

# Reliability and Availability of Particle Accelerators: Concepts, Lessons, Strategy

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IPAC'18 – 04/05/2018

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Acknowledgements: TE-MPE Group, CERN Availability Working Group, Accelerator Fault Tracking team.



**Accelerator Reliability Community**



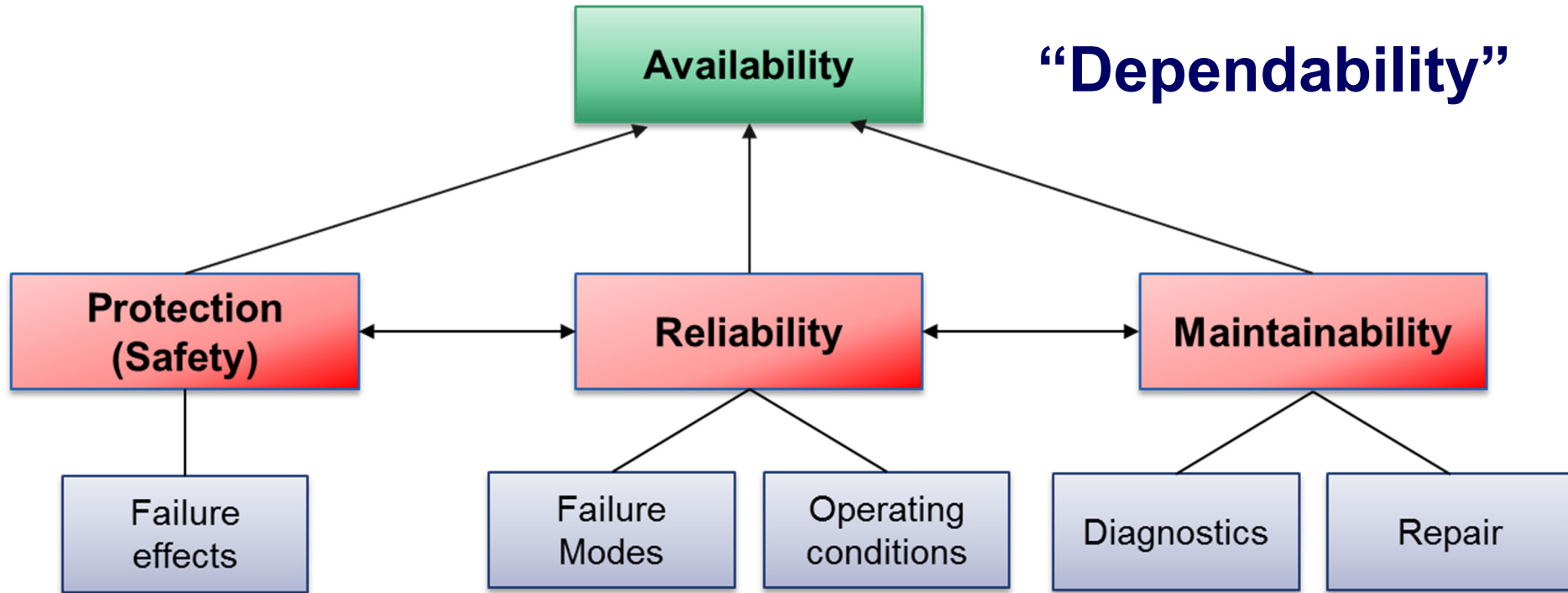
**Canada = Particle Accelerator Community**

**Decades of experience designing accelerator systems without formal reliability engineering studies**

**Reliability Engineering applied to particle accelerators is a relatively new discipline, based on industry best practices and methods**

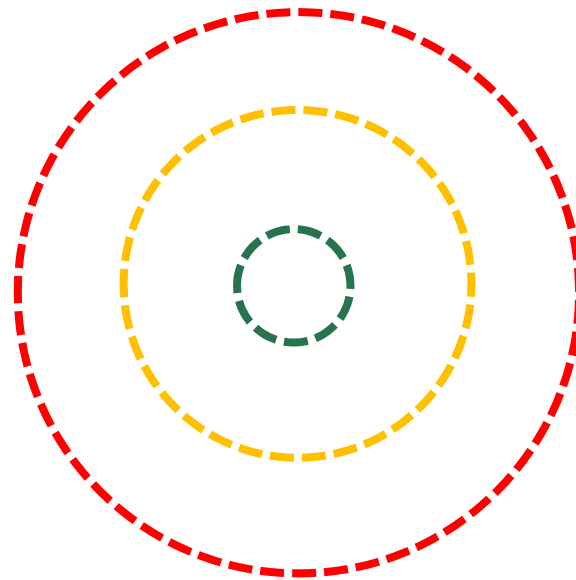
**Developed very consistently over the last years – why?**

**“Dependability”**

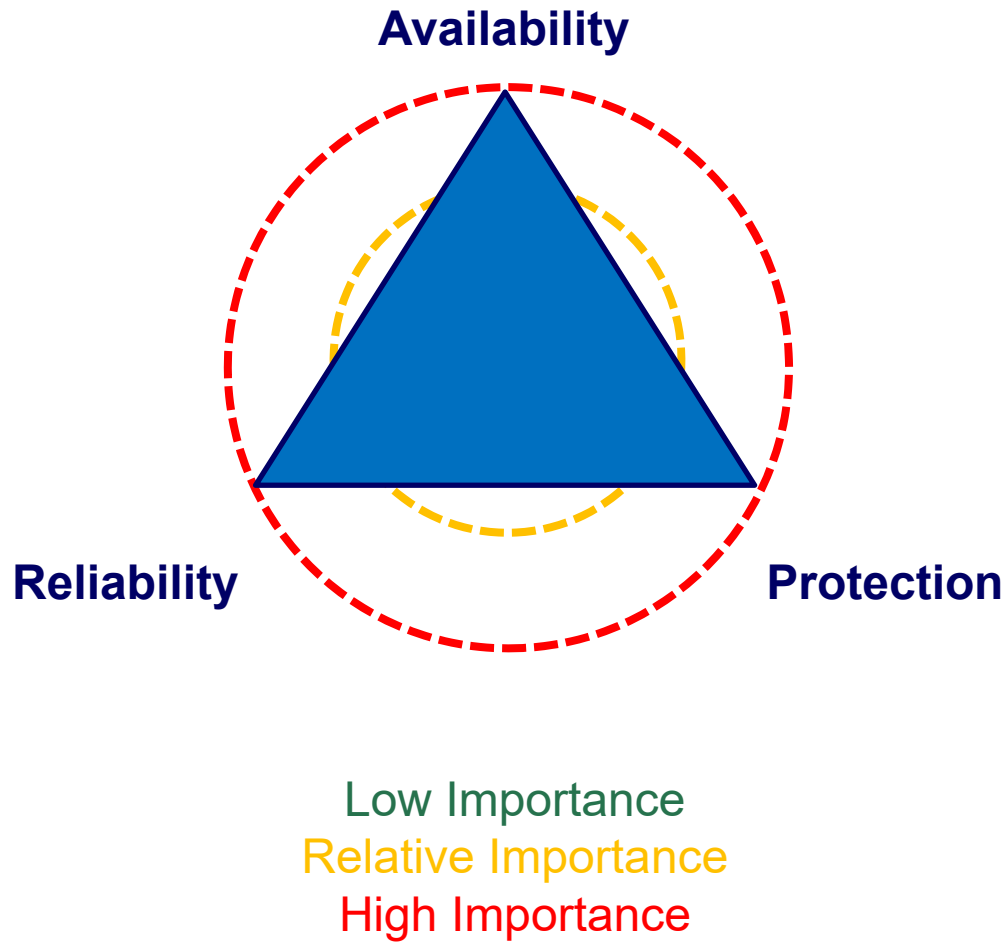


**NB: in the context of particle accelerators, we speak about ‘Protection’ rather than ‘Safety’, if no personnel is involved**

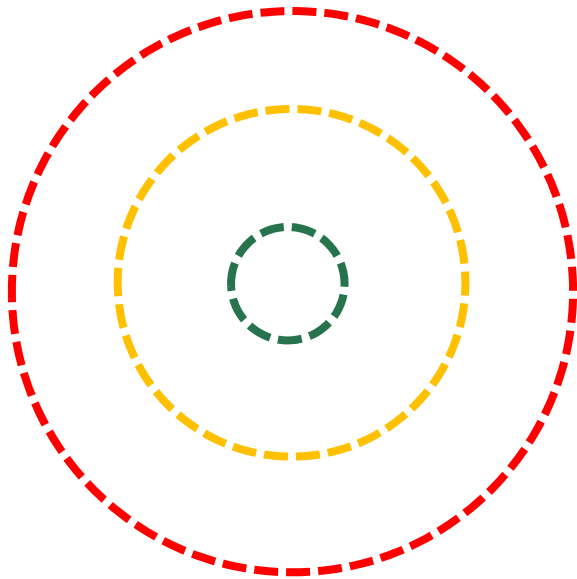
Discussions are ongoing in the particle accelerator community to tailor these definitions to different machines ([Accelerator Reliability Workshop](#))



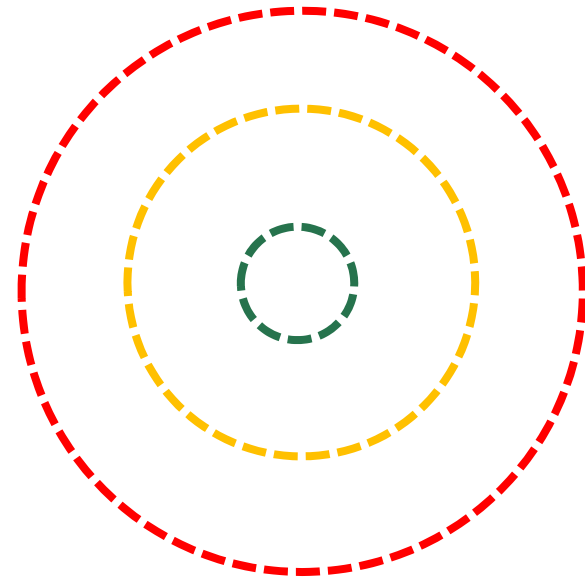
Low Importance  
Relative Importance  
High Importance



## Large-Scale Colliders

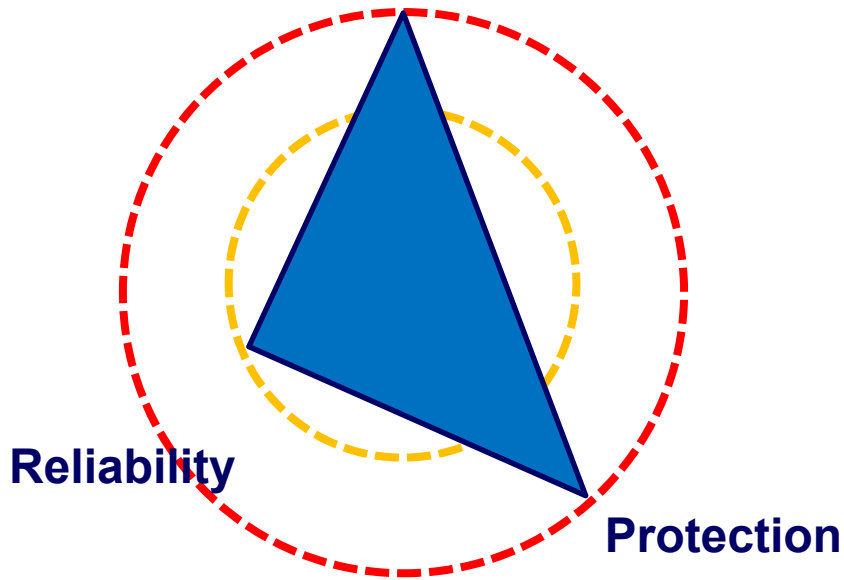


## Synchrotron Light Sources



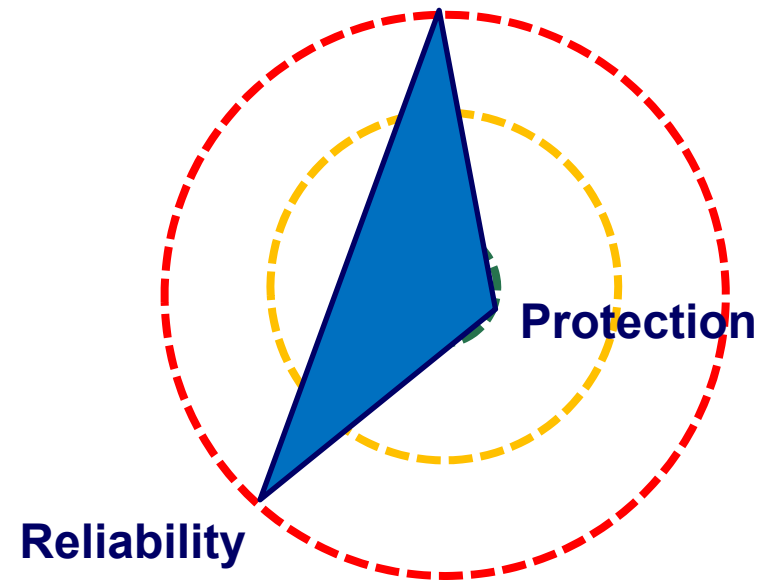
## Large-Scale Colliders

Availability

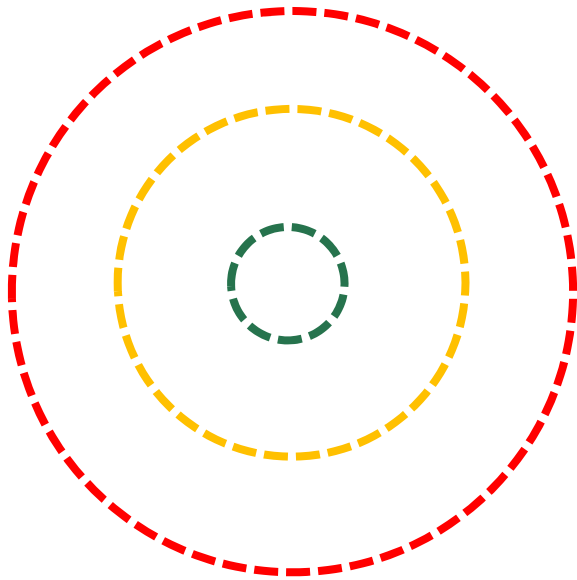


## Synchrotron Light Sources

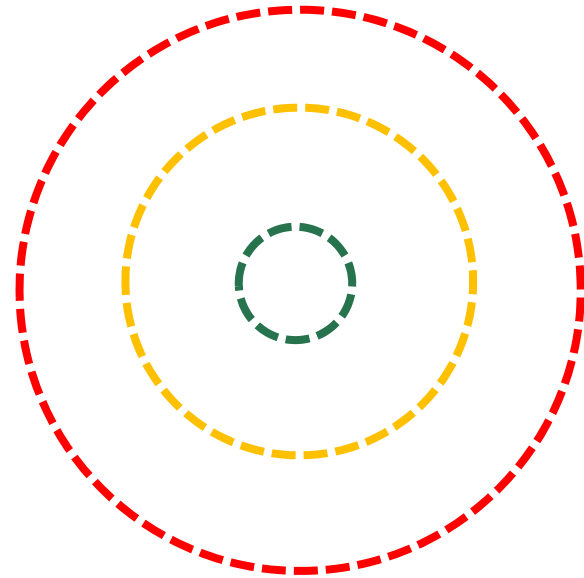
Availability



## Spallation Neutron Sources

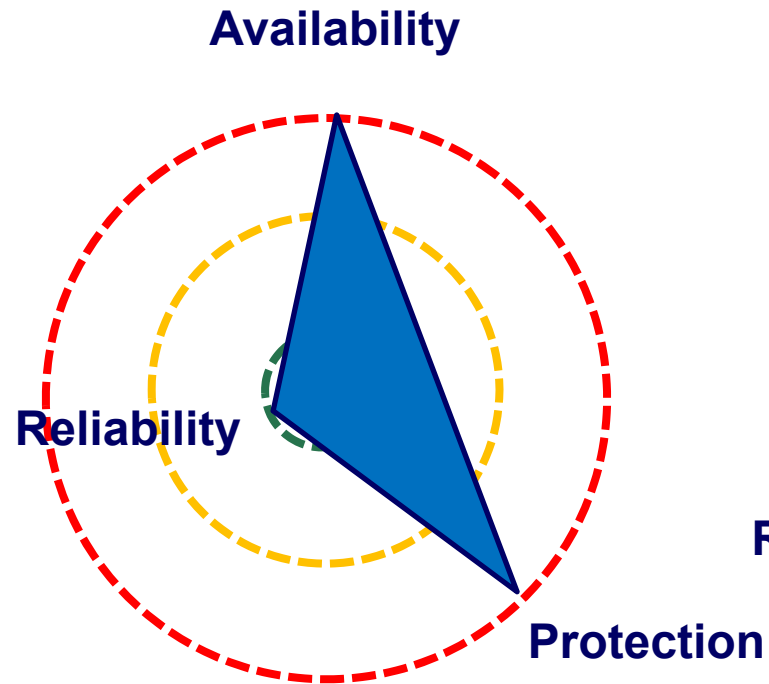


## Accelerator Driven Systems

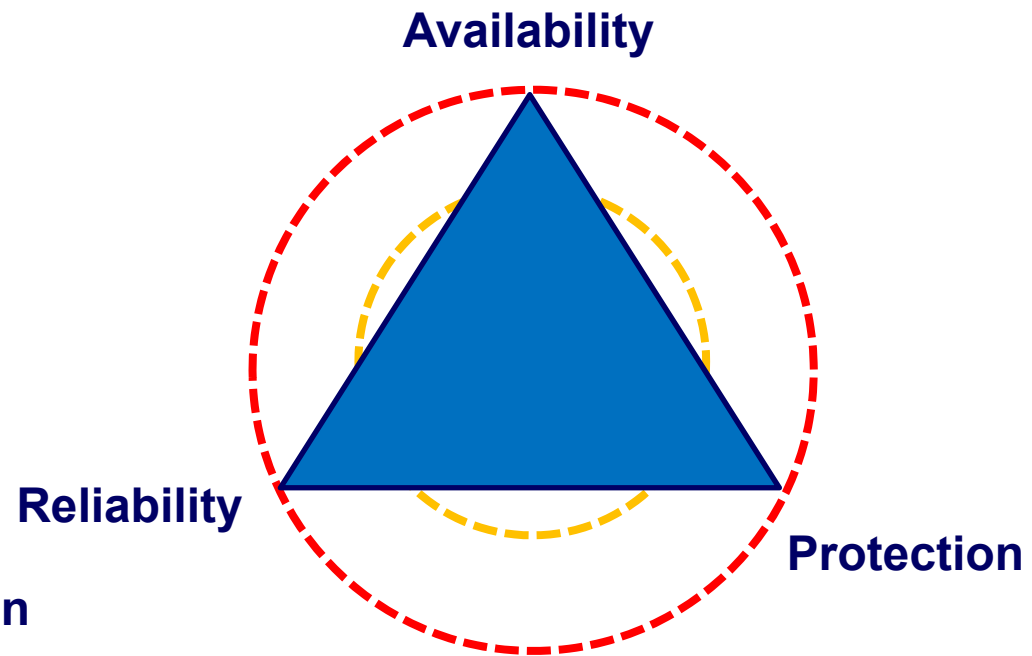




## Spallation Neutron Sources



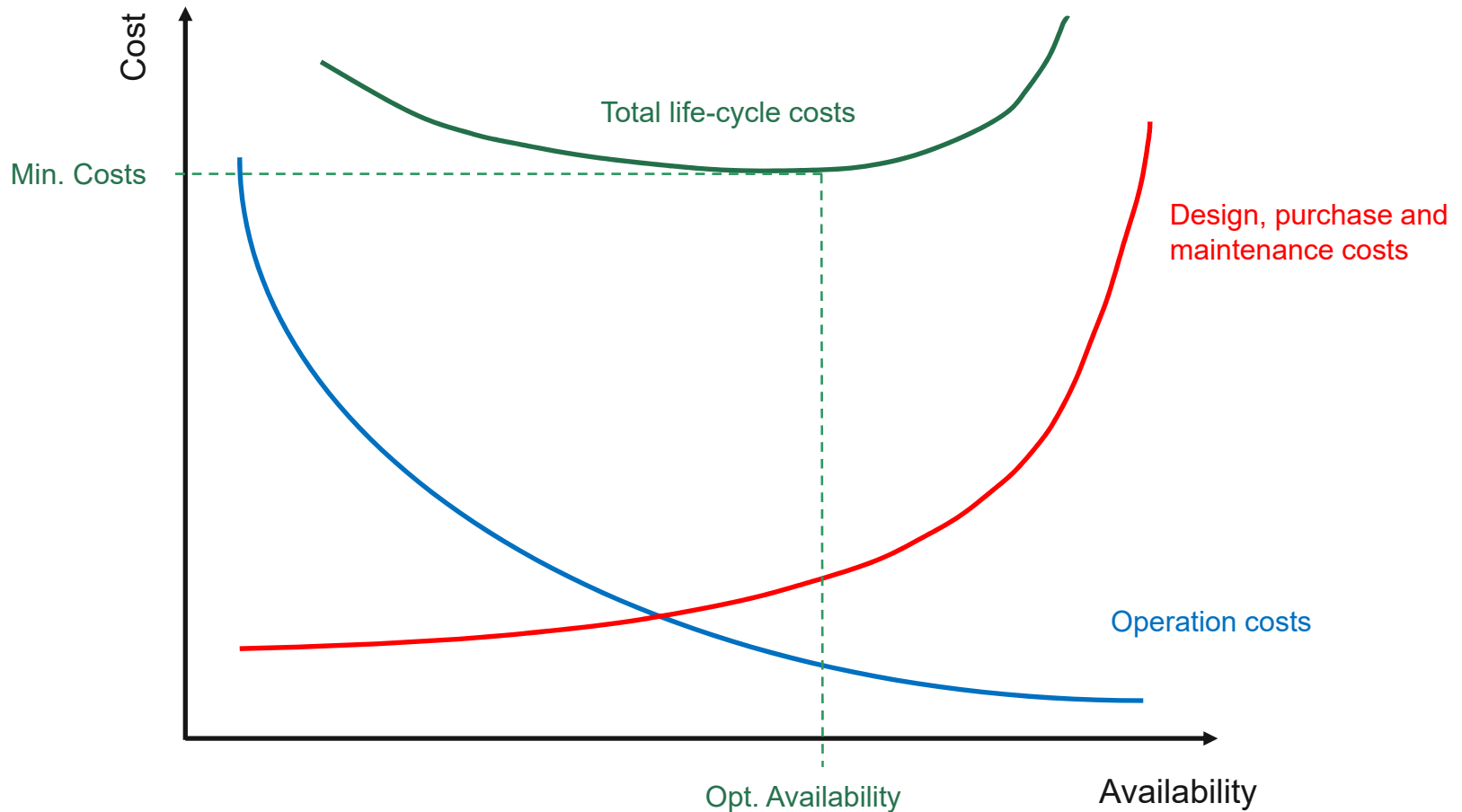
## Accelerator Driven Systems



Why is availability a concern for the scientific output of all facilities?

Costs, Reputation, Damage potential

# Cost vs Availability

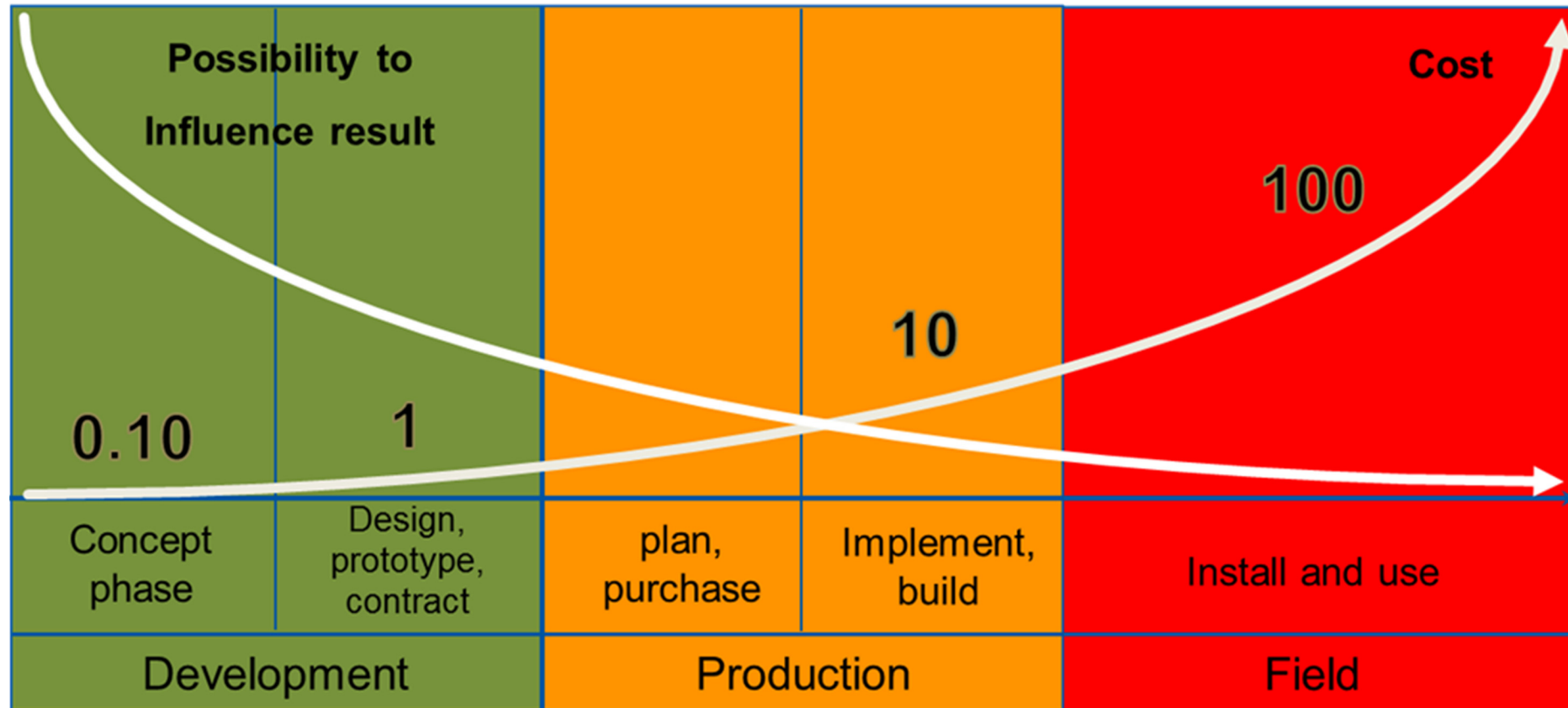


- Given a target performance reach (neutron fluence, number of patients treated, luminosity production, ...), an optimal balance between capital costs and operation costs must be found
- This is an **absolute MUST** for the feasibility of next-generation machines

# Dependability Studies: if yes, when?

Prof. Dr. B. Bertsche, Dr. P. Zeiler, T. Herzig, IMA, Universität Stuttgart, CERN Reliability Training, 2016

- Product Lifecycle: 'Power-of-10 Law'



- The earlier reliability constraints are included in the design, the more effective the resulting measures will be

# Today: Dependability Studies

**Concept Phase**

**Technology  
Feasibility  
Assessment**

**Design Phase**

**Technology  
Definition and  
Implementation**

**Exploitation  
Phase**

**Technology Field Use  
& Optimization**

**Upgrade Phase**

**New Technology  
Definition and  
Implementation**

**Reliability  
Studies**

# Future: Dependability Studies

**Concept Phase**

**Technology  
Feasibility  
Assessment**

**Design Phase**

**Reliability  
Studies**

**Technology  
Definition and  
Implementation**

**Exploitation  
Phase**

**Technology Field Use  
& Optimization**

**Upgrade Phase**

**New Technology  
Definition and  
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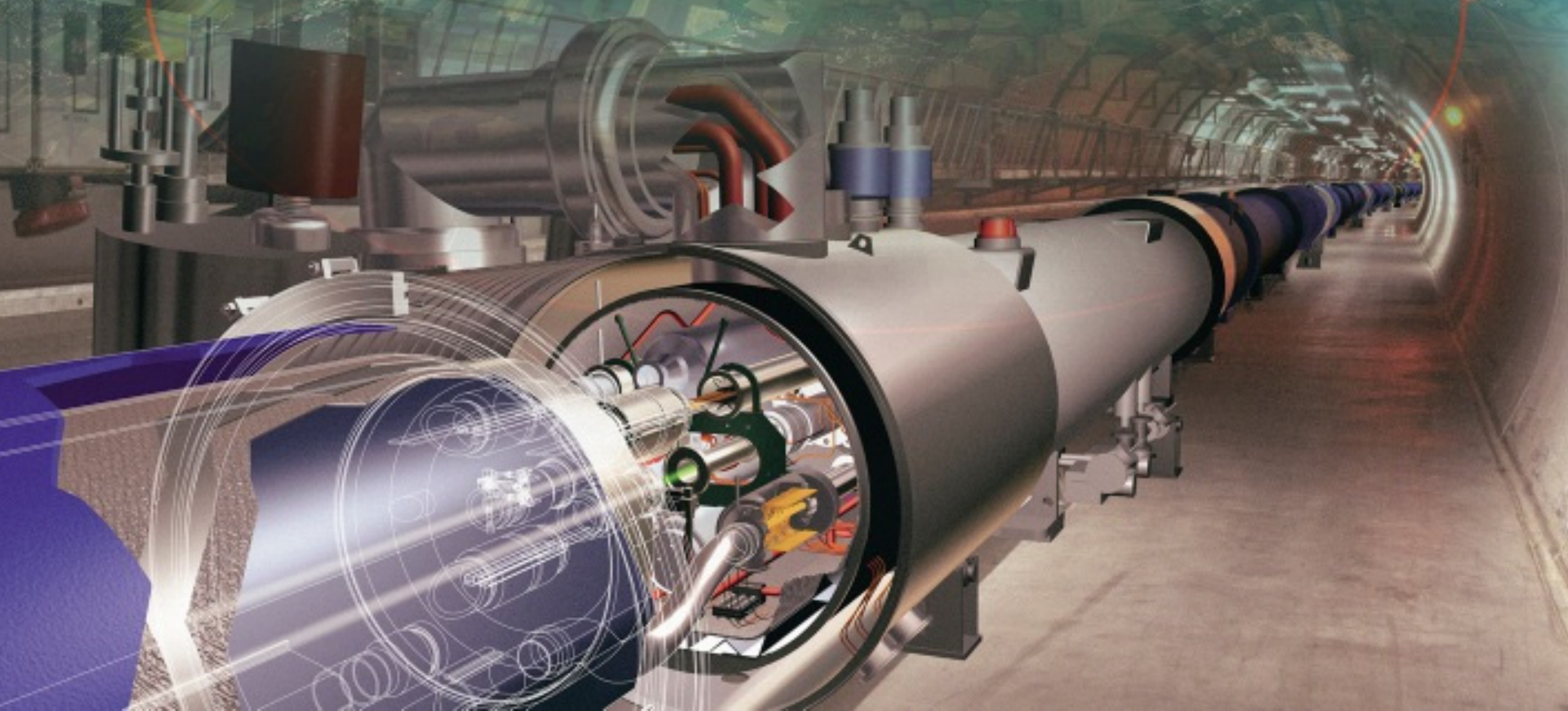
# Reliability and Protection Analyses: LHC was a Game Changer

First particle accelerator with damage potential beyond repair

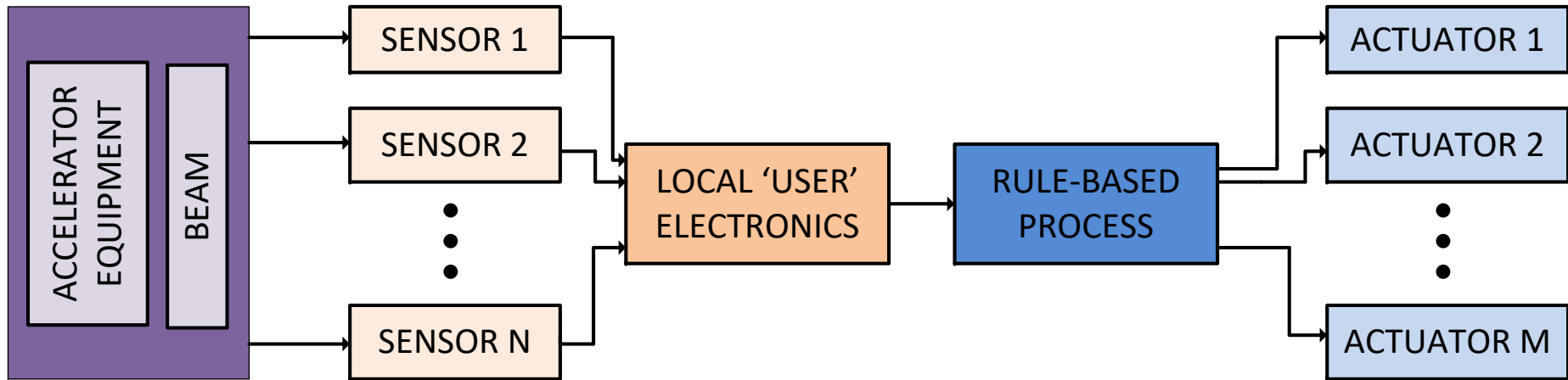
Requirement 1: Must have Machine Protection Systems (MPS)

Requirement 2: MPS must meet very strict reliability requirements

Requirement 3: MPS must not trigger unnecessary beam interruptions



# Machine Protection: Interlocks



LHC:

Several 10-thousands → complex

Several km → distributed

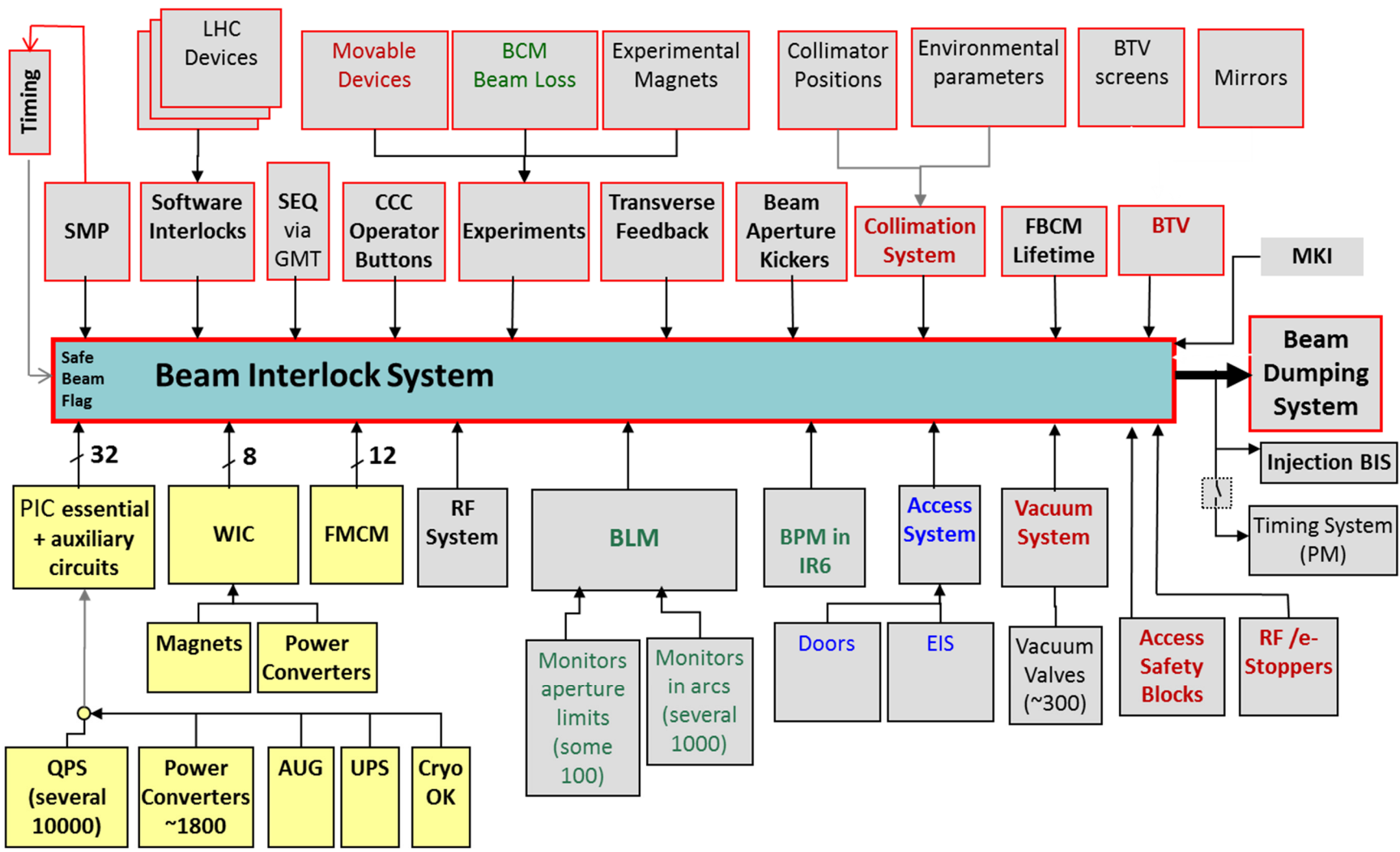
❑ Perform **controlled removal** of beams in case of failures:

- Circular accelerators (e.g. LHC): Beam dump (100  $\mu$ s – ms)
- Linear accelerators (Linac4, ESS): Beam stop (1-10  $\mu$ s)

❑ Improve availability by preventing consequences of severe failures

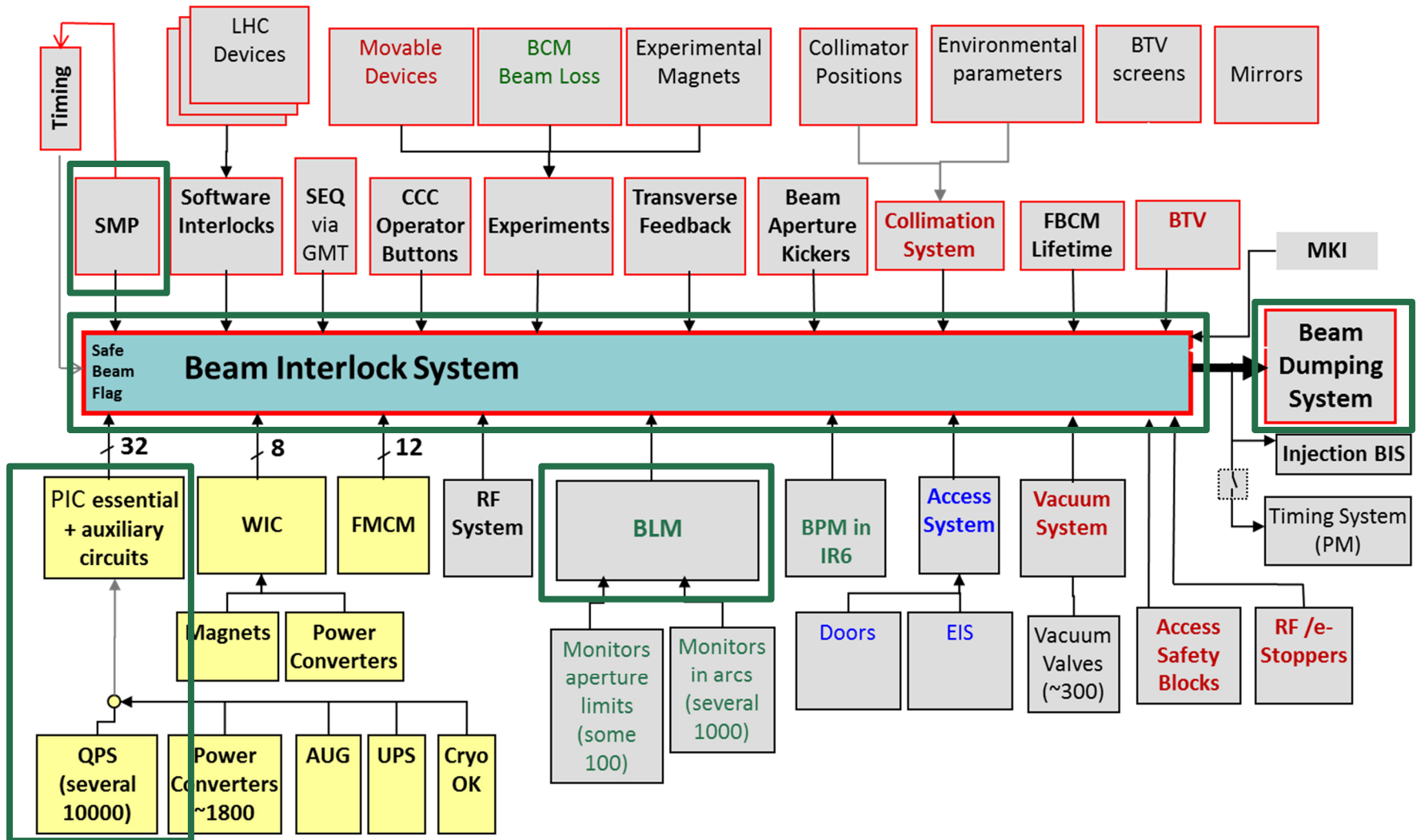
❑ Affect availability by triggering unnecessary ('false') beam aborts

# LHC Machine Protection Layout





# LHC Machine Protection Layout



- Quantitative reliability analyses performed for protection-critical systems
- Inspired by European Standards for safety-critical electronic systems

**Since the beginning of LHC operation (2010):**

**0 beam-related accidents  
(achieved: high level of protection)**

**Few unnecessary beam aborts caused by MPS  
per year**

**(observed: low impact on availability, mostly  
related to radiation effects on electronics)**

# Does It Always Work? (Linac4)



## Linac4 Damage

- 1) Severe misalignment in the low-energy section
- 2) Optics that favoured amplification of this misalignment (test)
- 3) Phase advance such that the loss occurred on the “wave” of the bellow (200  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and it is an aperture limitation

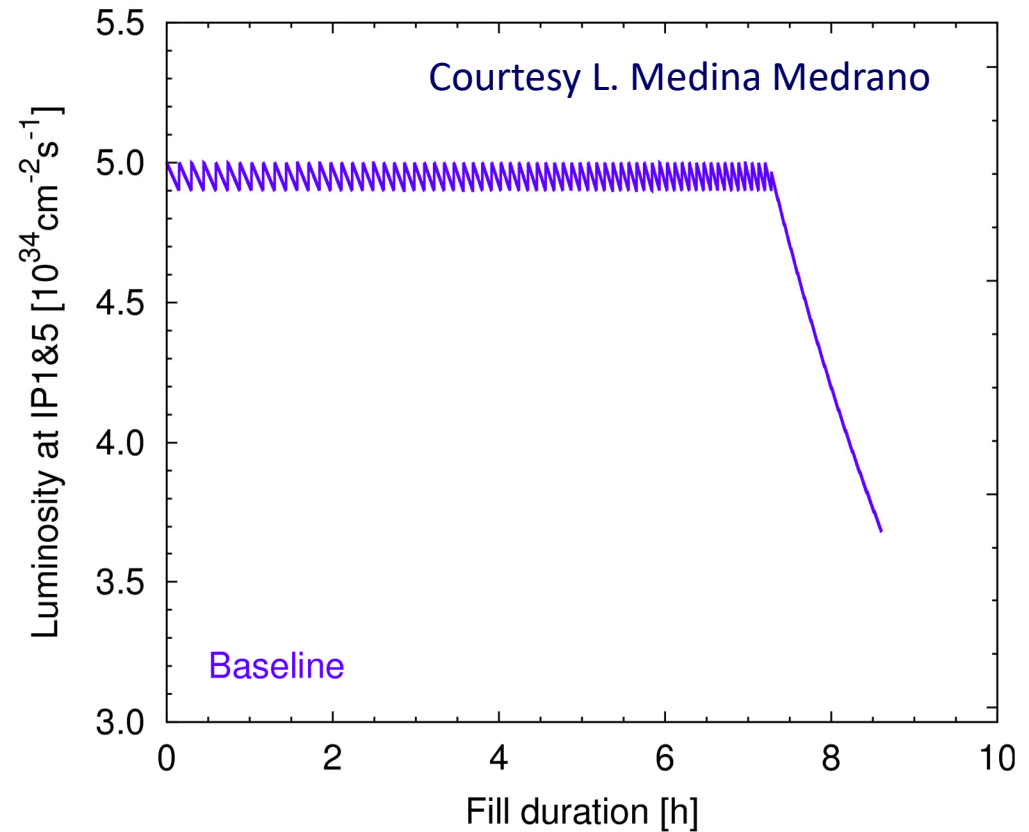


06/01/2014

Accidents might occur due to a combination of different factors (change of boundary conditions, non-standard operation, design flaws, human errors, timing constraints...)

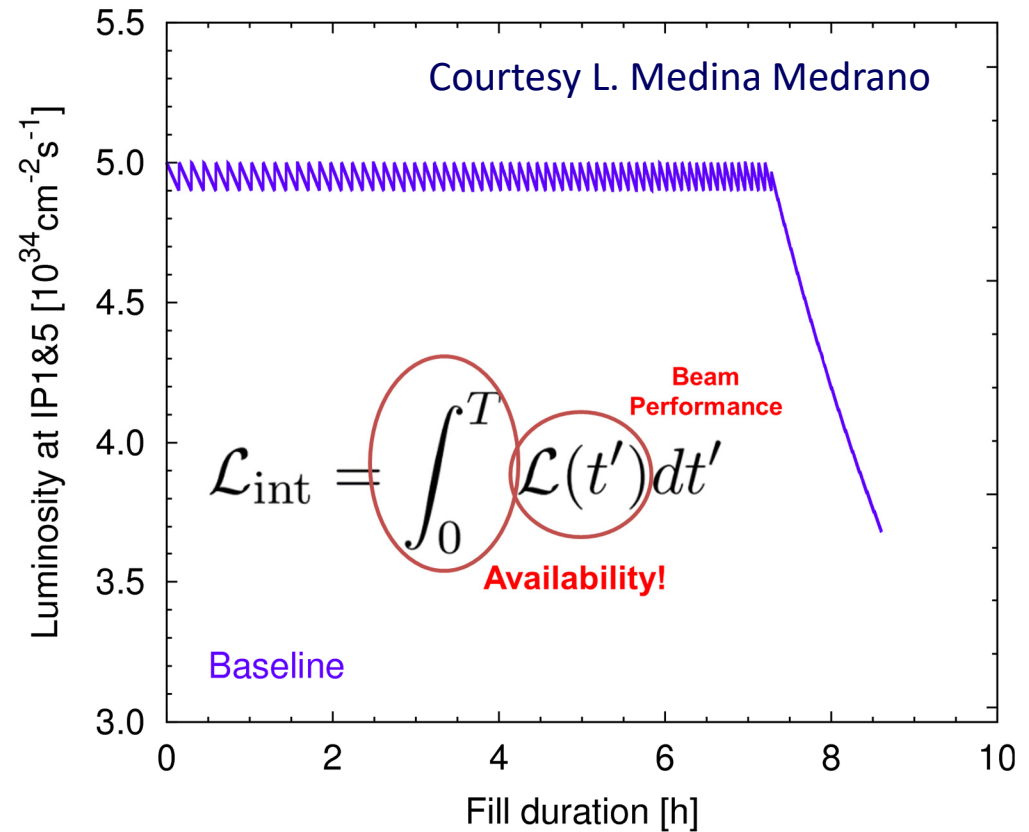


**Explicit Integrated Luminosity  
Production Goal  
3000 fb<sup>-1</sup> over HL-LHC Lifetime**





**Explicit Integrated Luminosity  
Production Goal  
3000 fb<sup>-1</sup> over HL-LHC Lifetime**



**The adoption of luminosity levelling shifts the focus on increasing availability to increase luminosity production**

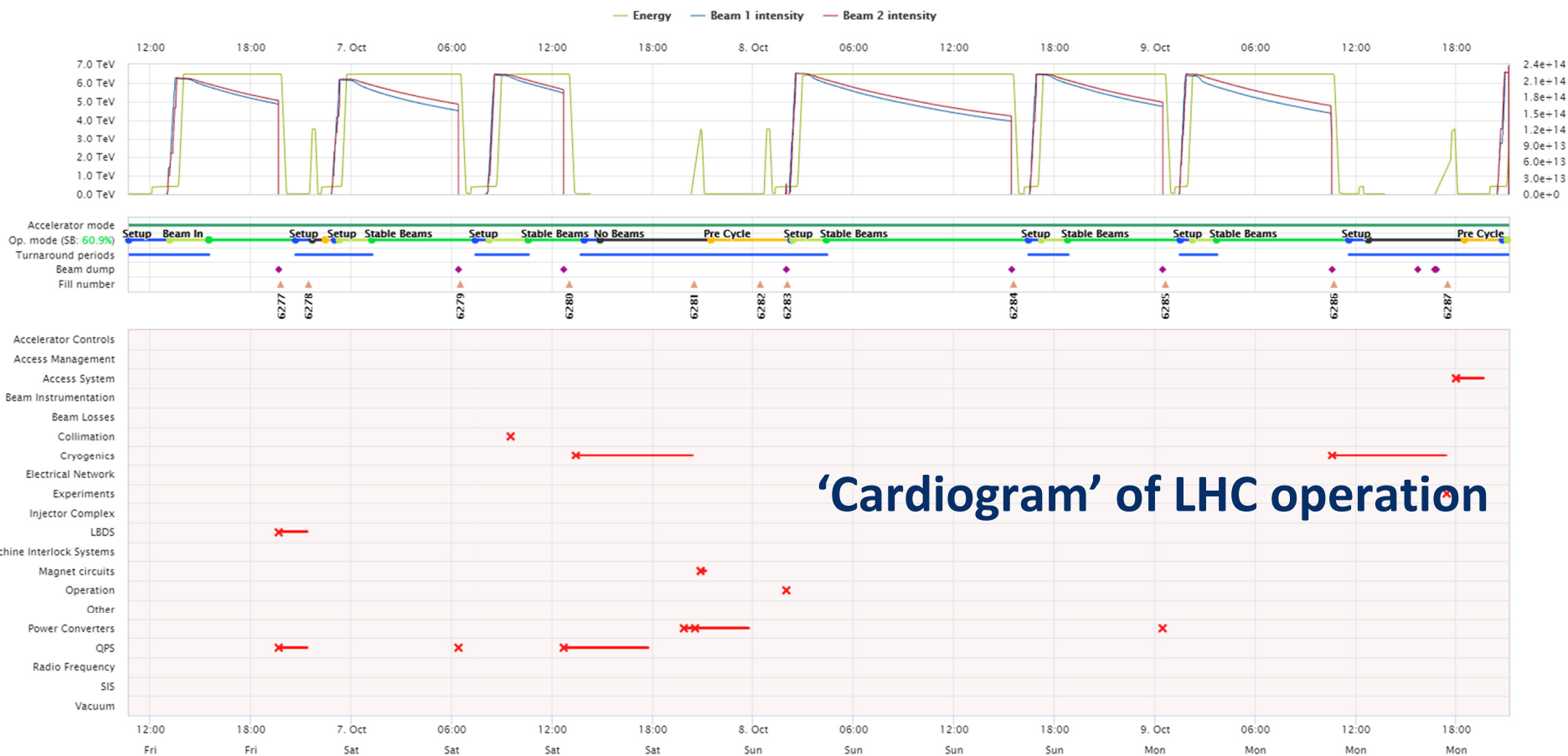
**STEP1: Measure availability**

**STEP2: Predict performance (model) as a function of availability**

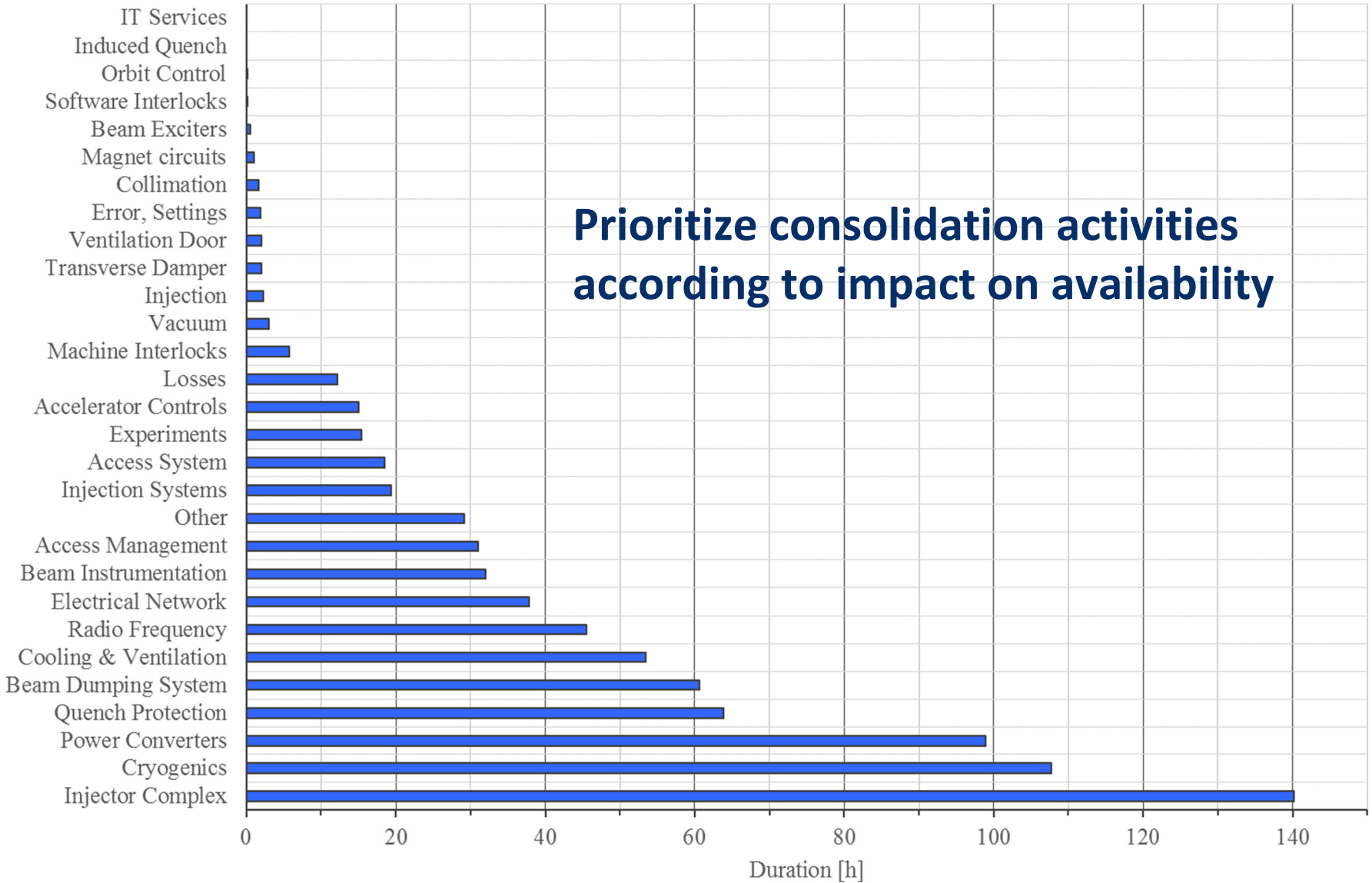


# Step 1: Failure Tracking At CERN

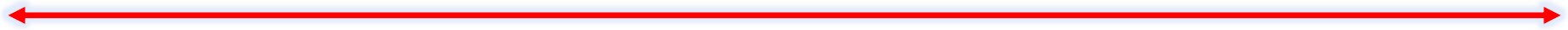
- Since 2015 at CERN, **Accelerator Fault Tracker** in use to keep consistent records of accelerator system reliability and availability during LHC lifetime
- Used to estimate system failure rates and recovery times
- Consolidated over 3 years of operation, now widely accepted by system experts



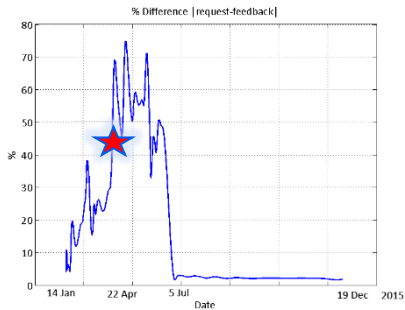
# LHC System Downtime in 2017



## Failure Duration



### Identification



### Diagnostics



### Logistics



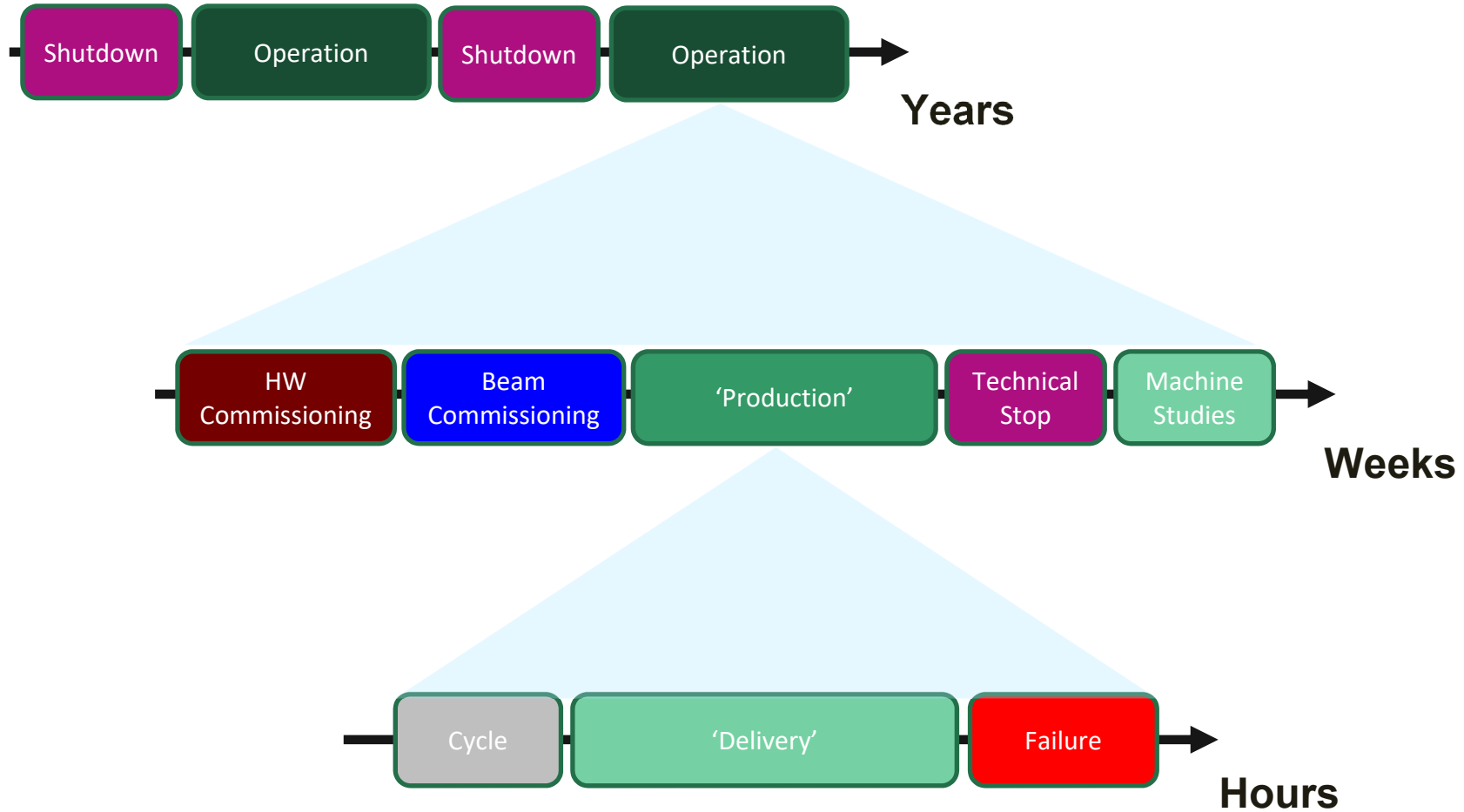
### Repair

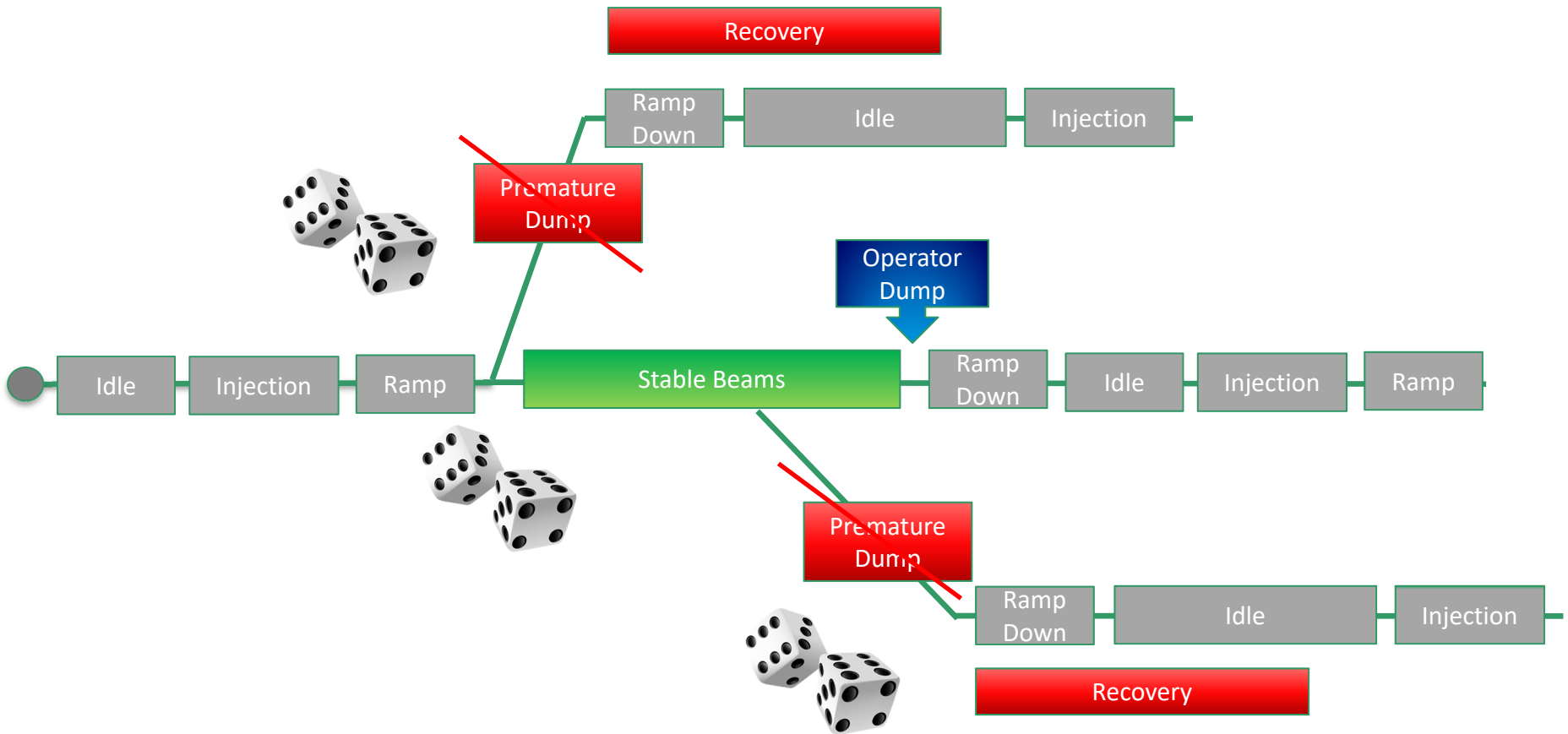


- **Accelerator specific:** some time might be required to recover nominal operating conditions (e.g. beam-tests, source stabilization, magnetic pre-cycles,...)
- Optimising accelerator **maintainability** will be fundamental for future large-scale machines



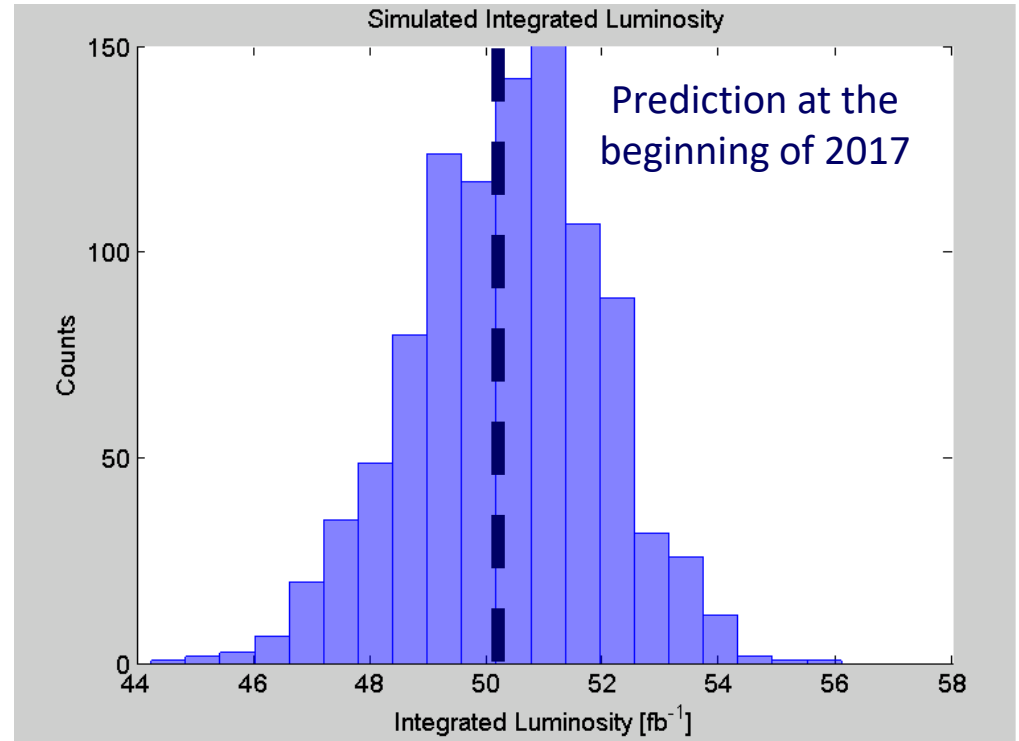
# Step 2: From Data to Models





Random failures (phase specific) + random recovery times

- 6.5 TeV
- 134 days of p-p operation
- 2016 fault distributions
- 2017 beam parameters (estimated at the beginning of 2017)
- Achieved in 2017: Integrated Luminosity =  $50 \text{ fb}^{-1}$



- Observed failure modes in 2017 different than in 2016, but overall similar achieved availability + good guess of beam parameters
- **Important:** order of magnitude of the results is correct → realistic prediction of integrated luminosity (validated for several years of LHC operation)
- **More important:** possibility to simulate impact of different scenarios on luminosity production

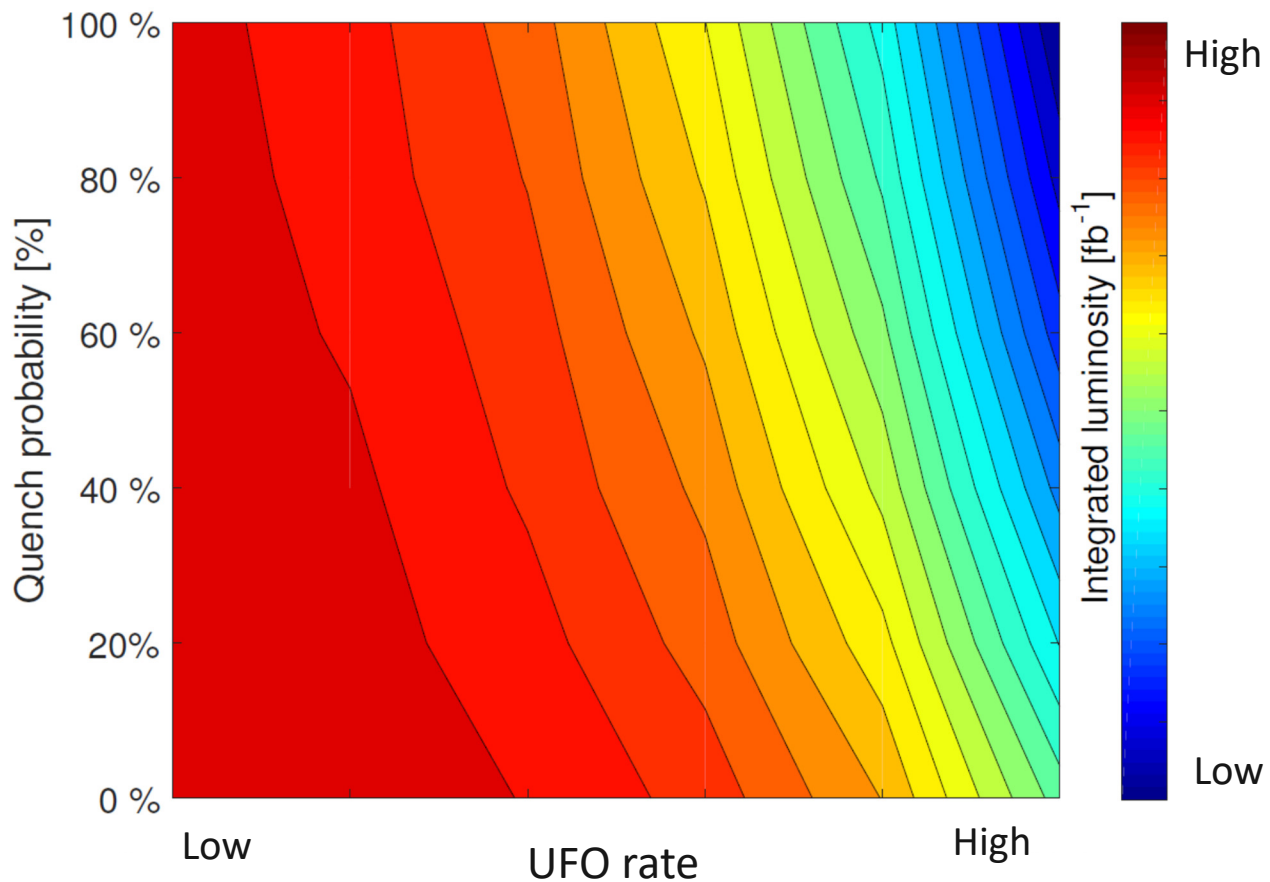
# Application: Protection vs Availability

Dust macro-particles interacting with the beam (UFOs)

Losses are detected by Beam Loss Monitors (BLMs)

Premature beam dumps + (in some cases) a magnet quench

Thresholds of BLMs should be optimized to limit impact on operation

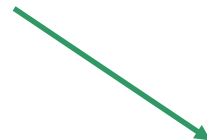


- Achieving high **availability will be a key requirement** for the success of next-generation particle accelerators and needs to be pursued from early design phases

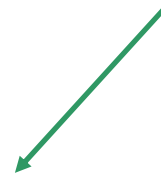
**High Reliability  
and Protection**



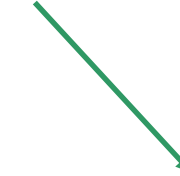
**Redundancy  
Fault Tolerance**



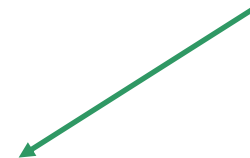
**High Maintainability**



**Failure Prediction  
Advanced Diagnostics**



**Robotic  
Maintenance**



**TOTAL AVAILABILITY**

(B. Todd, R. Schmidt, L. Felsberger)

# Conclusions

