C) Production operation with nominal intensities

(N.B. first time counted as 'commissioning' or 'assisted operation' → later: 'regular operation')

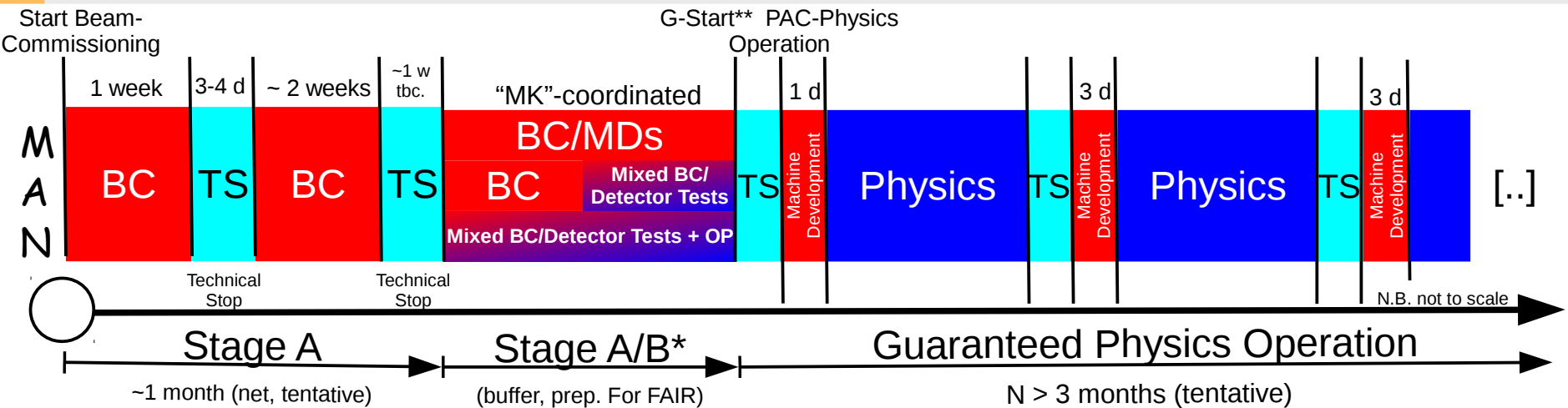
- push physics and beam parameter performance (emittance, momentum spread, ...)
- identify and improve upon bottlenecks impacting FAIR's 'figure-of-merit'
- make fast setup and switch-over between different beam production chains routine



- Hardware Commissioning → coordinated by Sub-Project-Leaders & Machine Coordinators
  - link-existing facilities (GAF), upgrades, machine re-alignment, “SATs”, HW systems (equip. groups),
- Dry-Runs – for all machines post (possibly also UNILAC), each two days, fixed dates (↔ experts availability), starting:
  - Dry-Run #1 – 17.10.2017: CO-core: LSA, Timing System, Archiving System, SCUs, CO core application, ...
  - Dry-Run #2 – 14.11.2017: as before + tbd.
  - Dry-Run #3 – 12.12.2017: as before + tbd.
  - Dry-Run #4 – 09.01.2018: as before + BI + related applications
  - Dry-Run #5 – 06.02.2018: as before + Experiments (proposal) + Machine-Experiment Interfaces
  - Dry-Run #6 – 20.02.2018: as before + AEG + “last-minute” checks
  - Dry-Run #7 – 06.03.2018: buffer
- Machine-Checkout – intensive “last minute checks” (N.B closed tunnel/machine):
  - UNILAC: -1 month → BC- ‘day 0’
    - patrols, heat runs: RF & power supply conditioning, ...
  - SIS, ESR, CRY: -3 weeks → BC- ‘day 0’
    - patrols, heat runs: RF & power supply/AEG conditioning, safety systems: personnel safety, access system, legal ZKS & RP checks (§66 Abs. 2 StrlSchV), “very last-minute” checks/bug fixes: vacuum, power, BI, CO, ...

\* in 2018: light-version w.r.t. commissioning of new machines

\*\* “guaranteed” start physics operation (Plan A), no hick-ups, sacrificial buffer being activities related to ‘Stage B’



- **Stage-A: Initial Beam Commissioning (BC): 2 dedicated 3 week@24h/7 BC blocks, main aim:**
  - drive beam expeditiously through the Beam Production Chain: sources → synchrotrons & beam transfers → exp. targets & storage rings
  - check basic 'accelerator mechanics': threading, injection, capture, cool, convert, acceleration/decelerate, stripping & extraction
  - identify beam-related limitations: polarities, RF, beam instrumentation, machine alignment, effective physical machine aperture, ...
- **Immediately followed by dedicated, scheduled Technical Stop (TS)**
  - needed for follow-up of HW (tunnel) and SW issues (CO, ...)
- **Stage-A/B\*: Mixed-BC, Machine-Development, Detector Tests (aka. "splash events" for experiments) & Operator Training**
  - N.B. "old machine" but completely new CO, substantial modifications
- **Physics operation: as promised/targeted nett 3 months (to be confirmed), grouped into 2-3 blocks interleaved with**
  - TS: routine maintenance → increases overall availability, follow-up of OP/CO/equipment issues + **major ion species/source changes**
  - MDs: follow-up of beam physics issues, CO improvements (e.g. beam-based FBs), **improve facility to reach nominal FAIR parameters**
    - N.B. also better for guaranteeing smooth restart/picking-up of physics operation after technical stops (experts availability)